

2021 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

Federal regulations require that at least every three years as part of the Child Care Development Fund state plan, lead agencies develop and conduct a statistically valid and reliable survey of the market rates for child care services. New Hampshire conducts its surveys every two years. The current survey was delayed by DHHS due to COVID-19.

Sample

A Master Licensing List was received with a total of 786 providers. We were later asked to take out 21 licensed residential programs and excluded those. The result was a sample of 765 programs.

Goal & Completion Rate

The final response rate achieved for the 2021 survey was 66 percent (N=506), exceeding the 60 percent target response rate. The licensing number of one response received was not found in the sample, because its program changed hands, and the response was excluded.

Trends

- ▶ Census reports indicate the largest population increases over the last decade were in Belknap, Rockingham, and Strafford counties (+6 percent), while Coos county was the only NH county to lose population (-5 percent).
- ▶ New Hampshire is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse. “In Manchester, the percentage of non-white kids is 43 percent. In Nashua, it is 45 percent” (Gibson, 9/2/21).
- ▶ The number of licensed programs continued to decline, from 1207 in 2001 to 834 in 2018 to 765 in 2020. Center based programs continue to grow while Family Home and Family Group providers decline.
- ▶ COVID-19 impacts on providers, families, and children have been severe: programs were closed, access to facilities was limited, 101 classrooms were closed, hours and class sizes were reduced, staff got COVID, some staff left, new staff were added for drop off/pick up, and to assist with smaller cohort groupings. Costs significantly increased.

Schedules

- ▶ Half of the programs (50 percent offered parents options of *full and partial day* care, and almost a third (31 percent) offered *full day only* care.
- ▶ Fewer than half of the programs (43 percent) operated throughout the year, a significant drop from 2018 (76 percent).
- ▶ Programs in New Hampshire operated within a broad range of hours per week (from 7.5 to 120 hours), with an average of 45.11 and a median of 50 hours. These figures remain consistent with the data from 2018. Average hours of operation per day also had a wide range, from 1.5 to 24 hours. No responding program offered care during the weekend.

Quality Indicators

28 percent of responding programs identified as *Licensed Plus*, and 10 percent identified as *NAEYC Accredited*.

Scholarships & Cost Share

Half (50 percent) of licensed programs received CCDF scholarship reimbursements from DHHS, and 60 percent of those charged the DHHS-assigned cost share to parents.

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Rates

Weekly rates were the most common way of charging for full-time programs while daily rates and weekly rates were most common for part-time programs. For school-age programs, a weekly rate was most common. Few programs (10 percent) offered a sliding fee scale to parents.

2021 Full-Time Weekly Rates

	Average	50 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
Infant	\$259.96	\$255.00	\$289.00
Toddler	\$241.01	\$240.00	\$265.00
Preschool I	\$219.00	\$210.00	\$243.00
Preschool II	\$215.29	\$205.00	\$230.00
School-Age I	\$212.46	\$200.00	\$227.50
School-Age II	\$201.11	\$191.00	\$226.25

2021 School-Age II Weekly Rates

	Average	50 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
Before & After School	\$110.90	\$95.00	\$145.00
Before School Only	\$53.75	\$50.00	\$67.50
After School Only	\$76.97	\$70.00	\$82.00

2021

Average

	Infant	Toddler	Preschool I	Preschool II	School Age I	School Age II
Central	\$234.81	\$215.88	\$200.89	\$202.41	\$188.23	\$171.00
Eastern	\$283.33	\$257.80	\$232.04	\$235.20	\$250.50	\$231.67
Northern	\$209.00	\$196.00	\$179.00	\$181.09	NA*	NA*
Southern	\$270.56	\$252.20	\$229.47	\$218.97	\$211.82	\$211.34
Southwestern	\$240.23	\$233.19	\$212.62	\$205.38	NA*	NA*

Full-Time Weekly Rate Regional Variations

NA: Insufficient data. Contact DHHS for a list of towns by region.

2021 Average Staff Wages

	Paid Hourly	Paid Annually
Director	\$20.74	\$45,689.00
Lead Teacher	\$15.88	\$30,207.00
Teacher	\$13.83	\$26,990.00
Teacher Asst.	\$11.72	\$19,976.00

Online Report: Please insert the DHHS URL where the report can be found