



# Estimating the true cost of child care in all 50 states

A new cost model tool to support a deeper understanding of the true cost of child care

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## Child care is expensive. It should cost even more.

The increasingly high price of child care is a topic often discussed in news [articles](#), blogs, and [podcasts](#), in parent groups, legislative [hearings](#), and White House [summits](#). However, too often, these discussions avoid the reality of the broken child care business model, which is that child care should actually cost *more* than it currently does. This is a labor-intensive industry that arguably provides a [public good](#), enabling parents to go to work or school and contribute to the economy. But the tuition prices that most child care providers charge – those high tuition prices which are a [significant burden](#) for most families – are not enough to cover the cost of the service. For instance, the current tuition rates, or the price of child care, are not enough to pay educators in those programs a wage that allows them to provide for their own families. The result is an underpaid workforce with higher-than-average turnover, which leads to instability for programs and children. In turn, Child Care Programs struggle to recruit and retain staff. This has contributed to a [large decline](#) in the number of available child care slots across the country, leaving parents scrambling to put together a patchwork of care across multiple care providers and family members.

At Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies, we have worked with states and communities across the country to help them understand the true cost of child care – what it actually takes for child care programs to meet state licensing requirements, provide safe and quality care, and to pay educators at a level that

both acknowledges the critical role they play in child development and compensates them as professionals. Several states have made great strides in recent years, doing the work to develop a deeper understanding of the cost of care and the broken market, increasing public funding so that subsidy reimbursement rates cover the cost of care, and changing eligibility requirements so more working families can receive assistance in paying for child care. However, across the country there remains a lack of understanding at most levels of decision making about why child care costs what it costs, why it should cost more, and why the true cost is beyond the means of most working families.

Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies (P5FS) has developed a 50-state child care cost model to improve understanding of this critical issue. This interactive web-based tool allows users to estimate the true cost of child care in each state and to see how that cost is impacted by various program characteristics, including program size, ages of children served, and workforce compensation levels.

### **Child Care Cost Models**

Child care cost models are [critical tools to inform policymaking](#) and support a better understanding of the child care business model. They provide transparency into the operating costs of child care programs, how regulations and quality standards impact cost, and they illustrate how the math simply does not add up when trying to balance expenses and revenue. Cost models can range from complex spreadsheet-based models that are informed by deep constituent engagement and fully customized for the state or community context, to web-based calculators that use default data and offer limited customization. A detailed tool is necessary when using results to inform public funding rates, but a high-level model is often sufficient for the purposes of illustrating the broken child care system and operating model and advocating for increased funding.

## **Why a new cost model tool?**

Cost modeling exists on a continuum, ranging from complex spreadsheet models with seemingly infinite variations, to online calculators with limited customization options. P5FS has developed Excel-based child care models to inform Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) rate setting as an [alternative](#) to using market prices, including for Washington, DC, New Mexico, and Virginia, the first CCDF lead agencies to use this approach. These models are necessarily complex, informed by deep and intentional constituent engagement, and fully customized to the regulations and quality standards of the state. At the other end of the continuum are tools such as [costofchildcare.org](http://costofchildcare.org), a web-based interactive hosted by the Center for American Progress and developed by P5FS. This tool provides a user-friendly way to estimate the cost of care in each state using default data and a limited number of variables, which can help provide high-level answers with minimal effort on the user's part.

In the middle of this continuum is the [Provider Cost of Quality Calculator](#), (or PCQC) a tool developed by the U.S. Office of Child Care to support state-level policymakers in understanding the cost of

providing quality child care and the fiscal impact of state standards. The PCQC includes default values and calculations but also allows users to customize several data inputs if state-specific data is available. The PCQC can be a powerful tool for state administrators and others who can customize inputs for their specific state. However, to get the best outputs from the PCQC requires some effort to input customized and state-specific data which may not be possible for all audiences.

The [50-State Child Care Cost Model](#) offers a new addition to the field, sitting in the middle of the cost modeling continuum. The tool uses P5FS' well-established [cost modeling methodology](#) and includes default data to allow users to estimate the cost of care in their state. However, the tool also provides the ability to customize the primary drivers of cost for a program, namely those related to staffing and compensation. The tool is intended for a broad audience, including:

- Policymakers who want to understand the impact of potential policy changes on the cost of child care.
- Advocates who wish to understand how much investment is needed to support a robust child care system.
- Child care providers who want to estimate the fiscal impact of programmatic changes on the cost of care.

## Modeling the reality of child care operations

The methodology underpinning the 50-State Child Care Cost Model draws from P5FS' extensive experiences developing child care cost models for states and communities. While the model allows users to modify several variables, by default the following assumptions are incorporated:

- Operates 10 hours per day, 5 days per week, 52 weeks per year.
- Meets all minimum health and safety standards.
- Pays all mandatory employer taxes.
- Has full staffing to always meet ratio and group size requirements, including floaters and substitutes.
- Includes all nonpersonnel expenses related to classroom and educational supplies, rent/lease, utilities and maintenance costs, office supplies, legal and administrative fees.

Beyond these defaults, the user can modify the several variables when navigating the 50-State Child Care Cost Model, as detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Model Variables

Variable	Options
<b>Setting</b>	Choose child care center, family child care home or group family child care home.
<b>State</b>	Run a scenario for any state or use a national average
<b>Ratio and group size</b>	Enter customized ratio and group size assumptions or choose from one of two default options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State licensing ratio and group size requirements.</li> <li>• Caring for Our Children <a href="#">national standards</a>.</li> </ul>
<b>Number of classrooms/children</b>	Select the number of classrooms and the ages of children served.
<b>Salary</b>	Enter customized own salary assumptions or use one of two default options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data, which uses the data collected by the <a href="#">U.S. Department of Labor</a> for the relevant positions in a child care program.</li> <li>• MIT Living Wage, which uses a salary scale informed by the <a href="#">MIT Living Wage Calculator</a> where no staff earn below the living wage for the selected state.</li> </ul>
<b>Health Insurance</b>	Select whether to include the cost of providing health insurance for employees. This is based on data from the <a href="#">Kaiser Family Foundation</a> on the average employer contribution to employee health insurance.
<b>Retirement</b>	Select a percentage of base salary that the child care program pays for retirement benefits.
<b>Paid time off</b>	Enter customized values for paid sick leave and paid vacation or use defaults (10 days each)
<b>Family Engagement</b>	Include cost of conducting family-teacher conferences.
<b>Operating Reserve</b>	Include a contribution to an operating reserve, calculated as a percentage of expenses.

## Why include living wage?

Current salaries for child care workers are woefully inadequate and have been that way for [decades](#). Nationally, child care workers earn an [average](#) of \$13.22 per hour, or around \$28,000 per year, which is \$3,000 less than the [poverty level](#) for a family of four. The national data masks significant ranges across states. In states where the minimum wage remains at the federal level, child care workers are often at this minimum point, \$7.25 an hour, or nearly \$6 an hour below the national average. This results in large numbers of the child care workforce relying on public assistance, with many forced to work second jobs. This can lead to instability and stress for child care educators, high turnover for child care programs, and disruption in children’s learning. As a result, building a cost model with only current salary data does not accurately capture the resources needed to operate a high-quality

program. The 50-State Child Care Cost Model includes an option to run scenarios with a living wage floor to better capture the compensation needed to support a professional workforce. This approach has been used in several recent state cost model projects, including [California](#), [Washington](#), and [New York](#).

The living wage floor is based on data from the [MIT Living Wage Calculator](#), which estimates the cost of meeting basic needs in a state or locality. Developed by Dr. Amy K. Glasmeier at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the calculator draws on expenditure data related to family expenses, including food, child care, health insurance, housing, transportation, and other necessities. After considering the effects of income and payroll taxes, the calculator determines the minimum employment earnings necessary to meet the family's basic needs and maintain self-sufficiency. Estimates vary based on family composition, including the number of children and the number of working and non-working adults.

To create a salary scale with a living wage floor, P5FS used living wage data for a single person with no children in each state. This hourly wage is applied to the lowest-paid position in the child care program, which is the floater/sub and the assistant teacher. Salaries for other positions were adjusted up from this level to account for the additional responsibilities of those roles. The percentage adjustment is informed by data collected by P5FS across multiple states in recent years. In this way, the living wage option represents a floor, where no staff member in the child care program makes less than the living wage in each state. Under this approach, the U.S. average living wage is \$17.23 per hour for an assistant teacher and \$22.44 per hour for a lead teacher. Full details of the salary scale are available in the cost model [methodology](#).

### **Family Child Care specific considerations**

The center-based and family child care options in the 50-State Child Care Cost Model follow the same methodology. However, as small home-based businesses, there are some specific considerations included in the family child care model to account for the unique way these programs operate.

One core element of cost modeling for family child care is acknowledging the compensation of the provider/owner. In line with most small businesses, FCC providers/owners typically see a salary based on what is left at the end of the day between the available revenue and the expenses to run their child care home. The fluctuation can significantly affect income: Providers often report annual net income that, when factored out for working full time, is equivalent to less than the federal minimum wage.

To understand the true cost of delivering care in FCC settings, the 50-state Child Care Cost Model includes compensation (salary and associated mandatory and discretionary benefits) for the provider/owner, as well as for assistants or other staff they use to run their business. With this approach, the cost model more accurately captures the cost of operating an FCC that meets state regulations and ensures home-based providers are compensated in a way that allows them to operate as a core part of the early care and education system.

## Using the model to estimate the cost of care in each state

The 50-State Child Care Cost Model allows users to run an almost infinite number of scenarios. To demonstrate how the model can be used, for the purposes of this issue brief P5FS ran two scenarios for each state. Both scenarios estimate the cost of care using the Living Wage salary selection, to capture the true cost of care including sufficient compensation to recruit and retain educators.

- The first scenario runs the model using state licensing standards for ratio and group size.
- The second scenario uses the Caring for our Children ratio and group size requirements.

In this way, the scenarios hold constant the need to better compensate the workforce but differ in the number of children served in each classroom or family child care home and the staffing ratio to this number of children. Thus, the scenarios demonstrate the additional cost of the lower ratios and group sizes that are often necessary to enable the intentional adult-child interactions that are a core component of high-quality child care.

The selections used in the sample scenarios are detailed in Table 2.

*Table 2: Selection points for default scenarios*

Variable	Selection
<b>Program Size/Ages served</b>	Center – serving infant through school age, five classrooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing: Total capacity varies based on state regulations</li> <li>• CFOC: Total capacity of 64 children.</li> </ul> Small FCC – serving infant through school age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing: Capacity of eight children.</li> <li>• CFOC: Capacity of five children</li> </ul> Group FCC – serving infant through school age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensing: Capacity of 16 children.</li> <li>• CFOC: Capacity of 12 children</li> </ul>
<b>Salary</b>	MIT Living Wage option selected
<b>Health Insurance</b>	Included
<b>Retirement</b>	Not included
<b>Paid Sick</b>	10 days
<b>Paid Leave</b>	10 days
<b>Family Engagement</b>	Included
<b>Operating Reserve</b>	5%

Tables 3 and 4 presents the results under these two scenarios for three settings: (1) Child care centers, (2) Family child care homes, and (3) Group family child care homes. Results are presented as an annual cost per child for the United States average selection in the model.<sup>1</sup> Full state results are available in the appendix of this brief.

<sup>1</sup> In FCC settings the program operates as essentially one classroom, and therefore the model does not produce different costs for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, who are assumed to attend full time. The cost per child for school agers is different because it accounts for a mix of full-time and part-time attendance across the year.

Table 3: Annual Cost per Child, Licensing Ratio/Group Size, U.S. Average

	Infant	Toddler	Three-year-old	Four-year-old	School age
<b>Child Care Center</b>	\$27,620	\$18,615	\$16,814	\$16,814	\$6,920
<b>Family Child Care</b>	\$17,145				\$9,077
<b>Group Family Child Care</b>	\$13,549				\$7,173

Table 4: Annual Cost per Child, Caring for our Children Ratio/Group Size, U.S. Average

	Infant	Toddler	Three-year-old	Four-year-old	School age
<b>Child Care Center</b>	\$32,473	\$27,113	\$20,222	\$19,074	\$9,248
<b>Family Child Care</b>	\$23,993				\$13,087
<b>Group Family Child Care</b>	\$21,390				\$11,324

## Using the model to support decision-making

The 50-State Child Care Cost Model provides a powerful tool for policymakers, advocates, and child care providers. The model offers transparency into the true cost of child care programs, helping deepen understanding of how much revenue is necessary to operate a child care program. Policymakers and advocates can use this information to make data-informed decisions, identifying the funding necessary to support access to affordable quality child care and making the case for increased public investment. For providers, the tool can help support future planning, estimating the fiscal impact of potential program changes.

P5FS is committed to updating the 50-State Child Care Cost Model regularly, make enhancements to functionality and refreshing data defaults to ensure the model provides timely and accurate results to support policymaking. We welcome your feedback on the tool and thoughts on additional cost modeling needs for the field. Feel free to reach out via [info@prenatal5fiscal.org](mailto:info@prenatal5fiscal.org).

## Acknowledgments

The underlying methodology informing the 50-State Child Care Cost Model has been developed and refined across multiple state projects over several years and has benefited from the expertise of the entire P5FS team. In addition, several data assumptions in the model are informed by P5FS' work with child care providers across the country. We wish to thank providers who have completed surveys, joined input sessions, and participated in workgroups, to ensure that the cost models we develop are always informed by those working in the field. This iteration of the model was supported by several P5FS team members, including Veronica Torres, Eli Pessar, and Alejandra Portillo. Special thanks to Jon Manzo who developed the cost model interactive and helped turn a complex spreadsheet into a user-friendly web-based application.



## Appendix: State Results

Table A1: Child Care Center, Annual Cost per Child, Licensing Ratio/Group Size

State	Child Care Center				
	Infant	Toddler	Threes	Fours	School age
Alabama	\$22,013	\$17,154	\$17,154	\$17,154	\$5,889
Alaska	\$23,243	\$20,909	\$16,241	\$16,241	\$7,506
Arizona	\$24,201	\$18,391	\$14,666	\$14,666	\$6,480
Arkansas	\$20,915	\$16,025	\$13,308	\$13,308	\$5,973
California	\$31,218	\$24,093	\$16,968	\$16,968	\$8,525
Colorado	\$24,656	\$20,254	\$16,952	\$16,952	\$7,558
Connecticut	\$27,432	\$27,432	\$17,010	\$17,010	\$9,249
Delaware	\$26,560	\$17,723	\$15,956	\$15,956	\$7,133
District of Columbia	\$33,401	\$33,401	\$22,913	\$22,913	\$9,073
Florida	\$28,902	\$15,750	\$13,745	\$13,745	\$5,851
Georgia	\$21,402	\$15,990	\$13,283	\$13,283	\$5,662
Hawaii	\$33,344	\$21,922	\$18,115	\$18,115	\$7,685
Idaho	\$25,751	\$17,391	\$15,718	\$15,718	\$6,479
Illinois	\$25,353	\$18,236	\$16,364	\$16,364	\$6,869
Indiana	\$24,514	\$17,610	\$14,849	\$14,849	\$6,630
Iowa	\$24,483	\$19,339	\$16,767	\$16,767	\$6,701
Kansas	\$27,694	\$17,859	\$13,927	\$13,927	\$6,595
Kentucky	\$21,055	\$14,449	\$13,348	\$13,348	\$6,566
Louisiana	\$18,633	\$13,831	\$13,135	\$13,135	\$5,490
Maine	\$25,681	\$22,397	\$15,830	\$15,830	\$8,048
Maryland	\$35,908	\$23,013	\$17,855	\$17,855	\$7,916
Massachusetts	\$36,989	\$18,469	\$18,469	\$18,469	\$8,259
Michigan	\$23,989	\$17,554	\$15,836	\$15,836	\$6,556
Minnesota	\$26,180	\$18,775	\$15,812	\$15,812	\$7,054
Mississippi	\$19,936	\$14,143	\$13,647	\$13,647	\$6,402
Missouri	\$24,538	\$16,407	\$14,781	\$14,781	\$6,407
Montana	\$22,984	\$16,885	\$16,885	\$16,885	\$6,838
Nebraska	\$22,561	\$19,111	\$14,818	\$14,818	\$6,641
Nevada	\$20,616	\$16,035	\$14,489	\$14,489	\$6,516
New Hampshire	\$25,699	\$20,227	\$15,595	\$15,595	\$7,673
New Jersey	\$27,210	\$17,845	\$17,845	\$17,845	\$8,081
New Mexico	\$19,460	\$14,883	\$13,739	\$13,739	\$6,772
New York	\$31,731	\$26,884	\$22,303	\$22,303	\$10,683
North Carolina	\$22,273	\$15,146	\$13,129	\$13,129	\$6,483

State	Child Care Center				
	Infant	Toddler	Threes	Fours	School age
North Dakota	\$24,192	\$17,280	\$17,280	\$17,280	\$6,173
Ohio	\$21,604	\$17,822	\$13,882	\$13,882	\$6,226
Oklahoma	\$24,852	\$16,703	\$15,003	\$13,986	\$5,893
Oregon	\$29,320	\$25,470	\$17,770	\$17,770	\$7,877
Pennsylvania	\$25,593	\$23,724	\$15,748	\$15,748	\$7,851
Rhode Island	\$27,592	\$25,604	\$17,873	\$17,873	\$8,137
South Carolina	\$23,123	\$17,633	\$14,584	\$14,584	\$5,814
South Dakota	\$18,728	\$18,728	\$14,684	\$14,684	\$7,411
Tennessee	\$25,223	\$18,128	\$16,025	\$16,025	\$5,882
Texas	\$25,236	\$14,679	\$12,828	\$12,828	\$6,001
Utah	\$27,175	\$19,306	\$14,935	\$14,935	\$6,331
Vermont	\$27,090	\$23,812	\$20,917	\$20,917	\$8,095
Virginia	\$29,643	\$17,708	\$17,708	\$17,708	\$6,929
Washington	\$29,646	\$21,166	\$17,774	\$17,774	\$7,913
West Virginia	\$24,250	\$16,241	\$14,639	\$14,639	\$6,351
Wisconsin	\$25,194	\$19,683	\$15,273	\$15,273	\$6,216
Wyoming	\$24,285	\$19,156	\$15,082	\$15,082	\$6,250
United States	\$27,620	\$18,615	\$16,814	\$16,814	\$6,920

Table A2: Family Child Care & Group Family Child Care, Annual Cost per Child, Licensing Ratio/Group Size

State	Family Child Care		Group Family Child Care	
	Infant-Preschool	School age	Infant-Preschool	School age
Alabama	\$15,439	\$8,174	\$12,189	\$6,453
Alaska	\$17,306	\$9,162	\$13,697	\$7,252
Arizona	\$17,456	\$9,241	\$13,763	\$7,286
Arkansas	\$15,183	\$8,038	\$12,000	\$6,353
California	\$20,333	\$10,765	\$15,947	\$8,442
Colorado	\$18,461	\$9,774	\$14,493	\$7,675
Connecticut	\$17,827	\$9,438	\$14,111	\$7,471
Delaware	\$17,209	\$9,111	\$13,576	\$7,188
District of Columbia	\$21,157	\$11,201	\$16,552	\$8,763
Florida	\$17,553	\$9,293	\$13,862	\$7,338
Georgia	\$17,261	\$9,138	\$13,580	\$7,189
Hawaii	\$20,870	\$11,049	\$16,314	\$8,637
Idaho	\$16,055	\$8,500	\$12,685	\$6,716
Illinois	\$17,748	\$9,396	\$13,988	\$7,405
Indiana	\$15,839	\$8,386	\$12,532	\$6,635

State	Family Child Care		Group Family Child Care	
	Infant-Preschool	School age	Infant-Preschool	School age
Iowa	\$15,633	\$8,277	\$12,344	\$6,535
Kansas	\$15,600	\$8,259	\$12,332	\$6,528
Kentucky	\$15,460	\$8,185	\$12,230	\$6,475
Louisiana	\$15,826	\$8,378	\$12,506	\$6,621
Maine	\$16,771	\$8,879	\$13,300	\$7,041
Maryland	\$18,984	\$10,051	\$14,911	\$7,894
Massachusetts	\$20,318	\$10,757	\$15,904	\$8,420
Michigan	\$16,204	\$8,579	\$12,806	\$6,780
Minnesota	\$16,898	\$8,946	\$13,350	\$7,067
Mississippi	\$15,323	\$8,112	\$12,106	\$6,409
Missouri	\$15,845	\$8,389	\$12,532	\$6,635
Montana	\$15,885	\$8,410	\$12,560	\$6,649
Nebraska	\$15,774	\$8,335	\$12,443	\$6,588
Nevada	\$16,770	\$8,878	\$13,234	\$7,006
New Hampshire	\$17,463	\$9,245	\$13,862	\$7,338
New Jersey	\$18,571	\$9,832	\$14,664	\$7,764
New Mexico	\$16,045	\$8,494	\$12,672	\$6,708
New York	\$20,471	\$10,838	\$16,007	\$8,474
North Carolina	\$16,649	\$8,814	\$13,133	\$6,952
North Dakota	\$15,523	\$8,218	\$12,281	\$6,502
Ohio	\$15,606	\$8,263	\$12,370	\$6,549
Oklahoma	\$15,444	\$8,176	\$12,209	\$6,464
Oregon	\$18,840	\$9,974	\$14,822	\$7,847
Pennsylvania	\$16,519	\$8,746	\$13,071	\$6,920
Rhode Island	\$17,585	\$9,310	\$13,918	\$7,369
South Carolina	\$16,489	\$8,730	\$13,006	\$6,885
South Dakota	\$15,298	\$8,099	\$12,108	\$6,410
Tennessee	\$15,897	\$8,416	\$12,565	\$6,652
Texas	\$16,704	\$8,843	\$13,204	\$6,990
Utah	\$16,889	\$8,941	\$13,291	\$7,036
Vermont	\$16,985	\$8,992	\$13,455	\$7,123
Virginia	\$18,421	\$9,752	\$14,474	\$7,663
Washington	\$19,084	\$10,104	\$15,030	\$7,957
West Virginia	\$15,702	\$8,313	\$12,416	\$6,573
Wisconsin	\$16,076	\$8,511	\$12,707	\$6,727
Wyoming	\$15,799	\$8,364	\$12,509	\$6,622
United States	\$17,145	\$9,077	\$13,549	\$7,173

Table A3: Child Care Center, Annual Cost per Child, Caring for Our Children Ratio/Group Size

State	Child Care Center				
	Infant	Toddler	Threes	Fours	School age
Alabama	\$29,179	\$24,345	\$18,131	\$17,095	\$8,289
Alaska	\$32,748	\$27,385	\$20,490	\$19,341	\$9,382
Arizona	\$33,081	\$27,587	\$20,524	\$19,347	\$9,379
Arkansas	\$28,660	\$23,938	\$17,866	\$16,855	\$8,175
California	\$38,643	\$32,150	\$23,813	\$22,424	\$10,866
Colorado	\$35,029	\$29,156	\$21,604	\$20,345	\$9,859
Connecticut	\$33,804	\$28,241	\$21,089	\$19,897	\$9,647
Delaware	\$32,552	\$27,183	\$20,281	\$19,131	\$9,279
District of Columbia	\$40,123	\$33,412	\$24,783	\$23,345	\$11,319
Florida	\$33,270	\$27,766	\$20,689	\$19,510	\$9,458
Georgia	\$32,667	\$27,234	\$20,250	\$19,086	\$9,254
Hawaii	\$39,612	\$32,948	\$24,380	\$22,952	\$11,125
Idaho	\$30,321	\$25,338	\$18,932	\$17,864	\$8,666
Illinois	\$33,639	\$28,052	\$20,868	\$19,671	\$9,536
Indiana	\$29,922	\$25,010	\$18,696	\$17,643	\$8,558
Iowa	\$29,510	\$24,650	\$18,401	\$17,359	\$8,420
Kansas	\$29,487	\$24,619	\$18,360	\$17,317	\$8,397
Kentucky	\$29,200	\$24,398	\$18,223	\$17,194	\$8,340
Louisiana	\$29,889	\$24,972	\$18,651	\$17,597	\$8,536
Maine	\$31,751	\$26,553	\$19,870	\$18,756	\$9,096
Maryland	\$35,988	\$29,989	\$22,275	\$20,990	\$10,176
Massachusetts	\$38,561	\$32,085	\$23,759	\$22,371	\$10,843
Michigan	\$30,639	\$25,589	\$19,096	\$18,014	\$8,736
Minnesota	\$31,979	\$26,706	\$19,927	\$18,797	\$9,115
Mississippi	\$28,933	\$24,160	\$18,025	\$17,002	\$8,246
Missouri	\$29,911	\$25,009	\$18,708	\$17,658	\$8,567
Montana	\$29,937	\$25,058	\$18,785	\$17,740	\$8,611
Nebraska	\$29,713	\$24,837	\$18,568	\$17,523	\$8,501
Nevada	\$31,760	\$26,493	\$19,721	\$18,592	\$9,013
New Hampshire	\$33,148	\$27,701	\$20,698	\$19,531	\$9,467
New Jersey	\$35,230	\$29,408	\$21,922	\$20,674	\$10,023
New Mexico	\$30,285	\$25,312	\$18,918	\$17,853	\$8,661
New York	\$38,778	\$32,296	\$23,961	\$22,572	\$10,946
North Carolina	\$31,474	\$26,278	\$19,598	\$18,485	\$8,965
North Dakota	\$29,254	\$24,484	\$18,351	\$17,329	\$8,411
Ohio	\$29,446	\$24,649	\$18,482	\$17,454	\$8,469

State	Child Care Center				
	Infant	Toddler	Threes	Fours	School age
Oklahoma	\$29,171	\$24,365	\$18,187	\$17,157	\$8,321
Oregon	\$35,751	\$29,790	\$22,125	\$20,848	\$10,105
Pennsylvania	\$31,223	\$26,107	\$19,530	\$18,433	\$8,942
Rhode Island	\$33,332	\$27,848	\$20,796	\$19,621	\$9,513
South Carolina	\$31,190	\$26,026	\$19,387	\$18,280	\$8,864
South Dakota	\$28,845	\$24,131	\$18,071	\$17,061	\$8,279
Tennessee	\$30,061	\$25,099	\$18,718	\$17,655	\$8,561
Texas	\$31,629	\$26,406	\$19,690	\$18,570	\$9,004
Utah	\$31,992	\$26,649	\$19,779	\$18,634	\$9,032
Vermont	\$32,156	\$26,884	\$20,105	\$18,976	\$9,203
Virginia	\$34,918	\$29,091	\$21,598	\$20,350	\$9,865
Washington	\$36,254	\$30,206	\$22,431	\$21,135	\$10,242
West Virginia	\$29,597	\$24,767	\$18,556	\$17,520	\$8,503
Wisconsin	\$30,364	\$25,378	\$18,968	\$17,900	\$8,683
Wyoming	\$29,827	\$24,949	\$18,677	\$17,632	\$8,554
United States	\$32,473	\$27,113	\$20,222	\$19,074	\$9,248

Table A4: Family Child Care & Group Family Child Care, Annual Cost per Child, Caring for Our Children Ratio/Group Size

State	Family Child Care		Group Family Child Care	
	Infant-Preschool	School age	Infant-Preschool	School age
Alabama	\$21,617	\$11,791	\$19,247	\$10,189
Alaska	\$24,200	\$13,200	\$21,617	\$11,444
Arizona	\$24,478	\$13,352	\$21,783	\$11,532
Arkansas	\$21,245	\$11,588	\$18,940	\$10,027
California	\$28,664	\$15,635	\$25,426	\$13,461
Colorado	\$25,984	\$14,173	\$23,055	\$12,206
Connecticut	\$24,912	\$13,588	\$22,233	\$11,770
Delaware	\$24,137	\$13,166	\$21,513	\$11,389
District of Columbia	\$29,933	\$16,327	\$26,557	\$14,060
Florida	\$24,580	\$13,407	\$21,898	\$11,593
Georgia	\$24,264	\$13,235	\$21,573	\$11,421
Hawaii	\$29,533	\$16,109	\$26,164	\$13,852
Idaho	\$22,483	\$12,263	\$20,057	\$10,618
Illinois	\$24,901	\$13,582	\$22,157	\$11,730
Indiana	\$22,150	\$12,082	\$19,770	\$10,466
Iowa	\$21,903	\$11,947	\$19,526	\$10,337
Kansas	\$21,817	\$11,900	\$19,446	\$10,294

State	Family Child Care		Group Family Child Care	
	Infant-Preschool	School age	Infant-Preschool	School age
Kentucky	\$21,615	\$11,790	\$19,283	\$10,208
Louisiana	\$22,155	\$12,085	\$19,760	\$10,461
Maine	\$23,395	\$12,761	\$20,908	\$11,069
Maryland	\$26,737	\$14,584	\$23,756	\$12,577
Massachusetts	\$28,708	\$15,659	\$25,450	\$13,473
Michigan	\$22,680	\$12,371	\$20,221	\$10,705
Minnesota	\$23,661	\$12,906	\$21,095	\$11,168
Mississippi	\$21,446	\$11,698	\$19,115	\$10,119
Missouri	\$22,174	\$12,095	\$19,797	\$10,481
Montana	\$22,254	\$12,139	\$19,889	\$10,529
Nebraska	\$22,045	\$12,025	\$19,672	\$10,415
Nevada	\$23,492	\$12,814	\$20,912	\$11,071
New Hampshire	\$24,319	\$13,265	\$21,724	\$11,501
New Jersey	\$26,012	\$14,188	\$23,182	\$12,273
New Mexico	\$22,486	\$12,265	\$20,060	\$10,620
New York	\$28,986	\$15,811	\$25,715	\$13,614
North Carolina	\$23,352	\$12,737	\$20,806	\$11,014
North Dakota	\$21,728	\$11,852	\$19,419	\$10,280
Ohio	\$21,797	\$11,889	\$19,492	\$10,319
Oklahoma	\$21,602	\$11,783	\$19,262	\$10,197
Oregon	\$26,478	\$14,443	\$23,534	\$12,459
Pennsylvania	\$23,108	\$12,604	\$20,635	\$10,924
Rhode Island	\$24,573	\$13,403	\$21,930	\$11,610
South Carolina	\$23,118	\$12,610	\$20,584	\$10,897
South Dakota	\$21,393	\$11,669	\$19,112	\$10,118
Tennessee	\$22,240	\$12,131	\$19,822	\$10,494
Texas	\$23,364	\$12,744	\$20,826	\$11,025
Utah	\$23,718	\$12,937	\$21,069	\$11,154
Vermont	\$23,723	\$12,940	\$21,189	\$11,218
Virginia	\$25,925	\$14,141	\$23,029	\$12,192
Washington	\$26,785	\$14,610	\$23,810	\$12,605
West Virginia	\$21,993	\$11,996	\$19,650	\$10,403
Wisconsin	\$22,505	\$12,275	\$20,082	\$10,632
Wyoming	\$22,085	\$12,046	\$19,730	\$10,445
United States	\$23,993	\$13,087	\$21,390	\$11,324