

Maine

State Description

Population of state: **1,274,923**
 Number of children under 13 years of age: **227,351**
 Regulation of any child care facilities who are located on an Indian Reservation or in a tribal service area: **Yes, all non-exempt tribal providers**
 Date of market rate survey on which profile is based: **4/01/2004**

Organization with Primary Responsibility for Following Tasks

Determined which facilities to survey:	Lead Agency
Created survey questions:	Survey Firm
Assisted facilities to complete survey:	Survey Firm
Collected price data from facilities:	Survey Firm
Cleaned the collected data:	Survey Firm
Analyzed price data:	Survey Firm
Interpreted findings:	Survey Firm
Wrote reports on findings:	Survey Firm
Published results:	Lead Agency

Facilities Surveyed

Database used to identify facilities:

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

Comments: Used total population of all license providers in state including all tribal programs.

Data Collection

Method(s): **Mail**
 Strategies to encourage facilities to participate: **Financial incentives (1 \$500 spa drawing, 2 \$250 gift certificates); Follow-up letters or calls; Training/technical assistance on how to complete the survey**
 Number of facilities tried to reach: **2,550**
 # of facilities who refused to participate: **993**
 # of facilities dropped from the sample: **0**
 # of facilities who completed the survey: **1,557**
 Date data collection was completed: **4/01/2004**
 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: **No**

Comments: Actual number of full-time children enrolled in each age group; actual number of part-time children enrolled and current full-time (FTE) enrollment is included. They are also asked what they charge for full-time care for each group and if they provide part-time care, what those rates are.

Data Analysis

Facilities excluded from analysis: **State-funded pre-kindergarten programs**
 Unit of analysis: **Slot; Actual current enrollment of children served by age group**
 Were prices converted to some standard mode such as to monthly or hourly price? **Yes; Hourly and weekly**
 Did state measure amount of accessibility maximum rate provides? **No**

<i>Facilities included in the dataset</i>	Included	Number	Type of sample
Licensed facilities	All	2,538	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	No		
After-school education (non-licensed)	No		
Providers located on military facilities	No		
Facilities located on tribal reservations or in tribal service areas and licensed by the STATE.	Yes, all	12	Total
Facilities located on tribal reservations or in tribal service areas and licensed by the TRIBE.	No		
TOTAL facilities in final dataset		2,550	

Rate Setting

Date current payment rates were set: **8/01/2004**
 Rates adjusted based on recent survey: **Yes;**
Increased for some types of care and age categories
 Are payment rates set at or above the 75th percentile of prices? **Yes, for all categories**

Important factors in setting current rates:

- 1 – **Findings of recently completed market rate survey**
- 2 – **Desire to invest in quality of child care initiatives**
- 3 – **Level of federal CCDF funding**

Total Cost of Market Rate Survey: \$50,000

Lead Agency: **\$7,000**
 Other agency:
 State R&R Network:
 University/College:
 Research or survey firm: **\$43,000**
 Other contractor:

Report is Available for Download at:
www.maine.gov/dhhs/occhs/publications.htm

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