

Alabama

State Description

Population of state: **4,447,100**
 Number of children under 13 years of age: **867,536**
 Regulation of any child care facilities that are located on an Indian Reservation or in a tribal service area: **No**
 Date of market rate survey on which profile is based: **6/15/2005**

Organization with Primary Responsibility for Following Tasks

Determined which facilities to survey: **Lead Agency**
 Created survey questions: **Lead Agency**
 Assisted facilities to complete survey: **Lead Agency**
 Collected price data from facilities: **Lead Agency**
 Cleaned the collected data: **Lead Agency**
 Analyzed price data: **Lead Agency**
 Interpreted findings: **Lead Agency**
 Wrote reports on findings: **Task not done**
 Published results: **Task not done**

Facilities Surveyed

Database used to identify facilities:

Facilities regulated by child care licensing agency: **Yes**
 Facilities receiving child care subsidies: **Yes**
 Facilities enrolled with R&R agency: **No**

<i>Facilities included in the dataset</i>	Included	Number	Type of sample
Licensed facilities	Most	3,901	Total
Family child care facilities who are legally exempt from licensing	No		
Family, friends, or neighbors who are legally exempt from licensing	No		
Centers that are legally exempt from licensing	Yes	4,637	Total
After-school education (non-licensed)	Yes	Unknown	Total
Providers located on military facilities	Yes	Unknown	Total
Facilities located on tribal reservations or in tribal service areas and licensed by the STATE.	No		
Facilities located on tribal reservations or in tribal service areas and licensed by the TRIBE.	No		
TOTAL facilities in final dataset		8,538+	

Data Collection

Method(s): **Mail**
 Strategies to encourage facilities to participate: **None reported**
 Number of facilities tried to reach: **4,637**
 # of facilities who refused to participate: **None reported**
 # of facilities dropped from the sample: **367**
 # of facilities who completed the survey: **1,520**
 Date data collection was completed: **5/20/2005**
 Time needed for a single facility to give information: **16-20 minutes**
 How facilities reported price information: **Into pre-determined modes provided on the survey**
 Asked about the # of children in care that receive subsidy: **Yes**
 Were any facilities that served subsidized children excluded? **No**

Data Analysis

Facilities excluded from analysis: **Head Start programs, State-funded pre-kindergarten programs, Migrant Head Start, Part-day, Part-week programs**
 Unit of analysis: **Facility**
 Were prices converted to some standard mode such as to monthly or hourly price? **Yes; Weekly rate**
 Did state measure amount of accessibility maximum rate provides? **No**

Rate Setting

Date current payment rates were set: **10/01/2005**
 Rates adjusted based on recent survey: **No**
 Are payment rates set at or above the 75th percentile of prices? **No**
Important factors in setting current rates:
 1 – **Desire to maximize the number of families with access to subsidies**
 2 – **State funding for child care**
 3 – **Level of federal CCDF funding**

	Ways Price Data was Analyzed	Current Rates Set By
Geography		
County	No	No
Zip-Code	No	No
Region	Yes	Yes
State	No	No
Other geographic area	-	No
Age Group		
Infant care	Yes	Yes
Toddler care	Yes	Yes
Preschool-age care	Yes	Yes
School-age care	Yes	Yes
Type of Care		
Center	Yes	Yes
Family	Yes	Yes
Group home	Yes	Yes
In-home	No	No
Family, friends, neighbors	No	Yes
School-age centers	No	No
School-age enrichment activities	No	No
Special needs care	This project did not ask this question on the questionnaire.	No
Pricing Mode		
Hourly	No	This project did not ask this question on the questionnaire.
Daily	No	
Weekly	Yes	
Monthly	No	

Total Cost of Market Rate Survey:

- Lead Agency:
- Other agency:
- State R&R Network:
- University/College:
- Research or survey firm:
- Other contractor:

Comments: Several staff in different areas of the Department contributed to the survey process, including Information Systems personnel, Finance personnel, Printing Department and State child care staff, printing. Extensive staff time was more a factor than cost.

Report is Available for Download at: **Not available**