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## ABSTRACT

The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) subsidizes child care for about 30,000 children each month. In 1992, telephone interviews were conducted with 1,179 child care centers and 1,277 licensed family child care homes throughout the state. An estimated 140,000 children were in licensed care at that time. Three major factors affected rates charged for child care: (1) wage levels and benefits provided to employees in centers; (2) the employment of paid assistants in homes; (3) liability insurance coverage in both centers and homes. Major findings from the study include: (1) between 1990 and 1992, the average rates for licensed child care increased 16.4 percent; (2) geographical differences in child care rates were similar to those observed in the 1987 and 1990 surveys; (3) child care rates varied with the age of the child; (4) on average, child care centers charged more than family homes; (5) in 1992 the DSHS maximum rates varied from the 3rd to the 73rd percentile of market rates; (6) in child care centers; rates tended to be higher when salary levels for teachers and aides were higher; and (7) in family homes, child care rates tended to be higher when providers employed assistants and when they carried liability insurance. (KM)

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# REPORT

## Child Care Rates in Washington State:1992

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# CHILD CARE RATES IN WASHINGTON STATE: 1992

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Jim Mayfield

January 1994

Office of Research and Data Analysis  
Planning, Research and Development  
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**Office of Child Care Policy, Children's Administration**  
*and the*  
**Division of Income Assistance**

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## SUMMARY

**Background** The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) subsidizes child care for about 30,000 children each month. To qualify for this child care subsidy, children must be from low-income families with parents who are working, going to school, homeless, or involved in some other DSHS program.

DSHS has established maximum rates it will pay for child care. These rates vary with the age of the child, whether the care is full-time or part-time, and whether the care is provided in a child care center, a licensed family child care home, or in the child's own home. Further, because market rates for similar care vary widely with geographical location, DSHS has grouped Washington counties into four clusters, based on the similarity of rates among those counties. The DSHS maximum child care rates vary depending on the cluster. Providers may charge DSHS their usual and customary rates, or the DSHS maximum rate, whichever is less. Providers may not charge parents the difference between the DSHS maximum and the usual and customary rates.

Financial support for these programs comes, in part, from federal Title IV-A funds. That funding is contingent on linking rates paid by DSHS to the private market. Federal regulations also require that to keep up with changes in the market, states must survey the child care market at least every two years. Here, we report on the third in a series of surveys of the Washington State child care market. The survey in this report was done in two parts in the spring of 1992: telephone interviews with 1) nearly all child care centers (1,179) and 2) a representative sample of licensed family child care homes (1,277) throughout the state.

### **Areas of Analysis**

This report covers the following characteristics of the child care market.

- Child care rates charged for different age groups, for full and part-time care in child care centers and licensed family homes.
- Factors associated with higher or lower child care rates.
- Child care populations.
- Capacity and vacancy rates of licensed child care providers.
- Provider characteristics, salaries, and business costs.
- Children in DSHS-subsidized child care; and
- General trends in the child care industry since 1987.

### **Major Findings**

#### *Findings About Rates in 1992*

- Between 1990 and 1992, the average rates for licensed child care increased 16.4 percent.
- Geographical differences in child care rates were similar to those observed in the 1987 and 1990 surveys.
- Child care rates varied with the age of the child, with the highest rates being for infants
- On average, child care centers charged more than family homes.
- Depending on location of the child care facility and the age of the child, in 1992 the DSHS maximum rates varied from the 3rd to the 73rd percentile of market rates.
- In child care centers, rates tended to be higher when salary levels for teachers and aides were higher.
- In family homes, child care rates tended to be higher when providers employed assistants and when they carried liability insurance.

*Findings About  
Centers in 1992*

- 85,000 children were enrolled in licensed centers.
- 48 percent of children in centers were preschoolers, four percent were infants.
- 57 percent of children in centers received full-time care.
- 56 percent of centers had vacancies; overall, the vacancy rate for centers was 12 percent.
- Teacher wages at centers averaged \$6.55 per hour. Aides averaged \$5.38 per hour.

*Findings About Family  
Homes in 1992*

- 55,000 children were enrolled in licensed family homes.
- 42 percent of children in homes were preschoolers, six percent were infants.
- 52 percent of children in homes received full-time care.
- 40 percent of family homes had vacancies; overall, the vacancy rate for homes was 20 percent.
- Assistants at homes earned \$4.97 per hour on average.

*DSHS Subsidized  
Children in 1992*

- 14 percent of children in centers and 16 percent of children in family homes were subsidized by DSHS.
- 73 percent of centers cared for at least one DSHS -subsidized child
- 38 percent of family homes cared for at least one DSHS subsidized child.
- The majority of centers and family homes caring for DSHS subsidized children customarily charged more than the DSHS maximum rate.

# INTRODUCTION AND METHODS

## **Purpose and Objectives**

In 1992, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) subsidized child care for about 30,000 children each month. This included about 15,000 children who were served by programs administered by the division of Children and Family Services (DCFS). The other 15,000 children were served by programs either in the Division of Income Assistance (DIA) or the Family Independence Program (FIP).

Financial support for some of these programs was provided by federal Title IV-A funds. Federal funding requires that states base their rates on the local market(s). In order to keep up with changes in the market, states must survey the child care market at least every two years. Federal matching funds are available to partially fund the surveys.

The primary objective of this survey was to establish local rates in the private-paying child care market, thus ensuring compliance with federal requirements and continued federal funding. The survey provides current information on rates for child care centers and licensed family homes across Washington State.

A second objective of this study was to ask questions about topics of interest for those making policy decisions about child care:

- the population of children receiving licensed child care;
- capacity and vacancies in licensed facilities;
- the costs associated with providing child care, such as salaries, benefits and liability insurance;
- characteristics of providers, such as professional education, years in operation, whether centers are government run, non-profit, or for profit;
- providers caring for DSHS-subsidized children.

The last objective was to use the results of this survey together with results from the surveys in 1987 and 1990 to evaluate trends in rates and compensation, and on other changes in the child care market over the past five years.

**Background** Prior to 1988, DSHS paid for child care only on an hourly basis. In preparation for FIP, the Office of Research and Data Analysis (ORDA) conducted a formal survey of the child care market in Washington. Based on that study, DSHS set new rates for FIP child care. This new FIP structure included full-day rates for children needing full-time care, and half-day and hourly rates for children needing part-time care. From 1988 to 1991, DSHS operated with two distinct rate schedules, the one used by FIP and another, which paid only hourly for child care, used by all other child care programs in the department.

In January, 1991, with legislative directive and funding, DSHS adopted a single rate schedule, namely the FIP schedule, for use in all its child care subsidy programs.

The Legislature subsequently required DSHS to pay at a constant percentile of market rates. Based on the 1990 surveys of the child care market, DSHS established new child care rates in December 1991. These rates were set at the 55th percentile of market rates for licensed centers and for licensed family homes.

In keeping with Federal Title IV-A requirements, in 1993, the legislature mandated that DSHS raise its maximum payment to the 75th percentile of observed local markets. This means that 75 percent of providers will receive their usual and customary charges when caring for DSHS-subsidized children. The distribution of counties into clusters is listed in Table 1 and is shown on the following state map (Figure 1). Throughout this report, the terms *cluster* or *Cluster I, II, III, or IV* refer to these groupings of counties.



**DSHS Child Care  
Rate Clusters**

Market rates for child care vary widely across Washington. To ensure that clients have equal access to child care, whether they live in areas of more costly child care or in areas with relatively inexpensive care, DSHS divided the 39 counties into four rate clusters. Groupings of counties into clusters were based on similarity of county-wide median rates for full-time and part-time care in child care centers, as observed in the 1990 survey (Miller, Miller and Mumaw, 1991). Rates tend to be lowest in Clusters I and II, somewhat higher in Cluster III, and highest in Cluster IV. Note that counties in the same cluster are not necessarily contiguous.

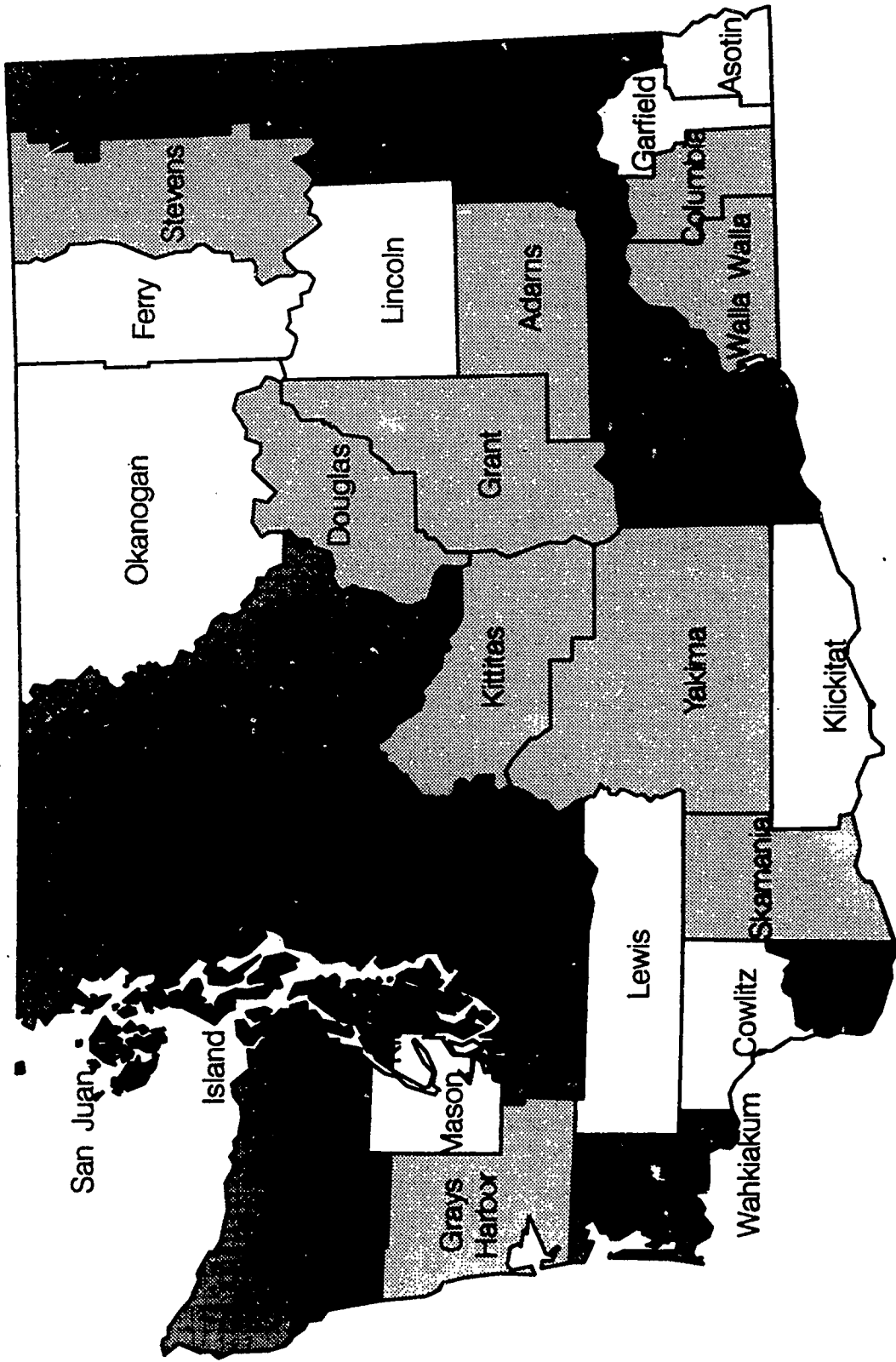
In 1991, when rates were established at the 55th percentile of the 1990 survey, data were pooled for all providers in a cluster to arrive at the rate corresponding to the 55th percentile.

The distribution of counties within the clusters is listed in Table 1 and in Figure 1, below.

**Table 1 Assignment of counties into DSHS clusters**

I	II	III	IV
Asotin	Adams	Benton	Island
Cowlitz	Columbia	Chelan	Jefferson
Ferry	Douglas	Clallam	King
Garfield	Grant	Clark	San Juan
Klickitat	Grays Harbor	Franklin	Snohomish
Lewis	Kittitas	Kitsap	
Lincoln	Skamania	Pacific	
Mason	Stevens	Pend Oreille	
Okanogan	Walla Walla	Pierce	
	Yakima	Skagit	
		Spokane	
		Thurston	
		Wahkiakum	
		Whatcom	
		Whitman	

# DSHS Child Care Rate Clusters



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**Study Methods**  
*Licensed Facilities*

The child care facilities surveyed for this study fall into two licensing categories: (1) child care centers (centers) and (2) family child care homes (family homes).

Child care centers are licensed to care for any number of children -- subject to certain staff and space requirements -- in facilities that are not residences. Family homes are located in residences and are licensed to care for up to 12 children.

As of February 1992, there were 1,541 licensed child care centers in Washington State caring for 85,000 children. At that time, there were also approximately 7,800 family homes in the state caring for over 55,000 children.

*Survey of Child  
Care Centers*

Staff at Washington State University's Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) attempted to interview directors of all the licensed child care centers in Washington State. The list of centers to be surveyed comprised every child care center licensed in the state as of January 1, 1992. Interviews were conducted from February 17 to March 24, 1992. During this time, most school-age children were attending school. Therefore, the data reflect the child care market as it exists approximately nine months out of the year.

The SESRC attempted to contact all 1,541 licensed centers by telephone. Completion rate statistics for centers are summarized in Table 2. Of 1,541 centers, interviewers disqualified 211 because the providers were out of business or not currently offering child care. Of the remaining 1,330 centers, 1,179 completed interviews for a completion rate over 88.6 percent of eligible centers. One-hundred fifty-one eligible centers either refused to participate in the survey or were unavailable during the interview period. If a center had a working phone number, interviewers attempted five phone calls before dropping it from the sample.

When analyzing the data we assumed that non-responding centers were similar to those that responded to the survey. We assumed, further, that the turnover of centers is rapid enough that new centers replaced those that were no longer in business. To reflect the responses of all centers, we established a weighting factor for the number of centers registered in a county relative to the number of centers surveyed.

**Table 2**

**1992 Center Survey—Completion Rate Statistics**

<b>Eligible Centers</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Sub-Total Percent</b>	<b>Grand-Total Percent</b>
Completed Interviews (1)	1179	88.6%	76.5%
Refused or Not Available (2)	151	11.4%	9.8%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>1330</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>86.3%</b>
<b>Excluded Centers</b>			
Ineligible (3)	55	26.1%	3.6%
Non-Working Number (4)	156	73.9%	10.1%
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>13.7%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1541</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

(1) Includes 20 partially complete interviews.

(2) Refused interview, unable to reach in five attempts, answering machine, or communication problem.

(3) Not a child care provider or was not a child care center.

(4) Disconnected numbers, wrong numbers, duplicates, or electronic device.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

*Survey of Family Homes*

Staff at the SESRC interviewed approximately 16 percent of the licensed family home child care providers in the state. They conducted the telephone survey between April 21 and May 22, 1992. As with the survey of child care centers, data from these interviews reflect the child care market as it existed during the school year.

The SESRC attempted to contact 1,816 family homes by telephone. Of these homes, interviewers disqualified 427 providers who were out of business, operating as a child care center, or not currently offering child care. Of the remaining 1,389 eligible family homes, 1,277 completed the interviews for a completion rate of 92 percent of eligible family homes in the sample. One-hundred-and-twelve eligible providers either refused to participate in the survey or were unavailable during the interview period. Interviewers attempted to contact all working phone numbers five times. Completion rate statistics for the family home survey are summarized in Table 3.

**Table 3 1992 Family-Home Survey—Sample Completion Rate Statistics**

Eligible Family Homes	Number	Sub-Total Percent	Grand-Total Percent
Completed Interviews (1)	1277	91.9%	70.3%
Refused or Not Available (2)	112	8.1%	6.2%
Sub-Total	1389	100.0%	76.5%
<b>Excluded Family Homes</b>			
Ineligible (3)	277	64.9%	15.2%
Non-Working Number (4)	150	35.1%	8.2%
Sub-Total	427	100.0%	23.5%
<b>Total Sample</b>	1816	—	100.0%

(1) Includes 17 partially complete interviews.

(2) Refused interview, unable to reach in five attempts, answering machine, or communication problem.

(3) Not a child care provider, or was a child care center.

(4) Disconnected numbers, wrong numbers, duplicates, or electronic device.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

*Sampling Methods for the  
Family Home Survey*

Some counties in the state have so few licensed family homes that a random sample drawn from a pool of all counties might leave small counties under-represented in this study. As of January 1, 1992, there were approximately 7,800 DSHS-licensed family homes. The number of licensed homes varied widely among counties, from one home each in Ferry, Garfield, and Wahkiakum Counties to over 2,100 in King County. (See Table 4 and Appendix B.) To reduce the chance that small counties might be under-represented, we stratified the sample according to the number of licensed family home child care providers in a given county.

We separated the counties into five groups or strata. In counties with fewer than 40 homes, we sampled every home. We selected approximately one out of every two providers in counties with 40 to 59 homes. About one of every three homes were sampled in counties with 60 to 79 homes. And for counties with 80 or more homes, we selected approximately one out of every five providers. This last stratum excluded King County—the county with the most providers. After interviewers exhausted the samples in the first four strata, they continued to sample and interview family homes in King County until they completed the minimum number of total interviews acceptable (1,200).

The number of homes (as of February 1992) in each county—organized into the five sample strata—are shown in Table 4. Also shown are the sample sizes drawn from each county, the number of completed interviews, and their corresponding percent of the population.

For analysis, we weighted all data from family homes to account for the different sampling rates in each county.

**Table 4. 1992 Family Home Survey -- Total Homes, Homes Surveyed, and Number of Homes Surveyed by County and Strata**

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LICENSED HOMES</u>	<u>HOMES SAMPLED</u>	<u>HOMES INTERVIEWED</u>	<u>PERCENT OF ALL HOMES INTERVIEWED</u>
<b>Fewer than 40 Family Homes:</b>				
ADAMS	26	26	21	80.80%
ASOTIN	10	10	8	80.00%
COLUMBIA	2	2	2	100.00%
DOUGLAS	37	37	28	75.70%
FERRY	1	1	0	0.00%
GARFIELD	1	1	1	100.00%
JEFFERSON	15	15	9	60.00%
KITTITAS	29	29	27	93.10%
KLICKITAT	25	25	10	40.00%
LINCOLN	17	17	11	64.70%
PACIFIC	20	20	15	75.00%
PEND OREILLE	3	3	2	66.70%
SAN JUAN	12	12	10	83.30%
SKAMANIA	10	10	4	40.00%
STEVENS	30	30	12	40.00%
WAHKIAKUM	1	1	1	100.00%
Totals	239	239	161	67.40%
<b>40 to 59 Family Homes:</b>				
CLALLAM	54	27	22	40.70%
COWLITZ	52	26	21	40.40%
GRAYS HARBOR	54	27	24	44.40%
LEWIS	40	20	15	37.50%
MASON	54	27	22	40.70%
OKANOGAN	57	29	20	35.10%
WALLA WALLA	55	28	21	38.20%
Totals	366	184	145	39.60%
<b>60 to 79 Family Homes:</b>				
CHELAN	79	26	19	24.10%
FRANKLIN	68	26	19	27.90%
WHITMAN	69	27	16	23.20%
Totals	216	79	54	25.00%
<b>80 or more Family Homes:</b>				
BENTON	230	41	33	14.30%
CLARK	742	126	93	12.50%
GRANT	154	35	23	14.90%
ISLAND	111	28	17	15.30%
KITSAP	318	59	47	14.80%
PIERCE	754	160	129	17.10%
SKAGIT	111	16	12	10.80%
SNOHOMISH	981	176	122	12.40%
SPOKANE	666	122	85	12.80%
THURSTON	264	50	34	12.90%
WHATCOM	116	21	16	13.80%
YAKIMA	414	80	46	11.10%
Totals	4861	914	657	13.50%
<b>King County:</b>				
KING	Totals 2118	400	260	12.29%
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>				
	7800	1816	1277	16.37%

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

## THE CHILD CARE MARKET IN WASHINGTON

**Child Care Population** Based on the surveys conducted from February through May 1992, we estimate that 140,000 children in Washington State were in licensed care. About 60% (85,000) of these children were in child care centers and the remaining 40% (55,000) were in licensed family homes.

In-home care (care in the child's home, not subject to licensing) and unlicensed out-of-home care were not part of this study. These populations, however, were estimated in 1990. Assuming the proportion of children in these situations has remained the same since the 1990 study, the numbers of children in in-home and unlicensed out-of-home care were 30,000 and 44,000 respectively. Therefore, during the months of February through May of 1992, there were approximately 214,000 children in paid child care in Washington State. Population data are summarized in Table 5.



**Table 5 Estimates of Children in Licensed and Unlicensed Care in Washington, February to May, 1992. With Licensed Capacity and Vacancies in Homes and Centers**

Licensed Care	Children Enrolled	FTE(2) Capacity	Number of Vacancies	Vacancy Rate
Centers				
Full-Time	48,000			
Part-Time	37,000			
Total Children in Centers	85,000	82,200	9,600	11.7%
Family Homes				
Full-Time	29,000			
Part-Time	26,000			
Total Children in Family Homes	55,000	45,200	9,000	20.0%
Total in Licensed Care	140,000	127,400	18,600	14.6%
Unlicensed Care (1)				
Out-of-Home	44,000			
In-Home	30,000			
Total in Unlicensed Care	74,000			
Total in Licensed and Unlicensed Care	214,000			

(1) Estimates based on 1990 survey of families with children. 24% of children in out-of-home care were in unlicensed situation. The ratio of children in out-of-home care to those receiving in-home care was 6.1 to 1. [Child Care Rates in Washington: 1990.]

(2) FTE = Full-time equivalent

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

In the following chapter more detailed information about child care populations in Washington State is provided in Table 7 for centers and in Table 8 for family homes.

**The Child Care Industry Combined Income of Child Care Providers**

On the basis of child care rates and populations reported in the 1992 surveys, we estimate that child care providers in Washington State earned more than half a billion dollars in 1991 (Table 6). Unlicensed providers earned about 35 percent of the half-billion dollars. To estimate the earnings of unlicensed providers, we assumed their rates were the same as those reported by licensed family home providers.

**Table 6 Estimated Size of Child care Industry in Washington State in 1992 by Reported Gross Income and Number of Employees**

	<u>Gross Revenues</u>	<u>Number Employed</u>
Licensed Care		
Centers	\$241 Million	15,200 (2)
Family Homes	<u>\$141 Million</u>	<u>9,400 (2)</u>
SubTotal	\$382 Million	24,600
Unlicensed Care (1)		
Out-of-Home Care (5)	\$113 Million	7,500 (3)
In-Home Care	<u>\$77 Million</u>	<u>13,600 (4)</u>
SubTotal	\$190 Million	21,100
 Total for Child Care Industry	 \$572 Million	 45,700

- (1) Assumes costs per child in unlicensed care are the same as in licensed family home care (\$2,564/child/year)
- (2) Size of workforce in licensed facilities calculated from survey results.
- (3) Size of workforce in unlicensed out-of-home care based on same adult to child ratio as in licensed family homes.
- (4) In-home care workforce based on 1990 survey of in-home care; 2.2 children per caregiver.
- (5) Includes unlicensed out of home care provided by non-relatives that should, by law, be licensed.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

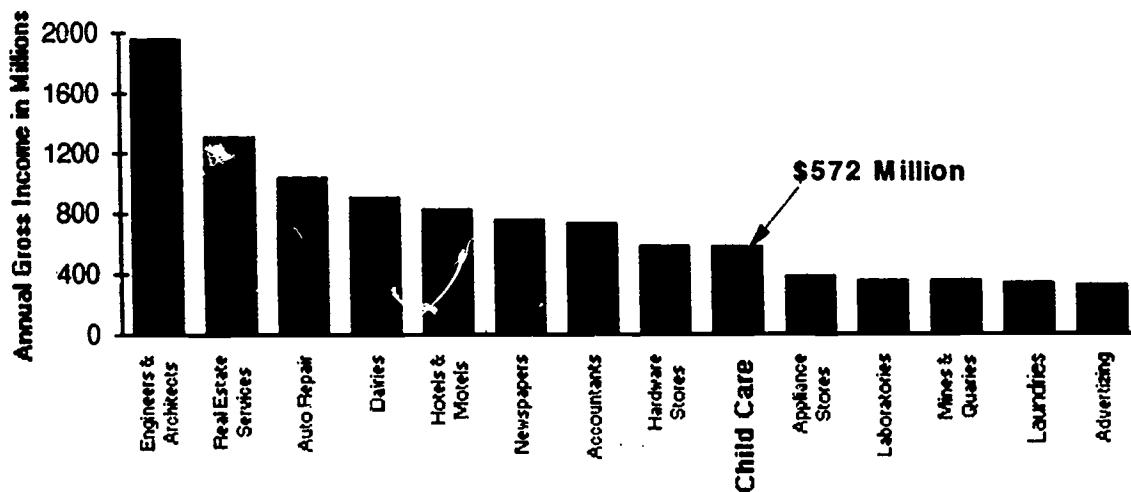
Not all unlicensed care is illegal. For example, child care provided by a relative in the relative's home is not subject to licensing; it is legal but would be counted as unlicensed care.

**Child Care Compared to Other Industries**

Combined income of the state's child care providers is compared with other selected industries in Figure 2. Washington's child care industry is larger than a number of other industries in the state. For example, the combined income of Washington's child care providers is larger than the income reported by all the state's advertisers, mines and quarries, launderers, appliance stores, or laboratories (Figure 2), to name a few. The child care industry's \$572 million combined income is comparable to the state's newspapers, hardware stores, and accountants.

These data should be used only for broad, generalized comparisons. Because the dollar amounts come from different sources, they should not be used for any detailed analyses.

Figure 2. 1992 Gross Income



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
 1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes  
 Department of Revenue Business Quarterly

## CHILDREN IN LICENSED CARE

**Child Age Groups** In this study, we have assigned children to discrete age groups, consistent with definitions used in DSHS licensing and with how providers charge based on age. DSHS child care regulations differ with child age. For example, in child care centers, one adult may care for no more than four infants, or one adult may care for up to 15 school-aged children. Likewise, providers' rates vary depending upon child age because very young children tend to require more adult supervision than older children.

The following age classes reflect DSHS center licensing regulations, subsidy rates, and the child care market:

Infant: under 12 months of age.

Toddler: from 12 to 29 months of age.

Preschooler: from 30 to 60 months.

School-age: from five to 12 years old.

Kindergarten: attending kindergarten, a subgroup of the school-age population. Children in this age group are more likely than older children to require full-time child care. This age group was used only in the center survey.

**Full-Time and Part-Time Care** Providers may set rates differently depending on how much time a child spends in care. DSHS sets its subsidies accordingly. Full-time care, as defined by DSHS and used in these surveys, refers to care provided 30 or more hours per week. Care is part-time if the child receives fewer than 30 hours of care per week.

**Full-Time  
Equivalents**

Family home providers reported the number of hours of care each child received in a week. In this report, most of the data on the child population is reported in numbers of children. When discussing capacity or vacancy, however, family home population data are reported in terms of full-time-equivalents (FTEs).

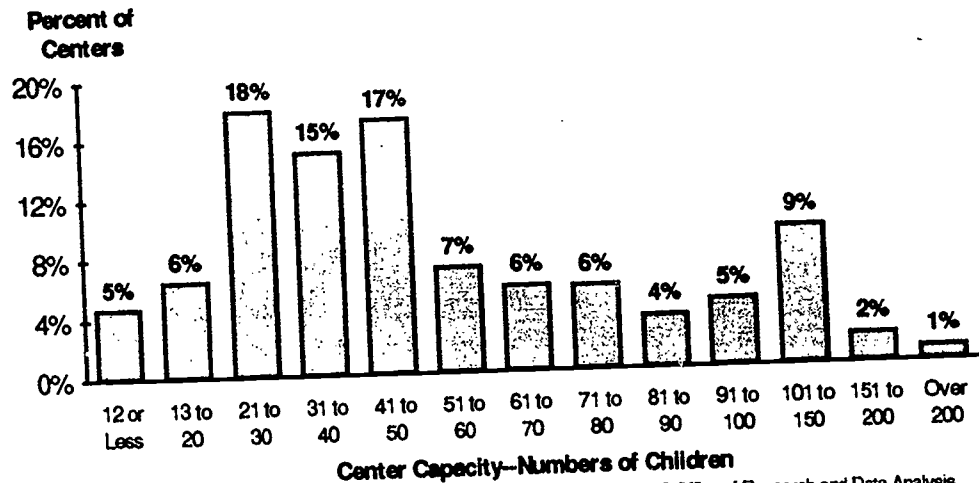
FTEs are calculated in the following manner: If a child is in care for 30 or more hours per week, its FTE is the number of days in care during the week divided by five. If a child is in care for less than thirty hours, then its FTE is the total number of hours in care during the week divided by 40.

**Child Care Centers**  
*Capacity of  
Centers*

The licensed capacity of a child care facility is the maximum number of children allowed on the premises at any one time. Child care centers are facilities which are not residences, and -- in general -- have larger capacities than family homes.

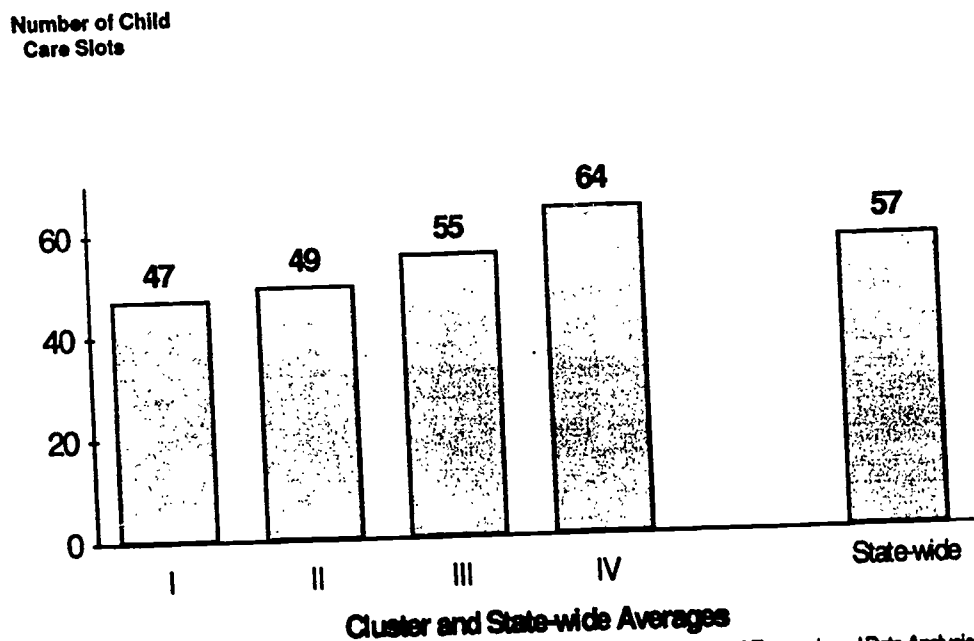
Licensed capacity ranged from seven to 305 children per center (Figure 3). The average capacity varied among the four Clusters. As shown in Figure 4, the average capacity in centers ranged from 47 children per center in Cluster I to 64 children per center in Cluster IV. State-wide, the average capacity was 57 children per center.

Figure 3 The Distribution of Centers by Reported Capacity



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

Figure 4 Average Capacity of Child Care Centers by Cluster and Statewide



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

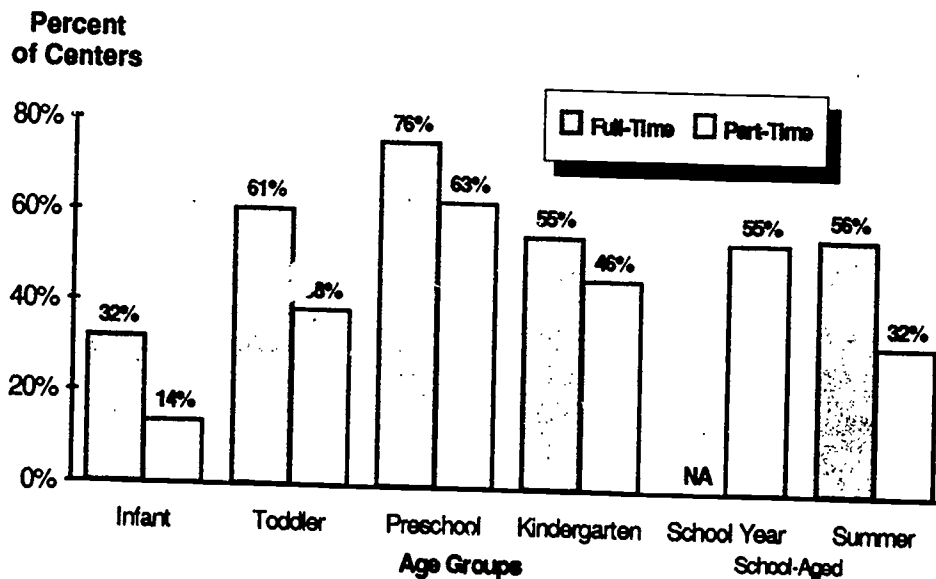
**Full-Time and Part-Time Care in Centers**

Not every center offered full-time and part-time care to children in all age groups. The proportions of the state's 1,541 centers offering full-time or part-time care are shown in Figure 5.

Overall, more centers offered full-time care than part-time care. Centers may prefer providing care to children on a full-time basis because it is simpler to fill a full-time slot with one child than to juggle schedules around several part-time children.

More centers provided full-time care to preschoolers than to any other age-group and time-in-care subgroup. Seventy-six percent of centers cared full-time for preschoolers. The least common care provided by centers was that offered to infants: 32% of centers cared for infants full-time and only 14% of centers offered part-time infant care.

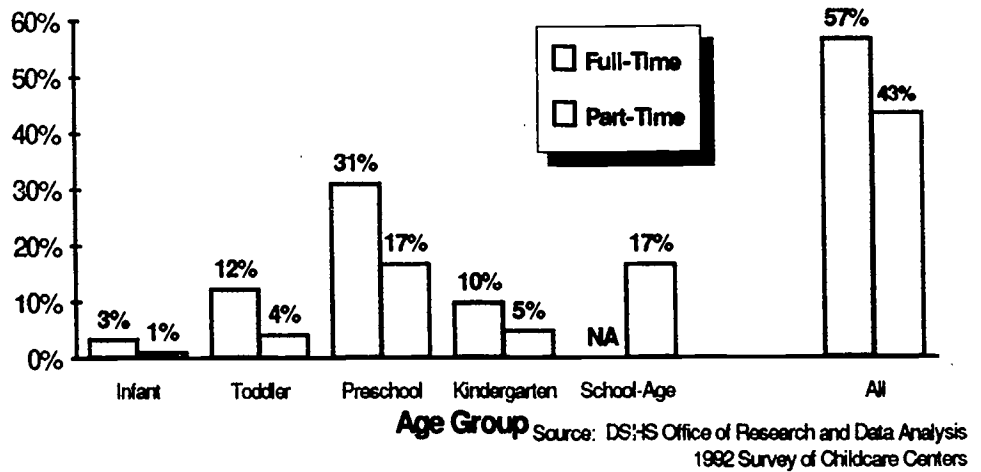
**Figure 5 Centers Providing Full- and Part-Time Care for Different Age Groups**



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Childcare Centers

The estimated population of children in centers, by age group and time-in-care category are summarized in Figure 6 and Table 7, below. The type of care offered by centers is reflected in the population of children receiving care. Just as most centers offered full-time care, most of the children in centers received full-time care. And, just as centers most frequently offered full-time care for preschoolers, this group was also the single largest group in the center population. On the other hand, while 32 percent of centers offered full-time care to infants, only three percent of children in centers were infants. Infants comprised only four percent of the center population (Figure 6) while they constitute about eight percent of children birth through 12 years.

Figure 6 Children in Centers During the School Year in Part- or Full-Time Care by Age Group





**Table 7: Child Care Center Populations by Age and Cluster  
1992 Center Survey**

	DSHS Cluster				All
	I	II	III	IV	
<b>Full-Time Population (1)</b>					
<b>Infant</b>					
Estimated Population	88	137	1,116	1,527	2,868
<b>Toddler</b>					
Estimated Population	228	637	4,191	5,434	10,490
<b>Preschool</b>					
Estimated Population	669	1,704	10,955	13,101	26,429
<b>Kindergarten</b>					
Estimated Population	174	534	3,429	4,191	8,328
<b>School-Age (2)</b>					
NA	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Full-Time Population</b>					<b>48,115</b>

	DSHS Cluster				All
	I	II	III	IV	
<b>Part-Time Population (1)</b>					
<b>Infant</b>					
Estimated Population	68	48	376	386	878
<b>Toddler</b>					
Estimated Population	295	205	1,395	1,593	3,488
<b>Preschool</b>					
Estimated Population	483	2,039	5,668	6,038	14,228
<b>Kindergarten</b>					
Estimated Population	102	266	1,830	1,885	4,083
<b>School-Age</b>					
Estimated Population	465	694	5,896	6,906	13,961
<b>Total Part-Time Population</b>					<b>36,638</b>

(1) Children in sample multiplied by a county-weighting factor to estimate total population.

(2) Centers were not asked about school age children in full-time care because the survey was conducted during the school year when most school age children were attending classes and required only part time care. During the summer break the total number of children in centers increases to 95,211 (or 81,695 FTEs).

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

**Family Homes**  
*Children in Family Homes*

At a licensed family home, children receive care in the provider's residence. These homes are licensed to care for no more than 12 children. Thus, the average licensed capacity for homes is considerably less than for centers.

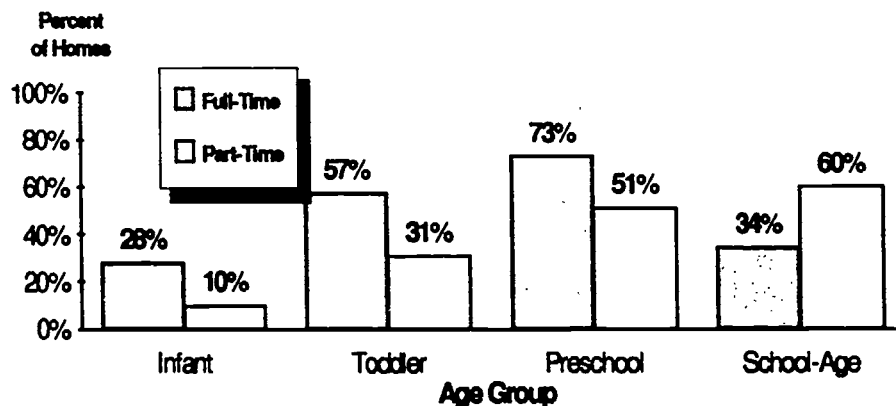
While family home providers were not asked directly about their capacity, we estimated capacity from enrollment and vacancy information. The average family home cared for 7.1 children (in addition to the providers' own children). On average, that was 4.8 FTEs. The average family home reported 1.2 vacancies. Thus we estimated the average capacity to be:

$$4.8 \text{ FTEs enrolled} + 1.2 \text{ FTEs vacancy} = 6.0 \text{ children.}$$

*Full-Time and Part-Time Care in Family Homes*

Not all family homes cared for every age group or cared for similar proportions of part-time and full-time children. Most commonly, the care provided by family homes was full-time child care for preschoolers. Over 70 percent of family homes provided full-time care to preschoolers. On the other extreme, only 10 percent of homes provided part-time care to infants. Figure 7 shows the proportion of homes that provided full-time or part-time care to each age group.

**Figure 7 Family Homes Providing Care Full- or Part-Time by Age Group.**



Note: Percentages do not add to 100 because of double counting.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1982 Survey of Family Child Care Homes

The estimated population of children in family homes, by cluster, age group and time-in-care is presented in Table 8, below. Figure 8 shows the distribution of children in family homes by age-group, and part-time or full-time status. Preschoolers were the largest group—42 percent—of children in family homes, while only six percent of children in family homes were infants.

**Table 8. Family Home Populations by Age and Cluster - 1992 Family Home Survey**

	DSHS Cluster				All
	I	II	III	IV	
<b>Full-Time Population (1)</b>					
<b>Infant</b>					
Estimated Population	52	274	993	1,201	2,520
<b>Toddler</b>					
Estimated Population	272	870	3,011	3,049	7,202
<b>Preschool</b>					
Estimated Population	546	1,856	6,512	5,709	14,623
<b>School-Age</b>					
Estimated Population	147	522	2,322	1,600	4,591
	<b>Total Full-Time Population</b>				28,936
	<b>Total Full-Time in FTEs (2)</b>				27,676

	DSHS Cluster				All
	I	II	III	IV	
<b>Part-Time Population (1)</b>					
<b>Infant</b>					
Estimated Population	42	115	405	311	873
<b>Toddler</b>					
Estimated Population	134	340	1,429	1,440	3,343
<b>Preschool</b>					
Estimated Population	422	943	3,969	3,203	8,537
<b>School-Age</b>					
Estimated Population	575	1,304	7,223	4,477	13,579
	<b>Total Part-Time Children</b>				26,332
	<b>Total Part-Time FTEs (2)</b>				9,828

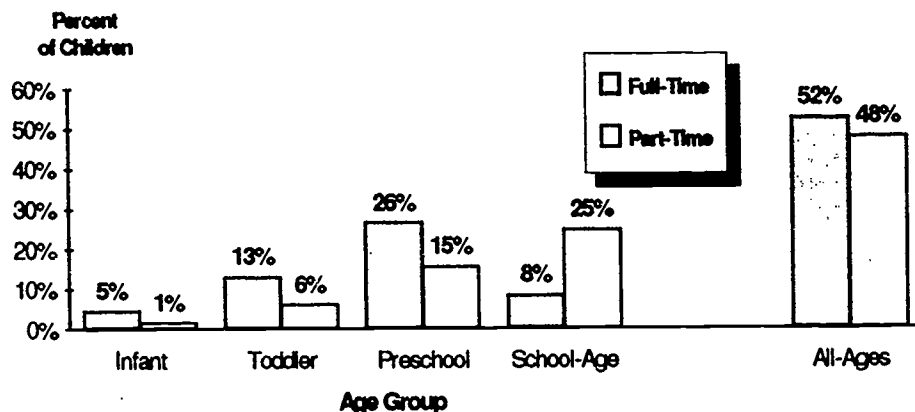
(1) Children in sample multiplied by county-weighting factor to estimate total population.

Excludes 399 children whose ages or hours in care were unknown.

(2) FTEs were calculated as follows: (if in care under 30 hours per week) by dividing the number of hours per week by 40, or (if in care 30 or more hours per week) by dividing the number of days in care by five.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Family Child Care Homes

Figure 8 Children in Family Homes by Age Group and Time in Care



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Childcare Centers and Family Homes

In family homes slightly more children (52 percent) received full-time care than part-time care. As in centers, preschoolers made up the largest segment of children receiving full-time care in family homes.

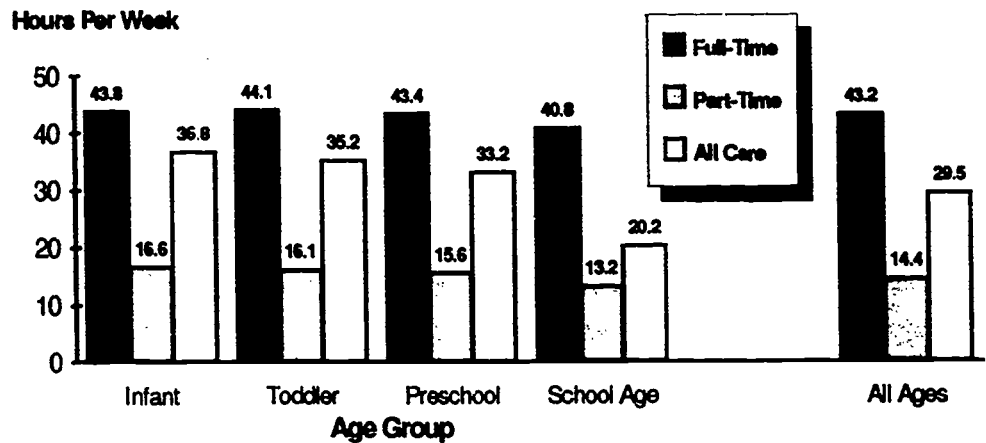
Infants, toddlers, and preschoolers were all more likely to be in full-time care than were school-aged children. Because of their need for before- and after-school care, school-age children were more likely to receive part-time than full-time care. Thus, school-age children were the largest segment of the population in part-time care.

#### Hours of Care in Family Homes

Children in family homes spent an average of 29.5 hours per week in child care. (See Figure 9.) Infants spent the most time in care, averaging over 36 hours per week. School-age children—at 20.5 hours per week—spent the least time in care because they were more likely to receive part-time care.

Average time in care (all care) for all children and for children by age-group is shown in Figure 9. The figure also shows the average time in care for full-time and part-time children.

Figure 9 Average Hours per Week in Family Home Care by Age Group, Full- and Part-Time, and Overall



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Family Child Care Homes

**Preschool Programs in Centers**

Among the 1,207 centers that reported caring for preschoolers, 1,113 (92 percent) offered a structured preschool education program. For the majority of these centers, preschool was not optional but part of the overall child care package for children between 30-months and five-years old. In fifteen percent, or 167, of the centers offering a preschool curriculum, preschool was an option for which providers charged an additional \$64 per month on average.

**Care of Children with Disabilities in Homes and Centers**

Providers at centers and family homes were asked if they cared for any children with long-term physical, mental, or behavioral conditions (disabilities) requiring additional attention. According to the care givers, approximately 3,900 (2.8% of) children in licensed care had some form of disability that required additional attention. (See Table 9.)

The numbers of disabled children were almost evenly split between family homes and centers: 1,965 (3.5% of) children in family homes, and 1,956 (2.3% of) children in centers. Thus, proportionally more children with disabilities received care in family homes than in centers.

Though slightly more children with disabilities were cared for in family homes than in centers, 37 percent of centers cared for disabled children compared to only 17 percent of family homes. Five centers identified themselves as therapeutic facilities. Omitting these five centers, 544 other centers reported caring for children with disabilities.

**Table 9 Children with Disabilities Requiring Additional Attention in Family Homes and Non-Therapeutic Centers**

**In Facilities Caring for Disabled Children:\*\***

	<u>Range</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Median*</u>
<u>Number of Disabled Children in</u>			
Centers	1 to 45 Children	3.5 Children	2 Children
Family Homes	1 to 8 Children	1.5 Children	1 Child
<u>Percent of Disabled Children in</u>			
Centers	1% to 71%	10%	4%
Family Homes	5% to 100%	23%	15%
<u>Extra Hours of Care per Week</u>			
Per Disabled Child (Centers only)	0 to 40 hours	2.6 hours	1 hour

\* At the median, half the population is above and half the population is below.

\*\* 37% of centers and 17% of homes reported caring for disabled children statewide.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

In the 544 centers caring for disabled children, there were an average of 3.5 children with disabilities per center. More than half of these centers cared for only one or two such children. Disabled children made up an average of 10% of the children in centers providing such care.

Among the 1,325 family homes caring for disabled children, there were an average of 1.5 children with disabilities per home. The majority of these homes cared for only one disabled child.

Providers at centers reported the extra time spent with disabled children. On average, a disabled child required 2.6 hours more attention per week than other children. However, half of the disabled children in centers required an hour or less of extra care per week.

**Vacancies Compared to Capacity in Centers and Homes**

The vacancy rate is the number of vacancies as a percent of capacity. To estimate vacancies, providers were asked how many openings they had for children of any age. The average response was 1.2 children per family home and 6.4 children per center. To calculate vacancy rates, capacity must also be known.

## CHILD CARE RATES IN WASHINGTON STATE: 1992

Centers were asked directly about their licensed capacity. In homes, capacity was estimated by totalling the numbers of FTE children in a given home and the number of vacancies reported by the provider, assuming each vacancy to be a full-time slot. The average capacity in homes was 6.0 and in centers 54.9.

Table 10 shows total full-time capacity of centers and family homes, total vacancies, and the aggregate vacancy rate for licensed child care. Vacancy rates were 11.7 percent for child care centers and 20 percent for family homes. The overall vacancy rate for all licensed care was 15 percent.

Not all facilities had vacancies (see Table 10). Fifty-six percent of centers and 40 percent of homes reported having vacancies. Homes with vacancies had an average vacancy rate of 40.5 percent, while centers with vacancies had an average vacancy rate of 22.3 percent.

**Table 10 Estimated Capacity and Vacancies in Licensed Homes and Centers**

Licensed Facilities	Capacity	Vacancies	Vacancy Rate	Facilities with Vacancies	
				Percent of Facilities	*Vacancy Rate
All Centers	82,200	9,584	11.7%	56%	
Per Center	54.9	6.4			22.3%
All Family Homes	45,235	9,044	20.0%	40%	
Per Home	6.0	1.2			40.5%
Centers and Homes	127,435	18,634	15.0%	--	--

\*The average vacancy rates at centers or homes that reported any vacancies.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

**Vacancy Rates by Cluster** Vacancy rates for centers did not differ significantly among Clusters. The vacancy rate in family homes in Cluster IV was significantly greater than the rates in Clusters I and II. Table 11 shows the Cluster-by-Cluster vacancy rates for all family homes and centers.

**Table 11 Vacancy Rates in Family Homes and Centers by Cluster**

Cluster	Average Vacancy Rates in	
	Homes	Centers
I	15.0%	9.3%
II	15.1%	9.5%
III	19.6%	11.3%
IV	21.2%	12.3%
All	20.0%	11.7%

Note: The only significant differences in vacancy rates are between the rate in cluster IV vs the rates in clusters I and II for family homes

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

**Vacancies by Age Group** Vacancies in a given home or center may not be open to children of all ages, partly because the state limits the maximum number of children that may be cared for by one adult. For example, in centers one adult may care for only four infants, seven toddlers, 10 preschoolers, or for 15 school-aged children. Therefore, while some providers may not have sufficient staff to meet adult-to-child ratios for additional infants, they may have vacancies for older children. (Table 12 and Table 13)

**Table 12 Vacancy Rates for Children Under Two Years in Family Homes by Cluster**

Openings for Children Under 2 Years		
Cluster	Homes with Vacancies*	Vacancy Rate**
I	16.8%	4.0%
II	15.6%	3.3%
III	21.0%	5.5%
IV	23.3%	6.9%

\* Homes with vacancies for children under 2, as percent of all homes.

\*\*Vacancies for children under 2 as a percent of total capacity.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Family Child Care Homes



**Table 13 Centers with Vacancies for Each Age Group**

Percent of All Centers Having Vacancies for:

<u>Cluster</u>	<u>Infants</u>	<u>Toddlers</u>	<u>Pre-Schoolers</u>	<u>School-Aged</u>
I	13%	29%	37%	26%
II	9%	22%	34%	24%
III	13%	30%	46%	33%
IV	18%	34%	52%	34%
All	15%	31%	48%	32%

Note: Do not sum vacancy rates horizontally because some reported vacancies could be filled by children of any age. Differences among clusters are insignificant.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

**Availability of Child Care**

A convenient statistic for comparing availability of licensed care among geographic locations is relative availability—the number of licensed slots per 100 children (Gwen Morgan 1992. *A Hitchhikers Guide to the Child Care Universe*). In 1990, 944,700 children under the age of 13 lived in Washington State (Appendix B, Table B4). In 1992, the total licensed capacity of centers and homes was 127,000. Assuming the population of children remained unchanged, there were 13.5 licensed slots for every 100 children under 13.

Relative availability varied significantly among DSHS clusters, ranging from 7.5 slots per 100 children in Cluster I up to 15.9 slots in Cluster IV (Table 14). That is, relative availability was greater in areas where child care rates tended to be higher.

**Table 14 Relative Availability of Licensed Child Care in Each DSHS Cluster**

<u>Cluster</u>	<u>Slots per 100 Children*</u>
I	7.5
II	11.1
III	12.7
IV	15.9
Statewide	13.5

\* With 99.9% confidence, relative availability differs significantly from cluster to cluster.

Sources: 1990 US Census, OFM, and  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

The relative availability varied even more widely among counties—from less than 1 slot per 100 children in Pend Oreille to 21 slots in Whitman County. (See Appendix B for tables and Appendix C for maps.)

Differences in relative availability among clusters may be due to differences in profitability or may reflect local differences in parents's ideas about the value of using licensed (as opposed to unlicensed) child care.

**Parents in the Labor Force**

Geographical differences in relative availability of child care also reflect differences in the percent of children with working parents. The number of children who might need care can be derived from information from the 1990 US Census and the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM). Of the 424,000 children under six years, 230,100 or 54 percent, might need care because they had both parents or their only parent in the work force. In Cluster I, a significantly smaller proportion of children might need care than in the other three clusters (Table 15). Thus, the lower relative availability of licensed care in Cluster I ( See Table 14, above) may be related to the lower demand for care in Cluster I.

**Table 15 Children Who May Need Child Care As a Percent of All Children in Each Cluster**

<u>Cluster</u>	<u>Percent of Children Under 6 Who May Need Care*</u>
I	42%**
II	54%
III	54%
IV	56%
Statewide	54%

\* Children under 6 years with both parents or their only parent in the work force as a percent of all children

\*\* With 99% confidence, percent of children who may need child care is significantly less in Cluster I than in the other three clusters.

Sources: 1990 US Census and OFM

**Age Differences in Licensed Care**

In 1992, 140,000 children (14.8 percent of all children under 13) received some licensed care. Whether or not children used licensed care depended strongly on the age of the child.

As we discussed in Chapter 3, 46 percent of all children in licensed care were preschoolers, yet preschoolers were only 19 percent of all children under 13 (Table 16). In contrast, 23 percent of all children in licensed care were school-aged, while that group was 53 percent of all children under 13. Put another way, one in three preschoolers received licensed care while only one in 20 school-age children received licensed care (Figure 10). Also in licensed care, one in 10 infants, one in five toddlers, and one in four kindergartners.

It is unclear why children in different age groups used different amounts of licensed care. We know that there were fewer vacancies for infants and toddlers than for older children (Tables 12 and 13, above). So in the cases of very young children, parents may have been less able to find licensed care. Child care rates in licensed facilities also tended to be higher for very young children and lower for older children (see rates in Tables 25-28). Thus, some parents of infants and toddlers may have quit work or worked at home while their children were younger, or they may have used more unlicensed care.

Relative to infants and toddlers, it appears that the greater availability and the lower cost of care for preschoolers made licensed care more attractive to parents of preschoolers. In addition, some parents may have put their preschoolers in licensed care for the educational benefits the children derive.

It is difficult to explain why licensed care was used by so few school-age children, since there appears to be sufficient demand for school-age care. According to the US Census, older children were more likely to have both parents, or their only parent, in the work force than were younger children (68 percent of six to 17 year-olds compared to 54 percent of children under six). Nevertheless, only 5.5 percent of children ages six to twelve received licensed care during the school year (compared to 14.8 percent of all children under 13 receiving care).

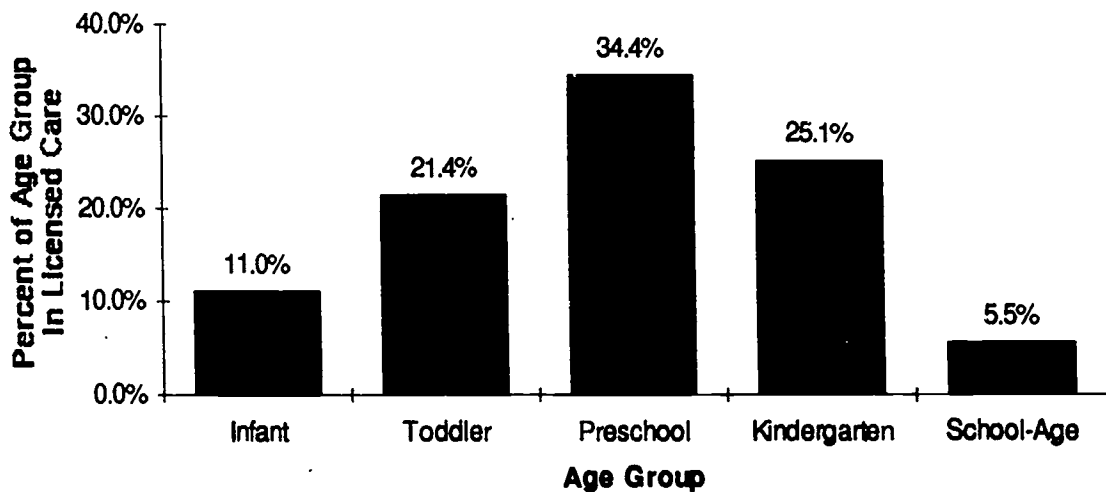
Licensed care for school-age children was available. At the time of our survey, centers across the state reported having 5,500 vacancies for school-age children. There appeared to have been a need for school-age child care, and, in most locales, licensed care was available, but school-age children were least likely to use licensed care. Evidently, when working parents of many school-age children were making decisions about using licensed school-age child care, availability was not their only consideration.

Table 16. Children in Washington State Under 13 Years Old

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>1990 Population</u>	<u>Age Group As Percent All Kids</u>
Infant	Less than 12 months	64,700	6.8%
Toddler	12 to 29 months	114,600	12.1%
Preschool	30 months to 5 years	185,600	19.6%
Kindergarten	5 years	76,600	8.1%
School-Age	6 to 12 years	503,200	53.3%
Total	0 through 12 years	944,700	

Source: 1990 U.S. Census and State of Washington Office of Financial Management

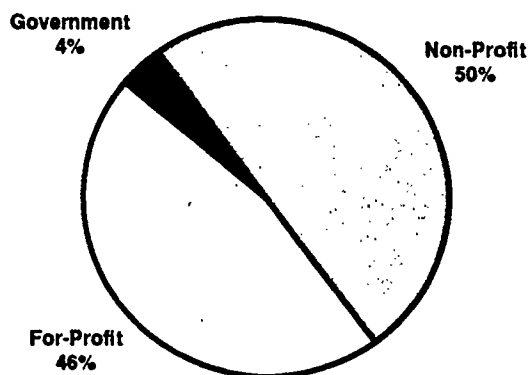
Figure 10. Children in Licensed Care as Percent of All Children in An Age Group



# BUSINESS AND STAFF CHARACTERISTICS OF CENTERS AND HOMES

**Types of Centers** Providers identified their centers in one of three ways: government operated, non-profit, or for-profit (Figure 11). Four percent of centers were government operated. Fifty percent had non-profit status. The remaining 46 percent operated as for-profit enterprises.

Figure 11 Types of Centers Statewide



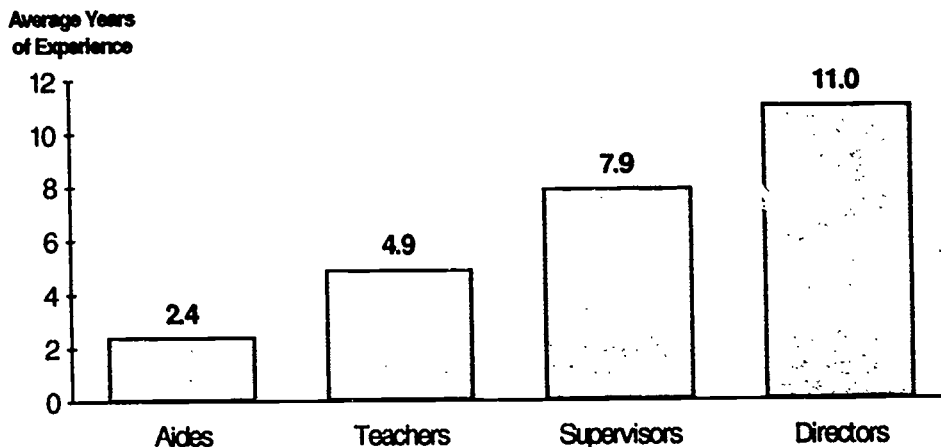
Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

**Staff Experience and Education** Respondents at centers described the paid child care experience of their staff: specifically, aides, teachers, program supervisors, and directors. The paid child care experience of these employees ranged from less than one year to 55 years.

**Years Experience: Center Staff**

The average years of experience are shown in Figure 12. Aides, at 2.4 years, had the lowest average experience. Directors averaging 11 years, were the most experienced employees at centers.

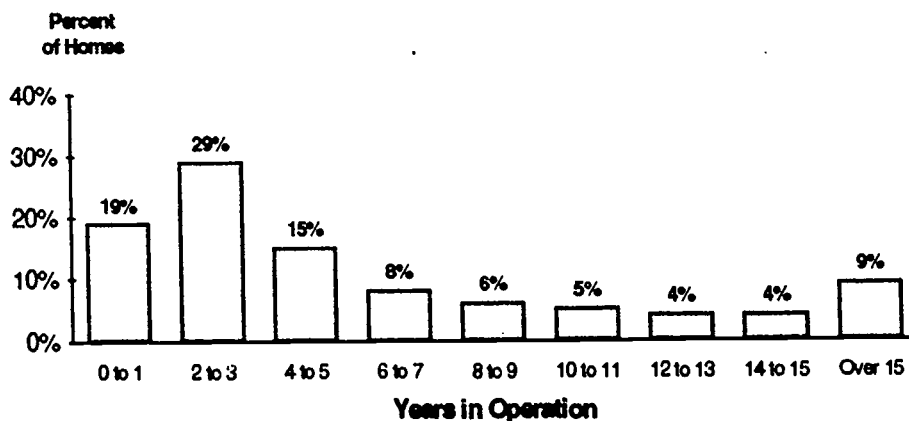
Figure 12 Average Years of Paid Child Care Experience for Center Staff



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

*Years in Operation:* Family home providers reported they had been operating from less than one year to as many as 46 years. On average, homes had been in operation slightly over six years. The percentages of family homes, by years of operation, are shown in Figure 13. The majority, 63 percent, had been operating for five years or less.

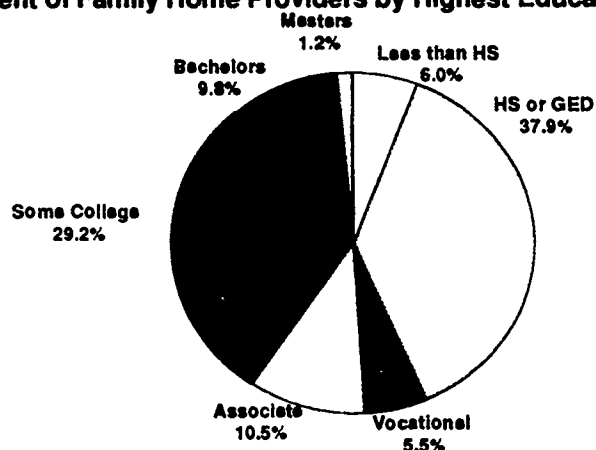
Figure 13 Family Homes - Years in Operation



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Family Child Care Homes

**Education: Family Homes** Nearly all family home child care providers had a high school education or better; 94 percent had completed high school, and over half had gone on to complete at least some college or vocational training. Levels of education attained by family home providers are shown in Figure 14.

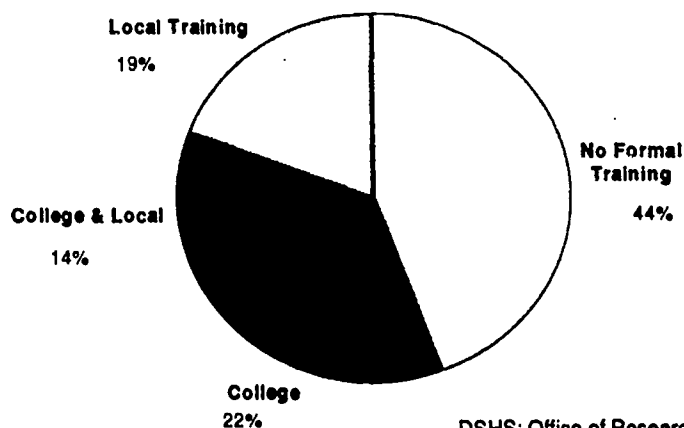
**Figure 14** Percent of Family Home Providers by Highest Education Level Achieved



DSHS: Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Family Child Care Homes

**ECE Training: Family Homes** Fifty-six percent of the family home providers had completed some formal training in early childhood education (ECE; Figure 15). More than a third of family home providers had taken at least one college course in ECE; likewise a third of family home providers had received other local ECE training. Overall, 14 percent had taken both some college and some local training. Nineteen percent had only local training and 22 percent had only college courses (Figure 15).

**Figure 15** Formal Early Childhood Education (ECE) Taken by Licensed Family Child Care Providers



DSHS: Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Family Child Care Homes

**Salaries and Benefits for Child Care Workers** The average wages of center staff—aides, teachers, program supervisors, and directors—are shown in Table 17. Directors earned \$1,432 per month on average. Of the remaining staff, supervisors earned the most, followed by teachers, then by teacher's aides.

**Wages at Centers**

**Table 17 Average Salaries for Center Employees by Position and Cluster, 1992**

(Hourly except where shown)

<u>Cluster</u>	<u>Aides</u>	<u>Teachers</u>	<u>Supervisors</u>	<u>Directors</u>
I	\$4.97	\$5.90	\$7.30	\$1,393/mo
II	\$5.13	\$6.12	\$7.45	\$1,309/mo
III	\$5.11	\$5.85	\$7.34	\$1,278/mo
IV*	\$5.71	\$7.11	\$8.72	\$1,602/mo
State Wide	\$5.38	\$6.55	\$8.00	\$1,432/mo

\* With 99.9% confidence, Cluster IV salaries were significantly higher than salaries in Clusters I, II, and III.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

Salaries in Cluster IV were considerably higher than salaries in Clusters I, II, and III. Wage differences among clusters were consistent with the child care rates charged in the clusters. For example, centers in Cluster IV charged the most for care, and they also paid the highest salaries.

Wages paid to center staff also varied by the type of ownership, whether the center was a non-profit, government-run, or a for-profit enterprise. Wages paid at each of these types of centers are shown in Table 18.



**Table 18 Average Salaries for Center Employees by Position and Type of Center**

(Hourly except where shown)

	<u>Aides</u>	<u>Teachers</u>	<u>Supervisors</u>	<u>Directors</u>
<u>Type of Center</u>				
Government	\$6.46	\$8.79	\$10.20	\$2,079/mo
Non-Profit	\$5.43	\$6.85	\$8.19	\$1,555/mo
For-Profit	\$5.08	\$6.23	\$7.05	\$1,329/mo
State Wide	\$5.38	\$6.55	\$8.00	\$1,432/mo

With 99.9% confidence, the salaries paid by each type of center are significantly different.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

*Wages in Family Homes* Twenty percent of family homes employ at least one paid assistant, who works about 20 hours a week, on average. Hourly wages for assistants in family homes, \$4.97 an hour statewide, were slightly lower than the wages earned by teacher's aides working at centers. Average hourly wages of family home child care assistants are shown in Table 19. As with centers, family homes in Cluster IV pay the highest wages.

**Table 19 Average Hourly Wages of Assistants in Family Homes\***

<u>Cluster</u>	<u>Hourly Wage</u>
I	\$5.00
II	\$4.81
III	\$4.57
IV	\$5.52
State Wide	\$4.97

\*20% of homes hire an assistant.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Family Child Care Homes

**Income of Family Homes** Eighty percent of family homes are run by a single owner-operator. Their profits depend on what income remains after costs. No data were collected regarding total costs in family homes, but half of the homes surveyed reported \$12,000 or more in gross income in 1991. Average annual gross income of homes in operation for at least one year is shown in Table 20.

**Table 20 Average Annual Gross Income of Family Homes in 1991\***

<u>Cluster</u>	<u>Annual Earnings</u>
I	\$11,247
II	\$12,667
III	\$13,607
IV	\$17,236
State Wide	\$14,990

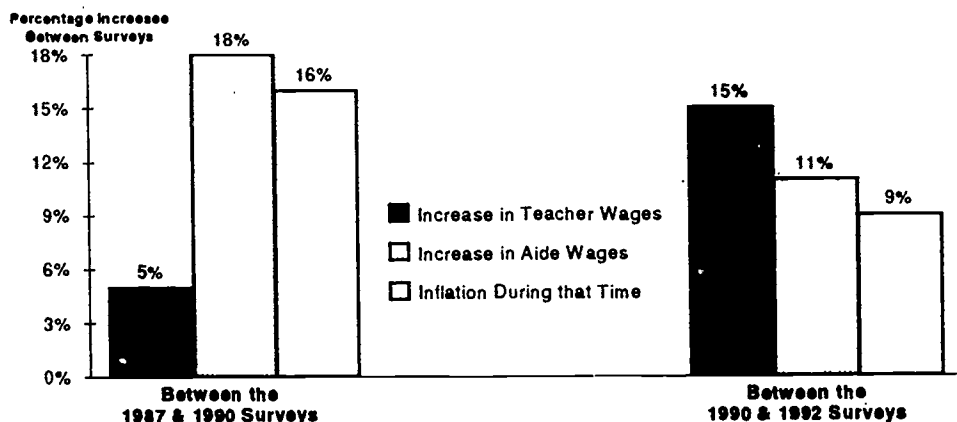
\*Excludes homes operating less than one year.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Family Child Care Homes

**Trends in Wages** Child care workers receive relatively low wages. As shown earlier, aides, teachers, and supervisors were earning \$5.38, \$6.55, and \$8.00 per hour respectively in early 1992. Near that time, average hourly wages were \$8.94 in the wholesale-retail trades, \$14.57 in manufacturing, and \$18.54 in construction, (Washington State Employment Security Department, Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch).

In the three years between the 1987 and 1990 surveys, inflation was 16 percent while teacher wages grew only five percent. Wages for aides (with the help of an increased minimum wage) grew 18 percent at that time. Between 1990 and 1992, wages for child care workers grew faster than inflation. Over those two years, inflation (as measured by the Seattle consumer price index for urban consumers) was about nine percent while teacher and aide wages grew 15 and 11 percent respectively (Figure 16). Because inflation is a measure of the cost of living, this shows that wages for child care workers, after falling behind from 1987 to 1990, kept up with the cost of living from 1990 to 1992. Still teachers and aides working full-time earned less than what the state says a family of three must earn to meet its basic needs (\$1,158/mo).

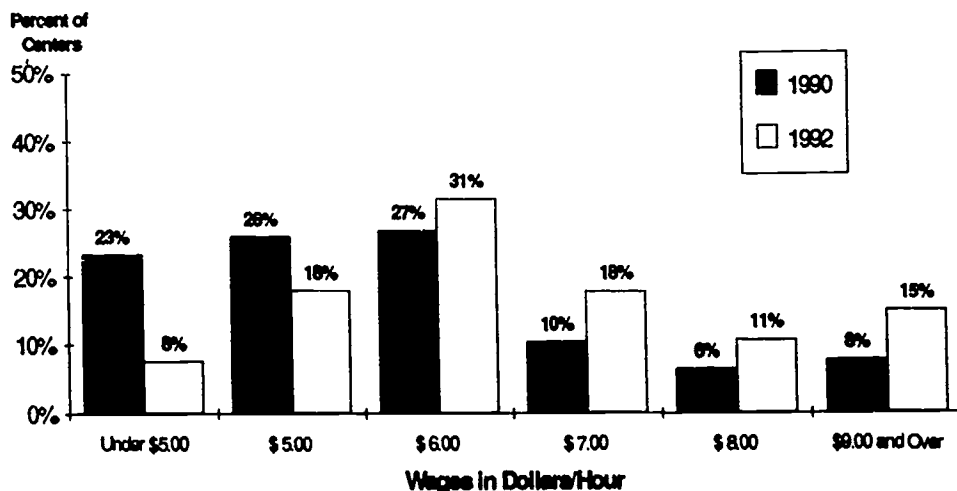
**Figure 16** Increases in Child Care Wages Compared to Inflation -- Between the 1987, 1990 and 1992 Rate Surveys



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

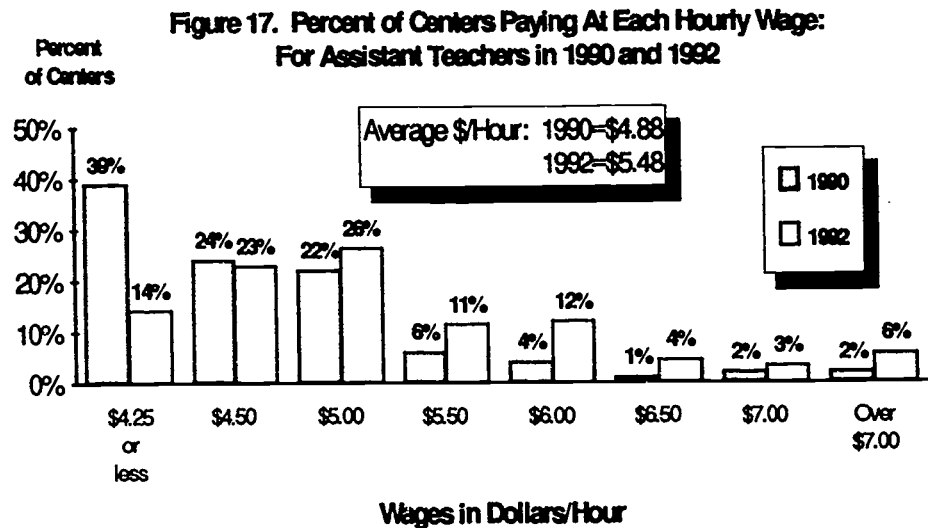
Since the last survey, many centers increased their wages to teachers (Figure 17) and to aides (Figure 18). The dark bars show what percentage of centers paid wages in the amounts shown in 1990; the white bars show the percentage of centers paying at that wage rate in 1992. For example, in 1990 twenty-three percent of centers paid teachers less than \$5.00 per hour. By 1992, only eight percent of centers paid teachers at that low rate.

**Figure 17** Percent of Centers Paying at Each Hourly Wage for Teachers in 1990 and 1992



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

Figure 18 Centers Paying at Each Hourly Wage for Aides in 1990 and 1992



**Employee Benefits at Centers**

State-wide, the majority of centers provided their employees some benefits beyond a base salary. Respondents were asked if their center offered employees paid sick leave, paid vacation, or health insurance. The percent of centers providing benefits are shown in the following two tables: Table 21, centers providing benefits by Cluster, and Table 22, centers providing benefits by the type of center--government, non-profit, or for-profit.

Table 21 Centers Providing Employee Benefits by Type of Benefit and Cluster

Cluster	Total Centers	Benefit Type		
		Paid Sick Leave	Paid Vacation	Health Insurance
I	55	42%	54%	34%
II	129	53%	60%	47%
III	655	53%	62%	45%
IV	702	72%	78%	59%
State Wide	1541	61%	69%	51%

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis, 1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

**Table 22 Centers Providing Employee Benefits by Type of Benefit and Type of Center**

<b>Type of Center</b>	<b>Total Centers</b>	<b>Benefit Type</b>		
		<b>Paid Sick Leave</b>	<b>Paid Vacation</b>	<b>Health Insurance</b>
Government	62	100%	86%	100%
Non-Profit	770	69%	71%	59%
For-Profit	709	49%	65%	38%
State Wide	1541	61%	69%	51%

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

Fifty-one percent of centers provided their employees with health insurance, 69 percent provided paid vacation, and 61 percent offered paid sick leave.

The share of centers providing benefits differed among clusters. For example, health insurance was provided by 34 percent of centers in Cluster I and by 59 percent of centers in Cluster IV. Similar differences were observed for paid sick leave and paid vacation. Thus, centers in Cluster IV not only paid higher average wages, they were also more likely to provide benefits to their employees.

There were striking differences in the provision of benefits depending on the form of ownership (Table 22). All government-run centers provided their employees with paid sick leave and health insurance. Many, 86 percent, also offered paid vacation. Non-profit centers were less likely to provide benefits than government-run centers, but they were more likely to offer benefits than for-profit centers.

The percent of centers offering benefits increased slightly between 1990 and 1992. (See Table 23.)

**Table 23 Centers Providing Employee Benefits in 1990 and 1992**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Sick</u>	<u>Vacation</u>	<u>Health</u>
1990	56%	63%	45%
1992	61%	69%	51%

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

In 1990, there was a strong relationship between wages and benefits. Again in 1992, whether centers were non-profit or for-profit, employee wages tended to be higher in centers that also provided benefits. Average teacher wages in non-profit and for-profit centers with and without benefits are summarized in Table 24.

**Table 24 Average Hourly Teacher Wages in Non-Profit and For-Profit Child Care Centers Depending on the Types of Benefits Provided**

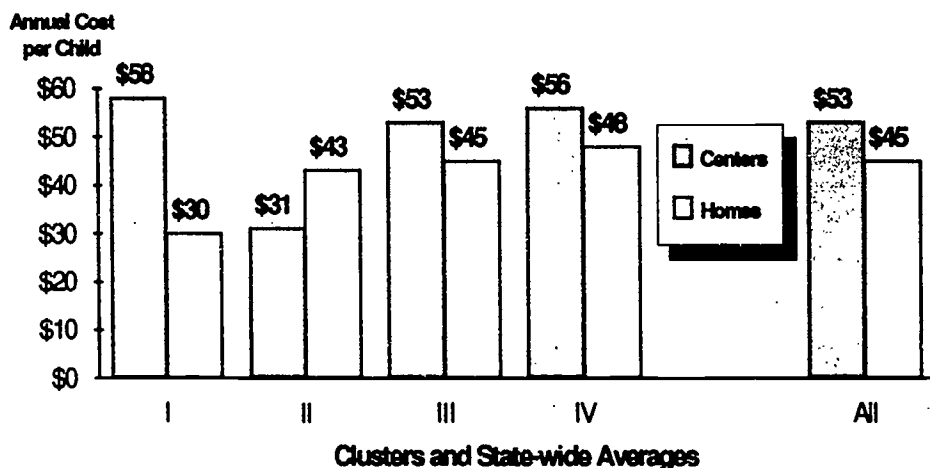
<u>Type of Benefit</u>	<u>Non-Profit</u>	<u>For-Profit</u>
Paid Sick Leave		
Yes	\$7.26	\$6.62
No	\$5.86	\$5.81
Paid Vacation		
Yes	\$7.00	\$6.45
No	\$6.41	\$5.74
Medical Insurance		
Yes	\$7.38	\$6.03
No	\$6.03	\$5.95

All differences in wages between centers offering and not offering benefits are significant with 99% confidence.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

**Liability Insurance** Over half of all family homes and 95 percent of centers carried liability insurance for their business. According to insurers, premiums depend primarily on the number of children being cared for in a home or center; therefore, centers generally have higher total insurance costs. The average annual costs of insurance per child for centers and homes are shown in Figure 19.

**Figure 19** Average Annual Cost of Liability Insurance Per Child: Family Homes and Centers, 1992



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

Possibly because of an increase in the number of insurance carriers, the cost of typical child care liability insurance fell between 1990 and 1992. In 1990, per-child insurance costs were \$56 a year in centers and \$58 a year in homes; by 1992, rates had decreased to an average of \$53 per child in centers and \$45 in homes. Despite the decrease in cost for liability insurance, about the same proportion of homes remained without coverage in 1992 as lacked coverage in 1990.

## Child Care Rates

**Rate Increases** In the two years between the 1990 and 1992 rate surveys, rates charged for all categories of child care increased. Overall, the combined rates in centers (full-time only) and homes rose 16.4 percent from 1990 to 1992. Child care rates rose faster than the cost of living (as measured by the Seattle area Consumer Price Index), which increased less than 10 percent in the same two years.

**Charge Bases** The rate for child care is the charge per child per unit time. In the rate tables which follow, we have standardized rates for full-time care on a monthly basis, and for part-time care on an hourly basis. We did, however, also ask child care centers about the units of time on which they charged for full-time and part-time care.

The majority (53 percent) of centers charged for full-time care on a monthly basis (Figure 20). Eighteen percent of centers charged on a weekly basis and 21 percent charged on a daily basis. Only 8% of centers charged for full-time care by the hour.

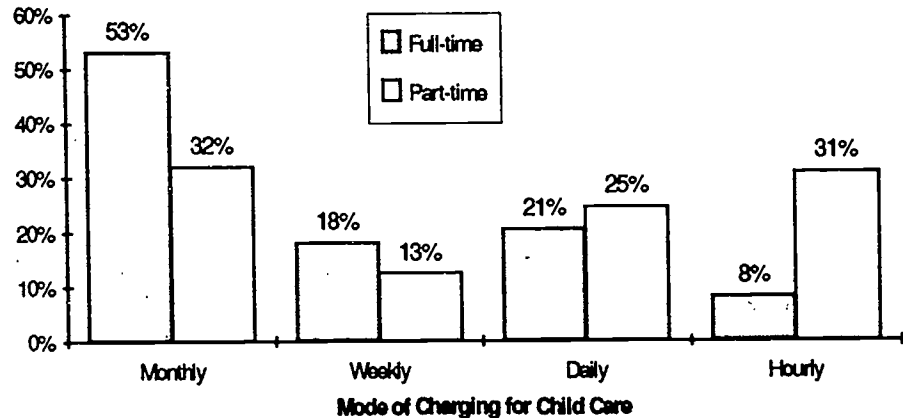
For part-time care, however, no single unit of charging dominated (Figure 20). Equal numbers of centers charged monthly and hourly. Thirteen percent of centers charged on a weekly basis and one quarter charged daily.

In general, there was no relationship between units of charging and the ages of children in care. The one exception was centers providing only part-time care of school-age children; 64 percent of such centers charged on a monthly basis for part-time care.



**Figure 20 Units of Time Used by Child Care Centers to Charge For Full- And Part-Time Child Care in 1992**

Percent of Centers



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

**Rates for Child Care**

A summary of child care rates observed in 1992 is presented in the following tables: Table 25 lists monthly rates for full-time care in child care centers; Table 26 lists monthly rates for full-time care in family homes; and Table 27 lists hourly rates for part-time in family homes.

In each of the first three tables, various observed rates are shown for each age-group and cluster: minimum and maximum rates, and the 75th, 50th (median) and 25th percentile rates. Percentile rates are the rates below which a specified percentage (75, 50, or 25 percent) of the observed rates fall. In these tables, the 75th percentile represents the rate below which 75 percent of children received care in each cluster.

Also presented in each table are the maximum DSHS subsidy rates paid to providers at the time of the surveys. The percentage of observed rates that fall below the DSHS maximum subsidy (the percentile rank) is shown for each DSHS rate.

Part-time rates in centers are not presented because a flaw in the survey instrument did not permit rate data to be standardized to one unit of time. Instead, a fourth table, Table 28, lists the current

DSHS subsidy rates for part-time care in centers and an estimate for the 75th percentile in 1992. The methods used to standardize rates and to estimate the 75th percentile for part-time care in centers are described in Appendix A (Method for Calculating Rates).

Among the clusters, the highest rates prevailed in Cluster IV. Of the different age groups, care for infants was the most expensive. For each age group and cluster, family homes tended to charge less than centers. Part-time rates tended to be higher (per unit time) than full-time rates.

In 1993, the Legislature mandated that DSHS raise its rates to the 75th percentile of observed local market rates. The purpose of this mandate was to meet federal requirements and to assure broad access to the child care market for DSHS clients. With rates at the 75th percentile, DSHS child care payments would be the same as the usual and customary rates charged in 75 percent of the market. Therefore, fewer providers would turn away DSHS-subsidized children because DSHS rates were too low.

**Table 25. FULL-TIME MONTHLY RATES IN CHILD CARE CENTERS--1992 RATE STUDY**  
(Full-Time: 30 or more hours of care per week)

	CLUSTER			
	I	II	III	IV
<b>INFANT (less than 12 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$510	\$495	\$715	\$860
(a) 75th Percentile	\$462	\$374	\$450	\$518
Median (50th)	\$385	\$347	\$390	\$541
25th Percentile	\$350	\$308	\$350	\$494
Minimum Reported	\$308	\$220	\$198	\$198
(b) DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$308	\$273	\$360	\$494
(c) Subsidy Percentile Rank	3rd	16th	32nd	25th
(d) Estimated Child Population	82	116	1,073	1,396
(e) Number of Centers Responding	14	26	151	182
<b>TODDLER (12 to 29 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$475	\$495	\$595	\$775
75th Percentile	\$348	\$319	\$376	\$478
Median (50th)	\$297	\$286	\$330	\$433
25th Percentile	\$286	\$264	\$290	\$385
Minimum Reported	\$253	\$198	\$156	\$165
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$268	\$288	\$297	\$385
Subsidy Percentile Rank	9th	28th	30th	25th
Estimated Child Population	261	813	4,183	5,223
Number of Centers Responding	25	62	311	308
<b>PRESCHOOL (30 to 60 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$660	\$431	\$717	\$685
75th Percentile	\$297	\$297	\$330	\$405
Median (50th)	\$286	\$275	\$300	\$375
25th Percentile	\$253	\$242	\$264	\$338
Minimum Reported	\$198	\$176	\$132	\$160
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$246	\$240	\$264	\$328
Subsidy Percentile Rank	28th	15th	25th	21st
Estimated Child Population	784	1,655	11,188	12,800
Number of Centers Responding	29	74	390	390
<b>SCHOOL-AGE SUMMER RECESS (5 to 12 years)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$495	\$407	\$446	\$643
75th Percentile	\$325	\$303	\$320	\$394
Median (50th)	\$286	\$275	\$295	\$368
25th Percentile	\$264	\$242	\$264	\$330
Minimum Reported	\$215	\$187	\$56	\$62
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$264	\$240	\$275	\$320
Subsidy Percentile Rank	25th	19th	32nd	17th
Estimated Child Population	780	733	8,038	10,234
Number of Centers Responding	30	56	336	295

- (a) The percent of all centers charging at or below the rates shown.
- (b) Monthly rate equals daily DSHS subsidy rate times 22 days.
- (c) Percent of centers charging at or below the DSHS rate in 1992.
- (d) Estimated number of children of this age group receiving care in the centers in each cluster.
- (e) Centers responding to the survey and caring for children of this age.

Note: Full-time rates for school-aged children were calculated according to rates charged during summer recess because too few children were receiving 30 or more hours of care during the school year.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

**Table 26. FULL-TIME MONTHLY RATES IN LICENSED FAMILY HOMES--1992 RATE STUDY**  
(Full-Time: 30 or more hours of care per week)

	CLUSTER			
	I	II	III	IV
<b>INFANT (less than 12 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$446	\$396	\$484	\$733
(a) 75th Percentile	\$275	\$277	\$358	\$534
Median (50th)	\$248	\$264	\$330	\$440
25th Percentile	\$220	\$233	\$286	\$374
Minimum Reported	\$147	\$110	\$176	\$198
(b) DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$268	\$268	\$268	\$274
(c) Subsidy Percentile Rank	66th	69th	32nd	27th
(d) Estimated Child Population	52	274	985	1,154
(e) Children in Sample	23	63	151	145
<b>TODDLER (12 to 29 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$413	\$462	\$550	\$792
75th Percentile	\$281	\$275	\$330	\$468
Median (50th)	\$264	\$264	\$308	\$413
25th Percentile	\$220	\$229	\$284	\$352
Minimum Reported	\$128	\$69	\$110	\$165
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$268	\$268	\$271	\$268
Subsidy Percentile Rank	66th	67th	35th	33rd
Estimated Child Population	267	870	2,968	2,944
Children in Sample	108	209	455	373
<b>PRESCHOOL (30 to 60 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$462	\$462	\$792	\$880
75th Percentile	\$264	\$264	\$308	\$418
Median (50th)	\$237	\$242	\$264	\$363
25th Percentile	\$220	\$220	\$246	\$330
Minimum Reported	\$88	\$69	\$88	\$103
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$232	\$220	\$251	\$323
Subsidy Percentile Rank	50th	33rd	30th	23rd
Estimated Child Population	536	1,847	6,458	5,568
Children in Sample	226	463	997	717
<b>SCHOOL-AGE (5 to 12 years)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$411	\$418	\$880	\$660
75th Percentile	\$248	\$284	\$396	\$374
Median (50th)	\$220	\$242	\$253	\$330
25th Percentile	\$193	\$220	\$255	\$284
Minimum Reported	\$105	\$110	\$88	\$110
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$242	\$242	\$241	\$251
Subsidy Percentile Rank	73rd	67th	41st	30th
Estimated Child Population	147	522	2,300	1,575
Children in Sample	62	134	357	202

- (a) The percent of children receiving care at or below the rates shown.  
 (b) Monthly rate equals daily DSHS subsidy rate times 22 days.  
 (c) Percent of children receiving care at or below the DSHS rate in 1992.  
 (d) Estimated number of children of this age group receiving full-time care in homes in each cluster.  
 (e) Number of children receiving full-time care in this age group about whom data were actually collected.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

**Table 27. PART-TIME HOURLY RATES IN LICENSED FAMILY HOMES--1992 RATE STUDY**

(Part-Time: less than 30 hours of care per week)

	CLUSTER			
	I	II	III	IV
<b>INFANT (less than 12 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$3.33	\$3.11	\$3.33	\$4.86
(a) 75th Percentile	\$2.00	\$1.75	\$2.25	\$3.33
Median (50th)	\$1.60	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.50
25th Percentile	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.67	\$2.14
Minimum Reported	\$1.22	\$0.75	\$0.85	\$1.50
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$1.61	\$1.61	\$1.86	\$2.92
(b) Subsidy Percentile Rank	62nd	71st	33rd	63rd
(c) Estimated Child Population	39	111	398	309
(d) Children in Sample	16	31	61	44
<b>TODDLER (12 to 29 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$2.50	\$5.25	\$4.50	\$5.56
75th Percentile	\$1.75	\$1.75	\$2.00	\$3.00
Median (50th)	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.75	\$2.50
25th Percentile	\$1.25	\$1.32	\$1.50	\$2.00
Minimum Reported	\$0.83	\$0.68	\$0.91	\$1.25
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$1.61	\$1.61	\$1.86	\$2.92
Subsidy Percentile Rank	70th	67th	57th	62nd
Estimated Child Population	131	335	1,403	1,415
Children in Sample	56	99	230	183
<b>PRESCHOOL (30 to 60 months)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$3.49	\$5.78	\$6.94	\$5.71
75th Percentile	\$1.50	\$1.71	\$2.00	\$3.00
Median (50th)	\$1.35	\$1.47	\$1.75	\$2.50
25th Percentile	\$1.20	\$1.25	\$1.40	\$2.00
Minimum Reported	\$0.50	\$0.67	\$0.45	\$0.83
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$1.40	\$1.40	\$1.50	\$2.27
Subsidy Percentile Rank	57th	48th	43rd	46th
Estimated Child Population	413	930	3,903	3,145
Children in Sample	179	260	618	416
<b>SCHOOL-AGE (5 to 12 years)</b>				
Maximum Reported	\$3.60	\$5.00	\$6.25	\$6.25
75th Percentile	\$1.71	\$1.65	\$2.00	\$2.67
Median (50th)	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.75	\$2.00
25th Percentile	\$1.20	\$1.20	\$1.50	\$1.77
Minimum Reported	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.50	\$0.85
DSHS Subsidy Rate	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.57	\$2.18
Subsidy Percentile Rank	51st	50th	40th	56th
Estimated Child Population	564	1,275	7,110	4,878
Children in Sample	243	352	1110	586

- (a) The percent of all homes charging at or below the rates shown.
- (b) Percent of homes charging at or below the DSHS rate in 1992.
- (c) Estimated number of children of this age group receiving part-time care in homes in each cluster.
- (d) Number of children receiving part-time care in this age group about whom data were actually collected.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

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**Table 28. ESTIMATED PART-TIME HOURLY RATES IN CHILD CARE CENTERS**

	CLUSTER			
	I	II	III	IV
<b>INFANT (less than 12 months)</b>				
Current DSHS Rate	\$1.92	\$1.75	\$2.50	\$3.50
(a) Estimated 75th Percentile	<b>\$2.88</b>	<b>\$2.40</b>	<b>\$3.13</b>	<b>\$4.38</b>
(b) Estimated Child Population	42	115	405	311
<b>TODDLER (12 to 29 months)</b>				
Current DSHS Rate	\$1.50	\$1.75	\$2.15	\$2.92
(a) Estimated 75th Percentile	<b>\$1.94</b>	<b>\$2.08</b>	<b>\$2.72</b>	<b>\$3.61</b>
(b) Estimated Child Population	134	340	1,429	1,440
<b>PRESCHOOL (30 to 60 months)</b>				
Current DSHS Rate	\$1.40	\$1.75	\$1.88	\$2.50
(a) Estimated 75th Percentile	<b>\$1.69</b>	<b>\$2.17</b>	<b>\$2.35</b>	<b>\$3.09</b>
(b) Estimated Child Population	422	943	3,969	3,203
<b>SCHOOL-AGE (5 to 12 years)</b>				
Current DSHS Rate	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$2.00	\$2.15
(a) Estimated 75th Percentile	<b>\$1.85</b>	<b>\$1.89</b>	<b>\$2.33</b>	<b>\$2.65</b>
(b) Estimated Child Population	575	1,304	7,223	4,477

- (a) The estimated 75th percentile: 75 percent of children receive care at or below this rate. (See Appendix A).  
 (b) Estimated number of children of this age group receiving part-time centers in homes in each cluster.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
 1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

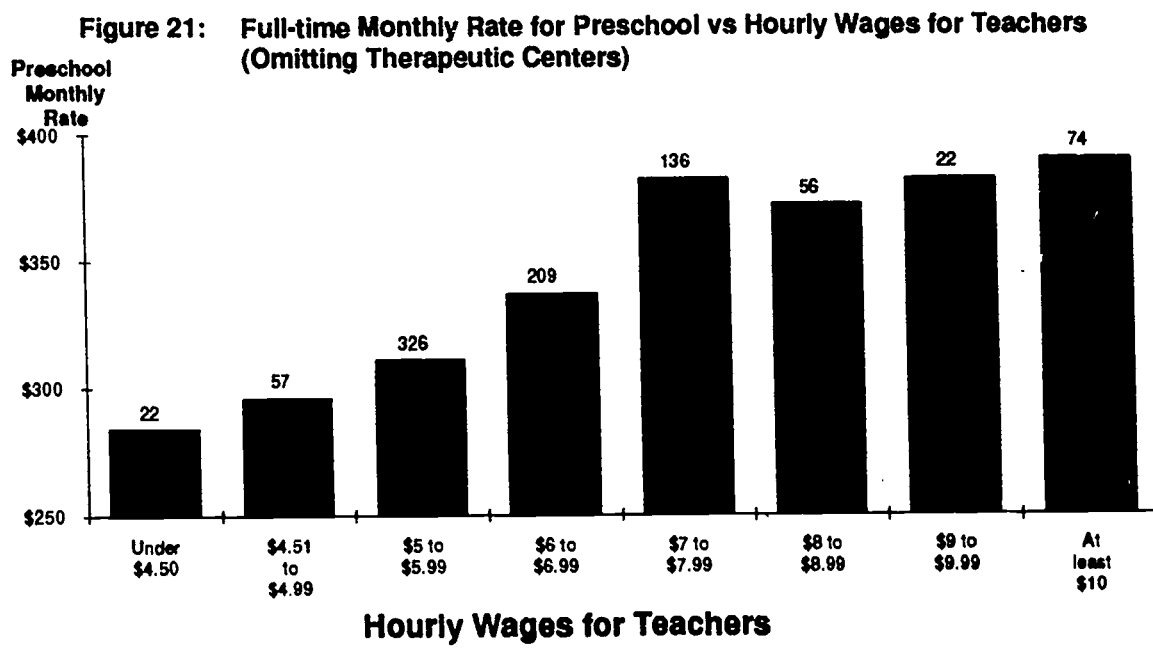
**Factors Associated with Child Care Rates**

The preceding rate tables clearly show that rates varied according to the age of the child, the time children spend in care, and the location of the facility. Further analysis of survey data revealed a number of other factors also had a significant effect on child care rates. For simplicity, only the full-time rates for preschoolers were used in this analysis, that group being the largest population in licensed child care.

Homes and centers are faced by many factors that may affect what rate they must charge to stay in operation. In addition to facilities' costs such as rent or mortgage, insurance on their buildings and maintenance, they may also make decisions which will increase their costs. These surveys asked about several such factors. For example, how much will they pay their employees? Will they carry liability insurance? Will they hire an assistant, and at what salary?

While there are individual cases that prove otherwise, overall, rates varied significantly with three factors: wage levels and benefits in centers, the presence of paid assistants in homes, and liability insurance in both centers and homes.

Low wage rates for child care workers are often cited as a problem in the child care industry. However, Figure 21 shows how higher wages for center child care workers were associated with higher child care rates.



Numbers above bars indicate number of centers

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

As noted in the previous chapter, (Table 24) higher wages for center staff often coincided with paid benefits. Table 29 below shows that centers providing paid health insurance and paid sick leave tended to charge higher rates than centers not providing these benefits. There was no significant relationship, however, between rates and paid vacation (data not shown).

**Table 29 Other Business Factors Associated with Rates  
(Rates Varied Significantly with These Factors)**

<u>Centers</u>		<u>Average Monthly Full-time Preschool</u>
<u>Paid Health Insurance</u>		
Yes		\$ 356
No		\$ 313
<u>Paid Sick Leave</u>		
Yes		\$ 351
No		\$ 308
<u>Annual Premium for Liability Insurance (\$ per child)</u>		
Over \$100		\$ 395
\$76 to \$100		\$ 345
\$51 to \$75		\$ 336
\$26 to \$50		\$ 328
\$0 to \$25		\$ 334
<u>Family Homes</u>		
<u>Paid Assistant</u>		
Yes		\$ 302
No		\$ 283
<u>Have Liability Insurance</u>		
Yes		\$ 297
No		\$ 276

With at least 95% confidence, rates varied with each of these factors.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes



Family homes with paid assistants tended to have higher rates. On average, a family home with a paid assistant charged \$302 per month, compared to the \$283 per month charged by homes without paid assistants. (Table 29)

Family homes with liability insurance charged slightly higher rates (\$297 per month) than uninsured homes (\$276 per month).

The presence of liability insurance is not a factor in comparing rates among centers because nearly every child care center carries liability insurance. Rates were higher, however, among centers with more costly insurance.

## DSHS - Subsidized Children

### Children in Licensed, Subsidized Care

Family homes and centers cared for almost the same proportions of DSHS subsidized children. As of Spring 1992 (Table 30), family homes were receiving subsidies to care for nearly 9,000 children—16 percent of all children in family-home child care. Centers were receiving subsidies to care for about 11,500 children—14 percent of children in child care centers.

**Table 30 DSHS Child Care Subsidies in Family Homes and Centers**

	<u>Centers</u>	<u>Family Homes</u>	<u>All Licensed Facilities</u>
Estimated Total DSHS Children	11,500	9,000	20,500
As a Percent of All Children	14%	16%	15%
Number of Facilities with DSHS Children	1,125	3,002	4,127
As a Percent of All Facilities	27%	38%	44%

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

**Providers Caring for DSHS Children**

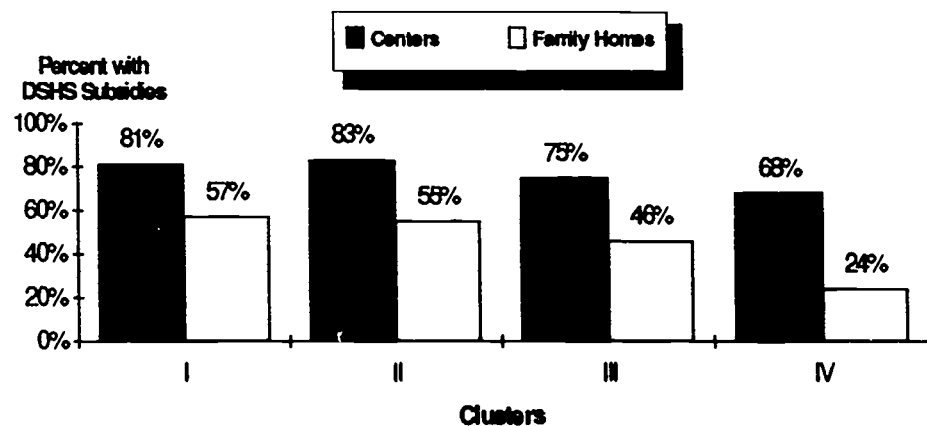
Compared to family homes, centers were more likely to have cared for at least one child that was subsidized by DSHS. As shown in Table 30, approximately 38 percent of family homes and 73 percent of centers received DSHS subsidies to care for at least one child.

Family homes that provided subsidized care tended to care for higher concentrations of DSHS children than did centers. In family homes that cared for DSHS children, one in every three children was subsidized. In centers providing such care, one in every five children received a DSHS subsidy.

**Differences Among Clusters**

State-wide, centers were more likely than family homes to have cared for at least one subsidized child. As seen in Figure 22, this was true for each cluster.

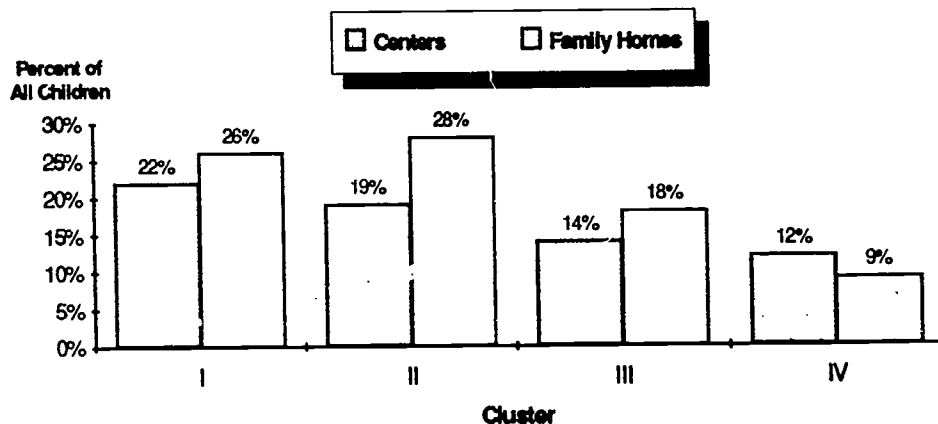
**Figure 22 Homes and Centers Caring for DSHS Subsidized Children - by Cluster**



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

Providers in Clusters I and II were significantly more likely to care for subsidized children than providers in Clusters III and IV (Figure 22). Likewise, subsidized children represented a larger proportion of the licensed child care population in Clusters I and II than in Clusters III and IV (Figure 23).

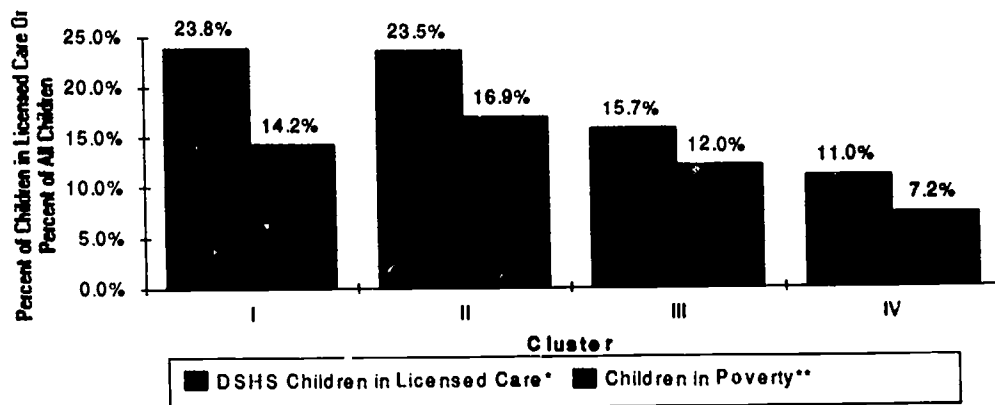
Figure 23 DSHS - Subsidized Children in Homes and Centers -- by Cluster



Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1982 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

The differences in the proportion of DSHS children among clusters does not necessarily mean that DSHS children were under-served in Clusters III and IV. Because eligibility for most DSHS subsidy programs depends on family income, (Figure 24) DSHS children should represent a larger proportion of the licensed child care population in clusters where a greater proportion of children might be eligible for child care subsidies. One indicator of eligibility is, children who live in families with incomes at or below 175 percent of the federal poverty level, and where parents are employed. By this measure, about 14 percent of all children might have been eligible for subsidies, whereas nearly 24 percent of children in licensed care receive DSHS subsidies. In contrast, in Cluster IV, only 11 percent of children in licensed care had DSHS subsidies and only seven percent of all children might have been eligible for some subsidies.

Figure 24 DSHS Subsidized Children and Children in Poverty with Working Parents



\* DSHS subsidized children as percent of all children in licensed care  
 \*\* Children at or below 175% of federal poverty level, with employed parents, as percent of all children.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Centers and Family Homes  
FY 1990 Needs Assessment Data Project for DCFS

**Who Provides Subsidized Care** Many providers cared for children with DSHS subsidies. And overall it appears that children in subsidized care had access to a wide range of licensed child care providers.

**Willingness to Provide Subsidized Care** Family-home providers were asked about their willingness to care for DSHS-subsidized children. Though 38 percent of family-home providers actually cared for a subsidized child, 51 percent said they were willing to offer such care (Table 31). Providers in Clusters III and IV were less willing to care for children receiving DSHS subsidies than providers in Clusters I and II.

**Table 31 Family Homes Willing to Provide Care to DSHS Subsidized Children Compared to Family Homes Actually Providing Subsidized Care(1)**

Cluster	Total Homes	Caring for DSHS Children	
		Percent Willing	Percent Providing
I	254	68%	57%
II	810	68%	55%
III	3,500	60%	46%
IV	3,236	36%	24%
All Homes	7,800	51%	38%

(1) Providers were asked separately if they offer care to DSHS-subsidized children and then, how many such children they actually cared for in the previous week. Some homes offer care (are willing), but did not care for subsidized children at the time of the interview.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Family Child Care Homes

**Type of Ownership** While 73% of all centers cared for at least one DSHS - subsidized child, government-owned and non-profit centers were more likely to care for subsidized children than for-profit centers (Table 32). Nevertheless, a full 69 percent of for-profit centers accepted children with DSHS subsidies.

**Table 32 Centers with DSHS- Subsidized Children : by Type of Ownership**

<u>Type of Ownership</u>	<u>Total Centers</u>	<u>Percent with DSHS Children</u>
Government	62	86%
Non-Profit	771	76%
For-Profit	708	69%
All Centers	1,541	73%

(1) Providers were asked separately if they offer care to DSHS subsidized children and then, how many such children they actually cared for in the previous week. Some homes offer care (are willing), but did not care for subsidized children at the time of the interview.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

*Limits on DSHS-Subsidized Children*

Some child care centers cared for DSHS children, but may also have set limits on the number of DSHS children they enrolled. State-wide, 24 percent of the providers that cared for DSHS children reported that they limit the enrollment of DSHS children at their centers. The shares of centers providing subsidized care and limiting their enrollment of DSHS children are shown in Table 33.

**Table 33 Centers with Limits on the Number of DSHS Children**

<u>Cluster</u>	<u>Number of Centers</u>	<u>Percent Caring for DSHS Children*</u>	<u>Percent Limiting DSHS Children**</u>	<u>Average Limit (Number of DSHS Kids Permitted)</u>
I	55	81%	23%	10.6
II	129	83%	14%	13.4
III	655	75%	20%	9.9
IV	702	68%	31%	8.4
All Centers	1541	73%	24%	9.4

\* Centers serving at least one DSHS child as percent all centers

\*\* Of Centers serving DSHS children, the percent which limit number of subsidized children.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis  
1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

**Prevailing Market Rates** In clusters where child care rates were highest, DSHS children were a significantly smaller proportion of the population. Cluster IV had the highest prevailing rates, and the lowest percentages of DSHS children in centers or homes.

**Level of DSHS Subsidies** It is reasonable to assume that the DSHS subsidy rate entered into a provider's decision to accept a DSHS child. If the subsidy were too low, then parents looking for child care with a DSHS subsidy might be limited to only the least expensive providers. It does not appear, however, that DSHS children were cared for in only the lower-priced facilities.

DSHS children were accepted into a wide range of child care facilities. Examples of the distribution of DSHS children in centers and homes are shown in Figures 25 and 26, respectively. For simplicity, only full-time preschool rates in Cluster III were used in this example, but rates for other age groups and in other clusters support similar conclusions.

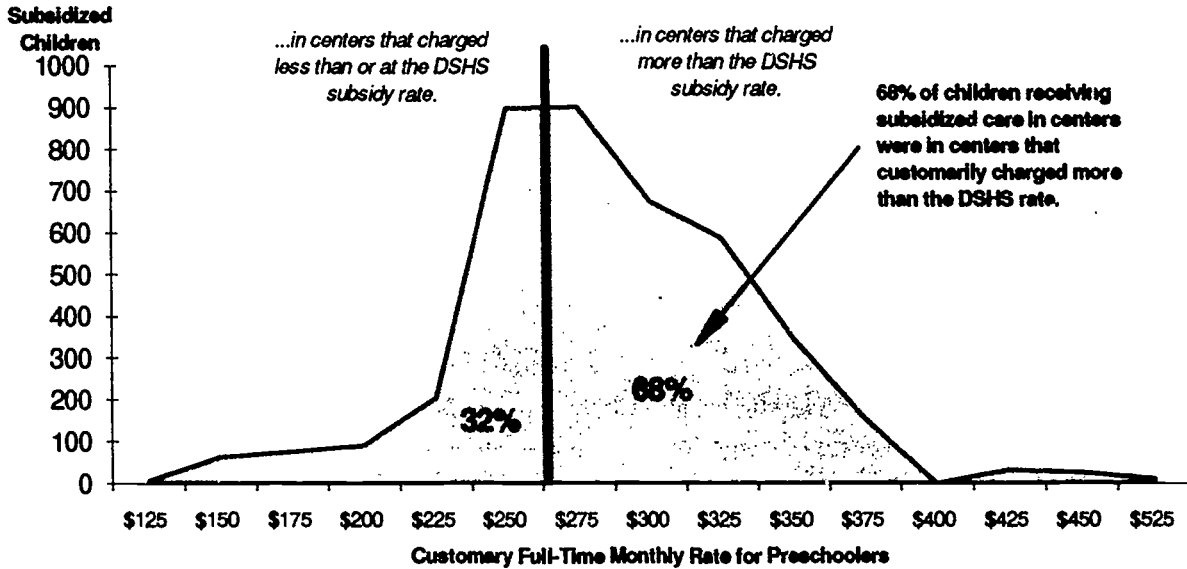
Both figures show the distribution of DSHS children among facilities that charge different rates. For example, in Figure 25, approximately 200 children were receiving subsidized care in centers that normally charged \$225 a month; about 600 subsidized children were being cared for in centers that customarily charged \$325.

A dark, vertical line demarcates the maximum DSHS rate in these cases. Therefore, all children to the left of the line were in facilities that charged at or below the DSHS subsidy rate. All children to the right were in facilities that customarily charged more than the DSHS rate.

In Cluster III, 68 percent of DSHS-subsidized children were in centers that normally charged more than the DSHS rate. Of the subsidized children cared for in family homes in Cluster III, 70 percent were in facilities that normally charged more than the DSHS rate.

For comparison, the distributions of all children, subsidized and non-subsidized, are illustrated in Figures 27 and 28. Clearly, the distribution of all children is similar to the distribution of DSHS children. Of children in centers, 74 percent were in facilities that customarily charged more than the DSHS rate. In family homes, 73 percent of children were in homes with average preschool rates above the DSHS subsidy maximum.

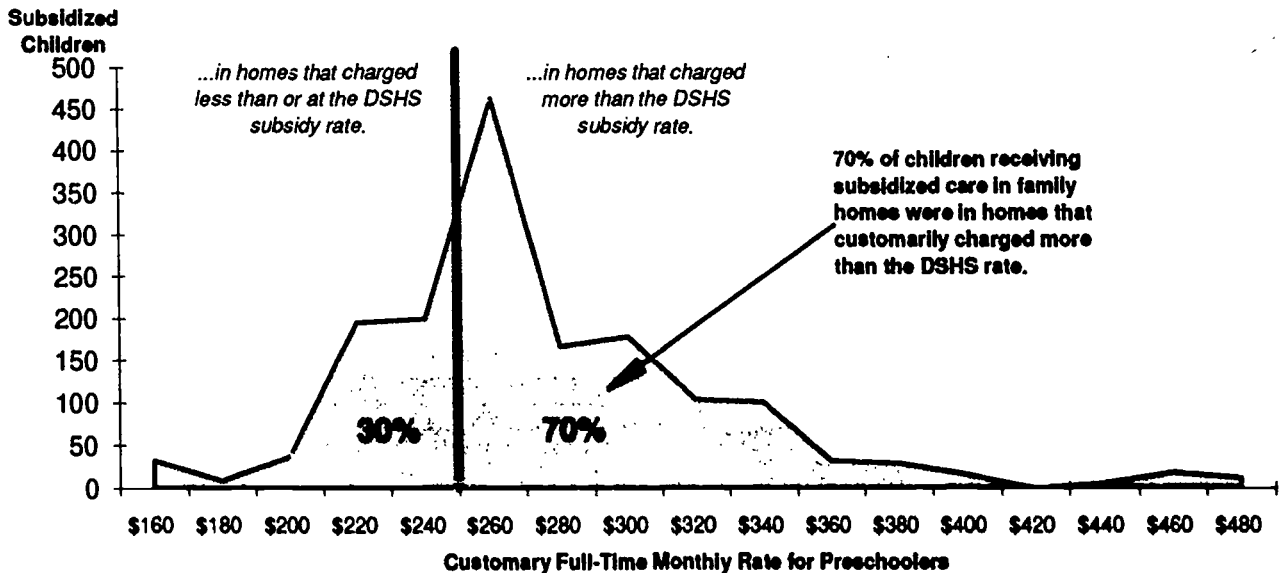
**Figure 25. DSHS-Subsidized Children in Cluster-III Centers According to the Rates Customarily Charged at their Center.**



Note: Only full-time preschoolers in Cluster III were used for this display. Similar patterns were observed for other age groups and clusters.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis 1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes

**Figure 26. DSHS-Subsidized Children in Cluster-III Family Homes According to Rates Customarily Charged in their Family Home.**

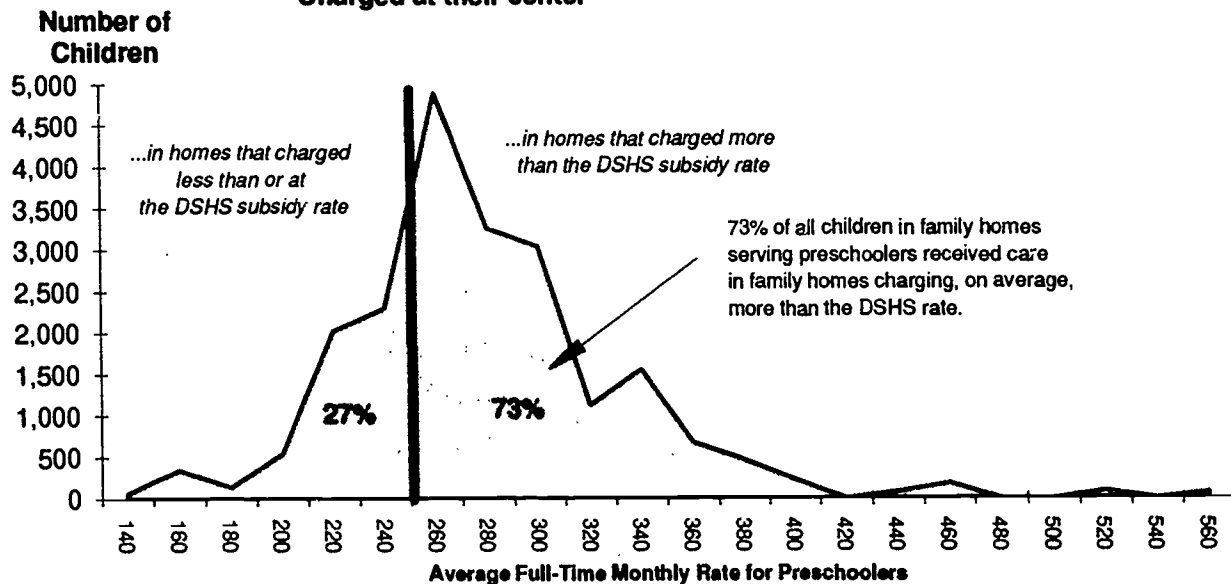


Note: Only full-time preschoolers in Cluster III were used for this display. Similar patterns were observed for other age groups and clusters.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis 1992 Surveys of Child Care Centers and Family Homes



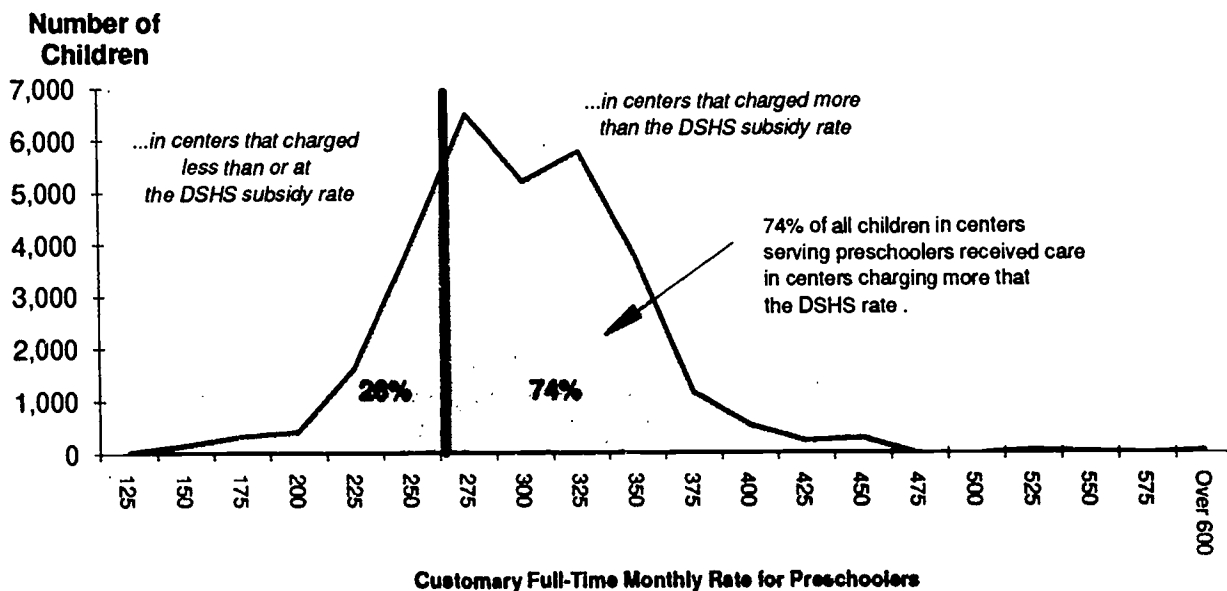
**Figure 27: Children in Cluster-III Centers According to Customary Preschool Rates Charged at their center**



Note: Only homes serving full-time preschooler in Cluster III. Similar patterns were observed for other agegroups and clusters.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis 1992 Survey of Family Homes

**Figure 28: Children in Cluster-III Family Homes According to Average Preschool Rates Charged at their Family Home.**



Note: Only centers serving full-time preschoolers in Cluster III were used. Similar patterns were observed for centers serving other agegroups.

Source: DSHS Office of Research and Data Analysis 1992 Survey of Child Care Centers

## **Definitions of Terms**

**Capacity** - (See Licensed Capacity).

**Centers** - Licensed to care for children in facilities that are not residences.

**Clusters** - Groups of counties with similar child care rates.

**CSOs** - Community Service Offices.

**DCFS** - Division of Children and Family Services, DSHS.

**DIA** - Division of Income Assistance, DSHS.

**DSHS** - Washington State Department of Social and Health Services.

**ECE** - Early Childhood Education.

**Family Home** - Family child day care located in a family residence and licensed to care for up to 12 children.

**FIP** - Family Independence Program.

**FTE** - Full-Time Equivalent.

**Full-Time Care** - More than 30 hours per week.

**Infant** - A child less than 12 months old.

**Kindergartener** - School-age child attending kindergarten.

**Licensed Capacity** - Maximum number of children allowed on premises at any one time. Determined by state guidelines.

**Part-Time Care** - Less than 30 hours per week.

**Preschooler** - A child thirty to 59 months old.

**School - Age** - A child five to 12 years old.

**SESRC** - Washington State University Social and Economic Sciences Research Center, Pullman, Washington.

**Toddler** - A child twelve to 29 months old.

**Vacancy Rate** - Number of vacancies as a percent of capacity.

## Citations

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## APPENDIX A: Method for Calculating Rates

### Homes

Family home providers were asked about each child in their care during the week before the survey: specifically the child's age, days in care, hours in care, and charge for the week.

Children receiving care for more than 30 hours in the week were considered full-time. Daily rates for full-time children were calculated from the total charge per week divided by the number of days in care. Daily charges were then converted to a monthly rate by multiplying by 22 days per month.

Part-time rates are expressed on an hourly basis. In homes, the total charges for the week were divided by the number of hours in care.

### Centers

Center providers gave their unit charges for full-time care, based on their customary method of charging. For example, centers charging weekly gave their customary weekly charge for full-time care in each age category. Hourly, daily and weekly rates were converted to monthly rates assuming an average of 8 hours in care per day, and 22 days or 4.3 weeks of care per month. Rates reported by two centers that charged annually were divided by 12.

Part-time rates in centers presented unforeseen problems. As with full-time care, providers gave their customary monthly, weekly, daily or hourly charges for part-time care. However, we neglected to ask the average hours in care, so that there was no way to convert the various charges bases to any common base. Thus, part-time rates in centers are not presented here. Instead, the estimated 75th percentiles are given, along with current DSHS rates for each cluster. Estimates of hourly rates for part-time care in centers were made assuming that centers increased their part-time rates in the same proportion as they increased full-time rates between 1990 and 1992. The increase in full-time rates from the current DSHS rate (55th percentile in 1990) to the 75th percentile observed in 1992 for full-time care were calculated for each age category in each cluster. The percent increase was then applied to the 55th percentile of 1990 part-time rates to arrive at an estimated 75th percentile for part-time care in 1992.

Example

For full-time preschoolers in Cluster IV, the current DSHS subsidy rate was \$328 per month and the 75th percentile observed in 1992 was \$405. This represents an increase of 23.5%.

The DSHS part-time subsidy rate for preschoolers in Cluster IV was \$2.50 per hour.

We estimated the 75th percentile for part-time rates for this group of children in 1992 to be 23.5% greater than \$2.50, or \$3.09 per hour.

Percentile Ranking

Rates for each age group in each cluster for homes and centers were evaluated individually.

Each center gave a single rate for an age/time category. For each category, center rates were weighted for 1) the number of children served in each age/time category and 2) the ratio of the number of centers in each county to the number of responding centers in each county.

Because family home data exist for each child, data were weighted only for the ratio of licensed homes in each county to licensed homes actually surveyed.

Rates in each cluster were ranked from lowest to highest along with the number of children at each rate and the percent of all children at or below that rate. Then, the rates for the 25th, 50th (median), and 75th percentile of all children were determined from the rankings.

The percentile rank of the current DSHS subsidy rate was also determined from the ranking table.

## APPENDIX B: DETAILED COUNTY DATA

This appendix contains four tables that detail county-by-county data regarding child care in Washington State. Maps in Appendix C also display the following data:

- Table B1 Capacity and Vacancies in Child Care Centers in February and March, 1992
- Table B2. Capacity and Vacancies in Licensed Family Child Care in February and March, 1992
- Table B3. Estimated Capacity and Vacancies in Child Care Centers and Licensed Homes in Each County.
- Table B4. Child Care Capacity and Child Population in Washington Counties in February and March, 1992

**Table B1. Capacity and Vacancies in Child Care Centers in February and March, 1992**

County	Number Centers	Licensed Capacity	Centers with Vacancies	Total Vacancies(c)	Vacancy Rate	Number of Vacancies For:			
						Infants	Toddlers	Kindergarten	School-age
Adams	4	257	67%	39	15.2%	0	0	39	25
Asotin	7	224	17%	10	4.5%	0	2	6	2
Benton	31	1,579	60%	201	12.7%	37	126	192	155
Chelan	29	1,064	23%	33	3.0%	0	16	30	16
Clallam	13	561	70%	77	13.7%	7	63	67	56
Clark	74	4,353	81%	769	17.7%	72	281	474	428
Columbia	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Covitz	18	1,117	57%	84	7.5%	6	25	38	43
Douglas	9	211	0%	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0
Ferry	1	44	50%	5	11.4%	2	2	2	0
Franklin	13	749	75%	91	12.1%	0	13	91	91
Garfield	1	16	100%	6	37.5%	0	2	3	5
Grant	11	477	63%	96	20.1%	10	82	88	88
Grays Harbor	9	260	38%	24	9.2%	0	16	23	15
Island	12	512	25%	30	5.9%	0	0	30	6
Jefferson	3	104	60%	10	9.6%	0	0	10	0
King	489	29,212	65%	3,365	11.5%	490	1,094	2,289	1,891
Kitsap	46	2,526	52%	267	10.6%	3	26	169	151
Kittitas	6	230	57%	16	7.0%	5	15	19	26
Klickitat	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lewis	12	466	58%	54	11.6%	2	20	33	20
Lincoln	1	25	100%	8	32.0%	0	8	8	8
Mason	4	143	33%	9	6.3%	0	9	9	9
Okanogan	8	332	33%	39	11.7%	30	30	39	39
Pacific	4	108	100%	32	29.6%	0	24	32	24
Pend Oreille	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pierce	154	8,695	55%	873	10.0%	155	348	591	403
San Juan	6	106	83%	17	16.0%	0	2	14	3
Skagit	21	800	65%	151	18.9%	7	91	126	106
Skamania	3	92	50%	28	30.4%	28	28	28	28
Snohomish	167	11,034	70%	1,638	14.8%	518	785	1,157	832
Spokane	140	7,328	61%	784	10.7%	140	280	565	684
Stevens	3	92	33%	4	4.3%	0	0	4	2
Thurston	52	3,222	52%	257	8.0%	30	92	188	111
Wahkiakum	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Walla Walla	15	700	64%	80	11.3%	3	41	68	45
Whatcom	41	1,200	59%	112	9.3%	13	41	61	28
Whitman	15	659	79%	92	14.0%	36	39	61	52
Yakima	65	3,454	26%	265	7.7%	10	69	185	111
All	1,492	81,981	60%	9,566	11.7%	1,604	3,650	6,739	5,503

Source: DSHS/Office of Research and Data Analysis

Centers were surveyed between February 19, 1992 and March 24, 1992

**Table B2. Capacity and Vacancies in Licensed Family Child Care Homes**

County	# Homes	Est Total Capacity(a)	Homes with Vacancies(b)	Total Vacancies	Vacancy Rate(c)	Percent of
						Vacancies Open to Infants & Toddlers(d)
Adams	26	194	38.1%	41	21.1%	33.3%
Asotin	10	57	12.5%	2	3.5%	100.0%
Benton	230	1,197	25.0%	112	9.4%	37.5%
Chelan	79	418	47.4%	83	19.9%	15.0%
Clallam	54	251	35.0%	51	20.3%	42.9%
Clark	742	2,886	57.0%	1,093	37.9%	36.5%
Columbia	2	14	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A
Coville	52	249	25.0%	25	10.0%	10.0%
Douglas	37	211	37.0%	20	9.5%	20.0%
Ferry	0	0	0.0%	0	N/A	N/A
Franklin	64	417	38.9%	50	12.0%	42.9%
Garfield	1	4	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A
Grant	154	933	39.1%	121	13.0%	16.7%
Grays Harbor	54	350	56.5%	61	17.4%	25.9%
Island	111	510	41.2%	72	14.1%	36.4%
Jefferson	15	62	11.1%	2	3.2%	0.0%
King	2,109	11,882	47.5%	2,311	19.4%	32.3%
Kitsap	318	2,000	40.4%	284	14.2%	21.4%
Kittitas	29	167	18.5%	6	3.6%	0.0%
Klickitat	25	161	68.7%	38	23.6%	60.0%
Lewis	40	319	28.6%	27	8.5%	20.0%
Lincoln	17	128	50.0%	34	26.6%	13.6%
Mason	54	333	31.8%	59	17.7%	16.7%
Okanogan	57	376	42.1%	60	16.0%	28.6%
Pacific	20	118	20.0%	16	13.6%	8.3%
Pend Oreille	3	8	50.0%	3	37.5%	50.0%
Pierce	748	4,791	37.6%	748	15.6%	18.0%
San Juan	12	76	60.0%	31	40.8%	0.0%
Skagit	111	708	33.3%	83	11.7%	55.6%
Skamania	10	81	50.0%	23	28.4%	11.1%
Snohomish	974	5,576	50.0%	1,430	25.8%	22.2%
Spokane	666	4,832	50.0%	1,129	23.4%	25.0%
Stevens	30	201	16.7%	10	5.0%	25.0%
Thurston	264	1,488	35.3%	256	17.2%	15.2%
Wahkiakum	1	4	100.0%	4	100.0%	25.0%
Walla Walla	55	311	33.3%	45	14.5%	17.6%
Whatcom	116	674	50.0%	102	15.1%	35.7%
Whitman	69	437	50.0%	138	31.6%	43.8%
Yakima	414	2,811	44.4%	468	16.6%	23.1%
All	7,773	45,235	42.8%	9,044	20.0%	27.5%

**Notes:**

Source: DSHS/Office of Research and Data Analysis

- (a) Capacity=FTEs + reported vacancies, where FTE=Days/5 for full-time or Hours/40 for part-time.
- (b) Percent of homes reporting a vacancy.
- (c) Vacancy Rate=Reported vacancies/Capacity
- (d) Vacancies for infants and toddlers as percent of total vacancies. Homes surveyed between April 20, 1992 and May 22, 1992.



**Table B3. Estimated Capacity and Vacancies  
In Child Care Centers and Licensed Homes in Each County**

County	Number of		Total Capacity - Full-time Slots			Reported Vacancies			Vacancy as Percent		
	Centers	Homes	Centers(a)	Homes(b)	Total	Centers(c)	Homes(c)	Total	Centers	Homes	Total
Adams	4	26	257	194	451	39	41	80	15.2%	21.1%	17.7%
Asotin	7	10	224	57	281	10	2	12	4.5%	3.5%	4.3%
Benton	31	230	1,579	1,197	2,776	201	112	313	12.7%	9.4%	11.3%
Chelan	29	79	1,064	418	1,502	33	83	116	3.0%	19.9%	7.7%
Clallam	13	54	561	251	812	77	51	128	13.7%	20.3%	15.8%
Clark	74	742	4,353	2,886	7,239	769	1,093	1,862	17.7%	37.9%	25.7%
Columbia	1	2	N/A	14	14	N/A	0	0	N/A	0.0%	0.0%
Cowlitz	18	52	1,117	249	1,366	84	25	109	7.5%	10.0%	8.0%
Douglas	9	37	211	211	422	0	20	20	0.0%	9.5%	4.7%
Ferry	1	0	44	0	44	5	0	5	11.4%	N/A	11.4%
Franklin	13	64	749	417	1,166	91	50	141	12.1%	12.0%	12.1%
Garfield	1	1	16	4	20	6	0	6	37.5%	0.0%	30.0%
Grahat	11	154	477	933	1,410	96	121	217	20.1%	13.0%	15.4%
Grays Harbor	9	54	260	350	610	24	61	85	9.2%	17.4%	13.9%
Island	12	111	512	510	1,022	30	72	102	5.9%	14.1%	10.0%
Jefferson	3	15	104	62	166	10	2	12	9.6%	3.2%	7.2%
King	489	2,109	29,212	11,882	41,094	3,365	2,311	5,676	11.5%	19.4%	13.8%
Kitsap	46	318	2,526	2,000	4,526	267	284	551	10.6%	14.2%	12.2%
Kittitas	6	29	230	167	397	16	6	22	7.0%	3.6%	5.5%
Klickitat	1	25	N/A	161	161	N/A	38	38	N/A	23.6%	23.6%
Lewis	12	40	466	319	785	54	27	81	11.6%	8.5%	10.3%
Lincoln	1	17	25	128	153	8	34	42	32.0%	26.6%	27.5%
Mason	4	54	143	333	476	9	59	68	6.3%	17.7%	14.3%
Okanogan	9	57	332	376	708	39	60	99	11.7%	16.0%	14.0%
Pacific	4	20	108	118	226	32	16	48	29.6%	13.6%	21.2%
Pend Oreille	1	3	N/A	8	8	N/A	3	3	N/A	37.5%	37.5%
Pierce	154	748	8,695	4,791	13,486	873	748	1,621	10.0%	15.6%	12.0%
San Juan	6	12	106	76	182	17	31	48	16.0%	40.8%	26.4%
Skagit	21	111	800	708	1,508	151	83	234	18.9%	11.7%	15.5%
Skamania	3	10	92	81	173	29	23	52	31.5%	28.4%	30.1%
Snohomish	167	974	11,034	5,576	16,610	1,638	1,436	3,074	14.8%	25.8%	18.5%
Spokane	140	668	7,328	4,832	12,160	784	1,129	1,913	10.7%	23.4%	15.7%
Stevens	3	30	92	201	293	4	10	14	4.3%	5.0%	4.8%
Thurston	52	264	3,222	1,488	4,710	257	256	513	8.0%	17.2%	10.9%
Wahkiakum	1	1	N/A	4	4	N/A	4	4	N/A	100.0%	100.0%
Walla Walla	15	55	709	311	1,020	80	45	125	11.3%	14.5%	12.9%
Whatcom	41	116	1,200	674	1,874	112	102	214	9.3%	15.1%	11.4%
Whitman	15	69	659	437	1,096	92	138	230	14.0%	31.6%	21.0%
Yakima	65	414	3,454	2,811	6,265	265	468	733	7.7%	16.6%	11.7%
All	1,492	7,773	81,981	45,235	127,216	9,567	9,044	18,611	11.7%	20.0%	14.6%

**Notes:**

- (a) Center licensed capacity
- (b) Full-time equivalents (FTE) plus vacancies  
FTE=Days/5 for full-time or hours/40 for part-time
- (c) Providers indicated how many more children they would like to have cared for in the previous week.

Centers were surveyed between February 19, 1992 and March 24, 1992.

Homes were surveyed between April 20, 1992 and May 22, 1992.

Source: DSHS/Office of Research and Data Analysis

**Table B4. Child Care Capacity and Child Population  
In Washington Counties in February and March, 1992**

County	# Facilities		Capacity			Number of Children(c) (0 to 12 years)	Slots per 100 Children
	Centers	Homes	Centers(a)	Homes(b)	Total		
Adams	4	26	257	194	451	3,410	13.2
Asotin	7	10	224	57	281	3,571	7.9
Benton	32	230	1,604	1,197	2,801	25,074	11.2
Chelan	29	79	1,064	418	1,502	10,573	14.2
Clallam	13	54	561	251	812	10,129	8.0
Clark	75	742	4,374	2,886	7,260	49,647	14.6
Columbia	1	2	N/A	14	14	686	2.0
Coville	18	52	1,117	249	1,366	16,424	8.3
Douglas	9	37	211	211	422	5,620	7.5
Ferry	1	0	44	0	44	1,388	3.2
Franklin	13	64	749	417	1,166	9,674	12.1
Garfield	1	1	16	4	20	406	4.9
Grant	11	154	477	933	1,410	12,728	11.1
Grays Harbor	9	54	260	350	610	12,773	4.8
Island	12	111	512	510	1,022	11,995	8.5
Jefferson	3	15	104	62	166	3,354	4.9
King	493	2,109	29,399	11,882	41,281	257,385	16.0
Kitsap	46	318	2,526	2,000	4,526	39,804	11.4
Kittitas	6	29	230	167	397	4,132	9.6
Klickitat	1	25	N/A	161	161	3,519	4.6
Lewis	12	40	466	319	785	12,173	6.4
Lincoln	1	1	25	128	153	1,694	9.0
Mason	4	54	143	333	476	7,030	6.8
Okanogan	9	67	332	376	708	7,071	10.0
Pacific	4	20	108	118	226	3,252	6.9
Pend Oreille	1	3	N/A	8	8	1,856	0.4
Pierce	154	748	8,695	4,791	13,486	121,558	11.1
San Juan	6	12	106	76	182	1,554	11.7
Skagit	21	111	800	708	1,508	15,455	9.8
Skamania	3	10	92	81	173	1,821	9.5
Snohomish	167	974	11,034	5,576	16,610	99,067	16.8
Spokane	140	666	7,328	4,832	12,160	70,486	17.3
Stevens	3	30	92	201	293	6,981	4.2
Thurston	52	264	3,222	1,488	4,710	31,714	14.9
Wahkiakum	1	1	N/A	4	4	593	0.7
Yalla Walle	15	65	709	311	1,020	8,903	11.6
Whatcom	41	116	1,200	674	1,874	23,631	7.9
Whitman	15	69	659	437	1,096	5,156	21.3
Yakima	65	414	3,454	2,811	6,265	42,434	14.8
All	1,498	7,773	82,214	45,235	127,449	944,718	13.5

Source: DSHS/Office of Research and Data Analysis

**Notes:**

- (a) Center licensed capacity
- (b) Full-time equivalents (FTE) plus vacancies  
FTE=Days/5 for full-time or hours/40 for part-time
- (c) Number of children 0 to 12 years from 1990 U.S. Census

Centers were surveyed between February 19, 1992 and March 24, 1992.  
Homes were surveyed between April 20, 1992 and May 22, 1992.

## **APPENDIX C: COUNTY MAPS**

County information on numbers of facilities, slots, vacancies, child populations, (also provided in the tables in Appendix B), together with the numbers of DSHS-subsidized children reported by providers, are illustrated in the following series of maps:

- Map 1: Washington counties
- Map 2: Number of child care centers
- Map 3: Number of slots in centers
- Map 4: Number of licensed homes
- Map 5: Number of slots in homes
- Map 6: Total licensed capacity (total slots)
- Map 7: Reported vacancies
- Map 8: Child population (0 to 12 years)
- Map 9: Licensed slots per 100 children
- Map 10: Number of DSHS subsidized children (as reported by providers)

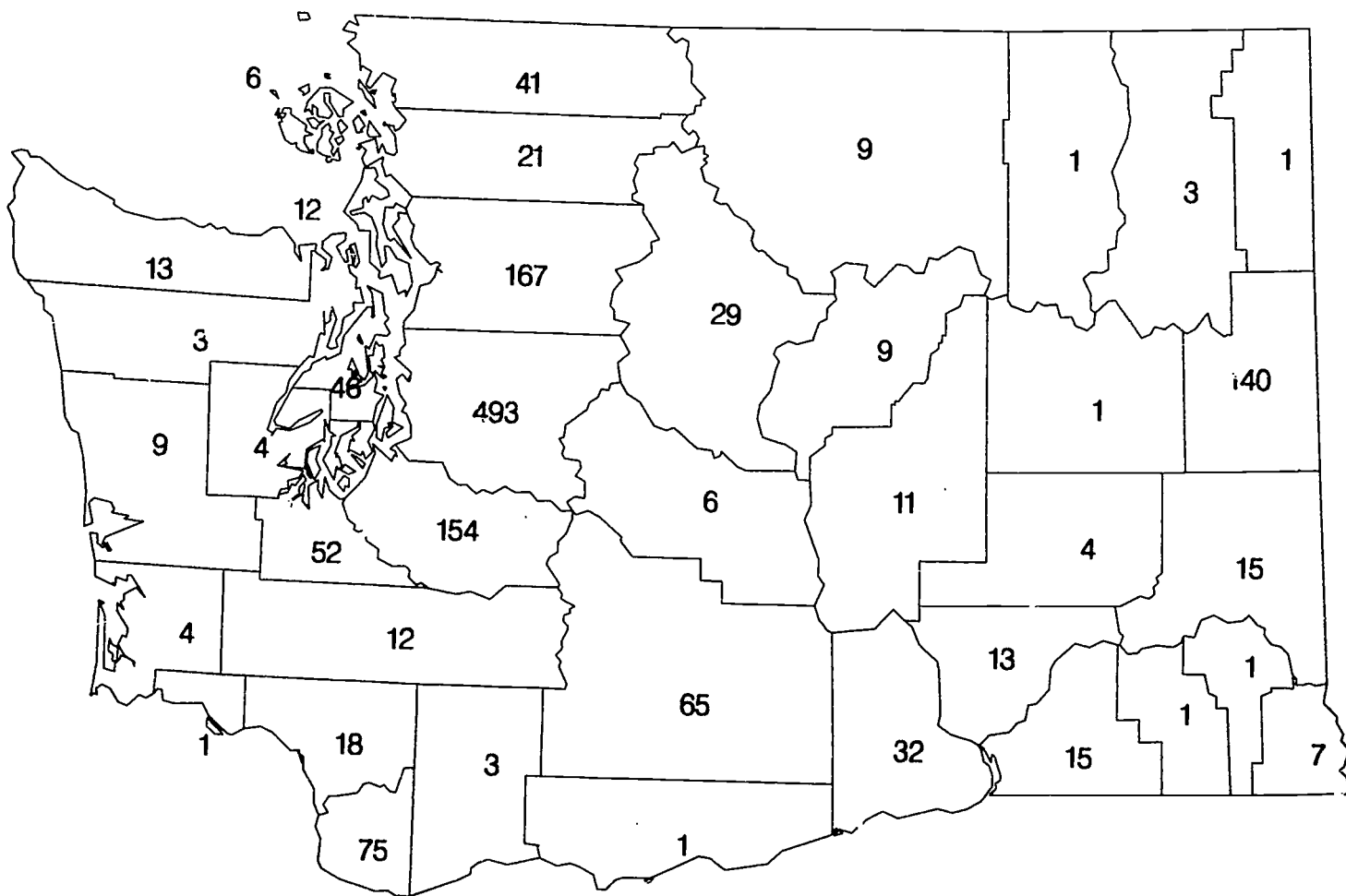
Map 1

# Washington Counties



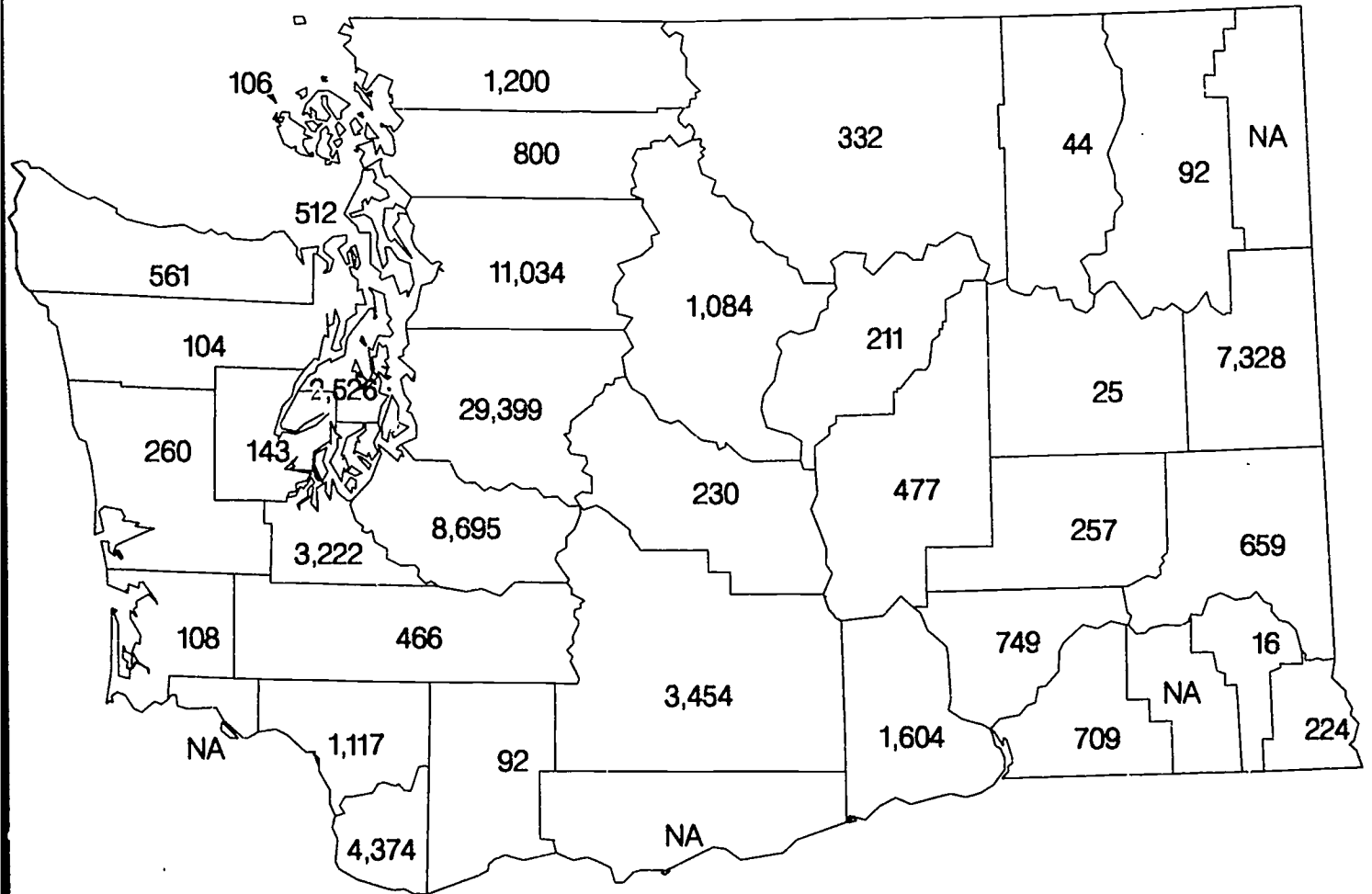
Map 2

# Number of Centers



Map 3

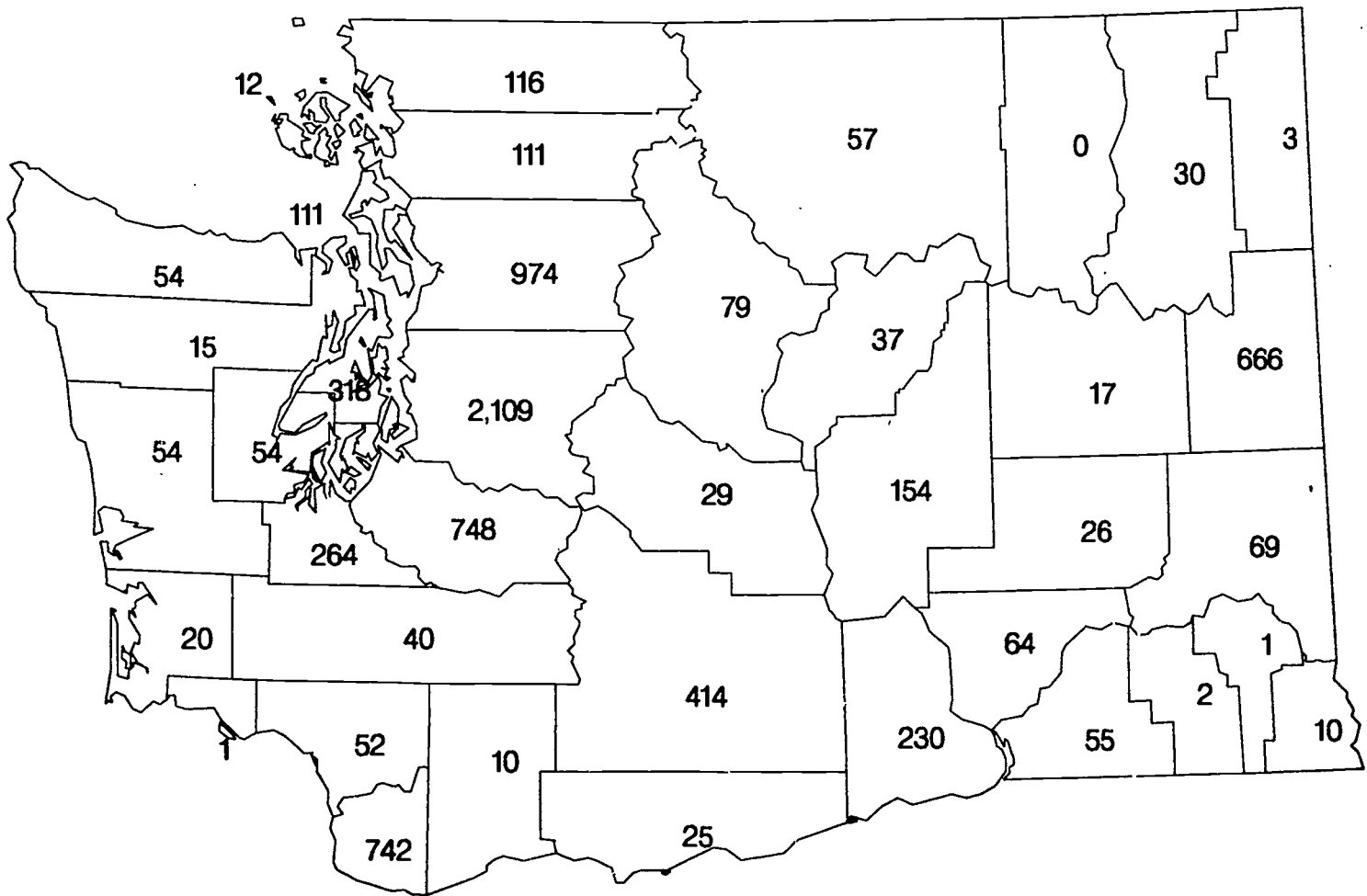
# Number of Slots in Centers



NA: The only provider in this county did not respond to the survey.

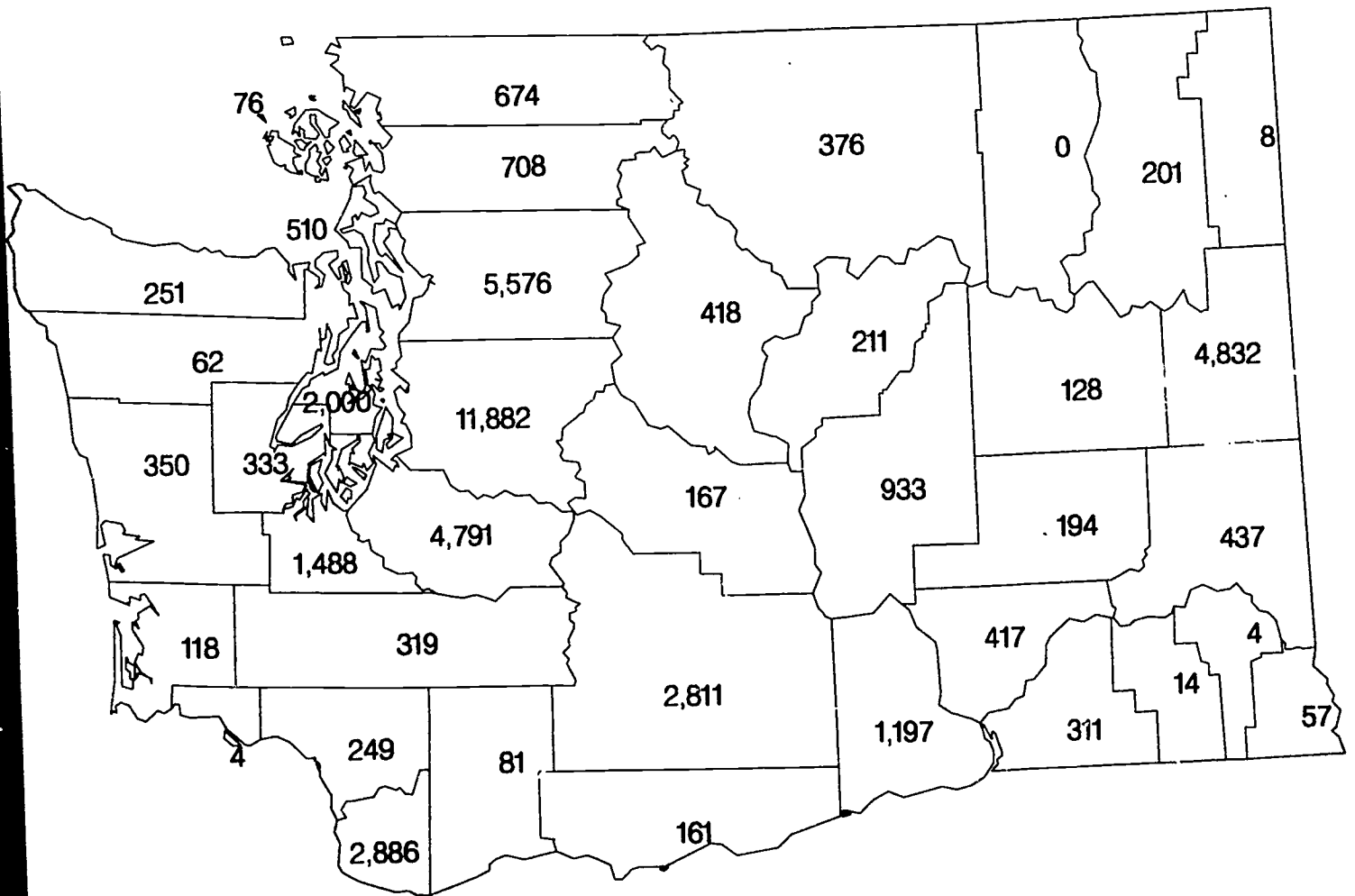
Map 4

# Number of Licensed Homes



Map 5

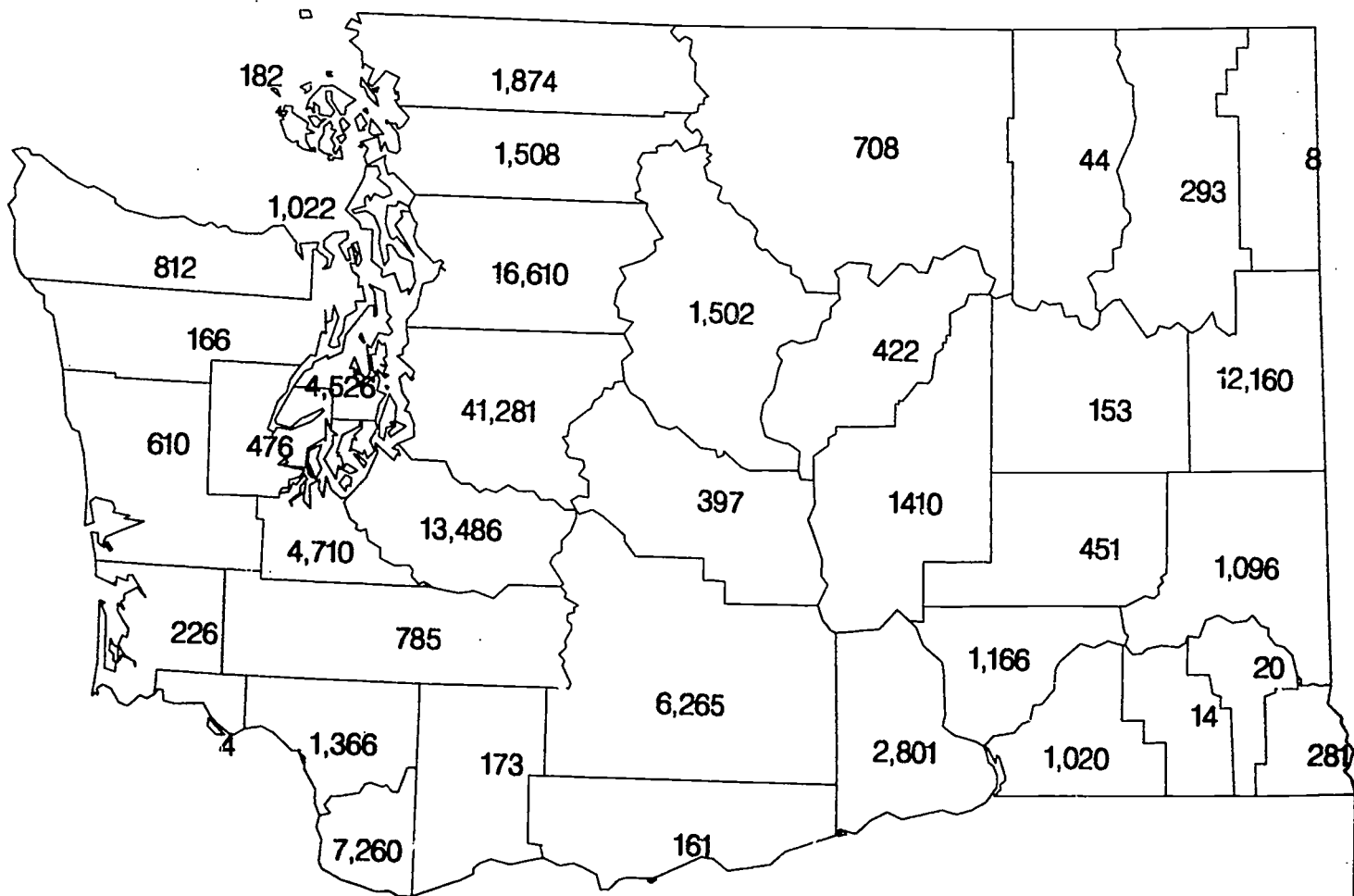
# Number of Slots in Homes





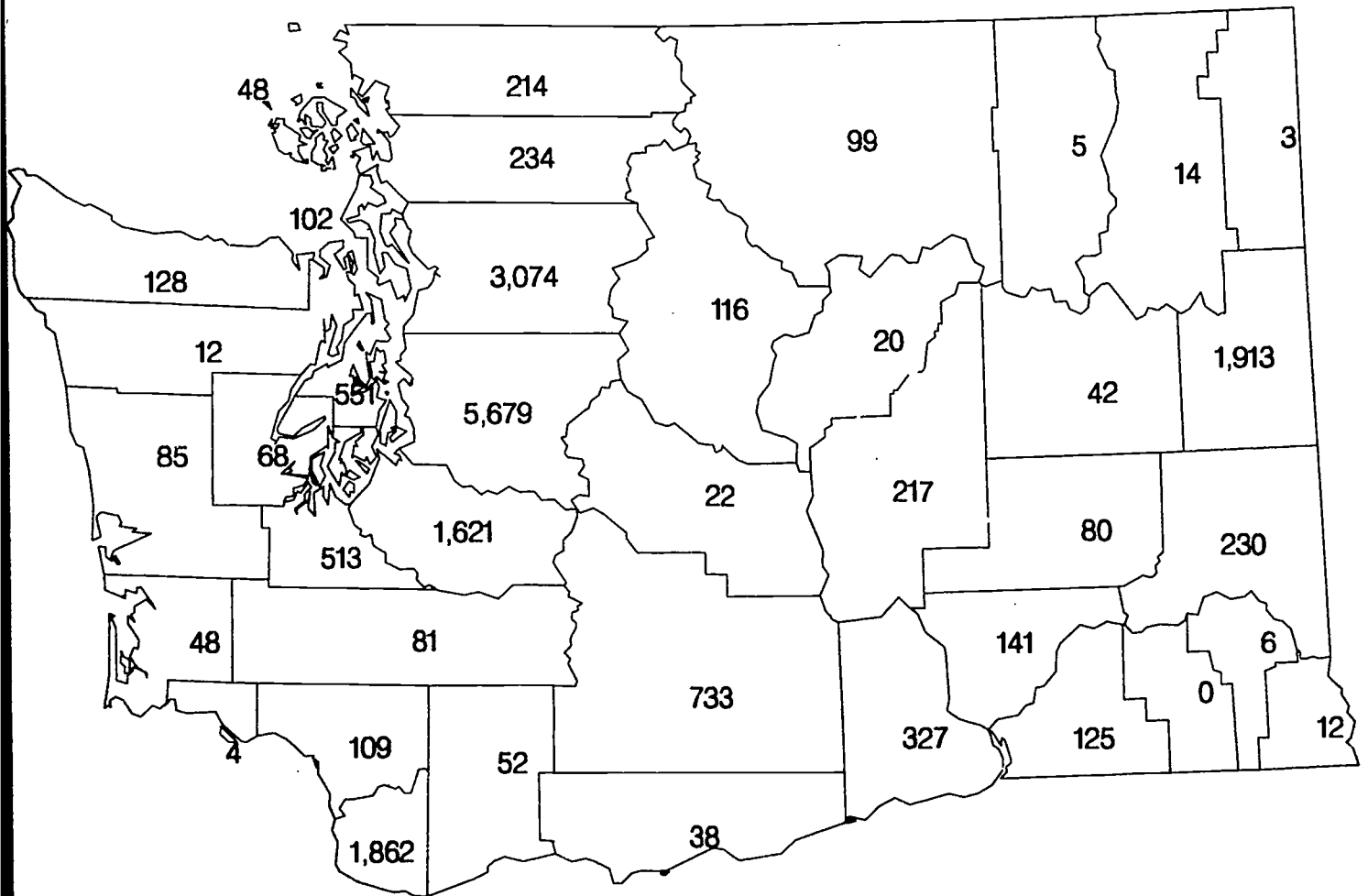
Map 6

# Total Licensed Capacity



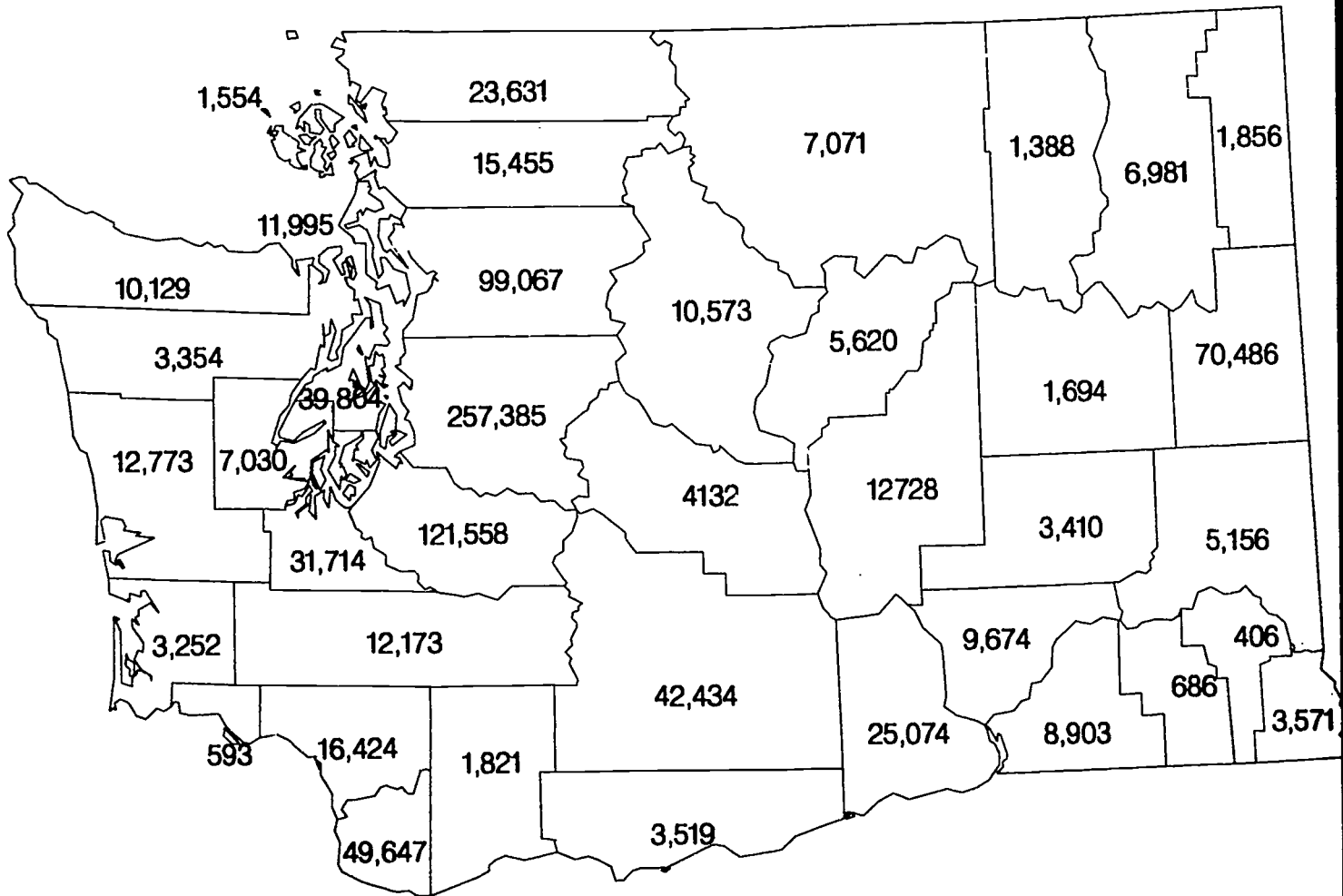
Map 7

# Reported Vacancies



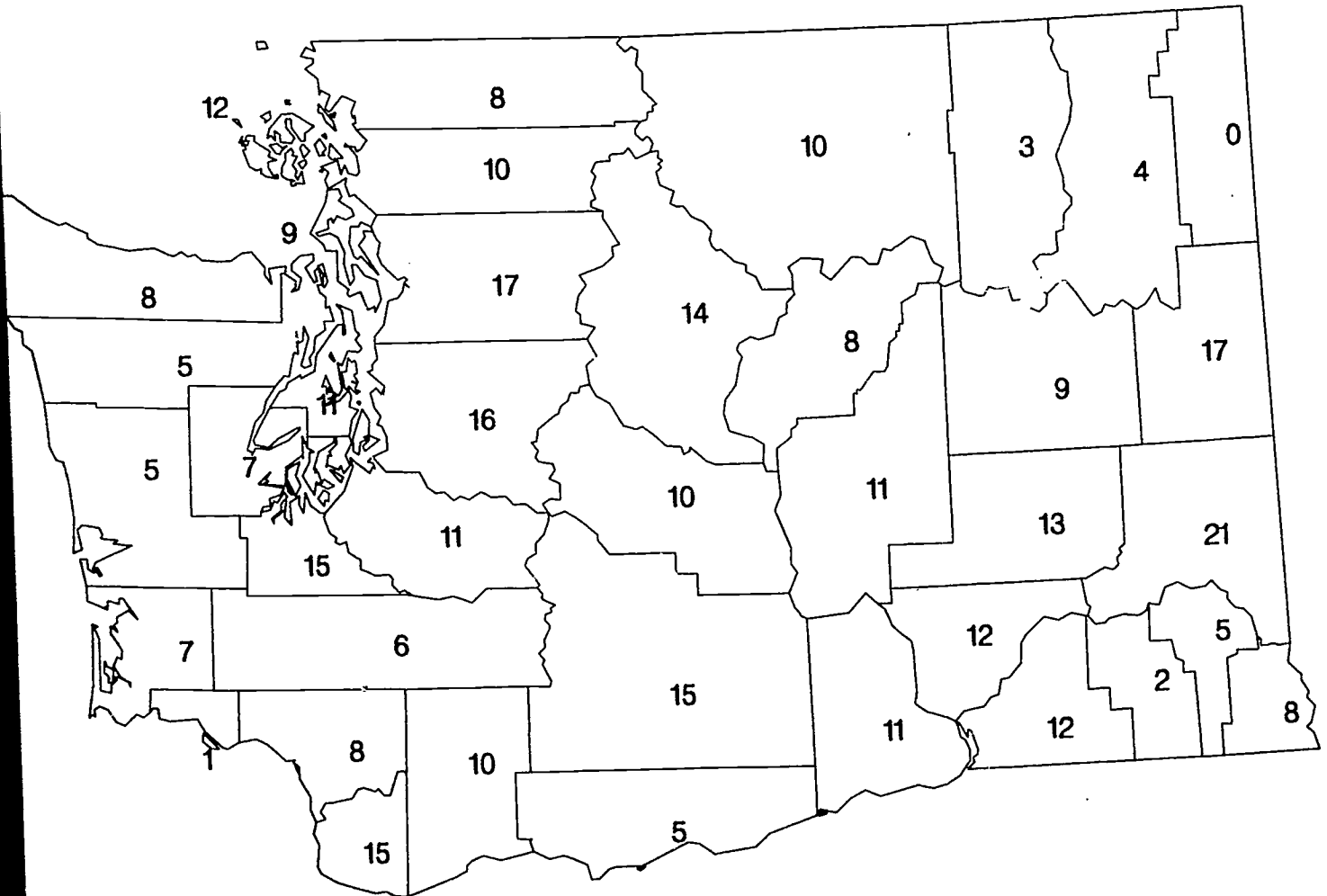
Map 8

## Total Population (0 – 12 yrs)



Map 9

# Licensed Slots per 100 Children



Map 10

# Number of DSHS Subsidized Children

