

Massachusetts

State Description

Population of state: **6,349,097**
 Number of children under 13 years of age: **1,175,597**
 Regulation of any child care facilities who are located on an Indian Reservation or in a tribal service area: **No**
 Date of market rate survey on which profile is based: **12/31/2002**

Organization with Primary Responsibility for Following Tasks

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

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: **Yes**

<i>Facilities included in the dataset</i>	Included	Number	Type of sample
Licensed facilities	All	15,000	Stratified random
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.	No		
Facilities located on tribal reservations or in tribal service areas and licensed by the TRIBE.	No		
TOTAL facilities in final dataset		15,000	

Data Collection

Method(s): **Phone**
 Strategies to encourage facilities to participate: **Follow-up letters or calls; Training/technical assistance on how to complete the survey; Other - Letter from provider groups and commissioner**
 Number of facilities tried to reach: **3,657**
 # of facilities who refused to participate: **0**
 # of facilities dropped from the sample: **0**
 # of facilities who completed the survey: **2,531**
 Date data collection was completed: **11/01/2002**
 Time needed for a single facility to give information: **16-20 minutes**
 How facilities reported price information: **Actual rates in whatever mode they charge**
 Asked about the # of children in care that receive subsidy: **Yes**
 Were any facilities that served subsidized children excluded? **Yes; 100% of subsidized children lead to exclusion of the facility**

Data Analysis

Facilities excluded from analysis: **State-funded pre-kindergarten programs, Facilities serving only subsidized children, Part-day, Part-week programs**
 Unit of analysis: **Both provider and slot; Licensed capacity for children by age group**
 Were prices converted to some standard mode such as to monthly or hourly price? **Yes; Daily**
 Did state measure amount of accessibility maximum rate provides? **No**

Rate Setting

Date current payment rates were set: **7/01/2004**
 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? **No**
Important factors in setting current rates:
 1 – **Overall budget**
 2 – **State funding for child care**
 3 – **Desire to invest in quality of child care initiatives**

	Ways Price Data was Analyzed	Current Rates Set By
Geography		
County	No	No
Zip-Code	Yes	No
Region	Yes	Yes
State	No	No
Other geographic area	Sub regions	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	Yes
In-home	No	Yes
Family, friends, neighbors	No	Yes
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	Yes	
Weekly	Yes	
Monthly	Yes	

Total Cost of Market Rate Survey: \$225,000

Lead Agency: **\$25,000**

Other agency:

State R&R Network:

University/College:

Research or survey firm: **\$200,000**

Other contractor:

Report is Available for Download at:

www.eec.state.ma.us/