

Child Care Keeps Missouri Working

The Missouri Child Care Economic Impact Report
July 2005

Southeast Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral/Workshop on Wheels

Serving the following counties in southeast Missouri: Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Dunklin, Franklin, Jefferson, Iron, Madison, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Reynolds, Ripley, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Scott, Stoddard, and Wayne.

Workforce impact: There are 2,715 people working in the regulated child care industry in this region of Missouri. In addition, the availability of regulated child care enables over 10,908 family members to get, keep and be productive at their jobs knowing that their children are in safe, reliable care. Regulated child care in southeast Missouri has the capacity to serve 16% of the children age birth to nine.

THE REGULATED CHILD CARE INDUSTRY IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI	Licensed Programs Family child care homes, group homes, child care centers	License-Exempt Programs Church-run programs and nursery schools	Totals
Programs	538	9	547
Workforce			
Administrators	442	7	449
Teachers/Caregivers	1,889	55	1,944
Support Staff	316	6	322
Workforce Totals	2,647	68	2,715
Children			
Capacity of Regulated Child Care	15,859	503	16,362
Children birth to age 9			100,327
Revenues and Expenditures			
Gross Revenue Generated	\$52,356,215	\$1,368,894	\$53,725,109
Utilities Purchased	\$1,848,412	\$37,108	\$1,885,520
Consumables Purchased	\$5,311,704	\$143,788	\$5,455,492
Payroll	\$24,892,462	\$636,844	\$25,529,306

Workforce, revenues and expenditures are as of December 2004. Numbers of children birth to age 9 are from 2000 Census.

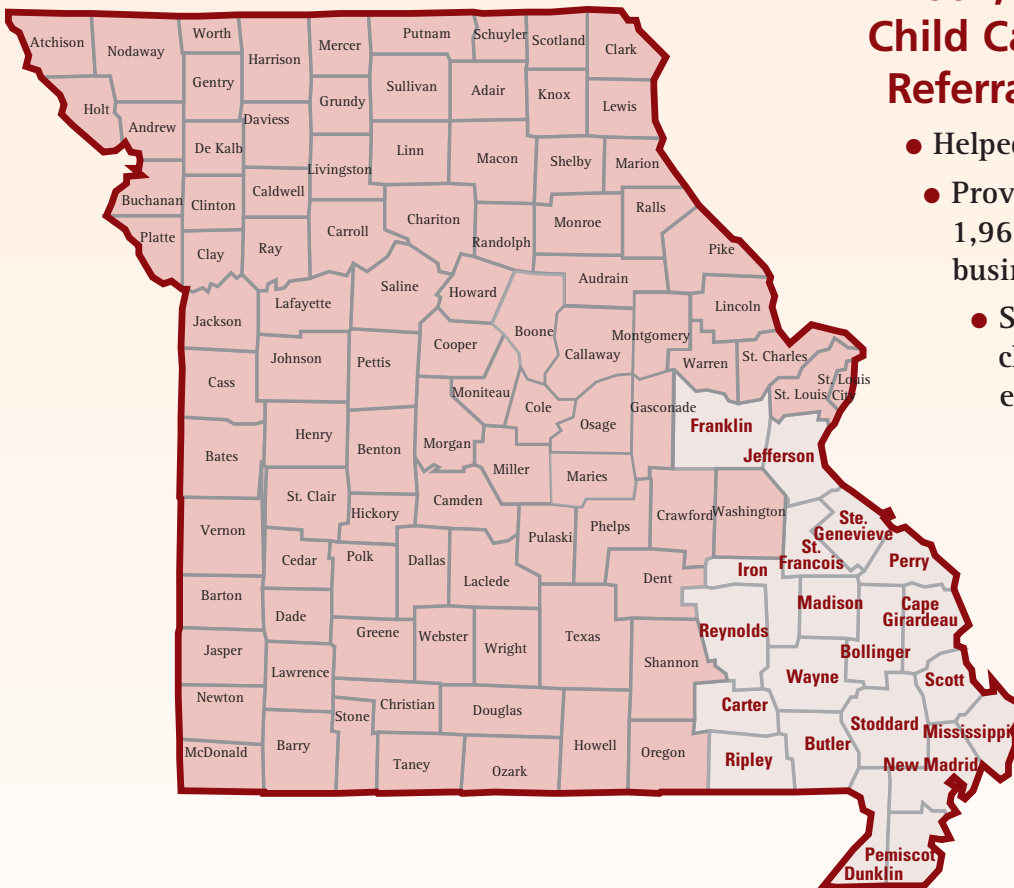
Average teacher/caregiver wages: According to recent survey data, child care workers in this region earn an average of \$4.50 per hour in family child care and \$7.07 per hour in child care centers. Of child care workers surveyed, 34% of those employed in child care centers receive health insurance benefits and 38% of those who operate family child care programs purchase health insurance with their child care income.

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Cost of care: The fees charged to parents for child care vary widely in Missouri depending on location, age of child, and type of care. Fees charged range from about \$1 per hour in rural areas to about \$2 per hour in urban areas. The average fee charged in family child care programs is \$1.33 per hour and the average fee charged in child care centers is \$1.88 per hour.

Southeast Missouri Child Care Resource & Referral has served as a link between parents and child care providers since 1995 when the program became affiliated with Workshop on Wheels which had offered quality training to child care providers since 1983. The primary focus is to improve the quality and availability of early childhood education and care throughout southeast Missouri. Child Care Resource and Referral and Workshop on Wheels are projects of the Department of Human Environmental Studies at Southeast Missouri State University and have grown to meet the diverse needs of child care providers, early childhood teachers, and parents in the twenty-county area served.



In 2004, Southeast Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral/Workshop on Wheels:

- Helped 1,070 families find child care
- Provided technical assistance to 1,961 child care teachers and business owners
- Supplied information on early childhood education to 104 employers and community leaders

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Sources: "Child Care Keeps Missouri Working: The Missouri Child Care Economic Impact Report", conducted by the Center for Economic and Business Research at Southeast Missouri State University in September - December, 2004.; "A Statewide Study on Wages and Benefits in the Early Childhood Workforce" by Supriya Pandey, Master's Degree Project, University of Missouri-Columbia, unpublished data, December 2004; the Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network; and Office of Social and Economic Data Analysis (OSED), University of Missouri Extension, U.S. Bureau of Census, 2000.