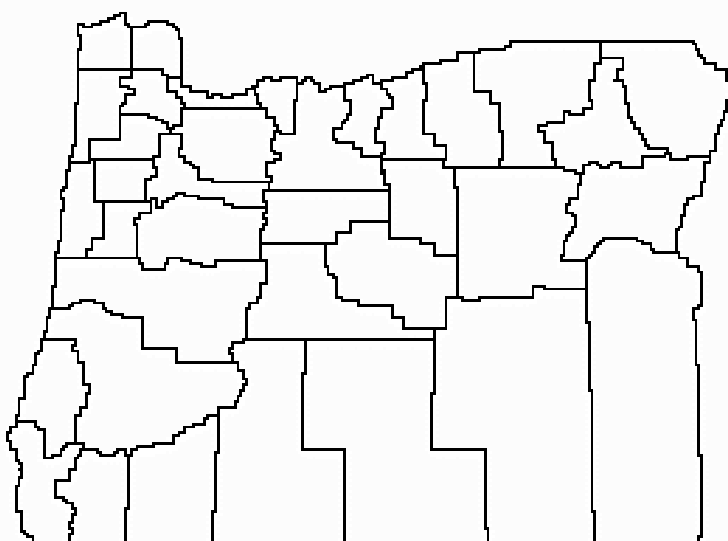

Child Care and Education in Oregon and Its Counties: 2000



Child Care and Education in Oregon and Its Counties is based on the findings from *Data for Community Planning: 2000 Oregon Population Estimates & Survey Findings*. Complete document can be downloaded from <http://www.hhs.oregonstate.edu/familypolicy/occrp>.

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Child Care and Education in Oregon

What happens to children in the early years matters. The foundation for success in school is built. School success is ever more important and yet approximately a third of Oregon's kindergartners come to school unprepared.¹ Only one-third of children have a parent who is not in the paid workforce. Children's success depends on both care and education. Oregon's child care and education system is increasingly important to our ability to have a strong workforce today as well as to ensure that we will have one in the future.

Every two years the Child Care Research Partnership takes a snapshot of how Oregon's child care and education system is doing. *Child Care and Education in Oregon and Its Counties* describes how the system is working through state and county profiles. The report links study findings to Oregon's principal child care benchmarks: affordability, availability and quality.

- Affordability emerges as the major issue. In most of the state the price of child care exceeds public college tuition. This is especially an issue for families earning under \$25,000 who spend 22% of their household income on child care.
- Availability of infant/toddler care and care for children with special needs is an issue throughout the state. Problems with availability of care are greatest in rural counties.
- Low wages and an absence of benefits result in a crisis-level shortage of persons willing to work in the child care industry. Low levels of training and high staff turnover threaten the quality of care available.

More detailed information can be found in a companion document, *Data for Community Planning: 2000 Oregon Population Estimates and Survey Findings*. Information on how to access the more detailed publication is found on the back page of this profile.

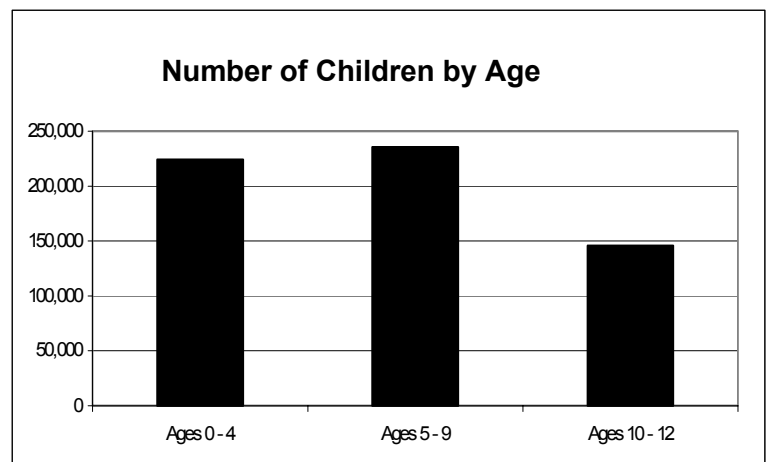
How Many Children Under 13 Live in Oregon?²

In 2000, there were 604,231 children age 0-12 years:

- 224,027 children age 0-4 years
- 235,548 children age 5-9 years
- 145,920 children age 10-12 years

Percentage of Children under 18 by Race/Ethnicity

▪ White, non-Hispanic	76.3%
▪ Hispanic, any race	12.7%
▪ African-American	1.9%
▪ Native American	1.5%
▪ Asian	2.9%
▪ Pacific Islander	.3%
▪ Other race	.2%
▪ Two or more races	4.2%

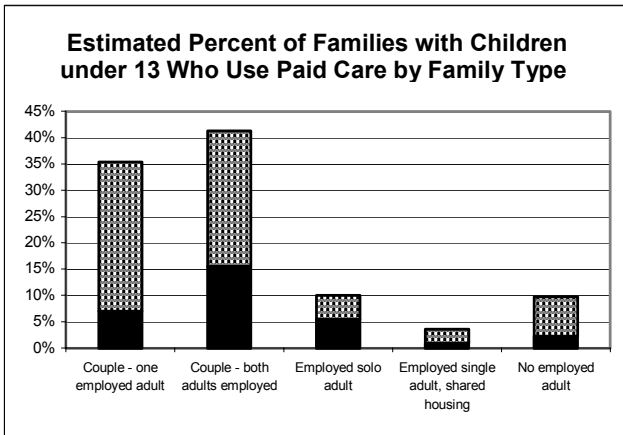


¹ Oregon Department of Education. *Readiness To Learn: Report 1997 Kindergarten Survey*. Salem, Oregon. 1997.

² Data generated by the Center for Population Research and Census at Portland State University, and Office of Economic Analysis, Oregon Department of Administrative Services.

How Many Families Use Paid Care and How Many Children Under 13 are in Paid Care³

Use of child care depends on age of children, marital status of parents, and employment status of parents.



- ❑ Depending on family type, from 3% to 41% of families with children under 13 use paid care
- ❑ 55% of families with children under 13 have employed parents
- ❑ 45% of families with children under 13 have at least one parent not in the workforce
- ❑ Families use an average of 33.4 hours of paid care per week
- ❑ 27% of children are in some form of paid care

Percent of Children Under 13 in Paid Care by Age and Group

Use of child care depends on age of children. Whether a family uses paid care and what type of care they use is related to the age of the child.

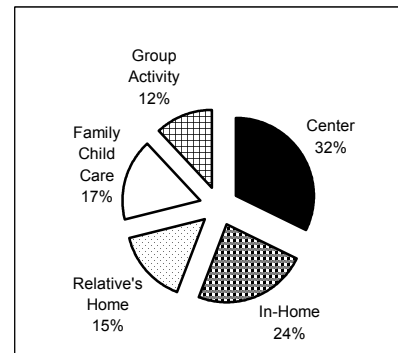
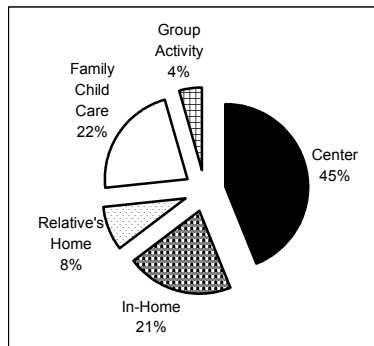
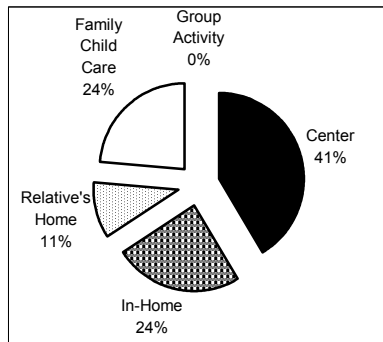
	Ages 0-4	Ages 5-9	Ages 10-12
In Paid Care	34%	31%	11%
Not In Paid Care	66%	69%	89%

Type of Care Used for Children in Paid Care by Age Group

Ages 0-4

Ages 5-9

Ages 10-12



How Much Child Care Do We Have?⁴

The following community resources exist for Oregon families.

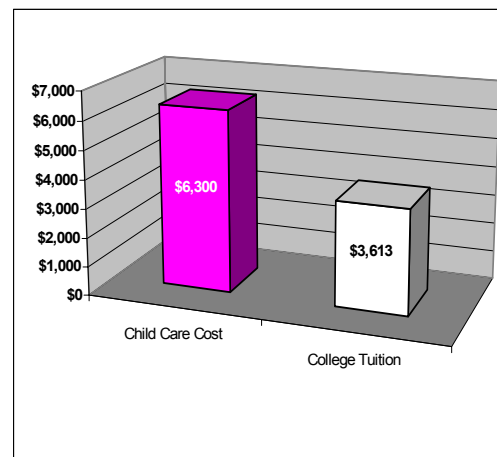
- ❑ 68,490 slots in child care and education centers
- ❑ 50,236 slots in family child care
- ❑ Oregon's goal is to have 25 *visible* slots for every 100 children. Oregon currently has 20 visible slots per 100 children.

³ Percentages of children by family type and use of paid care from analysis of Oregon Progress Board's Oregon Population Survey, 2000. Sample size not adequate to calculate use of paid care family type at regional level. Graph combines regional family type estimates and statewide estimates of use of paid care by family type. Estimate for use of paid care is regional estimate.

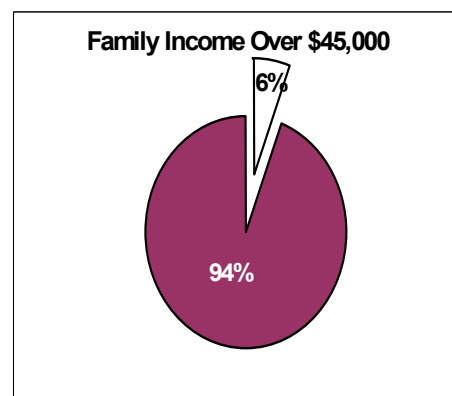
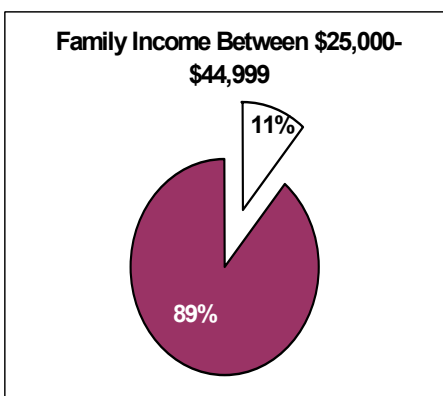
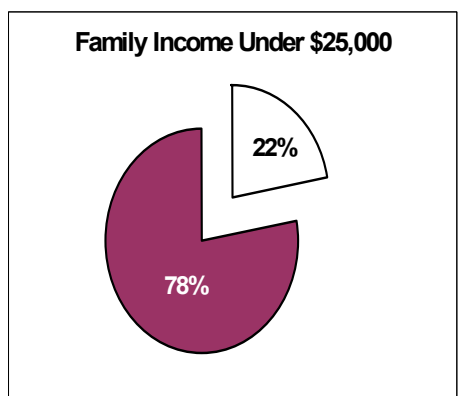
⁴ County data provided by local Child Care Resource and Referral Network (CCR&R) using Child Care Division regulatory and local data. Visible slots refer to care in child care centers and family care homes identified by the local CCR&R.

How Much Does Child Care Cost? Is It Affordable?⁵

- Average annual cost of toddler care in child care centers \$6,300
- Average annual college tuition \$3,613
- Earnings of a minimum wage worker \$13,000
- Care of a toddler as a percent of minimum wage 48.5%



Percent of Household Income Spent on Child Care⁶



Affordability Benchmark

- 62% of all Oregon families spend less than a tenth of their family income on child care
- 35% of families with below median incomes spend less than a tenth of their family income on child care

Number of Children Whose Families are Getting Help in Paying for Child Care⁷

- 8,162 children age 3-4 years enrolled in Head Start (47% of eligible)
- 25,271 children age 0-12 years receiving state assistance with part or all of their child care costs

What Is the Quality of Child Care Available?⁸

- 16% of children have parents who report that their children **do not** always feel safe and secure
- 38% of children have parents who report that their children **do not** always get lots of individual attention
- 46% of caregivers are reported to be **not always** open to new information and learning

⁵State-level cost of toddler care provided by Grobe, D. and Pratt, C. *2000 Oregon Child Care Market Rate Study*. Oregon minimum wage as of January 2000. Average annual tuition for a full-time undergraduate student of Oregon State University, Portland State University, and University of Oregon during the 1999-2000 academic year.

⁶Percent of household income spent on child care and affordability measure from analysis of Oregon Population Survey, 2000.

⁷Head Start data provided by Head Start Collaboration Project, Oregon Department of Education. Subsidy data provided by Department of Human Services.

⁸Parent report of quality of their child care from analysis of Oregon Population Survey, 2000.

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Or download a copy from: <http://www.hhs.oregonstate.edu/familypolicy/occrp>.