



Office of Children  
and Family Services

# CHILD CARE MARKET RATE SURVEY 2015



**Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor**

**Sheila J. Poole, Acting Commissioner**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	3
<b>DATA COLLECTION</b> .....	4
Overview of the Survey Process.....	4
Survey Questionnaire and Interview Script .....	4
Provider Letter .....	4
Stratified Sampling.....	4
Provider Types .....	5
County Cluster Groups.....	5
<b>DATA ANALYSIS</b> .....	7
Quality Assurance Follow-Up Survey .....	7
Data Checking and Cleaning.....	7
• Reasonable numerical ranges .....	7
• Internal consistency checks .....	7
• Treatment of flagged values .....	7
Data Conversions .....	7
• NYS weekly payment rates.....	7
• NYS daily payment rates .....	8
• NYS part-day payment rates .....	8
• NYS hourly payment rates .....	8
Legally-exempt child care provider payment rates .....	9
2016 NYS Child Care Subsidy Payment Rate Calculations .....	9
Summary of Changes in the 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey.....	10
• County cluster groups .....	10
• Age group definitions.....	10
• FDC and GFDC provider types combined.....	10
• LEGC rates .....	10
<b>RESULTS</b> .....	11
Response Rates.....	11
Child Care Subsidy Payment Rates.....	11
Rate Changes.....	11
<b>RESOURCES</b> .....	12
<b>TABLES</b> .....	13
<b>APPENDICES</b> .....	21

## INTRODUCTION

The 2015 New York State Child Care Market Rate Survey was conducted on behalf of the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). The survey was administered by telephone between January 26, 2015 and April 17, 2015 by the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI), a subcontractor of the New York State Preferred Source Program for People Who Are Blind (NYSPSP).

Federal statute, 42 USC 9858c(c)(4)(A), and federal regulation, 45 CFR 98.43(a), require that the state establish payment rates for child care subsidies that are sufficient to ensure equal access to child care services for eligible children that are comparable to those provided to families that do not receive child care subsidies. Further, federal regulation 45 CFR 98.43(b)(2) requires that the state summarize how payment rates are adequate based on a local market rate survey conducted no earlier than two years prior to the effective date of the currently approved New York State Child Care and Development Fund Plan. Additionally, section 410-x(4) of the Social Services Law requires that payment rates must take into account the variations in the costs of providing child care in different settings, to children in different age groups, and any additional costs of providing child care for children with special needs.

The 2015 Child Care Market Rate Survey was undertaken to determine the prices that licensed/registered child care providers charge parents for child care throughout New York State, and to use that data as the basis for establishing payment rates for the New York State Child Care Block Grant (NYSCCBG) subsidy program for low-income families. The payment rates are a ceiling for state and federal reimbursement for payments for child care services (Section 410-x(4) of the Social Services Law). Payments for child care services under the NYSCCBG must be only for the actual cost of care up to the applicable payment rate, also called “the market rates.” It should be noted that the rates reported by child care providers are the prices that parents are charged for care.

## DATA COLLECTION

### Overview of the Survey Process

The 2015 Child Care Market Rate Survey was conducted as a telephone survey with a stratified random sample of licensed/registered child care providers selected from across New York State. Participation in the survey was voluntary and anonymous. No incentive was offered to child care providers for their participation in the survey. Prior to the initiation of telephone calls, a letter was sent to all licensed/registered child care providers to inform them about the upcoming survey and to provide them with a one-page, hard-copy questionnaire that was a shortened version of what they would be asked in the telephone survey. The hard-copy questionnaire was sent in advance of the telephone survey so that providers could be prepared if they were called and chose to participate in the survey. Upon completion of data collection by ABVI, all survey data were sent to OCFS for review and analysis.

### Survey Questionnaire and Interview Script

The questionnaire and telephone interview script used in the 2015 Child Care Market Rate Survey were prepared by OCFS with input from ABVI, as well as the unions that represent home-based child care providers (registered family day care, licensed group family day care, enrolled legally-exempt in-home, and enrolled legally-exempt family child care) in New York State—the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA), Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, which represents home-based child care providers outside of New York City and United Federation of Teachers (UFT), which represents home-based child care providers who care for subsidized children in New York City. The content of the New York State Child Care Market Rate Survey has remained relatively stable over the past four surveys, particularly the questions pertaining to the rates charged, which form the bulk of the survey. The survey asked providers to report on their full-time and part-time rates for four age groups of children. For school-age children, the survey also asked providers for their rates when school is not in session, such as holidays and school vacations. The questionnaire differed for center-based providers compared to home-based providers only in the definition of “Infant” and “Toddler” age groups, in order to align those categories with the licensing and registration age categories used in determining the provider’s maximum capacity. A copy of the center-based (Appendix 1) and home-based (Appendix 2) questionnaires are attached to this report.

### Provider Letter

One week prior to the start of the telephone survey, OCFS mailed a letter (Appendix 3) along with a shortened survey questionnaire to all licensed and registered child care providers to notify them about the possibility that they could be called over the next three months to be invited to participate in the Child Care Market Rate Survey. The mailing included a Spanish translation of both the letter and questionnaire.

### Stratified Sampling

The purpose of the Child Care Market Rate Survey was to collect child care rate data that would be used to establish payment rates for the NYSCCBG subsidy program for low-income families, such that those payment rates ensure subsidy recipients from across the state are able to access the full range of provider types. Therefore, a stratified sampling approach was taken, where statistically valid sample sizes were calculated for each of 20 combinations of provider type and county cluster group (see below for detailed information on the provider types and five county clusters).

Sample size was calculated for each provider type and county cluster stratum using a 95 percent confidence level and five percent margin of error based upon the anticipated provider universe size. Additionally, the calculated completed survey sample size for each stratum was increased by two in order to account for fluctuations in the provider universe size and data error/loss that could occur prior to completion of data collection.

## Provider Types

Licensed or registered child care providers in New York State are non-residential/center-based or home-based. The specific provider types are:

- Center-based providers:
  - Day Care Centers (DCC). The survey included all DCCs in NYS, including those located in NYC, which are regulated by NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.
  - School-Age Child Care programs (SACC).
  - Small Day Care Centers (SDCC). It should be noted that because there were only two SDCC providers in the state at the time of the survey, SDCCs were grouped with DCCs for the survey.
- Home-based providers:
  - Family Day Care providers (FDC).
  - Group Family Day Care providers (GFDC).

In addition to these child care providers, New York State also recognizes three types of legally-exempt child care, meaning that the providers are not required to be licensed or registered by New York State. The three legally-exempt provider types are in-home (meaning in the child's own home), family child care (in a home that is not the child's), and group (non-residential programs that are not required to be licensed or registered, such as summer day camps and child care programs operated by, and on the grounds of, a school). Legally-exempt child care providers are required to become enrolled with OCFS if they want to provide care to any children receiving child care subsidies under the NYSCCBG. There are an unknown number of additional legally-exempt child care providers who could not be identified by OCFS because they do not care for any children receiving child care subsidies. As such, legally-exempt providers could not be included in a representative and valid survey because only a subset of the entire universe of legally-exempt providers were known to OCFS and reachable. Therefore, the universe of child care providers for the 2015 Child Care Market Rate Survey was composed of licensed/registered child care providers only.

## County Cluster Groups

There are 58 local social services districts (referred to as "districts" in this report) in New York State that administer the child care subsidy program within the district. Each district consists of a single county, except for the district of New York City, which comprises the five boroughs, each of which is a county. The number of licensed/registered child care providers varies considerably across New York State (Table 1). Many districts have too few licensed/registered child care providers to reliably conduct a survey and establish maximum payment rates that are representative of the population of child care providers in that provider type and county. Therefore, districts are clustered in order to attain statistically valid and reliable samples for each provider type (DCC, SACC, FDC, and GFDC) and age group (infant, toddler, preschool, school-age). These are called county clusters.

The composition of the five county clusters was first established over ten years ago based on cost of care data from a mail-in child care provider rate survey. Prior to conducting the 2015 Child Care Market Rate Survey, a cluster analysis was performed using the 2013 Child Care Market Rate Survey data (the most recent previous survey) in order to assess the composition of county cluster groupings and whether those county groupings should be changed. Cluster analysis is a statistical technique that sorts data into groups in such a way that the members within a group are more similar to each other than to the members of other groups. Cluster analysis of the 2013 rate data indicated that the rates for Saratoga County were more similar to cluster 4 than cluster 2. Based on that, the 2015 Child Care Market Rate Survey was conducted with Saratoga in cluster 4 instead of cluster 2, including sample size calculations and data collection. The county clusters for the 2015 survey are as follows.

- Cluster 1: Nassau, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, Westchester
- Cluster 2: Columbia, Erie, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Tompkins, Warren
- Cluster 3: Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Clinton, Cortland, Delaware, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Genesee, Greene, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Livingston, Madison, Montgomery, Niagara, Oneida, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Schoharie, Schuyler, Seneca, St. Lawrence, Steuben, Sullivan, Tioga, Washington, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates
- Cluster 4: Albany, Dutchess, Orange, Saratoga, Ulster
- Cluster 5: Bronx, Brooklyn, New York, Queens, Staten Island

## DATA ANALYSIS

Upon completion of data collection by ABVI, all survey data were sent to OCFS for review and analysis.

### Quality Assurance Follow-Up Survey

OCFS conducted a random follow-up survey with a small number of providers to confirm the accuracy of the data collected by ABVI.

### Data Checking and Cleaning

- **Reasonable numerical ranges**

OCFS checked the data by flagging values outside of reasonable numerical ranges separately for part-time, full-time, school-age child care, hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly rates.

- **Internal consistency checks**

OCFS flagged inconsistencies in rates for individual providers. For a given provider, part-time weekly, monthly, and yearly rates should be no more than full-time weekly, monthly, and yearly rates. For a given provider, the rates for older children are expected to be no more than the rates for younger children.

- **Treatment of flagged values**

Each flagged value was compared to an individual provider's other rates as well as to the rates of other providers of the same provider type and county cluster in order to identify correctable errors. An example of a correctable data entry error would be a flagged rate of \$300 *per day* for infants. The same provider reported rates of \$275 *per week* for toddlers and \$250 *per week* for preschoolers. The rate of \$300 *per day* for infants was flagged because it was beyond the reasonable numerical range and was well beyond the highest rate reported by all other providers per day for infants. Because a rate of \$300 *per week* was consistent with the provider's other rates and the rates reported by other providers of the same provider type and county cluster, the value was changed to \$300 *per week*. If a correction could not be determined for a flagged value, then the recorded values were kept in the dataset unchanged.

### Data Conversions

The 2015 Child Care Market Rate Survey collected price data from child care providers as the price charged on a per-hour, -day, -week, -month, or -year basis. However, the NYS child care subsidy payment rate structure includes the following rate types: hourly, part-day, daily, and weekly. Whenever possible, the price data that was reported by providers was used as reported. When a provider's price structure could not be directly mapped to a NYS child care subsidy payment rate, then the original price data were converted as follows.

- **NYS weekly payment rates**

- Used full-time price data.
- Per-week prices had no conversion.
- Per-day prices were multiplied by 5.
- Per-month prices were divided by 4.33.

- Per-year prices were divided by 52 for infants, toddlers, preschool-age children, and for school-age children if prices were greater than or equal to \$5,000. Per-year prices were divided by 16 for school-age children if prices were less than \$5,000. Fifty-two was chosen for converting the per-year rates for infants, toddlers, and preschool-age children because there are 52 weeks in a year and those children are likely to be in full-time care on a year-round basis. However, 16 was used for converting the per-year rates for school age children because the school year is 180 days, or about 36 weeks. The remaining 16 weeks per year when school is not in session is the time when school-age children are more likely to be in full-time care.
- **NYS daily payment rates**
  - Used a combination of full-time and part-time price data.
  - For infant, toddler, and preschool-age children:
    - Per day prices (either full-time or part-time) had no conversion and were used as the daily rate whenever reported regardless of whether additional rates were also reported for the same age group. If both full-time and part-time rates were reported for the same age group, then the higher rate was used.
    - If there was no per-day rate reported for a particular age group, then the maximum converted rate (per-week, per-month, or per-year) was used.
    - Per-week part-time prices were divided by 5.
    - Per-month part-time prices were divided by 21.65.
    - Per-year part-time prices were divided by 260.
    - When hours per week were reported, conversions took this into account. Rates were converted as above if they covered 20 hours per week or more. If rates covered fewer than 20 hours per week, then the converted rate was pro-rated to a 25-hour week.
  - For school-age children:
    - Full-time per-day or “School Not In Session” per-day prices had no conversion.
    - Full-time per-week or “School Not In Session” per-week prices were divided by 5.
    - Full-time per-month or “School Not In Session” per-month prices were divided by 21.65.
- **NYS part-day payment rates**
  - Calculated as two-thirds of the NYS daily payment rates. The Child Care Market Rate survey did not include questions on the cost of part-day care, but the NYS payment rates include a part-day category which covers half the amount of time as the daily payment rates (3-6 hours compared to 6-12 hours). To calculate a part-day payment rate, two-thirds (instead of one half) of the daily rate was chosen to reflect economies of scale, i.e., higher per-hour cost for a lower number of hours in care.
- **NYS hourly payment rates**
  - No conversions were applied for this rate. The highest per-hour prices reported by each provider for each age group were used without conversion.



## Legally-exempt child care provider payment rates

Legally-exempt child care providers are not required to be licensed or registered by NYS. Therefore, legally-exempt child care providers were not included in the survey because OCFS could not identify the entirety of the universe of legally-exempt child care providers in NYS, and as such could not select a representative sample with which to conduct the survey.

- NYS legally-exempt child care family and in-home provider standard rates were calculated as 65 percent of the corresponding registered family day care rates for each county group, age group, and rate type.
- NYS legally-exempt family and in-home child care provider enhanced rates were calculated as 70 percent of the corresponding registered family day care rates for each county group, age group, and rate type. The enhanced rate is available to legally-exempt child care family and in-home providers who have demonstrated to the enrollment agency that they have completed ten or more hours of training annually in the areas set forth in section 390-a(3)(b) of the Social Services Law.
- Districts have the option to increase the enhanced rate for eligible legally-exempt family and in-home child providers up to a maximum of 75 percent of the corresponding registered family day care rates for each county group, age group, and rate type.
- NYS legally-exempt group child care provider rates were calculated as 75 percent of the corresponding licensed day care center rates for each county group, age group, and rate type.

## 2016 NYS Child Care Subsidy Payment Rate Calculations

2016 child care subsidy payment rates were established at the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 2015 NYS Child Care Market rate survey provider rates per county cluster, provider type, age group, and rate type.

- County Clusters: 1 (Long Island and metro north), 2 (upstate-urban), 3 (upstate-rural), 4 (upstate-metro north & capital), 5 (NYC).
- Provider Types: Day Care Centers (DCC), School-Age Child Care (SACC), Family Day Care (FDC) and Group Family Day (GFDC) combined, Legally-Exempt Group Care (LEGC), and Legally-Exempt Family Child Care (LEFC) and Legally-Exempt In-Home Child Care (LEIH) combined.
- Age Groups: Infant (defined as less than 18 months for DCCs, less than 2 years for FDCs and GFDCs), Toddler (defined as 18 months through 2 years for DCCs, 2 years old for FDCs and GFDCs), Preschool (defined as 3 through 5 years), School-Age (defined as 6 through 12 years).
- Rate Types: Weekly, Daily, Part-Day, Hourly.

A percentile is a statistical measure which indicates the value below which a given percentage of observations fall. For example, the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile rate was the rate below which 69 percent of all rates could be found. Or, in other words, roughly seven out of ten providers charged a rate that was at or below the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile rate. And conversely, roughly three out of ten providers charged a rate that was at or above the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile rate. Percentiles are particularly useful here because outliers and skewed data distributions will have a much smaller impact on a percentile than they would on measures of central tendency, such as an average.

## Summary of Changes in the 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey

- **County cluster groups**

The composition of county cluster groups was reassessed in advance of the 2015 survey using the 2013 survey data. Cluster analysis indicated that Saratoga County's rates were most similar to those counties in county cluster 4. Therefore, Saratoga County was moved from county cluster 2 to county cluster 4.

- **Age group definitions**

The "infant" and "toddler" definitions were changed for FDC and GFDC providers' rates in order to align with capacity definitions for home-based providers. Prior to the 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey, "infant" was defined as less than 18 months and "toddler" was defined as 18 months through 2 years for all provider types, including FDC and GFDC providers. FDC and GFDC providers must have one caregiver present for every two children under the age of two years. In addition, the "infant" and "toddler" definitions were changed for LEFC and LEIH providers' rates because legally-exempt home-based provider's rates are based on a percentage of the applicable market rate for FDC providers.

- **FDC and GFDC provider types combined**

Prior to the 2015 survey, FDC and GFDC providers' data were analyzed separately and resulted in different sets of child care subsidy payment rates for the two provider types. FDC and GFDC providers' data were combined for analysis of the 2015 survey data and a single set of child care subsidy payment rates will apply to both provider types. These two provider types were combined because the health and safety regulations, including staff/child ratios, governing the two provider types have become much the same over the years, with the primary regulatory distinction between the two provider types being capacity.

- **LEGC rates**

In NYS, families receiving child care subsidies may choose child care providers who are legally-exempt from licensing or registration with OCFS. The total universe of such providers is unknown because there is no licensing/registration requirement and, therefore, they cannot be included in the Child Care Market Rate Survey in a representative manner. LEGC providers' child care subsidy payment rates are calculated as a percentage of DCC rates, which are derived from the prices reported by DCC providers in the survey. Prior to the 2015 survey, LEGC child care subsidy payment rates were set at 100 percent of DCC rates. Beginning with the 2015 survey (2016 child care subsidy payment rates), LEGC child care subsidy payment rates were set at 75 percent of licensed DCC rates. LEGC providers are not subject to the same rigorous health and safety requirements or high staff/child ratios as are licensed and registered child care providers. Using a percentage of the equivalent licensed/registered provider type is the same methodology that is used to establish payment rates for LEFC and LEIH, which are a percentage of FDC rates. The percentage 75 percent was selected because it is the maximum percentage that districts may elect to use to set enhanced rates for LEFC and LEIH providers.

## RESULTS

### Response Rates

Out of a total of 20,535 licensed and registered child care providers as of January 2015, 13,990 providers were randomly selected to be contacted and invited to participate in the child care market rate survey. Of those 13,990 providers, 2,366 were not eligible to participate in the survey because they had closed, were not able to be contacted, or were exclusively Head Start programs (i.e., parents were never charged a fee). Of the remaining 11,624 providers with survey attempts (Table 2), 4,767 providers completed the market rate survey (Table 3), for an overall response rate of 41 percent (Table 4).

### Child Care Subsidy Payment Rates

The 2016 NYS child care subsidy payment rates (Table 5) were established at the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile of the rates reported in the 2015 NYS child care market rate survey for each county cluster, provider type, age group, and rate type. Likewise, the 2014 NYS child care subsidy payment rates were established at the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile of the rates reported in the 2013 survey. In 2014 and 2016, NYS chose to set payment rates at the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile of the most recent child care market rate survey as a means of balancing the need to establish payment rates that provide parents receiving child care subsidies with broad access to available child care providers while simultaneously limiting the reduction in the number of families who could be served by funds available under the NYSCCBG.

The payment rates for a child with special needs were set at the highest child care subsidy payment rates in the state, irrespective of age, county group, or provider type for each type of rate, weekly \$371, daily \$60, part-day \$40, and hourly \$17.00.

### Rate Changes

Additionally, providers were asked whether their rates had changed in the past year, and if so, what the reasons for the changes were. The majority of providers (67 percent) reported that their rates had not changed in the past year, 29 percent of providers reported that their rates had increased, and four percent of providers reported decreased rates. Over half of providers who reported rate increases attributed the increases to food and supply costs, salary increases, and/or utility costs (Table 6). Over one-third of those providers indicated that building costs, insurance, and/or training were reasons for price increases. The most common reason given by providers who reported rate decreases was “to be more competitive.”

## RESOURCES

OCFS issues external policy statements on a regular basis on the topic of child care subsidy market rates, which are available on the website at <http://ocfs.ny.gov/main/policies/external/>. These policy statements include the payment rates for child care subsidy, as well as policy pertaining to calculating payments for child care subsidies.

[16-OCFS-LCM-18](#)

[14-OCFS-LCM-03](#)

[11-OCFS-LCM-12](#)

[10-OCFS-LCM-01](#)

[08-OCFS-LCM-10](#)

[05-OCFS-LCM-17](#)

[04-OCFS-LCM-07](#)

[02-OCFS-LCM-16](#)

[00-OCFS-ADM-01](#)

## TABLES

**Table 1.** Distribution of licensed/registered child care provider universe in NYS by county and provider type, January 2015.

**Table 2.** Number of child care providers with attempted surveys by county cluster group and provider type (survey attempts includes providers with complete surveys, incomplete surveys, refusals, and unanswered call attempts).

**Table 3.** Number of child care providers with complete and valid surveys by county cluster group and provider type.

**Table 4.** Response rates (child care providers with complete and valid surveys divided by providers with survey attempts) by county cluster group and provider type.

**Table 5.** 2016 NYS child care subsidy payment rates per county cluster group, provider type, age group, and rate type. Based on the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey.

**Table 6.** Reasons reported for increases and decreases in the rates that providers charge and the reasons for those changes.

**Table 1.** Distribution of licensed/registered child care provider universe in NYS by county and provider type, January 2015.

County Cluster	County	Provider Type				Total
		DCC	FDC	GFDC	SACC	
1	Nassau	200	116	540	118	974
	Putnam	28	12	22	11	73
	Rockland	64	63	122	33	282
	Suffolk	196	167	319	104	786
	Westchester	190	146	283	122	741
		<b>678</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>1,286</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>2,856</b>
2	Columbia	13	14	17	8	52
	Erie	201	93	171	122	587
	Monroe	136	387	278	76	877
	Onondaga	77	211	126	62	476
	Ontario	17	49	15	14	95
	Rensselaer	29	51	23	33	136
	Schenectady	34	72	49	22	177
	Tompkins	22	30	29	18	99
	Warren	14	29	10	9	62
		<b>543</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>2,561</b>
3	Allegany	10	13	10	11	44
	Broome	32	53	17	27	129
	Cattaraugus	13	22	11	7	53
	Cayuga	14	36	13	13	76
	Chautauqua	21	46	26	16	109
	Chemung	18	51	20	18	107
	Chenango	6	29	14	4	53
	Clinton	19	58	40	12	129
	Cortland	19	22	9	13	63
	Delaware	12	37	6	2	57
	Essex	12	33	5	5	55
	Franklin	14	37	16	4	71
	Fulton	9	14	11	6	40
	Genesee	11	16	11	10	48
	Greene	6	17	6	3	32
	Hamilton	0	2	1	0	3
	Herkimer	8	27	20	7	62
	Jefferson	13	63	27	21	124
	Lewis	4	11	0	3	18
Livingston	8	23	18	7	56	

County Cluster	County	Provider Type				Total
		DCC	FDC	GFDC	SACC	
	Madison	11	23	11	5	50
	Montgomery	9	15	11	5	40
	Niagara	39	46	25	32	142
	Oneida	38	95	41	28	202
	Orleans	9	7	8	3	27
	Oswego	12	50	20	13	95
	Otsego	15	29	9	1	54
	Schoharie	8	9	9	2	28
	Schuyler	2	12	4	2	20
	Seneca	3	22	4	1	30
	St. Lawrence	12	59	21	1	93
	Steuben	29	62	24	14	129
	Sullivan	12	29	19	7	67
	Tioga	5	17	9	5	36
	Washington	7	23	29	2	61
	Wayne	20	33	16	5	74
	Wyoming	5	14	8	4	31
	Yates	4	18	3	0	25
		<b>489</b>	<b>1,173</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>2,533</b>
4	Albany	70	73	71	64	278
	Dutchess	65	68	74	28	235
	Orange	59	61	99	44	263
	Saratoga	43	72	64	36	215
	Ulster	40	78	42	10	170
			<b>277</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>182</b>
5	Bronx	315	1,026	1,881	322	3,544
	Brooklyn	844	440	1,608	492	3,384
	Manhattan	508	468	495	287	1,758
	Queens	499	275	1,215	332	2,321
	Staten Island	117	31	207	62	417
			<b>2,283</b>	<b>2,240</b>	<b>5,406</b>	<b>1,495</b>
NYS Total		4,270	5,205	8,312	2,748	20,535

Abbreviations: DCC=Licensed/Registered/Permitted Day Care Center, FDC=Registered Family Day Care, GFDC= Licensed Group Family Day Care, SACC=Registered School-Age Child Care.

**Table 2.** Number of child care providers with attempted surveys by county cluster group and provider type (survey attempts includes providers with complete surveys, incomplete surveys, refusals, and unanswered call attempts). Excludes providers who were not eligible to participate in the survey because they had closed, were not able to be contacted, or were exclusively Head Start programs (i.e., parents were never charged a fee). 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey.

County Cluster	Provider Type				Total
	DCC	FDC	GFDC	SACC	
1	474	416	831	334	2,055
2	377	675	612	303	1,967
3	293	763	481	273	1,810
4	223	309	331	150	1,013
5	1,022	1,497	1,478	782	4,779
<b>NYS Total</b>	2,389	3,660	3,733	1,842	11,624

Abbreviations: DCC=Licensed/Registered/Permitted Day Care Center, FDC=Registered Family Day Care, GFDC= Licensed Group Family Day Care, SACC=Registered School-Age Child Care.



**Table 3.** Number of child care providers with complete and valid surveys by county cluster group and provider type. 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey.

County Cluster	Provider Type				Total
	DCC	FDC	GFDC	SACC	
1	251	204*	301	167*	923
2	233	282	252	192	959
3	217*	299	229	177*	922
4	164*	166*	185*	112*	627
5	333	337	421	245	1,336
<b>NYS Total</b>	1,198	1,288	1,388	893	4,767

Abbreviations: DCC=Licensed/Registered/Permitted Day Care Center, FDC=Registered Family Day Care, GFDC= Licensed Group Family Day Care, SACC=Registered School-Age Child Care.

\*Indicates that the provider universe list was exhausted or nearly exhausted prior to attaining the calculated survey sample size for the provider type-county cluster cell.

**Table 4.** Response rates (child care providers with complete and valid surveys divided by providers with survey attempts) by county cluster group and provider type. 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey.

County Cluster	Provider Type				Total
	DCC	FDC	GFDC	SACC	
1	53%	49%*	36%	50%*	45%
2	62%	42%	41%	63%	49%
3	74%*	39%	48%	65%*	51%
4	74%*	54%*	56%*	75%*	62%
5	33%	23%	28%	31%	28%
<b>NYS Total</b>	50%	35%	37%	48%	41%

Abbreviations: DCC=Licensed/Registered/Permitted Day Care Center, FDC=Registered Family Day Care, GFDC= Licensed Group Family Day Care, SACC=Registered School-Age Child Care.

\* Indicates that the provider universe list was exhausted or nearly exhausted prior to attaining the calculated survey sample size for the provider type-county cluster cell.

**Table 5.** 2016 NYS child care subsidy payment rates per county cluster group, provider type, age group, and rate type. Based on the 69<sup>th</sup> percentile of the 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey.

County Cluster	Provider Type	Weekly				Daily				Part-Day				Hourly			
		I	T	PS	SA	I	T	PS	SA	I	T	PS	SA	I	T	PS	SA
1	DCC/SACC	\$350	\$312	\$289	\$290	\$60	\$57	\$50	\$57	\$40	\$38	\$33	\$38	\$9.50	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
	FDC/GFDC	\$295	\$275	\$275	\$265	\$60	\$55	\$53	\$51	\$40	\$37	\$35	\$34	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
	LEGC			\$217	\$218			\$38	\$43			\$25	\$29			\$7.50	\$7.50
	LE-Std	\$192	\$179	\$179	\$172	\$39	\$36	\$34	\$33	\$26	\$24	\$23	\$22	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50
	LE-Enh	\$207	\$193	\$193	\$186	\$42	\$39	\$37	\$36	\$28	\$26	\$25	\$24	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$7.00	\$7.00
2	DCC/SACC	\$259	\$242	\$225	\$200	\$53	\$49	\$45	\$42	\$35	\$33	\$30	\$28	\$9.00	\$8.50	\$8.25	\$8.00
	FDC/GFDC	\$185	\$175	\$175	\$165	\$40	\$36	\$35	\$34	\$27	\$24	\$23	\$23	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
	LEGC			\$169	\$150			\$34	\$32			\$23	\$21			\$6.19	\$6.00
	LE-Std	\$120	\$114	\$114	\$107	\$26	\$23	\$23	\$22	\$18	\$16	\$15	\$15	\$3.90	\$3.90	\$3.90	\$3.90
	LE-Enh	\$130	\$123	\$123	\$116	\$28	\$25	\$25	\$24	\$19	\$17	\$16	\$16	\$4.20	\$4.20	\$4.20	\$4.20
3	DCC/SACC	\$200	\$190	\$180	\$170	\$43	\$41	\$38	\$37	\$29	\$27	\$25	\$25	\$7.00	\$7.50	\$7.50	\$7.00
	FDC/GFDC	\$150	\$150	\$150	\$143	\$33	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$22	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
	LEGC			\$135	\$128			\$29	\$28			\$19	\$19			\$5.63	\$5.25
	LE-Std	\$98	\$98	\$98	\$93	\$21	\$20	\$20	\$20	\$14	\$13	\$13	\$13	\$3.25	\$3.25	\$3.25	\$3.25
	LE-Enh	\$105	\$105	\$105	\$100	\$23	\$21	\$21	\$21	\$15	\$14	\$14	\$14	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$3.50
4	DCC/SACC	\$262	\$247	\$225	\$220	\$56	\$51	\$46	\$46	\$37	\$34	\$31	\$31	\$8.50	\$8.25	\$8.50	\$9.00
	FDC/GFDC	\$225	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$45	\$45	\$42	\$40	\$30	\$30	\$28	\$27	\$8.75	\$8.00	\$8.00	\$8.00
	LEGC			\$169	\$165			\$35	\$35			\$23	\$23			\$6.38	\$6.75
	LE-Std	\$146	\$130	\$130	\$130	\$29	\$29	\$27	\$26	\$20	\$20	\$18	\$18	\$5.69	\$5.20	\$5.20	\$5.20
	LE-Enh	\$158	\$140	\$140	\$140	\$32	\$32	\$29	\$28	\$21	\$21	\$20	\$19	\$6.13	\$5.60	\$5.60	\$5.60
5	DCC/SACC	\$371	\$268	\$242	\$210	\$59	\$51	\$46	\$42	\$39	\$34	\$31	\$28	\$15.75	\$17.00	\$15.75	\$9.00
	FDC/GFDC	\$200	\$185	\$175	\$160	\$37	\$35	\$33	\$32	\$25	\$23	\$22	\$21	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$10.00	\$12.00
	LEGC			\$182	\$158			\$35	\$32			\$23	\$21			\$11.81	\$6.75
	LE-Std	\$130	\$120	\$114	\$104	\$24	\$23	\$21	\$21	\$16	\$15	\$14	\$14	\$7.80	\$7.80	\$6.50	\$7.80
	LE-Enh	\$140	\$130	\$123	\$112	\$26	\$25	\$23	\$22	\$18	\$16	\$15	\$15	\$8.40	\$8.40	\$7.00	\$8.40

Abbreviations: I=infant, T=toddler, PS=preschooler, SA=school-age, DCC=licensed/registered/permitted day care center, FDC=registered family day care, GFDC=licensed group family day care, LE-Std=legally-exempt family and in-home child care standard rate, LE-Enh=legally-exempt family and in-home child care enhanced rate, LEGC=legally-exempt group child care, SACC=registered school-age child care.

**Table 6.** Reasons reported for increases and decreases in the rates that providers charge and the reasons for those changes. 2015 NYS Child Care Market Rate Survey.

<b>Rate Increases (n=1,368)</b>			
<b>Reason*</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>% of Providers with Rate Increases</b>	<b>% of Providers with Completed Surveys (4,767)</b>
Food and supplies	982	71.8%	20.6%
Salary	951	69.5%	19.9%
Utilities	765	55.9%	16.0%
Building costs	596	43.6%	12.5%
Insurance	577	42.2%	12.1%
Training	474	34.6%	9.9%
Health insurance	388	28.4%	8.1%
Other	404	29.5%	8.5%
<b>Rate Decreases (n=177)</b>			
<b>Reason*</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>% of Providers with Rate Decreases</b>	<b>% of Providers with Completed Surveys (4,767)</b>
To be more competitive	70	39.5%	1.5%
Fewer children in care	42	23.7%	0.9%
Decreased costs	19	10.7%	0.4%
More children in care	10	5.6%	0.2%
Other	109	61.6%	2.3%

\*Reasons are not mutually exclusive. Providers could select any and all reasons for their rate increase or decrease.

## APPENDICES

**Appendix 1.** New York State Child Care Rate Survey for center-based licensed and registered child care providers (provider types DCC and SACC).

**Appendix 2.** New York State Child Care Rate Survey for home-based licensed and registered child care providers (provider types FDC and GFDC).

**Appendix 3.** Letter to child care providers introducing the 2015 Child Care Market Rate Survey.

**Appendix 1**

**NEW YORK STATE CHILD CARE RATE SURVEY – 2015 – DCC/SACC**

**1) How many children are currently enrolled in your child care program by age group?**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Infants (Up to 18 months)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Toddlers (18 months to 36 months)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Preschool children (3 years thru 5 years)
- \_\_\_\_\_ School age children (6 years thru 12 years) \_\_\_\_\_ Children over 12 years with special needs

**2) Of the children currently enrolled, how is their care paid for? Check ONE of the following:**

- ONLY private pay.
- BOTH private pay **AND** the County Department of Social Services (or in NYC by ACS or HRA).
- ONLY the County DSS (or in New York City by ACS or HRA).

**3 and 4)** If you have had **any PRIVATE PAY** clients during the past 6 months, please answer the questions below using the rates you charge **PRIVATE PAY** clients, **not** the rates you charge for children paid for by the County DSS (or in NYC by ACS or HRA). If you have **only** served children paid for by the County DSS (or in NYC by ACS or HRA) during the past 6 months, please give your rates for those children. If you have more than one rate for an age group, you can give more than one rate.

<b>3a) What is the rate you charge for <u>FULL-TIME</u> care for children in each age group?</b>	<b>AND</b>	<b>3b) How many hours per week do FT rates normally cover?</b>
<b>INFANT</b> (Up to 18 months) \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week
<b>TODDLER</b> (18 to 36 months) \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week
<b>PRESCHOOL</b> (3 thru 5 years) \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week
<b>SCHOOL AGE</b> (6 years thru 12 years) - <b>SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION, e.g. summer, holidays</b>  \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week

<b>4a) What is the rate you charge for <u>PART-TIME</u> care for children in each age group? If you have hourly rates <u>and</u> rates for any other period (for example, hourly and daily rates), please give <u>both</u> rates. For school age children, please give all applicable rates.</b>	<b>AND</b>	<b>4b) How many hours per week do PT rates normally cover?</b>
<b>INFANT</b> (Up to 18 months) \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week
<b>TODDLER</b> (18 to 36 months) \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week
<b>PRESCHOOL</b> (3 thru 5 years) \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week
<b>SCHOOL AGE</b> (6 years thru 12 years) - <b>SCHOOL IN SESSION</b>  Before School \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year After School \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year Before & After School \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week ___ hours/week ___ hours/week
<b>SCHOOL AGE</b> (6 years thru 12 years) - <b>SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION, e.g. summer, holidays</b>  \$ ___ per hour \$ ___ per day \$ ___ per week \$ ___ per month \$ ___ per year		___ hours/week

**5a) Have any of your rates increased in the past year?**

- 5b) If yes, **why?** (check all that apply)
- Salary
  - Health Insurance
  - Insurance
  - Training
  - Food and Supplies
  - Utilities
  - Building Costs
  - Fewer children in care
  - More Children in care
  - Other

**6a) Have any of your rates decreased in the past year?**

- 6b) If yes, **why?** (check all that apply)
- To be more competitive
  - Fewer children in care
  - More children in care
  - Decreased costs
  - Other

**APPENDIX 2**

**NEW YORK STATE CHILD CARE RATE SURVEY – 2015 – FDC/GFDC**

**1) How many children are currently enrolled in your child care program by age group?**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Infants (Under 2 years)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Toddlers (2 years)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Preschool children (3 years thru 5 years)
- \_\_\_\_\_ School age children (6 years thru 12 years) \_\_\_\_\_ Children over 12 years with special needs

**2) Of the children currently enrolled, how is their care paid for? Check ONE of the following:**

- ONLY private pay.
- BOTH private pay **AND** the County Department of Social Services (or in NYC by ACS or HRA).
- ONLY the County DSS (or in New York City by ACS or HRA).

**3 and 4)** If you have had **any PRIVATE PAY** clients during the past 6 months, please answer the questions below using the rates you charge **PRIVATE PAY** clients, **not** the rates you charge for children paid for by the County DSS (or in NYC by ACS or HRA). If you have **only** served children paid for by the County DSS (or in NYC by ACS or HRA) during the past 6 months, please give your rates for those children. If you have more than one rate for an age group, you can give more than one rate.

<b>3a) What is the rate you charge for <u>FULL-TIME</u> care for children in each age group?</b>	<b>AND</b>	<b>3b) How many hours per week do FT rates normally cover?</b>
<b>INFANT</b> (Under 2 years)     \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
<b>TODDLER</b> (2 years)             \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
<b>PRESCHOOL</b> (3 thru 5 years)     \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
<b>SCHOOL AGE</b> (6 years thru 12 years) - <b>SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION, e.g. summer, holidays</b>  \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week

<b>4a) What is the rate you charge for <u>PART-TIME</u> care for children in each age group? If you have hourly rates <u>and</u> rates for any other period (for example, hourly and daily rates), please give <u>both</u> rates. For school age children, please give all applicable rates.</b>	<b>AND</b>	<b>4b) How many hours per week do PT rates normally cover?</b>
<b>INFANT</b> (Under 2 years)     \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
<b>TODDLER</b> (2 years)             \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
<b>PRESCHOOL</b> (3 thru 5 years)     \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
<b>SCHOOL AGE</b> (6 years thru 12 years) - <b>SCHOOL IN SESSION</b>		
Before School     \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
After School       \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
Before & After School     \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week
<b>SCHOOL AGE</b> (6 years thru 12 years) - <b>SCHOOL NOT IN SESSION, e.g. summer, holidays</b>  \$____per hour \$____per day \$____per week \$____per month \$____per year		____hours/week

**5a) Have any of your rates increased in the past year?**

5b) If yes, **why?** (check all that apply)

- Salary
- Health Insurance
- Insurance
- Training
- Food and Supplies
- Utilities
- Building Costs
- Fewer children in care
- More Children in care
- Other

**6a) Have any of your rates decreased in the past year?**

6b) If yes, **why?** (check all that apply)

- To be more competitive
- Fewer children in care
- More children in care
- Decreased costs
- Other

**7) Family Day Care providers in New York City: Are you paid by a Network? Check one:  No.  Yes. \_\_\_\_\_**



New York State  
Office of  
Children &  
Family  
Services

<http://ocfs.ny.gov>

Dear Child Care Provider:

Every two years, the Office of Children and Family Services conducts a survey of the price of child care across the state of New York. This information is used to make sure that the rates that the county department of social services pays for child care on behalf of low-income families are consistent with the child care market in that county. You may be called and asked to participate in this year's Child Care Market Rate Survey.

**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
*Governor*

**Roberto Velez**  
*Acting Commissioner*

The Market Rate Survey Team will be conducting the survey over the next 12 weeks. The Market Rate Survey phone number is xxx-xxx-xxxx, and if you are called, it will appear as "Mrkt Rate Srvy" on your caller ID. If you choose to participate, you will be asked what you charge for child care and how many children are in your care. Please base your answers using the rates you charge your "private pay clients," not the rates you charge for children paid for by the county department of social services (or in New York City by the Administration of Children's Services or Human Resource Administration). The phone survey should take approximately 15 minutes.

**Capital View Office Park**  
52 Washington Street  
Rensselaer, NY  
12144-2834

Please do not send in the form. Wait for the Market Rate Survey Team to call you. We are providing you with the survey form so that you will be familiar with the questions and be able to answer them more easily during the phone interview, if you are called. If your telephone number has changed, please be sure that your licenser or registrar has your current telephone number so that we are able to reach you. Please tell people who may answer your telephone (staff, volunteers, household members in family day care) about this survey.

The information you give us will be used to make any necessary changes to the child care subsidy rates for your county. Please be assured that the information in this survey will ONLY be used for that purpose. Your individual responses will not be shared with anyone other than the staff who will be data entering and processing the survey results. To meet federal requirements, we may call a few randomly selected providers to verify the information included in the survey.

If you have any questions, please call us at xxx-xxx-xxxx.

Thank you for your assistance. As a small businessperson, I know you appreciate how important it is for the payment rates for child care to be current. Therefore, I know I can count on your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Janice Molnar  
Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Child Care Services



An Equal Opportunity Employer