Child Care in Whitman County

January 2017

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)

Whitman County is served locally by Child Care Aware of Eastern Washington

A program of Community-Minded Enterprises

3307 E. 55th Ave.
Spokane, WA 99223

http://community-minded.org/child-care
800.446.2229

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 Whitman County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 30 with capacity for 1051 children in 2012, to 25 providers with capacity for 1220 children in December of 2016.*

Child Care Provider Type

- 56% Centers
- 32% Family Child Care
- 12% School Age Only

State Subsidy

- 28% Accept all ages
- 12% Do not accept
- 60% 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 86% of licensed child care providers in Whitman 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total</th>
<th>24</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Centers</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start &amp; State</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Sites</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrollment as of 2/28/17
Child Care Aware of Washington County Profiles  
January 2017

Demographics

Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Population in 2016</th>
<th>Change since 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>47,940</td>
<td>1,990</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Children under 5 yrs: 2,055
Children under 15 yrs: 5,666
K-12 Enrollment: 4,718

Economics

- % of children under 18 living in poverty: 14.4%
- % of children under 6 with all parents working: 50.2 to 61.6%
- Median Household Income: $42,218
- Unemployment Rate: 4.2%

Compensation in 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Care Center Teacher</th>
<th>$23,712</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Center Director</td>
<td>$30,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care Provider (Gross Earnings)</td>
<td>$34,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Teacher (Statewide)</td>
<td>$57,822</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Whitman County alone, we helped 31 families with 38 children in need of child care to search for matching providers 33 times.

Children Using Subsidies

- 50% of children using financial aid.

Referral Demand by Child Age

- Infants: 18%
- Toddlers: 32%
- Preschoolers: 24%
- School-Age: 26%

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>$945</td>
<td>$1,044</td>
<td>$780</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>$901</td>
<td>$971</td>
<td>$670</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$815</td>
<td>$901</td>
<td>$585</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Age</td>
<td>$427</td>
<td>$485</td>
<td>$572</td>
<td>12%</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>$676</td>
<td>$785</td>
<td>$642</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>$639</td>
<td>$707</td>
<td>$558</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$511</td>
<td>$550</td>
<td>$515</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Age</td>
<td>$455</td>
<td>$498</td>
<td>$458</td>
<td>13%</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

Notes:

2. Office of the Superintendent Public Instruction, October Enrollment Report, 2016-2017

Contact Child Care Aware of Washington

1551 Broadway, Ste 300
Tacoma, WA 98402
866.416.4321

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