Profiles of the California Early Care and Education Workforce, 2020 Family Child Care (FCC) Providers

Demographics

There are approximately 24,700 FCC providers in California. Nearly all (98%) are women. Read more.



Education and Experience

Most FCC providers have deep experience; many hold degrees. One quarter (24%) belong to a union. Read more.



"Being a family/home-based child care and early education provider is a professional occupation that requires lots of skill, training, expertise, love of children. This is both caring and teaching at the earliest stage of a child's life and is essential to the development of every child. ... Center and family/home-based child care providers should receive equivalent recognition, compensation, and training."

- FCC Provider, Bay Area

Compensation

Income varies by licensed capacity, region, and more. About one half of FCC providers (48%) earn most or all of their household's income through work with children. **Read the full report.**

Median Annual Earnings of California Family Child Care Providers*

By Program Size**

Small FCC
Large FCC

 \$16,900 to \$28,200
 \$39,600 to \$56,200
 Northern

 \$24,000 to \$42,000
 \$43,100 to \$56,400
 Bay Area

 \$14,600 to \$28,200
 \$39,600 to \$56,400
 Central

 \$16,200 to \$28,200
 \$39,200 to \$56,400
 Southern

 \$16,900 to \$28,200
 \$41,500 to \$56,400
 Los Angeles

 \$16,900 to \$30,000
 \$40,000 to \$56,400
 Statewide

*We estimate median earnings as the proportion of household income earned from working with children rather than an hourly wage; two thirds of FCC providers (68%) work more than 40 hours per week.

**Small FCCs have a licensed capacity of up to 6 or 8 children, while large FCCs may enroll up to 12 or 14 children.

As small business owners, FCC providers do not have access to employer-provided **benefits**. Nonetheless, some providers have retirement savings and paid time off.



21% hold retirement savings from any source

48% have paid days off written into their contracts with families through Covered California or Medi-Cal.

Covered Cal
Own Purchase
Medi-Cal
Medicare
10%
Spouse
38%

Most FCC providers (87%) have health insurance. Typically, they

are covered through a spouse or family member, or they enroll

Economic Well-Being

One third of FCC providers worry that their earnings are not enough to support their family. Read our report.

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"Charging a rate that would better my situation is difficult for me, as I understand the huge cost of paying for child care."

– FCC Provider, Northern California

"Child care is essential to the growth and development of our future generations. We need better funding and resources so fewer children miss out on the opportunity to thrive and develop in their early years."

– FCC Provider, Central Valley

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