

# 2024 Ohio Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey Analysis

Final Report

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By Strategic Research Group

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# **Executive Summary**

One important service provided by the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) is to ensure that the administration of early care and education programs provides for the health, safety, and well-being of children while in care. This includes working to improve the availability and quality of early care and education for Ohio's children and families, a component of which is to implement the publicly funded child care program (PFCC).

As rates vary by early care and education setting, the amount of time a child is in care, age group, and geographic area, it is important that these factors be considered when defining market rates across Ohio. DCY has used an early care and education market rate survey (MRS), conducted approximately every two years, to establish the current market rates for early care and education programs across Ohio by provider type, child age group, and region. For the 2024 Ohio Early Care and Education MRS, DCY worked with Strategic Research Group (SRG), an independent third-party vendor, to design and administer the MRS and to analyze the market rate data. The goal of the MRS is to characterize the unsubsidized (i.e., private pay) market rates for early care and education throughout the state.

The sampling frame used for the 2024 MRS included DCY regulated child care centers, Type A family child care (FCC) Homes, Type B FCC Homes, and approved day camps, as well as preschool and school age early care and education programs licensed by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) that are not regulated by DCY, but with whom they have a provider agreement. For the 2024 survey, 6,627 unique provider locations were identified and included in the sample. The survey was conducted by SRG from late April to late June.

Contact with providers was made through a variety of modes during the different phases of data collection and consisted of five components: mail and email survey invitations, mail and email reminders, non-response prompting telephone calls, rate sheet follow-up calls, and narrow cost analysis interviews. Over the course of the data collection period a prenotification email, an invitation email, eight reminder emails, and a reminder postcard were sent to non-responding providers. Paper surveys were also mailed to a select group of providers from low responding subgroups. SRG used the email addresses entered by early care and education programs in the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS). Letters were mailed in place of emails to providers for which emails were undeliverable or invalid. Two rounds of telephone non-response prompting were conducted: one from April 29th through May 17th, which included all provider types, and one at the end of the data collection period (mid-May through the end of May) which focused on Type A and Type B home providers and providers from specific counties, who had lower response rates. Final survey response rates were 54.3 percent for child care centers, 48.2 percent for Type A FCC Homes, and 35.0 percent for Type B FCC Homes. The total response rate for the 2024 MRS was 44.7 percent.

The comparisons of the rate sheets to the MRS data found that 74.4 percent of rate sheet information submitted matched what was entered in the MRS by the provider. Type A and Type B Homes and child care centers all had similar rates of matching. Of the rates that did not match, the majority, 387, were under-reported, meaning the rate entered in the survey was lower than the rate from the rate sheet. Looking at individual rate categories, there were no consistent categories with high error rates across the location types. Error rates for hourly care were higher for Type A Homes and Type B Homes, while error rates for part-time care for school age were higher for child care centers. Overall, the high match rates between the rate sheets and the MRS data suggest the survey data are accurate and reliable enough for the further analysis in this report.

Rate sheet data were also compared to the rates in the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS) portal to determine if the portal data were suitable to substitute for missing MRS rates. While the majority of the rate comparisons met our definition of matching (i.e., an error rate of five percent or less) it was an appreciably smaller percentage than matched with the rates entered on the MRS. This demonstrates the rates entered into the survey are more accurate and more timely and that portal rates should not be used to supplement for locations that did not respond to the MRS.

A principal component analysis determined that the rate component that best describes the difference in MRS rates at the county level is the overall average of the part-time and full-time weekly rates for all age categories (as was seen in prior MRS analyses). Cluster analysis identified three cluster groupings of rates indicating three distinct, county-based, market rate structures in Ohio. Counties within each cluster group have similar rate structures, but each group has a differing rate structure from the others. Most counties (78.4%) did not change from their 2022 cluster placement, whereas 9.1 percent moved into a lower rate cluster and 12.5 percent moved into a higher rate cluster.

Rate data for each provider were weighted by their total capacity percentage for the market rate structure percentile distributions. Rate distributions were created for three provider types (child care centers, Type A Homes, and Type B Homes), both statewide and by county cluster. For most distributions, the 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th, 75th, 80th, 85th, 90th, and 95th percentiles for the distribution of the rates for each of the 15 child care service categories (three service period categories for each of the five different age categories) were calculated. However, for subgroups that contained 19 or fewer providers, only the 15th, 25th, 35th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 65th, 75th, 85th, and 90th percentiles were calculated and for subgroups that contained 9 or fewer providers, only the 25th, 50th, and 75th percentiles were calculated. The Type A Home provider group (the provider type with the fewest respondents, making up just five percent of the sample) was the most affected by limited numbers, with only Cluster 3 having enough responses to provide a full range of percentiles for all service period categories.

Similar to the 2018, 2020, and 2022 MRS (but unlike in surveys prior to 2018), the percentiles presented in this report are based on the actual, weighted, unsubsidized rates from the MRS data. Prior to the 2018 MRS, normal distributions were calculated from the weighted means and standard deviations of the subgroups. This was likely done due to insufficient data to create percentile distributions for many subgroups. However, this year's MRS produced at least ten providers in most subgroups, making limited percentile distributions possible.

Lastly, the 2024 MRS includes a Narrow Cost Analysis, whereby information was collected from providers to gain a better understanding of the costs associated with providing early care and education in Ohio. Data were collected via interviews with 17 providers (a mixture of provider type, 0-2 and 3-5 star rating categories, and rural and urban designation). The data from these providers was used to calculate the costs in a total of 32 distinct combinations of four age groups, two quality star rating categories, two provider types (Center and Home-based), and two regional categories (rural and urban). Additionally, the percentage of the cost to the subsidy was calculated to give a better understanding of the relationship between child care costs and the subsidy rate. A detailed discussion is included in the Narrow Cost Analysis section along with recommendations for future efforts in determining the cost of child care from Ohio's providers.

# Project Background

The Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) ensures that the administration of early care and education programs provides for the health, safety, and well-being of children while in care. Through public and private partnership, DCY works to improve the availability and quality of early care and education for Ohio's children and families and to enhance the delivery of services to families eligible and in need of early care and education, especially subsidized care.

One aspect of this important mission is working to ensure all Ohioans with young children have access to high quality early care and education. For many low-income families in Ohio, equal access is assured in the form of child care tuition subsidies. The subsidy rates must be high enough to ensure access to early care and education for low-income families, yet low enough to ensure that early care and education market prices are not inflated by the subsidy and that the cost to taxpayers is appropriate. Therefore, it is important to establish appropriate subsidy rates based on current early care and education market rates. As rates vary by early care and education setting, the amount of time a child is in care, age group, and geographic area, it is important that these factors be considered when defining market rates across Ohio.

Since the enactment of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act, <sup>1</sup> DCY has used an Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey (MRS), conducted approximately every two years, to inform the establishment of the current market rates for early care and education programs across Ohio by provider type, child age group, and region. Since 2004, DCY/ODJFS has contracted with a third-party vendor to conduct the Early Care and Education MRS. In 2012, this third-party contractor, The Ohio State University Statistical Consulting Service (SCS) conducted a review of the methodologies used by other states to conduct their MRSs. SCS found that methodologies employed in the Ohio MRS were among the most rigorous. Thus, the current MRS was implemented with the same level of methodological rigor as prior surveys.

The 2024 MRS was conducted by SRG from late April to late June. The survey methodology, described in greater detail in the sections below, followed previous administrations with an additional mail component, using a web-based survey instrument with email invitations. This year's administration included the mailing of paper survey packets to a targeted sample of non-responding providers five weeks after the web survey invitation was sent. Further, this year's administration included two rounds of telephone non-response prompting to encourage participation. As was done previously, the survey asked providers to supply rates from three enrollment categories (full-time, part-time, hourly) for five age groups (infant, toddler, preschool, school age, school age summer).

In addition to collecting rate information through the online survey and paper survey, as a quality control measure, rate sheets were requested from a randomly selected group of providers who completed the survey. These rates were compared to the survey rate data to determine the quality of the rate data reported in the MRS.

In the final sections of this report, the geographical component of the early care and education market rate structure is discussed, wherein counties with similar rate structures were placed into groups through a process called cluster analysis. The percentile distributions of the hourly, part-time weekly, and full-time weekly rates, weighted by capacity, are presented in a series of tables for the three main provider types (child care centers, Type A Homes, and Type B Homes). These rate distributions are presented both statewide and broken out by county group (cluster).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oii/nonpublic/childcare.html

A glossary of terms is provided in Appendix A to assist with review of these analyses and results.

# Survey Development

The development of the 2024 MRS began with an extensive review of the prior Ohio Early Care and Education MRS and discussions with DCY about which items had historically yielded the most useful data. One of the main goals of the survey development process was to reduce the burden on respondents by ensuring that all questions on the survey instrument provided enough value to justify their inclusion. This would serve to minimize the burden on the respondent and increase the overall response rate. Questions from past versions of the survey were excluded from the 2024 survey if DCY concluded that this information was available elsewhere in a reliable form or if the data had been collected in the past but were not an area of focus or interest for the current data collection effort.

During the process of survey instrument development, key stakeholders, including representatives of the state Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) and DCY Child Care Advisory Council (CCAC), were given an opportunity to review the proposed survey document and provide feedback regarding the content and format of the instrument. The final version of the survey can be found in Appendix C of this report.

As with each prior survey, a great deal of thought was given to the survey item for collecting rate data and, in particular, part-time rates. Each provider may have a different definition of what they consider part-time. In order to collect part-time rate data that would be comparable across all providers, providers were asked to submit the rate they would charge for a child who was in their care for seven hours up to 25 hours per week as their part-time rate.

The web survey also included a FAQ document which provided details about the purpose of the survey, what information respondents would need to provide, and how it would be used. This information was provided in the introduction to the survey before the respondents were asked any questions, so they could prepare the information they would need to complete the survey.

# Changes from Prior Survey Efforts

Prior surveys were used as a guide for the development of the 2024 MRS, with the 2022 instrument as an initial draft. The survey was reviewed with DCY staff and representatives of the ECAC and CCAC and as a result, changes were made to question formatting and language, some questions were removed, and some new relevant questions were added.

The most significant change to the survey was to move the questions soliciting rate data and other information regarding rates from midway through the survey to the first substantive questions. Questions included in the 2022 MRS that were dropped from the 2024 survey included questions about how providers define part-time care and questions about providers' use of child care management software. It was determined that information collected through previous surveys was sufficient and these questions could be dropped in favor of adding questions to collect other important information. New questions added to the 2024 MRS included questions about fees charged to families outside of regular tuition and a question about how providers who reported receiving stabilization sub-grants used those funds.

# **Survey Testing Process**

The final step of the survey development process was to test the online survey for any issues. SRG and DCY staff used test cases to review the survey, enter data, and test the functionality of the

survey. During this testing process, each page of the survey was tested and reviewed for display issues, poor question layout, unclear directions, incorrect data piping, grammatical mistakes, formatting errors, and incorrect skip logic. Any issues that were discovered were reviewed by the survey development team, corrected, and re-tested until they were resolved.

Lastly, all test data were compared against the stored answers for that test case in the project database to ensure that answers were stored in the correct field in the project database, and that the answer stored was identical to the answer input by the user.

# Methodology

The section below describes the sampling frame and sample management used in the 2024 MRS as well as the methodology for contacting providers, providing technical assistance, and providing answers to common questions. The methodology for the non-response prompting efforts and the follow-up for the collection of rate sheets is also described in this section as well as the data cleaning and management. Response rates for both the MRS and the rate sheet collection are provided at the end of the section.

# Sampling Frame and Sample Management

The sampling frame used for the 2024 MRS included DCY-regulated child care centers, Type A FCC Homes, Type B FCC Homes, and approved day camps, as well as preschool and school age child care programs licensed by ODE that are not regulated by DCY, but with whom they have a provider agreement. For the 2024 survey, 6627 unique provider locations were identified and included in the sample within the following categories:

- Type A FCC Home 328
- Type B FCC Home 1,900
- Child Care Center 4,150
- Approved Day Camp 120
- ODE Licensed Preschool 84
- ODE Licensed School Age Child Care 45

Email addresses for providers were examined across all cases to determine if an email address belonged to more than one location. This ensured that only one email would be sent to each account for each wave with all the passcodes included, instead of some email accounts receiving multiple messages for each reminder.

# **Contact Efforts**

Contact with providers was made by a variety of modes throughout the different phases of data collection. The contact efforts for this survey consisted of five components: mail and email survey invitations and reminders, non-response prompting telephone calls, paper survey follow-up clarification calls, rate sheet follow-up calls, and narrow cost analysis interview calls.

A variety of contact materials were developed to inform providers about the MRS and encourage them to respond, including a prenotification message, a survey invitation, a mailed paper survey, a mailed reminder postcard, and a series of email and mail reminders. These contact materials can be found in Appendix B.

# Survey Invitations and Reminders

The data collection effort began with the survey invitation and follow-up reminders. On April 15, a prenotification email was sent to all providers for whom SRG had a valid email address, and a corresponding letter was mailed to those for whom no email address was available (this included those whose emails bounced back). The prenotification message informed providers that they would be receiving a survey invitation the following week. It detailed the information being collected by the survey and identified SRG as the contractor conducting the survey. After the prenotification message was sent it was determined that providers should have more time to respond to grant opportunities with the State of Ohio. Accordingly, an email update was sent April 19 to all providers informing them that the invitation email with the MRS survey link would be delayed by a week, giving providers a chance to respond to the grant opportunities.

On April 25, the invitation email was sent to all providers with a valid email address. The email included a description of the information that would be collected in the survey, a link to the survey site, and the respondent's individual passcode. Corresponding invitation letters were mailed on the same date to providers without a valid email address. The only difference in the content of the email and the letter was that the latter provided the survey URL instead of a link.

A total of eight reminder emails were sent throughout the data collection period; see Table 1 for dates. The reminder emails were sent to providers who had not yet completed the survey and prompted them to respond, emphasizing the importance of the information being collected and (for later emails) reminding them of the deadline for responding. Each reminder email contained a clickable link to take the provider directly to their survey as well as a URL to the general survey page and the provider's passcode.

Reminder emails #5 and #7 were sent in two waves. The first was sent to Type A home and Type B home providers. This email reminded these providers of the deadline and emphasized the importance of Type A and Type B home providers being properly represented in the rate data. The second wave was sent to providers in low responding counties. The goal of the first version of this email was to provide extra encouragement to Type A and Type B Home providers, whose response rates were lower than those of child care centers. The second version of this email was a more general encouragement to complete the MRS. In the final two weeks of the data collection, the DCY Director also sent a reminder email to Type A Home and Tye B Home providers and providers from low responding counties.

One reminder postcard and three reminder letters were sent throughout the survey period as well; see Table 1 for dates. The postcard was sent to all providers who had not yet completed the survey while the reminder letters were sent to providers who had not completed the survey and did not have a valid email address. Like the reminder emails, the reminder letters prompted the recipients to finish the survey, emphasizing the importance of the data and reminding them of the survey closing date. Each letter contained the survey URL and the provider's passcode.

Five weeks after the initial email invitation was sent, a targeted sample of providers that had not yet completed the survey was mailed a paper version of the survey with a pre-paid envelope to return the survey. The purpose of the paper version was to provide a further reminder to complete the survey by ensuring that this targeted sample of providers was aware of the survey effort and giving the providers another option for survey completion. The mailed paper survey packet included a cover letter that directed providers to either take the survey on the web by using their unique passcode and survey link, or by completing the paper survey and mailing it back in the pre-paid envelope.

*Table 1: Timeline* 

Contact	Date Sent
Prenotification email and letter	4/15/2024
Invitation Update email	4/19/2024
Invitation Email and Invitation Letter	4/25/2024
Reminder Email #1	4/30/2024
Reminder Email #2 and Reminder Letter #1	5/3/2024
Reminder Postcard	5/7/2024
Reminder Email #3	5/6/2024
Reminder Email #4	5/9/2024
Mailed Survey Packets	5/13/2024
Reminder Email #5 (Type A and B and low responding counties)	5/14/2024
DCY Director Reminder Email #6	5/20/2024
Reminder Email #7 (Type A and B and low responding counties) and Reminder Letter #2	5/23/2024
Reminder Email #8 (Final Reminder to ALL Providers)	5/29/2024

# Non-Response Prompting

In order to increase response to the MRS, SRG conducted two rounds of non-response prompting telephone calls to providers who had not yet completed the survey. During these non-response prompting efforts, SRG interviewers called providers between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The first round of non-response prompting occurred from April 29 – May 17. This round included all provider types. The second round went from May 18 – May 31 and focused on Type A and Type B Home providers, who had lower response rates, and providers in low responding counties.

Interviewers conducted the calls using scripts developed by SRG and approved by DCY. If a provider was reached, interviewers determined if the provider planned to complete the survey or had just recently completed the survey. Providers could request and receive technical assistance with completing the survey or request the invitation email to be resent to them. If a provider refused to participate in the survey, interviewers requested and documented the reason for their refusal (if provided).

When possible, voicemail messages were left on the first call attempt using scripts developed in collaboration with DCY. Similarly, if a person other than the provider was reached on the phone or the person reached could not answer the questions in the survey, interviewers left a scripted message with the person who was reached.

Table 2 below provides the details of each non-response prompting effort, including the number of providers included in the calling effort, the number that were contacted, the number of voicemails or messages left with an informant, and the number of providers that SRG was unable to contact.

Table 2: Non-Response Prompting Calling Breakdown

Calling Effort	Number of Providers
Wave 1 – 4/29-5/17	3,437
Contact with Provider	1,784
Voicemail or Message Left	1,356
<b>Unable to Contact Provider</b>	297
(disconnected/wrong numbers)	297
Wave 2 - 5/18-5/31	2,263
Contact with Provider	1,543
Voicemail or Message Left	582
Unable to Contact Provider	120
(disconnected/wrong numbers)	138
Total	5,700

# Rate Sheet Follow-Up

Each week, respondents were randomly selected from a pool consisting of providers who had completed the MRS and had provided valid rates. These sampled respondents were contacted by email and informed of the request for their rate sheet. The email included instructions on how to submit their rate sheet as well as contact information for SRG if the provider needed assistance.

If a provider who was selected to submit a rate sheet did not submit one within three business days of the request being made, SRG made a follow-up call to verbally request the rate sheet. This calling effort took place throughout the project. Interviewers asked these respondents if they planned on sending in a rate sheet, answered any questions they had about the request, and provided the email address and/or fax number for rate sheet submission.

Providers were also sent one email reminder of the rate sheet request to encourage participation.

# Narrow Cost Analysis and Follow-Up Effort

After the initial 2024 MRS contact effort, an additional effort was conducted with a select number of providers. The purpose of the Narrow Cost Analysis was to estimate what it costs for early care and education programs to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of children while in care, and to do so at different levels of quality care. A Narrow Cost Analysis provides a limited glimpse into the costs of running an early care and education program, whether it is home-based care or an early care and education center, by selecting a small number of each type of program for the program cost component of the analysis.

SRG selected a subset of providers for a Narrow Cost Analysis follow-up interview from those who completed the MRS. Providers selected for the Narrow Cost Analysis follow-up interview were initially contacted via email and email reminders to schedule their interview. The initial email invitation explained the purpose of the narrow cost interviews, the estimated length of the interview, and the incentive offered for participation. The recruitment process also involved calling selected providers to give a more thorough explanation of the interview and the specific information that would be collected from them. The script used during these recruitment calls was developed by SRG and approved by DCY.

When selected providers were contacted by SRG to schedule their interview, they were advised about the details of the information they would be asked to provide such as information from their

tax returns, staffing numbers, and enrollment information. If a selected provider had that information available at the time of the initial call, the interview was conducted at that time.

Each interview was conducted by highly trained specialized interviewers to collect all necessary information. Non-responding providers received telephone prompting to schedule their interview, answer any questions the providers had, and ascertain the likelihood of a selected provider completing the interview. If it was determined that a provider was unlikely to complete the narrow cost interview or was ineligible for any reason, a replacement provider was randomly selected. To increase participation, an incentive of a \$100 digital gift card was offered to the selected providers who completed the interview.

# Incoming Phone and Email Contact

In addition to outgoing communications with providers, SRG fielded incoming phone calls and email inquiries from providers throughout the course of the data collection period. In total, SRG responded to 142 incoming emails and 67 incoming phone calls.

The most common topics providers raised in the emails were the reason for being asked to do the survey, assistance with the survey, and how providers responsible for multiple sites should complete the survey.

The most common phone call topics were assistance with completing the survey, requests for a survey to be re-opened, questions regarding the rate sheet request, and requests as to the reason for being asked to do the survey.

SRG also provided a website where responses to the most common frequently asked questions were located to help providers find answers to their questions.

# Data Management

Data entered by survey respondents is always subject to data entry errors that range from typos to incorrect responses due to lack of understanding about how responses should be entered. Several data management steps took place to ensure the data analyzed for the market rate structure analysis were as accurate as possible. The details of these steps are discussed below.

#### Data Entry

Each rate sheet and paper survey received was entered into SRG's double blind data entry system. This system requires that data are entered twice by two different staff members. Any discrepancies in the entries were flagged by the system, then reconciled by a third staff member who reviewed both cases and determined which entry was correct.

#### Data Cleaning

Data entry for rates was restricted to numeric values and decimal points to ensure that data were collected in a consistent fashion. Dollar sign symbols were placed in front of the data entry fields for each rate, and rate definitions (e.g., hourly, weekly, monthly) were provided as drop-down selections after each rate field. These restrictions minimized the amount of data cleaning required.

Several steps were taken to clean the rate data to prepare these data for analysis, these included:

- Data were reviewed for obvious missing decimal points (for example, an hourly rate of \$1150 was corrected to \$11.50).
- Rates with missing billing periods were reviewed and billing periods that were obvious were assigned. This was often the case with a series of similar entries where a single billing period

was missed, and it was obvious that the missing billing period was the same as the other entries. However, if there was any doubt about the missing billing period, the rates were excluded.

- Similarly, obviously incorrectly selected billing periods were corrected when they were in line with other rate entries or were discernible (e.g., \$131 annually was corrected to \$131 weekly).
- Entries of zero for any rates were excluded.

These data were then used to conduct the rate sheet and Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS) portal data comparisons in the sections below.

#### Data Conversion

Prior to conducting the market rate structure analysis, part-time and full-time rates needed to be converted so that they were comparable. These rates were converted to weekly rates to provide comparability with prior rate structure analysis. Part-time and full-time rates for all age categories were converted through the following steps:

- Hourly rates were multiplied by the number of hours in the weekly billing period
  - o Part-time: x 20
  - o Full-time: x 40
- Daily rates were multiplied by the number of days in the weekly billing period
  - o Part-time: x 2.5
  - o Full-time: x 5
- Weekly rates were not changed
- Biweekly (every 2 weeks) rates were divided by 2
- Monthly rates were divided by 4.28 (used in previous surveys)
- Annual rates were divided by 52.1429

Additional data cleaning steps included outlier analysis for identifying and removing any obvious data errors in these rates. These steps are discussed as part of the market rate structure analysis in the *Market Rate Structure Analysis* section.

# Response Rate Analysis

In any survey, one potential source of bias is non-response bias, in which the results could be skewed by a significant number of potential respondents not responding to the survey and thus the results not being representative of the entire population. Tracking the response rate of the 2024 MRS is important for understanding the potential error from non-response. There were 6,627 eligible providers included in the final sample for the 2024 MRS. A total of 3,161 providers completed their survey, which is an overall response rate of 47.7 percent. This response rate is lower than the last three administrations of the MRS, but higher than administrations conducted prior to 2018 and is sufficiently large enough to conduct the required market rate analysis.

In addition to tracking the overall response rate, it is important to understand how each of the provider types responded to the survey. Monitoring the response rate by program type allowed for the second period of non-response prompting to focus on the lower responding provider types to increase the number of surveys completed from these providers. The final response rates by program type are listed below:

• Type A FCC Home – 48.2%

- Type B FCC Home 35.0%
- Child Care Center 54.3%
- Approved Day Camp 43.3%
- ODE Preschool 29.8%
- ODE School Age Child Care 20.0%

Response rates for providers that were asked to provide rate sheets were also tracked so that follow-up efforts could be targeted to low-responding provider types. At the beginning of the rate sheet follow-up effort, every provider who was selected to provide a rate sheet was called three days after the initial email requesting their rate sheet was sent. Any provider that was not reached or did not provide their rate sheet after the initial prompting call was called a second time, three days after their initial non-response prompting call. Approximately three weeks after the initial email request for providers to submit their rate sheet, a reminder email was sent out to providers that had not yet submitted their rate sheet. Of the 3,161 providers that completed their survey and had valid rate data, 965 were selected to submit a rate sheet, and 347 (36.0%) of those providers did so. The final rate sheet response rates by program type are listed below:

- Type A FCC Home 28.9%
- Type B FCC Home 25.9%
- Child Care Center 40.2%
- Approved Day Camp 16.7%
- ODE Preschool 33.3%
- ODE School Age Child Care 0.0%

# Results

The remainder of this report provides the findings from the 2024 MRS as well as the Narrow Cost Analysis. The first two sections describe comparisons of the MRS data to the rate sheet information collected for the quality assurance assessment and to the OCLQS portal data to determine the reliability of those data. The final sections describe the market rate structure analysis, including how the county clusters were determined for this year's survey, followed by the percentile rate distributions as well as the Narrow Cost Analysis.

# Comparison of Survey Data to Rate Sheet Data

As mentioned previously, to determine the accuracy of rates entered in the survey, a third of completed survey respondents were randomly asked to submit their rate sheets to SRG. SRG compared the submitted rate sheets with the rates entered on the survey to calculate an error rate percentage using the following formula:

$$\textit{Error Rate \%} = 100 \times \left(\frac{\textit{rate entered on survey}}{\textit{rate from rate sheet}} - 1\right)$$

The result of this formula is the percentage error of the rate entered into the 2024 MRS survey as compared to the rates from the submitted rate sheet. Every rate for a provider was analyzed separately; for example, if a location has full- and part-time rates for infants and toddlers, this location will have four calculated error rates. If the rates entered on the survey and on the submitted rate sheets match exactly, the error rate percentage is zero. Values below zero indicate rates reported in the 2024 MRS were lower than those on the rate sheet, whereas values greater than zero indicate rates reported in the 2024 MRS were higher than those on the rate sheet. Any error

rate greater than five percent was defined as indicating survey rates were over-reported; similarly, any error rate less than negative five percent was defined as under-reported. After determining the error rates, Wilcoxon sign tests were performed on each age/rate category to determine whether there was significant bias in the provider rates for each category.

# Overall Summary of Error Rates

Overall, 348 early care and education locations submitted rate sheets and 339 had at least one rate able to be paired with a rate from the survey. Rates were paired if they were the same rate type (e.g., Infants – Hourly) and the billing period (e.g., weekly) was available for both rates. If one of the rates was missing a billing period and the rates were within the five percent matching threshold, the billing period was applied to the rate missing a period after a manual review to ensure the amount was reasonable for that billing period.

After this process, 2,403 rates were paired and used to analyze the reliability of the rate data entered into the 2024 MRS. Table 3 on the next page shows the results of this analysis. The results are broken down by the three most common program types and reported overall. In the table below, valid rates are the number of paired rates that were included in the analysis. The matching rates column is the number of paired rates that had an error rate between negative and positive five percent, which was the definition of a match. Paired rates where the survey-entered rate was lower than the rate on the rate sheet by more than the five percent error threshold are counted as underreported. Over-reported rates are the paired rates where the survey-entered rate was higher than the rate sheet by more than the five percent error. The mean error rate is the average error rate of the paired rates for that category, reported in percentage points. The last column, median error rate, is the middle error rate for that program type. If the median error rate is 0.0 that means that more than half of the paired rates are exact matches and had error rates of 0.0 percent for that group. For calculating the mean and median error rate, the absolute value of each error was used to determine the magnitude of the error rate and not the direction. This eliminates the possibility of a low error rate being reported due to large error rates in both positive and negative directions and effectively cancelling out in the calculation.

For all program types, 74.4 percent of rates fell into the matching category. Type A and Type B homes and child care centers all had a similar percentage of their paired rates within the five percent matching definition. Of the rates that did not match, a majority, 387, were under-reported, meaning the rate entered in the survey was lower than the rate from the rate sheet. The remaining 228 of non-matching paired rates were over-reported, meaning the rate entered in the survey was higher than the rate from the submitted rate sheet. Overall, the mean error rate was 10.64 percent, meaning that the average error rate for a paired rate was 10.64 percentage points away from a perfect match. The median error rate for all analyzed program types was 0.0 percent, meaning that more than half of each type had exact matches with no error rate. In the following sections, matching rates, under-reporting, over-reporting, and error rates are broken out by provider type. These analyses provide supporting evidence that, based on the rates with available rate sheet comparisons, rate data reported in the MRS are reliable and accurate, making it appropriate to use for the market rate structure analysis.

Table 3: Overall Error Rates by Program Type

Program	Valid	Matching	Under-	Over-	Mean Error	Median Error
Type	Rates	Rates	reported	reported	Rate (%)	Rate (%)
Type A	151	126	24	1	4.60	0.00
Type B	622	473	82	67	8.62	0.00

Centers	1,630	1,189	281	160	11.97	0.00
Total	2,403	1,788	387	228	10.64	0.00

# Type A Homes

In addition to analyzing rate sheet comparisons for each program type, SRG also compared rate sheet data for each rate type within the three most common program types. The results for Type A Homes are included in Table 4 below. Overall, Type A Homes have a mean error rate of 4.60 percent and a median error rate of 0.0 percent. This means that more than half of the data were an exact rate match with no error rate. The standard deviation is 13.85 percentage points and the standard error rate is 1.13 percentage points. Both standard deviation and standard error rate are measurements of variance of the error rates, with larger values indicating a wider range for the error rates.

The rate types with the largest mean error rate and standard deviation rate was hourly for infants, preschool, school age, and school age summer. The sample size for each rate type is small for Type A Homes, which makes it harder to draw conclusions than for Type B or centers, but overall the match rate was high, and the error rate was low for the rates selected for Type A. This is evidence that the rate data for Type A Homes entered into the survey are accurate and reliable enough for the further analysis in this report.

Table 4: Type A Homes Error Rates Summary by Rate Type

	Valid Matchi	Matching	Mean	Std Dev	Standard	Median
Rate Type		ŭ	Error Rate	Rate	Error Rate	Error Rate
	Rates	Rates	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Infants - Hourly	9	7	10.33	23.5	7.85	0.00
Infants - Part-time	10	8	2.83	6.6	2.08	0.00
Infants - Full-time	11	10	2.58	6.0	1.82	0.00
Toddlers - Hourly	10	9	4.14	13.1	4.14	0.00
Toddlers - Part-time	11	8	4.21	7.8	2.35	0.00
Toddlers - Full-time	12	10	2.88	5.9	1.69	0.00
Preschool - Hourly	9	8	8.09	24.3	8.09	0.00
Preschool - Part-time	11	8	3.76	7.0	2.10	0.00
Preschool - Full-time	12	9	7.80	19.8	5.71	0.00
School Age - Hourly	9	7	10.40	24.6	8.20	0.00
School Age - Part-time	9	8	0.62	1.9	0.62	0.00
School Age - Full-time	10	8	2.09	4.4	1.40	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Hourly	8	7	9.10	25.8	9.10	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Part-time	10	10	0.50	1.6	0.50	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Full-time	10	9	1.72	5.5	1.72	0.00
Total	151	126	4.60	13.8	1.13	0.00

For each rate type, a nonparametric Wilcoxon signed rank test was used to test if there was a statically significant bias toward under- or over-reporting on the survey rates compared to the rates from the submitted sheets. A nonparametric test was used due to the highly skewed error rates in this analysis. The results for Type A are shown in Table 5 on the next page. A p-value of 0.05 or lower indicates that there is a significant difference between the errors and that the rate type is biased

toward either under- or over-reporting the rate data in the survey. All of the individual rates had p-values of greater than 0.05, which means they had no significant bias toward under or over-reporting rates in the survey, but the overall rate summing all age groups for centers had a statistically significant underreporting of rates on the 2024 MRS.

Table 5: Type A Homes Wilcoxon Sign Test Summary

Rate Type	Valid	Matching	Under-	Over-	P-Value	
Nate Type	Rates	Rates	Reported	Reported	1 Value	
Infants - Hourly	9	7	1	1	0.66	
Infants - Part-time	10	8	2	0	0.18	
Infants - Full-time	11	10	1	0	0.11	
Toddlers - Hourly	10	9	1	0	0.32	
Toddlers - Part-time	11	8	3	0	0.11	
Toddlers - Full-time	12	10	2	0	0.07	
Preschool - Hourly	9	8	1	0	0.32	
Preschool - Part-time	11	8	3	0	0.11	
Preschool - Full-time	12	9	3	0	0.11	
School Age - Hourly	9	7	2	0	0.18	
School Age - Part-time	9	8	1	0	0.32	
School Age - Full-time	10	8	2	0	0.18	
School Age (Summer) - Hourly	8	7	1	0	0.32	
School Age (Summer) - Part-time	10	10	0	0	0.32	
School Age (Summer) - Full-time	10	9	1	0	0.32	
Total	151	126	24	1	0.00	

# Type B Homes

Table 6 on the next page presents the rate sheet comparison results for Type B Homes. Overall, Type B Homes have a mean error rate of 8.62 percent and a median error rate of 0.0 percent. This means that more than half of the rate pairs in the Type B category were exact rate matches and had no error rate. The standard deviation is 22.49 percentage points and the standard error rate is 0.90 percentage points. Both standard deviation and standard error rate are measurements of variance of the error rates, with larger values indicating a wider range for the error rates.

The rate types with the largest mean error rate and standard deviation rate were all the hourly rates. The hourly rates having larger average error rates is a continuation of a trend from previous versions of the survey. Overall, the match rate for Type B is high, the error rates are low, and a majority for each rate type are exact matches, indicating that the rate data for Type B Homes entered into the survey are accurate and reliable enough for the further analysis in this report.

Table 6: Type B Error Rates Summary by Rate Type

	Valid	Matching	Mean	Std Dev	Standard	Median
Rate Type		ŭ	Error Rate	Rate	Error Rate	Error Rate
	Rates	Rates	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Infants - Hourly	34	28	14.67	39.7	6.81	0.00
Infants - Part-time	46	35	5.57	13.5	1.99	0.00
Infants - Full-time	47	38	6.21	14.9	2.17	0.00
Toddlers - Hourly	36	28	13.11	35.7	5.95	0.00
Toddlers - Part-time	46	35	5.76	13.5	1.99	0.00
Toddlers - Full-time	46	37	5.74	14.7	2.16	0.00
Preschool - Hourly	36	26	12.89	32.7	5.46	0.00
Preschool - Part-time	45	34	6.38	13.9	2.07	0.00
Preschool - Full-time	47	37	6.18	15.5	2.26	0.00
School Age - Hourly	36	27	12.60	33.1	5.52	0.00
School Age - Part-time	43	30	8.19	15.7	2.39	0.00
School Age - Full-time	44	30	9.81	19.8	2.98	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Hourly	33	25	11.93	28.9	5.02	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Part-time	41	33	6.14	14.9	2.32	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Full-time	42	30	9.26	20.5	3.17	0.00
Total	622	473	8.62	22.5	0.90	0.00

For each rate type, a nonparametric Wilcoxon signed rank test was used to test if there was a statically significant bias toward under- or over-reporting on the survey rates compared to the rates from the submitted sheets. A nonparametric test was used due to the highly skewed error rates in this analysis. The results for Type B are shown in Table 7 on the next page. A p-value of 0.05 or lower indicates that there is a significant difference between the errors and that the rate type is biased toward either under- or over-reporting the rate data in the survey. All the individual rates and the overall rate had p-values of greater than 0.05, which means none had significant bias toward under or over-reporting rates in the survey.

Table 7: Type B Wilcoxon Sign Test Summary

Rate Type	Valid	Matching	Under-	Over-	P-Value
кате туре	Rates	Rates	Reported	Reported	P-value
Infants - Hourly	34	28	1	5	0.09
Infants - Part-time	46	35	6	5	0.72
Infants - Full-time	47	38	5	4	0.46
Toddlers - Hourly	36	28	2	6	0.07
Toddlers - Part-time	46	35	8	3	0.28
Toddlers - Full-time	46	37	5	4	0.68
Preschool - Hourly	36	26	4	6	0.16
Preschool - Part-time	45	34	7	4	0.45
Preschool - Full-time	47	37	7	3	0.16
School Age - Hourly	36	27	4	5	0.50
School Age - Part-time	43	30	9	4	0.15
School Age - Full-time	44	30	9	5	0.36
School Age (Summer) - Hourly	33	25	2	6	0.08
School Age (Summer) - Part-time	41	33	6	2	0.13
School Age (Summer) - Full-time	42	30	7	5	0.86
Total	622	473	82	67	0.05

# Child Care Centers

Table 8 on the next page provides the results for child care centers rate sheet comparisons. Overall, centers have a mean error rate of 11.97 percent and a median error rate of 0.0 percent. The standard deviation is 63.56 percentage points and the standard error rate is 1.57 percentage points. Both standard deviation and standard error rate are measurements of variance of the error rates, with larger values indicating a wider range for the error rates. The large standard deviation shows that a few large outliers are pulling the mean error rate higher for centers than the other types.

The rate type with the largest mean error rate and standard deviation rate was school age part-time. School age part time was also high in the previous versions of the survey. Overall, the match rate for centers is high, the error rates are low, and a majority for each rate type are exact matches, indicating that the rate data for centers entered into the survey are accurate and reliable enough for the further analysis in this report.

Table 8: Child Care Centers Error Rates Summary by Rate Type

	Valid M	Matching	Mean	Std Dev	Standard	Median
Rate Type	Rates	Rates	Error Rate	Rate	Error Rate	Error Rate
Infante House	Nates	Nates	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Infants - Hourly	29	21	10.78	35.0	6.50	0.00
Infants - Part-time	108	81	4.84	9.9	0.96	0.00
Infants - Full-time	158	137	10.07	104.4	8.30	0.00
Toddlers - Hourly	31	22	11.89	39.5	7.09	0.00
Toddlers - Part-time	138	96	8.77	32.4	2.76	0.00
Toddlers - Full-time	180	154	7.68	72.4	5.40	0.00
Preschool - Hourly	37	29	10.41	38.4	6.31	0.00
Preschool - Part-time	190	109	15.03	39.3	2.85	0.29
Preschool - Full-time	208	169	9.41	66.0	4.57	0.00
School Age - Hourly	30	22	13.74	54.6	9.97	0.00
School Age - Part-time	140	75	29.44	113.3	9.57	1.47
School Age - Full-time	166	102	16.56	39.0	3.03	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Hourly	23	18	16.92	54.2	11.30	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Part-time	77	59	4.98	11.7	1.33	0.00
School Age (Summer) - Full-time	115	95	7.64	40.8	3.80	0.00
Total	1,630	1,189	11.97	63.6	1.57	0.00

For each rate type, a nonparametric Wilcoxon signed rank test was used to test if there was a statically significant bias toward under - or over-reporting on the survey rates compared to the rates from the submitted sheets. A nonparametric test was used due to the highly skewed error rates in this analysis. The results for centers are shown in Table 9 on the next page. A p-value of 0.05 or lower indicates that there is a significant difference between the errors and that the rate type is biased toward either under - or over-reporting the rate data in the survey. All of the individual rates had p-values of greater than 0.05, which means they had no significant bias toward under or over-reporting rates in the survey, but the overall rate summing all age groups for centers had a statistically significant underreporting of rates on the survey.

Table 9: Child Care Centers Wilcoxon Sign Test Summary

Rate Type	Valid	Matching	Under-	Over-	P-Value
кате туре	Rates	Rates	Reported	Reported	P-value
Infants - Hourly	29	21	6	2	0.26
Infants - Part-time	108	81	17	10	0.27
Infants - Full-time	158	137	15	6	0.14
Toddlers - Hourly	31	22	7	2	0.21
Toddlers - Part-time	138	96	27	15	0.11
Toddlers - Full-time	180	154	18	8	0.18
Preschool - Hourly	37	29	7	1	0.07
Preschool - Part-time	190	109	49	32	0.19
Preschool - Full-time	208	169	26	13	0.16
School Age - Hourly	30	22	6	2	0.41
School Age - Part-time	140	75	37	28	0.61
School Age - Full-time	166	102	41	23	0.08
School Age (Summer) - Hourly	23	18	2	3	0.61
School Age (Summer) - Part-time	77	59	10	8	0.56
School Age (Summer) - Full-time	115	95	13	7	0.34
Total	1,630	1,189	281	160	0.00

# Comparison of Rate Sheets to OCLQS Portal Data

A similar analysis was done comparing the submitted rate sheets and the rates from the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS) portal data. The purpose of this comparison was to determine if the portal data are suitable to substitute for missing MRS rates. While a majority of the rate comparisons met our definition of matching it was an appreciably smaller percentage than matched with the rates entered on the survey. This demonstrates the rates entered into the survey are more accurate and timelier and that portal rates should not be used to supplement for locations that did not respond to the MRS.

# Notable Issues with Hourly Rates

After the administration of the 2018 MRS, a review of the hourly rates identified a significant number of providers who had reported the same hourly rates for all age groups that appeared to be higher than expected given accompanying part-time and full-time rates. These rates seemed questionable because they did not vary by age category, were often higher than would be expected, and were of whole dollar amounts (e.g., \$10, \$15, \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35, or \$50). A similar trend was seen in the subsequent MRS, including the 2024 MRS.

To shed light on this issue, comparisons of hourly rates that were outside expectations were made to rate sheet data and OCLQS data. Additionally, SRG staff held several discussions with providers that, when applicable, involved asking about rates entered into the OCLQS system that were outside expectations. While there were limited comparisons that could be made between the rates presented on the rate sheets and the rates providers entered into the MRS or the OCLQS and only a handful of providers were asked about issues with hourly rates they had reported, these comparisons and discussions identified a number of cases in both the MRS and the portal hourly rate data where it appeared that providers had entered inaccurate hourly rate information in the

MRS or the portal. One common scenario identified was that when providers do not charge hourly rates, they are providing their daily rates.

# Market Rate Structure Analysis

The goal of the MRS is to define the distribution of early care and education market rates across the state of Ohio. More specifically, the goal is to define the various rate settings, based on service categories and location. Previous market rate analyses in Ohio have demonstrated that providers tend to charge different rates based on the age of the child and the number of hours of care provided weekly. Additionally, early care and education rates in some regions of Ohio are higher than in others, likely stemming from differences in population density and economic conditions. These three factors (age category, service period category, and geographic location) have traditionally been used to create meaningful subgroups for rate distributions for Ohio early care and education providers. The final product from this market structure analysis will be a set of rate distributions for each of the provider groups for the 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th, 75th, 80th, 85th, 90th, and 95th percentiles.

Service categories are a combination of age categories and service period categories.

# Age categories:

- Infants (newborn through 17 months)
- Toddlers (18 through 35 months)
- Preschool (3 years through 5 years and not in school)
- School Age (5 years through 12 years and in school) during the regular year
- School Age during the summer

# Service period categories:

- Full-time (25 to 60 hours per week)
- Part-time (7 to less than 25 hours per week)
- Hourly (less than 7 hours per week)

Rates for each service period category were collected for each age category resulting in 15 total service categories, although many providers only provided care for some service categories.

Categorizing the providers by geography, which serves as a proxy for the rate variations seen in settings with differing population densities and local economies, is a more complex task. Prior analyses have used a county-based approach to constructing market rate groups. In those analyses, counties with similar rate structures are grouped together, creating groups wherein the rate structures of the counties within each group are similar, but the rate structures differ among groups. This strategy has been used since the 2004 MRS and was used again in the 2024 analysis.

The first step in this process was to establish which components of the providers' rate structures explain most of the differences (variance) among provider rates in different counties. The rate information for providers in each county was examined to determine what components of these rates best describe the variation in the rates. To summarize the rate structure of each county, average rates were created for the part-time and full-time rates, transformed into weekly rates, for each of the five age categories in each county. Hourly rates were not used for the rate structure analysis due to significant missing data in the hourly rates and concern that some providers may have misinterpreted this field in the MRS.

The goal was to reduce these 10 rate categories (full-time and part-time for all five age categories), which are likely correlated, into a smaller subset of composite factors that explain most of the variation in the county rates. The statistical method for reducing a larger number of correlated variables into a set of composite factors (components) that summarizes these correlated variables is principal component analysis. Principal component analysis takes the 10 weekly rates for each county and defines a subset of components that account for the majority of the rate variation among counties. These components were used as the bases for clustering counties into a small number of groups that have similar rate structures. This method, known as cluster analysis, was used to determine how many groups the counties fall into and the placement of each county into a group.

The sections below describe the principal component analysis and cluster analysis used for the 2024 MRS.

# Principal Component Analysis

In order to run a principal component analysis (PCA) in preparation for cluster analysis, any obvious outliers need to be identified and removed from the rate data. In a normal distribution of data, 99.73 percent of all data points are within three standard deviations (or 3-sigma) of the mean. As such, 3-sigma was used as the threshold for determining an outlier. For each provider type and age group, three iterations of the 3-sigma test were run to provide guidance in determining whether an outlier should be removed. In most cases, the second and third iterations did not identify additional outliers. In some instances, only the initial outliers were removed because of the small differences between the outlier and the last included rate value (e.g., \$399/week versus \$390/week).

Hourly rates were excluded from use in the principal component and cluster analyses due to two factors – fewer providers reported hourly rates, leading to a large amount of missing data, and the concern that many providers were reporting daily rather than hourly rates in these categories, leading to even more missing data once these cases were excluded. The remaining 10 rate categories (full-time and part-time rates for all five age categories) were used for the analyses. For each county, averages of each of these rate categories were calculated using the raw, unweighted rates. Harrison County was not included in these initial analyses as no rate data was provided in the MRS for this county. Additionally, Vinton County was excluded from the PCA due to limited weekly rate data. Finally, Monroe County was excluded from the PCA because one provider responded to the MRS and the rates provided were extremely high rates.

Once the average rates for each of the 10 rate categories were calculated for each county, Pearson correlation coefficients were calculated for all rates to check the degree of correlation between the rates (see the correlation matrix in Appendix D). All rates are highly correlated, with the highest correlations being between the rate types (full-time or part-time) for infants, toddlers, and preschool and between rates for the same age categories. These high, positive correlations suggest that rates tend to be similarly high or low across all categories in a given county. The high correlation between the average rate categories supports the use of principal component analysis to identify the primary rate structure components that explain the majority of the variation in rates across counties.

The principal component analysis identified only one significant principal component, which explained most of the variance in the 10 rate categories between counties. The component can best be described as the average of all 10 rate categories. This component explains over 81 percent of the variation in the county rate data, suggesting that the most prominent factor for differentiating between early care and education rates among counties is their overall average rate across all of the weekly rate categories.

The next most prominent component was associated with the differences between age groups, with infant and toddler rates differing from school age rates. However, this component only explained an additional eight percent of the county rate variation. Thus, only the first component identified in the principal component analysis was used in the cluster analysis to group counties by their rate structures.

# Cluster Analysis

Cluster analysis is a mathematical technique that assembles cases into groups or clusters based on some set of defining characteristics, in this case, the principal components that identified the rate structures in PCA. Given that the first principal component (overall average rate) explained the vast majority of the rate structure variation between counties, this was the only component used in the cluster analysis to determine the number of county groups (clusters) and membership within the clusters.

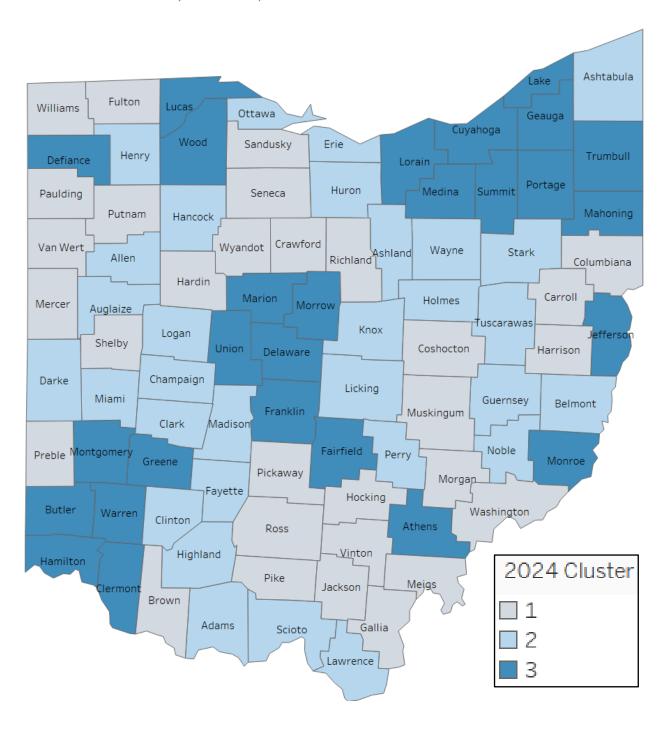
While there are different types of algorithms used in clustering techniques, at its basis, cluster analysis groups cases by some set of defining characteristics (in this case the overall average rate for each county). Previous analyses have used both k-means clustering and hierarchical (or nested) clustering for the purpose of clustering in the rate structure analysis. Given that the exact number of clusters also cannot be known a *priori*, the cluster analysis began with hierarchical cluster models. Three counties were excluded from the cluster analyses. Harrison County was excluded because there was no MRS data for this county (there is only one DCY licensed center in this county). Monroe County was excluded as it was identified as a high-cost outlier, meaning its presence in the analysis was disproportionately impacting the cluster solutions. Vinton County was also excluded due to lack of enough weekly rate data to yield reliable cluster placement.

Even with the outliers removed, the hierarchical cluster models tended to create one large cluster of lower rate counties and then to break a much smaller group of higher rate counties into even smaller higher rate clusters. Changing the cluster methods (e.g., nearest neighbor, between groups, Centroid, Ward's Method) had very little impact for the most part, with all favoring two main clusters including a very large cluster of counties with lower rates. Therefore, the centroid-based k-means cluster analysis was used to determine what larger cluster numbers would look like using a model based on closeness of a data point to the centroid of the clusters rather than a connectivity model where the starting point is a single cluster that is iteratively broken into a larger number of clusters. K-means cluster groups were created for two cluster groups through five cluster groups and the proportion of total variability between the overall average rates explained by differences between cluster means for each cluster group was examined. The smallest number of clusters for which the change in this difference is small is generally the best fit for defining a cluster grouping of cases. In this case, a three-cluster grouping was the best fit to the rate data.

The cluster map below provides a visual guide to the resulting 2024 MRS clusters and Table 10 provides the cluster assignments for both the 2024 MRS and a comparison to the 2022 clusters. The clusters are labeled such that Cluster 1 tended to have the lowest average overall rates, Cluster 2 tended to have average rates in the middle, and Cluster 3 tended to have the highest average rates. For Table 10, the 2022 MRS cluster scheme also consisted of three clusters, making comparisons simple. Movement of a county to a higher-rate cluster is denoted by a "+" next to the county name and movement to a lower-rate cluster is denoted by a "\*" next to the county name. Once the clusters were determined, Monroe County was placed into the cluster best fitting that county's rates. Harrison County had no provider results in the MRS or the OCLQS portal data and no provider who charged rates could be located. Therefore, cluster history and wage data from BLS

Occupational Employment Statistics for Education and Health Services<sup>2</sup> workers were used to properly place this county into a cluster. Similarly, Vinton County was placed based on cluster history and BLS wage data.

2024 Market Rate Survey Cluster Map



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://www.bls.gov/cew/

Table 10. County Clusters for the 2024 DCY Market Rate Survey Compared to 2022 Clusters

County	2022 Cluster	2024 Cluster	County	2022 Cluster	2024 Cluster	County	2022 Cluster	2024 Cluster
Adams <sup>+</sup>	1	2	Hamilton	3	3	Noble	2	2
Allen <sup>+</sup>	1	2	Hancock*	3	2	Ottawa	2	2
Ashland <sup>+</sup>	1	2	Hardin*	2	1	Paulding	1	1
Ashtabula	2	2	Harrison	1	1	Perry	2	2
Athens	3	3	Henry <sup>+</sup>	1	2	Pickaway	1	1
Auglaize	2	2	Highland <sup>+</sup>	1	2	Pike	1	1
Belmont*	3	2	Hocking	1	1	Portage	3	3
Brown	1	1	Holmes*	3	2	Preble*	2	1
Butler	3	3	Huron	2	2	Putnam	1	1
Carroll	1	1	Jackson	1	1	Richland	1	1
Champaign <sup>+</sup>	1	2	Jefferson	3	3	Ross	1	1
Clark	2	2	Knox*	3	2	Sandusky*	2	1
Clermont	3	3	Lake	3	3	Scioto <sup>+</sup>	1	2
Clinton	2	2	Lawrence	2	2	Seneca	1	1
Columbiana	1	1	Licking	2	2	Shelby	1	1
Coshocton	1	1	Logan	2	2	Stark	2	2
Crawford	1	1	Lorain	3	3	Summit	3	3
Cuyahoga	3	3	Lucas	3	3	Trumbull	3	3
Darke <sup>+</sup>	1	2	Madison	2	2	Tuscarawas	2	2
Defiance	3	3	Mahoning <sup>+</sup>	2	3	Union	3	3
Delaware	3	3	Marion	3	3	Van Wert	1	1
Erie	2	2	Medina	3	3	Vinton	1	1
Fairfield	3	3	Meigs	1	1	Warren	3	3
Fayette	2	2	Mercer	1	1	Washington	1	1
Franklin	3	3	Miami <sup>+</sup>	1	2	Wayne	2	2
Fulton	1	1	Monroe	3	3	Williams	1	1
Gallia	1	1	Montgomery	3	3	Wood <sup>+</sup>	2	3
Geauga	3	3	Morgan*	2	1	Wyandot	1	1
Greene	3	3	Morrow	3	3			
Guernsey	2	2	Muskingum	1	1			

<sup>\* -</sup> county moved to lower cluster

<sup>+ -</sup> county moved to higher cluster

# Estimated Rate Distributions and Calculated Percentiles

Following the creation of the clusters for the 2024 MRS, rate distributions were created for a series of breakouts at the provider and county cluster levels. Rates are provided in dollars in each of the rate distribution tables. For most distributions, the 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th, 75th, 80th, 85th, 90th, and 95th percentiles for the distribution of the rates for each of the 15 service categories were calculated. However, for subgroups that contained 19 or fewer providers, only the 15th, 25th, 35th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 65th, 75th, 85th, and 90th percentiles were calculated and for subgroups that contained 9 or fewer providers, only the 25th, 50th, and 75th percentiles were calculated.

Hourly and weekly rates were weighted by the capacity of each of the providers that fell into a particular subgroup. For example, for the rate distributions of child care centers in a given cluster, each rate for each provider was weighted by the capacity of that provider, with the weights for each subgroup adjusted so that the sum of the weights is equal to the number of providers in the subgroup. In all, 180 weighting variables were calculated for each set of percentiles; 45 sets of percentiles were calculated at the state-wide level (3 provider types × 15 service categories), and 135 sets of percentiles were calculated at the county group level (3 provider types × 15 service categories × 3 county clusters).

Prior to the 2018 MRS, likely due to a more limited amount of rate data, weighted mean rates and weighted standard deviations were used to calculate normal approximations to the overall rate distributions. These same normal distributions were calculated for the 2024 MRS and compared to the actual percentile rate distributions of the weighted rates. Most of the weighted rate distributions exhibited very little skewness³ (none of the weekly rates had a skewness above 2.33); therefore, for distributions with a larger number of providers (e.g., the statewide distribution of child care centers), the percentile distributions from the calculated normal distributions were a close match. However, as the subgroups became smaller, the differences between the actual weighted percentile rates and the rates from the calculated normal distributions became larger. A table of rate distributions in Appendix E provides rate comparisons for both larger and smaller subgroups to show these differences between the actual weighted rates and the normal distributions calculated from the means and standardizations. Because the calculated normal distributions could vary by more than a few dollars from those based on actual reported charged rates, it was determined the 2024 MRS rate distribution tables would be created based on the actual weighted rates for each subgroup.

The tables below provide the statewide and county cluster level percentiles for each of the three types of providers (child care centers, Type A Homes, and Type B Homes). The county cluster tables are broken out by percentile.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Seven distributions of Type B FCC Homes (4 in Cluster A and 3 in Cluster B) had skewness above 2.0; in each case this skewness was due to one or two providers with rates significantly higher than the other providers in the subgroup.

Table 11. Statewide Rate Percentiles for Centers

Doveontile		Infants		-	<b>Foddlers</b>		P	reschool		S	chool Age		Schoo	l Age Sun	nmer
Percentile	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr
10	210.00	137.50	7.50	185.00	112.95	7.00	155.00	70.00	5.71	90.00	55.74	5.00	150.00	95.00	5.38
15	225.00	150.00	8.69	200.00	125.00	7.93	170.00	90.00	6.07	100.00	63.67	5.87	160.50	100.00	6.00
20	244.27	162.12	9.10	215.00	137.50	8.96	181.07	102.66	6.50	110.00	70.00	6.00	175.00	109.59	6.40
25	254.80	165.00	9.15	226.72	142.83	9.83	195.00	116.05	7.01	122.00	75.00	6.68	182.00	120.00	7.00
30	265.00	175.00	10.00	235.00	150.00	10.00	205.00	122.43	7.28	129.20	84.06	6.86	194.00	125.00	7.38
35	275.00	179.06	10.00	245.00	156.00	11.66	215.00	129.50	8.00	136.24	90.00	7.25	200.00	130.00	8.00
40	280.00	190.00	11.23	254.00	169.22	12.00	222.00	136.00	8.00	140.00	93.22	8.00	205.00	137.50	8.77
45	295.00	198.00	12.00	265.00	180.00	12.29	230.00	147.13	9.00	150.00	100.00	8.72	210.00	150.00	9.96
50	300.00	208.13	12.99	275.00	189.04	12.29	242.66	159.00	10.00	155.00	105.00	10.00	220.00	150.00	10.00
55	316.00	220.00	13.00	280.00	196.02	13.00	250.00	165.00	10.00	164.85	110.00	10.00	229.00	155.00	10.00
60	325.00	226.25	13.00	293.66	203.00	14.00	259.00	175.00	11.00	170.00	115.00	10.00	235.00	165.00	11.99
65	335.00	238.68	15.00	300.00	211.00	15.00	268.00	180.00	12.00	180.00	120.00	10.73	246.00	170.00	12.00
70	345.00	243.73	15.00	311.50	223.88	15.00	276.00	193.00	12.74	188.71	125.89	12.00	250.00	177.88	12.08
75	353.00	250.00	15.90	323.76	230.00	16.00	288.55	200.00	14.00	200.00	135.00	12.00	262.55	187.50	14.00
80	368.72	261.00	17.00	330.00	242.00	17.00	295.00	212.00	15.00	217.72	145.00	14.00	270.00	200.00	15.00
85	375.00	279.91	18.00	342.41	252.91	17.50	303.74	225.41	15.00	235.00	160.00	15.00	285.17	209.98	15.00
90	394.96	292.99	20.00	362.00	270.47	20.00	325.00	240.00	17.00	255.00	185.21	16.00	300.00	227.43	17.00
95	416.82	320.23	22.30	390.00	296.25	20.00	350.00	260.00	20.00	295.44	209.11	20.00	331.01	257.44	20.00

Table 12. Statewide Rate Percentiles for Type A Homes

Dorsontilo		Infants		•	Toddlers		F	reschool		Sc	chool Age	;	Schoo	l Age Sun	nmer
Percentile	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr
10	200.00	139.86	8.00	180.00	125.00	8.00	171.60	110.82	6.24	125.00	88.08	6.00	151.76	101.86	6.50
15	218.40	150.00	8.71	197.67	137.40	9.83	180.00	119.60	6.99	135.55	90.00	6.50	165.00	115.00	6.88
20	235.69	167.81	10.00	207.68	148.75	10.00	197.18	125.00	7.47	149.12	100.00	7.06	180.58	123.88	7.41
25	250.00	175.00	10.00	226.85	155.35	10.09	207.18	135.52	8.00	150.00	100.00	7.94	194.49	130.00	8.00
30	264.31	175.89	10.00	240.00	164.48	11.05	215.17	150.00	8.86	165.19	110.19	8.06	200.00	144.55	8.42
35	275.00	185.00	10.17	249.00	175.00	12.00	225.00	160.00	9.99	175.00	122.83	9.05	210.00	150.00	9.80
40	288.09	200.00	11.00	260.00	181.05	12.36	240.00	172.53	10.00	183.92	125.00	10.00	219.51	160.00	10.00
45	300.00	200.00	12.00	275.00	198.13	14.00	250.00	178.64	10.00	190.83	130.61	10.00	225.00	170.12	10.00
50	321.25	220.62	12.71	287.25	200.00	14.94	260.08	180.00	10.81	199.03	145.00	10.00	247.51	175.06	10.47
55	332.62	240.00	13.99	298.80	211.05	15.00	275.00	187.98	11.72	200.00	150.00	10.99	250.00	184.42	12.00
60	350.00	245.00	15.00	315.00	219.37	15.00	285.30	190.00	13.08	200.00	150.00	13.00	260.00	190.00	14.00
65	356.11	250.00	15.00	325.00	225.00	15.00	290.00	200.00	15.00	220.00	165.00	15.00	262.79	197.38	15.00
70	369.19	250.59	15.00	331.43	228.00	15.00	300.00	200.00	15.00	227.25	170.00	15.00	274.94	200.00	15.00
75	375.00	260.61	17.00	345.00	249.06	15.70	300.00	206.00	15.00	250.00	181.56	15.00	275.00	200.00	15.00
80	384.50	277.80	18.47	350.00	252.49	18.00	310.00	225.00	15.00	272.19	195.45	15.00	294.30	225.00	15.32
85	400.00	300.00	20.00	354.41	275.00	18.00	326.37	239.19	17.64	300.00	200.00	18.00	312.23	235.44	17.74
90	400.00	320.00	20.00	390.00	300.00	20.00	350.00	275.00	18.00	311.48	225.00	20.00	350.00	250.00	19.65
95	427.90	341.12	20.00	400.00	314.05	20.00	394.23	300.00	20.00	376.81	250.00	20.00	381.44	299.56	20.00

Table 13. Statewide Rate Percentiles for Type B Homes

Dawaantila		Infants		-	Foddlers		F	reschool		S	chool Age	)	Schoo	l Age Sun	nmer
Percentile	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr	FT	PT	Hr
10	163.72	100.00	5.66	155.00	99.76	5.22	140.00	90.37	5.11	122.81	80.00	5.00	135.00	88.33	5.13
15	175.00	112.50	6.23	165.00	105.00	6.00	150.00	100.00	5.95	130.00	86.54	5.59	140.00	97.61	6.20
20	180.00	120.00	6.96	171.60	110.00	6.25	156.00	103.90	6.25	136.92	90.00	6.00	146.36	100.00	6.55
25	189.01	125.00	7.44	175.00	120.00	7.00	160.00	110.00	6.58	145.00	99.33	6.54	150.00	105.00	7.00
30	190.00	130.33	8.00	182.00	124.80	8.00	166.40	115.47	7.41	150.00	100.00	7.00	156.00	110.00	7.50
35	200.00	135.00	8.32	185.00	128.26	8.06	174.94	120.00	7.75	150.00	104.00	7.50	160.00	112.58	7.81
40	200.00	145.00	9.00	191.85	135.00	8.88	175.00	125.00	8.10	155.00	110.00	8.00	165.00	120.00	8.07
45	204.80	150.00	10.00	200.00	140.00	9.86	180.00	130.00	9.00	160.00	115.00	9.00	175.00	125.00	9.00
50	220.00	155.00	10.00	200.00	150.00	10.00	190.83	138.33	10.00	170.00	120.69	10.00	180.00	130.00	10.00
55	225.00	165.00	10.00	215.00	150.00	10.00	200.00	149.46	10.00	175.00	125.00	10.00	190.00	135.00	10.00
60	242.20	175.00	11.00	225.00	160.00	11.00	205.00	150.00	10.00	188.62	135.00	10.00	200.00	145.00	10.00
65	250.00	175.95	12.00	238.17	170.00	12.00	220.00	155.88	11.00	200.00	145.00	10.91	200.00	150.00	11.35
70	255.39	186.74	15.00	250.00	175.00	14.50	225.00	170.00	12.50	200.00	150.00	12.50	220.00	160.00	12.00
75	275.00	200.00	15.00	250.00	187.50	15.00	250.00	175.00	15.00	220.00	160.00	15.00	230.00	174.97	15.00
80	300.00	200.00	15.00	275.00	200.00	15.00	250.00	187.59	15.00	232.83	175.00	15.00	250.00	180.00	15.00
85	300.00	229.68	17.50	300.00	215.90	16.20	275.00	200.00	15.00	250.00	180.00	15.00	267.90	200.00	15.00
90	343.70	250.00	20.00	312.33	230.00	20.00	300.00	210.00	17.50	280.00	200.00	18.00	285.00	200.00	17.00
95	375.00	295.00	21.00	370.83	260.00	20.00	350.00	250.00	20.00	325.00	229.96	20.00	350.00	241.77	20.00

Table 14a. 10<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	150.00	185.00	245.00
	PT	103.42	125.00	150.00
	Hr	6.35	5.00	7.57
	FT	130.00	166.99	211.00
Toddler	PT	91.31	99.58	122.20
	Hr	5.84	4.25	7.00
	FT	115.00	140.00	180.84
Preschool	PT	55.72	59.71	75.00
	Hr	3.85	4.05	6.21
	FT	55.62	70.00	100.00
School Age	PT	40.00	45.00	62.50
	Hr	4.00	4.05	5.72
School Age Summer	FT	115.00	140.00	170.00
	PT	64.53	87.18	100.00
Juillilei	Hr	4.94	4.05	6.00

Table 14b. 15<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	160.00	195.00	255.00
	PT	107.07	137.50	162.27
	Hr	6.75	7.33	8.78
	FT	147.48	177.00	230.00
Toddler	PT	103.21	112.50	137.50
	Hr	6.56	5.59	8.51
	FT	120.74	150.00	196.00
Preschool	PT	60.42	78.75	100.00
	Hr	4.82	4.75	6.79
	FT	64.54	80.00	110.00
School Age	PT	45.00	51.31	69.91
	Hr	4.50	5.03	6.24
School Age Summer	FT	120.00	150.00	182.00
	PT	75.00	93.75	109.79
Summer	Hr	5.00	5.44	6.51

Table 14c. 20<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	163.00	205.00	269.05
	PT	112.99	140.00	168.49
	Hr	8.00	8.99	9.15
	FT	151.90	182.30	240.00
Toddler	PT	105.00	120.00	142.83
	Hr	7.36	6.84	9.53
	FT	137.56	155.00	207.16
Preschool	PT	75.00	90.00	119.60
	Hr	5.00	5.00	7.20
	FT	70.00	90.00	125.00
School Age	PT	50.00	57.41	75.00
	Hr	4.98	5.25	6.76
School Age Summer	FT	125.00	155.00	194.40
	PT	82.50	100.00	125.00
Summer	Hr	5.00	6.00	7.10

Table 14d. 25<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	167.46	210.00	275.60
	PT	117.72	144.36	176.71
	Hr	8.87	9.20	9.15
	FT	155.01	190.00	247.00
Toddler	PT	108.00	125.00	152.83
	Hr	8.00	7.19	10.00
	FT	140.00	165.00	218.40
Preschool	PT	83.65	95.00	124.38
	Hr	5.19	5.04	7.28
	FT	75.00	100.00	132.00
School Age	PT	56.00	60.00	85.00
	Hr	5.00	5.50	7.00
School Age Summer	FT	132.04	159.81	200.00
	PT	87.50	100.00	130.00
Juillilel	Hr	5.25	6.00	7.38

Table 14e. 30<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	170.00	217.86	285.00
	PT	130.00	149.90	180.00
	Hr	9.27	10.00	10.00
	FT	160.00	197.00	256.62
Toddler	PT	112.66	125.87	160.00
	Hr	8.00	8.00	11.82
	FT	145.00	170.00	225.00
Preschool	PT	92.50	100.00	132.60
	Hr	6.00	6.00	8.00
	FT	80.00	105.45	137.86
School Age	PT	60.00	68.48	90.00
	Hr	5.00	5.87	7.63
School Age Summer	FT	140.00	160.00	205.00
	PT	90.00	102.50	135.00
Summer	Hr	5.90	6.24	8.00

Table 14f. 35<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

			-	
Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	175.00	220.00	295.00
	PT	134.39	156.79	195.00
	Hr	10.00	10.00	10.93
	FT	165.00	200.00	265.00
Toddler	PT	119.14	131.94	175.00
	Hr	8.21	8.27	12.00
	FT	150.00	172.00	235.00
Preschool	PT	94.23	109.27	140.00
	Hr	6.00	6.00	8.17
	FT	91.72	113.21	145.00
School Age	PT	65.66	75.00	93.46
	Hr	5.50	6.00	8.00
School Age	FT	144.92	165.00	210.00
	PT	98.07	110.00	145.00
Summer	Hr	6.00	6.25	9.06

Table 14g. 40<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	185.00	229.35	302.00
	PT	140.07	162.50	200.00
	Hr	10.00	10.00	12.00
	FT	170.00	210.00	275.00
Toddler	PT	122.29	137.56	185.00
	Hr	8.86	9.00	12.26
	FT	150.00	179.78	245.00
Preschool	PT	96.00	118.06	153.46
	Hr	6.12	6.00	9.16
	FT	97.19	118.60	150.00
School Age	PT	70.00	80.00	100.00
	Hr	5.50	6.00	9.13
School Age Summer	FT	150.00	169.64	220.00
	PT	100.00	112.50	150.00
Jannier	Hr	6.24	6.29	10.00

Table 14h. 45<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	190.00	236.23	316.00
	PT	142.78	168.15	213.95
	Hr	10.11	10.00	12.44
	FT	175.00	214.37	280.00
Toddler	PT	125.00	140.78	192.00
	Hr	9.00	9.55	12.29
	FT	155.00	183.13	250.00
Preschool	PT	100.00	121.15	162.00
	Hr	6.24	6.50	10.00
	FT	100.00	125.00	157.71
School Age	PT	70.00	83.41	105.00
	Hr	6.00	6.00	10.00
School Age Summer	FT	150.00	175.00	225.00
	PT	101.68	120.00	150.03
Julillel	Hr	6.50	6.33	10.00

Table 14i. 50<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	195.00	246.65	325.00
	PT	144.00	175.00	220.69
	Hr	10.40	10.00	13.00
Toddler	FT	180.00	220.00	292.15
	PT	129.18	150.00	200.00
	Hr	9.83	9.84	13.00
Preschool	FT	160.00	190.00	258.00
	PT	100.00	125.00	170.00
	Hr	6.25	6.93	10.00
School Age	FT	107.71	130.00	165.00
	PT	75.00	90.00	110.00
	Hr	6.00	6.24	10.00
School Age Summer	FT	155.00	177.45	235.00
	PT	107.21	125.00	160.00
	Hr	7.49	7.00	10.50

Table 14j. 55<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	198.00	253.05	333.07
	PT	145.00	178.00	233.77
	Hr	10.59	10.96	13.00
Toddler	FT	181.67	225.00	300.00
	PT	135.38	150.00	210.00
	Hr	10.00	10.00	14.00
Preschool	FT	160.00	195.05	265.00
	PT	110.00	130.00	179.01
	Hr	7.43	7.00	11.00
School Age	FT	115.00	135.32	175.00
	PT	78.11	96.70	115.00
	Hr	6.23	6.50	10.00
School Age Summer	FT	158.00	185.00	240.00
	PT	110.00	125.00	167.73
	Hr	8.00	7.00	12.00

Table 14k. 60<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	200.00	255.00	338.67
	PT	150.00	186.80	240.00
	Hr	11.00	13.00	13.88
Toddler	FT	185.00	229.17	306.00
	PT	139.90	162.39	215.00
	Hr	10.04	10.92	14.81
Preschool	FT	165.00	200.00	273.04
	PT	113.26	135.00	185.00
	Hr	7.55	8.00	12.00
School Age	FT	120.00	140.00	180.00
	PT	81.54	100.00	120.00
	Hr	7.28	6.94	10.68
School Age Summer	FT	160.00	195.00	250.00
	PT	115.00	133.71	175.00
	Hr	8.00	7.81	12.00

Table 14l. 65<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
Infant	FT	205.00	260.00	348.00
	PT	153.68	190.03	245.00
	Hr	12.58	13.35	15.00
Toddler	FT	189.69	237.00	315.00
	PT	141.00	173.52	225.00
	Hr	10.66	12.00	15.00
Preschool	FT	169.18	209.00	280.00
	PT	118.00	137.00	195.00
	Hr	8.00	8.42	12.00
School Age	FT	122.86	150.00	186.26
	PT	85.00	105.00	125.00
	Hr	7.38	7.00	12.00
School Age Summer	FT	163.08	200.00	255.00
	PT	120.00	136.23	180.00
	Hr	8.92	8.50	12.00

Table 14m. 70<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	210.00	265.00	355.00
Infant	PT	160.96	197.00	250.00
	Hr	12.58	14.04	15.00
	FT	195.00	241.00	325.00
Toddler	PT	145.49	180.00	230.00
	Hr	12.32	13.80	15.61
	FT	171.60	211.91	290.00
Preschool	PT	121.44	145.83	200.00
	Hr	8.00	8.43	13.00
	FT	129.73	155.00	199.45
School Age	PT	88.09	110.00	135.00
	Hr	8.00	8.23	12.00
School Age Summer	FT	165.00	200.00	263.00
	PT	122.70	150.00	189.00
Julillei	Hr	8.95	8.72	13.00

Table 14n. 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	218.40	270.00	366.40
Infant	PT	170.00	199.03	260.00
	Hr	14.39	14.04	16.00
	FT	200.00	250.00	330.00
Toddler	PT	150.00	188.00	240.00
	Hr	12.37	13.80	16.01
	FT	175.00	219.50	295.00
Preschool	PT	125.00	154.20	211.45
	Hr	9.23	10.00	14.00
	FT	139.11	160.00	212.00
School Age	PT	93.02	112.50	140.03
	Hr	8.10	8.24	13.00
School Age Summer	FT	170.00	209.73	269.00
	PT	129.35	150.33	199.00
Julilliel	Hr	10.00	8.78	15.00

Table 14o. 80<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	221.59	275.00	375.00
Infant	PT	171.91	203.29	275.00
	Hr	15.34	15.00	17.00
	FT	206.33	255.00	340.00
Toddler	PT	153.30	195.00	250.00
	Hr	14.83	14.50	17.00
	FT	180.00	221.62	302.00
Preschool	PT	129.94	168.23	222.13
	Hr	10.00	11.00	15.00
	FT	152.58	165.00	235.00
School Age	PT	101.00	120.00	154.00
	Hr	10.00	10.00	15.00
School Age Summer	FT	180.00	219.00	282.00
	PT	130.00	155.00	200.00
Julilliel	Hr	13.76	10.00	15.00

Table 14p. 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	225.19	291.55	384.35
Infant	PT	178.18	223.00	284.66
	Hr	16.30	19.49	18.23
	FT	210.00	261.56	352.42
Toddler	PT	161.19	200.00	265.00
	Hr	16.00	19.70	18.00
	FT	186.02	235.00	315.00
Preschool	PT	140.00	175.00	233.18
	Hr	14.09	15.00	15.00
	FT	160.00	188.71	247.76
School Age	PT	113.00	127.15	170.00
	Hr	11.56	10.33	15.00
School Age	FT	188.89	231.16	300.00
	PT	141.03	160.00	215.00
Summer	Hr	15.00	11.43	15.75

Table 14q. 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	246.22	299.69	400.00
Infant	PT	181.90	226.49	300.00
	Hr	17.80	20.00	20.00
	FT	223.41	275.00	372.02
Toddler	PT	171.20	200.00	278.00
	Hr	17.50	20.25	20.00
	FT	200.00	250.00	335.00
Preschool	PT	154.34	188.70	250.00
	Hr	16.00	19.00	17.15
	FT	165.00	201.00	275.00
School Age	PT	135.08	134.27	195.00
	Hr	15.00	14.59	16.92
School Age Summer	FT	194.00	237.51	315.00
	PT	150.00	170.00	235.00
Julilliel	Hr	15.43	15.00	17.50

Table 14r. 95<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Centers by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	261.63	323.32	425.00
Infant	PT	206.68	254.62	325.08
	Hr	20.15	24.59	23.73
	FT	235.92	295.00	395.00
Toddler	PT	188.05	225.95	300.00
	Hr	19.04	21.96	20.00
	FT	206.52	273.12	359.83
Preschool	PT	160.50	201.00	265.00
	Hr	17.00	20.00	20.00
	FT	200.00	230.00	302.10
School Age	PT	150.99	148.49	213.55
	Hr	16.00	19.37	20.00
School Age	FT	221.78	250.02	343.22
	PT	160.53	187.27	271.62
Summer	Hr	16.00	19.44	20.00

Table 15a. 10<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	154.13	250.00
Infant	PT	-	109.58	161.77
	Hr	-	6.37	8.01
	FT	-	146.56	200.00
Toddler	PT	-	105.04	144.74
	Hr	-	6.17	8.95
	FT	-	154.13	187.95
Preschool	PT	-	91.75	125.00
	Hr	-	6.00	6.97
	FT	-	93.27	135.82
School Age	PT	-	70.52	93.00
	Hr	-	5.84	6.47
School Age Summer	FT	-	113.82	171.85
	PT	-	97.71	118.56
Julilliel	Hr	-	-	6.92

Table 15b. 15<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	200.00	254.88
Infant	PT	-	125.00	170.69
	Hr	-	8.00	9.10
	FT	159.75	187.32	228.53
Toddler	PT	-	118.82	154.19
	Hr	-	8.00	10.00
Preschool	FT	164.25	165.00	209.99
	PT	-	93.60	134.48
	Hr	5.30	6.03	7.56
	FT	-	110.86	150.00
School Age	PT	-	77.02	100.00
	Hr	-	6.00	7.15
	FT	150.00	150.84	185.12
School Age Summer	PT	-	100.17	130.00
Summer	Hr	-	6.21	7.47

Table 15c. 20<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	205.66	269.47
Infant	PT	-	135.30	176.05
	Hr	-	8.74	10.00
	FT	-	189.98	240.00
Toddler	PT	-	120.28	160.00
	Hr	-	8.30	11.00
	FT	-	171.60	220.00
Preschool	PT	-	94.96	145.00
	Hr	-	6.24	8.25
	FT	-	120.66	150.47
School Age	PT	-	88.79	105.00
	Hr	-	6.00	8.00
School Age Summer	FT	-	157.03	200.00
	PT	-	102.11	139.96
Julillei	Hr	-	-	8.15

Table 15d. 25<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	175.00	210.00	278.54
Infant	PT	116.25	139.35	185.00
	Hr	7.00	10.00	10.00
	FT	172.50	197.29	250.00
Toddler	PT	97.50	121.27	171.59
	Hr	6.50	9.87	12.00
	FT	167.15	173.73	228.67
Preschool	PT	92.04	106.72	151.56
	Hr	6.18	6.40	9.50
	FT	114.82	126.43	167.86
School Age	PT	72.80	90.00	112.50
	Hr	6.05	6.10	8.45
Cabaal Aaa	FT	155.40	161.88	207.09
School Age Summer	PT	93.18	108.76	150.00
Julillel	Hr	6.25	6.50	8.95

Table 15e. 30<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	210.97	291.65
Infant	PT	-	142.78	199.68
	Hr	-	10.00	10.11
	FT	-	199.51	259.85
Toddler	PT	-	125.00	180.00
	Hr	-	10.00	12.34
	FT	-	175.00	240.00
Preschool	PT	-	114.19	170.00
	Hr	-	7.18	10.00
	FT	-	129.55	180.00
School Age	PT	-	90.14	124.53
	Hr	-	7.50	9.13
School Age Summer	FT	-	180.60	215.00
	PT	-	115.00	159.63
Jannier	Hr	-	-	9.98

Table 15f. 35<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

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Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	218.40	301.14
Infant	PT	-	144.69	200.00
	Hr	-	10.00	11.25
	FT	175.00	200.00	275.00
Toddler	PT	-	125.00	190.00
	Hr	-	10.00	14.00
	FT	173.47	190.25	250.00
Preschool	PT	-	115.84	177.62
	Hr	6.50	7.81	10.00
	FT	-	134.78	183.92
School Age	PT	-	98.16	125.00
	Hr	-	7.79	10.00
School Age	FT	159.19	194.15	224.84
	PT	-	118.53	165.00
Summer	Hr	-	7.59	10.00

Table 15g. 40<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	220.49	325.00
Infant	PT	-	160.00	221.25
	Hr	-	10.00	12.13
	FT	-	200.00	287.40
Toddler	PT	-	145.89	200.00
	Hr	-	10.00	14.80
	FT	-	200.00	259.09
Preschool	PT	-	120.49	180.00
	Hr	-	8.06	10.34
	FT	-	177.07	190.00
School Age	PT	-	100.00	131.44
	Hr	-	7.99	10.00
School Age Summer	FT	-	200.00	235.86
	PT	-	123.85	175.00
Julillei	Hr	-	-	10.11

Table 15h. 45<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	227.96	335.00
Infant	PT	-	164.35	238.91
	Hr	-	10.00	13.00
	FT	179.75	225.00	295.00
Toddler	PT	-	152.78	210.60
	Hr	-	10.00	15.00
	FT	175.00	200.00	270.00
Preschool	PT	-	133.52	185.00
	Hr	6.98	8.84	11.14
	FT	-	197.43	194.89
School Age	PT	-	114.94	144.82
	Hr	-	8.05	10.36
School Age	FT	159.98	200.00	250.00
	PT	-	125.35	175.93
Summer	Hr	-	8.19	11.45

Table 15i. 50<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	200.00	250.00	350.00
Infant	PT	138.75	174.07	241.03
	Hr	10.92	10.40	14.00
	FT	180.00	233.01	308.67
Toddler	PT	121.00	160.00	215.00
	Hr	10.73	10.13	15.00
	FT	177.50	208.03	278.34
Preschool	PT	100.00	155.84	190.00
	Hr	7.00	9.97	12.00
	FT	140.00	200.00	200.00
School Age	PT	88.08	125.00	150.00
	Hr	6.75	9.84	12.00
School Age	FT	162.50	205.84	250.00
	PT	101.40	139.87	186.35
Summer	Hr	7.00	9.04	13.02

Table 15j. 55<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

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Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	255.75	353.00
Infant	PT	-	175.00	249.87
	Hr	-	10.42	15.00
	FT	180.20	240.10	322.00
Toddler	PT	-	172.40	220.00
	Hr	-	10.22	15.00
	FT	180.00	219.74	286.00
Preschool	PT	-	160.00	191.94
	Hr	7.03	10.00	13.86
	FT	-	200.00	200.00
School Age	PT	-	128.44	150.00
	Hr	-	10.00	13.49
School Age	FT	165.00	214.13	260.00
	PT	-	150.00	191.15
Summer	Hr	-	10.00	14.00

Table 15k. 60<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	264.66	364.67
Infant	PT	-	175.12	250.00
	Hr	-	10.63	15.00
	FT	-	247.03	329.94
Toddler	PT	-	175.00	225.00
	Hr	-	10.41	15.00
	FT	-	230.64	293.55
Preschool	PT	-	170.50	200.00
	Hr	-	10.00	15.00
	FT	-	210.63	217.34
School Age	PT	-	146.32	165.00
	Hr	-	10.00	15.00
School Age Summer	FT	-	220.00	262.61
	PT	-	150.00	199.57
Julillei	Hr	-	-	15.00

Table 15l. 65<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

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Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	273.05	370.63
Infant	PT	-	180.91	250.89
	Hr	-	11.49	15.00
	FT	187.54	259.10	336.63
Toddler	PT	-	175.67	228.76
	Hr	-	11.49	15.00
	FT	180.08	245.58	300.00
Preschool	PT	-	175.00	200.00
	Hr	7.92	10.00	15.00
	FT	-	220.00	225.00
School Age	PT	-	150.00	170.00
	Hr	-	10.00	15.00
School Age	FT	166.25	229.18	271.79
	PT	-	162.62	200.00
Summer	Hr	-	10.00	15.00

Table 15m. 70<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	280.92	377.37
Infant	PT	-	195.49	266.25
	Hr	-	12.48	16.87
	FT	-	275.00	345.57
Toddler	PT	-	189.72	250.00
	Hr	-	12.24	16.10
	FT	-	251.16	300.00
Preschool	PT	-	175.00	205.11
	Hr	-	10.00	15.00
	FT	-	222.74	245.79
School Age	PT	-	154.48	177.62
	Hr	-	10.02	15.00
School Age Summer	FT	-	250.00	275.00
	PT	-	173.20	200.00
Julillei	Hr	-	-	15.00

Table 15n. 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	235.16	300.00	385.41
Infant	PT	161.69	200.00	275.52
	Hr	13.79	12.74	18.00
	FT	209.86	282.92	350.00
Toddler	PT	137.64	200.00	250.00
	Hr	13.68	12.60	17.65
	FT	187.55	280.40	310.00
Preschool	PT	113.26	178.96	223.85
	Hr	11.25	10.40	15.00
	FT	155.00	244.80	260.00
School Age	PT	90.00	160.97	195.00
	Hr	8.69	10.66	15.00
School Age	FT	173.50	261.88	280.00
	PT	115.00	178.96	214.06
Summer	Hr	8.94	11.79	15.14

Table 150. 80<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	300.72	398.00
Infant	PT	-	210.28	291.27
	Hr	-	14.22	19.31
	FT	-	300.00	350.00
Toddler	PT	-	200.00	271.26
	Hr	-	14.61	18.00
	FT	-	290.34	324.14
Preschool	PT	-	200.00	230.00
	Hr	-	14.25	16.02
	FT	-	275.20	275.00
School Age	PT	-	166.98	200.00
	Hr	-	15.00	16.22
School Age Summer	FT	-	275.53	300.00
	PT	-	188.34	232.00
Juilliei	Hr	-	-	17.00

Table 15p. 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	325.00	400.00
Infant	PT	-	226.77	300.00
	Hr	-	15.00	20.00
	FT	225.25	310.11	362.30
Toddler	PT	-	206.77	295.00
	Hr	-	15.00	20.00
	FT	200.38	300.00	350.00
Preschool	PT	-	202.71	250.00
	Hr	16.75	15.00	18.00
	FT	-	286.88	300.00
School Age	PT	-	173.62	207.62
	Hr	-	15.09	18.00
School Age Summer	FT	180.32	295.63	347.52
	PT	-	198.75	240.00
Julillel	Hr	-	15.00	18.00

Table 15q. 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	360.18	400.00
Infant	PT	-	247.88	325.00
	Hr	-	19.08	20.00
	FT	236.65	332.73	391.01
Toddler	PT	-	226.54	300.00
	Hr	-	15.00	20.00
	FT	205.34	305.15	373.67
Preschool	PT	-	212.57	283.08
	Hr	19.50	15.00	19.02
	FT	-	300.00	331.23
School Age	PT	-	195.40	225.00
	Hr	-	20.09	20.00
School Age Summer	FT	188.69	300.00	352.66
	PT	-	200.00	252.03
Janine	Hr	-	15.55	20.00

Table 15r. 95<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type A by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	-	387.94	439.09
Infant	PT	-	306.92	350.00
	Hr	-	20.00	22.00
	FT	-	379.75	400.00
Toddler	PT	-	301.43	325.86
	Hr	-	19.79	25.00
	FT	-	359.67	400.00
Preschool	PT	-	298.27	300.00
	Hr	-	19.79	20.00
	FT	-	375.70	392.90
School Age	PT	-	313.50	256.34
	Hr	-	30.00	20.00
School Age Summer	FT	-	375.70	395.32
	PT	-	319.80	300.00
Juilliei	Hr	-	-	20.00

Table 16a. 10<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	145.54	160.37	175.00
Infant	PT	85.25	100.00	115.16
	Hr	4.35	5.00	6.19
	FT	129.49	150.00	160.00
Toddler	PT	87.30	95.00	100.00
	Hr	3.94	5.00	6.00
	FT	116.56	147.05	147.20
Preschool	PT	80.00	96.74	95.00
	Hr	3.95	4.50	5.74
	FT	102.80	126.14	125.00
School Age	PT	74.72	82.34	80.00
	Hr	3.31	4.50	5.52
School Age Summer	FT	122.55	137.34	135.00
	PT	79.79	89.80	90.00
Jannier	Hr	3.60	5.00	5.94

Table 16b. 15<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	150.00	166.79	181.88
Infant	PT	90.00	104.49	123.76
	Hr	4.98	5.93	7.02
	FT	143.62	159.37	175.00
Toddler	PT	90.00	100.00	115.00
	Hr	4.23	5.47	6.81
	FT	126.07	150.00	156.00
Preschool	PT	85.33	100.00	102.13
	Hr	4.01	5.00	6.25
	FT	110.22	131.04	135.00
School Age	PT	79.81	87.80	90.00
	Hr	3.97	5.00	6.24
School Age Summer	FT	130.00	142.53	143.00
	PT	80.00	100.00	100.00
Jannier	Hr	4.19	5.00	6.52

Table 16c. 20<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	155.14	170.05	189.16
Infant	PT	94.55	110.00	129.27
	Hr	5.20	6.00	8.00
	FT	147.64	162.27	180.00
Toddler	PT	95.85	104.93	120.00
	Hr	4.82	5.80	7.54
	FT	135.00	151.33	163.80
Preschool	PT	87.50	100.00	112.00
	Hr	4.41	5.51	7.00
	FT	114.40	134.11	140.86
School Age	PT	79.89	89.99	100.00
	Hr	4.25	5.25	7.00
School Age Summer	FT	131.60	144.56	150.00
	PT	85.39	100.00	106.06
Julillei	Hr	5.00	5.67	7.36

Table 16d. 25<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	155.70	171.23	195.00
Infant	PT	98.39	114.40	131.41
	Hr	5.21	6.24	8.22
	FT	150.00	166.53	182.00
Toddler	PT	99.19	109.49	125.00
	Hr	4.98	6.00	8.00
	FT	135.20	153.72	167.00
Preschool	PT	90.00	103.32	115.47
	Hr	4.99	6.03	7.51
	FT	118.96	145.00	146.00
School Age	PT	80.00	90.00	100.00
	Hr	4.67	5.73	7.28
School Age Summer	FT	134.75	149.73	156.00
	PT	88.40	100.00	110.33
Julilliel	Hr	5.20	6.49	7.80

Table 16e. 30<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	156.00	175.00	200.00
Infant	PT	100.00	115.95	140.00
	Hr	5.25	7.00	8.49
	FT	154.96	170.00	190.00
Toddler	PT	99.76	110.00	130.00
	Hr	5.02	6.03	8.06
	FT	136.44	160.00	175.00
Preschool	PT	94.96	107.87	120.00
	Hr	5.17	6.27	8.00
	FT	120.01	147.80	150.00
School Age	PT	83.00	95.00	105.00
	Hr	4.74	5.98	7.92
School Age Summer	FT	135.20	150.00	160.00
	PT	88.64	104.00	115.00
Julillel	Hr	5.20	6.77	8.00

Table 16f. 35<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

3 /1 /				
Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	160.25	180.00	200.00
Infant	PT	100.00	122.73	150.00
	Hr	5.63	7.00	9.00
	FT	155.00	175.00	195.00
Toddler	PT	100.00	111.81	135.00
	Hr	5.22	6.68	9.00
	FT	140.00	160.70	175.00
Preschool	PT	98.40	108.32	125.00
	Hr	5.31	6.41	8.25
	FT	121.42	150.00	153.87
School Age	PT	83.80	100.00	110.00
	Hr	5.11	6.56	8.04
School Age Summer	FT	135.79	160.00	165.00
	PT	90.00	105.44	120.00
	Hr	6.05	7.00	8.25

Table 16g. 40<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	163.44	188.46	210.00
Infant	PT	101.44	125.80	150.00
	Hr	5.74	7.45	10.00
	FT	156.82	180.00	200.00
Toddler	PT	100.00	120.00	140.41
	Hr	5.22	7.00	10.00
	FT	141.94	170.00	180.03
Preschool	PT	98.78	116.18	135.00
	Hr	5.64	6.95	9.00
	FT	125.80	151.35	160.00
School Age	PT	84.80	100.00	117.09
	Hr	5.20	7.00	9.00
School Age Summer	FT	136.94	165.00	175.00
	PT	96.72	114.74	125.00
Julillei	Hr	6.24	7.50	9.00

Table 16h. 45<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	163.65	196.50	220.00
Infant	PT	104.00	130.21	159.95
	Hr	5.94	8.50	10.00
	FT	159.90	181.80	200.00
Toddler	PT	100.04	125.80	150.00
	Hr	5.48	8.50	10.00
	FT	149.05	175.00	190.27
Preschool	PT	100.00	125.00	140.00
	Hr	5.91	8.00	10.00
	FT	126.57	160.00	170.00
School Age	PT	87.38	102.60	122.73
	Hr	5.46	7.80	10.00
School Age Summer	FT	138.24	175.00	180.00
	PT	97.70	120.00	130.19
Janine	Hr	6.30	8.00	10.00

Table 16i. 50<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	170.20	200.00	225.00
Infant	PT	105.63	135.00	165.00
	Hr	6.00	10.00	10.00
	FT	162.71	190.00	215.00
Toddler	PT	100.88	130.00	152.46
	Hr	5.75	9.00	10.00
	FT	150.00	180.00	200.00
Preschool	PT	100.00	130.00	150.00
	Hr	6.11	8.25	10.00
	FT	131.00	160.00	175.00
School Age	PT	87.75	110.00	125.00
	Hr	5.73	8.50	10.00
School Age Summer	FT	142.52	175.00	187.07
	PT	100.00	122.56	138.00
Juilliei	Hr	6.50	8.50	10.00

Table 16j. 55<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

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Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	170.27	200.00	240.00
Infant	PT	109.04	140.00	175.00
	Hr	6.23	10.00	12.00
	FT	165.17	195.50	225.00
Toddler	PT	105.06	132.25	160.00
	Hr	6.00	10.00	11.44
	FT	152.85	185.50	204.32
Preschool	PT	101.85	130.00	150.00
	Hr	6.26	8.97	10.00
	FT	131.04	168.25	186.84
<b>School Age</b>	PT	88.85	115.00	135.00
	Hr	5.90	9.22	10.00
	FT	142.53	180.00	200.00
School Age Summer	PT	100.00	125.00	145.00
Juliller	Hr	6.55	9.54	10.00

Table 16k. 60<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	170.62	206.54	250.00
Infant	PT	109.42	150.00	175.95
	Hr	6.24	10.00	12.50
	FT	165.46	200.00	235.51
Toddler	PT	107.15	140.00	170.00
	Hr	6.03	10.00	12.00
	FT	153.31	195.37	220.00
Preschool	PT	103.72	134.06	155.88
	Hr	6.27	10.00	11.45
	FT	134.22	175.00	200.00
School Age	PT	89.99	120.00	145.00
	Hr	5.96	10.00	11.00
School Age Summer	FT	143.32	188.00	200.00
	PT	101.55	130.00	150.00
Jannier	Hr	6.76	10.00	12.00

Table 16l. 65<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	171.66	219.49	255.00
Infant	PT	112.20	150.00	185.00
	Hr	6.24	10.00	15.00
	FT	166.37	210.15	245.70
Toddler	PT	109.34	146.75	175.00
	Hr	6.03	10.00	14.61
	FT	153.32	200.00	225.00
Preschool	PT	107.40	140.00	167.78
	Hr	6.27	10.00	13.00
	FT	136.05	180.00	200.00
School Age	PT	89.99	125.00	150.00
	Hr	5.96	10.00	13.00
School Age Summer	FT	150.00	200.00	215.00
	PT	104.00	130.00	158.27
Julillel	Hr	6.76	10.00	12.66

Table 16m. 70<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	175.00	240.00	275.00
Infant	PT	114.40	160.00	195.24
	Hr	6.28	10.00	15.00
	FT	170.56	225.00	250.00
Toddler	PT	109.49	150.00	185.61
	Hr	6.03	10.00	15.00
	FT	158.07	207.30	240.00
Preschool	PT	107.87	150.00	175.00
	Hr	6.41	10.00	15.00
	FT	137.95	195.00	213.11
School Age	PT	93.94	130.00	155.00
	Hr	5.97	10.00	15.00
School Age Summer	FT	150.00	200.00	225.00
	PT	104.00	136.50	170.00
Janine	Hr	6.76	10.00	15.00

Table 16n. 75<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	175.00	250.00	280.00
Infant	PT	114.40	173.75	200.00
	Hr	6.50	12.00	15.00
	FT	174.00	230.00	270.00
Toddler	PT	110.78	162.50	200.00
	Hr	6.31	10.25	15.00
	FT	160.00	220.00	250.00
Preschool	PT	107.87	150.00	180.00
	Hr	6.51	10.00	15.00
	FT	150.00	200.00	225.00
School Age	PT	95.00	133.75	170.46
	Hr	6.19	10.00	15.00
	FT	157.81	210.00	250.00
School Age Summer	PT	104.00	150.00	180.00
Julillel	Hr	6.94	10.00	15.00

Table 16o. 80<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	179.80	250.00	300.00
Infant	PT	114.66	178.00	225.00
	Hr	7.00	12.00	16.00
	FT	175.00	240.00	280.00
Toddler	PT	113.05	175.00	210.00
	Hr	6.90	12.00	15.83
	FT	161.00	228.00	265.00
Preschool	PT	108.90	160.00	198.40
	Hr	7.00	10.60	15.00
	FT	156.00	200.00	250.00
School Age	PT	98.86	150.00	175.00
	Hr	7.00	10.00	15.00
Cala al Assa	FT	160.00	220.00	250.00
School Age Summer	PT	106.63	150.40	189.00
Jannier	Hr	7.50	10.00	15.00

Table 16p. 85<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	184.90	275.00	324.93
Infant	PT	120.00	192.08	235.25
	Hr	9.10	14.90	18.49
	FT	175.00	250.00	300.00
Toddler	PT	115.00	175.08	225.00
	Hr	9.00	14.85	18.00
	FT	170.85	250.00	280.40
Preschool	PT	114.50	175.00	200.00
	Hr	8.95	12.00	16.00
	FT	160.00	218.25	250.15
School Age	PT	100.00	150.00	187.64
	Hr	8.00	12.00	15.17
School Age Summer	FT	164.75	233.25	276.00
	PT	110.00	175.00	200.00
Jannier	Hr	8.25	12.00	16.00

Table 16q. 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	200.00	280.00	350.00
Infant	PT	146.50	200.00	250.00
	Hr	10.00	15.00	20.00
	FT	192.00	258.00	320.00
Toddler	PT	136.50	193.70	250.00
	Hr	9.40	15.00	20.00
	FT	175.00	250.00	300.00
Preschool	PT	125.00	192.00	221.16
	Hr	9.00	15.00	18.00
	FT	175.00	225.00	295.00
School Age	PT	126.50	175.00	200.00
	Hr	9.00	15.00	19.00
School Age Summer	FT	175.00	250.00	300.00
	PT	130.00	200.00	215.00
Julilliei	Hr	9.50	15.00	18.78

Table 16r. 95<sup>th</sup> Percentile Market Rate for Type B by Cluster

Age	Enrollment	Cluster 1	Cluster 2	Cluster 3
	FT	228.00	299.50	399.42
Infant	PT	166.50	250.00	300.00
	Hr	10.00	20.00	23.77
	FT	218.00	279.50	375.00
Toddler	PT	161.00	200.00	281.33
	Hr	10.00	18.25	20.24
	FT	205.50	273.00	350.00
Preschool	PT	160.00	200.00	254.51
	Hr	10.00	15.00	20.00
	FT	193.00	250.00	350.00
School Age	PT	163.00	187.25	250.00
	Hr	10.00	18.00	20.00
	FT	200.00	250.00	350.00
School Age Summer	PT	162.00	225.00	250.00
Jannier	Hr	10.00	15.00	20.00

# Code of Federal Regulations and Child Care and Development and Block Grant Requirements

The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) requires that each state maintains requirements that are designed, implemented, and enforced to protect the health and safety of children, which include health and safety requirements (§ 98.41), enforcement of licensing (§ 98.42), criminal background checks (§ 98.43), and training and professional development (§ 98.44). Under these requirements it is necessary to obtain the estimated cost of care for child care providers' implementation of the health, safety, quality, and staffing requirements in the CFR.

Additionally, the Child Care and Development Block Grant requires that the MRS track the number of child care providers who are participating in the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) subsidy program including barriers to participation. Table 17 presents responses given by 2024 MRS participants when asked whether they receive funding or support for early care and education from various listed sources, including DCY publicly funded child care (the CCDF subsidy program). Just under two-thirds of providers (64.1 percent) reported receiving funding through the DCY Publicly Funded Child Care Program.

Table 17: Q6: Do you receive funding or support for early care and education from any of the following sources? Select all that apply:\*

Responses	%	N
DCY/ODJFS Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC)	64.1	2,126
Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)	37.4	1,240
Early Childhood Education Grant (through the Ohio Department of Education)	13.8	458
Head Start / Early Head Start	10.5	347
Donations / Endowments	8.5	282
Local Initiatives (for example: Pre4Cle, Preschool Promise, Hope Toledo, Future Ready Columbus, etc.)	4.9	162
United Way	3.8	126
Faith-Based Sponsors	2.2	72
Private Foundations	1.9	62
Other Government Agencies	1.4	46
21st Century Grant (through the Ohio Department of Education)	1.2	39
Preschool Special Education (through the Ohio Department of Education)	1.0	34
Corporate Sponsors	0.8	28
Summer Learning and After School Opportunities Grant (through the Ohio Department of Education)	0.7	22
Other, please specify	6.0	198
No additional funding or support	18.2	603
Number of Respondents	3,317	

<sup>\*</sup>A respondent may select more than one option; as such, totals will exceed 100%.

The 2024 MRS also provides insight about barriers to CCDF subsidy program participation. Providers who responded that they did not receive any funding for early care and education from the DCY Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) Program were asked why they did serve children receiving publicly funded child care, with several possible reasons offered as options they could select (Table 18 below). The most common reason, given by about a quarter of respondents (25.2%), was that the program chose not to participate in Step Up To Quality. The next most common reason given was that there are few children eligible in the provider's area (17.1%).

Table 18: Q6a: Why do you not serve children receiving publicly funded child care (PFCC)? Select all that apply:\*

Responses	%	N
I am an early care and education center and I choose not to participate in Step Up To Quality	25.2	297
There are few or no children in my area eligible for publicly funded child care	17.1	201
The reimbursement rates are too low	11.6	137
The PFCC payment is based on attendance, not enrollment	11.1	131
It is too difficult to budget based on the publicly funded child care payments	9.0	106
I serve low-income families through other partners (i.e. United Way, local initiative)	6.1	72
Our sponsoring organization does not support participation	4.0	47
The automated system is too complicated	3.8	45
The PFCC payment categories don't align with my programs	3.7	44
The PFCC payment cycle doesn't align with my programs	2.1	25
I am an early care and education center and I am not able to participate in Step Up To Quality	1.4	16
Other, please specify:	41.8	492
Number of Respondents	1,	177

<sup>\*</sup>A respondent may select more than one option; as such, totals will exceed 100%.

#### Narrow Cost Analysis

### Background Information

A Narrow Cost Analysis provides a limited glimpse into the costs of running an early care and education program, whether it is home-based care or an early care and education center, by selecting a limited subset of each type of early care and education program for the program cost component of the analysis. A larger gap analysis would involve a much larger comparison effort using a more detailed data collection effort on which to base the cost calculations. However, such gap analyses are very costly to implement. Narrow Cost Analysis allows cost estimates to be compared to market rates using a small sample of providers, collecting a minimum amount of data from providers, and using estimations found to be consistent with larger gap analyses. The Narrow Cost Analysis is not a statistically significant assessment of the prevailing operating costs, but a snapshot of actual operating costs assumed by a small number of providers. For reporting standardization, the federal government requires that the results of the Narrow Cost Analysis be reported as annual operating costs per classroom and annual operating costs per child for comparison to other reporting agencies.

One popular technique is to use the Provider Cost of Quality Calculator (PCQC) with data provided from a small number of early care and education providers in three quality categories. However, the PCQC is very comprehensive, requiring a large amount of information for cost drivers from personnel and non-personnel expenses, which can be very burdensome on the providers who are asked to provide data for the narrow cost analysis. However, a simpler approach can be used to estimate many of these costs. The bulk of the expense in operating an early care and education facility is staff payroll that comprises 70%-80%<sup>4</sup> of the total operating costs in the early care and education facility, with early care and education centers spending approximately 70 percent of their total operating

<sup>4</sup> Guidance on Estimating and Reporting the Costs of Child Care by the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance and the National Center on Subsidy Innovation and Accountability. January 2018. (https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/public/guidance\_estimating\_cost\_care\_0.pdf)

costs on payroll and home providers spending 80 percent of their total operating costs on payroll. Additional operating costs include additional staff training, administrative staff, insurance, accreditation, and licensing, along with healthy food and snacks. Considering this, it would be a much less burdensome request to ask early care and education providers for the annual payroll and use that to approximate the total operating costs instead of a more extensive, and intrusive, request of the various expenses associated with providing their service, especially since the early care and education providers have already been subjected to numerous other surveys this year.

#### Methodology

Ultimately, the Narrow Cost Analysis involves calculating the cost per child and determining the cost of care at different levels of quality. Some providers are single staff providers for which the owner/operator is the staff member and, thus, do not pay themselves a "salary," but rather pay themselves out of the operating profits. For these providers, instead of collecting salary/payroll information and using the 70%-80% adjustment, the data collected were the reported total expenses before expenses for business use of home and, if operating out of their home, the expenses for business use of their home. In this case, the total operating expenses would be the sum of these two numbers. Additionally, for facilities that file IRS Form 990, total expense was collected in place of salary/payroll information. In addition to payroll and/or operating costs, in order to calculate the cost of care, data on staff assigned per age group, total staff, and the enrollment per age group were also collected.

#### Provider Sampling and Recruitment

A subset of providers who completed the 2024 MRS was selected for a follow-up narrow cost interview. To establish estimated costs of care in different settings and at different quality levels (as measured by Step Up To Quality star rating), narrow cost data were collected from three providers from each provider type (Type A Homes, Type B Homes, and child care centers) across two quality ratings: 0-2 stars and 3-5 stars, for a total of 18 providers. Providers were randomly selected, informed via email that they had been selected, contacted by a scheduler to set up the interview, and emailed reminders for their interview. The initial email invitation explained the purpose of the narrow cost interviews, the estimated length of the interview, and that there was a \$100 incentive for participation. When selected providers were contacted to schedule their interview, they were informed of the details of the information they would be asked to provide, such as information from their tax returns, staffing numbers, and enrollment information. These details were also sent to the providers via email along with the date and time of the scheduled interview.

Interviews were conducted by interviewers who were specially trained to collect the necessary information from the different provider types. Non-responding providers received telephone prompting to schedule their interview, answer any questions the providers had, and ascertain the likelihood of a selected provider completing the interview. If it was determined that a provider was unlikely to complete the narrow cost interview, a replacement provider was randomly selected.

#### Narrow Cost Analysis

Using the information collected from the provider interviews, the total annual operating costs were pulled from the appropriate line on the provider's income tax form that was filed. Using the staff information from the provider interviews with the total operating costs, the operating costs per age group were calculated using

$$t_i = \frac{s_i}{S} \cdot T$$

where  $t_i$  is the operating costs in age group i,  $s_i$  is the staff in that age group, S is the total number of staff, and T is the total operating costs. Finally, using the enrollment information from the provider interviews, the operating costs per age group per child were calculated using

$$k_i = \frac{t_i}{c_i}$$

where  $k_i$  is the operating costs per age group per child,  $c_i$  is the enrollment in age group i, and  $t_i$  is the operating costs for that age group.

In each category breakout, the average operating costs per age group were calculated from the early care and education providers that served each age group. In some cases, only one early care and education provider had any children enrolled in that age category. Likewise, the average monthly operating costs per age group per child were calculated by averaging the monthly costs per child in each age group. Finally, the percent of the subsidy to costs was calculated by dividing the subsidy for each age group and provider type by the average costs per child for in that group and multiplying by 100%. This calculation provides insight into how much of the costs are covered by the subsidy, on average.

#### Summary of Results

As in previous reports, the limited number of early care and education providers submitting information for the Narrow Cost Analysis is only enough to provide a snapshot of the costs that some early care and education providers are incurring across each age group. As expected, infant care costs tend to be higher than toddler care costs which are higher than preschool costs. School age costs tend to be the lowest. However, for this iteration of the Narrow Cost Analysis, the early care and education providers were broken into rural and urban categories. Type A Home child care providers and Type B Home child care providers were grouped together to limit the extent of the data collection as a result of the new rural and urban breakout. As in past iterations, SRG attempted to collect data from three child care providers in a total of eight permutations of home/center provider, 0-2 star rating/3-5 star rating, and rural/urban. Unfortunately, it is not guaranteed that each provider that responds will serve all age categories in any given year. Consequently, the snapshot may only give a view of what a single provider in that group had in operating costs. Data collection continues to be an issue for the Narrow Cost Analysis considering the tediousness involved in collecting the necessary cost information from early care and education providers. Lastly, SRG was unable to collect any data from any 0-2 star rating urban early care and education centers during this cycle.

For this iteration, cost data were collected from 17 providers. An urban center (3-5 stars) was excluded from the analysis since the total annual costs reported were only \$13,518 for four full-time staff (this information was confirmed by the provider several times). Additionally, the cost data from the 3-5 star urban homes is also lower than expected, considering their annual costs ranged from \$15,327 to \$22,491. However, these providers were included in the analysis since excluding them would have resulted in having no data for that category. A 0-2 star rural home reported extremely low costs but was included since this was the only provider in their category that served school age children. In sum, 5 out of 17 providers reported lower than expected operating costs, one of which was excluded from the analysis. Consequently, narrow cost data from 16 providers was used to calculate the costs in 32 distinct categories, resulting in 13 categories with only 1 provider used to determine the Narrow Cost Analysis. Five of the 32 categories had insufficient data for any analysis.

In reviewing the results for urban and rural early care and education centers, 0-2 star rated rural early care and education centers had lower costs than 3-5 star rated rural early care and education centers from infants through preschool. None of the 0-2 star rated rural early care and education centers participating in the Narrow Cost Analysis served the school age population. Looking at the 3-5 star rated rural early care and education centers, the costs per child for preschoolers exceeded the costs in all other age categories. Excluding the preschool age category, the costs per child decreased from infants through school age children.

Looking at the results from the urban early care and education centers, the costs per child were highest in the preschool age category, but equivalent in the rest of the age groups. The costs per child were also unusually low compared to the rural early care and education centers. One urban early care and education center was excluded from the analysis due to its extremely low cost reported for annual personnel costs, leaving only one valid 3-5 star early care and education center for the analysis.

Reviewing the operating costs as a percent of the subsidy (% Subsidy to Cost) column, categories with potential underreported costs can be identified. Provider categories with greater than 200% subsidy to costs warrant additional investigation. In three categories this percentage was over 400%: Rural, 0-2 stars, home, school age: 773%; Urban, 3-5 stars, home, preschool: 475%; and Urban, 3-5 stars, home, school age: 420%. Eleven of the 27 categories for which there was cost data exceeded 200% subsidy to cost ratio. Four out of the 27 categories had costs higher than the subsidy level at less than 85%, and another three out of the 27 categories had costs close to the subsidy level, between 90% and 110%. The remaining nine categories had costs between 110% and 200% of the subsidy level.

Table 19: Rural Early Care and Education Center Results (Weekly Operating Costs Based on Enrollment)

Provider Type & Quality	Age Group	Costs per Age	Costs per	% Subsidy
Rating		Group	Child	to Costs
	Infants (1/2)	\$4036.05	\$212.42	82%
Early Care and Education	Toddlers (1/2)	\$138.21	\$69.10	221%
Center, 0-2 Stars	Preschool (2/2)	\$4009.70	\$64.09	222%
	School age (0/2)	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Infants (1/2)	\$2893.48	\$289.35	60%
Early Care and Education	Toddlers (1/2)	\$2893.48	\$206.68	77%
Center, 3-5 Stars	Preschool (2/2)	\$4420.80	\$320.18	44%
	School age (1/2)	\$1446.74	\$96.45	104%

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that these calculations are based on data from only one of three participating providers and, therefore, resulting costs may be skewed due to low enrollment in participating programs or specific age categories.

Table 20: Urban Early Care and Education Center Results (Weekly Operating Costs Based on Enrollment)

Provider Type & Quality Rating	Age Group	Costs per Age Group	Costs per Child	% Subsidy to Costs
	Infants (0/2)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Early Care and Education	Toddlers (0/2)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Center, 0-2 Stars	Preschool (0/2)	N/A	N/A	N/A
	School age (0/2)	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Infants (1/2)	\$370.55	\$74.11	398%
Early Care and Education	Toddlers (1/2)	\$518.77	\$74.11	358%
Center, 3-5 Stars	Preschool (1/2)	\$2667.95	\$242.54	96%
	School age (1/2)	\$148.22	\$74.11	202%

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that these calculations are based on data from only one of three participating providers and, therefore, resulting costs may be skewed due to low enrollment in participating programs or specific age categories.

Table 21: Rural Home Care Providers Type A & B Results (Weekly Operating Costs Based on Enrollment)

Provider Type & Quality	Age Group	Costs per Age	Costs per Child	% Subsidy to
Rating		Group		Costs
	Infants (1/3)	\$245.34	\$122.67	126%
Type A & B Home, 0-2	Toddlers (2/3)	\$138.21	\$69.10	221%
Stars	Preschool (2/3)	\$130.44	\$69.10	204%
	School age (1/3)	\$46.62	\$15.54	773%
	Infants (3/3)	\$187.79	\$93.90	165%
Type A & B Home, 3-5	Toddlers (3/3)	\$239.81	\$93.90	162%
Stars	Preschool (3/3)	\$431.00	\$93.90	150%
	School age (3/3)	\$334.23	\$93.90	128%

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that these calculations are based on data from only one of three participating providers and, therefore, resulting costs may be skewed due to low enrollment in participating programs or specific age categories.

Table 22: Urban Home Care Providers Type A & B Results (Weekly Operating Costs Based on Enrollment)

Provider Type & Quality	Age Group	Costs per Age	Costs per Child	% Subsidy to
Rating		Group		Costs
	Infants (2/2)	\$225.35	\$112.67	178%
Type A & B Home, 0-2	Toddlers (2/2)	\$160.89	\$112.67	169%
Stars	Preschool (2/2)	\$257.32	\$112.67	155%
	School age (2/2)	\$579.62	\$112.67	138%
	Infants (3/3)	\$236.43	\$188.07	106%
Type A & B Home, 3-5	Toddlers (2/3)	\$126.65	\$72.54	262%
Stars	Preschool (1/3)	\$36.87	\$36.87	475%
	School age (1/3)	\$147.49	\$36.87	420%

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that these calculations are based on data from only one of three participating providers and, therefore, resulting costs may be skewed due to low enrollment in participating programs or specific age categories.

#### Recommendations

Collecting data for the Narrow Cost Analysis continues to be a heavy burden on providers and does not produce satisfactory snapshots for early care and education provider expenses due to the low number of providers contacted willing to submit the minimal amount of information requested. While the interview process does provide higher quality data, early care and education providers still have difficulty providing accurate personnel costs. Additionally, a random selection of three providers in each category is usually not enough providers to have three providers represented in each category and age group. Unfortunately, increasing sample size also increases the cost and amount of effort required to collect the information for a Narrow Cost Analysis. In the future, more funds will need to be dedicated to increasing the response to the request for information on early care and education expenses in each category.

Alternate methodologies could leverage the information in the Ohio Professional Registry (<a href="https://occrra.org/ohio-professional-registry/">https://occrra.org/ohio-professional-registry/</a>), using the Market Rate Survey to validate the number of full-time staff dedicated to each age group plus any floating staff, administrators, and non-child care workers employed by each provider, as well as the breakout of any part-time staff. Alternatively, salary data can be estimated from the US Department of Labor (<a href="https://www.bls.gov/data/">https://www.bls.gov/data/</a>), although this data would be statewide averages with some county-level data. Using the wage data from either source, employee benefits would be set to 35% of the wage, the same as the State of Ohio employee benefits percentage. Both methodologies will require more rigor on the part of the providers than the current narrow cost interviews, since each provider will need to report accurate employment counts. In addition to the increased effort on the part of the providers, data will still need to be collected and validated for analysis. Additionally, these methodologies may be prone to errors from employee turnover and inaccurate staff counts throughout the year. While these methodologies may provide better estimates on personnel costs, the extra effort required by providers and analysts may make these approaches less effective.

Another alternate methodology would be to require each provider contacted to use the Provider Cost of Quality Calculator (<a href="https://pcqc.acf.hhs.gov/">https://pcqc.acf.hhs.gov/</a>) and enter all expenses associated with the cost of care. This methodology is the most tedious process but should provide the best results in assessing the actual cost of early care and education. However, the data entered into the PCQC should still be validated for each provider for reasonable responses.

Ultimately, if a sufficient number of early care and education providers would submit the requested information for the Narrow Cost Analysis using the current methodology, the burden will be much less than any other methodology. Therefore, the recommendation is to promote the Market Rate Survey and Narrow Cost Analysis data collection as a partnership between DCY and early care and education providers to set adequate subsidy rates to allow access to quality care for all Ohioans. Underreporting early care and education provider expenses ultimately undermines any recommendations to increase the subsidies.

# Appendix A: Glossary of Terms

Absolute Value: The distance from zero, regardless of direction (e.g., the absolute value of -7 is 7).

**Cluster analysis:** A mathematical technique for sorting cases into groups (clusters) with similar data structures. Once the components have been identified through principal component analysis, cluster analysis was used to place the counties into the appropriate clusters.

**Composite factors/Components:** Structures within a dataset that are constructed from the data to reduce a larger set of variables into a smaller set of composite variables.

**Error Rate:** Calculation to standardize the size of the difference between two measures. In this report, it is the difference between the rates entered in the survey from another source of the rate, expressed as a percentage.

Limited Percentile Distributions: The percentile distribution indicates what the rates are at various percentiles. The majority of rate distributions are presented at the 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th, 65th, 70th, 75th, 80th, 85th, 90th, and 95th percentiles. However, for subgroups containing responses from 19 or fewer providers, having so few available rates resulted in only the 15th, 25th, 35th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 65th, 75th, 85th, and 90th percentiles being calculated.

**Mean Error Rate:** The average error rate percentage for a group.

**Median Error Rate:** The 50th percentile error rate for a group.

Mode: The most common number in a set of data.

**Nonparametric test:** A statistical test that does not assume the population data are normally distributed. This test is used when the data being collected will not necessarily be normally distributed (like a bell curve).

**Over-reported:** The rate reported on the survey was higher than the rate reported on the submitted rate sheets or the OCLQS portal.

**Principal component analysis:** A statistical method for reducing a set of (possibly correlated) variables in a dataset into a smaller set of linearly uncorrelated factors called principal components. It is a method for taking a large number of variables and reducing them to a smaller number of "components" that describe the data. In this case, it was done to develop the components that would be used in the cluster analysis.

**Program Type:** DCY definition of the type of early care and education provider (e.g., Child Care Center, Type A Family Child Care, Approved Day Camp).

**Rate Type:** The category of rates based on the age of the children and the pay period (e.g., Infants, Hourly).

**Skewness:** A statistic that defines the distortion or asymmetry of the distribution of a variable (e.g., rates) around its mean. It is a measure of how different a distribution is from a normal distribution.

**Standard Deviation:** A measure of the spread or variance of the data, calculated by taking the difference between the mean of a set of interval-level measures and each individual measure, squaring those differences, and then taking the square root of the mean of those squared differences.

**Under-reported:** The rate reported on the survey was lower than the rate reported on the submitted rate sheets or the OCLQS portal.

**Weighted Data:** Data that has been systematically adjusted such that, based on given criteria, some observations have a greater influence on calculating statistics than others. Weighting is generally done so that the data that were collected can be modified so they better reflect the entire population. For this report, capacity was the criterion used for the weighting, with providers with higher capacity given more weight. Weights were calculated for each provider in each subgroup (provider type, age category, and service period) proportional to their capacity.

Weighted Mean: The mean (average) of the weighted data.

Weighted Standard Deviation: The standard deviation of the weighted data.

**Wilcoxon Sign Test:** A nonparametric statistical test to compare two dependent samples to determine if population distributions are similar. This test is done to compare two populations and determine the extent to which they are similar.

# Appendix B: Contact Materials

## Prenotification email

Dear Early Care and Education/Child Care Provider:

Next week you will receive an email with a link to a secure, online survey asking for your participation in Ohio's 2024 Market Rate Survey from <a href="mailto:2024mrs@websrg.com">2024mrs@websrg.com</a>. The Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has contracted with Strategic Research Group (SRG) to conduct the survey. Information that will be collected includes your enrollment, private pay rates, and barriers to utilizing Ohio's Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) program.

Your participation is important to ensure that DCY/ODJFS has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market. Completing the survey does not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

To ensure confidentiality, results will not be shared in any way that is personally identifiable or program specific. In reports of survey results, your responses will be combined with the responses of others and summarized.

Before completing the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. As part of the survey, based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

In addition to gather information about your current rates, you may also be asked to confirm the rates information that you are maintaining in the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS). As a reminder, all licensed early care and education programs are required to keep your private pay/public rate information up to date in OCLQS as outlined in Ohio Administrative Code. While connected, this is a separate effort from completing the Market Rate Survey.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

Chief Strategy Officer

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

Principal Investigator

Strategic Research Group

#### Invitation Update Email

Subject line: 2024 Market Rate Survey update

Dear Early Care and Education/Child Care Provider:

Earlier this week you received an email with the subject line "notification of 2024 Market Rate Survey coming later this week."

Due to the approaching deadlines for several grant opportunities, the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) have decided to push back the launch of the 2024 Market Rate Survey (MRS) to allow providers time to respond to these grant opportunities. Within the coming weeks you will be notified when the 2024 MRS is available to begin.

If you have any questions regarding Early Care and Education Access Grant opportunity:

Early Care and Education Access Grants:

Contact OCCRRA at <a href="mailto:support@occrra.org">support@occrra.org</a> or 614-396-5959 https://occrra.org/ohio-professional-registry/access-grant/

Child Care Options Voucher Program

Be on the lookout for a Manual Procedural Letter that will be issued soon and available at <a href="https://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/ChildCare/ChildCareManual/CCMTL/">https://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/ChildCare/ChildCareManual/CCMTL/</a> and will include information about where questions can be submitted.

Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

**Chief Strategy Officer** 

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

Principal Investigator

Strategic Research Group

#### Invitation Email—Single Site

Subject line: ODJFS Requests Your Participation in the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

You are invited to participate in the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey being conducted by the Ohio Department of Children and Youth, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) in cooperation with Strategic Research Group (SRG). Your participation in this survey is vital to ensure the State of Ohio has a true representation of the licensed early care and education market in order to guarantee access to options for the Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) program.

Below you will find a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before completing the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey regardless of whether or not you provide PFCC. The survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

To ensure confidentiality, responses will be associated only with a randomly assigned passcode and not linked directly with identifying information about your program. Any reports created or published will only summarize the responses across all providers and will not contain any individual provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

Chief Strategy Officer Principal Investigator

Ohio Department of Children and Youth Strategic Research Group

#### Invitation Email—Multiple Sites

Subject line: ODJFS Requests Your Participation in the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

You are invited to participate in the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey being conducted by the Ohio Department of Children and Youth, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) in cooperation with Strategic Research Group (SRG). Your participation in this survey is vital to ensure the State of Ohio has a true representation of the licensed early care and education market in order to guarantee access to options for the Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) program.

Below you will find a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before completing the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey regardless of whether or not you provide PFCC. The survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

To ensure confidentiality, responses will be associated only with a randomly assigned passcode and not linked directly with identifying information about your program. Any reports created or published will only summarize the responses across all providers and will not contain any individual provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

Chief Strategy Officer Principal Investigator

Ohio Department of Children and Youth Strategic Research Group



Kara B. Wente, DCY Director

Matt Damschroder, ODJFS Director

April 25, 2024

Dear Child Care Provider:

You are invited to participate in the 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey being conducted by the Ohio Department of Children and Youth, in partnership with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) in cooperation with Strategic Research Group (SRG). Your participation in this survey is vital to ensure the State of Ohio has a true representation of the licensed early care and education market in order to guarantee access to options for the Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) program.

Below you will find a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before completing the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey regardless of whether or not you provide PFCC. The survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

To ensure confidentiality, responses will be associated only with a randomly assigned passcode and not linked directly with identifying information about your program. Any reports created or published will only summarize the responses across all providers and will not contain any individual provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Ohio Department of Children and Youth Kara Wente, Director 246 N. High Street Columbus, OH 43215 U.S.A

The State of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider of ADA Services

Tina Kasseloum

Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D. Principal Investigator Strategic Research Group

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Matt Damschroder, Director 30 E. Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215 U.S.A.

#### Reminder Emails

Reminder email #1, send 4/30/2024

Subject line: Ohio Department of Children and Youth / Department of Job and Family Services Request

Dear Early Care and Education Provider

You are receiving this email because we have not yet received your responses to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. Your participation in this survey is vital to ensure that the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private early care and education /child care rates. Before beginning the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. As a reminder, DCY/ ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey, regardless of whether you provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

To ensure confidentiality, responses in the database will be associated only with a randomly assigned passcode and not linked directly with any identifying provider information. Any reports created or published will only summarize the responses across all providers and will not contain any individual provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact Strategic Research Group at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also check out the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman
Chief Strategy Officer
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Reminder email #1, send 4/30/2024 to multi-site providers

Subject line: Ohio Department of Children and Youth/ Department of Job and Family Services Request

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

You are receiving this email because we have not yet received your responses to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. Your participation in this survey is vital to ensure that the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private early care and education/child care rates. Before beginning the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. As a reminder, DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey, regardless of whether you provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

To ensure confidentiality, responses will be associated only with a randomly assigned passcode and not linked directly with any identifying provider information. Any reports created or published will only summarize the responses across all providers and will not contain any individual provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact Strategic Research Group at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also check out the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ</a>.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Reminder email #2, send 5/3/2024

Subject line: Please Provide DCY/ODJFS Information on Your Program

Dear Early Care and Education Provider

We have not yet received your responses to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. The survey will only take **about 15 minutes**, and your participation ensures that the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private early care and education/child care rates. Before beginning the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. As a reminder, DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey, regardless of whether you provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

### Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG), an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. As you complete this survey, be assured that your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely.

Alicia Leatherman
Chief Strategy Officer
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Reminder email #2, send 5/3/2024 to multi-site programs

Subject line: Please Provide DCY/ODJFS Information on Your Program

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have not yet received your responses to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey.

The survey will only take **about 15 minutes**, and your participation ensures that the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private early care and education/child care rates. Before beginning the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. As a reminder, DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey, regardless of whether you provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG), an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. As you complete this survey, be assured that your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Reminder email #3, send 5/6/2024

Subject line: Please Provide DCY/ODJFS Information on Your Program

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

According to our records, we have not received your responses to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. Your responses will ensure that the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete the survey, even if you do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private early care and education/child care rates. Before starting the survey, please gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry.

The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

As you complete this survey, be assured that your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact Strategic Research Group at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ</a>

Thank you in advance for your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Reminder email #3, send 5/6/2024 to multi-site providers

Subject line: Please Provide DCY/ODJFS Information on Your Program

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,,

According to our records, we have not received your responses to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. Your responses will ensure that the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete the survey, even if you do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before starting the survey, please gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry.

The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

As you complete this survey, be assured that your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact Strategic Research Group at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ</a>

Thank you in advance for your help with this survey!

Sincerely.

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Reminder email #4 (final to ALL Providers), send 5/9/2024

Subject line: Time is Running Out! Please Respond to the DCY/ODJFS Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey will be ending on **May 10<sup>th</sup>**, 2024.

This survey will take approximately 15 minutes. Your responses play a vital role in allowing DCY/ODJFS to get a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

As a reminder, DCY/ODJFS would like all providers to complete the survey, even if they do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before you start the survey, please gather this information for easy entry.

Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG); an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ

Thank you for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Reminder email #4 (final to ALL Providers), send 5/9/2024 for multi-site programs

Subject line: Time is Running Out! Please Respond to the Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey will be ending on **May 10<sup>th</sup>**, 2024.

This survey will take approximately 15 minutes. Your responses play a vital role in allowing DCY/ODJFS to get a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

As a reminder, DCY/ODJFS would like all providers to complete the survey, even if they do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

Before you start the survey, please gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG); an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>

Thank you for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman
Chief Strategy Officer
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Target reminder email #1 for low responding providers by type – single site, send 5/14/2024

Subject line: Home Provider Responses Needed for the DCY/ODJFS 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey deadline has been extended to give you a chance to respond.

We have received very few survey responses from family child care providers throughout the state. DCY/ODJFS strongly encourages all Type A and Type B home providers to complete the survey, even if they do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

As a home provider, your response plays a vital role in providing a true representation of the current early care and education/child care market.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before you start the survey, please gather this information for easy entry.

### Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

The deadline to complete this survey is May 31st, 2024.

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG); an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ

Thank you in advance for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman
Chief Strategy Officer
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Target reminder email #1 for low responding providers by type – multi site, send 5/14/2024

Subject line: Home Provider Responses Needed for the DCY/ODJFS 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey deadline has been extended to give you a chance to respond.

We have received very few survey responses from family child care providers throughout the state. DCY/ODJFS strongly encourages all Type A and Type B home providers to complete the survey, even if they do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

As a home provider, your response plays a vital role in providing a true representation of the current early care and education/child care market.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

The deadline to complete this survey is May 31st, 2024.

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG); an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>

Thank you in advance for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Target reminder email #1 for low responding providers by county – single site, send 5/14/2024

Subject line: Response Needed for the DCY/ODJFS 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey deadline has been extended to give you a chance to respond.

We have received little to no response from child care programs in your county. DCY/ODJFS strongly encourages all providers to complete the survey, even if they do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

Your responses play a vital role in providing a true representation of the current early care and education /child care market.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before you start the survey, please gather this information for easy entry.

Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

The deadline to complete this survey is May 31st, 2024.

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG); an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>

Thank you in advance for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman
Chief Strategy Officer
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Target reminder email #1 for low responding providers by county - multi site, send 5/14/2024

Subject line: Responses Needed for the DCY/ODJFS 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey deadline has been extended to give you a chance to respond.

We have received little to no response from child care programs in your county. DCY/ODJFS strongly encourages all providers to complete the survey, even if they do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

Your responses play a vital role in providing a true representation of the current early care and education /child care market.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

### The deadline to complete this survey is May 31st, 2024.

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG); an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>

Thank you in advance for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Target reminder email #2 for low responding providers by provider type, send 8/8/2022

Subject line: Less Than a Week Left to Complete the 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey

Dear Child Care Provider.

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey will be ending in less than one week.

We have received very few survey responses from family child care providers throughout the state. ODJFS strongly encourages all Type A and Type B home providers to complete the survey. ODJFS needs your responses to get an accurate picture of the child care market in the state.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before you start the survey, please gather this information for easy entry.

### Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

### The deadline to complete this survey is August 17th.

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG), an independent research firm that has been contracted by ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2022mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>

Thank you in advance for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Tracey Chestnut, Chief Bureau of Child Care Policy and TA Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Director email reminder, send 5/20/2024

Subject line: Market Rate Survey Reminder

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

A couple of weeks ago you received an email with a link to a secure, online survey asking for your participation in Ohio's 2024 Market Rate Survey from <a href="mailto:2022mrs@websrg.com">2022mrs@websrg.com</a>. The Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has contracted with Strategic Research Group (SRG) to conduct the survey. The information that will be collected in the survey includes your enrollment, private pay rates, and barriers to utilizing Ohio's Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) program.

As of today, your survey response(s) has not yet been received. I know the importance of the work that you do and how valuable your limited time is during the day. Your participation is important to ensure that DCY/ODJFS has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market. Completing the survey does not require you to participate in the PFCC program and will only take about 15 minutes.

Tomorrow you will receive another email from SRG (<u>2022mrs@websrg.com</u>), that includes a link to the secure survey for your program. I am asking that you please take a moment and complete the survey. Your input is important!

If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at <u>2022mrs@websrg.com</u> or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>.

Thank you in advance for your time, cooperation, and all that you do to provide early care and education!

Kara B. Wente Director, Ohio Department of Children and Youth 246 N. High Street Columbus, Ohio 43215

P: 614.387.1598

Reminder email following Director email, send 5/23/2024

Subject line: One Week Left to Complete the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey will be ending in one week.

We apologize for the delay of this reminder email. Due to an unanticipated issue with our service provider's fiber network, the MRS was not accessible to some internet providers from the morning of 5/21 until 4:30 on 5/22. If you encountered issues during this time, please try again.

The deadline to complete this survey was extended to May 31st.

DCY/ODJFS needs your responses to get a true representation of the current early care and education /child care market.

DCY/ODJFS strongly encourages all providers to complete the survey.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before you start the survey, please gather this information for easy entry.

Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG); an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ

Thank you in advance for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely.

Alicia Leatherman
Chief Strategy Officer
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Reminder email following Director email - multi site, send 5/23/2024

Subject line: One Week Left to Complete the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey will be ending in one week.

We apologize for the delay of this reminder email. Due to an unanticipated issue with our service provider's fiber network, the MRS was not accessible to some internet providers from the morning of 5/21 until 4:30 on 5/22. If you encountered issues during this time, please try again..

The deadline to complete this survey was extended to May 31st.

DCY/ODJFS needs your responses to get a true representation of the current early care and education /child care market.

DCY/ODJFS strongly encourages all providers to complete the survey.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY LINK]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	L	License number	Passcode

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**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>

Thank you in advance for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman
Chief Strategy Officer
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

FINAL Reminder email – single site, send 5/29/2024

Re: Final Opportunity to Respond to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/ Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. As we are still waiting for your responses, we extended the survey deadline to **May 31, 2024.** 

This survey will take approximately 15 minutes. Your responses play a vital role in allowing DCY/ODJFS to get a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

As a reminder, DCY/ODJFS would like all providers to complete the survey, even if they do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

Here is your survey link for your child care location, license number [LICENSE NUMBER]: [SURVEY LINK]

Or, you may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact Strategic Research Group at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ</a>

Thank you for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman
Chief Strategy Officer
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

FINAL Reminder email – multi site, send 5/29/2024

Subject line: Final Opportunity to Respond to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and education Market Rate Survey. As we are still waiting for your responses, we extended the survey deadline to **May 31**, **2024**.

This survey will take approximately 15 minutes. Your responses play a vital role in allowing DCY/ODJFS to get a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

As a reminder, DCY/ODJFS would like all providers to complete the survey, even if they do not provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY LINK]

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. These license numbers and the passcodes will be used to complete the survey for each licensed program.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

**Support is available!** If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact Strategic Research Group at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odifsFAQ</a>

Thank you for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely.

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth

#### Rate Sheet Invitation Emails

Subject line: Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey Rate Sheet for DCY/ODJFS

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

Thank you for completing the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey! You have been randomly selected to submit your rate sheet to help with quality assurance. Please send us a document that includes all the rates you charge families for early care and education services.

- 1. You may submit your rate sheet or statement either by replying to this email (2024mrs@websrg.com) or by fax (614-220-8845).
- 2. PLEASE include either your **License #: [LICENSE #] OR the passcode: [PASSCODE]**. Including this with your rate sheet or statement will avoid the need for us to follow-up with you.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

**Chief Strategy Officer** 

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

**Principal Investigator** 

Strategic Research Group

Subject line: Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey Rate Sheet for DCY/ODJFS

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

Thank you for completing the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey! You have been randomly selected to submit your rate sheet to help with quality assurance. Please send us a document that includes all the rates you charge families for early care and education services.

- 1. You may submit your rate sheet or statement either by replying to this email (2024mrs@websrg.com) or by fax (614-220-8845).
- 2. PLEASE include your **License # OR the four-character passcode** on the rate sheet when sending it in. Including this with your rate sheet or statement will avoid the need for us to follow-up with you.

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. We are asking that you provide the rate sheets for each center. If the rate sheet is the same for multiple centers, please indicate that on the rate sheet.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

**Chief Strategy Officer** 

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

**Principal Investigator** 

Strategic Research Group

#### Rate Sheet Reminder Fmails

Subject line: Reminder of Rate Sheet Request for DCY/ODJFS Dear Early Care and Education Provider: Again, thank you for completing the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey! You were recently contacted to submit your rate sheet to help with quality assurance. Please send us a document that includes all the rates you charge families for early care and education services. 1. You may submit your rate sheet or statement either by replying to this email (2024mrs@websrg.com) or by fax (614-220-8845). 2. PLEASE include either your License #: [LICENSE #] OR the passcode: [PASSCODE]. Including this with your rate sheet or statement will avoid the need for us to follow-up with you. If you have questions about this request, please contact Strategic Research Group at the email address above or call us at 1-800-341-3660. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D. **Principal Investigator** Strategic Research Group

Subject line: Reminder of Rate Sheet Request for DCY/ODJFS

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

Again, thank you for completing the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey! You were recently contacted to submit your rate sheet to help with quality assurance. Please send us a document that includes all the rates you charge families for early care and education services.

- 1. You may submit your rate sheet or statement either by replying to this email (2024mrs@websrg.com) or by fax (614-220-8845).
- PLEASE include your License # OR the four-character passcode on the rate sheet when sending it in.

Below is a list of all license numbers associated with your email address. We are asking that you provide the rate sheets for each center. If the rate sheet is the same for multiple centers, please indicate that on the rate sheet.

License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode	License number	Passcode

If you have questions about this request, please contact Strategic Research Group at the email address above or call us at 1-800-341-3660.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

**Chief Strategy Officer** 

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

**Principal Investigator** 

Strategic Research Group

#### Narrow Cost Analysis Invitation Email

Subject line: DCY/ODJFS Interview Request for MRS Narrow Cost Analysis

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

We would like to thank you for completing the 2024 Market Rate Survey. The information you provided is vital to ensuring the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has a true representation of the market.

In addition to the Market Rate Survey, the ODJFS is federally required to complete a narrow cost analysis. The purpose of the narrow cost analysis is to analyze the estimated cost to providers to implement health and safety standards versus the cost to providers to implement quality child care.

ODJFS has contracted with Strategic Research Group (SRG) to conduct the narrow cost analysis as part of the Market Rate Survey effort.

Your program has been randomly selected by SRG to provide information regarding your program's 2021 staffing costs and number of employees to assist SRG in completing the narrow cost analysis. To ensure confidentiality, results will not be shared in any way that is personally identifiable or program specific. In reports of results your responses will be combined with the responses of others.

SRG would like to schedule a 10–15 minute phone interview with you at your convenience. Please reach out to Karen at SRG by calling 1-800-341-3660 or emailing odjfs2024nc@websrg.com to schedule your interview within the next week.

As a show of appreciation, after completing your scheduled interview, you will receive a \$100 virtual gift card that can be used at a variety of online vendors (Amazon, Walmart, Target, etc.)

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,
Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

Strategic Research Group

**Principal Investigator** 

#### Narrow Cost Reminder Email

Subject line: Reminder of Request for Narrow Cost Analysis Information Dear Early Care and Education Provider: Thank you for completing the 2024 Child Care Market Rate Survey! You were recently contacted to provide additional information regarding your program's 2023 staffing costs and number of employees to assist Strategic Research Group (SRG) in completing the narrow cost analysis. SRG is trying to schedule a 10–15 minute phone interview with you at your convenience. Please reach out to Karen at SRG by calling 1-800-341-3660 or emailing odjfs2024nc@websrg.com to schedule your interview within the next two business days. As a reminder, after completing your interview you will receive a \$100 virtual gift card that can be used at a variety of online vendors (Amazon, Walmart, Target, etc.) Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D. **Principal Investigator** Strategic Research Group

#### Narrow Cost Incentive Email

Subject line: 2024 MRS Narrow Cost Thank You!

Dear [NAME OF RESPONDENT]:

Thank you for taking the time to complete the 2024 Market Rate Survey, narrow cost analysis interview. As a show of appreciation, below is your \$100 virtual gift card.

Thanks again,

Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

Principal Investigator

Strategic Research Group



May 20, 2024

Dear Early care and Education Provider:

In, you received an invitation to participate in the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey being conducted by the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) in cooperation with Strategic Research Group (SRG). Your participation in this survey is vital to ensure the State of Ohio has a true representation of the licensed early care and education market in order to guarantee access to options for the Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) program.

SRG has not received a response to the survey from your program. As a result, a paper version of the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey is included in this mailing as well as a pre-paid return envelope. Before completing the survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information to assist you while completing the survey. DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey regardless of whether you provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

Please return your completed survey in the pre-paid envelope provided. If you have any questions or need a new return envelope, please call 1-800-341-3660 or email <a href="mailto:2024mrs@websrg.com">2024mrs@websrg.com</a>. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>.

You may have already completed this survey online via a link that was sent by <a href="mailto:2024mrs@websrg.com">2024mrs@websrg.com</a>. If you have already completed the survey online, thank you and you can disregard this letter.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department of Children and Youth Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D. Principal Investigator Strategic Research Group

Tina Kasseloum



May 3, 2024

Dear Early Care and Education Provider

We have not yet received your responses to the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. The survey will only take about 15 minutes, and your participation ensures that the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/child care market.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private early care and education/child care rates. Before beginning the online survey, please make sure to gather your enrollment and rate information for easy entry. As a reminder, DCY/ODJFS is asking all providers to complete this survey, regardless of whether you provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). Completing the survey will not require you to participate in the PFCC program.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG), an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. As you complete this survey, be assured that your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of highquality care.

Tina Kasseloum

Tina Kassebaum, Ph.D.

Support is available! If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer

Principal Investigator Ohio Department of Children and Youth Strategic Research Group



May 23, 2024

Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

We have been attempting to reach you regarding the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey. We are still waiting for your responses, and the survey will be ending in one week.

We apologize for the delay of this reminder email. Due to an unanticipated issue with our service provider's fiber network, the MRS was not accessible to some internet providers from the morning of 5/21 until 4:30 on 5/22. If you encountered issues during this time, please try again.

The deadline to complete this survey was extended to May 31st.

DCY/ODJFS needs your responses to get a true representation of the current early care and education /child care market.

DCY/ODJFS strongly encourages all providers to complete the survey.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

Below is a link to a secure, electronic survey asking for your current enrollment and private child care rates. Before you start the survey, please gather this information for easy entry.

You may access the survey by going to: [SURVEY URL]

And entering this passcode: [PASSCODE]

This survey is being administered by Strategic Research Group (SRG); an independent research firm that has been contracted by DCY/ODJFS. Your answers are completely confidential, and results will not be linked directly with identifying provider information.

Based on a random sample of all respondents, you may be requested to submit your rate sheet for quality assurance purposes as well as additional information to assist in determining the cost of high-quality care. Support is available! If you are having problems accessing the survey or have other questions, please contact SRG at 2024mrs@websrg.com or 1-800-341-3660. You can also find more information on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <a href="http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ">http://www.websrg.com/odjfsFAQ</a>

Thank you in advance for your time and your help with this survey!

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

Tina Kassebaum

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

Every three years the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) in partnership with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) is required under federal law, to conduct a survey to collect and analyze the rates for early care and education services paid across the state. In addition to the federal requirement, Ohio Revised Code (ORC) requires that a market rate survey (MRS) be completed every two years. DCY/ODJFS uses this data to establish reimbursement rates for their publicly funded child care (PFCC) program which offers financial assistance to eligible parents to help them with early care and education costs while they engage in work, education, or job training. DCY/ODJFS has contracted with Strategic Research Group (SRG) to assist with conducting this year's survey to gather and compile the rate information and analyze the results. The survey results may impact the reimbursement rates of nearly 2,300 centers, 1,700 family child care home providers, and approximately 75 approved day camps that currently serve children eligible for PFCC.

### What information do we need from you?

DCY/ODJFS needs to collect information on rates, enrollment, other fees charged to families, and barriers to participation in the PFCC program. To reimburse providers with rates that are based on the current market rates within the early care and education industry, DCY/ODJFS needs this information from early care and education providers who serve families who pay for this care without any financial assistance as well as providers who participate in the PFCC program.

### Why do I need to complete this survey if DCY/ODJFS licensing rules already require me to enter my rates in the OCLQS Provider Portal?

In addition to the rate collection, federal law requires states to collect information on fees charged, barriers to participation, and other relevant information needed to assist in determining reimbursement rates. This is completed via the survey.

### Will my information be kept confidential?

Yes. To ensure confidentiality, responses in the database will be associated only with a randomly assigned passcode and not linked directly with identifying provider information. Any reports created or published will only summarize the responses across all providers and will not contain any individual provider information.

#### How long will the survey take?

The survey should take about 15 minutes to complete.

### How is the information that I provide used?

The goal of the market rate survey is to compile a snapshot of the early care and education landscape and the cost of these services in Ohio. The information is then used to inform state leadership.

### What if I own multiple locations? Do I have to complete a survey for each site I own, or can I complete one survey?

Providers with multiple locations are asked to submit a separate survey with information about each location. You will be sent a separate link for each location. If you have more than one location with the same enrollment and rate information, please complete a survey for one location and send an e-mail to <a href="mrs2024@websrg.com">mrs2024@websrg.com</a> with the provider ID(s)/license number(s) of the other location(s).

### If my program does not charge families directly and does not have a rate sheet, what should I do?

Please complete the survey, as the survey includes additional questions beyond the collection of rates and enter "NA" in the rate section.

### Are surveys going to all Ohio Department of Education (ODE) licensed school-age and preschool programs?

Any ODE program with a provider agreement is being invited to complete the survey, including before and after school programs.

### Should summer camps fill out the survey?

All approved day camps regulated by DCY/ODJFS are being invited to complete the survey.

### Should DCY/ODJFS licensed before and after school care programs fill out the survey?

Yes, as the PFCC rates traditionally have a separate rate for the school year versus summer school-age care.

#### When is the survey due?

Please complete the survey by May 10, 2024.

Once you have completed the survey, you may be requested to submit your advertised tuition fees (rate sheet) for quality assurance purposes. If selected to submit your rate sheet, you will receive an email one to three days after the completion of your MRS.

If you have questions about this project, please contact
Alicia Leatherman at Alicia.Leatherman@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov
Nicole Goudy at Nicole.Goudy@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov\_

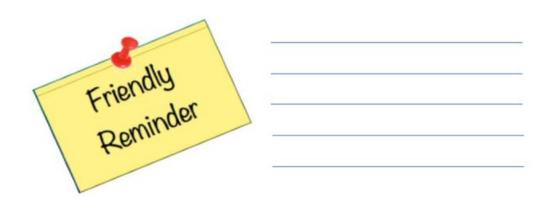
Direct specific questions about the survey to SRG at <a href="mrs2024@websrg.com">mrs2024@websrg.com</a> or call Dr. Tina Kassebaum at 1-800-341-3660.

Sincerely,

Alicia Leatherman Chief Strategy Officer Ohio Department Children and Youth



Place Stamp Here



#### Dear Early Care and Education Provider,

You should have recently received an invitation to participate in the 2024 Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey for the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). We hope that you will find the time to complete the survey online. DCY/ODJFS would like all early care and education providers in the state to respond so that they have a true representation of the current licensed early care and education/childcare market.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes and can be taken at your convenience. ODJFS is asking that the survey be completed by

The survey is at: [SURVEY URL]
Use the passcode: [PASSCODE]

If you have already completed the survey, thank you for your time!

If you have questions or encounter issues accessing your survey, please call:

Strategic Research Group at 1-800-341-3660

### Appendix C: 2024 DCY/ODJFS Child Care Market Rate Survey Instrument



# Department of Children & Youth

### Department of Job & Family Services

2024 DCY/ODJFS Early Care and Education Market Rate Survey

For this survey, please answer all questions as they relate to the following location: [Address line 1] [Address line 2]

[City State Zip Code]

[provider license number]

- 1. Are you currently providing early care and education services?
  - O Yes
  - O No, our program is temporarily closed.
  - No, our program is permanently closed → BECAUSE YOU ARE PERMANENTLY CLOSED, THIS IS THE END OF THE SURVEY. PLEASE GO TO THE LAST PAGE OF THE SURVEY FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO RETURN YOUR SURVEY.

On the next page (Page 3), you will be asked to provide the Hourly, Part-Time, and Full-Time rates you charge private pay families for each age group, using your current tuition fees (non-discounted rates).

For this question, use these definitions for children's age groups:

- Infant: Newborn through 17 months
- Toddler: 18 months through 35 months
- Preschool: 3 through 5 years, not yet in kindergarten
- School-Age: 5 through 12 years enrolled in kindergarten or higher
- School-Age (Summer): 5 through 12 years enrolled in kindergarten or higher, for care during the summer

For the Hourly Rate column, please provide the hourly rate that you charge families. For example, if your hourly rate for care is nine dollars per hour for infants, enter "9.00" in the box for "Infants" in the "Hourly Rate" column.

For Part-Time and Full-Time care, please provide both a dollar amount and a billing frequency. How you bill families may vary; you may bill hourly, daily, weekly, or by some other time period. For example, if you charge \$150 per week for infants for part time care, you would enter "150.00" in the Part Time Rate box, then "weekly" in the "Part Time Billing Period" box.

The most common time periods are as follows:

- Hourly
- Daily
- Weekly
- Every 2 weeks
- Monthly
- Annually

For this question, please treat Part-Time as exactly **20 hours** per week. This is to ensure that we obtain consistent responses from different early care and education providers.

If there are categories or rates that do not apply to your location, please write NA. For example, if you do not provide services for infants, you would write NA in those boxes.

The box below gives an example for a provider who provides hourly care and part time care for infants but does not provide full time care for infants.

	Hourly Rate	Part-Time Rate	Part-Time Billing Period	Full-Time Rate	Full-Time Billing Period
Infants	9.00	150.00	Weekly	NA	NA

2.	In the box below, please provide the billing details for all age groups for which you provide care and all
	rates for which you provide care.

	Hourly Rate	Part-Time Rate	Part-Time Billing Period	Full-Time Rate	Full-Time Billing Period
Infants					
Toddlers					
Preschool					
School-Age					
School-Age (Summer)					

	School-Age (Summer)						
3. Have your private pay rates increased more than usual in the last two years? For example, your program typically increases rates by 2-3% per year, but you have increased your rates over the layears by a higher percentage.				• • •	D		
	O Yes -	→ GO TO QUE	STION 3a				
	O No -	GO TO QUES	STION 4				
	indicate wh Covid Infla Incre	y (select all that d (lower ratios/s tion eased wages for er, please specif	apply): group sizes, Pl staff y	creased more than usu PE, additional cleaning,  reased more than usua	, contact trac		
4.			•	epartment of Job and ed private pay rates?	Family Servic	es allowed your	
	O Yes						
	O No						
	O Not a	applicable - my	program has r	not increased private p	ay rates		

5.		the following fees that you charge to families outside of regular tuition.  Event/Field Trip fee  Food/Meal fee  Craft/Material fee  Transportation fee  Late pick up fee  Late payment fee or interest fee  Bank fees, credit card fees, overdraft charges  Wait list fee  Other (please specify)  Do not charge additional fees
6.	all that app	eive funding or support for early care and education from any of the following sources? Select ly:  21st Century Grant (through the Ohio Department of Education)  Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)  Corporate Sponsors  DCY/ODJFS publicly funded early care and education [If NO, CONTINUE TO QUESTION 6a] if YES skip to question 6b  Donations / Endowments  Early Childhood Education Grant (through the Ohio Department of Education)  Faith-Based Sponsors  Head Start / Early Head Start  Local Initiatives (for example: Pre4Cle, Preschool Promise, Hope Toledo, Future Ready Columbus, etc.)  Other government agencies  Preschool Special Education (through the Ohio Department of Education)  Private Foundations  Summer Learning and After School Opportunities Grant (through the Ohio Department of Education)  United Way  Other, please specify

IF YOU  $\underline{\text{DO NOT}}$  RECEIVE FUNDING FOR DCY/ODJFS PUBLICLY FUNDED CHILD CARE, GO TO QUESTION 6a ON THE NEXT PAGE. IF YOU  $\underline{\text{DO}}$  RECEIVE FUNDING FOR DCY/ODJFS PUBLICLY FUNDED CHILD CARE, GO TO QUESTION 6b ON THE NEXT PAGE.

		The reimbursement rates are too low
		The PFCC payment is based on attendance, not enrollment
		The PFCC payment categories don't align with my programs
		The PFCC payment cycle doesn't align with my programs
		It is too difficult to budget based on the publicly funded child care payments
		There are few or no children in my area eligible for publicly funded child care
		The automated system is too complicated
		I serve low-income families through other partners (i.e. United Way, local initiative)
		Our sponsoring organization does not support participation
		I am a child care center and I am not able to participate in Step Up To Quality
		I am a child care center and I choose not to participate in Step Up To Quality
	J	Other, please specify
		u indicated your program is participating in publicly funded child care (PFCC). What allenges, if any, has your program experienced with participating in PFCC? Select all that ply
		The reimbursement rates are too low
		The PFCC payment is based on attendance, not enrollment
		The PFCC payment categories don't align with my programs
		The PFCC payment cycle doesn't align with my programs
		Lack of access to internet
		Required participation in Step Up To Quality
		Other, please specify
	J	My program is not experiencing any of these challenges
7.	Is your pro	gram affiliated with a faith-based organization?
	0	Yes, our program is affiliated with a faith-based organization
	0	No, our program operates in a faith-based facility but is not affiliated with the faith-based organization
	0	No, our program is not affiliated with a faith-based organization
8.	is not refer	gram caring for the same number of children you were prior to the pandemic? (This question ring to your program's license capacity but is asking about the number of children being y your program.)
	0	Yes → GO TO QUESTION 9
	0	No → GO TO QUESTION 8a
	8a. In the childre	Not Applicable - my program opened after March 2020 → GO TO QUESTION 9 previous statement you indicated that you are no longer caring for the same number of n you were pre-pandemic. Please indicate why (select all that apply): ck of early care and education staff members / teachers cal / budgetary issues

6a. Why do you not serve children receiving publicly funded child care (PFCC)? Select all that apply:

Enrollment has decreased
Enrollment has increased
Other, please explain

9. For the next question, use the following definitions for children's age groups:

• Infants: Newborn through 17 months

• Toddler: 18 months through 35 months

• Preschool: 3 through 5 years, not yet in kindergarten

• School-age: 5 through 12 years, enrolled in kindergarten or higher

• School-age (Summer): 5 through 12 years enrolled in kindergarten or higher, for care during the summer.

Although these definitions may not align with your programming, please use these definitions for enrollment categories in the following table:

• Hourly: up to 7 hours per week

• Part-Time: 7 hours up to 25 hours per week

• Full-Time: 25 hours or more per week

In the box below, please enter the number of children currently **enrolled** in your program according to age group and source of funding. If no children are currently enrolled in a category, put 0 in that box.

		9a. DCY/ODJFS Publicly Funded Child Care Program		9b. Not DCY/PFCC Funded		
	Hourly	Part-Time	Full-Time	Hourly	Part-Time	Full-Time
Infant						
Toddler						
Preschool						
School-Age						
School-Age (Summer)						

10.	Does the following	describe any of t	he children in your	care? Select all	that apply:
-----	--------------------	-------------------	---------------------	------------------	-------------

Children with disabilities/special needs (Child care provided to a child who is less than eighteen
years of age and either has one or more chronic health conditions or does not meet age
appropriate expectations in one or more areas of development, including social, emotional

cognitive, communicative, perceptual, motor, physical, and behavioral development. These services may, on a regular basis, include adaptations, modifications, or adjustments needed to assist in the child's function or development.).   GO TO QUESTION 10a  Children experiencing homelessness (Homeless means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes all of the following:
(1)Children who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals. This includes migratory children who meet these criteria.
(2)Children who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings
(3)Children who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings.) → GO TO QUESTION 11
Children identified as Migrant → GO TO QUESTION 11  Children who speak a language other than English at home → GO TO QUESTION 11  Children in foster care → GO TO QUESTION 10a  Children in kinship care → GO TO QUESTION 10a  None → GO TO QUESTION 11

10a. You indicated that you have children in your program who have a disability/special need or are in kinship care or foster care. Please provide the number of children in each category. If a child falls into the special needs category but is also in kinship or foster care, please indicate that child in both categories.

Ages		Number of Children Whose Families Private Pay	Number of Children Receiving Public Funded Child Care
Infant: Newborn through 17 months	Kinship Care		
	Foster Care		
	Disability/Special Needs		
Toddler: 18 months through 35 months	Kinship Care		
	Foster Care		
	Disability/Special Needs		
Preschool: 3 through 5 years, not yet in kindergarten	Kinship Care		
not yet in kindergarten	Foster Care		
	Disability/Special Needs		
School-age: 5 through 12 years, enrolled in kindergarten	Kinship Care		
or higher	Foster Care		
	Disability/Special Needs		

education fi	eriencing a shortage of individuals in the workforce, including fewer workers in early care and elds. Fewer workers in this field means less early care and education availability for working ulting in care givers being unable to work. Is this impacting your program?
	Yes → GO TO QUESTION 11a No → GO TO QUESTION 12
O	NO 7 GO TO QUESTION 12
impac	ou indicated that the workforce crisis is impacting your program. Please indicate any its to your program. Select all that apply:
	Inability to find/keep qualified staff Inability to find/keep qualified staff to maintain Step Up To Quality rating Fewer children enrolled
	Unable to open a classroom or serve the number of children permitted on license Children moved from full-time care to less than full-time care
	Increased wages for staff Recruitment/retention incentives provided Added personnel benefits like health or retirement
	Other, please specify
12. Please list a	ny initiatives your program has implemented to support/recruit/stabilize your staff.
	Higher pay rates
	Retention bonuses (sign on, retaining, or other) Increased benefits (health care, retirement, paid training/education, paid time off, etc.)
	Worked with other programs to create substitute pools, business resources, benefit/supports for the program
	Other, please specify
13. If your prog following:	ram received stabilization sub-grants, did your program use the funds for any of the
0	Permanent increase to staff wages
0	Temporary increase to staff wages
0	Recruitment incentive
0	Staff bonus
0	Not used for any of the above
0	I did not receive stabilization sub-grants

### Thank you so much for responding to this survey!

## Please return your completed survey in the pre-paid envelope provided with the survey.

If you have any questions or need a new return envelope, please call 1-800-341-3660.

Or you can mail the survey to:

STRATEGIC RESEARCH GROUP 995 GOODALE BLVD, STE 200 COLUMBUS, OH 43212

### Appendix D: Correlation Matrix of Weekly Rates

	Infant - PT	Infant - FT	Toddler - PT	Toddler - FT	Preschool - PT	Preschool - FT	School Age - PT	School Age - FT	Summer - PT	Summer - FT
Infant - PT	1	.849**	.966**	.838**	.915**	.805**	.669**	.564**	.812**	.721**
Infant - FT	.849**	1	.823**	.970**	.779**	.923**	.562**	.616**	.720**	.819**
Toddler - PT	.966**	.823**	1	.849**	.956**	.823**	.721**	.591**	.859**	.750**
Toddler - FT	.838**	.970**	.849**	1	.817**	.964**	.614**	.673**	.758**	.859**
Preschool - PT	.915**	.779**	.956**	.817**	1	.852**	.782**	.641**	.879**	.753**
Preschool - FT	.805**	.923**	.823**	.964**	.852**	1	.663**	.731**	.782**	.880**
School Age - PT	.669**	.562**	.721**	.614**	.782**	.663**	1	.854**	.813**	.694**
School Age - FT	.564**	.616**	.591**	.673**	.641**	.731**	.854**	1	.680**	.778**
Summer - PT	.812**	.720**	.859**	.758**	.879**	.782**	.813**	.680**	1	.846**
Summer - FT	.721**	.819**	.750**	.859**	.753**	.880**	.694**	.778**	.846**	1

<sup>\*\*.</sup> Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

### Appendix E: Actual Rate and Calculated Rate Comparison Tables

The tables below show two sets of rate distributions for two subgroups, chosen to provide a larger and smaller group for comparison (child care centers statewide and for Cluster B). The first set of rate distributions, labeled as "Rates," are simply the actual weighted rates and are the rates that have been presented in this report. The second set of rates, labeled "Calc," are the rates calculated to approximate a normal distribution from the weighted mean rates and weighted standard deviations of the subgroups, which is how the rates have been presented in previous MRS reports.

First set of actual weighted rates and rates calculated from means and standard deviations for comparison

Statewide -Centers								Cluster B -Centers							
Percentile	Infant							Infant							
	FT		PT		HR			FT		PT		HR			
	Rates	Calc	Rates	Calc	Rates	Calc		Rates	Calc	Rates	Calc	Rates	Calc		
10	210.00	211.87	137.50	133.90	7.50	6.93		185.00	182.45	125.00	123.05	5.00	5.28		
15	225.00	229.35	150.00	148.77	8.69	8.11		195.00	194.11	137.50	133.36	7.33	6.57		
20	244.27	243.24	162.12	160.59	9.10	9.05		205.00	203.37	140.00	141.56	8.99	7.61		
25	254.80	255.16	165.00	170.73	9.15	9.85		210.00	211.32	144.36	148.59	9.20	8.49		
30	265.00	265.86	175.00	179.84	10.00	10.58		217.86	218.46	149.90	154.91	10.00	9.28		
35	275.00	275.77	179.06	188.28	10.00	11.25		220.00	225.07	156.79	160.76	10.00	10.02		
40	280.00	285.18	190.00	196.28	11.23	11.88		229.35	231.35	162.50	166.32	10.00	10.72		
45	295.00	294.29	198.00	204.03	12.00	12.50		236.23	237.42	168.15	171.69	10.00	11.39		
50	300.00	303.25	208.13	211.65	12.99	13.10		246.65	243.40	175.00	176.98	10.00	12.06		
55	316.00	312.21	220.00	219.28	13.00	13.71		253.05	249.37	178.00	182.27	10.96	12.72		
60	325.00	321.31	226.25	227.02	13.00	14.33		255.00	255.45	186.80	187.64	13.00	13.40		
65	335.00	330.72	238.68	235.03	15.00	14.96		260.00	261.72	190.03	193.19	13.35	14.09		
70	345.00	340.64	243.73	243.47	15.00	15.63		265.00	268.34	197.00	199.05	14.04	14.83		
75	353.00	351.34	250.00	252.58	15.90	16.36		270.00	275.47	199.03	205.36	14.04	15.62		
80	368.72	363.25	261.00	262.72	17.00	17.16		275.00	283.42	203.29	212.39	15.00	16.51		
85	375.00	377.14	279.91	274.54	18.00	18.10		291.55	292.69	223.00	220.59	19.49	17.54		
90	394.96	394.62	292.99	289.41	20.00	19.28		299.69	304.34	226.49	230.91	20.00	18.83		
95	416.82	420.53	320.23	311.45	22.30	21.03		323.32	321.62	254.62	246.20	24.59	20.76		
N	1370		926		497			185		118		55			