

Child Care in America

2012 State Facts

Southern Early Childhood Association



A Summary of the SECA States

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NOTES

Excerpted from *Child Care in America* by Child Care Aware

Available at

<http://www.naccrra.org/public-policy/resources/child-care-state-fact-sheets-0>

Child Care Aware of America (formerly the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies) has just released the 2012 issue of *Child Care in America*. This report provides a snapshot of the overall picture of child care in America and a state-by-state data analysis of the following factors:

- Numbers of children by state in child care.
- Demographics for working women & families.
- The range of the cost of care in that state.
- Information on the child care workforce.
- Information on Child Care Resource & Referral agencies by state.

FROM THE REPORT: *“Data were gathered from federal and national sources and from State CCR&R Networks and other CCR&Rs surveyed in early 2012. In some states, mid-year transitions in statewide contracting of CCR&R services or the absence of a state network caused difficulty in reporting 2011 statewide training and referral data. In several states, cost data are only available every two years from the state market rate survey. In three states (**Alabama**, **Louisiana** and **West Virginia**), no 2011 data were reported by the CCR&Rs. Child care capacity was provided by the state child care administrator’s office in these states.”*

FROM SECA: Data sources for the statistics provided in this summary are cited in the original report: you will find those sources at the website listed above.

This summary should be useful to child care advocates as you work to ensure that the sources of financial support for child care are allocated and spent wisely in your state. Since most of the supplemental funding for child care (support not provided by parental fees) is through the federal Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG or Title XX), having good statistics to

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make your case about how to spend these federal dollars wisely to support families is essential. The *Child Care Aware* report covers the nation: we've excerpted the statistics from the SECA region to make your job in retrieving comparative data a little easier.

America's Statistics

Number of children under age 6	23,363,909
Percentage of children under age 6 living with both parents	65%
Number of children under age 6 living with a single parent	8,126,541
Number of children under age 6 requiring child care, as both parents are working	15,060,140
Percentage of mothers in the workforce with children under age 1	61%
Percentage of child care referral requests for infant/toddler care	51%
Percentage of childcare referral requests for pre-school age care	29%
Percentage of childcare referral requests for school-age care	21%

Source: *Child Care in America-2012 State Fact Sheets*, Child Care Aware of America, p.8

<http://www.naccrra.org/public-policy/resources/child-care-state-fact-sheets-0>

America's Child Care Patterns and Supply

Number of children under age 5 who are in some type of child care while their mother works	10.9 million
Percentage of children under age 5 in center-based care while mother works	26%
Percentage of children under age 5 in the care of grandparents while mother works	21%
Percentage of children under age 5 in the care of a relative while mother works	6%
Percentage of children under age 5 in family child care while mother works	6%
Percentage of children under age 5 in the care of another nonrelative while mother works	8%
Number of children under age 5 with no regular child care arrangement whose mother works	1.2 million
Number of child care centers	117,000
Number of family child care homes	209,000
Number of other child care programs	4,200
Percent of centers that are nationally accredited	10%
Percent of family child care homes that are nationally accredited	1%

Source: *Child Care in America-2012 State Fact Sheets*, Child Care Aware of America, p.9

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Cost of Child Care in America

Range, average annual fees for full-time care for an infant in a center	\$4,600-\$20,200
Range, average annual fees for full-time care for a 4-year-old in a center	\$3,900-\$15,450
Range, average annual fees for full-time care for an infant in a family child care home	\$4,000-\$12,350
Range, average annual fees for full-time care for a 4-year-old child in a family child care home	\$3,850-\$9,600
Range, average annual fees for before-after-school care for a school-age child in a center	\$1,950-\$10,950
Range, average annual fees for before-after-school care for a school-age child in a family child care home	\$1,800-\$9,500

Source: *Child Care in America-2012 State Fact Sheets*, Child Care Aware of America, p. 10

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The Child Care Workforce in America

Number of individuals who earn a living caring for children under age 5	2.2 million
Number of child care workers all center-based settings	1.1 million
Number of child care workers in family child care homes	250,000
Number of child care workers who are paid relatives of the child	589,000
Number of child care workers who are paid non-relatives, but unregulated	229,000
Average earnings of child care workers	\$21,320
Average earnings of preschool teachers	\$30,150
Percentage of child caregivers who are women	97%
Percentage of center teachers with only a high school diploma or less	20%
Number of states that require a high school diploma or less for lead teachers	32
Percent of family child care providers with a high school diploma or less	44%
Number of states that require a high school diploma or less for regulated family child care	41
Number of states with comprehensive background check requirements for teachers in centers	10
Number of states with comprehensive background check requirements for family child care providers	9

Source: *Child Care in America-2012 State Fact Sheets*, Child Care Aware of America, p. 10

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The SECA States

Disclaimer: This information is provided by the Southern Early Childhood Association to assist in advocacy efforts by our members and colleagues. The data contained in this report is provided by *Child Care Aware* and SECA has extracted that data to provide this summary of the SECA states. If you have questions concerning your state's data, you will need to contact Child Care Aware at <http://childcareaware.org/contact-us>.

Number of Children and Families in Your State

State	Children ages birth-4 years	Children ages 5-11	Total families with children	Single parent families	Families in poverty
Alabama	305,117	435,438	524,215	185,166	124,357
Arkansas	197,752	277,459	323,276	114,535	81,445
Florida	1,079,012	1,519,285	1,842,338	655,581	356,913
Georgia	689,700	964,012	1,131,041	386,622	234,674
Kentucky	281,674	394,949	492,186	162,447	117,061
Louisiana	311,344	426,755	498,246	193,404	118,004
Mississippi	211,294	288,988	328,727	132,307	98,982
North Carolina	630,772	882,462	1,092,463	369,894	229,153
Oklahoma	260,983	356,186	423,487	140,052	91,436
South Carolina	301,242	410,155	496,716	183,706	114,272
Tennessee	407,239	575,392	705,818	237,323	157,877
Texas	1,923,634	2,634,759	3,004,712	947,179	648,735
Virginia	506,057	709,375	901,143	264,337	115,388
West Virginia	103,754	147,388	183,476	56,414	44,864

Source: *Child Care in America-2012 State Fact Sheets*, Child Care Aware of America
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Number of Centers/Family Child Care Homes Available and Average Cost of Care Per State

<i>State</i>	<i>Number of Centers & Average Cost of Care</i>	<i>Number of Family Child Care Homes & Average Cost of Care</i>
<i>Alabama</i>	1,284 \$5,356 Infant---\$5,668 4-year-old	1,154 \$4,628 Infant---\$4,758 4-year-old
<i>Arkansas</i>	2,307 \$5,437 Infant---\$4,695 4-year-old	775 \$4,551 Infant---\$4,131 4-year-old
<i>Florida</i>	9,264 \$8,009 Infant---\$6,368 4-year-old	5,008 \$7,138 Infant---\$6,058 4-year-old
<i>Georgia</i>	3,829 \$7,030 Infant---\$6,062 4-year-old	3,172 \$5,564 Infant---\$5,033 4-year-old
<i>Kentucky</i>	2,137 \$6,594 Infant---\$5,766 4-year-old	725 \$5,656 Infant---\$5,185 4-year-old
<i>Louisiana</i>	1,748 \$5,901 Infant---\$5,364 4-year-old	7,509 \$4,828 Infant---\$4,291 4-year-old
<i>Mississippi</i>	1,717 \$4,591 Infant---\$3,911 4-year-old	226 \$4,020 Infant---\$3,840 4-year-old
<i>North Carolina</i>	4,794 \$9,185 Infant---\$7,774 4-year-old	3,098 \$7,106 Infant---\$6,227 4-year-old
<i>Oklahoma</i>	1,722 \$7,288 Infant---\$5,397 4-year-old	2,529 \$5,870 Infant---\$5,047 4-year-old
<i>South Carolina</i>	1,809 \$5,855 Infant---\$5,455 4-year-old	1,506 \$4,544 Infant---\$4,095 4-year-old
<i>Tennessee</i>	3,927 \$7,748 Infant---\$6,578 4-year-old	1,046 \$5,472 Infant---\$5,095 4-year-old
<i>Texas</i>	9,528 \$8,323 Infant---\$6,414 4-year-old	14,072 \$6,396 Infant---\$5,013 4-year-old
<i>Virginia</i>	6,856 \$10,670 Infant---\$8,296 4-year-old	4,231 \$8,622 Infant---\$7,447 4-year-old
<i>West Virginia</i>	364 \$6,932 Infant---\$5,806 4-year-old	2,271 \$6,269 Infant---\$5,730 4-year-old

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Children Under Age 6 Potentially Needing Child Care and Spaces/Slots Available

State	Total Children Potentially Needing Care	Total Spaces Available
Alabama	224,615	Not reported
Arkansas	149,224	197,308
Florida	836,080	766,009
Georgia	512,633	476,109
Kentucky	200,753	133,189
Louisiana	237,181	Not reported
Mississippi	158,047	137,124
North Carolina	479,417	474,846
Oklahoma	184,166	135,487
South Carolina	231,201	185,916
Tennessee	300,701	370,717
Texas	1,324,496	1,116,999
Virginia	386,708	573,202
West Virginia	69,497	Not reported

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Affordability of Child Care as Percentage of Income

(Cost of full-time infant care in a center as percent of median family income)

State	Percent of income for married couples	Percent of income for single mothers
Alabama	8%	27%
Arkansas	9%	29%
Florida	11%	32%
Georgia	9%	30%
Kentucky	10%	35%
Louisiana	8%	30%
Mississippi	7%	26%
North Carolina	13%	43%
Oklahoma	11%	36%
South Carolina	8%	28%
Tennessee	11%	38%
Texas	12%	37%
Virginia	12%	37%
West Virginia	11%	41%

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The Child Care Workforce in the SECA States

<i>State</i>	<i>Number of workers in centers</i>	<i>Average annual income of child care workers</i>
<i>Alabama</i>	11,060	\$18,390
<i>Arkansas</i>	6,530	\$17,890
<i>Florida</i>	35,430	\$20,160
<i>Georgia</i>	19,930	\$18,990
<i>Kentucky</i>	12,500	\$19,030
<i>Louisiana</i>	7,840	\$18,640
<i>Mississippi</i>	5,130	\$18,070
<i>North Carolina</i>	21,350	\$19,300
<i>Oklahoma</i>	6,850	\$18,640
<i>South Carolina</i>	7,910	\$18,690
<i>Tennessee</i>	12,650	\$18,270
<i>Texas</i>	53,860	\$19,050
<i>Virginia</i>	15,650	\$21,170
<i>West Virginia</i>	2,770	\$17,780

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