

Data Definitions

Child Care Center: A facility licensed by the Office of Early Childhood that offers full time/part time regular care to more than twelve related or unrelated children outside of their homes. Child Care Centers also include Group Child Care Homes that provide care for 7 to 12 children. Child Care Centers also include programs that are exempt from licensing. Exempt programs are administered by a public school system, municipality and/or private school.

Family Child Care Home: An individual licensed in their home to provide child care for up to 9 children.

Legally Authorized Capacity: Number of assigned slots in programs for center, group child care care home and family child care homes licensed by the Office of Early Childhood and license-exempt center based programs which are largely in public school and municipal settings.

Actual Capacity: The sum of reported openings and reported enrollment that refers to number of slots offered by program. Actual capacity is less than or equal to Legally Authorized Capacity

% Actual vs Authorized Capacity: Percent of actual capacity divided by legally authorized capacity

Enrollment: A full time slot utilized with a child enrolled as reported by the program other than Nursery School and School Age slots which are partial day enrollments, spanning multiple sessions.

Openings: Child Care slot(s) available for enrollment for a child/ren of the corresponding age(s). Openings are self-reported by program either by age group or at the facility level. Openings reported at the facility level are divided by all ages served.

Openings %: Percent of reported openings divided by the actual capacity for that age group.

Age Groups and Age Range:

- **Infant/Toddler:** 0 to 35 months in Center Based programs, 0-17 months in Family Child Care programs.
- **Preschool:** 3 years to 5 years in Center Based programs, 18 months to 5 years in Family Child Care programs.
- **School Age:** 5 years to 12 years in Center Based programs and in Family Child Care programs.
- **Nursery School:** Part Day Enrichment program for 3 years to 5 years.

Data Collection

Overall, 62% of all programs provided enrollment and openings information.

Enrollment and Openings were collected November 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, via telephone and electronic surveys.

Data includes actual reported enrollment and openings information and projected enrollment and openings information from programs that did not report.

Data Capacity Calculations

The following methods were used to calculate age group capacity.

Exempt Child Care Centers

- Exempt child care centers are not regulated by OEC licensing and are able to determine their own program level and age group capacity. Capacity is self-reported by the program.

Child Care Center Infant and Toddler Capacity

- Child Care Center Infant Capacity
 - Assigned 50% licensed under 3 years program capacity.
 - If program reported actual capacity greater or less than this age group capacity, capacity was changed to reflect actual capacity.
- Child Care Center Toddler Capacity
 - Assigned 50% licensed under 3 years program capacity.
 - If program did not serve infants, total licensed under 3 years capacity was assigned to this age group.
 - If program reported actual capacity greater or less than this age group capacity, capacity was changed to reflect actual capacity.

Child Care Center Preschool Capacity

- If program serves preschool age only, preschool capacity was assigned from total capacity.
- If program serves infant, toddlers, and preschool only, preschool capacity was calculated from total capacity minus license under 3 years program capacity.

- If a program serves infant, toddler, preschool and school age, preschool capacity was calculated from total capacity minus license under 3 years program capacity to attain remaining capacity, then used projected counts from historical data, percentage of 60% was multiplied by remaining capacity.
- If program reported actual capacity greater or less than this age group capacity, capacity was changed to reflect actual capacity.

Child Care Center School Age Capacity

- If a program serves school age only, school age capacity was assigned from total capacity.
- If a program serves preschool and school age, school age capacity was calculated from historical data, percentage of 40% was multiplied by total program capacity.
- If a program serves infant, toddler, preschool and school age, school age capacity was calculated from total capacity minus license under 3 years program capacity to attain remaining capacity, then used counts from historical data, percentage of 40% was multiplied by remaining capacity.
- If program reported actual capacity greater or less than this age group capacity, capacity was changed to reflect actual capacity.

Family Child Care Home Capacity

- Family Child Care Home Infant Capacity
 - (2) slots were assigned to this age group.
 - If provider reported actual capacity greater or less than this age group capacity, capacity was changed to reflect actual capacity.
- Family Child Care Home Preschool Capacity
 - (4) slots were assigned to this age group.
 - If provider reported actual capacity greater or less than this age group capacity, capacity was changed to reflect actual capacity.
- Family Child Care Homes School Age Capacity
 - (3) slots were assigned to this age group.
 - If provider reported actual capacity greater or less than this age group capacity, capacity was changed to reflect actual capacity.

Data Approximations

211 Child Care used a methodology for projecting enrollment and openings data from programs that did not report.

- Projected enrollment was calculated from reported enrollment based on care type, age group and setting size. Projected % enrollment was multiplied by age group capacity to attain an enrollment value
- Projected openings were calculated from reported openings based on care type, age group and setting size. Projected % opening was multiplied by age group capacity to attain an opening value.

The following approximations were used and are shown in the table below.

Projected Percentage of Enrollment and Openings for Programs with No Response				
Care Type	Setting Size	Age Group	Projected Percent of Enrollment	Projected Percent of Openings
Center Based	Large	Infant (0-17 months)	64.76%	13.85%
Center Based	Large	Preschool (C) 3y-5y, (H) 18m-5y	72.86%	10.14%
Center Based	Large	School Age (5 to 12 years)	40.98%	17.75%
Center Based	Large	Toddler (C) 18 months to 3 years	74.48%	13.12%
Center Based	Medium	Infant (0-17 months)	63.97%	17.50%
Center Based	Medium	Preschool (C) 3y-5y, (H) 18m-5y	72.33%	12.90%
Center Based	Medium	School Age (5 to 12 years)	44.14%	15.44%
Center Based	Medium	Toddler (C) 18 months to 3 years	73.08%	16.22%
Center Based	Small	Infant (0-17 months)	66.92%	21.62%
Center Based	Small	Preschool (C) 3y-5y, (H) 18m-5y	76.96%	14.18%
Center Based	Small	School Age (5 to 12 years)	51.82%	25.91%
Center Based	Small	Toddler (C) 18 months to 3 years	77.00%	13.59%
Family Child Care Home	Small	Infant (0-17 months)	42.35%	41.64%
Family Child Care Home	Small	Preschool (C) 3y-5y, (H) 18m-5y	53.83%	32.21%
Family Child Care Home	Small	School Age (5 to 12 years)	29.22%	37.64%

*Projected percentages were calculated by taking total enrollment of reported programs with same care type, setting size, age group and dividing by total legally authorized age group capacity.

**Projected percentages were calculated by taking total openings of reported programs with same care type, setting size, age group and dividing by total legally authorized age group capacity.