Child Care in
Thurston County

January 2017

Trends in Child Care
In most parts of Washington, the number of child care providers and capacity for children declined several years ago, but since 2013 the number of providers has become more stable.

In Thurston County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 268 with capacity for 6965 children in 2012, to 202 providers with capacity for 6796 children in December of 2016.*

Child Care Provider Type
- 14% Centers
- 28% Family Child Care
- 58% School Age Only

State Subsidy
- 22% Accept all ages
- 21% Do not accept
- 57% Accept school age only

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, 3,998 child care providers participate in Early Achievers.

Approximately 73% of licensed child care providers in Thurston County are enrolled in Early Achievers. Early Achievers provides families with valuable child care program quality information so they can make informed child care choices.

Early Achievers (QRIS) Participation
- Total 137
- Child Care Centers 50
- Family Child Care 77
- Head Start & State Preschool Sites 10

Enrollment as of 2/28/17

Child Care Aware of Washington

Child Care Aware of Washington provides thorough and independent information and support:
- For families seeking quality child care
- For child care programs seeking to improve quality and
- For effective policymaking

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

(Formerly the Washington State Child Care Resource & Referral Network)

Thurston County

Is served locally by
Child Care Aware of Olympic Peninsula
A program of
Child Care Action Council
PO Box 446
Olympia, WA 98507
http://www.ccacwa.org/
800.845.0956
Child Care Aware of Washington County Profiles

Helping Families Find Child Care in 2016

In 2016, Child Care Aware of Washington programs helped 15,753 families find child care providers matching their unique needs.

In Thurston County alone, we helped 936 families with 1315 children in need of child care to search for matching providers 1251 times.

Children Using Subsidies

Referral Demand by Child Age

Monthly Cost of Child Care in 2016

<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>$901</td>
<td>$1,066</td>
<td>$780</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>$802</td>
<td>$954</td>
<td>$670</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$698</td>
<td>$832</td>
<td>$585</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Age</td>
<td>$455</td>
<td>$542</td>
<td>$572</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>$702</td>
<td>$780</td>
<td>$708</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>$680</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$616</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$598</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$578</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Age</td>
<td>$433</td>
<td>$498</td>
<td>$544</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compensation in 2014

**Comparison of Average Annual Salary/Income**

- Child Care Center Teacher: $24,900
- Child Care Center Director: $30,288
- Family Child Care Provider (Gross Earnings): $42,191
- K-12 Teacher (Statewide): $57,822

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, 2016-2017

Note: Child care provider income is regional data, not county-specific. Thurston County is in DEL Region 6 which includes: Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Hbr, Jefferson, Klickitat, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum.

7. Office of the Superintendent Public Instruction, Historical Comparison of Statewide School District Personnel, 2015-2016

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