



**TECHNICAL REPORT 10-054**

## **Washington State 2010 Child Care Survey**

Child Care Rate and Resources in  
Washington State

Fall 2010

Prepared for

Washington State Department of Early Learning  
649 Woodland Square Loop SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

Submitted by:

John Tarnai, Ph.D.  
Principal Investigator

**SESRC**  
**Social & Economic Sciences Research Center**  
**PO Box 644014**  
**Washington State University**  
**Pullman, Washington 99164-4014**  
**Telephone: (509) 335-1511**  
**Fax: (509) 335-0116**

**WASHINGTON STATE**  
 **UNIVERSITY**

*World Class. Face to Face.*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY RESULTS FROM THE CHILD CARE SURVEY .....	1
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION .....	5
CHAPTER 2: CHILD CARE POPULATION.....	13
CHAPTER 3: CHILDREN IN LICENSED CARE – CENTERS .....	18
CHAPTER 4: CHILDREN IN LICENSED CARE – FAMILY HOMES .....	26
CHAPTER 5: PROFIT STATUS AND INFANT AND SCHOOL-AGE CARE AMONG CENTERS .....	31
CHAPTER 6: PROVIDER BUSINESS TRAITS.....	33
CHAPTER 7: CHILD CARE PRICES.....	53
CHAPTER 8: STATE SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE .....	55
CHAPTER 9: EXPERIENCES WITH LICENSOR.....	68
CHAPTER 10: CHILD CARE PROVIDERS’ FEEDBACK.....	72
CHAPTER 11: COMPARISON OF FINDINGS FROM RECENT CHILD CARE SURVEYS.....	82

## List of Tables

Table 1: Washington State Counties by DSHS Region, 2010 .....	6
Table 2: Response Rate for Care Centers and Family Home Providers .....	11
Table 3: Children in Care, Employees and Licensed Child Care Facilities by Type of Facility, 2010 .....	13
Table 4: Licensed Child Care Facilities by Region, 2010 .....	13
Table 5: Children in Care, Capacity, Vacancies, and Vacancy Rate by Type of Facilities and Full-Time Versus Part-Time Enrollment, 2010 .....	14
Table 6: Estimated Number of Full-Time Versus Part-Time Children Enrolled in Child Care, and Vacancies by type of Facility and Age Group, 2010 .....	15
Table 7: All Children in Washington State Age < 13 Years and Children in Licensed Care by Age Group, 2010 .....	16
Table 8: Percent of Centers with Vacancies by Age Group and Region, 2010 .....	20
Table 9: Child Care Center Population by Region and Age Group, 2010.....	23
Table 10: Anticipated Average Number of Full-Time School–Age Children Enrolled in Before and After School and Summer Care among Centers, 2010 .....	24
Table 11: Family Homes with Vacancies by Region, 2010.....	25
Table 12: Family Home Population by Region and Age Group, 2010.....	29
Table 13: Characteristics of Child Care Centers, 2010.....	34
Table 14: Average Years Ownership, and Number of Volunteer and Paid Staff Among Centers, 2010.....	36
Table 15: Staff Composition by Type of Center, 2010.....	38
Table 16: Median and Average Income, Children per Staff, and Turnover by Type of Staff among Child Care Centers, 2010 .....	39
Table 17: Percent of Staff Newly Hired by Region, 2010.....	40
Table 18: Median and Average Monthly Income of Child Care Center Staff by Region, 2010.....	41
Table 19: Median and Average Monthly and Annual Income in Child Care Centers by Center Type, 2010	42
Table 20: Lead Teacher Benefits in Child Care Centers, 2010 .....	43
Table 21: Centers providing Benefits to Lead Teachers by Benefit Type and Region, 2010 .....	44
Table 22: Characteristics of Family Home Providers, 2010 .....	45
Table 23: Characteristics of Owners of Family Homes, 2010 .....	46
Table 24: Median and Average Gross Annual Earnings of Family Home Providers by Region, 2010.....	48
Table 25: Median and Average Earnings of Family Home Providers Overall and by Years in Business and Child Care as Main Source of Income, 2010.....	49
Table 26: Child Care Availability by Type of Facilities, 2010.....	50
Table 27: Comparison of Care to Children at Centers and Family Homes .....	52
Table 28: Average Rate per Month and Annual Cost for Full-Time Child Care by Type of Facility and Age Group.....	53
Table 29: Subsidized Children by Type of Facility, 2010.....	54

Table 30: Centers Limiting Enrollment of Subsidized Children by Region, 2010.....	57
Table 31: Full-Time Rates for Preschool Children, Differences between Centers Serving and Not Serving Children with Subsidies by Region, 2010.....	58
Table 32: Center DSHS Rates versus 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Rate per Day <sup>1</sup> and Percent of Facilities At or Below DSHS Rate for Full-Time Children by Age Group and Region, 2020.....	59
Table 33: Family Home DSHS Rates versus 75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Rate per Day <sup>1</sup> and Percent of Facilities at or Below DSHS Rate for Full-Time Children by Age Group and Region, 2020 .....	60
Table 34: Beliefs and Attitudes about Subsidized Child Care among Child Care Centers Not Currently Providing Subsidized Care, 2010 .....	62
Table 35: Family Home Providers Serving Children with Child Care Subsidies by Ethnicity of Provider, 2010 .....	62
Table 36: Family Homes Willing to Serve Children with Child Care Subsidies by Region, 2010 .....	63
Table 37: Distribution of Responses Regarding Attitudes and Experiences with Licensor Among Child Care Centers, 2010 .....	66
Table 38: Distribution of Responses Regarding Attitudes and Experiences with Licensor Among Family Home Providers, 2010 .....	67
Table 39: Experiences with Calling Licensor by Type of Facility, 2010 .....	69
Table 40: Centers And Family Homes Provider Feedback .....	70
Table 41: Child Care Availability by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010 .....	86

## List of Figures

Figure A: DSHS Administrative Regions .....	6
Figure 1: Distribution of Child Care Centers by Capacity, 2010.....	17
Figure 2: Distribution of Children in Child Care Centers by Capacity, 2010 .....	18
Figure 3: Percent of Centers with Vacancies by Age Group, 2010 .....	19
Figure 4: Centers Providing Full-Time and Part-Time Care by Age Group, 2010.....	221
Figure 5: Distribution of Children in Centers in Full-Time and Part-Time Care by Age Group, 2010 .....	22
Figure 6: Family Homes Providing Full-Time and Part-time Care by Age Group, 2010 .....	26
Figure 7: Distribution of Children in Homes in Full-Time or Part-Time Care, 2010 .....	27
Figure 8: Average Hours per Week in Family Home Care by Age Group, 2010.....	28
Figure 9: Child Care Centers' Profit Status and Infant Care, 2010.....	30
Figure 10: Child Care Centers' Profit Status and School-Age Care, 2010 .....	31
Figure 11: Years in Business: Family Homes and Centers, 2010.....	32
Figure 12: Years Plan to Operate Child Care at Home, 2010.....	33
Figure 13: Type of Center and Physical Location, 2010.....	35
Figure 14: Average Number of Years of Paid Child Care Experience for Center Staff, 2010 .....	37
Figure 15: Family Home Providers' Highest Level of Education, 2010 .....	47
Figure 16: Facilities Serving Children with Child Care Subsidies by Region, 2010.....	55
Figure 17: Children Who Received Subsidies as Percent of All Children in Licensed Facilities by Region, 2010 .....	56
Figure 18: Percent of Family Homes with Non-Standard Hours by Subsidy Status, 2010.....	64
Figure 19: Percent of Centers with Non-Standard Hours by Subsidy Status, 2010 .....	65
Figure 20: Attitudes and Experiences with Licensor by Centers .....	68
Figure 21: Attitudes and Experiences with Licensor by Family Homes .....	68
Figure 22: Percent Change in Number of Child Care Facilities by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010 .....	80
Figure 23: Percent Change in Number of Children in Licensed Care by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010 .....	81
Figure 24: Average Number of Children in Care per Facility by Type of Facility, 2002 to 2010 .....	82
Figure 25: Percent of Children in Full-Time Care by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010.....	83
Figure 26: Vacancy Rates by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010.....	84
Figure 27: Percent of Children Subsidized Among Family Homes, 2008 versus 2010.....	85
Figure 28: Percent of Children Subsidized Among Child Care Centers, 2008 versus 2010.....	86
Figure 29: Average Rate per Month for Full-Time Child Care by Type of Facility, 2004 to 2010, Not Adjusted for Inflation.....	88
Figure30: Average Rate per Month for Full-Time Child Care by Type of Facility, 2008 to 2010, adjusted for Inflation .....	89
Figure 31: Average Annual Income by Type of Staff Among Child Care Centers, 2008 versus 2010.....	90

Figure 32: Turnover by Type of Center Staff, 2008 versus 2010 .....	91
Figure 33: Average Number of Years of Paid Child Care Experience for Center Staff, 2008 versus 2010....	92
Figure 34: Lead Teacher Benefits Among Child Care Centers, 2008 versus 2010 .....	93

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND KEY RESULTS FROM THE CHILD CARE SURVEY

### *Findings about Child Care Population:*

- An estimated 176,384 children in Washington were enrolled in licensed child care in the spring of 2010. About 78 percent of these children were in child care centers and the remaining 22 percent were in licensed family homes.
- Information from the child care survey was combined with the population data from Washington's Office of Financial Management to estimate the proportion of children of various ages in licensed care at the time of the child care surveys. Roughly 16 percent of children in Washington were estimated to be in care, with the proportions of children in care varying substantially by age group. Just over 10 percent of infants, 26 percent of toddlers, 30 percent of preschoolers, 18 percent of kindergarteners and 7 percent of school-age children were estimated to be in licensed care at the time of the survey in the spring 2010.

### *Findings about Child Care Centers:*

- The total capacity for centers was 139,542 children. A total of 137,642 children were cared for in centers. The average capacity for centers was 65.4 children.
- The number of vacancies for centers was 22,456. Among centers with at least one vacancy, the average vacancy rate was 16 percent.
- Sixty-four percent of children in child care centers were in full-time care. Half of all children in full-time care were preschoolers and 24 percent were toddlers. Twenty percent of children in full-time care were older; 9 percent were kindergarten age and 11 percent were school-age. The remaining 5 percent of children in full-time care were infants.
- Thirty-six percent of children in child care centers were in part-time care. Forty-five percent were school-age children, while an additional 34 percent were preschoolers. Nine percent of children were kindergarten age and another 9 percent were toddlers. Only 4 percent were infants.
- Forty-three percent of all child care centers were operated by or as non-profit organizations, 41 percent were private, for-profit businesses, 10 percent were government-run centers, and the remaining 4 percent were identified as other types of centers.

- Average hourly wage for employees at child care centers was \$9.70 for assistants, \$12 for teachers, \$14 for supervisors and \$16.30 for directors.
- The proportion of assistants newly hired was more than twice the proportion for teachers, which was 22 percent. Fourteen percent of supervisors were newly hired compared to 13 percent of directors newly hired after September 1, 2009.
- Less than 9 percent of survey participants from centers indicated they were uncomfortable calling their licensors.
- Seventy-eight percent of center participants reported they received timely information on changes to licensing policies; 87 percent agreed that the licensor clearly explained the reasons behind the licensing regulations at the most recent licensing visit; and 92 percent believed that the licensor clearly explained what the center needed to do to comply with regulations.

*Findings about Licensed Family Home:*

- Family home providers cared for 38,742 children with total capacity in family homes at 51,851 children. The average capacity for a family home was 9.5 children.
- The number of vacancies for family homes was 15,844 with a vacancy rate of 31 percent
- Sixty-eight percent of children in child care provided in family homes were in full-time care. Preschoolers accounted for 51 percent of full-time attendance in family homes, followed by toddlers, accounting for 25 percent of children. School-age children made up 8 percent of children in full-time care, kindergarteners were 7 percent and infants were 9 percent of children in full-time care in family homes.
- Thirty-two percent of children in child care provided in family homes were in part-time care. School-age children composited 40 percent of all children in part-time care provided by family homes, whereas kindergarteners composited 13 percent of all children in part-time care. Preschoolers accounted for 51 percent of children, toddlers 25 percent, and infants 9 percent of all children in part-time care provided by family homes.
- In 2010, 61.8 percent of family homes received assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program.

- More than half (56 percent) of participants from family homes reported having liability insurance.
- Thirteen percent of family home providers had a college or master's degree. Eleven percent of family home owners reported having an associate degree in child development or a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential; less than 3 percent had a bachelor's or graduate degree in early childhood development.
- On average, a licensed family home provider's gross income was \$36,551. For 56 percent of family home providers, child care earnings were their households' primary source of income; their average income (\$41,173) was considerably higher than family home providers with other income sources.
- The majority of family home participants had positive experiences with their licensors and said they had no hesitation in calling their licensors (87 percent), reported they received timely information on licensing policy changes (82 percent) and clear explanations (90 percent) and suggestions from their licensors (95 percent). About 7 percent of participants didn't feel that they were regarded as knowledgeable about, and a professional in, the field of child care by their licensors.

*Findings about Special Needs Care:*

- At the time of the survey, 61 percent of centers and 40 percent of family homes were providing care for children with special needs. One-fifth of centers that did not currently provide special needs care, and 40 percent of family homes, had previously.
- Twelve percent of centers and 11 percent of family homes received the special needs rate (Tier 1) and/or applied for and received a rate above the special needs rate (Tier 2) since July 1, 2009. The majority, or 83 percent of centers and 62 percent of family homes, received the special needs rate after they applied for it since July 1, 2009.

*Findings about Children in Subsidized Child Care:*

- In 2010, an estimated 46,550 children received subsidized child care in Washington: 17,415 children in licensed family homes, representing 45 percent of all children in family homes; and 29,135 children in child care centers, representing 21 percent of all children in centers.

- Seventy-seven percent of centers and 68 percent of family homes cared for children with child care subsidies.
- More than 45 percent of children in family homes and about 21 percent of children in centers received subsidized child care. On average, a family home cared for 4.66 children receiving subsidized child care, and centers cared for 19.3 children with subsidized care over the last typical week of operation.

## CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

The Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) is a federal block grant that helps families access affordable, quality child care in their communities. Grant rules require states to evaluate subsidy rates based on a child care market survey conducted every two years. CCDF dollars are used to:

- Offer child care subsidies to low-income families while parents work, look for work or are in approved job training.
- Improve the quality of child care available to families.
- Fund technical assistance from the federal Child Care Bureau to states and territories.
- Fund child care research and evaluation activities at the national, state and local levels.

In Washington, the state Department of Early Learning (DEL) has served as the lead agency for the CCDF since October 2007. DEL must submit a plan every two years to the federal Child Care Bureau that outlines how the state will use CCDF dollars. As the CCDF lead agency, DEL also is required to conduct a market rate survey within two years of the effective date of its current approved plan. Therefore, DEL conducts a biennial study of child care providers to determine rates charged for care, the costs associated with running a child care business and the availability of child care across the six Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) regions of the state.

DEL contracted with the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) at Washington State University to conduct the market rate study in 2010. DEL uses the data gathered to set the reimbursement rate for providers caring for children who receive subsidies paid by CCDF.

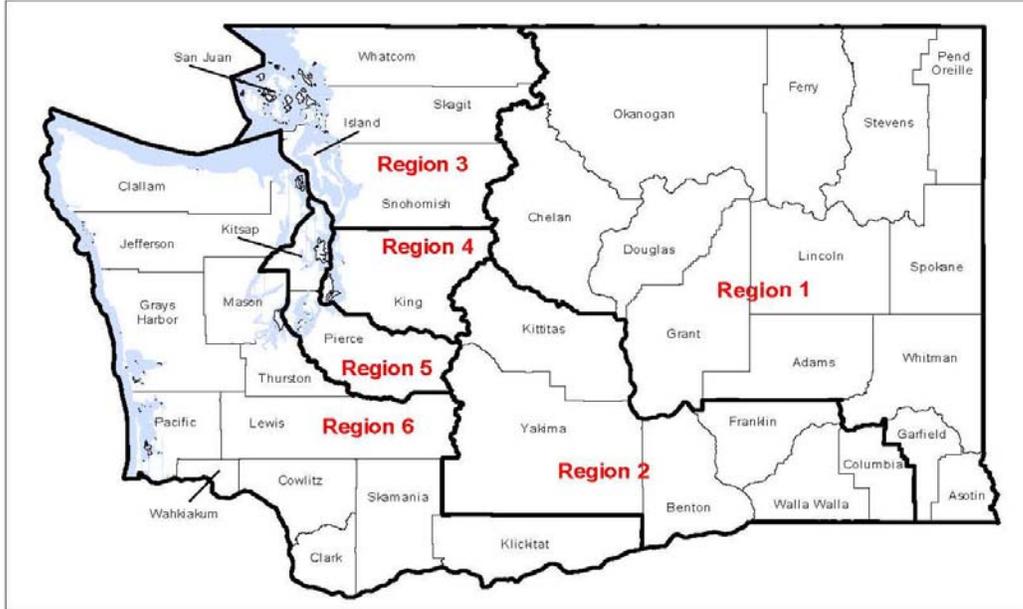
Additional objectives of the survey included determining:

- Availability of child care in the six DSHS regions across the state
- Use of certain resources available to providers
- How and when providers operate their child care business
- Some of the costs associated with operating a child care business

Availability was determined by asking about licensed capacity, number of additional children the provider wanted to care for, and the number of children currently in care. Questions regarding the wages of staff, number of hours worked, and gross income were asked to determine the cost of running the business. Child care providers also were asked about hours of operation and how fees and co-pays were collected.

The distribution of counties among DSHS regions is shown in figure A and Table 1.

**Figure A: DSHS Administrative Regions**



**Table 1: Washington State Counties by DSHS Region, 2010**

Region					
1	2	3	4	5	6
Adams	Benton	Island	King	Kitsap	Clallam
Asotin	Columbia	San Juan		Pierce	Clark
Chelan	Franklin	Skagit			Cowlitz
Douglas	Kittitas	Snohomish			Grays Harbor
Ferry	Walla Walla	Whatcom			Jefferson
Garfield	Yakima				Klickitat
Grant					Lewis
Lincoln					Mason
Okanogan					Pacific
Pend Oreille					Skamania
Spokane					Thurston
Stevens					Wahkiakum
Whitman					

## Methodology

### Survey

The SESRC conducted the multi-mode (telephone, web and mail) survey of child care facilities for DEL from May to July 2010. The population for the Washington 2010 Child Care Survey consisted of all 2,004 licensed child care centers, and 2,196 family child care providers stratified by DEL from all 5,504 family home child care providers licensed in Washington as of May 2010. SESRC designed two surveys: one for child care centers and the other for family homes.

Among the 2,004 child care centers, SESRC identified 340 sites that belonged to one of 42 multiple-site centers. The SESRC called the “lead center” for each of the 42 multi-site centers before the survey to determine if there was a single director in charge of the centers. If the multiple-site center was determined to have a single director, this director was sent a paper questionnaire that allowed him or her to fill out information for all the sites of responsibility. Follow-up calls were made as the survey progressed to encourage the multiple-site directors to return these surveys. If the multiple-site centers had separate directors, they were contacted individually.

For the family home providers, the sample was selected in direct proportion to the number of licensed providers within each region of the state. If a region did not have enough providers for an appropriate sample, then all providers from that region were included in the sample.

DEL staff members compared previous studies to determine changes to the interview script and worked with SESRC to design a multi-mode survey. Telephone and web modes were offered to both the center and family home providers; and a written, self-administered (mailed) questionnaire was offered only to multiple-site center directors. Each mode contained similar questions with only minor wording differences that were mostly based on whether the survey would be heard (phone) or read (Internet and mailed).

Different survey protocols were implemented based on whether each respondent was part of the single center group, a multiple-site group or a family home child care provider.

### *Single Site and Family Home Providers*

Before the telephone calls began, centers and family home providers were sent a prior notification, a reply card, a business reply envelope, and a worksheet to prepare the respondent for the survey in advance. The notification, with slight wording differences for centers and family home providers, informed the providers that a telephone survey was being conducted, the purpose of the study, and the expected length. Providers also were given the option of completing the survey online. The letter informed providers that responses were voluntary and confidential. In addition, the letter explained by returning the enclosed reply card or completing the web survey, participants would be entered in a drawing for a \$100 grocery gift certificate. The reply card allowed providers to update their phone numbers and request the times they would prefer to be called. The card also included a check box to indicate if a child care provider no longer provided care. All documents were translated into Spanish by an SESRC translator. Spanish was printed on the reverse side of the English documents.

All letters were printed on DEL stationary and placed in envelopes with a business reply envelope with return labels showing the client's name but SESRC's address. SESRC printed all documents and assembled the mailing. The assembled letters were mailed from DEL on May 14, 2010.

The full telephone study began May 17, 2010, and was completed on June 25, 2010. All active cases received a minimum of 15 call attempts. The average completed interview length was 24 minutes for centers and 25 minutes for family home care providers.

### *Multiple-Site Pre-Call*

SESRC conducted a series of calls with centers that appeared to have multiple sites. These calls were intended to verify that a single director was in charge of the associated sites and to identify the mailing address for survey materials. In addition, several multiple site centers were identified during the course of calling. Paper questionnaires were prepared and mailed to these sites by SESRC. A series of follow-up calls were made to encourage the directors of these multiple-site centers to complete the survey and mail it back to the SESRC using the business reply envelope that was included in the mailing.

### *Multiple-Site Mail Questionnaire*

The questionnaire was formatted into an 11x17 inch booklet and was customized for the lead center of each multiple site. If the lead center indicated there were a total of 12 sites, the names of those 12 sites became rows in each table in the questionnaire. If the center only had two sites, the table only contained two rows. The mailing included a cover letter giving instructions on how to fill out the questionnaire and the deadline for returning the questionnaire.

An initial mailing took place on May 19, 2010. Surveys were sent to 33 directors of multiple sites with a request to return surveys by May 29. Final contacts – in the form of the phone follow-up calls (both reminder and survey calls) – were conducted June 8-18 2010. During the follow-up calls, these directors were notified that the cutoff date was extended to June 25. Whenever a multiple-site director was identified during the course of calling single centers, additional mailings were sent out as necessary. A total of nine more directors of multiple sites were identified during the course of calling the single site centers; therefore, the total number of directors of multiple sites was 42.

## Outcome of Survey

### *Response Rate*

A total of 2,004 child care centers were contacted for this survey and 1,420 completed questionnaires were obtained. Of these, 577 were completed by telephone, 244 were mailed and 599 were completed online. A total of 42 multiple site lead centers received the written survey, encompassing a total of 340 sites. In addition, 40 centers partially completed questionnaires and were included in the response rate calculation. Response rates for the multiple site centers were better than expected, with 22 completed questionnaires returned (52 percent of those mailed), which covered 244 sites (72 percent of all sites in the mailings). A total of 160 out of the 2,004 centers were considered ineligible (including non-working numbers, no longer in business, does not provide care and duplicate numbers) and were excluded from the response rate calculation. The overall response rate was 79 percent.

A total of 2,196 family home child care providers from a population of 5,504 were contacted for this survey, and 1,310 completed questionnaires were obtained. Of these, 947 were completed by telephone and 363 were completed online. Sixty-four family homes partially completed the questionnaire and were included in the response rate calculation. A total of 212 out of the 2,196 family homes were considered ineligible (including non-working numbers, no longer in business, does not provide care and duplicate numbers) and were excluded from the response rate calculation. The overall response rate for the family home provider survey was 69 percent.

The following table displays the AAPOR<sup>1</sup> response rate (AAPOR response rate 4) calculations for all completed and partially completed questionnaires.

---

<sup>1</sup> AAPOR is the American Association for Public Opinion Research and is recognized as the leader for establishing industry standards for reporting of response rates.

**Table 2. Response Rate for Centers and Family Home Providers**

	Centers		Family Home Providers	
	#	%	#	%
(A) Completed Interviews	1420	70.9%	1310	59.7%
(B) Partial Completes	40	2%	64	3%
(C) Refusals	68	3.4%	97	4.4%
(D) Unable to Interview <sup>2</sup>	6	0.3%	55	2.5%
(E) Unable to Reach <sup>3</sup>	310	15.5%	458	20.9%
<b>Subtotal 1 (included)</b>	<b>1844</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>1984</b>	<b>90%</b>
(F) Non-working Numbers <sup>4</sup>	20	1.0%	91	4.1%
(H) Electronic Device	2	0.1%	5	0.2%
(I) Ineligible <sup>5</sup>	138	6.9%	116	5.3%
<b>Subtotal 2 (excluded)</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Total Sample</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2196</b>	<b>100%</b>
Cooperation Rate: (A+B)/(A+B+C)	95.5%		93.4%	
Response Rate: RR4=(A+B)/(A+B+C+D+(e <sup>6</sup> *E))	79.2%		69.6%	

<sup>2</sup> Language barrier and physically unable (hard of hearing)

<sup>3</sup> Unanswered callbacks, answering machines, no answers, communication barrier, respondent never available, and busy signals

<sup>4</sup> Disconnect, wrong number, missing phone number, and temporarily out of order

<sup>5</sup> Ineligibles including no longer in business, does not provide care, and duplicate numbers

<sup>6</sup> e is the estimated proportion of cases of unknown eligibility that are eligible

### Sample Error

The survey results for centers have no sample error since the entire population of licensed child care centers in Washington was included in the survey. For the family home providers survey, completed interviews were obtained from 1,310 (both phone and online) of 5,504 licensed family child care providers in Washington, yielding a margin of error of about  $\pm 1.6$  percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level.

## **Procedures for Calculating Population Estimates**

Population estimates for this report were based on the weighted results of the survey data. Responses from 1,420 fully completed child care center surveys were weighted to represent a population of 2,134 child care centers throughout the state. Responses from 1,310 fully completed family home surveys were weighted to represent a population of 5,504 family homes throughout the state. Thus each completed child care center survey represents about 1.5 child care centers in the state population; and each completed family home survey represents about 4.2 family homes in the state.

## CHAPTER 2: CHILD CARE POPULATION

Based on the surveys conducted from May through July 2010, an estimated 176,384 children in Washington were in licensed care during that time. 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.

About 78 percent of these children were in child care centers and the remaining 22 percent were in licensed family homes. Centers provided care for 137,642 children and employed 23,931 staff at 2,134 licensed facilities. Family home providers cared for 38,742 children and employed 1,143 paid staff (not including the family child care owner) at 5,504 family homes. Both the number of children in licensed care and the number of licensed facilities had increased for centers and family homes since 2008. The number of employees both at centers and family homes (not including family child care owner), however, had decreased since 2008.

**Table 3: Children in Care, Employees and Licensed Child Care Facilities by Type of Facility, 2010**

	Children in Licensed Care	Employees	Licensed Facilities
Centers	137,642	23,931	2,134
Family Homes	38,742	1,143	5,504
Total	176,384	25,074	7,638

\* Does NOT include family care owner

Family homes outnumbered centers by a factor of 2.58. There were five times as many homes as there were centers providing child care in Region 2. Even in Region 6, which had the closest ratio of family homes and centers, the ratio was close to 2.

**Table 4: Licensed Child Care Facilities by Region, 2010**

Region	Centers	Homes	Ratio of Homes to Centers
1	349	954	2.74
2	198	1,084	5.46
3	301	861	2.87
4	615	1,302	2.12
5	289	613	2.12
6	383	689	1.80
Total	2,134	5,504	2.58

*Number of Children in Care, Capacity and Vacancies in Child Care*

Sixty-four percent of children enrolled in centers received full-time care; 68 percent of children at family homes attended on a full-time basis. The average capacity for centers was 65.4 children and 9.5 children for family homes. The total capacity was 139,542 in centers and 51,851 in family homes; both showed an increase since 2008. The number of vacancies in centers and family homes combined was 38,300. The 31 percent vacancy rate for family homes about doubled the rate for centers which was 16 percent. The vacancy rate for centers in 2010 was 6 percent higher than the 2008 rate which was 10.3 percent.

**Table 5: Children in Care, Capacity, Vacancies, and Vacancy Rate by Type of Facilities and Full-Time Versus Part-Time Enrollment, 2010**

	Children Enrolled	Average Capacity	Total Capacity	Number of Vacancies	Vacancy Rate
<b>Centers</b>					
Full-time*	88,373				
Part-time	49,269				
Total in Centers	137,642	65.39	139,542**	22,456	16.09%***
<b>Family Homes</b>					
Full-time*^	26,359				
Part-time^	12,383				
Total in Homes	38,742	9.48	51,851	15,844	30.56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>176,384</b>	<b>26.55</b>	<b>191,393</b>	<b>38,300</b>	<b>20.01%</b>

\* full-time care is at least 25 hours a week

^ Since only a total number of children were reported for each home, full and part time attendance had to be calculated from the hours of the individual children in each home. These totals occasionally totaled to a number fewer than the reported total number of children in care. Calculations were adjusted by proportion to the overall total based on the number of reported full and part time children in order to match the overall reported total.

\*\* Average Capacity times number of centers (2,134)

\*\*\* Value is 60% greater than rate for 2008

Overall, 88,373, or 77 percent, of children were enrolled in centers full-time whereas 26,359 or 23 percent of children were enrolled in family homes full-time in 2010. Similarly, 49,269 or 80 percent of children were enrolled in centers part-time whereas 12,383 or 20 percent were enrolled in family homes part-time in 2010.

Centers were estimated to provide full-time care for 4,630 infants, 21,441 toddlers, 44,193 preschoolers, 8,114 kindergarteners and 9,995 school-age children in 2010. Centers were also estimated to provide part-time care for 1,888 infants, 4,507 toddlers, 16,551 preschoolers, 4,270 kindergarteners and 22,053 school-age children in 2010. In addition, centers had the highest number of vacancies for school-age children (8,088 children) and only 1,025 vacancies for infants.

Family homes provided full-time care for 6,075 children who were less than two years of age and for 20,284 children who were two years of age or older. Family homes also provided part-time care for 1,456 children who were less than two years of age and for 10,927 children who were two years of age or older. There were 9,642 vacancies for children who were two years old or older in family homes while only 6,202 vacancies for children who were less than two years of age.

**Table 6: Estimated Number of Full-Time Versus Part-Time Children Enrolled in Child Care, and Vacancies by type of Facility and Age Group, 2010**

	Full-Time Enrolled	Part-Time Enrolled	Number of Vacancies
<b>Centers</b>			
Infant	4,630	1,888	1,025
Toddler	21,441	4,507	3,236
Preschooler	44,193	16,551	6,638
Kindergartener	8,114	4,270	3,469
School-Age	9,995	22,053	8,088
<b>Total for Centers</b>	<b>88,373</b>	<b>49,269</b>	<b>22,456</b>
<b>Family Homes</b>			
Children < 2 years	6,075	1,456	6,202
Children 2 or Older	20,284	10,927	9,642
<b>Total for Family Homes</b>	<b>26,359</b>	<b>12,383</b>	<b>15,844</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>114,732</b>	<b>61,652</b>	<b>38,300</b>

The projected number and related proportion of children in Washington, as available through the state Office of Fiscal Management (OFM) ([www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/default.asp](http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/default.asp)), are presented in columns (A) and (B) of Table 7. Estimates of the number and proportion of children in licensed care, as derived from the 2010 Child Care Survey, are listed columns (C) and (D). Column (E) displays the proportion of children in licensed care throughout the state.

Roughly one-in-seven or 15.6 percent of children in Washington were estimated to be in licensed child care, with the proportions of children in care varying substantially by age group. About 10 percent of infants, 25.9 percent of toddlers, and 18 percent of kindergarteners were in licensed care. Preschoolers represented the age group with the largest number and proportion (29.75 percent) of the population of children in care while school-age children represented the age group with the smallest proportion (6.9 percent).

**Table 7: All Children in Washington State Age < 13 Years and Children in Licensed Care by Age Group, 2010**

	(A) Pop Est < 13 Years	(B) A % of Pop	(C) Est # of Child in Lic Care	(D) Age Group as % of Col C Total	(E) C/A % of Age Group in Lic Care
Infant	88,033	7.78%	9,356	5.30%	10.63%
Toddler	132,050	11.68%	34,219	19.40%	25.91%
Preschooler	263,074	23.26%	78,014	44.23%	29.65%
Kindergarten*	85,982	7.60%	15,703	8.90%	18.26%
School-Age	561,864	49.68%	39,092	22.16%	6.96%
Total < 13 Years	1,131,003	100%	176,384	100%	15.60%

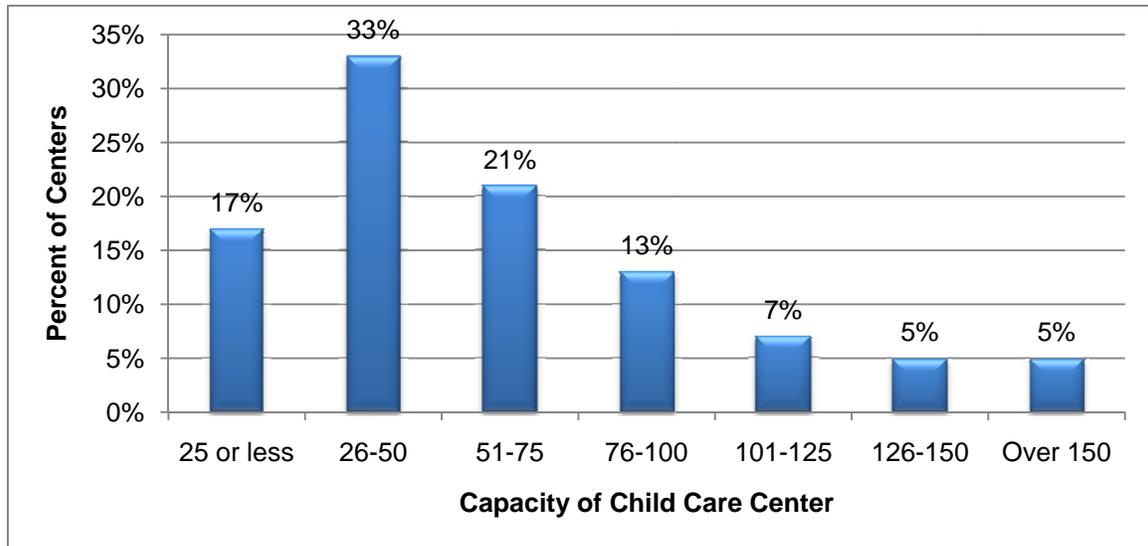
\* Row added -- not in 2008 table

### CHAPTER 3: CHILDREN IN LICENSED CARE – CENTERS

#### Capacities

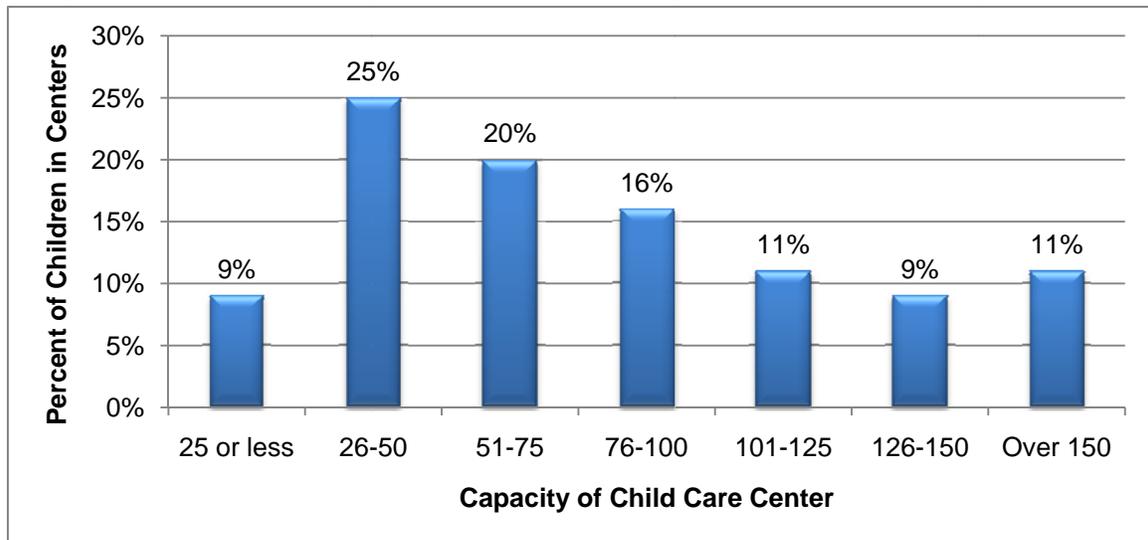
One half of centers had a capacity of 50 children or less. Just over a fifth (21 percent) had a capacity of 51-75, while 13 percent had a capacity for 76-100 children. The remaining 17 percent of centers reported having a capacity of more than 100 children.

**Figure 1: Distribution of Child Care Centers by Capacity, 2010**



When looking at the distribution of children in child care centers by center capacity, the distribution was relatively equal between small (less than 50; 34 percent), mid-sized (51-100 children; 36 percent), and large centers (more than 100; 31 percent).

**Figure 2: Distribution of Children in Child Care Centers by Capacity, 2010\***

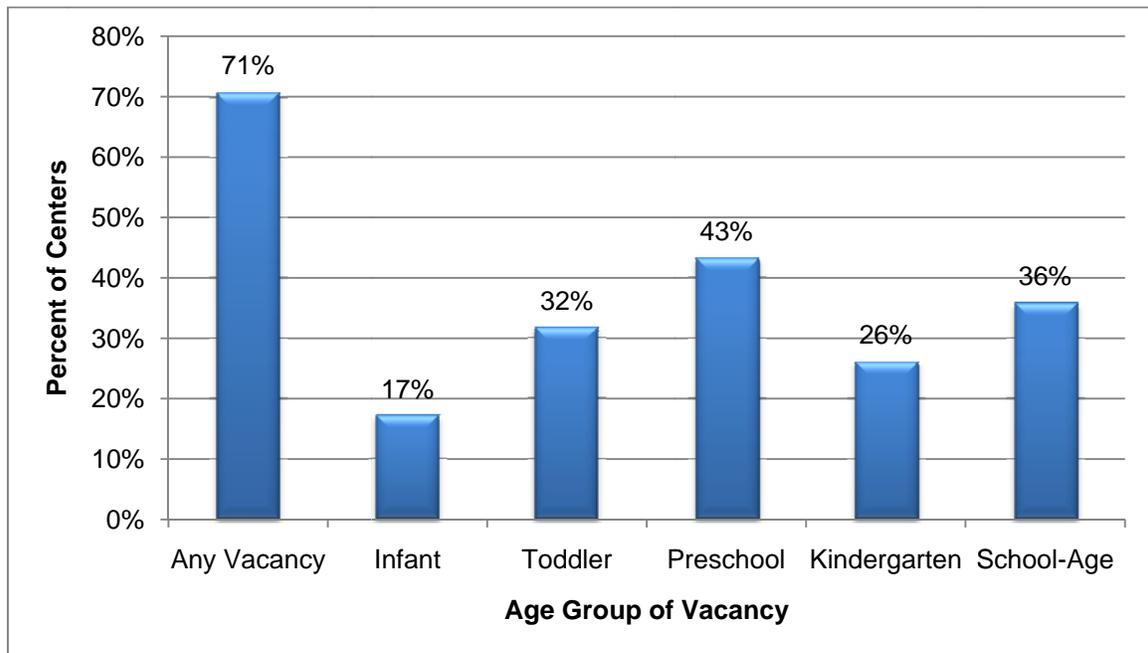


\* Chart columns are based on capacity. The percent is based on the total number of children in center care = 137,642

### Vacancies

More than two-thirds, or 71 percent, of centers indicated they had vacancies. Vacancies for preschool children were reported by 43 percent of centers; a higher proportion than for any other age group. Only 17 percent of centers reported that they could enroll additional infants. The vacancy rate for toddlers was 32 percent while the vacancy rate for kindergarteners was 26 percent which increased to 36 percent for school-age children.

**Figure 3: Percent of Centers with Vacancies by Age Group, 2010**



Overall, 71 percent of centers had at least one vacancy. However, when looking at differences in vacancies by region, Region 2 had proportionately fewer centers with vacancies in all age categories except for children in kindergarten. This region includes Yakima, Walla Walla, Kittitas, Franklin, Columbia and Benton counties. In Region 2, only 10.6 percent of centers had vacancy for infants, which was the lowest proportion across all regions and age groups. Other vacancy rates in Region 2 ranged from 21.2 percent to 27.3 percent across the other age groups.

Regions 3 and 6 had the highest vacancy rates among centers with vacancies in almost all age groups. Vacancy rates in Region 3 ranged from 19.6 percent for infants to 47 percent for preschool age. Vacancy rates for Region 5 ranged from 25.6 percent for infants to 51.6 percent for preschool age.

**Table 8: Percent of Centers with Vacancies by Age Group and Region, 2010**

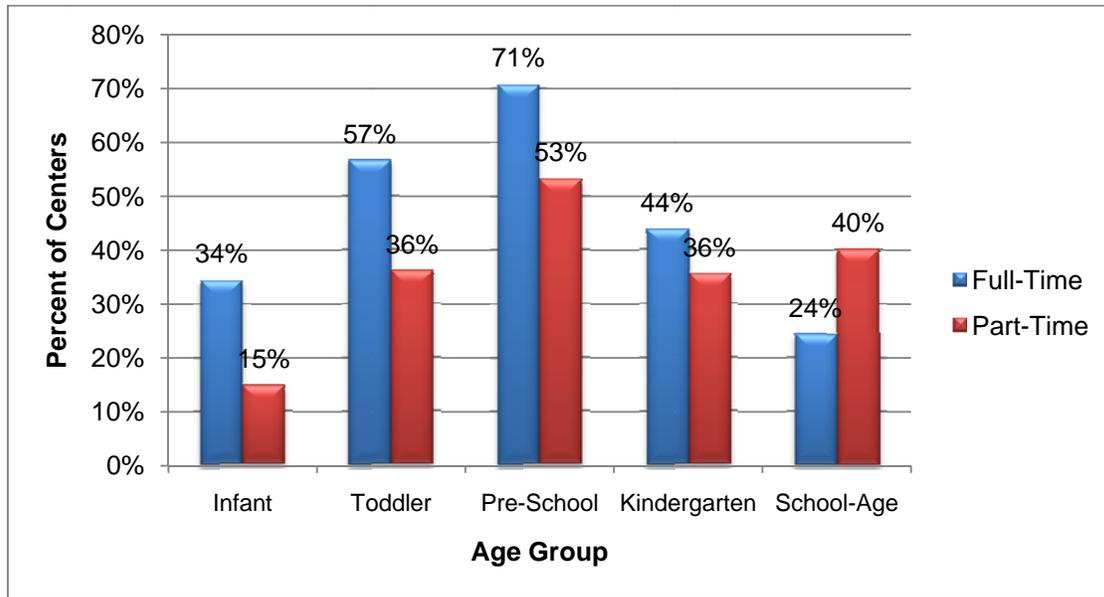
Region	Any Vacancies	Infant	Toddler	Preschool	Kindergarten	School-Age
1	61.6%	16.9%	33.6%	40.5%	28.1%	31.5%
2	51.5%	10.6%	22.7%	27.3%	21.2%	23.6%
3	80.4%	19.6%	38.5%	47.0%	32.6%	38.5%
4	66.8%	14.0%	23.5%	42.8%	19.3%	30.1%
5	79.6%	25.6%	42.7%	51.6%	31.3%	40.1%
6	81.5%	18.0%	35.0%	46.2%	29.4%	50.7%
Total	70.8%	17.2%	31.8%	43.4%	26.2%	36.0%

### Full-Time and Part-Time Care in Centers by Age Category

Seventy-one percent of centers were providing full-time care for preschool children, and 57 percent were providing full-time care for toddlers. Fewer centers were providing full-time care for older children, with 44 percent providing full-time care for children in kindergarten and only 24 percent providing full-time care for school-age children. Finally, 34 percent of centers were providing full-time care for infants. In all age categories except school-age, higher percentages of centers were providing full-time care compared to part-time care.

More than half of centers, 53 percent, were providing part-time care for preschoolers, less than half of centers were providing part-time care for any other age group. Thirty-six percent of centers were providing part-time child care for toddlers, and 36 percent were providing part-time care for children in kindergarten. Forty percent were providing part-time care for school age children, and only 15 percent of centers were providing part-time care for infants.

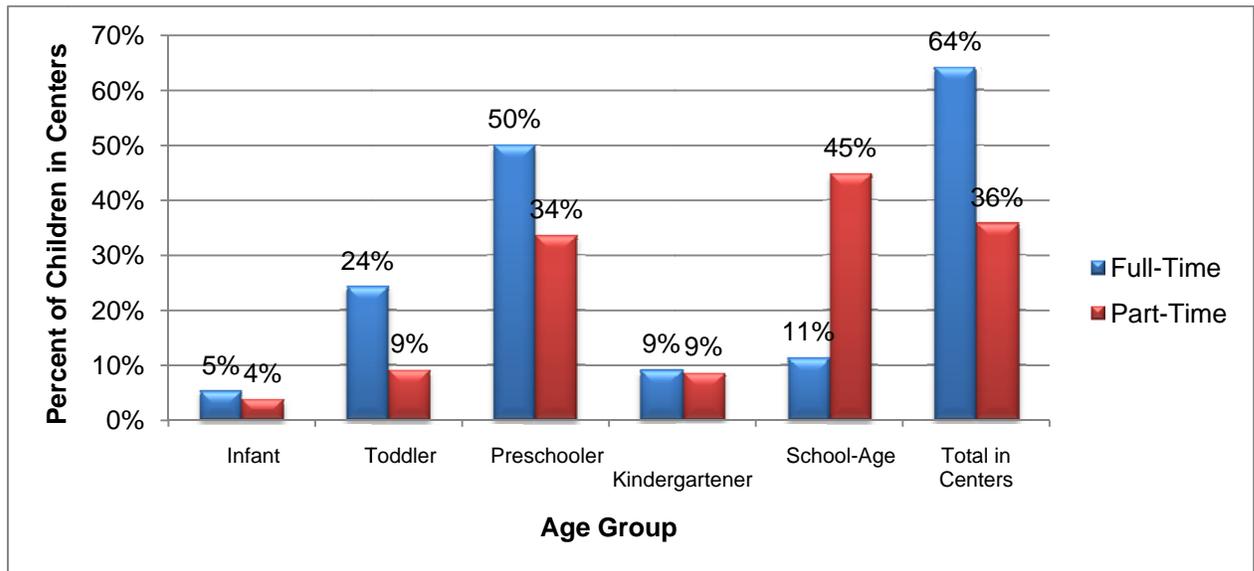
Figure 4: Centers Providing Full-Time and Part-Time Care by Age Group, 2010



Sixty-four percent of children in child care were in full-time care while 36 percent were in part-time care. Of all the children in full-time care, half were preschoolers, about one fourth, 24 percent, were toddlers, 9 percent were kindergarten age, and 11 percent were school-age. The remaining 5 percent of children in full-time care were infants.

Among all children in part-time care, about two-fifths, or 45 percent, were school-age children, while an additional third, or 34 percent, were preschoolers. Only 9 percent of children in part-time care were kindergarten age and another 9 percent were toddlers. The remaining 4 percent were infants.

**Figure 5: Distribution of Children in Centers in Full-Time and Part-Time Care by Age Group, 2010**



When examining the population of children enrolled in centers by DSHS region and age group, Region 4 had the highest number of children receiving full-time or part-time care. Region 2 had the lowest number of children receiving full-time or part-time care.

**Table 9: Child Care Center Population by Region and Age Group, 2010**

	Region						All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
<i>Full-Time</i>							
Infant	639	385	540	1,426	873	768	4,631
Toddler	2,356	1,512	2,502	7,015	3,656	4,399	21,440
Preschooler	4,970	4,303	7,346	15,380	5,995	6,199	44,193
Kindergartener	1,213	1,057	1,097	2,163	1,243	1,342	8,115
School-Age	920	774	1,871	2,705	2,430	1,295	9,995
Total for Full-Time	10,098	8,031	13,356	28,689	14,197	14,003	88,374
<i>Part-Time</i>							
Infant	131	68	150	594	739	207	1,889
Toddler	636	216	762	1,422	628	843	4,507
Preschooler	1,912	944	2,386	6,455	1,413	3,441	16,551
Kindergartener	827	335	537	1,316	615	640	4,270
School-Age	4,098	2,029	3,045	6,501	1,946	4,435	22,054
Total for Part-Time	7,604	3,592	6,880	16,288	5,341	9,566	49,271

Centers were asked if they provided before- and after-school care and if they offered summer care for school-age children. If so, they were asked how many part-time and full-time school-age children they anticipated for summer. Sixty-one percent of centers offered before- and after-school care during the school year, and 58 percent planned to offer care for school-age children in the summer. Centers planning to provide summer care for school-age children, anticipated having an average of 23.9 full-time children and an average of 5.1 part-time children.

**Table 10: Anticipated Average Number of Full-Time, School-Age Children Enrolled in Before and After School and Summer Care among Centers, 2010**

	Percent	Anticipated Average # of Full-Time School-Age Children	Anticipated Average # of Part-Time School-Age Children
Provide Before and After School Child Care for School-Age Children	61.3%	--	--
Provide Summer Child Care for School-Age Children	58.0%	23.9	5.1

## CHAPTER 4: CHILDREN IN LICENSED CARE – FAMILY HOMES

### *Vacancies*

To estimate vacancies, family home providers were asked how many openings they had for children of any age, and more specifically, the number of openings for children under age two. More than half of family child care providers, 59.6 percent, had at least one vacancy compared to 70.8 percent of centers (Table 8).

Compared to the other regions, Region 6 had the fewest vacancies for children under two years old in family homes at 27.4 percent. On average, in Regions 1 through 4, child care for children less than two years of age was available in at least two out of five family homes providing infant care. In Region 5, care could be found in about a third of family homes that provided infant care. The highest vacancy rate for children younger than two years old occurred in Regions 3 and 1, with 44.9 percent and 46.2 percent vacancy rates respectively.

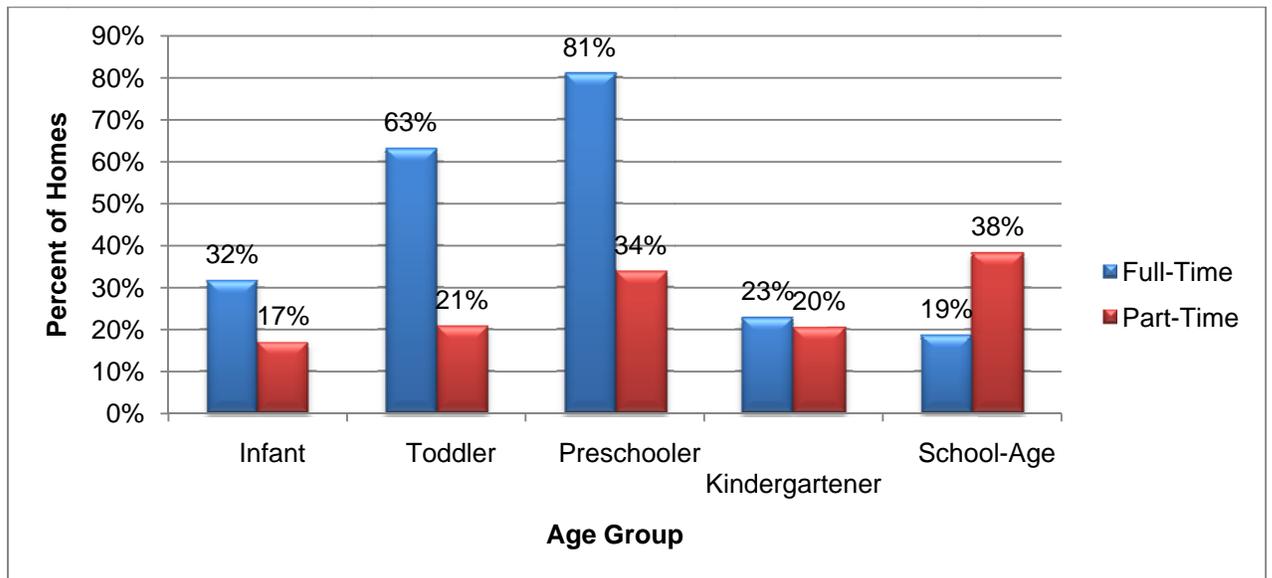
**Table 11: Family Homes with Vacancies by Region, 2010**

Region	Children < 2 Years	Any Vacancies
1	46.2%	62.1%
2	40.3%	60.9%
3	44.9%	62.4%
4	42.9%	60.6%
5	35.8%	57.3%
6	27.4%	50.7%
All	40.6%	59.6%

*Full-Time and Part-Time Care in Family Homes by Age Category*

Eighty-one percent of family homes provided full-time care for preschool children, and 63 percent provided full-time care for toddlers. In contrast, only 19 percent provided full-time care for school-age children, and only 23 percent provided full-time care for children of kindergarten age. Thirty-two percent provided full-time care for infants. Fewer family child care providers provided part-time care than full-time care for each age group except for school-age children. While 38 percent of family child care providers provided part-time care for school-age children, 20 percent provided part-time care for the kindergarten age group. Similarly, 34 percent provided part-time care for preschools, and 21 percent provided part-time care for toddlers. Only 17 percent provided part-time care for infants.

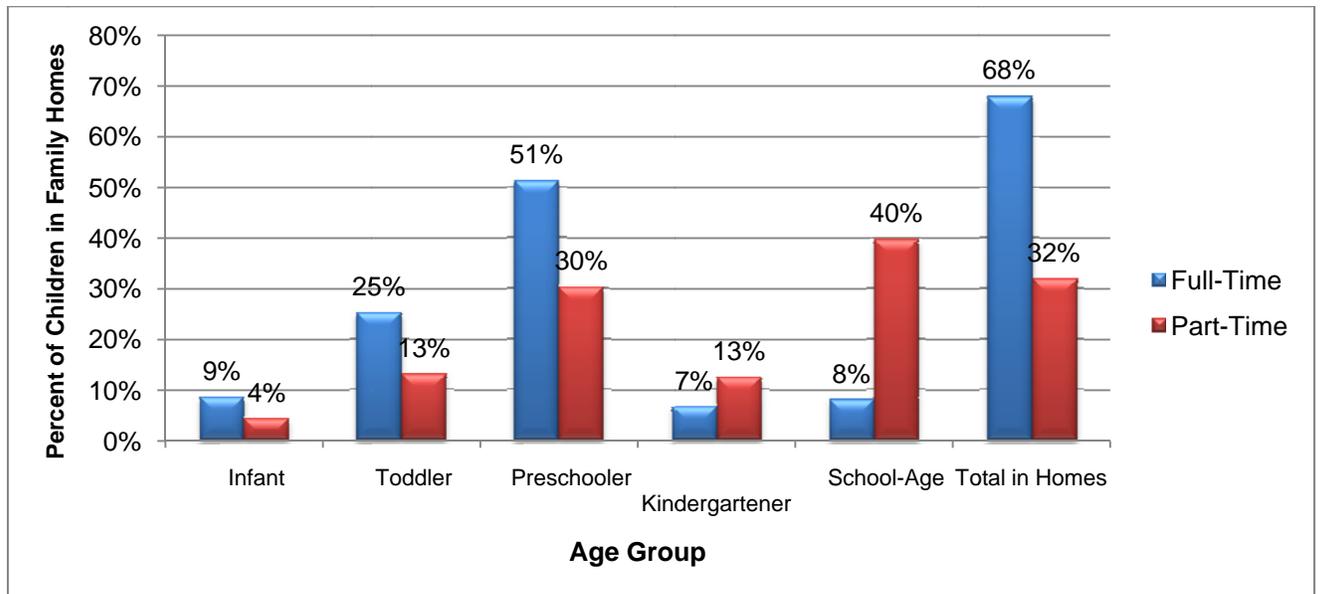
**Figure 6: Family Homes Providing Full-Time and Part-time Care by Age Group, 2010**



In family child care homes, full-time care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers was more prevalent than part-time care. Kindergarten and school-age children were more likely to be enrolled in part-time care. Preschoolers accounted for the highest proportion, or 51 percent, of full-time attendance, followed by toddlers at 25 percent. In contrast, school-age children made up only 8 percent, kindergarteners 7 percent, and infants 9 percent of children in full-time care in family homes. The result of the highest and lowest proportion was very similar to that of the centers.

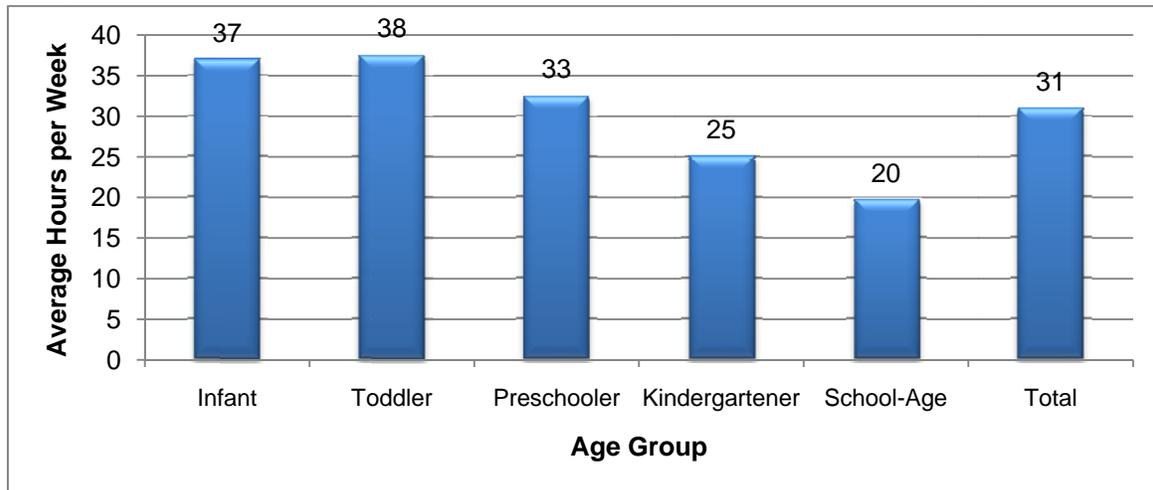
When compared to the number of children in full-time care, fewer children across all age groups were in part-time care provided in family homes except for kindergarteners and school-age children. In family child care homes, school-age children accounted for 40 percent and kindergarteners 13 percent of all children in part-time care. Preschoolers accounted for more than half, or 51 percent of children, toddlers accounted for a quarter, and infants accounted for 9 percent of all children in part-time care provided in family homes.

**Figure 7: Distribution of Children in Family Homes in Full-Time or Part-Time Care, 2010**



On average, children received care in family homes for at least 31 hours except for kindergarteners, who received 25 hours, and school-age children, who received 20 hours of care in family homes per week. Toddlers and infants spent the most time, 38 hours and 37 hours respectively, while preschoolers spent 33 hours in care provided by family home providers in a typical week.

**Figure 8: Average Hours per Week in Family Home Care by Age Group, 2010**



Providers in Region 4 cared for the most full-time and part-time children, 6,383 and 2,845 respectively. Providers in Region 5 cared for the fewest full-time and part-time children, 3,013 and 1,521 respectively.

**Table 12: Family Home Population by Region and Age Group, 2010**

	Region						All
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
<i>Full-Time</i>							
Infant	390	474	323	580	248	275	2,290
Toddler	1,103	1,249	992	1,776	731	806	6,657
Preschooler	2,246	2,760	1,843	3,243	1,542	1,892	13,526
Kindergartener	266	416	248	363	235	235	1,763
School-Age	323	665	292	421	257	164	2,122
Total for Full-Time	4,328	5,564	3,698	6,383	3,013	3,372	26,358
<i>Part-Time</i>							
Infant	76	67	89	152	94	58	536
Toddler	255	206	336	398	192	228	1,615
Preschooler	577	412	622	1,047	461	626	3,745
Kindergartener	313	304	210	224	246	255	1,552
School-Age	971	877	662	1,024	528	872	4,934
Total for Part-Time	2,192	1,866	1,919	2,845	1,521	2,039	12,382

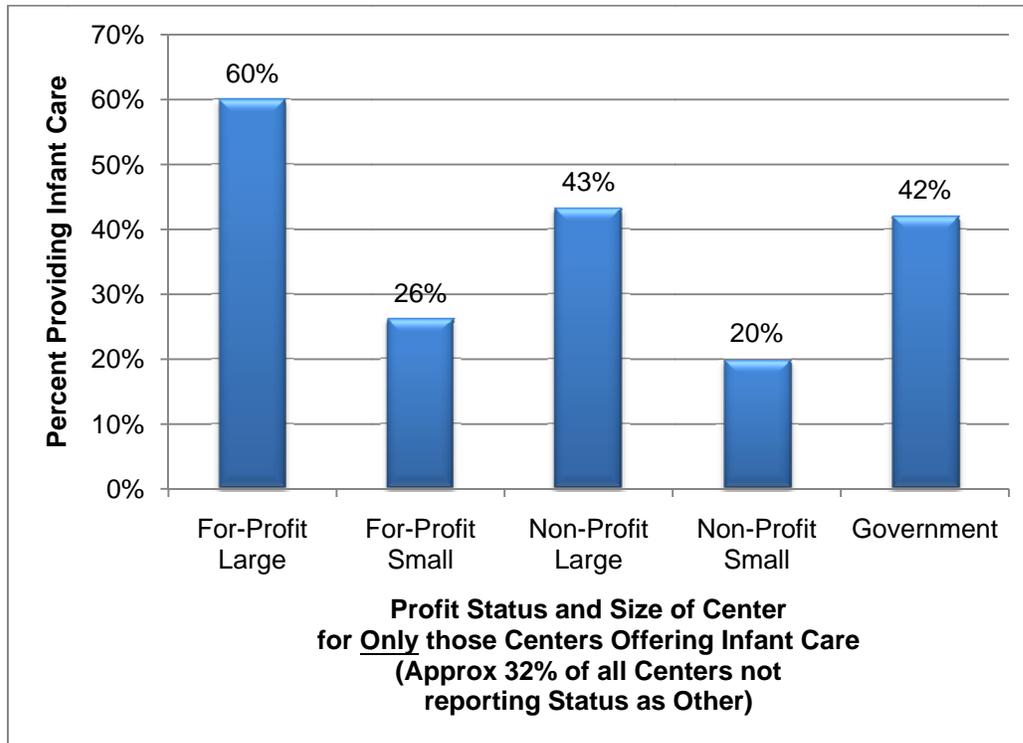
## CHAPTER 5: PROFIT STATUS AND INFANT AND SCHOOL-AGE CARE AMONG CENTERS

### *Type of Center and Specialization*

Differences in the centers' profit status and their sizes are listed in Figure 9, particularly in how these aspects related to specialization in the provision of child care. Centers were classified as either non-profit, for-profit or government centers. (Government centers include Tribal centers, military, Head Start, school district and community colleges.) In addition, centers with a capacity of 60 or more children were distinguished from smaller centers.

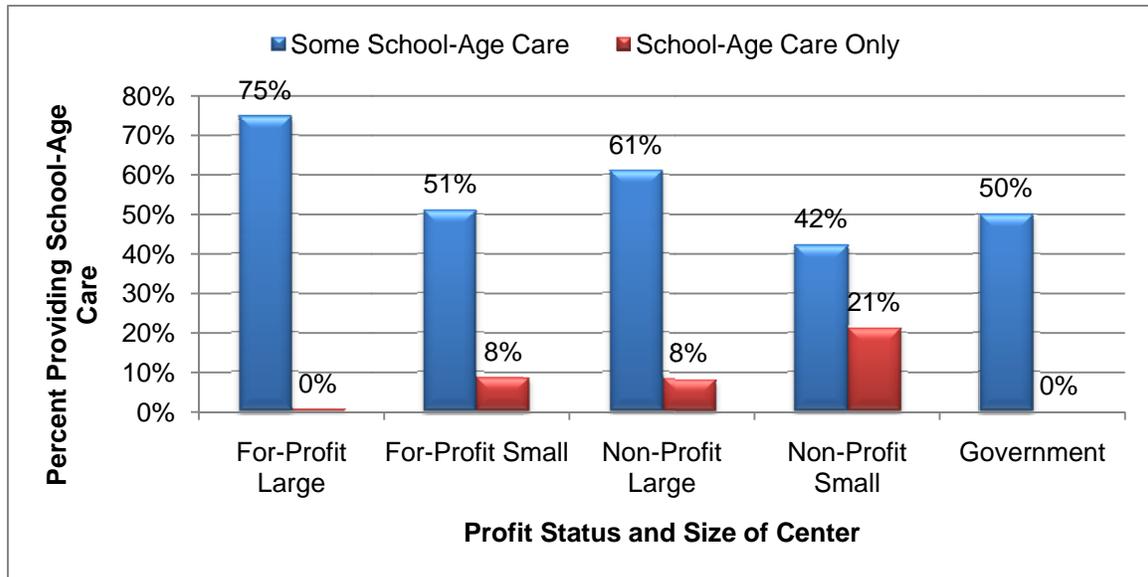
For-profit centers with a capacity of 60 or more were the type of centers most likely to provide care for infants, while non-profit centers with a capacity of fewer than 60 were least likely to provide care for infants. Large non-profit centers composited 43% of all centers providing infant care. Small for-profit centers composited 26 percent and government centers composited 42 percent of all centers providing care for infants.

**Figure 9: Child Care Centers' Profit Status and Infant Care, 2010**



Large for-profit child care centers were the most likely to provide care for some school-age children; whereas small non-profit centers were the most likely to specialize in school-age care.

**Figure 10: Child Care Center's Profit Status and School-Age Care, 2010**

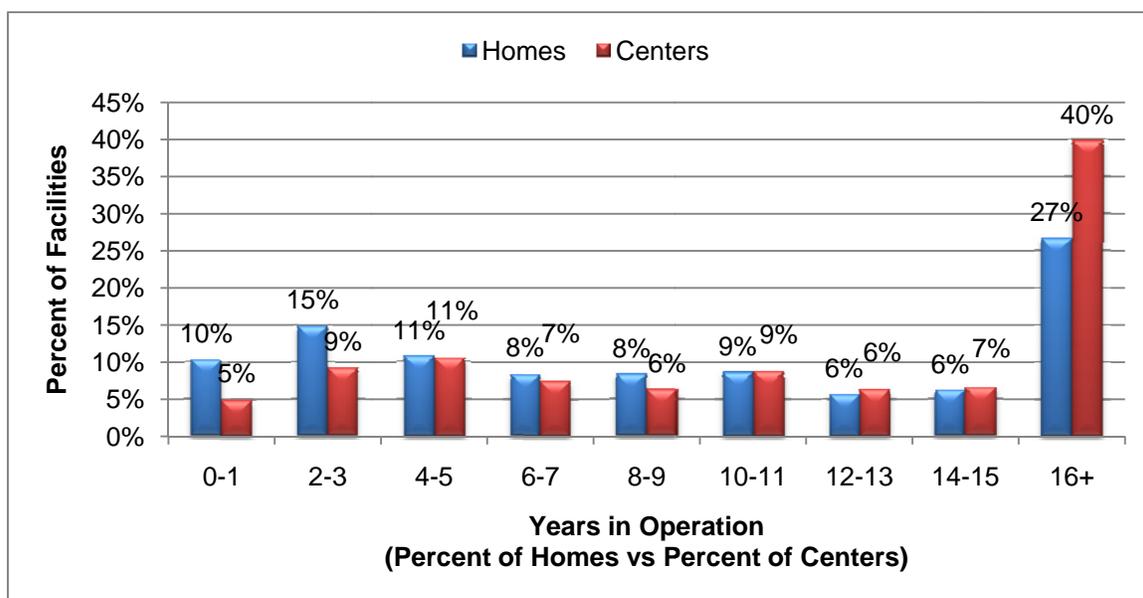


## CHAPTER 6: PROVIDER BUSINESS TRAITS

### *Years of Operation for Child Care Centers and Family Homes*

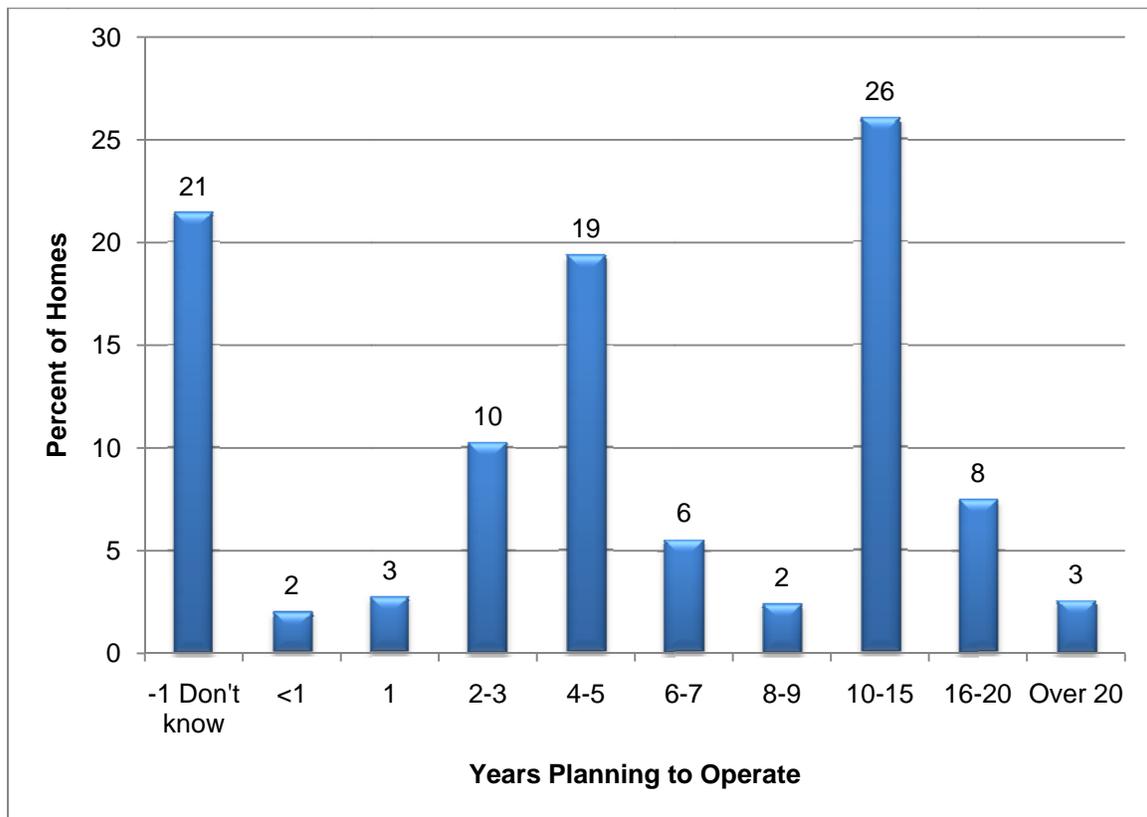
Centers generally stay in business longer than family homes. According to the 2010 surveys, centers had been in business for an average of 15 years while family homes had been in operation for an average of 11 years. More than half, 62 percent, of centers and 48 percent of family homes had been in operation for 10 years or more. A higher percentage of family homes than centers had been in business for fewer than six years (36 percent versus 25 percent).

**Figure 11: Years in Business: Family Homes and Centers, 2010**



Two percent of family home providers stated that their facilities would not be in business next year. This equates to 110 family homes out of business within the year. Fifteen percent of family home providers anticipated no longer being in the child care business within three years. Twenty-seven percent of family home providers expressed that their facility will stay in business for the next four to nine years. Twenty-six percent will stay in business for the next 10-15 years; 8 percent for the next 16-20 years; and about 3 percent providers will stay in business over the next 20 years. More than one-fifth of family home owners, however, didn't know how long they would stay in business.

**Figure 12: Years Plan to Operate a Child Care Home, 2010**



### Characteristics of Child Care Centers

Forty-four percent of all child care centers were operated by or as non-profit organizations; 41.1 percent were private for-profit businesses, 10.5 percent were government-run centers, and the remaining 4.4 percent were identified as other types of centers. Internet access was available at the majority (82.5 percent) of centers.

**Table 13: Characteristics of Child Care Centers, 2010**

		# in Population	Population Percent
<i>Location</i>	Church	268	12.8%
	School	565	27.0%
	Other Public Building	88	4.2%
	Employer Provided Facility	93	4.4%
	Rent or Own	961	45.9%
	Other	115	5.5%
	Respondent volunteers that it's in his or her own home	5	0.2%
<i>Type of Center</i>	Non-profit Center	929	44.0%
	For-profit Center	867	41.1%
	Government **	222	10.5%
	Other	93	4.4%
	<i>University or College Based Center</i>	68	3.2%
	<i>Head Start, Early Head Start, kindergarten or ECEAP program</i>	430	20.1%
	<i>Access to Internet on site</i>	1,761	82.5%

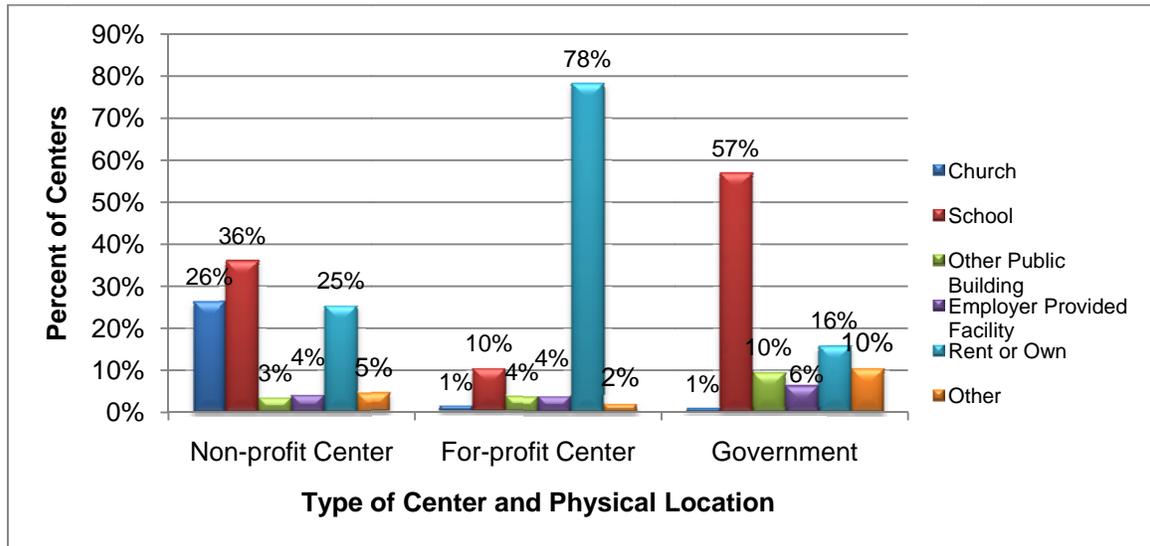
\*\* Includes categories: Tribal, military, Head Start, school district, community college.

Centers of different types tended to be located in different types of buildings. More than half of government centers (57 percent) were located in schools and another 16 percent of government centers were located in a rented or owned building. Six percent of government centers were located in employer-provided facilities, 1 percent in churches and 20 percent in other types of buildings.

Most for-profit centers, or 78 percent, were located in private buildings that they either rented or owned; another 10 percent of for-profit centers were located in schools. The rest of the for-profit centers (11 percent) were located in employer-provided facilities, churches, privately rented or owned buildings, or other types of buildings.

Eighty-seven percent of non-profit centers were located in schools, churches and rented or owned facilities. The rest of the non-profit centers were located in employer-provided facilities or other types of buildings.

**Figure 13: Type of Center and Physical Location, 2010**



*Years of Ownership, Number of Volunteer and Paid Staff, and Years of Center Staff Experience*

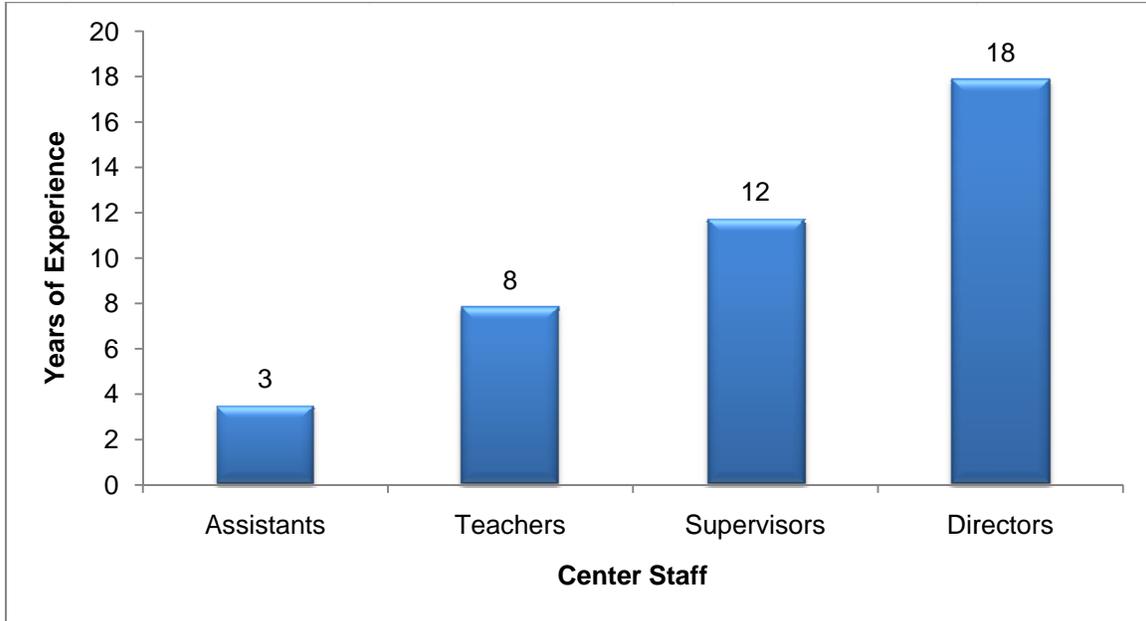
The average of years centers were under current ownership was 14.5 years. The average number of volunteers was 4.6 when considering only those centers with at least one volunteer. Sixty-seven percent of centers reported having no volunteers. On average, each center had 11.5 paid staff members.

**Table 14: Average Years Ownership, and Number of Volunteer and Paid Staff among Centers, 2010**

	Average
Years under Current Ownership	14.5
Number of Volunteers	4.6
Number of Paid Staff Members	11.5

Respondents at centers were asked to describe the experience of their paid staff members including assistants, teachers, supervisors and directors. Staff members' experience in child care ranged from less than a year to 26 years. The average experience varied with the type of position. Assistants had the lowest average amount of child care experience, three years, while directors averaged 18 years. Teachers had an average of eight years of experience compared to supervisors who had 12 years of experience.

**Figure 14: Average Number of Years of Paid Child Care Experience for Center Staff, 2010**



### *Paid and Non-Paid Staff at Centers*

All centers employed paid staff members in 2010. About half, or 48 percent, were teachers, and about one-third, or 36.8 percent, were assistants. Supervisors accounted for 6.7 percent of staff compared to 8.6 percent directors. Close to one-third of centers received additional help from volunteers. The proportion of staff in the roles of supervisor and director were quite similar among for-profit, non-profit and government centers, ranging from 6.2 percent to 8.9 percent.

Government-affiliated centers were more dependent on assistants, at 51.1 percent, than for-profit and non-profit centers. Over two-fifths, or 42.6 percent, of government centers reported using volunteers to assist in the care of children. For-profit centers were the least likely, at 20.6 percent, to have volunteers compared to 42.6 percent of nonprofit centers and government-run centers. Among centers with at least one volunteer, for-profit centers averaged 0.6 volunteers, non-profits 2.3, and government-operated centers averaged 3 volunteers.

**Table 15: Staff Composition by Type of Center, 2010**

	<b>Assistants</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Supervisors</b>	<b>Directors</b>	<b>% of Centers using Volunteers</b>	<b>Avg # of Volunteers</b>
Non-profit Center	37.0%	47.2%	6.9%	8.9%	42.6%	2.3
For-profit Center	34.4%	51.4%	6.2%	8.0%	20.6%	0.6
Government	51.1%	32.8%	7.5%	8.7%	42.6%	3.0
Other	23.4%	56.1%	9.0%	11.5%	21.3%	0.7
All Centers	36.8%	47.9%	6.7%	8.6%	32.6%	1.5

*Wages, Children Per Staff, and Type of Staff at Centers*

Average hourly wages for center staff were \$9.70 for assistants, \$12 for teachers, \$14 for supervisors, and \$16.3 for directors. Compared to the 2008 survey results, average wages rose 5% for assistants and 5.9% for teachers over the last two years. However, average wages decreased 3% for supervisors and 33.9% for directors. The average monthly salary for directors in 2010, which was \$2,822, was significantly lower than the average salary in 2008, which was \$4,270. Whether the decrease was caused by the economy or calculation problems needs to be further examined.

Slightly fewer teachers, and supervisors were hired after September 1 in the previous year; more directors, at 1.3 percent, were hired compared to the 2008 survey. The proportion of assistants hired after September 1, 2009 remained the same as the assistants hired from September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2009.

**Table 16: Median and Average Income, Children per Staff, and Turnover by Type of Staff among Child Care Centers, 2010**

	Income*				Hired After Sept 1, 2009
	Median Monthly	Average Monthly	Median Annual	Average Annual**	
Assistants	\$1,560	\$1,674	\$18,720	\$20,888	41.1%
Teachers	\$1,872	\$2,082	\$22,464	\$24,984	22.1%
Supervisors	\$2,340	\$2,428	\$28,080	\$29,136	14.0%
Directors	\$2,740	\$2,822^	\$32,880	\$33,864^	12.6%

\* Used the same monthly and annual hour estimates indicated in the footnotes for the 2008 table-Monthly income based on reported average hourly rate x 173.33 for assistant teachers, lead teachers, and supervisors. Annual income based on reported average hourly rate x 2080 for assistant teachers, lead teachers, and supervisors. Directors' annual income = average monthly income x 12.

^ Calculated same as 2008 footnote, however significantly smaller than 2008 figures. Since the 2010 medians compare favorably to the 2008 medians and the fact that the 2008 Means are exceptionally different from the 2008 Medians, I suspect the 2008 mean calculations were bad. In other words the means should not be as different from the medians as they appear in 2008 - the 2010 means and medians look more reasonable.

\*\* We calculated the Average Annual column with values in the cents column. Corrected based on truncated average monthly income.

Staff turnover rates varied among different staff positions. The proportion of assistants newly hired was more than twice the proportion for teachers, which was 22.1 percent. Fourteen percent of supervisors were newly hired compared to 12.6 percent of directors newly hired after September 1, 2009.

Overall, the staff turnover rates of assistants, teachers and supervisors were lower than those of 2008. Over half of assistants in Region 2 were newly hired compared to 7.3 percent newly hired supervisors in Region 6. The turnover rate of directors varied significantly across the regions. Region 2 and 5 had no newly hired directors while more than one-third of the directors were newly hired in Region 3 since September 1, 2009.

**Table 17: Percent of Staff Newly Hired by Region, 2010**

Region	Assistants	Teachers	Supervisors	Directors
1	44.5%	24.3%	12.5%	7.9%
2	52.1%	18.7%	26.7%	0.0%
3	39.0%	25.7%	9.8%	37.6%
4	33.8%	20.2%	19.0%	8.1%
5	42.8%	25.4%	11.1%	0.0%
6	46.3%	19.4%	7.3%	8.3%
All*	41.1%	22.1%	14.0%	12.6%

\* Since the populations of each region are not equal, the averages for the ALL row are weighted averages.

For all positions of employees, the wages paid in Region 4 (King County) were higher than those paid in other regions. The average monthly income for assistants, teachers, supervisors and directors in Region 4 was \$1,878, \$2,384, \$2,759 and \$3,256 respectively.

When comparing positions across the regions, assistants and teachers in Regions 2 had the lowest average monthly income at \$1,542 and \$1,914. For supervisors, Region 3 had the lowest average monthly income at \$2,191. For directors Region 1 had the lowest average monthly income at \$2,543.

**Table 18: Median and Average Monthly Income of Child Care Center Staff by Region, 2010**

Region	Monthly Income							
	Assistants		Teachers		Supervisors		Directors	
	Median	Average	Median	Average	Median	Average	Median	Average
1	\$1,560	\$1,630	\$1,733	\$1,958	\$2,080	\$2,332	\$2,420	\$2,543
2	\$1,517	\$1,542	\$1,733	\$1,914	\$2,117	\$2,269	\$2,400	\$2,603
3	\$1,603	\$1,662	\$1,907	\$1,977	\$2,253	\$2,191	\$2,800	\$2,924
4	\$1,820	\$1,878	\$2,253	\$2,384	\$2,600	\$2,759	\$3,000	\$3,256
5	\$1,560	\$1,573	\$1,737	\$1,986	\$2,232	\$2,218	\$2,500	\$2,564
6	\$1,513	\$1,561	\$1,820	\$1,918	\$2,253	\$2,396	\$2,500	\$2,577
All*	\$1,560	\$1,674	\$1,872	\$2,082	\$2,340	\$2,428	\$2,740	\$2,822

\* Since the populations of each region are not equal, the averages for the ALL row are weighted averages.

Salaries paid to assistants, teachers, supervisors and directors are further broken down by center types in Table 19. Regardless of positions, staff members employed through government centers had the highest levels of income whereas staff members employed through for-profit centers had the lowest levels of income. The higher the position, the larger the gap was between the highest and lowest income.

The gap between the highest median monthly amount paid to assistants, at \$1,964, and the lowest was \$404. The gap between the highest median monthly amount paid to teachers, at \$2,628, and lowest was \$877. The gap between the highest median monthly amount paid to supervisors, at \$3,111, and lowest was \$858. The gap between the highest median monthly amount paid to directors, at \$3,657, and lowest was \$1,057.

**Table 19: Median Monthly, Average Monthly and Annual Income in Child Care Centers by Center Type, 2010**

Center Type	Income			
	Median Monthly	Average Monthly	Median Annual	Average Annual
<b>Government</b>				
Assistants	\$1,964	\$1,973	\$23,566	\$23,676
Teachers	\$2,628	\$2,721	\$31,533	\$32,652
Supervisors	\$3,111	\$3,156	\$37,336	\$37,872
Directors	\$3,657	\$3,494	\$43,884	\$41,928
<b>Non-Profit</b>				
Assistants	\$1,560	\$1,647	\$18,720	\$19,764
Teachers	\$1,907	\$2,070	\$22,880	\$24,840
Supervisors	\$2,321	\$2,366	\$27,851	\$28,392
Directors	\$2,800	\$2,875	\$33,600	\$34,500
<b>For-Profit</b>				
Assistants	\$1,560	\$1,619	\$18,720	\$19,428
Teachers	\$1,751	\$1,974	\$21,008	\$23,688
Supervisors	\$2,253	\$2,288	\$27,040	\$27,456
Directors	\$2,600	\$2,599	\$31,200	\$31,188

*Employee Benefits for Teachers in Centers*

Questions related to benefits were restricted to the lead teachers. Two-third of centers offered paid vacation and 56.2 percent offered paid sick leave. Half of the centers offered medical insurance. The centers were less likely to offer paid sick leave, paid vacation and medical insurance since 2008.

**Table 20: Lead Teacher Benefits in Child Care Centers, 2010**

	Percent of Centers
Paid Sick Leave	56.2%
Paid Vacation	66.5%
Medical Insurance	50.2%

Table 21 further breaks down benefits by regions. Centers in Region 4 were most likely to offer benefits to teachers whereas centers in Region 2 were the least likely to offer benefits. In Region 4, 71.9 percent of centers offered paid sick leave, 75.1 percent of centers offered paid vacation and 64.8 percent of centers offered medical insurance. In Region 2, 30.3 percent of centers offered paid sick leave, 47.7 percent of centers offered paid vacation and one quarter of centers offered medical insurance.

**Table 21: Centers providing Benefits to Lead Teachers by Benefit Type and Region, 2010**

Region	Paid Sick Leave	Paid Vacation	Medical Insurance
1	57.6%	65.3%	44.4%
2	30.3%	47.7%	25.8%
3	51.5%	55.8%	40.0%
4	71.9%	75.1%	64.8%
5	51.9%	65.4%	39.1%
6	49.7%	72.4%	61.1%
All*	56.2%	66.5%	50.2%

\* Since the populations of each region are not equal, the averages for the ALL row are weighted averages.

### *Characteristics of Family Child Care Homes*

In 2010, 61.8 percent of family homes received assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program. More than half, or 56.2 percent, of participants from family homes reported having liability insurance, and 56.2 percent claimed that their child care earnings were the main source of income for their households.

Compared with 2008, more family home providers were covered by liability insurance, and more family homes providers regarded the child care earnings as their main source of income. On-site Internet access rate at family homes increased 4 percent since 2008 and was at a rate similar to that found for centers (84.9 percent versus 82.5 percent; Table 13).

**Table 22: Characteristics of Family Home Providers, 2010**

	<u>Percent of Family Homes</u>
Receive Assistance from the USDA Food Program	61.8%
Covered by Liability Insurance	56.2%
Child Care Earnings Main Source of Income	56.2%
Access to Internet On-site	84.9%

The majority, 73.7 percent, of family home providers indicated they had medical insurance. When asked about levels of education, 10.5 percent reported having an associate degree in child development or a Child Development Associate (CDA); only 2.7 percent had a bachelor's or graduate degree in early childhood development. Fewer owners of family homes had an associate degree, a CDA or a bachelor's or graduate degree in early childhood development compared to 2008 survey.

A little more than a quarter, or 27.6 percent, of family homes providers were Latino or Hispanic. Table 23 also displays the racial breakdown of the owners of family homes.

**Table 23: Characteristics of Owners of Family Homes, 2010**

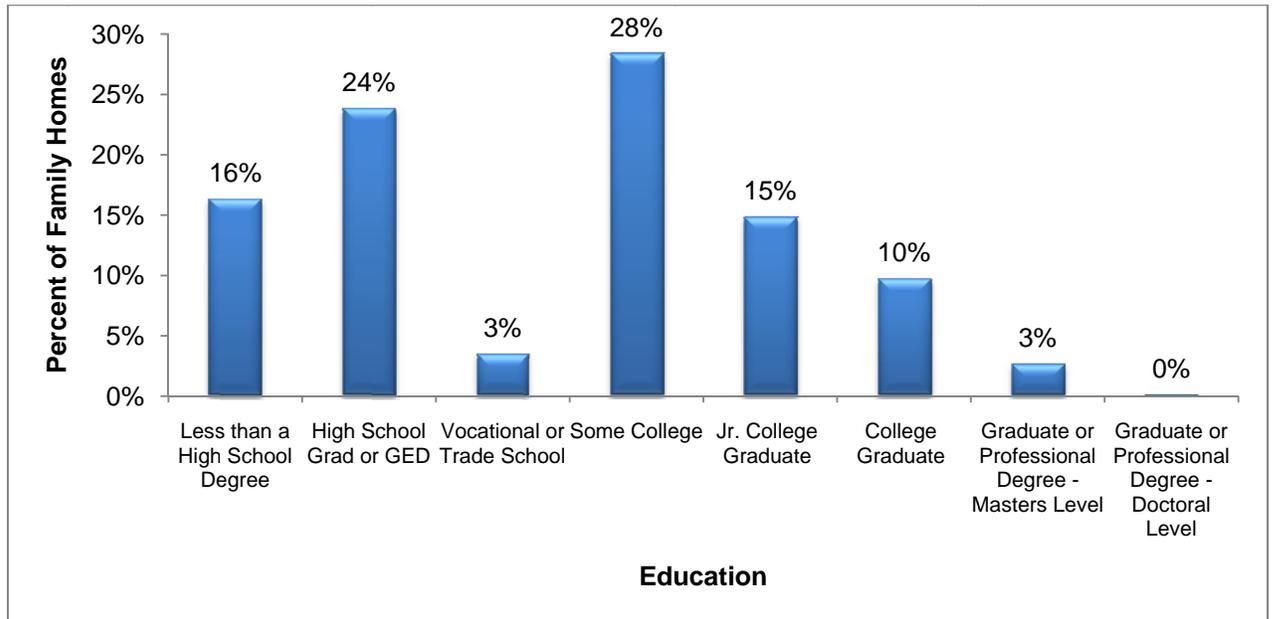
	Number of Family Homes	Percent of Family Homes*
Have Medical Insurance	4,059	73.7%
Have Associate Degree in Child Development or a CDA	580	10.5%
Have Bachelor's or Graduate Degree in Early Childhood Development	151	2.7%
Latino or Hispanic	1,521	27.6%
Racial Group		
White	3,151	57.3%
African American/Black	378	6.9%
Asian	202	3.7%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	113	2.1%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	55	1.0%
Other	1,525	27.7%
Refused to Answer	55	1.0%

\*Note that percentages do not add up to 100% due to non-response.

### Education of Family Home Providers

Thirteen percent of family home providers had a college or master's degree and among them, almost 3 percent had a bachelor's or graduate degree in early childhood education. Close to half, 43 percent, of family home providers either had some college experience or were junior college graduates. Three percent of family home providers had a vocational or trade school degree whereas close to one quarter of providers had Graduate Equivalency Degree (GED) or high school degrees. However, 16 percent of providers reported having less than a high school degree.

**Figure 15: Family Home Providers' Highest Level of Education, 2010**



### *Income of Family Home Providers*

The average gross income for family home providers in King County (Region 4) was \$46,729 and higher than those in all other regions. Family home providers in Region 1 earned the least with an average gross income of \$36,551. Compared with income reported in 2008, family home providers in Region 1, 2, and 6 saw an increase in the average annual earnings whereas the remaining regions experienced a decrease.

**Table 24: Median and Average Gross Annual Earnings of Family Home Providers by Region, 2010**

---

Region	Family Home Annual Earnings	
	Median	Average
1	\$28,000	\$30,535
2	\$29,500	\$31,731
3	\$32,000	\$35,015
4	\$35,000	\$46,729
5	\$33,500	\$34,802
6	\$29,233	\$37,819
All	\$30,010	\$36,551

---

\* Since the populations of each region are not equal, averages for the ALL row are weighted averages.

The earnings of family home providers were related to other factors besides geography. For the majority of family home providers, 56.4 percent, child care earnings were their households' primary source of income. The average income, \$41,173, was considerably higher than family home providers with other income sources. A positive relationship was found between the length of time family homes had been in business and their incomes. The longer a family home provider was in business, the higher income he or she tended to make.

**Table 25: Median and Average Earnings of Family Home Providers Overall and by Years in Business and Child Care as Main Source of Income, 2010**

	Family Home Annual Earnings	
	Median	Average
Overall	\$30,010	\$36,551
<i>Years in Business</i>		
0 through 3 years	\$20,339	\$22,859
4 through 6 years	\$29,000	\$35,992
7 or more years	\$36,000	\$42,793
<i>Child Care Main Source of Income</i>		
Yes	\$37,000	\$41,173
No	\$26,000	\$30,662

### Hours of Operation

Early morning child care was available at about 60 percent of centers and about half of family homes open before 7 a.m. Centers were more likely than family homes to stay open past 6 p.m. In 2010, 76.8 percent of centers were open later in the evening, after 6 p.m., compared to 34.9 percent of family homes.

Parents had a better chance finding 24-hour care and weekend care in family homes in 2010. While only 0.2 percent of centers were open 24 hours, close to one-fifth, 19.5 percent, of family homes were open 24 hours. Similarly, 48.6 percent of family homes provided weekend service compared to only 3.5 percent of centers.

**Table 26: Child Care Availability by Type of Facilities, 2010**

	Centers	Family Homes
<i>Mornings</i>		
Before 6 a.m.	10.7%	17.3%
6 to 7 a.m.	49.2%	31.7%
<i>Evenings</i>		
6 to 7 p.m. *	72.8%	26.4%
7 to 8 p.m. **	1.5%	2.5%
Later than 8 p.m. ***	2.5%	6.0%
Open 24 Hours	0.2%	19.5%
<i>Weekends</i>		
Saturday	2.9%	29.7%
Sunday	0.6%	18.9%

\* Reported closing times from 6 p.m. to 6:59 p.m.

\*\* Reported closing times from 7 p.m. to 7:59 p.m.

\*\*\* Reported closing times of 8 p.m. and later

### *Special Needs Care at Centers and Family Homes*

More than half, 61.3 percent, of centers were providing care for children with special needs and about two-fifths of family homes either were providing or had provided care for children with special needs at the time of the survey. One-fifth of centers that weren't providing special needs care had provided care for children with needs previously. The main reason family homes did not currently provide special needs care was because no parents had sought that service.

Twelve percent of centers and 11 percent of family homes received the special needs rate (Tier 1) and/or applied for and received a rate above the special needs rate (Tier 2) since July 1, 2009. The majority of centers, 82.5 percent, and 61.8 percent of family homes received the special needs rate after they applied for it after July 1, 2009. The proportions of centers and family homes received a rate above (Tier 2) special needs rate were even larger since they applied for it after July 1, 2009 (Center: 84% & Family Homes: 63.6%).

When parents sought special needs care for their children, they were more likely to seek care from centers (74.2 percent) compared to family homes (40.3 percent). The majority of centers (73.2 percent) and family homes (64.9 percent) had the ability to provide special needs care. However, more centers (47 percent) stated they had special training or skills to care for children with special needs compared to family homes (26.9 percent). Fewer centers than family homes charged an extra rate for the care of a child with special needs.

**Table 27: Comparison of Care to Children at Centers and Family Homes**

	Percent of	
	Centers	Family Homes
Applied for the special needs rate since July 1, 2009?	8.0%	7.6%
Received special needs rate	6.6%	4.7%
Requested a rate above the special needs rate since July 1, 2009?	4.4%	3.3%
Received a rate above the special needs rate	3.7%	2.1%
Currently or have provided care for children with special needs	--	41.8%
Currently provide care for children with special needs	61.3%	--
Previously provided care for children with special needs (No Care Currently)	20.7%	--
Charge an extra rate for children with special needs	5.6%	11.2%
Have special training or skills to care for children with special needs	47.0%	26.9%
A parent with a child with special needs had sought the child care services	74.2%	40.3%
Have the ability to provide care for a child with special needs	73.2%	64.9%
Primary reason special needs care not provided:		
Lack of training	5.1%	9.6%
Lack of staff	5.6%	6.0%
None have sought service	--	31.8%
Something else	23.8%	9.5%

## CHAPTER 7: CHILD CARE PRICES

In general, centers charged more per child than family homes regardless of the child's age. Infant care was the most expensive, with rates decreasing as children's age increased for both centers and family homes.

**Table 28: Average Rate per Month and Annual Cost for Full-Time Child Care by Type of Facility and Age Group**

	Average Rate per Month	Annual Cost of Child Care
<i>Centers *</i>		
Infant	\$1,060	\$12,718
Toddler	\$773	\$9,281
Preschooler	\$718	\$8,613
Kindergartener	\$610	\$7,321
School-Age	\$471	\$5,654
All Ages	\$693	\$8,314
<i>Family Homes * ^</i>		
Infant	\$682	\$8,186
Toddler	\$634	\$7,607
Preschooler	\$569	\$6,833
Kindergartener	\$486	\$5,834
School-Age	\$413	\$4,959
All Ages	\$586	\$7,030

\* Rates are all standard, full-time, non-subsidized

^ Rates for Family Homes calculated as in 2008: [Annual=Weekly Rate X 52] and [Monthly Rate=Annual/12]

## CHAPTER 8: CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED CARE SUBSIDIZED BY THE STATE

### *Facilities That Accepted Child Care Subsidies*

In 2010, an estimate of 46,550 children received subsidized child care in Washington. Among them 17,415 children were cared for in licensed family homes, representing 45 percent of all children in family homes, and 29,135 children were cared for in child care centers, representing 21.2 percent of all children in centers. Centers cared for children with subsidies at a higher rate than family homes, 77.3 percent versus 67.9 percent. Centers with no limits on the number of children with subsidies they accepted cared for 26,284 children with subsidies, which was more than nine times the number of children in the care of centers with limits. Of the centers that cared for children with subsidies, 1,434 centers (86.9 percent) didn't set limits on how many children with subsidized child care they accepted.

More than 45 percent of children in family homes received subsidized care and only 21.2 percent of children in centers received subsidized care. On average, a family home cared for 4.66 children with subsidies and centers cared for 19.3 children with subsidies over the last typical week of operation.

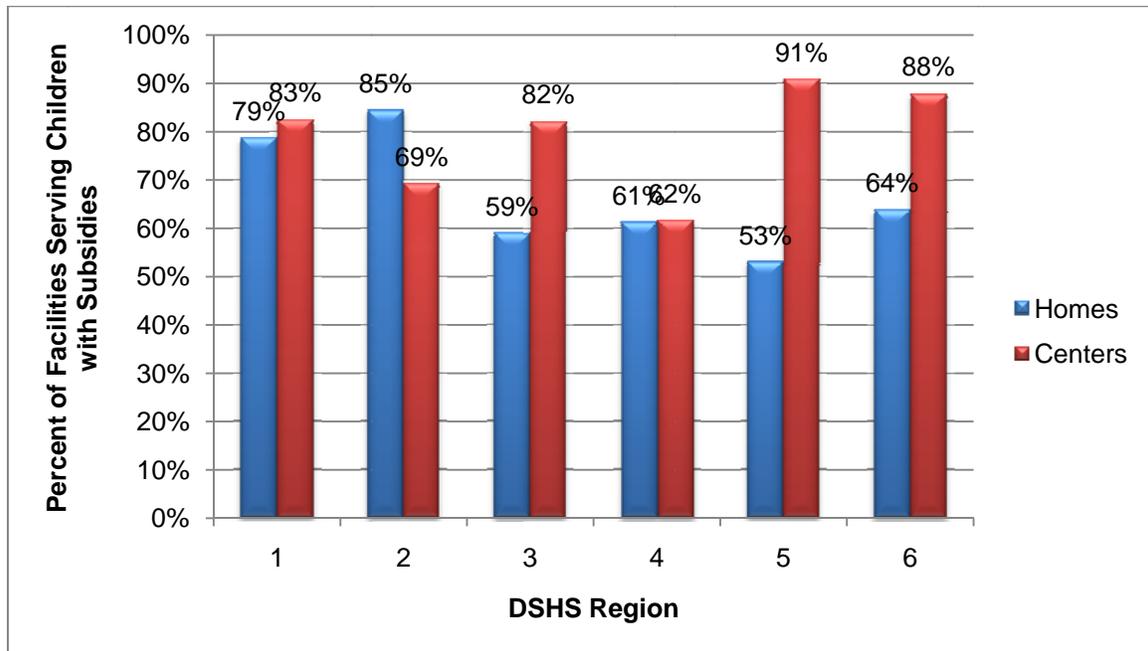
**Table 29: Subsidies Accepted by Type of Facility, 2010**

	Family Home Providers	Centers		
		Overall	Sets Limits	No Limits
Number of Facilities with Subsidized Children	3,739	1,650	216	1,434
As Percent of All Licensed Facilities	67.9%	77.3%	10.1%	67.2%
Total Number of Children Receiving Subsidies	17,415	29,135	2,851	26,284
As Percent of All Children in Licensed Care	45.0%	21.2%	2.1%	19.1%
Average # of Children Receiving Subsidies	4.66	19.3	13.8	20.1

### Regional Variation

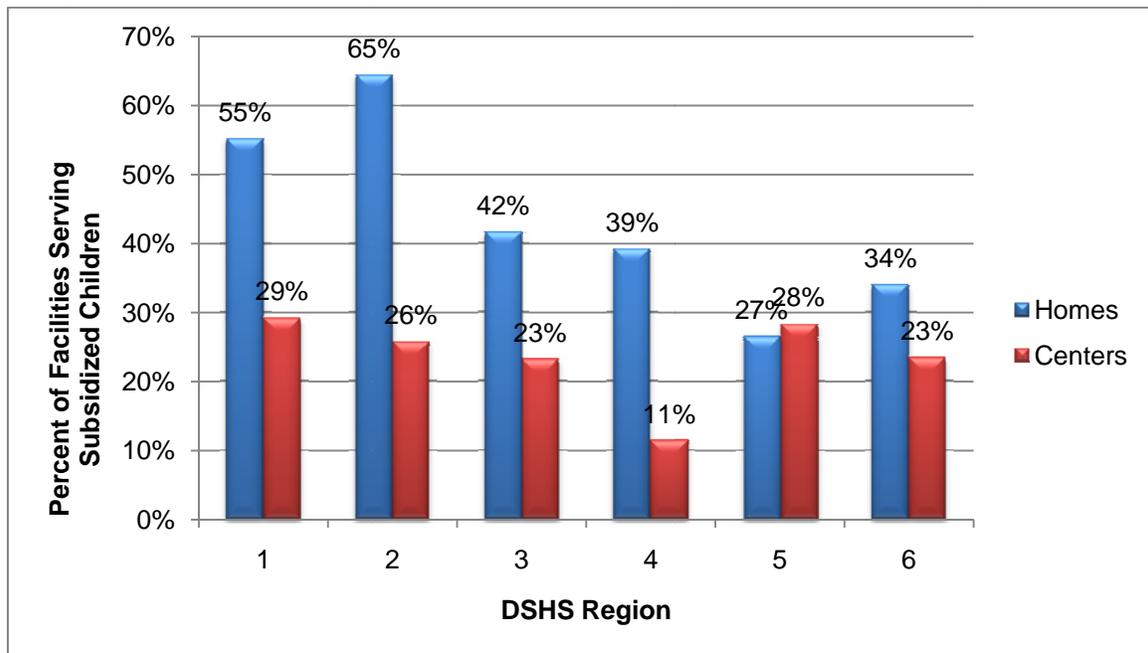
Centers in all regions – except Region 2 – had a higher rate of caring for children with subsidies than family homes. Region 5 had the largest disparity between homes and centers providing subsidized care. In that region, more than 90 percent of centers served children with state subsidies, the highest rate of all regions. However, just over half of family homes served children with subsidies in Region 5, the lowest rate of all regions. Centers and family homes in Region 4 had similar rates, about 61 percent, serving children with subsidies, the lowest rate for centers across the regions. The highest rate of family homes serving children with subsidies appeared in Region 2 compared to the lowest rate (53 percent) in Region 5.

**Figure 16: Facilities Serving Subsidized Children by Region, 2010**



In regions 1 and 2, children who received subsidized child care represented at least 50 percent of all children in licensed family homes. Region 2 had the highest proportion of children receiving subsidized child care in family homes at 65 percent, and Region 1 had the highest proportion in centers at 29 percent. The proportions of children receiving subsidized child care in family homes were higher than that in centers except for Region 5. Although family homes cared for fewer numbers of children with subsidies than centers overall, the difference was attributable to the smaller size of family homes.

**Figure 17: Children Who Received Subsidies as Percent of All Children in Licensed Facilities by Region, 2010**



In 2010, on average 77.3 percent of centers provided care for at least one child with subsidies. Region 4 had the lowest rate of serving children with subsidies, which was 61.7 percent. Of centers that provided care for children with subsidies, only one tenth of centers limited the number of children with subsidies that they enrolled. Region 2 was the most likely to set limits and Region 1 the least likely to set limits. For the centers not currently serving children with subsidies, the majority (52 percent) of centers were willing to serve them except for Region 2. Only 15.3 percent of centers in Region 2 were willing to accept children with subsidies in the future.

Compared to the 2008 survey results, all regions on average were less willing to serving children with subsidies in 2010, a reduction from 86.7 percent to 51.9 percent. For centers with limits, the average limit was 15 children with subsidies.

**Table 30: Centers Limiting Enrollment of Children Who Received Subsidies by Region, 2010**

Region	Number of Centers	% Serving Subsidized Children	% Willing to Serve Subsidized Children *	% Limiting Subsidized Children	Average Limit on Subsidized Children
1	349	82.6%	51.6%	6.0%	15
2	198	69.3%	15.3%	14.6%	25
3	301	82.3%	54.7%	10.6%	10
4	615	61.7%	56.7%	11.6%	13
5	289	91.0%	69.2%	13.2%	20
6	383	88.0%	60.5%	7.0%	16
All Centers	2,135	77.3%	51.9%	10.1%	15

\* Of those centers not providing subsidized care (during their last typical week).

*Effects of Subsidy Rates for Preschool Children in Centers*

Among centers that cared for full-time preschool children, the average nonsubsidized monthly rate for such care was lower in centers that served children who received subsidies (\$684) than in those centers that did not (\$844). Region 2 had the largest impact on statewide differences at 58%, where 30.7% of centers not serving children with subsidies were located. In contrast, Region 5 had the smallest impact on statewide differences at 1%, where 9% of centers not serving children with subsidies were located.

**Table 31: Full-Time Rates for Preschool Children, Differences between Centers Serving and Not Serving Children with Subsidies by Region, 2010**

Region	Average Monthly Rates for Preschool Children		
	Serving Children Who Received Subsidies	Not Serving Children Who Received Subsidies	Percent Difference *
1	\$564	\$450	-20%
2	\$539	\$225	-58%
3	\$691	\$560	-19%
4	\$920	\$1,202	31%
5	\$646	\$637	-1%
6	\$605	\$591	-2%
All Centers	\$684	\$844	23%

\*  $[(\text{Not Subsidized Rate}) - (\text{Subsidized Rate})] / (\text{Subsidized Rate})$

*DSHS Rates and 75th Percentile Rate for All Age Groups*

Center non-subsidized monthly and weekly rates were converted to daily rates for comparison purposes in Table 32 and 33. The state subsidy rates were below the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of the center private paid child care rate charged regardless of a children’s age across the regions. In Region 4, three out of four centers charged an average daily rate for infant, toddler, preschooler care of \$69.09, \$57.95, and \$48.64 respectively, which was significantly higher than the state subsidies reimbursement rates.

The data was also used to estimate the proportion of private paying children who received care that cost the same or less than the state subsidy rate. Using the same example, the daily subsidy rate for infant care in Region 4 was \$44.38 or less at 11 percent of the centers’ private pay rate. The biggest gap between the subsidy rate and the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile rate of all age groups appeared in infant care in Region 4, which was \$24.71. The subsidy rate, however, was a lot closer to the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of rates centers charged a day for school-age children in all regions, with the biggest difference being \$1.21.

**Table 32: Center DSHS Rates versus 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile Rate per Day<sup>1</sup> and Percent of Facilities At or Below DSHS Rate for Full-Time Children by Age Group and Region, 2010**

Region	Infant			Toddler			Preschool			School-Age		
	Subsidy Rate*	75th Per-centile <sup>2</sup>	% At/Below Subsidy Rate <sup>3</sup>	Subsidy Rate	75th Per-centile <sup>2</sup>	% At/Below Subsidy Rate <sup>3</sup>	Subsidy Rate	75th Per-centile <sup>2</sup>	% At/Below Subsidy Rate <sup>3</sup>	Subsidy Rate	75th Per-centile <sup>2</sup>	% At/Below Subsidy Rate <sup>3</sup>
1	\$28.53	\$34.55	22%	\$23.99	\$30.68	20%	\$22.67	\$27.56	21%	\$21.34	\$22.93	57%
2	\$28.81	\$31.73	52%	\$24.06	\$28.18	39%	\$22.30	\$25.00	39%	\$19.73	\$20.00	68%
3	\$38.13	\$49.24	28%	\$31.79	\$39.00	33%	\$27.46	\$36.07	31%	\$26.67	\$27.52	72%
4	\$44.38	\$69.09	11%	\$37.06	\$57.95	13%	\$31.09	\$48.64	10%	\$28.00	\$28.34	73%
5	\$32.54	\$42.02	20%	\$28.00	\$36.00	20%	\$24.65	\$33.09	13%	\$21.88	\$23.09	63%
6	\$31.99	\$40.23	25%	\$27.46	\$35.23	28%	\$23.99	\$30.59	23%	\$23.46	\$24.55	67%

\*All Rates are from the DEL website and are dated July 1, 2009 (and are the same as the 2008 report)

1 Daily Rate=Monthly/22.

2 Seventy-five percent of providers charge for care at or below given prices.

3 Percent of providers charging for care at or below rate.

The gap between the subsidy rate and the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of the private paying rate family homes charged was smaller than that of centers. In Region 1, 3, and 6, the subsidy rates were even higher than the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile rate family homes charged per day for school-age children. In Region 4, the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile rate in three out of four family homes for infant, toddler, preschooler care of \$44.00, \$43.00, and \$37.26 respectively, was higher than the subsidy reimbursement rates.

The daily subsidy rate for infant care in Region 4 was \$40.04. Sixty-five percent of family homes in Region 4 reported charging the subsidy rate or less. The biggest gap between the subsidy rate and the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile rate for all age groups appeared in toddler care in Region 4, which was \$8.19. The subsidy rate, similar to that of centers, was a lot closer to the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile rate family homes charged a day for school-age children.

**Table 33: Family Home Subsidy Rates versus 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile Rate per Day<sup>1</sup> and Percent of Facilities At or Below the Subsidy Rate for Full-Time Children by Age Group and Region, 2010**

Region	Infant			Toddler			Preschool			School-Age		
	Subsidy Rate*	75th Per-centile <sup>2</sup>	% At/Below Subsidy Rate <sup>3</sup>	Subsidy Rate	75th Per-centile <sup>2</sup>	% At/Below Subsidy Rate <sup>3</sup>	Subsidy Rate	75th Per-centile <sup>2</sup>	% At/Below Subsidy Rate <sup>3</sup>	Subsidy Rate	75th Per-centile <sup>2</sup>	% At/Below Subsidy Rate <sup>3</sup>
1	\$24.29	\$28.00	44%	\$21.12	\$25.20	34%	\$21.12	24.00	42%	\$18.78	\$18.50	84%
2	\$25.65	\$29.70	57%	\$22.30	\$27.50	26%	\$19.95	25.00	30%	\$19.95	21.80	64%
3	\$34.03	\$37.43	41%	\$29.33	\$35.00	39%	\$25.81	30.20	45%	\$23.46	22.80	75%
4	\$40.04	\$44.00	65%	\$34.81	\$43.00	30%	\$29.33	37.26	33%	\$28.16	30.07	61%
5	\$26.99	\$32.00	30%	\$23.46	\$30.95	24%	\$22.30	30.00	30%	\$19.95	25.00	51%
6	\$26.99	\$30.00	46%	\$23.46	\$29.80	27%	\$23.46	27.10	33%	\$22.30	22.85	75%

\*All rates are from the DEL website and are dated July 1, 2009 (and are the same as the 2008 report)

1 Daily Rate=Monthly/22.

2 Seventy-five percent of providers charge for care at or below given prices.

3 Percent of providers charging for care at or below rate.

Survey participants from centers not currently caring for children with subsidies were presented with the four statements listed in Table 34. They were asked to indicate whether they agreed or disagreed with each statement. About one-in-ten, or 8.9 percent, of participants believed caring for children receiving subsidies required extra work. The majority (77 percent) agreed that the state did not pay their full rates; 4.7 percent stated that they didn't understand subsidy billing rules, and 14.5 percent just didn't like to deal with the state.

**Table 34: Beliefs and Attitudes about Subsidized Child Care Among Child Care Centers Not Currently Providing Subsidized Care, 2010**

	Reasons for NOT Providing or Limiting Subsidized Care		
	Yes	No	DK/Refuse
The state does not pay my full rate	77.0%	11.1%	11.9%
Children with subsidies require extra work	8.9%	68.5%	22.6%
I don't understand subsidy billing rules	4.7%	71.1%	24.3%
I don't like to deal with the state	14.5%	64.3%	21.3%

*Characteristics and Willingness of Family Home Providers Serving Children with Subsidized Child Care*

In Washington, 67.9 percent of all family homes accepted children receiving child care subsidies. Fifty-seven percent of family home providers were white and more than half (58.3 percent) of those family homes served children with subsidies. A total of 7,470 children with subsidies were served in Hispanic-owned family homes, representing 42.9 percent of all children with subsidies in the state and 82 percent of all children in the care of Hispanic-owned family homes. A little more than 50 percent of Asian or Native American-owned family homes served children with subsidies compared to 81.2 percent in black-owned family homes.

While children with subsidies accounted for 45 percent of children in licensed care in 2010, 82 percent of the children cared for in Hispanic-owned family homes were children with subsidies, 79.1 percent in black-owned family homes, 38.7 percent in Asian-owned family homes, 37.3 percent in Native-American-owned family homes, and 31.8 percent of the children cared in white-owned family homes were children with subsidies. Also, children with subsidies accounted for 13.8 percent of all children cared for in family homes whose providers' ethnicities were unknown.

**Table 35: Family Home Providers Serving Children with Child Care Subsidies by Ethnicity of Provider, 2010**

	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>
Ethnicity of Provider	# of Providers	Percent of Providers	Percent Serving Subsidized Children	# of Subsidized Children Served	Total # of Children Served	% of All Children (D as % of E)
White	3,151	57.3%	58.3%	7,189	22,638	31.8%
Hispanic	1,521	27.7%	88.7%	7,470	9,113	82.0%
Asian	202	3.7%	52.0%	420	1,084	38.7%
Black	378	6.9%	81.2%	1601	2,025	79.1%
Native American	113	2.1%	51.8%	315	845	37.3%
Other or Unknown	139	2.4%	87.6%	420	3,037	13.8%
State Total	5,504	100.0%	67.9%	17,415	38,742	45.0%

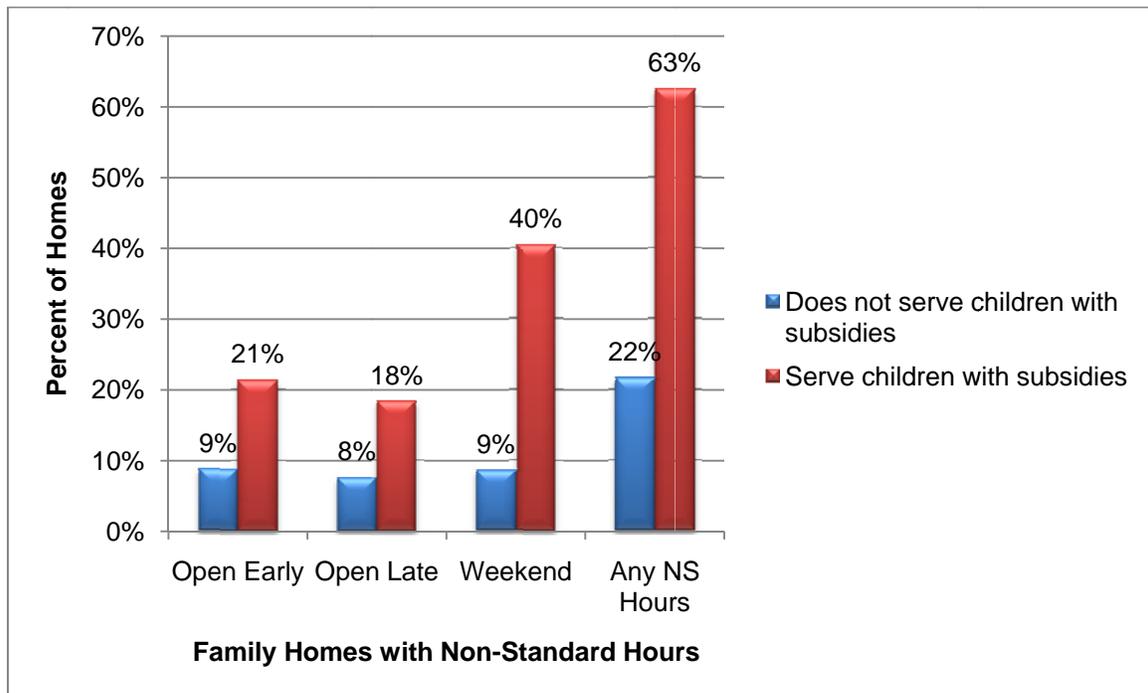
A total of 67.9 percent of family homes provided care for children with subsidies. Region 2 had the highest percentage of serving children with subsidies, which was 84.5 percent, compared to the lowest percentage in Region 5, which was 53.1 percent. Family homes in Region 6 that were not providing care to children with subsidies were the least willing to provide that type of care. Family homes in Region 1 that were not serving children with subsidies were the most willing to provide care to children with subsidies at 79.2 percent. Overall, 66.4 percent of family homes not serving children with subsidies were willing to provide care to children with subsidies.

**Table 36: Family Homes Willing to Serve Children with Child Care Subsidies by Region, 2010**

Region	Percent Serving Subsidized Children	Percent Not Currently Serving, but Willing to Serve Subsidized Children
1	78.8%	79.2%
2	84.5%	69.3%
3	59.0%	73.7%
4	61.3%	61.7%
5	53.1%	61.2%
6	64.0%	58.8%
All Family Homes	67.9%	66.4%

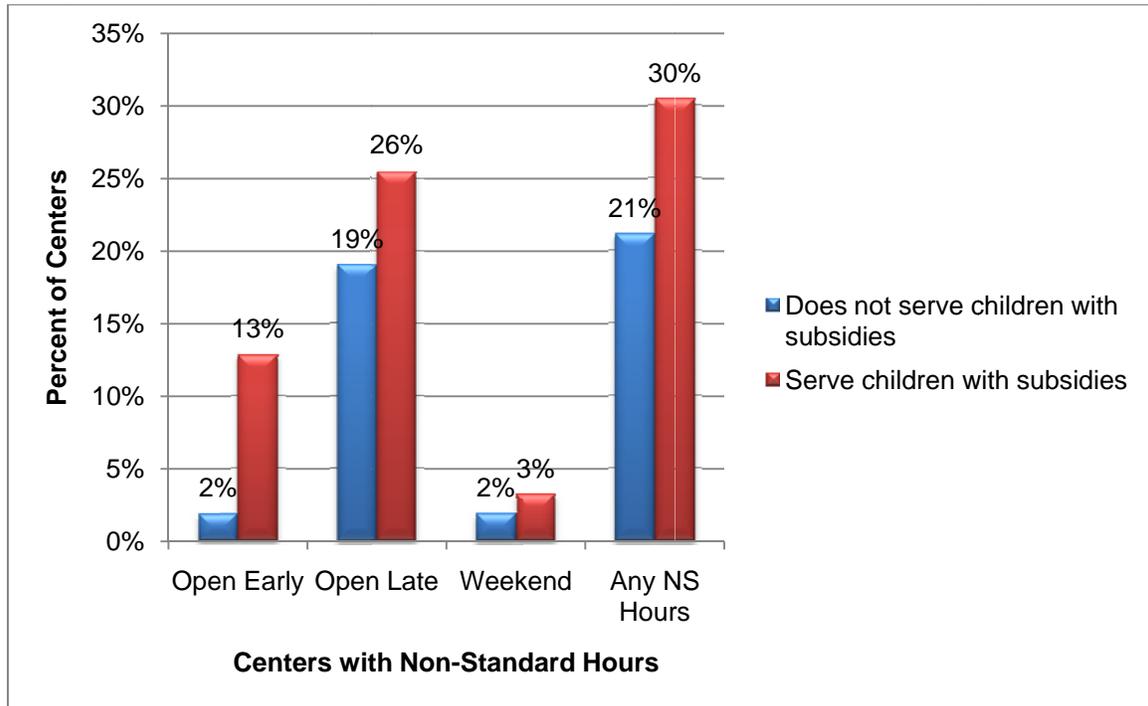
The data in Figure 18 indicated family homes that accepted children with subsidies were more accommodating of parents who worked non-standard work schedules than family homes that did not take children with subsidies. This was especially true for weekend (40 percent versus 9 percent) and any non-standard (NS) work hours (63 percent versus 22 percent). If parents were looking for a family home that had a NS work schedule, they were more likely to find it in a family home that served children with subsidies. In Figure 18, any NS hours included opening before 6 a.m., closing later than 6 p.m., or were open on a Saturday or Sunday.

**Figure 18: Percent of Family Homes with Non-Standard Hours by Subsidy Status, 2010**



Like family homes, centers that accepted children with subsidies were more accommodating of non-standard (other than Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 a.m.) work schedules than centers that did not take children with subsidies. However, regardless of serving children with subsidies or not, only a few centers (2 to 3 percent) were willing to open during weekends.

**Figure 19: Percent of Centers with Non-Standard Hours by Subsidy Status, 2010**



## CHAPTER 9: EXPERIENCES WITH LICENSOR

Overall, the experiences with licensors were quite favorable in areas such as receiving timely information on licensing policy changes, getting answers to providers' questions, reasons behind licensing regulations, and suggestions on complying with the regulations. Less than 9 percent of participants from centers indicated that they were uncomfortable calling their licensors. Close to four-in-five (77.6 percent) of center providers stated they received timely information on changes to licensing policies; 87 percent agreed that the licensor clearly explained the reasons behind the licensing regulations at the most recent licensing visit; and 91.7 percent believed that the licensor clearly explained what the center needed to do to comply with the regulations.

**Table 37: Distribution of Responses Regarding Attitudes and Experiences with Licensor among Child Care Centers, 2010**

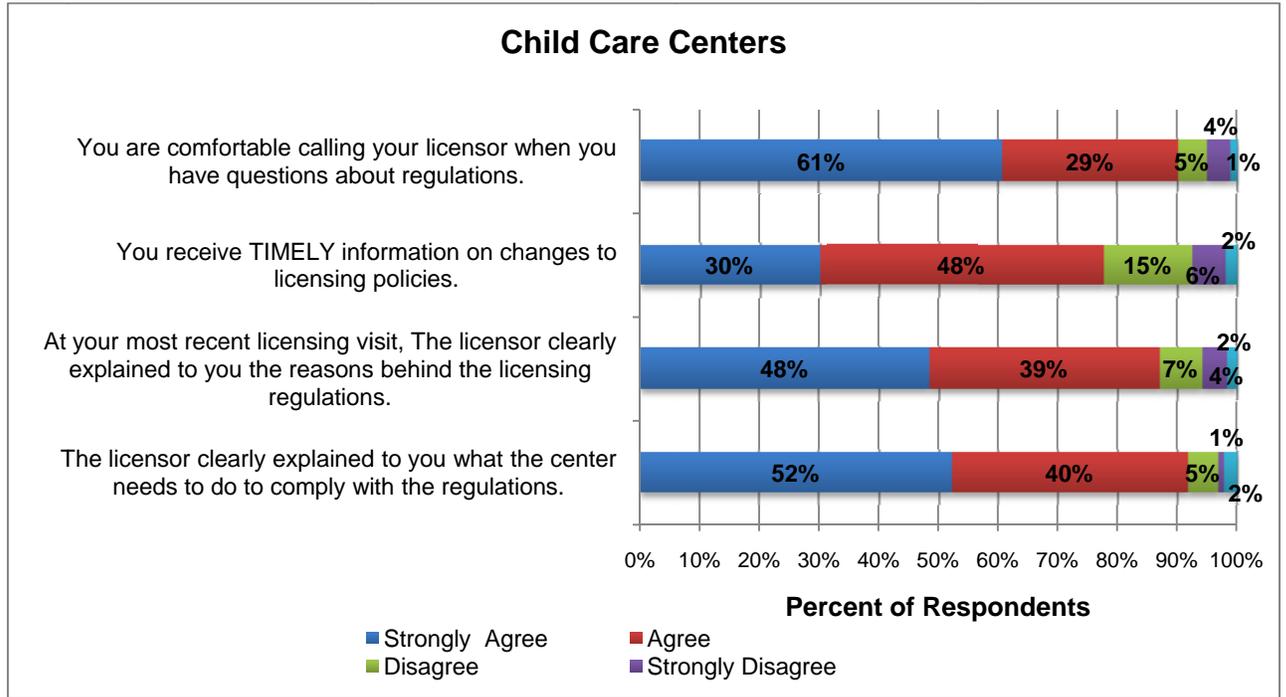
Child Care Centers	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	No Opinion
You are comfortable calling your licensor when you have questions about regulations.	60.7%	29.4%	4.8%	3.9%	1.2%
You receive timely information on changes to licensing policies.	29.9%	47.7%	14.8%	5.6%	2.0%
At your most recent licensing visit, the licensor clearly explained to you the reasons behind the licensing regulations.	48.3%	38.7%	7.1%	4.1%	1.7%
The licensor clearly explained to you what the center needs to do to comply with the regulations.	52.1%	39.6%	5.1%	0.9%	2.2%

The majority of family home participants also had positive experiences with their licensors and had no hesitation in calling their licensors, received timely information on licensing policy changes and clear explanations and suggestions from their licensors. Only 7.5 percent of participants didn't feel that they were regarded as knowledgeable about, and a professional in, the field of child care by their licensors.

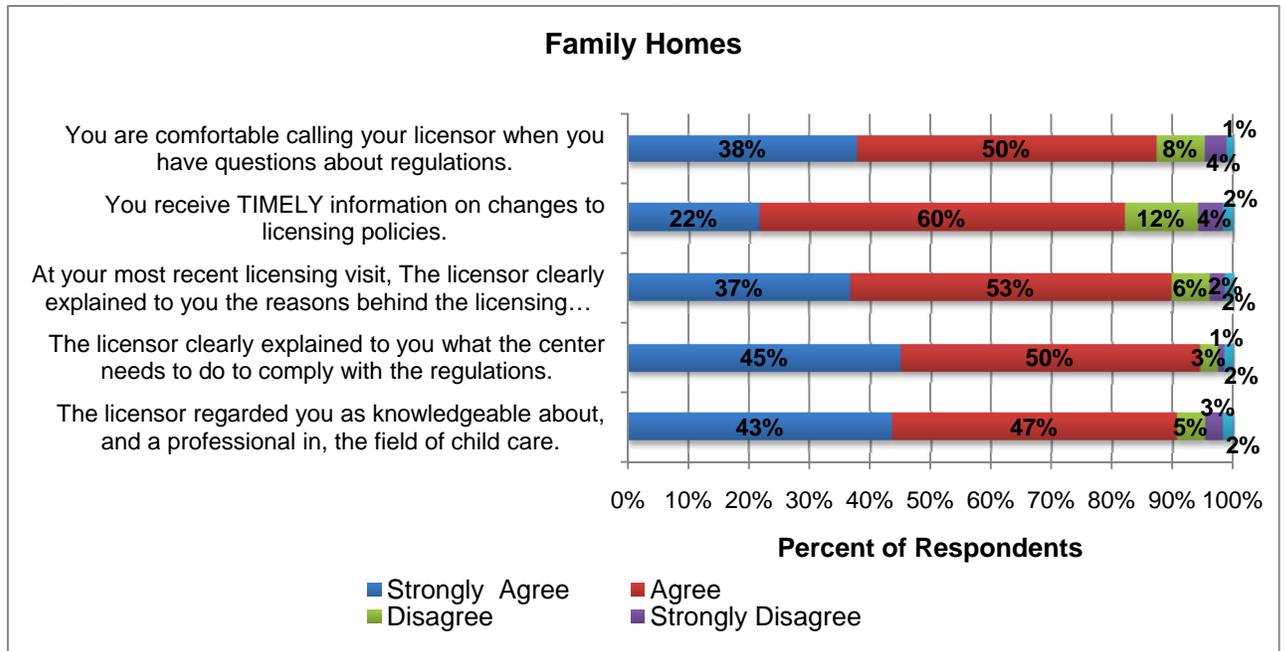
**Table 38: Distribution of Responses Regarding Attitudes and Experiences with Licensor among Family Home Providers, 2010**

<b>Family Homes</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
You are comfortable calling your licensor when you have questions about regulations.	37.7%	49.5%	8.0%	3.6%	1.1%
You receive timely information on changes to licensing policies.	21.6%	60.5%	12.1%	4.1%	1.8%
At your most recent licensing visit, the licensor clearly explained to you the reasons behind the licensing regulations.	36.6%	53.2%	6.3%	2.5%	1.5%
The licensor clearly explained to you what the center needs to do to comply with the regulations.	44.9%	49.6%	3.0%	1.0%	1.5%
The licensor regarded you as knowledgeable about, and a professional in, the field of child care.	43.5%	47.2%	4.6%	2.9%	1.8%

**Figure 20: Attitudes and Experiences with Licensor by Centers**



**Figure 21: Attitudes and Experiences with Licensor by Family Homes**



Center child care providers, compared with family homes, were more likely to call a licensor in the previous year. On average, center providers called their licensors 14.6 times compared to 3.4 times for family homes in the previous year. It took a seemingly equivalent amount of days for the licensors to respond to both centers and family homes (centers: 2.8 days; family homes: 2.5 days). However, family home providers were more likely to receive a response from their licensors within the same day of inquiry (centers: 12.1 percent; family homes: 33.2 percent). Similarly, the majority (87.9 percent) of center child care providers had to wait for one or more business days for their licensors to return calls whereas a smaller proportion (66.8 percent) of family homes had to wait for one or more business days for their licensors to return calls.

**Table 39: Experiences with Calling Licensor by Type of Facility, 2010**

	Average	Response received the same day as inquiry	Response received 1 or more Days after inquiry
<i>Child Care Centers</i>			
Number of Times Called Licensor, Previous Year	14.6	6.0%	94.0%
Number of Business Days for Call to be Returned	2.8	12.1%	87.9%
<i>Family Homes</i>			
Number of Times Called Licensor, Previous Year	3.4	17.9%	82.1%
Number of Business Days for Call to be Returned	2.5	33.2%	66.8%

## CHAPTER 10: CHILD CARE PROVIDERS' FEEDBACK

The last question of the 2010 Licensed Child Care Survey for both family homes and centers asked the participants to provide any further comments or questions either about this survey or for DEL. Almost 15 percent of center survey participants and 23.3 percent of family home survey participants answered this question. The fact that the number of comments was larger than the number of participants who answered this last question showed that some participants commented on more than one area. Table 40 shows the feedback categorized into different areas.

**Table 40: Center and Family Home Provider Feedback**

Topics	Centers	Family Homes
--------	---------	--------------

	#	%	#	%
Experiences with Licensor	41	19.2%	45	18.3%
DEL	29	13.6%	30	12.2%
Special needs	25	11.7%	5	2.0%
Reimbursement rates	20	9.3%	15	6.1%
Rules and regulations	14	6.5%	27	11.0%
Thank you/misc	9	4.2%	30	12.2%
STARS training	8	3.7%	2	0.8%
Pay and benefits	7	3.3%	0	0%
Educational opportunities and workforce	6	2.8%	7	2.8%
Survey related	37	17.3%	29	11.8%
Other	26	12.1%	63	25.6%
<i>Total comment count</i>	227	106.0%	267	108.6%
<i>Total response count</i>	214	14.7%*	246	23.3%**

\*214/1460

\*\*246/1054

### *Experiences with Licensor*

Providers indicated they wanted licensors to have experience and education in child care or early development field, to get more training and refreshing courses, and/or to have worked in a child care facility or preschool programs before becoming a licensor. Family home providers wanted licensors to be more respectful, treat each provider equally, and respond more quickly. Moreover, lack of understanding by the providers and lack of consistency when interpreting Washington Administrative Code (WACs) were also mentioned by providers. Some of the comments were selected as following:

*It would be extremely nice if all of the people that are sent out to monitor child care had actually worked in a child care center.*

*Last time I called them it took them three months for them to return my calls. The licensors need to receive more training or something to improve their people skills.*

*When a licensor has finished their review of a site, the provider should be given a questionnaire regarding the licensors professionalism, and knowledge of their job. They should also create a check list, so when they lose their files, we have proof that the information was actually given to them.*

*For every licensor to be taught how to interpret the WACs the same way.*

### *Department of Early Learning (DEL)*

About half of providers had positive feedback on DEL's performance, especially when it came to supporting children. However, some providers complained about not being

able to reach a real person in DEL, waiting too long for DEL's responses, or not having a help line when they have questions. Providers criticized the amount of paperwork needed to get licensed and the lack of information on reporting requirements. Some even suggested that DEL should obtain outside recommendations on how to improve. Others suggested that DEL have a system that offered encouragement for hardworking providers and teachers, such as an award each year for best provider and teacher in the state. Some of the comments were selected as following:

*They are hardworking people at DEL, but they get a bad rap. DEL is exemplary and works extremely hard on behalf of all children, caring tremendously.*

*There needs to be some other form to get answers for DEL that is not a machine. I would like to have questions answered by a human being in a timely manner.*

*The biggest complaint is that you never feel free to call DEL, because they think if you are calling there is a problem.*

*DEL is heavy on the paperwork side but it isn't helpful. We used to have licensors who helped us and used to be advocates for us in a well rounded way. Now licensors are all about paperwork.*

*The amount of laws and rules are overwhelming and frustrating, including many hoops to jump through for taking care of just a few kids for a few hours.*

*Another reason we don't take DEL children is that the paperwork involved is complicated and time consuming.*

*DEL must provide documented training regarding mandatory reporting to providers. They train themselves annually, but the providers who deal with children every day ARE NOT BEING TRAINED. But they are being held responsible for accurate reporting.*

*DEL must provide clear reporting requirements that follow RCW and WAC regarding child/child sexual and/or abuse interaction.*

*Technical assistance must be documented.*

*The ability to question Licensors and Administration regarding RCW and WAC regulations will initiate documented assistance not retaliation.*

*DEL failed their own outside suggestions on how to improve things. They need to take recommendations by outside agency and look at the new child care bill written by the national child care association to better WAC codes.*

*Child care directors/staff usually get negative feedback but not much positive encouragement. I would suggest that through licensors every year a child care facility also teachers can be nominated for awards or star program. If there is a program like that which I am not aware of after five years then it should be better advertised.*

*They need to consider who they license and how they license. They focus on capacity, quantity, but not quality.*

#### *Educational opportunities and workforce*

About 5 percent of all providers commented on the current educational opportunities and almost all of them requested more classes, seminars and conferences. They felt like they didn't get enough training on accommodating children with special needs, the current classes being offered had a lot of redundancy, and teachers and providers didn't have access to affordable or free training. Sample comments were selected and shown as following:

*I would love to receive training on accommodating children with special needs into our program. My past experience with this has made me aware that each child has unique needs, but it would be great to have a resource to go to that would allow us to customize child care to allow care for all.*

*I wish we had more classes that the licensors provide, for directors, or things to do with STARS, I would like them to be involved because they have a lot of knowledge.*

*I think there should be more availability for teacher improvement at a lower cost. I would really like it if I could get more educated about children, and the way they learn and interact with the environment.*

*Finding new information relating to the needs of child(ren) in care I find myself going online more and networking with professionals more.*

#### *Pay and benefits*

Among the few providers commenting on pay and benefits, lack of funding was the main issue for the providers. Some providers were only able to pay their employees minimum wages and therefore weren't able to keep good teachers. Providers hoped DEL would help them provide insurance to their employees. Sample comments were selected and shown as following:

*It would be wonderful to have more funds for a smaller staff to child ratio so as to accommodate special needs children better.*

*If our private pay parents have to pay whether their child is absent for five or more days, then our contract with DEL should be the same. If we contract to fill a precious space with a DEL client and are required to have staff available to comply with our numbers at all times, then we should be guaranteed that we will be able to pay our staff same as with our private pay.*

### *Rules and regulations*

The issue mentioned most by the 17 percent of providers commenting on the rules and regulations was that the current regulations were too excessive and a lot of the policies may sound good in an office setting but didn't apply to real world. Providers thought that some issues should be decided by directors and teachers. For example, directors and teachers should make decisions about when to transition older toddlers into classrooms with three and four year olds, not based on one rule. Public school should also follow the same rules given to the child care centers.

Certain rules were mentioned and perceived as not productive, such as asking for a child's dentist, the requirement for syrup of ipecac, the permission to use sunscreen and hand sanitizer, and the safety requirement for small climbing structures. Also, given the size of WACs, providers should be able to get free copies of WACS instead of having to download it from the Internet. Sample comments were selected and shown as following:

*Because there are so many unlicensed providers in our state I think DEL needs to take that into account and try to loosen some of the regs to meet the qualifications of individual licensed providers. There must be a way to give variables on some regs and still keep the state covered in the event of a lawsuit.*

*They need to look at how the policy have going a little over board, cause kids don't live in locked boxes.*

*Maybe start thinking about different regulations for school aged care, not necessarily relaxing the regulations but some changes... the more the schools are underfunded for arts, academic support, and for additional behavioral support the more we have to fill that role at the expense of less recreation and less child care giving.*

*The reduced number of license family home of child care providers should indicate to them that they need to reduce their regulations, if not, then family home child care is going to be a thing from the past.*

*I am sick to death of being in competition with exempt half day preschools. They are putting me out of business. The people in my area who run exempt schools tell parents that being licensed is just "jumping through a bunch of hoops" and sometimes I feel that is true....*

*Bringing children that are four years old in the house every time I have to change a one year old is disruptive to the three and four year olds play. Play is never the same when I have to interrupt them.*

*The kids I take care of have been complaining about not being able to sleep with pillows, which is something the licensor that visited me prohibited me from having in my home.*

*Children miss out on normal childhood experiences because of the constant over governing of daycares due to the recklessness of a few.*

*I believe that child care programs still need to be prepared for poisoning emergencies but I believe we need to catch up with current best practices and get rid of syrup of ipecac in favor of activated charcoal.*

*DEL needs to provide free copies of WACs so providers can hand out to teachers. I understand safety, but some rules defy logic. They are theorized in an office somewhere, but aren't practical in real life.*

#### *Reimbursement rates*

Of the 15 percent of providers who commented on the reimbursement rates, almost all providers criticized the state child care subsidy rate as being unrealistic and too low. For example, the low reimbursement rate for children with special needs was hurting the providers. The low rates sometimes forced providers not to take children with special needs in order to keep the child care centers and family homes open. Some providers claimed that the state should pay the same amount of money for the same type of work regardless of the region in which the centers or family homes were located. A couple examples are shown as following:

*We would like to see tiered reimbursements to programs who meet higher standards.*

*I would really like to see a realistic subsidy rate. People need to realistically look at the income rates of people receiving subsidies so that the copays are more appropriate.*

*It would really help if the state rate for child care payments was closer to what we charge. Our rates are in line with other centers and yet we must take a huge financial hit in order to provide care for families that need us. Instead of things getting better, they lower our rate! Between paper work, people bouncing between "eligible" and "ineligible" a constant stream of renewals and the new "no back pay" rule, I often think about not accepting state paid kids.*

*We are finding that by taking the special needs students it is financially costing us a lot of money and burning out our staff.*

*Even our teachers who are over qualified, I can barely pay them a decent wage because we take so many DSHS kids and don't get reimbursed at a fair rate. It's not about a huge profit it's just about paying our educated teachers. How am I supposed to keep these teachers if we pay them a horrible rate?*

*They are paying us too little for everything we do to take care of the children.*

*It would be nice if we could get a raise because we are required to take classes and the state doesn't help us and we don't have enough to pay.*

*Why is the state pay so different...the gap is so large between counties for the same job being done?*

*Doesn't think it's fair that providers in different regions of the state receive different pay. Especially when two providers may be in such close proximities, and may pay the same prices (e.g. in grocery stores) as another nearby provider but could be paying higher utility bills and receiving a lower pay from DEL based on where they live.*

*Need to respectfully pay the same amount for all of you across the board no matter if you have a center or not. Everyone is bound by the same rule and regulation in order to care for children.*

### *The State Training and Registry System (STARS) training*

Only about 4 percent of all providers mentioned STARS training when asked to give further comments. Providers who took care of children with special needs would like more STARS training. Some providers complained about the cost for taking STARS classes every year and hope that DEL would help pay for their employees' training. Providers also wished STARS training would be offered online because it would be more convenient. Sample comments were selected and shown as following:

*The packets of paper were wasteful, and the information could have been given other ways that are more environmentally friendly.*

*There is still a need for a better quality and more advanced trainings and it would be helpful if there was a way for the ones who complete the training, to have them demonstrate knowledge that they have obtained the content given.*

*I hate the STARS classes. They want us to have all this training, but they don't offer anything convenient - time wise or location wise.*

### *Special needs*

About 14 providers commented on a question asked earlier in the survey: "Do you want to care for children with special needs?" Providers felt the question was too vague and it would depend upon the special needs, whether it was emotional, medical, behavioral, or physical.

Some centers and family homes did accept children with special needs but did not have a specific special needs program. The centers and family homes that did take care of some children with special needs did not necessarily have teachers with backgrounds in special needs or were equipped for taking care of certain children with physical special needs.

A few providers would like to have more training in taking care of children with special needs. Additional training would allow them to feel more comfortable in caring for children with special needs. A few providers mentioned that they had not heard about tier 1 and tier 2 rates for special needs care and would like more information on those funds. Sample comments were selected and shown as following:

*Unable to receive special needs child care rate as we cannot get a clearly defined answer(s) regarding the type of evidence needed to apply for the higher rate.*

*Applying for the special needs child care rate needs to be made more accessible to all centers. We have a couple children who qualify, but don't know how to go about applying for it.*

*If the state does want child care providers to take care of special needs, not only is the training upper most, but it takes a lot more care and energy, the pay should compensate for that.*

*They need to clarify more on the special needs, more options than yes or no. Based on the different needs, they need to say: do you have the ability to take care of a child in a wheelchair or an autistic or even a deaf child.*



## Other

Providers commented on a variety of other issues that did not belong to the broader categories. These issues were summarized as following:

- WACs and all materials translated in Spanish and other languages:

*The rules that are being changed by the licensors should be translated to Spanish. A lot of the child care providers are Spanish-speaking only, and when DEL sends the rules or new changes, they only send them in English, which makes it hard to know what is going on.*

- Health insurance:

*I would like to see better healthcare for home child care providers. For example I would like to see dental and vision added in.*

*Most of the providers work 9 to 10 hours a day, 5 days a week, 52 weeks a year with no vacation, no sick days and no health insurance. Although our job is rewarding, it is very stressful and exhausting.*

- Better pay and extra pay on weekends:

*As a small center, it can be a real problem paying for all the new inspections, keeping up with the newest rules and regulations, some of which seem downright silly, and feeling appreciated by our clients and DEL. What happened to the supplemented pay scale program of several years ago? It is hard to find someone willing to work for minimum wage and still take classes, etc.*

*... in order to run a successful center, I need to hire educated teachers. I get people with great backgrounds in early childhood but I have to turn them away because I cannot afford them. I know the teachers I currently employ deserve more than minimum wage, but I simply cannot afford it.*

- Union issues:

*I have huge concerns about the union and the state working together. I do not want to participate in a union. I feel the rate of subsidy is too low and I do not support paying any of that pay to a third party.*

*In-home daycare providers should not be forced to be union. Even though I chose not to be a part of the union I am frustrated that I still have to pay dues.*

- *Too many regulations:*

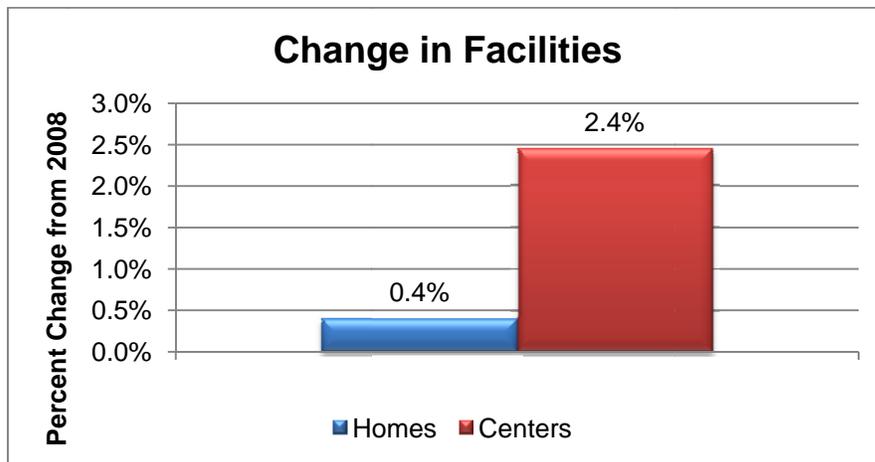
*I think that they have taken the joy out of the daycare for many people because of the constant change of rules and regulations and then the provider is scared to do something or change things around because they are scared of them coming in and telling them that something is not safe or that a child might get hurt with something within the household or in the play area because you have to constantly make sure that they have enough ground cover for them to play.*

*Not as much fun to do daycare as it used to be. Too technical and too much red tape. Losing the touch of home day cares.*

## CHAPTER 11: COMPARISON OF FINDINGS FROM RECENT CHILD CARE SURVEYS

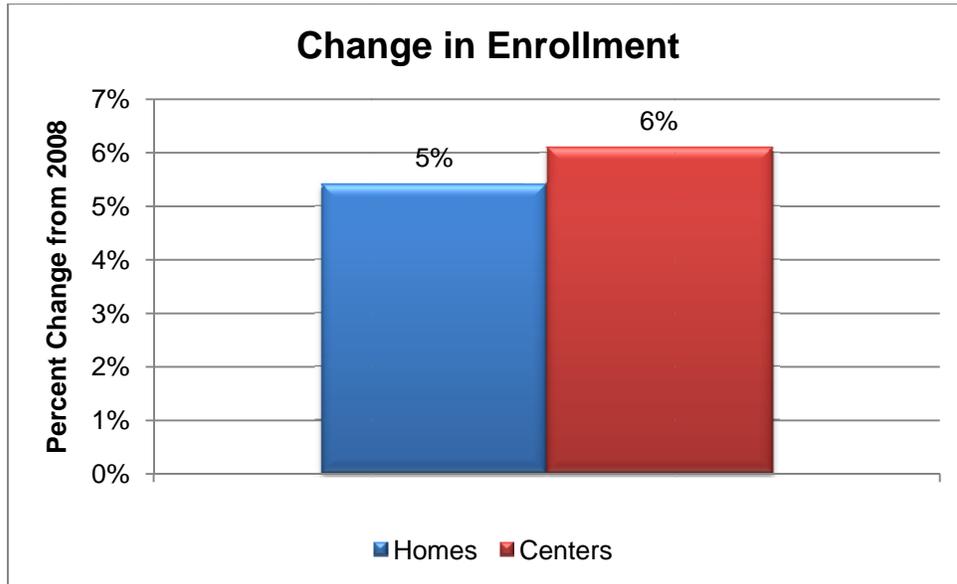
Between 2008 and 2010, the number of child care centers had increased from 5,482 to 5,504, representing a 0.4 percent increase. Family homes, on the other hand, increased from 2,083 homes in 2008 to 2,134 homes in 2010, representing an increase of 2.4 percent. The downturn of the economy and the high unemployment rates may have motivated some parents to open a family home child care to take care of their children and still earn an income at the same time. Overall, the number of child care facilities decreased over the last eight years from 9,456 facilities in 2002 to 7,638 facilities in 2010.

Figure 22: Percent Change in Number of Child Care Facilities by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010



Both centers and family homes had an increase of the number of children enrolled from 2008 to 2010. Family homes had 1,988 more children enrolled, accounting for 5 percent increase while centers had 7,916 more children enrolled, accounting for a 6 percent increase.

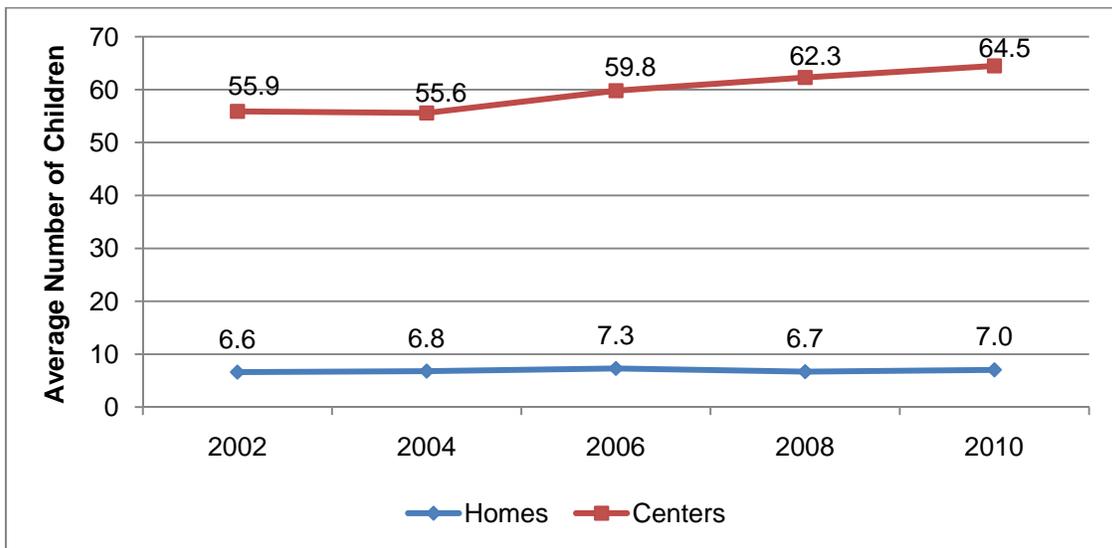
**Figure 23: Percent Change in Number of Children in Licensed Care by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010**



Since 2004, centers increased their average enrollment to accommodate more children. On average, each center could provide child care services for 64.5 children in 2010 compared to 55.6 children in 2004. This increase corresponded to the increase in total number of children enrolled shown in Figure 23.

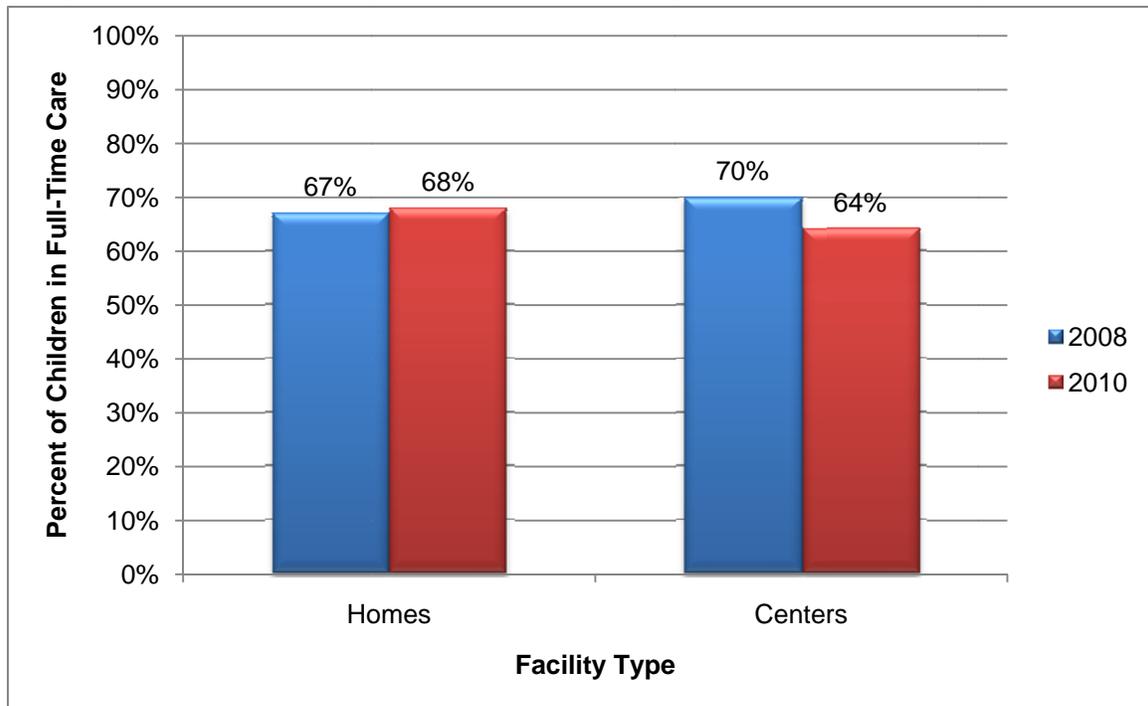
The changes in the average number of children in family homes had been less significant compared to the changes in centers. Overall, a family home accommodated more children in 2010. In 2002, a family home on average could accommodate 6.6 children which increased to 7 children in 2010. The highest average occurred in 2006, at 7.3 children.

**Figure 24: Average Number of Children in Care per Facility by Type of Facility, 2002 to 2010**



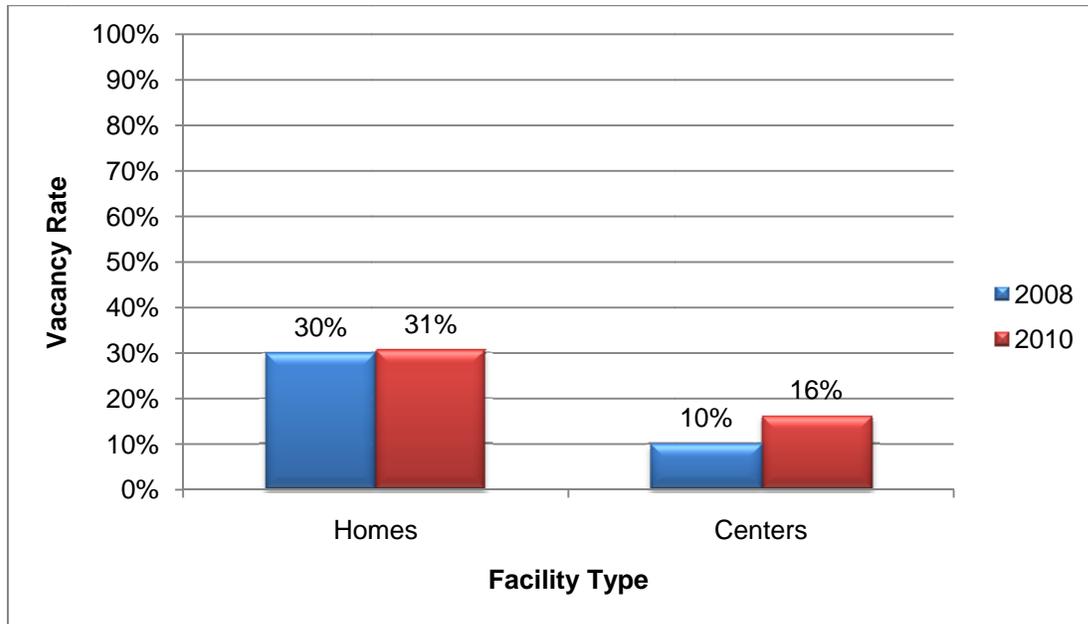
The percent of children in full-time care in family homes increased during the past two years from 67 percent to 68 percent while the percent of children in full-time care in centers decreased 6 percent, to 64 percent in 2010.

**Figure 25: Percent of Children in Full-Time Care by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010**



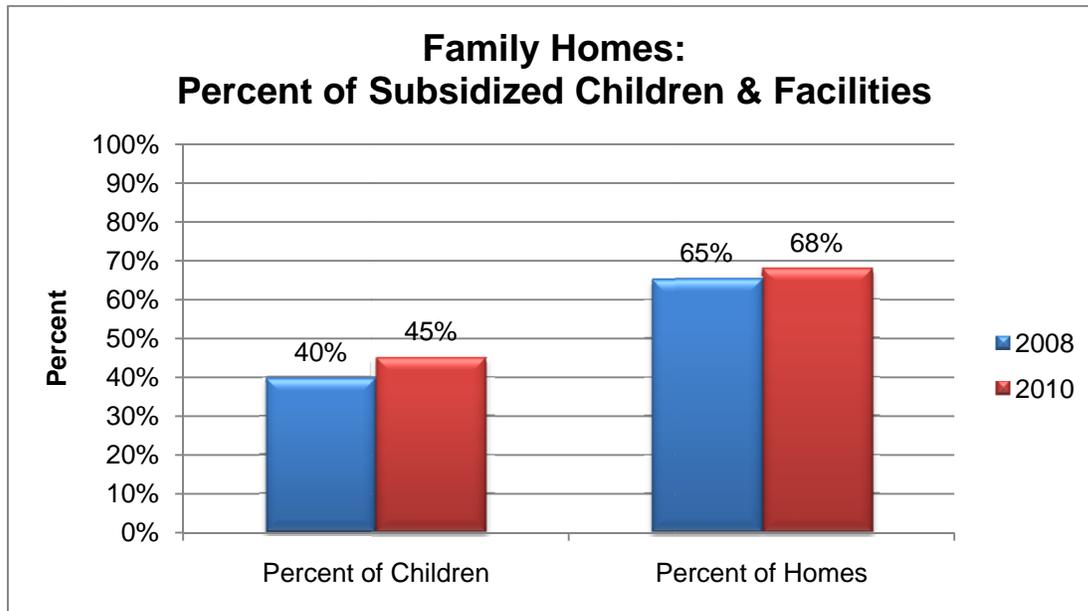
Both centers and family homes had increased vacancy rates during the past two years. The vacancy rate for centers increased 6 percent, from 10 percent in 2008 to 16 percent in 2010; however, the vacancy rate in family homes only increased 1 percent, from 30 percent in 2008 to 31 percent in 2010. Family homes' vacancy rate in 2010 was 31 percent, almost doubled the vacancy rate of centers, which was 16 percent.

**Figure 26: Vacancy Rates by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010**



From 2008 to 2010, the percentage of family homes that served children with subsidies increased by 3 percent. During that same time period, the percentage of children with subsidies cared for in family homes increased by 5 percent. In 2010, 68 percent of family homes served children with subsidies while children with subsidies represented almost half, or 45 percent, of all children in family homes.

**Figure 27: Percent of Children with Subsidies among Family Homes, 2008 versus 2010**

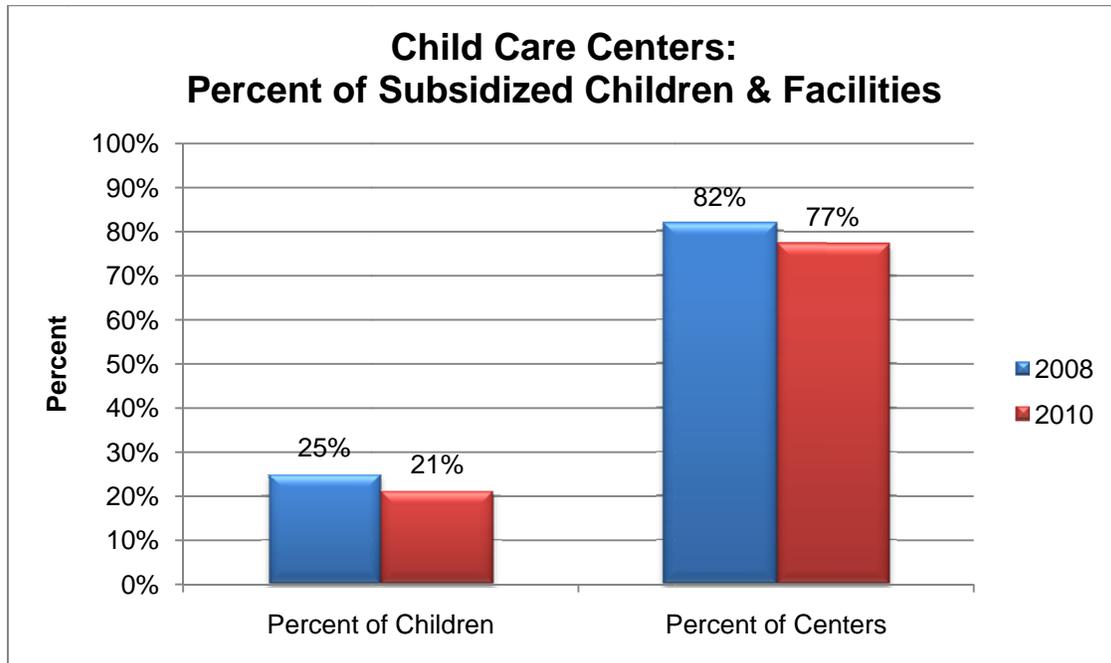


\*\*\* These figures were reversed in the 2008 report. See 2008 Table 27 and Figure 25



The percentage of centers that served children with subsidies decreased from 82 percent in 2008 to 77 percent in 2010. Similarly, the number of children with subsidies compared to all children in center care also decreased from 25 percent in 2008 to 21 percent in 2010. The decrease in the percentage of children with subsidies in centers and the percentage of centers that accepted children with subsidies contradicted the trend found in family homes in the past two years.

**Figure 28: Percent of Children Receiving Subsidies among Child Care Centers, 2008 versus 2010**



\*\*\* These figures were backward in the 2008 report. See 2008 Table 29 and Figure 25

Parents seeking early morning child care were more likely to find care in centers compared to family homes. The overall percentage of centers that opened before 7 a.m. remained about the same from 2008 to 2010, at around 60 percent. The percentage of family homes that opened early in the morning also remained about the same, 50 percent in 2008 and 49 percent in 2010. In 2010, 76.8 percent of centers were open after 6 p.m. compared to 34.9 percent of family homes in 2010. From 2008 to 2010, the percentage of centers that were open until late evening increased by 9.8 percent. About the same percent of family homes were open late from 2008 to 2010.

While a few ( 0.2 percent) of centers were open 24 hours, 19.5 percent of family homes were open 24 hours a day in 2010, an increase of 10.8 percent during the last two years. In 2010, almost half (48.6 percent) of family homes provided weekend child care compared to only 3.5 percent of centers. The percentage of family homes opened during weekends increased slightly (0.9 percent) while that of centers decreased 10.9 percent during the past two years.

**Table 41: Child Care Availability by Type of Facility, 2008 versus 2010**

	Centers		Family Homes	
	2008	2010	2008	2010
<i>Mornings</i>				
Before 6 a.m.	9.5%	10.7%	16.3%	17.3%
6 to 7 a.m.	51.0%	49.2%	33.7%	31.7%
<i>Evenings</i>				
6 to 7 p.m. *	64.0%	72.8%	26.6%	26.4%
7 to 8 p.m. **	1.9%	1.5%	3.0%	2.5%
Later than 8 p.m. ^	1.1%	2.5%	5.8%	6.0%
Open 24 Hours	0.1%	0.2%	8.7%	19.5%
<i>Weekends</i>				
Saturday	7.8%	2.9%	28.8%	29.7%
Sunday	6.6%	0.6%	18.9%	18.9%

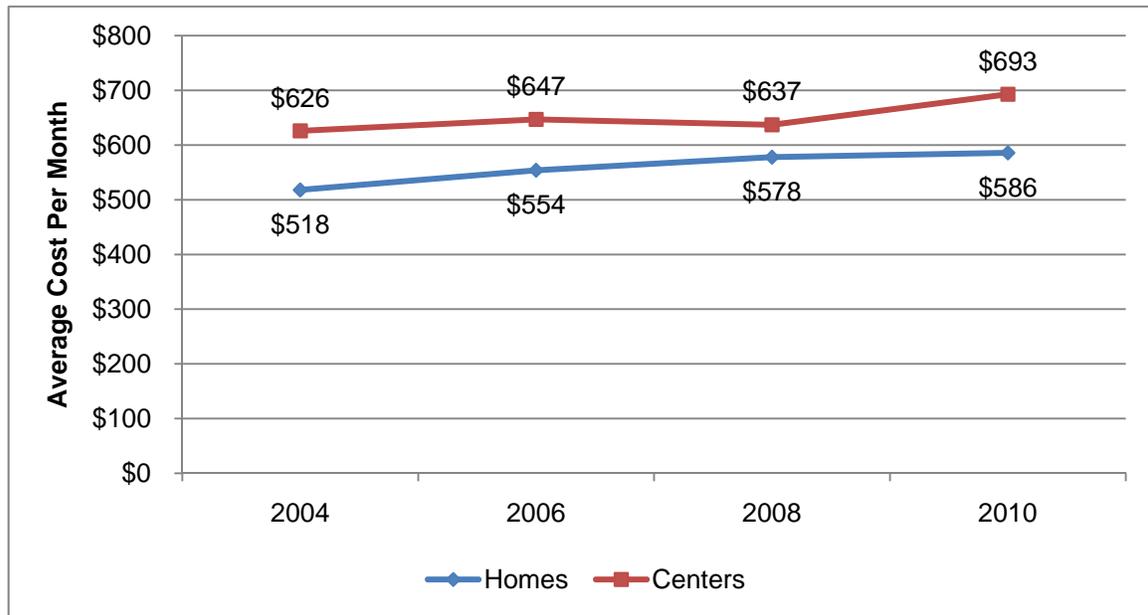
\* Reported closing times from 6 p.m. to 6:59 p.m.

\*\* Reported closing times from 7 p.m. to 7:59 p.m.

^ Reported closing times of 8 p.m. and later

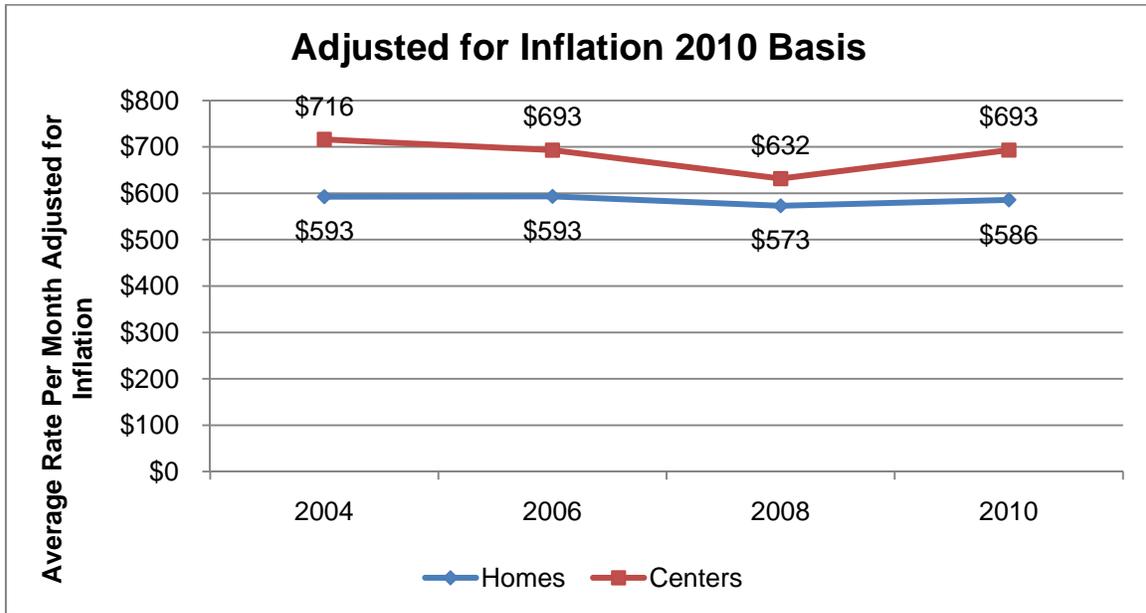
The average monthly child care rate for full-time child care, not adjusted for inflation, increased from 2004 to 2010. In family homes the rate increased \$8, or 1.4 percent and in centers the rate increased \$56, or 8.8 percent. The average rate per month for full-time child care for both centers and family homes showed an increasing trend since 2004 with an exception of center rates in 2008.

**Figure 29: Average Rate per Month for Full-Time Child Care by Type of Facility, 2004 to 2010, Not Adjusted for Inflation**



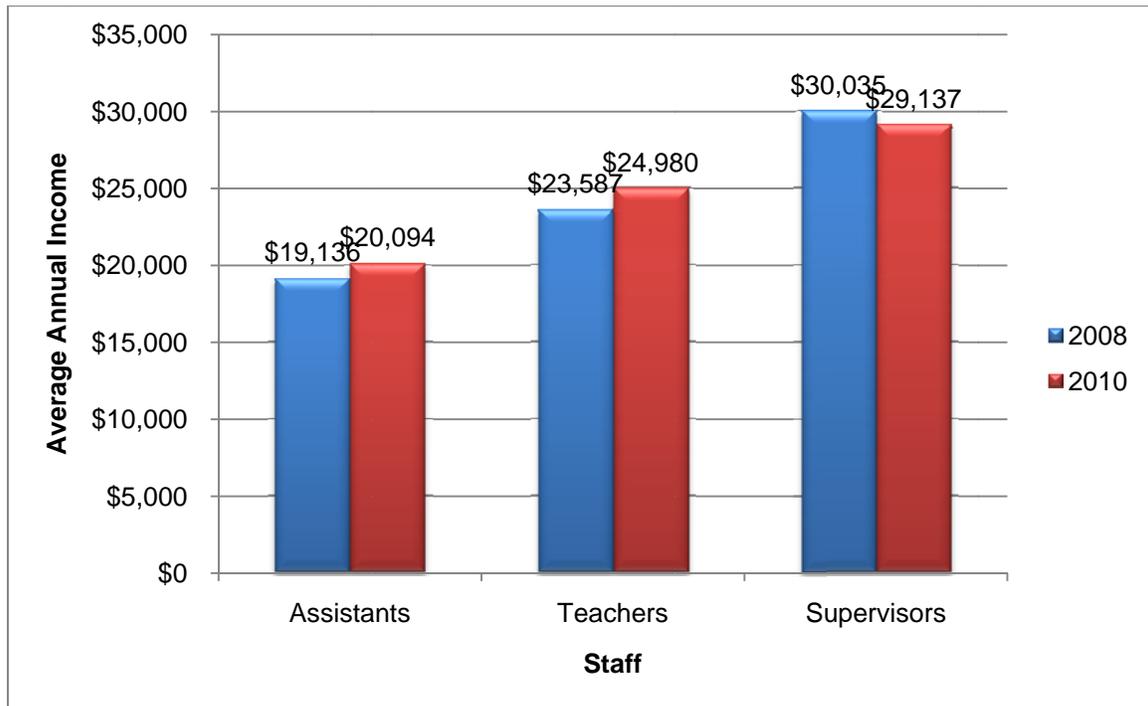
After the data was adjusted for inflation, the average rate per month for full-time child care in centers actually increased \$61, or 9.6 percent and the rate for family homes increased \$13, or 2.3 percent, from 2008 to 2010. Overall, the average adjusted rate per month for full-time child care for both centers and family homes decreased since 2004.

**Figure 30: Average Rate per Month for Full-Time Child Care by Type of Facility, 2008 to 2010, adjusted for Inflation**



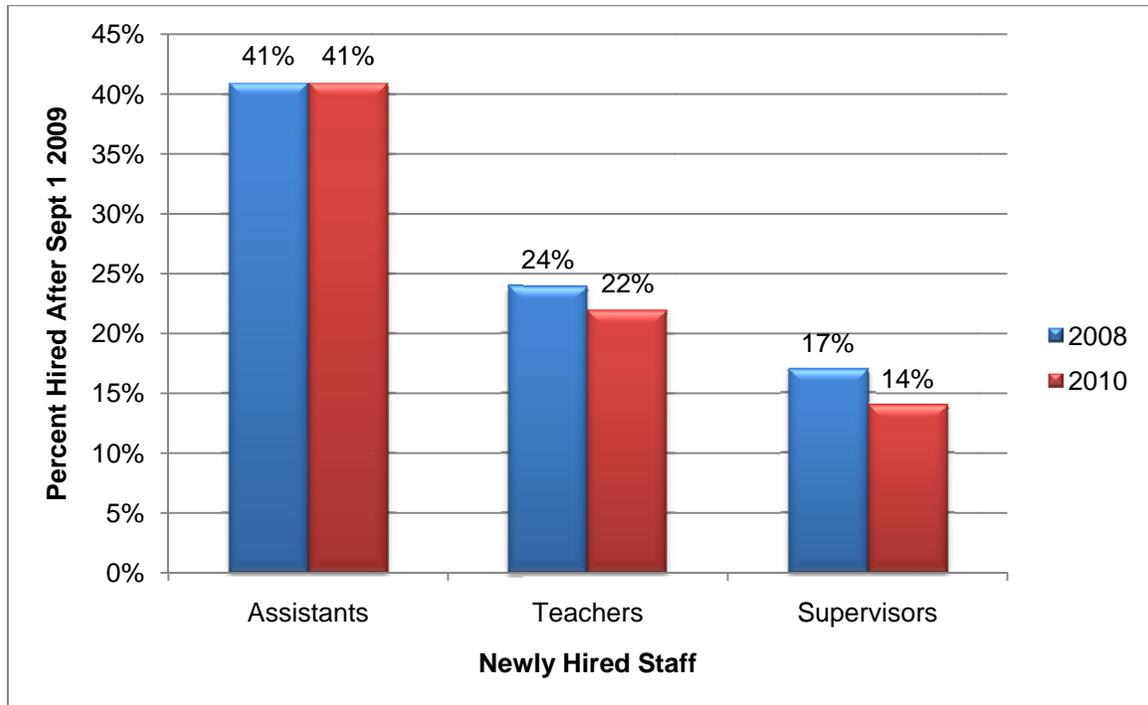
The average annual income for assistants and teachers increased since 2008. In 2010, assistants earned an average of \$1,674.50 per month, and teachers earned an average of \$2081.66 per month. Supervisors' average annual incomes decreased \$901, or 2.9 percent in 2010.

**Figure 31: Average Annual Income by Type of Staff among Child Care Centers, 2008 versus 2010**



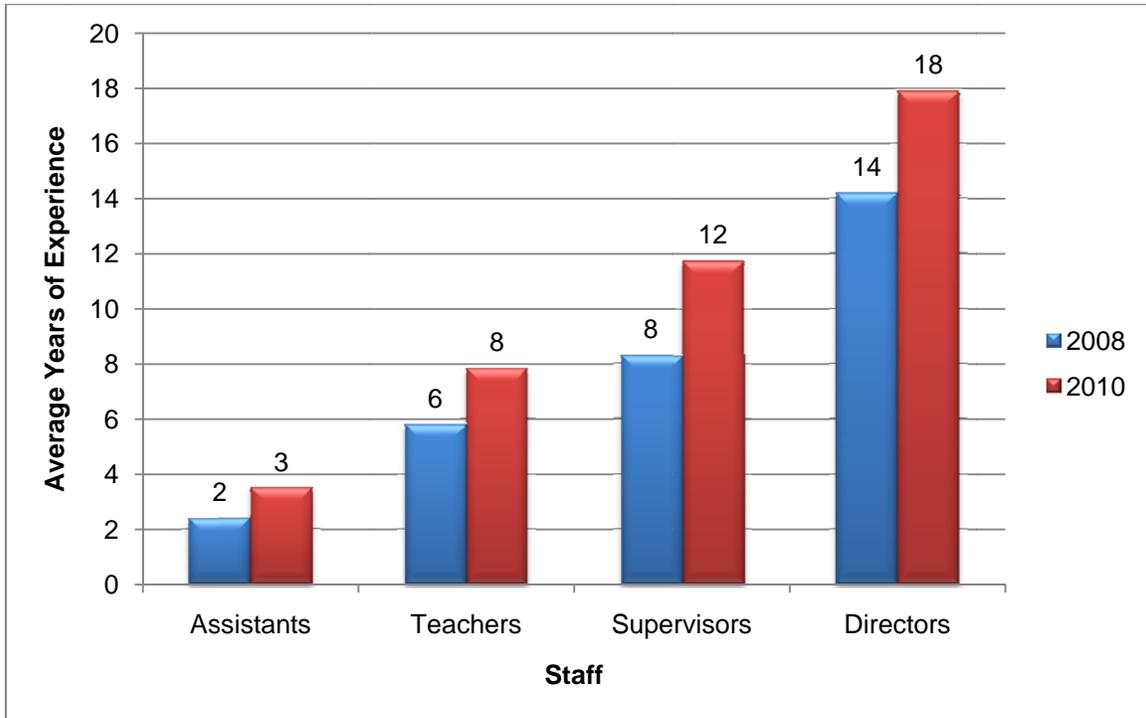
The turnover rate of assistants was higher than that of teachers and supervisors during the past two years; however, it remained the same, at 41 percent, from 2008 to 2010. The overall turnover rate for teachers and supervisors was slightly lower in 2010 than in 2008. The turnover rate of teachers dropped 2 percent from 24 percent in 2008 to 22 percent in 2010; while the turnover rate of supervisors dropped 3 percent, from 17 percent in 2008 to 14 percent in 2010.

**Figure 32: Turnover by Type of Center Staff, 2008 versus 2010**



Overall, the average number of years staff members worked in for a child care center increased during the past two years. The higher the position of the center staff, the more years of experience he or she had. The average number of years directors worked in child care was 18 in 2010, which increased four years since 2008. The average for supervisors was 12 years, which increased four years since 2008. The average for teachers was eight years, which increased two years since 2008; and three years for assistants, which increased one year since 2008.

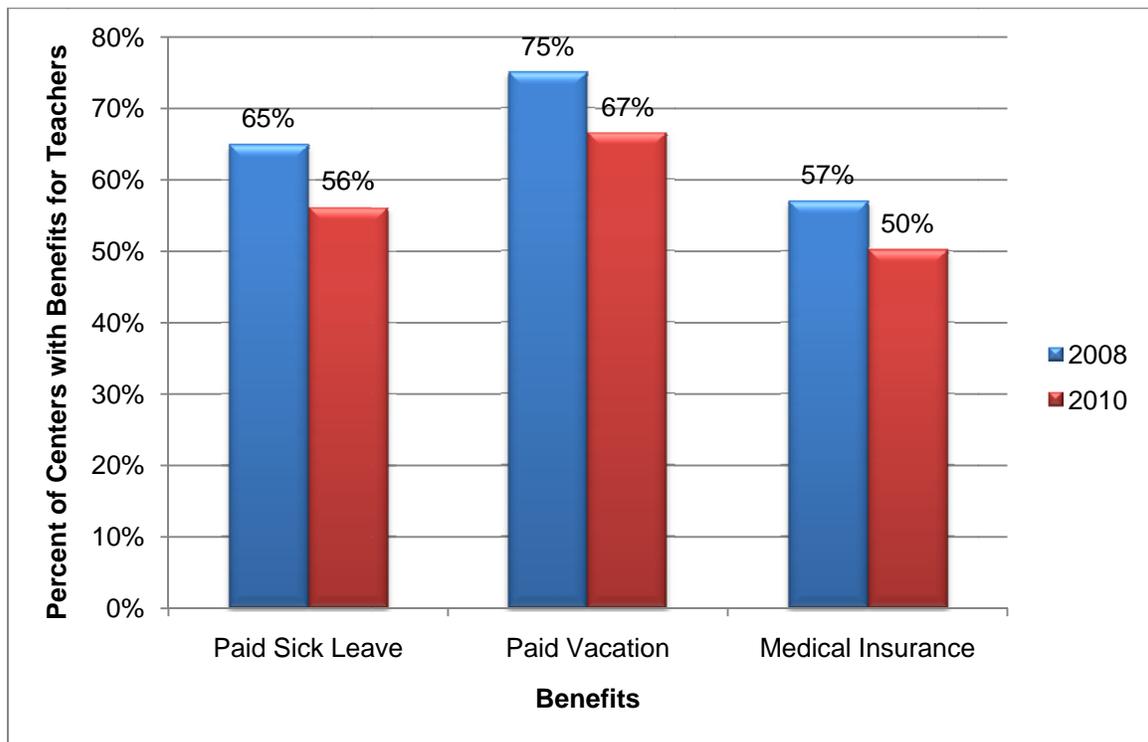
**Figure 33: Average Number of Years of Paid Child Care Experience for Center Staff, 2008 versus 2010**



Fewer centers paid benefits, including paid sick leave, paid vacation and medical insurance for their lead teachers in 2010 compared to 2008.

In 2010, 56 percent of centers paid sick leave to their lead teachers, a 9 percent decrease from 2008. While 75 percent of centers provided paid vacation to lead teachers in 2008, only 67 percent provided paid vacation in 2010. Fifty-seven percent of centers provided medical insurance in 2008 but only about half of centers provided medical insurance in 2010.

**Figure 34: Lead Teacher Benefits among Child Care Centers, 2008 versus 2010**





*World Class. Face to Face.*

---

Social & Economic Sciences Research Center  
Washington State University  
P.O. Box 644014  
Pullman, Washington 99164-4014  
Telephone: (509) 335-1511 Fax: (509) 335-0116  
<http://www.sesrc.wsu.edu>  
sesrc@wsu.edu

---