



Thurston County

2024 Child Care Aware of Washington

Child Care Data Report

Published June 2025

Child Care Providers

154

Licensed Capacity

7,072

Reported Vacancies

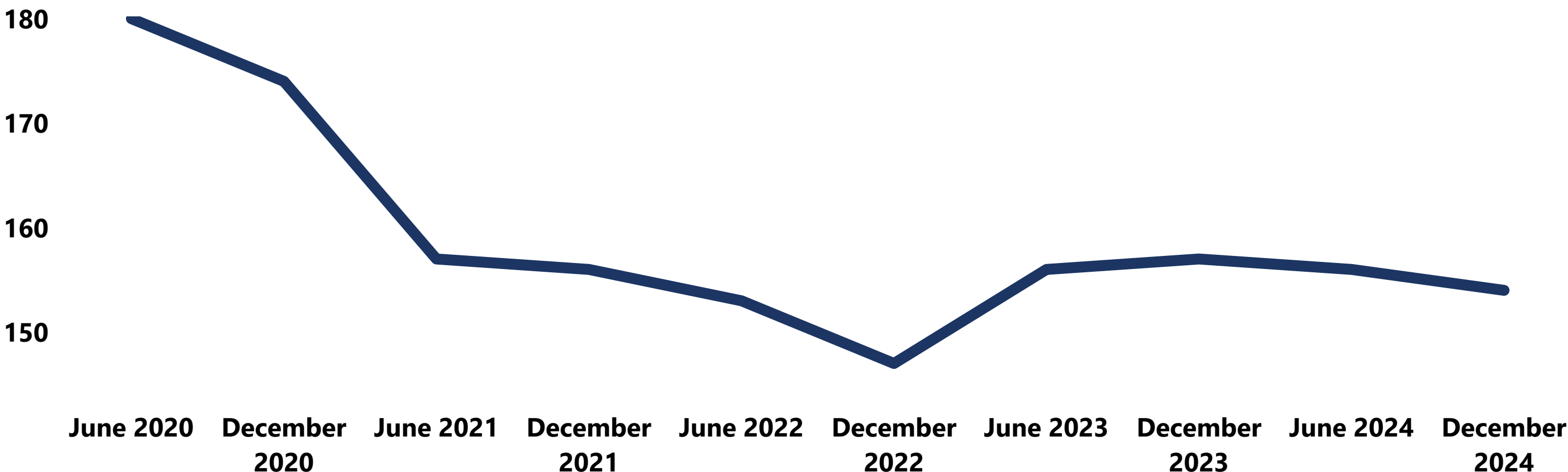
693

County

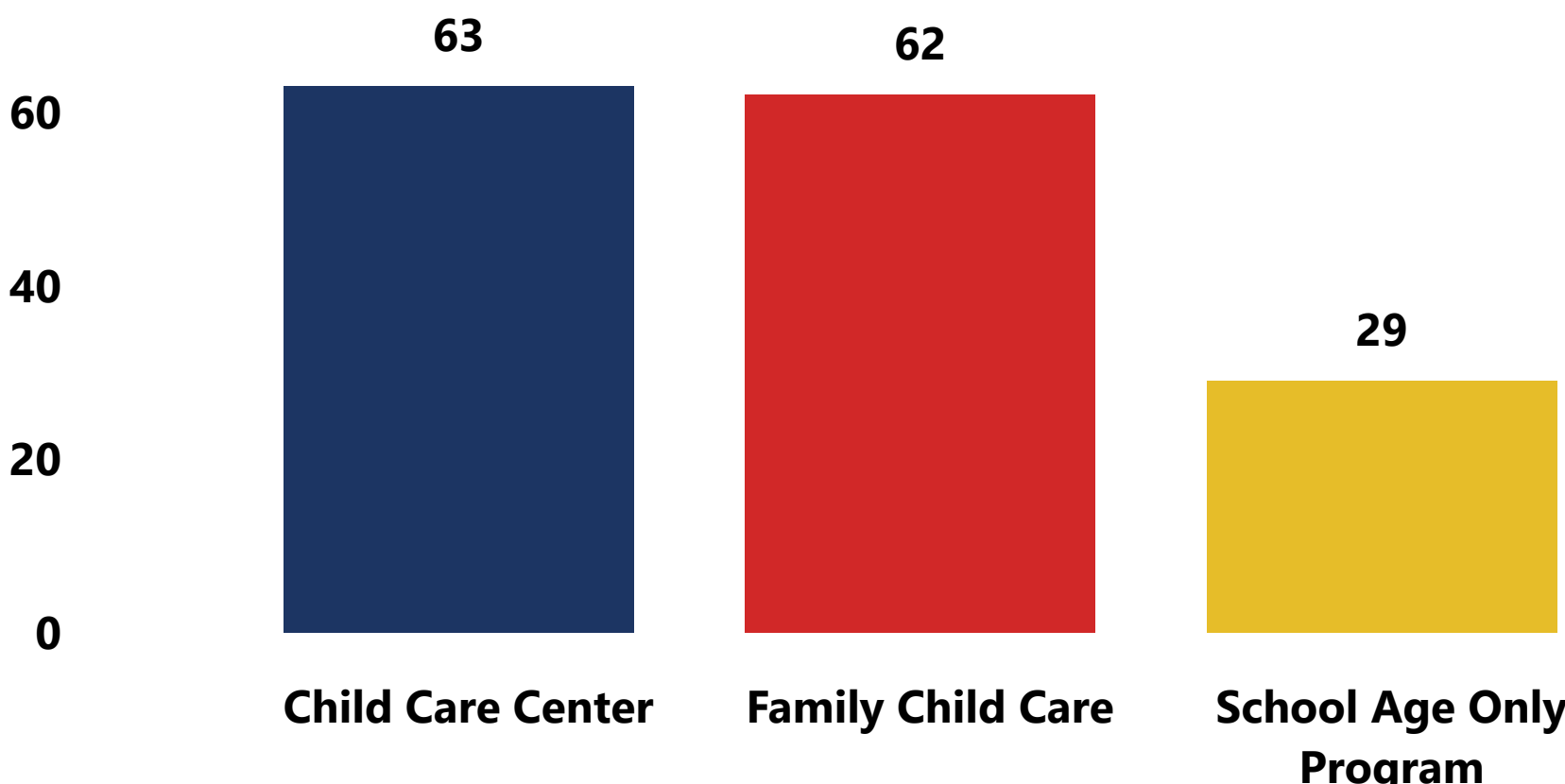
Thurston



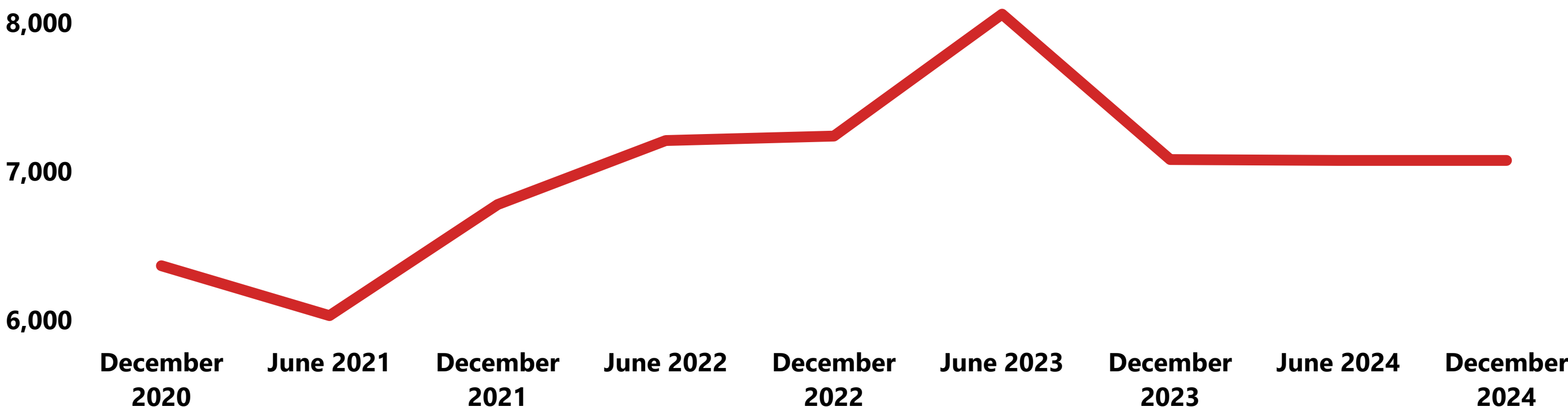
Number of Child Care Providers



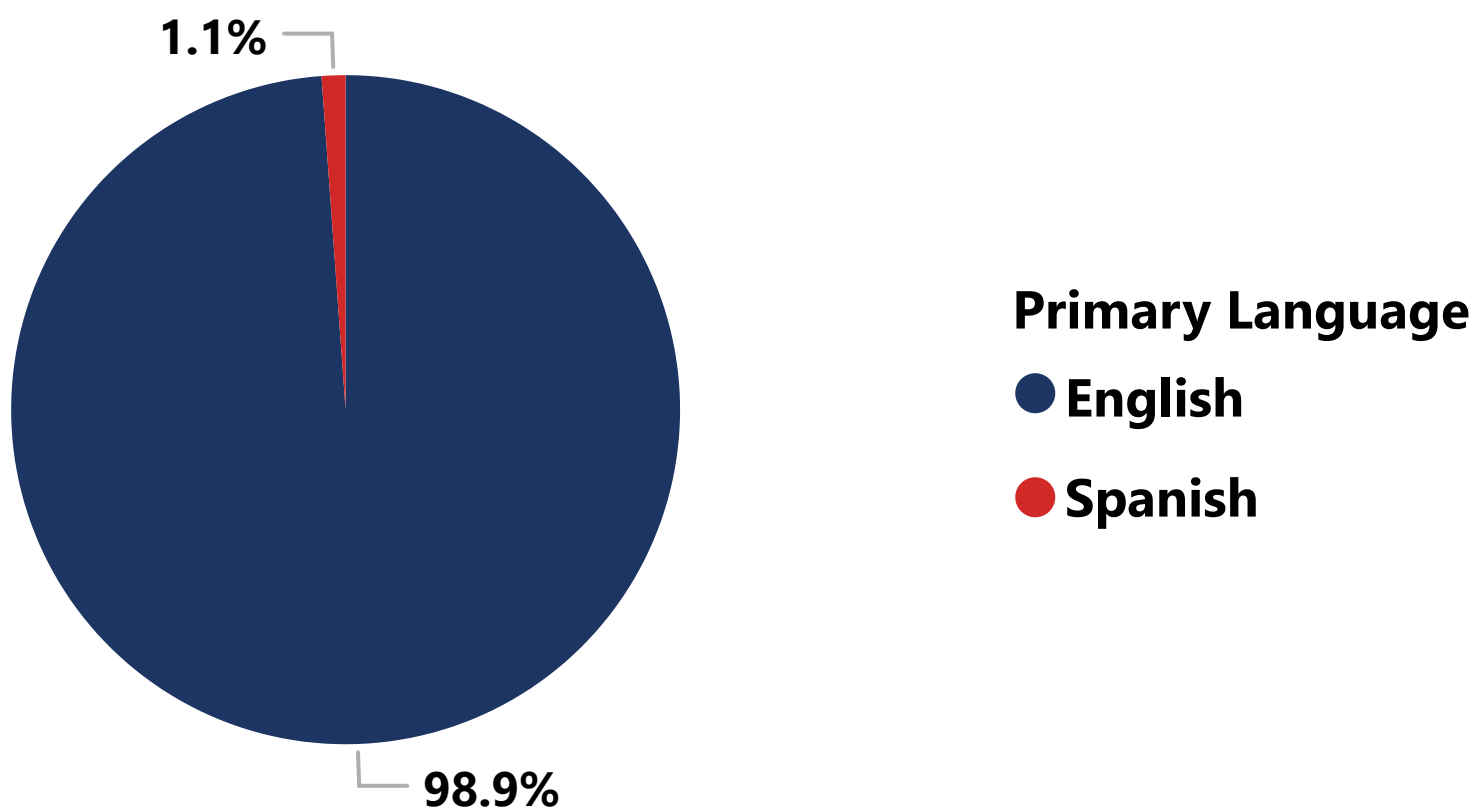
Child Care Providers by Type of Care

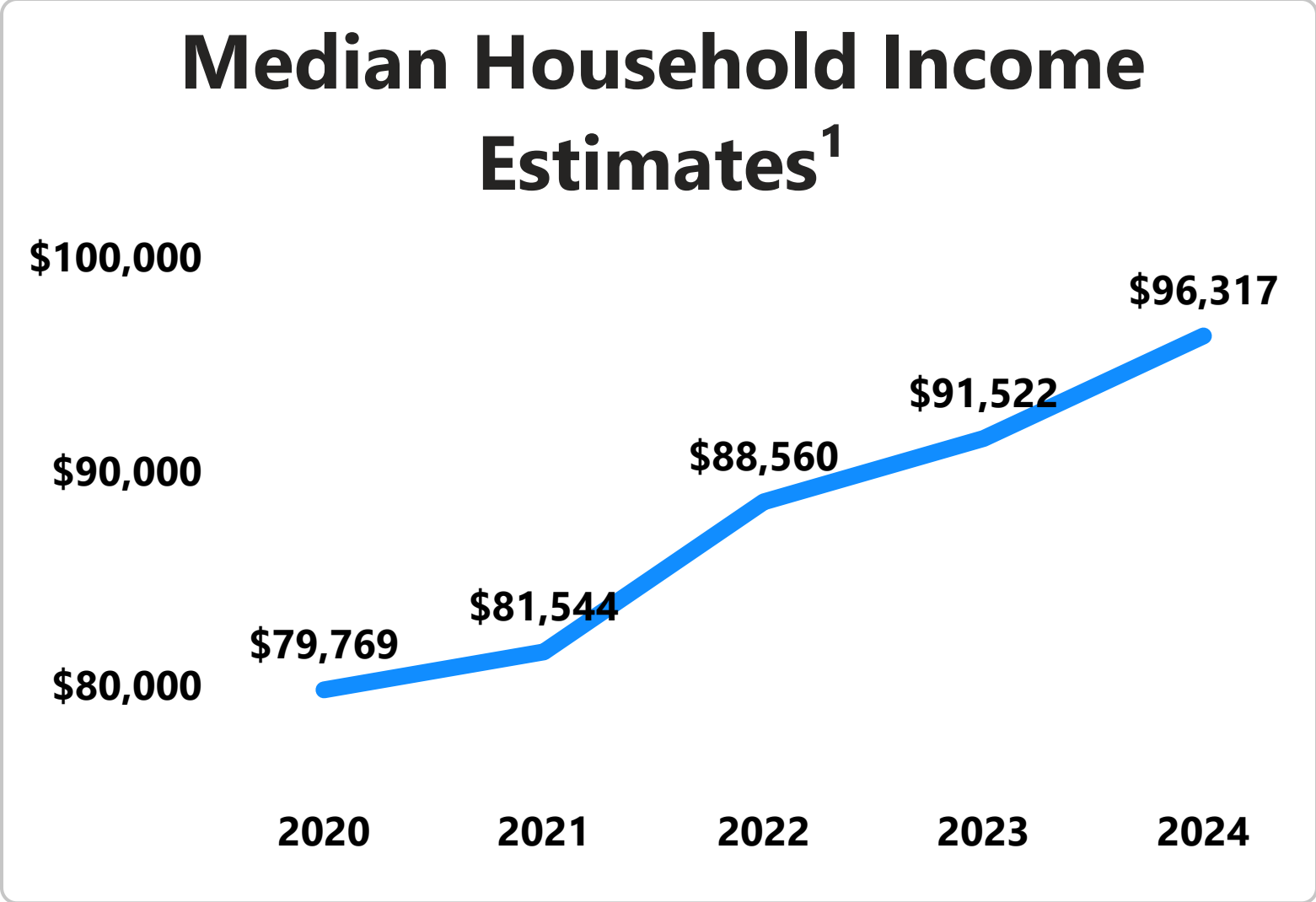
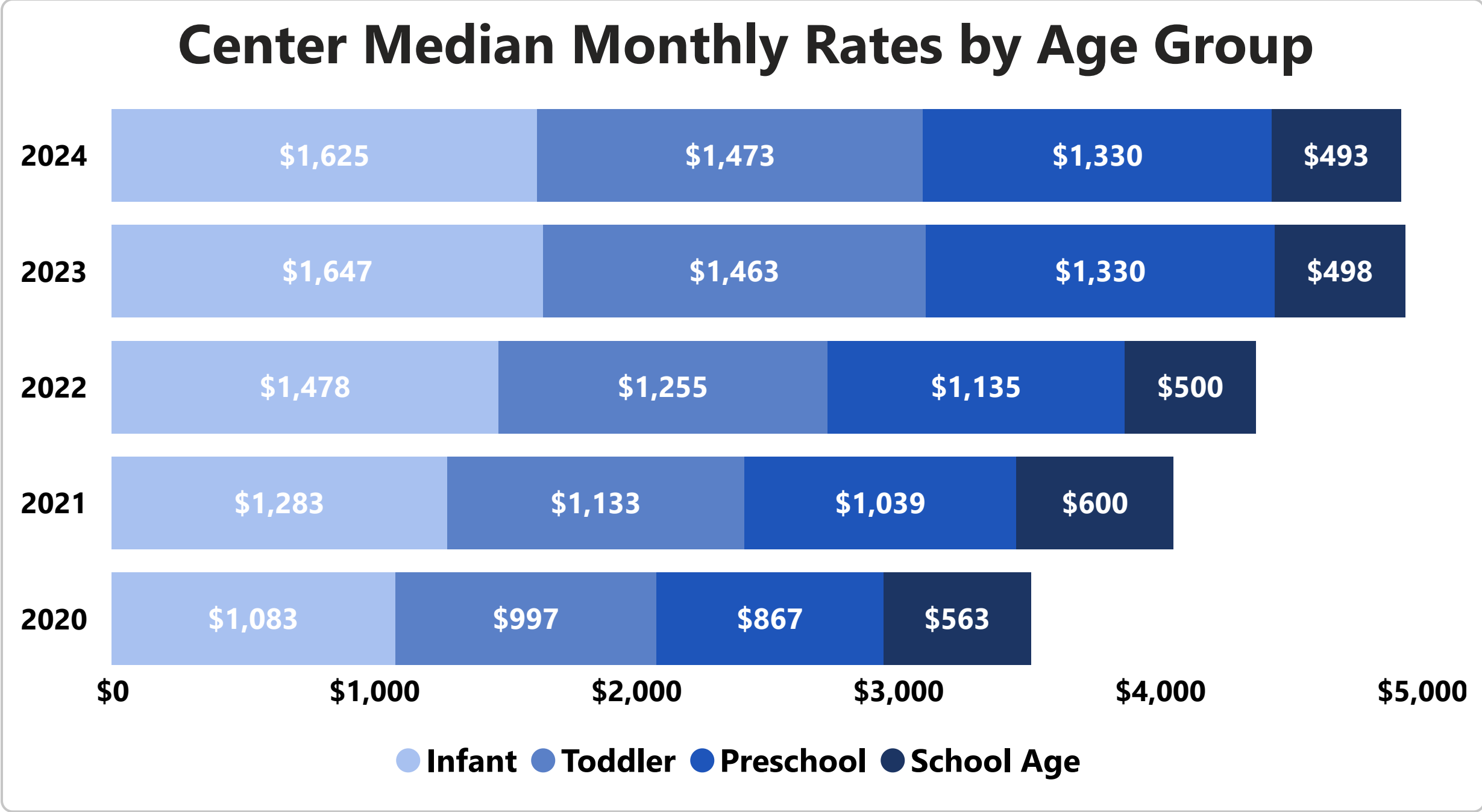


Total Child Care Capacity



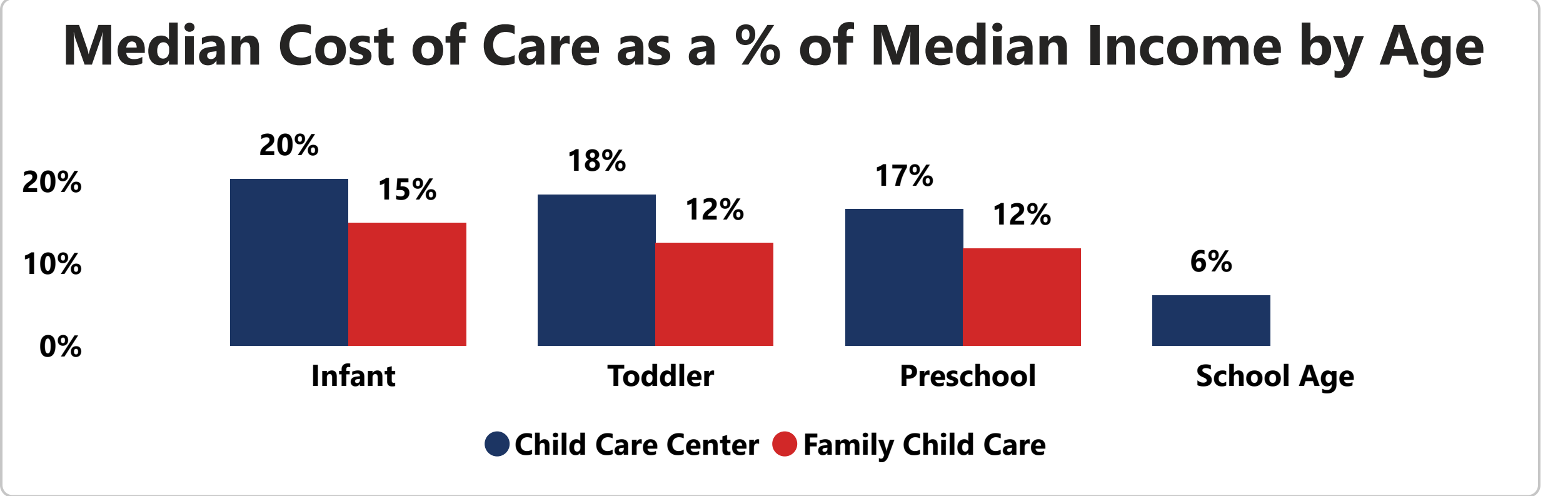
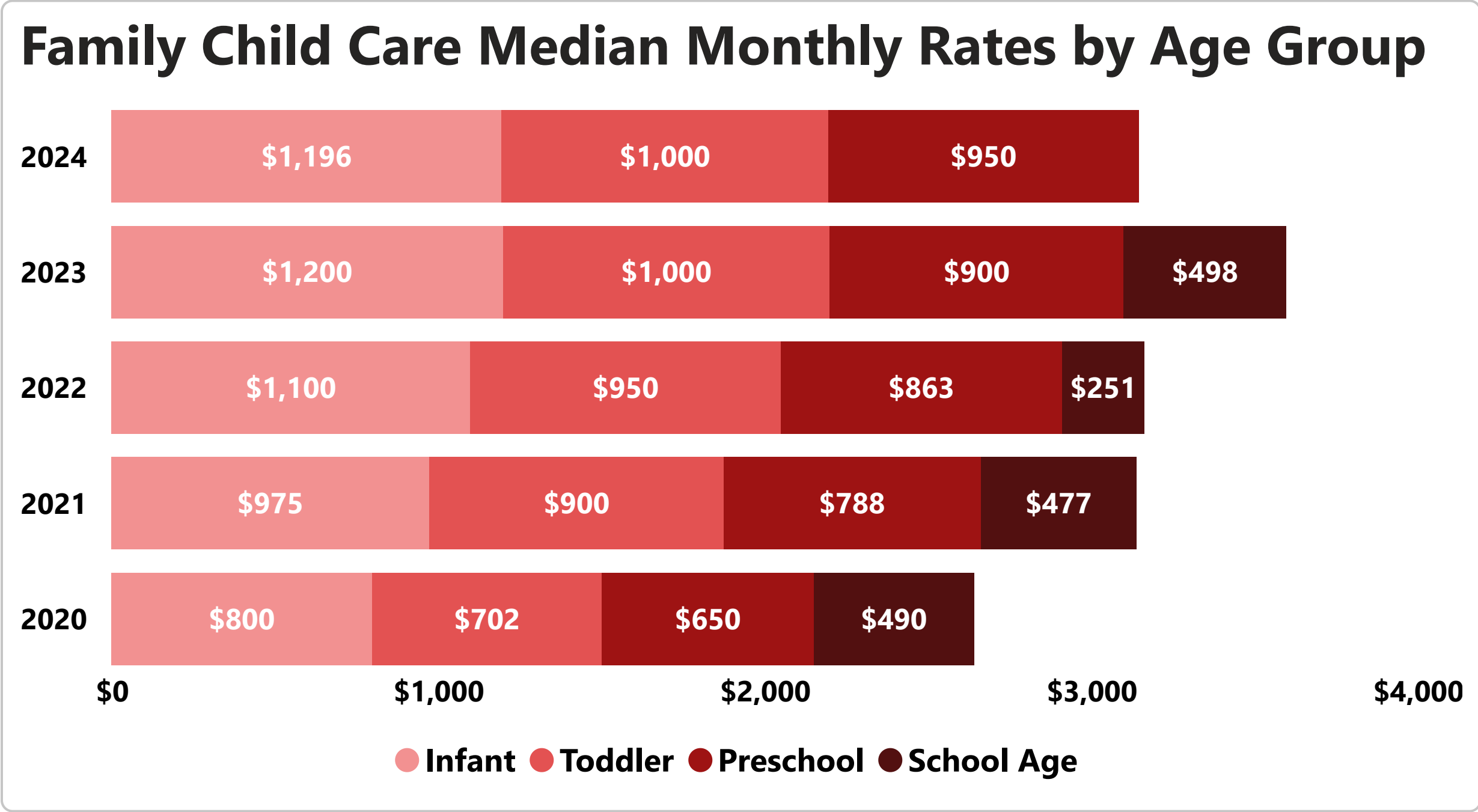
Top Primary Provider Languages





County
Thurston

Licensed Providers
Accepting Subsidies
92%



Working Connections Child Care Subsidy Rates

Child Care Center			
\$1,668	\$1,463	\$1,251	\$1,088
Infant	Toddler	Preschool	School Age
Family Child Care			
\$1,280	\$1,192	\$1,148	\$975
Infant	Toddler	Preschool	School Age

Demographics

% of Children Under 6 - All Parents Working²

62.7%

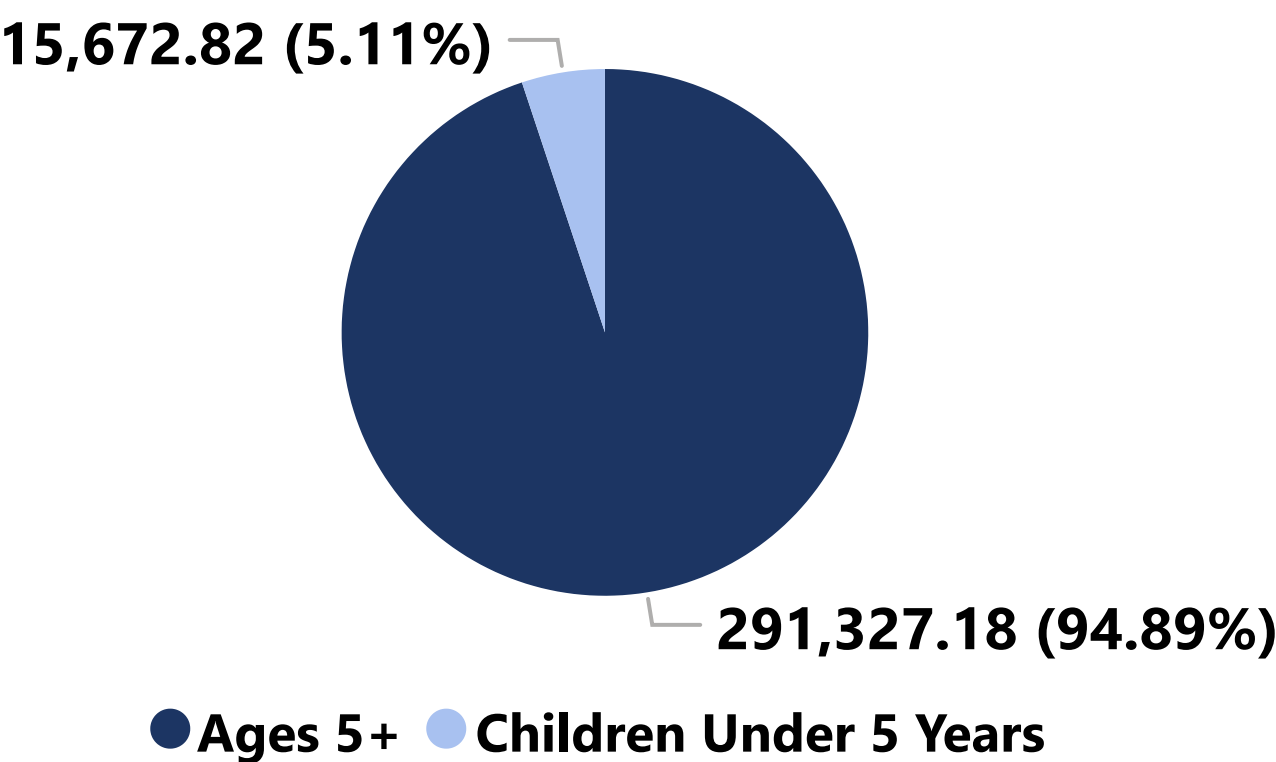
% of Children Under 18 Living in Poverty³

10.3%

Population Change Since 2020¹

12,207

Population¹



Helping Families Find Care

Child Referrals in 2024

775

Family Referrals in 2024

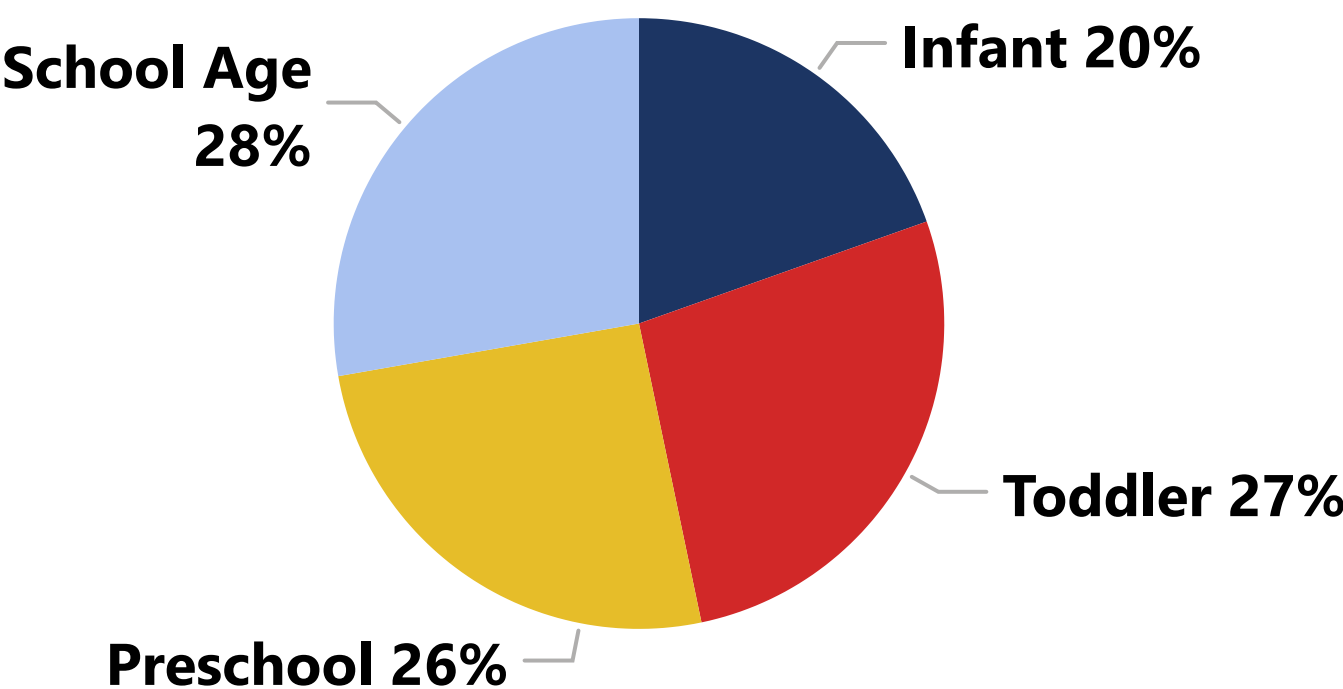
608

County

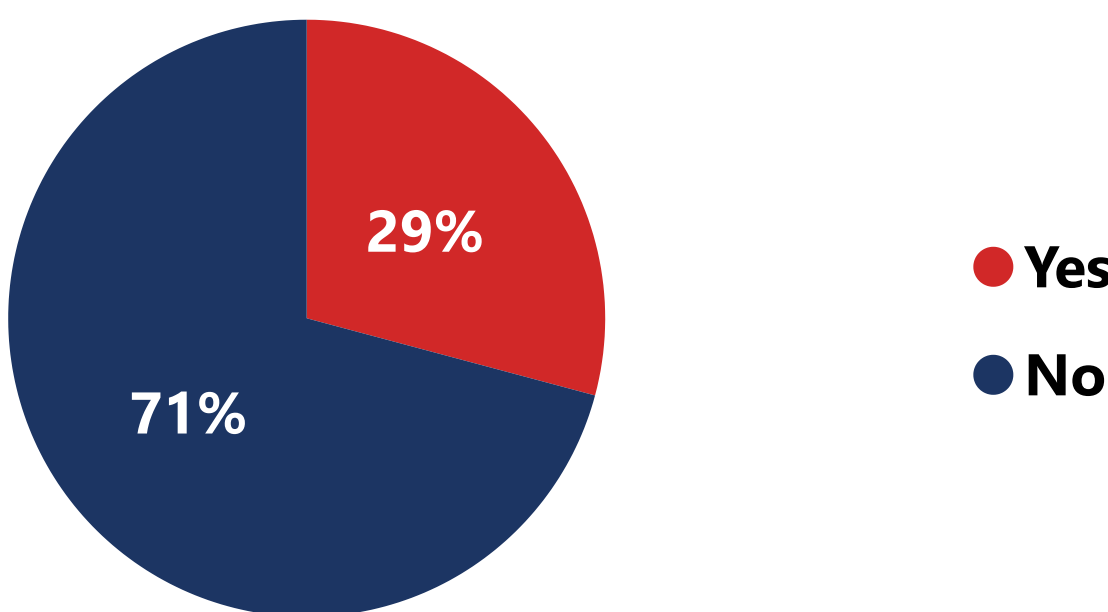
Thurston



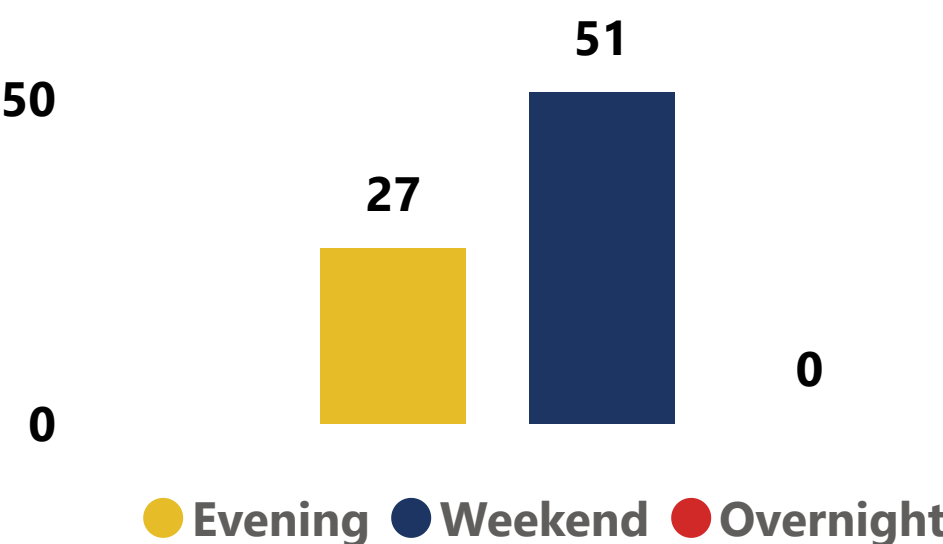
Referrals by Age Group in 2024



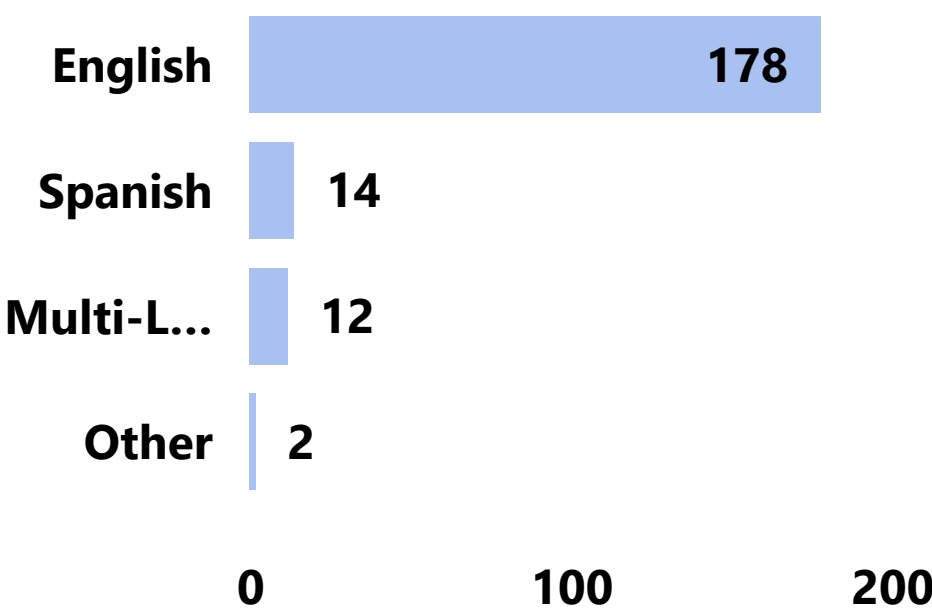
Children Using Subsidies in 2024



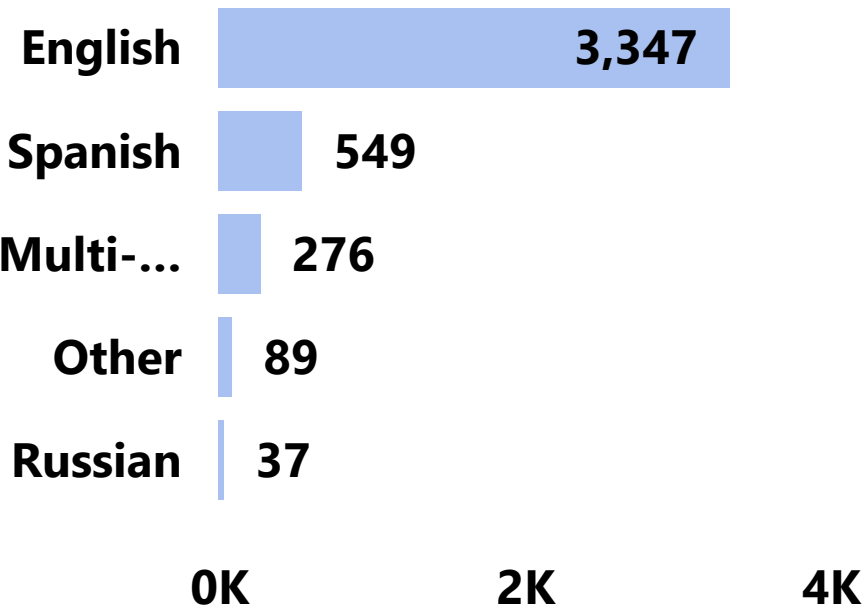
Children Needing Nonstandard Hour Care in 2024



Top Languages - Families Seeking Care in 2024 by County



Top Languages - Families Seeking Care in 2024 Statewide



Early Achievers is Washington's Quality Recognition and Improvement System (QRIS), which offers training, technical assistance, coaching, mental health consultation, awards, scholarships, and other benefits to child care providers to improve the quality of their care. Child Care providers receive a Quality Recognition Level ranging from Level 2 to Level 5. [Click here](#) to learn more about Early Achievers.

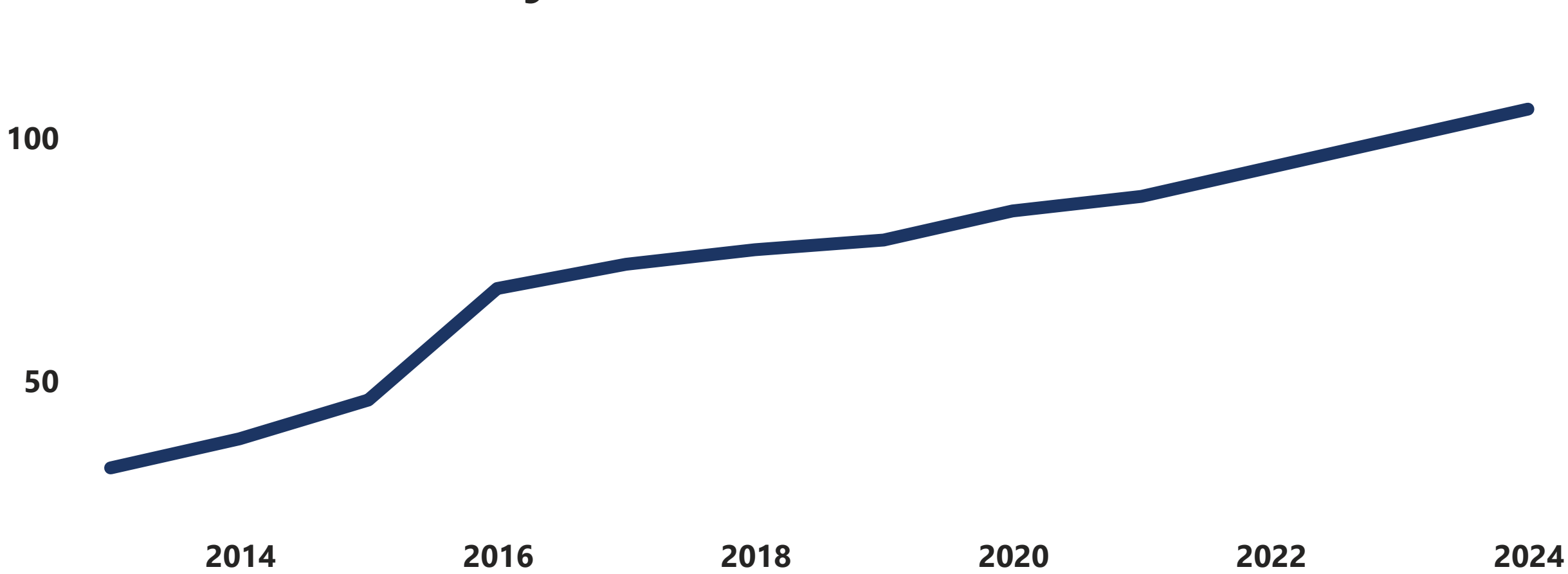
Type of Care

Multiple selections

County

Thurston

Early Achievers Enrollment



Providers Enrolled in Early Achievers

106

Children Served in Early Achievers

2,735

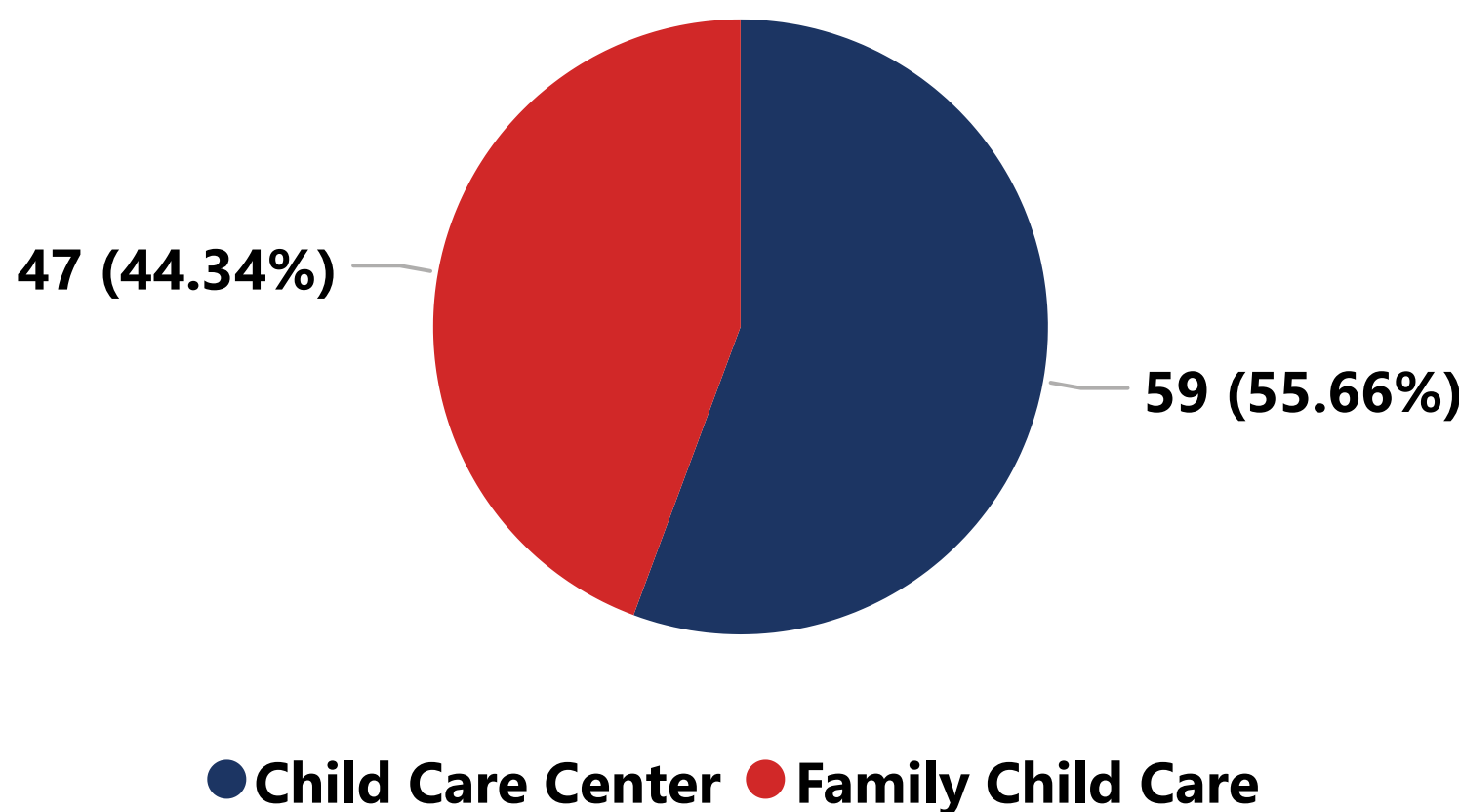
% Enrolled in Early Achievers

85%

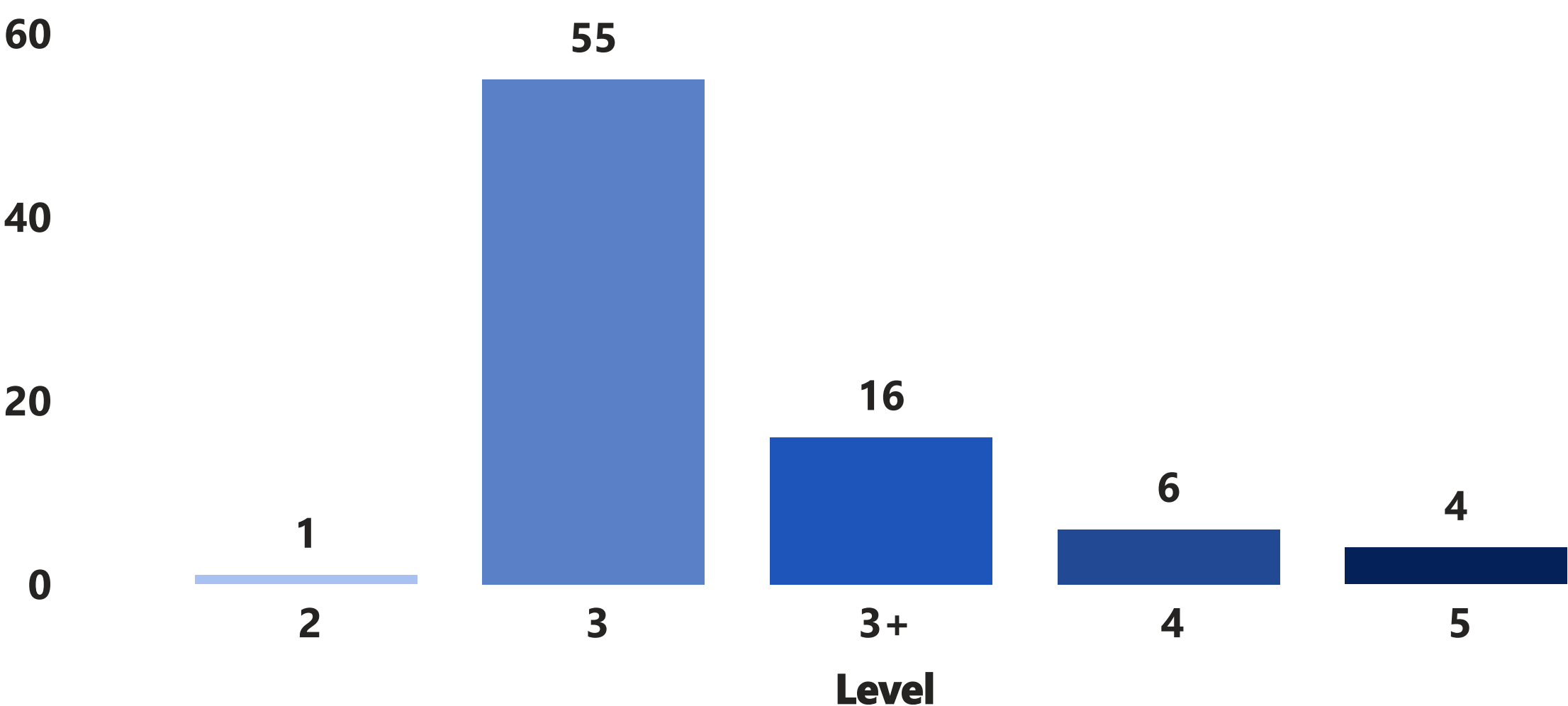
Children Receiving Public Subsidies

905

Early Achievers Enrollment by Type of Care



Early Achievers Quality Recognition Level



The data presented in this report is the result of a collaborative partnership between:

Department of Children, Youth, & Families (DCYF): <https://dcyf.wa.gov/services/early-learning-providers>
Cultivate Learning - University of Washington: <https://cultivatelearning.uw.edu/>

Local Regions:

- Child Care Aware of Central Washington - a program of **Catholic Charities:** <https://catholiccharitiescw.org/>
- Child Care Aware of Eastern Washington - a program of **Community-Minded Enterprises:** <https://community-minded.org/>
- Child Care Aware of King and Pierce Counties - a program of **BrightSpark:** <https://www.brightspark.org/>
- Child Care Aware of Northwest Washington - a program of **The Opportunity Council:** <https://www.opppo.org/>
- Child Care Aware of Olympic Peninsula - a program of **Child Care Action Council:** <https://ccacwa.org/>
- Child Care Aware of Southwest Washington - a program of **Educational Service District 112:** <https://www.esd112.org/ece/>

Data Sources:

¹ Washington State Office of Financial Management. (2023). Small area demographic estimates.
² U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). American community survey.
³ U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). Small area income and poverty estimates.

Additional Resources:

For information on child care provider and staff compensation in Washington state, please view the most recent DCYF Child Care Market Rate Study:
[2024 DCYF Cost of Quality Child Care and Market Rate Study](#)