

# Alaska

## State Description

Population of state: **626,932**  
 Number of children under 13 years of age: **146,643**  
 Regulation of any child care facilities that are located on an Indian Reservation or in a tribal service area: **Yes, all non-exempt tribal facilities**  
 Date of market rate survey on which profile is based: **6/28/2005**

## Organization with Primary Responsibility for Following Tasks

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

## 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:** Alaska is unusual in that it mainly has Native Corporations, rather than tribes/reservations. The one true Indian Reservation that exists has its providers subject to State regulation.

## Data Collection

Method(s): **Phone**

Strategies to encourage facilities to participate: **Follow-up letters or calls; Other - Prior to the survey commencing, providers were notified by this office via postcard and encouraged to participate.**

Number of facilities tried to reach: **753**

# of facilities who refused to participate: **27**

# of facilities dropped from the sample: **316**

# of facilities who completed the survey: **410**

Date data collection was completed: **6/28/2005**

**Comments:** The survey was not per se piloted, but the methodology is essentially the same as in prior years.

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: **Both provider and slot; Actual current enrollment of children served**

**Comments:** In general we weight rates by reported enrollment/attendance (not capacity), but might look at it other ways as well. Various other questions not related to rates were asked, and typically would be reported with provider as the unit of measurement.

Were prices converted to some standard mode such as to monthly or hourly price? **No**

Did state measure amount of accessibility maximum rate provides? **Yes**

<i>Facilities included in the dataset</i>	Included	Number	Type of sample
Licensed facilities	All	753	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.	Yes, all	1	Stratified random
Facilities located on tribal reservations or in tribal service areas and licensed by the TRIBE.	No		
<b>TOTAL</b> facilities in final dataset		<b>754</b>	

**Comments:**

+ We interpret school age summer to be full time, and school age school year to be part time.

+ I indicate no for State (see Table to right), but to some extent we will in fact analyze data on a statewide level, especially non-rate related questions. We possess enough information (we know the county and zip codes of the respondents) and could do the data in other ways. But overwhelmingly data is analysed by region.

**Rate Setting**

Date current payment rates were set: **7/01/2001**

Rates adjusted based on recent survey: **No, not yet**

Are payment rates set at or above the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile of prices? **No**

*Important factors in setting current rates:*

1 – **Findings of recently completed market rate survey**

2 – **Level of federal CCDF funding**

3 – **State TANF policies**

**Total Cost of Market Rate Survey: \$30,750**

Lead Agency: **\$22,000**

Other agency:

State R&R Network:

University/College:

Research or survey firm: **\$8,750**

Other contractor:

**Comments:** I do not include any expenses that our R&R's/LA's et al. might incur in using/disseminating our analysis, or any analysis of their own that they might create based on MRS data. Nor do I consider any expenses our parent organizations (The Division of Public Assistance, Department of Health and Social Services, or State of Alaska et al.) might incur in using or disseminating our data/analysis.

**Report is Available for Download at:**

**[health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/ccare](http://health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/ccare)**

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