Statewide during the past 12 years, Washington has gained over 15,000 slots and decreased by 2,300 providers. The increases in capacity are a result of more family child care closures and larger centers opening. Since 2022, Washington has seen an increase of 400 family child care programs and 70 centers. Current gains in providers are encouraging, however we have significantly less providers than 12 years ago. The trend of less providers and more capacity being available at large centers has contributed to child care deserts, as the number of child care locations has decreased. Moreover, communities across the state have experienced differential outcomes in child care availability as some areas experienced greater child care decreases and in some cases lowered capacity.

In Snohomish County, the number of child care providers has increased from 501 with capacity for 16,889 children in 2018 to 511 providers with capacity for 19,242 children in June of 2023.*

### Child Care Provider Type

- **Centers**: 13%
- **Family Child Care**: 28%
- **School Age Only**: 59%

### State Subsidy

- **Accept all ages**: 38%
- **Do not accept**: 14%
- **Accept school age only**: 48%

### Early Achievers

Early Achievers is Washington's Quality Recognition 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, 4,416 child care providers participate in Early Achievers.

Approximately 67% of licensed child care providers in Snohomish 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.
Helping Families Find Child Care in 2023

So far in 2023, Child Care Aware of Washington programs have helped 7,613 families find child care providers matching their unique needs.

In Snohomish County alone, we helped 719 families with 944 children in need of child care to search for matching providers 980 times.

Children Using Subsidies

Referral Demand by Child Age

Monthly Cost of Child Care in 2023

Contact Child Care Aware of Washington

1001 Pacific Avenue Suite 400
Tacoma, WA 98402
253.383.1735

Demographics

Population

Total Population in 2020 830,500
Change since 2015 72,900
Children under 5 yrs 49,253
Children under 15 yrs 160,355
K-12 Enrollment 106,784
Pre-K-5th Enrollment 50,692

Economics

% of children under 18 living in poverty 7.9%
% of children under 6 w/ all parents working 73.5 to 80%
Median Household Income $99,650
Unemployment Rate 2.7%

Compensation in 2022

Comparison of Average Annual Salary/Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></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><strong>Child Care Center Teacher</strong></td>
<td>$36,252</td>
<td>$36,252</td>
<td>$1,919</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Child Care Center Director</strong></td>
<td>$40,035</td>
<td>$40,035</td>
<td>$1,741</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Family Child Care Provider</strong></td>
<td>$36,079</td>
<td>$36,079</td>
<td>$1,571</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>K-12 Teacher (Statewide)</strong></td>
<td>$86,889</td>
<td>$86,889</td>
<td>$1,418</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
1 Washington State Office of Financial Management, 2022
2 Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Report Card Enrollment, 2021-2022
3 U.S. Census Bureau Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2021
4 U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, 2021
6 Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies, Cost of Quality Survey, 2022
Note: Child care provider income is regional data, not county-specific. Snohomish County is in Northwest Washington which includes: Island, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom.
7 Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Historical Comparison of Statewide School District Personnel, 2022-23

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