STATE OF THE CHILDREN: EARLY LEARNING & CARE
DATA SOURCES/REFERENCES

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The following information provides detailed citations for the data and research used to create the State of Children: Early Learning and Care products including statewide & regional 2-pagers and county-level dashboard.

For additional information or questions please contact Senior Program Officer Soleil Boyd, Ph.D. at soleil@washingtonstem.org or Impact Director Min Hwangbo, Ph.D. at min@washingtonstem.org.

Suggested Citation:

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Heckman, J. (2016). The Economics of Human Potential,. Retrieved from:
https://heckmanequation.org/resource/perry-preschool-midlife-toolkit/

https://www.impact.upenn.edu/early-childhood-toolkit/why-invest/what-is-the-return-on-investment/
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**Vision and Equity Statement Cover Page**

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
Vision and Equity Statement data referring to kindergarten readiness comes from the Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) Assessment provided by the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction State Report Card. WaKIDS includes an assessment that is administered during the first two months of kindergarten. Teachers observe students across six areas of development and learning: Social-Emotional, Physical, Language, Cognitive, Literacy and Math. While the only requirement for kindergarten is to be five years of age by August 31, children who demonstrate readiness in all six areas have a greater likelihood of success in kindergarten and beyond. WaKids results are not available in the 2020-21 school year since that year's administration was affected by school closures due to Covid-19.

**Demographics (Race & Ethnicity) of Young Children Under Age 6 Dashboard**

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
Each year, the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) uses the Census Bureau data to update the Small Area Demographic Estimates (SADE) and related products. In 2022, OFM used the 2020 Census data released to provide preliminary county-level data updates as the Census Bureau has not released the most up-to-date data (2021) that OFM needs to fully update the SADE. Visit [https://ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics/population-estimates/estimates-april-1-population-age-sex-race-and-hispanic-origin](https://ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics/population-estimates/estimates-april-1-population-age-sex-race-and-hispanic-origin) for more information.
Demographics | Common Languages

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
The American Community Survey (ACS) releases new data every year through a variety of data tables that you can access with different data tools. Language spoken at home data help communities in educating children, ensuring equal opportunity, and understanding changes in the communities. Visit [https://www.census.gov/acs/www/about/why-we-ask-each-question/language/](https://www.census.gov/acs/www/about/why-we-ask-each-question/language/) for more information.

Cost of Child Care | Families & Cost of Child Care | Monthly (Economic Impact)

1. Child care should not cost no more than 7% of a family's income

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
Washington State Department of Commerce (COM) uses the benchmark definition from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in which the amount a family pays for the cost of child care should not exceed seven percent of the family's income. This was also stated in Second Substitute House Bill 1344, Chapter 368, Laws of 2019 (2019) under Section 6 (2SHB 1344. SL, p.11), “establishing a graduated system of copayments that eliminates the cliff effect for families and limits the amount a family pays for child care to a maximum of seven percent of the family's income by January 1, 2025.”
2. Cost of Child Care | Families

a. Federal Poverty (2022):

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
Each year, the office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) reports U.S. federal poverty guidelines used to determine financial eligibility for certain programs. ASPE is the principal advisor to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on policy development, and is responsible for major activities in policy coordination, legislation development, strategic planning, policy research, evaluation, and economic analysis.

b. State Median Income Level (2022):

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (WA DSHS) publishes the state median income chart to determine financial eligibility for certain programs including the 85% income limit as an income limit for the Family Copayment for Subsidized Child Care administered by Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families.

c. Self-Sufficiency Wage (2020):

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
The Center for Women’s Welfare Self-Sufficiency Standard defines the income working families need to meet a minimum yet adequate level, considering family composition, ages of children, and geographic differences in costs of living. The standard is an affordability and living wage economic security measure that provides an alternative to the official poverty measure. The data will be updated in 2024 as the center calculates the self-sufficiency standard in a four-year term.
d. Copay table (2022):

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
On April 1, 2022, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families updated the copayment calculation for families. The Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP) uses the State Median Income (SMI) to determine copay categories and income limits. The SMI is updated annually every April. The copay calculation chart updates child care eligibility income limits for new applications or reapplications beginning April 1.


Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
Child Care Aware of Washington (CCA of WA) works to improve early learning opportunities for Washington’s children in a variety of ways including connecting families to high-quality child care and early learning programs, and CCA of WA supports child care providers who deliver high-quality care. In pursuit of such goal(s), every April, CCA of WA collects information about monthly child care costs for families by facility type (i.e. center-based, family child care, and school-age programs). CCA of WA uses aggregated data on child care programs for the purpose of describing the child care system to the public and to advocate on behalf of families, children, and child care providers. This is not data about specific, individual programs, such as names or addresses. Visit https://childcareawarewa.org/advocacy/#data for more information.

Workforce | Wage Disparities
Suggested Citation of Data Source:
https://esd.wa.gov/labormarketinfo/occupations

Data Overview:
OEWS is a program of the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). This federal-state cooperative program produces employment and wage estimates annually for nearly 800 occupations. Each year, the OEWS unit compiles occupational employment and wage estimates for Washington state. These data are displayed statewide, by metropolitan statistical area (MSA) and nonmetropolitan area (NMA). All data are at the cross-industry level
DCYF Early Learning Dashboards

Suggested Citation of Data Source:

Data Overview:
In partnership with Washington STEM, DCYF hosts a suite of dashboards related to different topics in early learning. The main purpose of these dashboards is to measure progress toward the goals set forth in the Fair Start for Kids Act and to help inform planning efforts at state, regional, and local levels. Information regarding the DCYF Early Learning Dashboards can be found on https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/practice/oiaa/reports/early-learning-dashboards. For questions about the maps or underlying data, please contact oiaa@dcyf.wa.gov.