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. Since the pandemic there has been a net loss of nearly 150 providers and around 1,500 slots. This decline has disproportionately impacted communities based on location. In the net loss of providers, nearly 40% are center-based, representing 60% of the capacity lost.

In Mason County, the number of child care providers has dropped from 34 with capacity for 940 children in 2018, to 23 providers with capacity for 894 children in December of 2022.*  

**Child Care Provider Type**

- Centers: 4%  
- Family Child Care: 44%  
- School Age Only: 52%

**State Subsidy**

- Accept all ages: 69%  
- Do not accept: 22%  
- Accept school age only: 9%

**Early Achievers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Child Care Providers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Child Care Capacity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Early Achievers (QRIS) Participation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Centers</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start &amp; State</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preschool Sites</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrollment as of 1/5/2023

*Data are preliminary and subject to change.
Helping Families Find Child Care in 2022

In 2022, Child Care Aware of Washington programs helped 13,579 families find child care providers matching their unique needs.

In Mason County alone, we helped 111 families with 149 children in need of child care to search for matching providers 165 times.

Children Using Subsidies

Referral Demand by Child Age

Monthly Cost of Child Care in 2022

Contact Child Care Aware of Washington

1001 Pacific Avenue Suite 400
Tacoma, WA 98402
253.383.1735

Data Sources:
Most data is from Child Care Aware of Washington. More data and full citations are available at https://www.childcareawarewa.org.

*Includes licensed child care (centers and family child care) and exempt school-age programs only

1Washington State Office of Financial Management, 2022
2Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Report Card Enrollment, 2021-2022
3U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2021
4U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2021
6Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies, Cost of Quality Survey, 2022
Note: Child care provider income is regional data, not county-specific. Mason County is in Olympic Peninsula which includes: Kitsap, Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Thurston.

7Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Historical Comparison of Statewide School District Personnel, 2022-23

For more information, go to https://www.childcareawarewa.org