In most parts of Washington, the number of child care providers declined from 2008-2013, becoming more stable from 2014-2020 although still in decline at a lesser rate. Capacity for children declined from 2008-2013, however due to more family child care closures than center-based care, capacity has risen from 2014-2019. There is a dip in number of providers and capacity in 2020. This may be understated because as of June 2020, 27% of child care capacity was temporarily closed due to COVID and based on our surveys of child care providers, some of these sites will not re-open.

In Whitman County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 29 with capacity for 1276 children in 2015, to 19 providers with capacity for 1058 children in June of 2020.*

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**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 Child Care Centers 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

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**Whitman County**

is served locally by

Child Care Aware of Eastern Washington

a program of Community-Minded Enterprises

3307 E. 55th Ave., Ste. B

http://community-minded.org/childcare

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**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, 3,831 child care providers participate in Early Achievers.

Approximately 61% 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.
Child Care Aware of Washington County Profiles

Helping Families Find Child Care in 2019

In 2019, Child Care Aware of Washington programs helped 9,759 families find child care providers matching their unique needs.

In Whitman County alone, we helped 28 families with 36 children in need of child care to search for matching providers 33 times.

Contact Child Care Aware of Washington
1001 Pacific Avenue Suite 400
Tacoma, WA 98402
253.533.6805

Data Sources:
Most data is from Child Care Aware of Washington. More data and full citations are available at http://wa.childcareaware.org.
*Includes licensed child care (centers and family child care) and exempt school-age programs only
1 Washington State Office of Financial Management, 2019
2 Office of the Superintendent Public Instruction, October Enrollment Report, 2017-2018
3 U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2018
4 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2018
6 Department of Early Learning & Washington State University, Washington State 2018 Child Care Survey
Note: Child care provider income is regional data, not county-specific. Whitman County is in DEL Region 1 which includes: Adams, Asotin, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Or., Spokane, Stevens, Whitman.
7 Office of the Superintendent Public Instruction, Historical Comparison of Statewide School District Personnel, 2017-2018

For more information, go to http://wa.childcareaware.org