Child Care in
King County

January 2018

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 King County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 2,137 with capacity for 59,316 children in 2013, to 1,939 providers with capacity for 63,846 children in December of 2017.*

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, 3,921 child care providers participate in Early Achievers.

Approximately 67% of licensed child care providers in King 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.

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)

King County
is served locally by
Child Care Aware of
King County
a program of
Child Care Resources
1225 S Weller, Ste 300
Seattle, WA 98144
http://www.childcare.org/
877.543.0059

Child Care Provider Type
- Centers
- Family Child Care
- School Age Only

State Subsidy
- Accept all ages
- Do not accept
- Accept school age only

Early Achievers (QRIS) Participation
- Total: 1242
- Child Care Centers: 345
- Family Child Care: 843
- Head Start & State Preschool Sites: 54

Enrollment as of 3/8/18
Demographics

Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Population in 2017</th>
<th>2,153,700</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change since 2013</td>
<td>171,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children under 5 yrs</td>
<td>127,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children under 15 yrs</td>
<td>375,963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Enrollment</td>
<td>292,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Economics

| % of children under 18 living in poverty | 10.6%     |
| % of children under 6 w/ all parents working | 58.3 to 60.3% |
| Median Household Income | $80,998   |
| Unemployment Rate       | 3.9%      |

Compensation in 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparison of Average Annual Salary/Income</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Center Teacher</td>
<td>$30,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Center Director</td>
<td>$43,032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care Provider (Gross Earnings)</td>
<td>$43,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Teacher (Statewide)</td>
<td>$58,821</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Helping Families Find Child Care in 2017

In 2017, Child Care Aware of Washington programs helped 14,456 families find child care providers matching their unique needs.

In King County alone, we helped 5,078 families with 6,926 children in need of child care to search for matching providers 7,670 times.

Children Using Subsidies

60%

Referral Demand by Child Age

- Infants: 24%
- Toddlers: 29%
- Preschoolers: 21%
- School Age: 26%

K-12 Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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>$1,499</td>
<td>$1,830</td>
<td>$1,147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>$1,339</td>
<td>$1,602</td>
<td>$958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$1,122</td>
<td>$1,339</td>
<td>$804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Age</td>
<td>$628</td>
<td>$715</td>
<td>$724</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Family Child Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<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>$1,083</td>
<td>$1,196</td>
<td>$1,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>$962</td>
<td>$1,106</td>
<td>$982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool</td>
<td>$867</td>
<td>$997</td>
<td>$884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Age</td>
<td>$542</td>
<td>$672</td>
<td>$700</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, 2016-2017

3 U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2015

4 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2015

5 Washington State Employment Security Department; U.S. BLS, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2016 (not seasonally-adjusted)

6 Department of Early Learning & Washington State University, Washington State 2015 Child Care Survey

Note: Child care provider income is regional data, not county-specific. King County is in DEL Region 4 which includes: King.

7 Office of the Superintendent Public Instruction, Historical Comparison of Statewide School District Personnel, 2016-2017

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