



DEPARTMENT OF  
HUMAN SERVICES

# Minnesota Child Care Assistance Program

## State Fiscal Year 2018 Family Profile



**Published January 2019**

# 651-431-3809

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## Introduction

The [Child Care Assistance Program](#) provides financial assistance to help families with low incomes pay for child care so that parents may pursue employment or education leading to employment, and that children are well cared for and prepared to enter school ready to learn.

The Minnesota Family Investment Program and the Diversionary Work Program help families work toward economic stability. The state fully funds child care assistance for families who participate in either program through the [Minnesota Family Investment Program and Diversionary Work Program Child Care Assistance Program](#), or who have recently moved off the programs through [Transition Year or Transition Year Extension Child Care Assistance Program](#). Family profile reporting on Minnesota Family Investment Program child care includes children and families served by these subprograms.

The [Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Assistance Program](#), a capped allocation, assists families with low incomes who are not participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program or Diversionary Work Program, with child care costs. Family Profile reporting on Basic Sliding Fee child care includes children and families served by the portability pool.

Families may select any legal child care provider including licensed child care centers, licensed family child care homes, centers that are exempt from licensing — typically because they offer care to school-aged children or the programs are located in a school — or legal nonlicensed providers — typically family or friends who meet certain program requirements.

There are [maximum rates](#) that the Child Care Assistance Program can pay providers caring for children. These maximum rates are set by the Minnesota Legislature and vary according to age of the child, unit of time (hourly, daily or weekly) and the location where care is provided. Providers who meet certain quality standards can be paid [15](#) or [20](#) percent more than the standard rates.

### Data source

Data on children and families reported in the family profile is drawn from the Minnesota Electronic Child Care eligibility and payment system for State Fiscal Year 2015–18, unless otherwise noted.

## Families and children served, cost per family

### Basic Sliding Fee families and children served, cost per family<sup>1</sup>

State Fiscal Year	Families	Children	Children per family	Cost per family
2018	6,970	13,387	1.9	\$13,884
2017	6,911	13,241	1.9	\$13,704
2016	7,520	14,227	1.9	\$12,792
2015	8,121	15,267	1.9	\$12,360

### Minnesota Family Investment Program families and children served, cost per family<sup>2</sup>

State Fiscal Year	Families	Children	Children per family	Cost per family
2018	7,830	16,434	2.1	\$20,088
2017	7,644	15,927	2.1	\$20,076
2016	7,592	15,463	2	\$18,900
2015	7,588	15,200	2	\$17,832

<sup>1</sup> Counts based on average monthly payments issued during the reporting period. Families and children served by both Basic Sliding Fee and Minnesota Family Investment Program Child Care Assistance programs are counted in both reporting categories. Basic Sliding Fee child care includes portability pool. Costs per family reflect average annual total direct service costs.

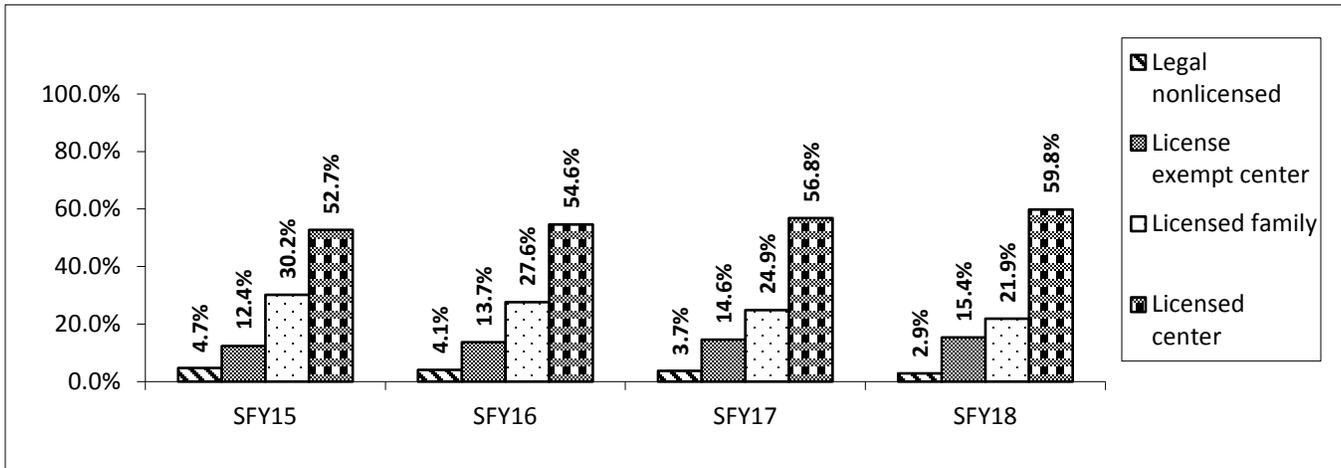
<sup>2</sup> Counts based on average monthly payments issued during reporting period. Families and children served by both Basic Sliding Fee and Minnesota Family Investment Program Child Care Assistance programs are counted in both reporting categories. Minnesota Family Investment Program child care reporting includes Transition Year and Transition Year Extension. Costs per family reflect average annual total direct service costs.

## Children receiving child care assistance by type of care

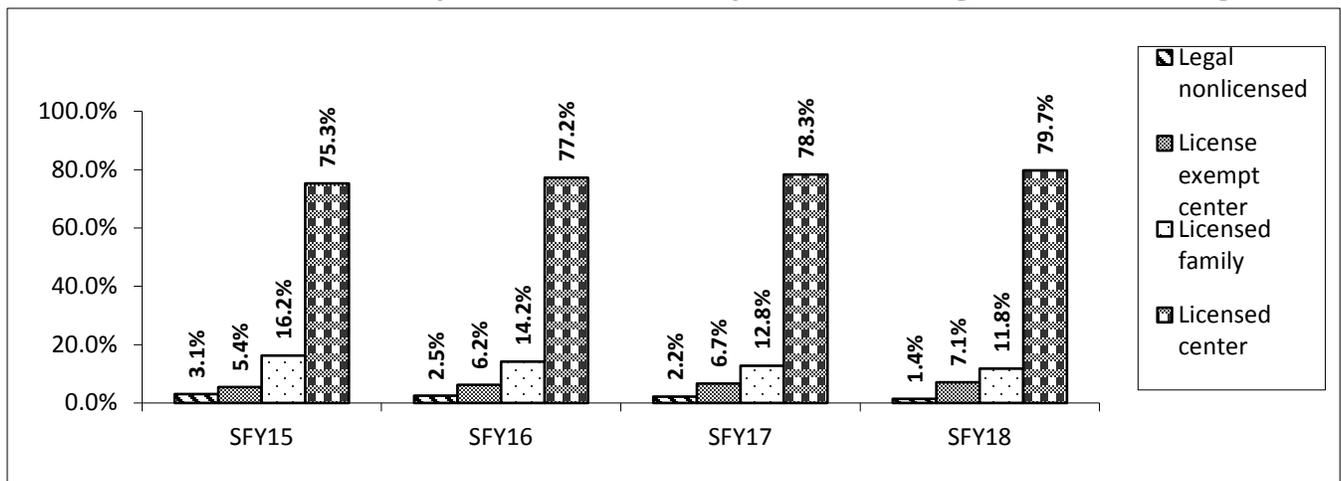
Type of care, by percent, of children in the Child Care Assistance Program <sup>1</sup>

State Fiscal Year	Legal nonlicensed	License-exempt center	Licensed family	Licensed center
2018	2.1	11.0	16.5	70.5
2017	2.9	10.4	18.3	68.4
2016	3.3	9.8	20.6	66.3
2015	3.9	9	23.3	63.8

Percent of children served by the Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Program



Percent of children served by the Minnesota Family Investment Program Child Care Program



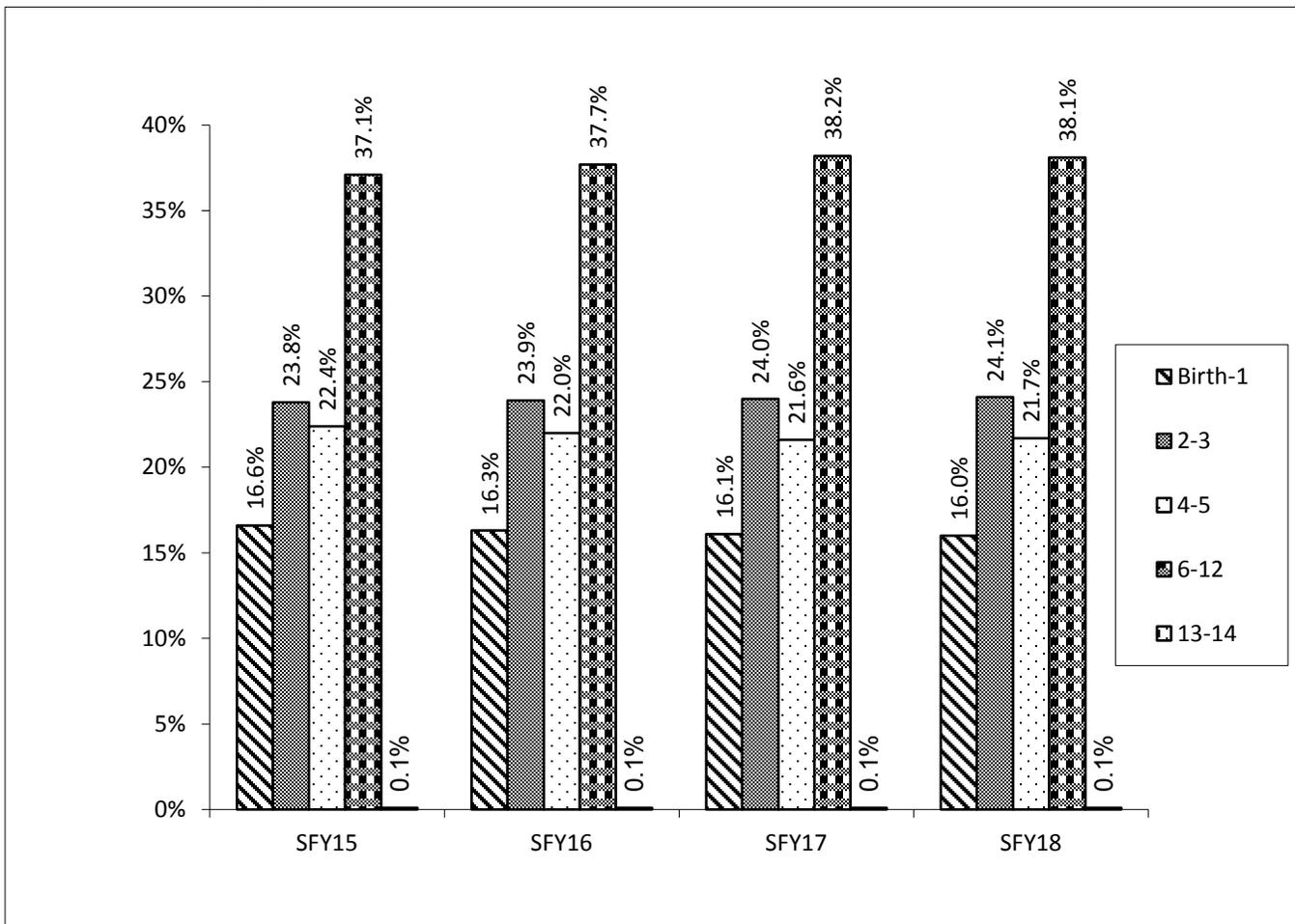
<sup>1</sup> Annual unduplicated children based on last provider paid on behalf of a child for services during the reporting period.

## Children receiving child care assistance by age

Age range, by percent, of children in the Child Care Assistance Program<sup>1</sup>

State Fiscal Year	Birth-1	2-3	4-5	6-12	13-14
2018	16.0	24.1	21.7	38.1	0.1
2017	16.1	24.0	21.6	38.2	0.1
2016	16.3	23.9	22	37.7	0.1
2015	16.6	23.8	22.4	37.1	0.1

Age range percentage of children served by the Child Care Assistance Program



<sup>1</sup> Average monthly percentage of children by age served during the state fiscal year. Based on payments made on behalf of families served during each month of the reporting period.

## Children receiving child care assistance by race and ethnicity

Race and ethnicity, by percent, of children in the Child Care Assistance Program<sup>1</sup>

State Fiscal Year	African-American	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple races	White	Unknown
2018	53.1	1.2	1.7	5.1	6.4	28.3	4.2
2017	51.4	1.2	1.8	5.2	6.4	29.8	4.2
2016	48.4	1.3	2	5.5	6.8	31.9	4.1
2015	46	1.4	2.1	5.7	7	33.8	4

Percent of children served by the Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Program<sup>2</sup>

State Fiscal Year	African-American	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple races	White	Unknown
2018	39.9	1.1	1.7	6	7.1	39.3	4.9
2017	37.7	1.2	1.6	6.1	7.2	41.5	4.7
2016	33.8	1.3	1.9	6.1	7.4	45.1	4.4
2015	32.8	1.4	2.1	6.6	7.3	45.6	4.2

Percent of children served by the Minnesota Family Investment Program Child Care Program<sup>2</sup>

State Fiscal Year	African-American	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Hispanic/Latino	Multiple races	White	Unknown
2018	64.5	1.3	1.6	4.3	5.9	18.8	3.6
2017	63.5	1.2	2	4.5	5.8	19.3	3.7
2016	62.5	1.4	2	4.9	6.3	19.2	3.7
2015	60.1	1.4	2	4.9	6.6	21.3	3.7

<sup>1</sup> Monthly average percentage of children by race and ethnicity served during the state fiscal year. Race and ethnicity data is reported by applicants. The coding method for race/ethnicity follows the 2000 U.S. Census methodology, with participants asked their racial choice (yes or no) of each of five racial categories (American Indian, Asian, African-American, Pacific Islander, and white) and ethnicity (Hispanic or non-Hispanic). Hispanics of all races were listed as Hispanic. Pacific Islander and Asian groups were combined due to very small numbers of Pacific Islanders. The American Indian group also includes Alaskan natives. Small changes from previous state fiscal year reports are due to minor changes in data methodology.

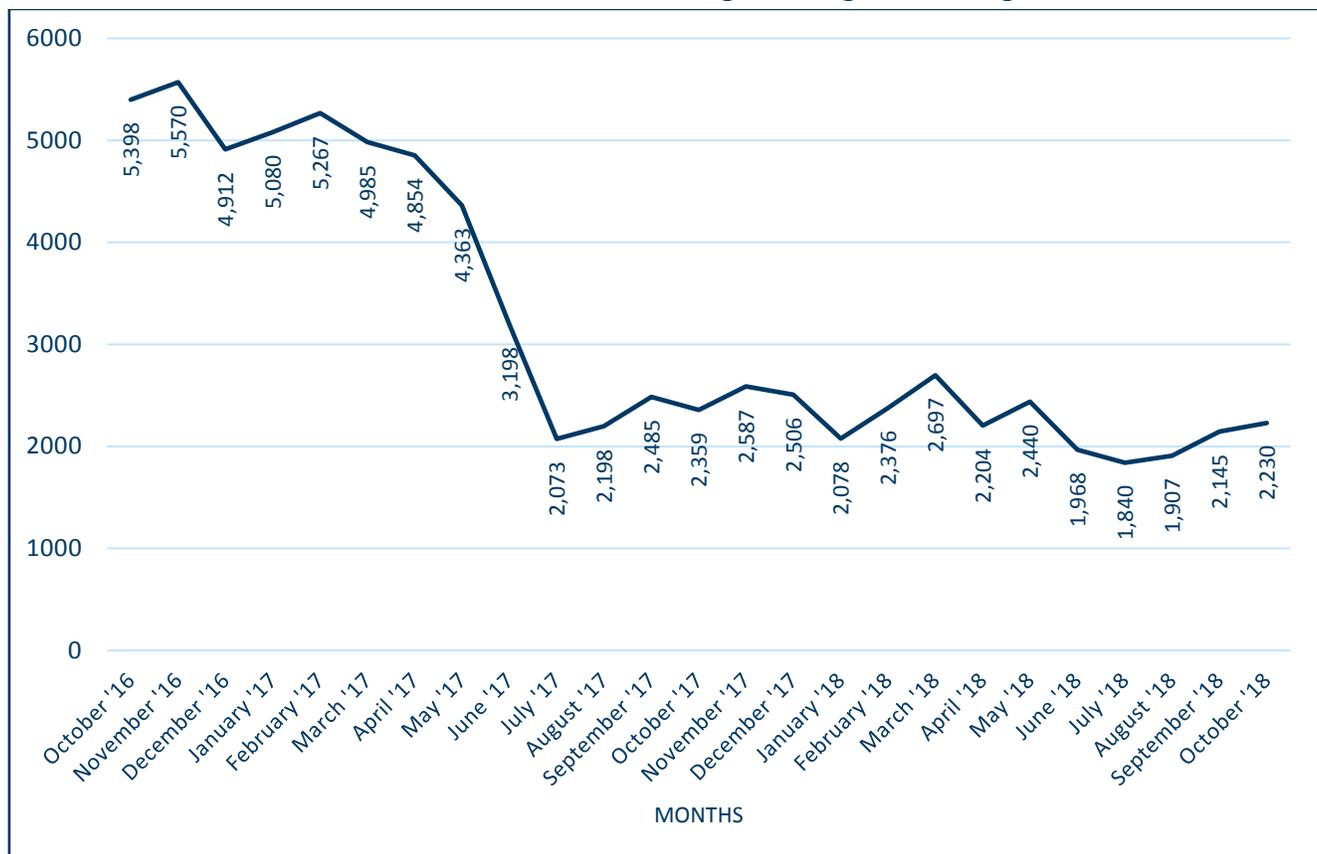
<sup>2</sup> Children served by both the Minnesota Family Investment Program and Basic Sliding Fee child care programs during the same reporting period are reflected in both subprograms. Small changes from previous state fiscal year reports are due to minor changes in data methodology.

## Basic Sliding Fee program information

Estimated percentage of families in the Basic Sliding Fee Program by income in relation to poverty level and State Median Income (SMI)<sup>1</sup>

State Fiscal Year	Less than Poverty Level	Greater than or equal to Poverty Level and less than or equal to 47% SMI	Greater than 47% SMI and less than or equal to 67% SMI	Greater than 67% SMI and less than or equal to 85% SMI <sup>2</sup>
2018	24.2	54.8	20.3	.8
2017	23.8	54	22.2	NA
2016	25.6	52.9	21.5	NA
2015	29	51.5	19.5	NA

Number of families on Basic Sliding Fee Program waiting list



<sup>1</sup> Based on payments made on behalf of families served during the reporting period. NOTE: 2017 data has been revised from the previous Family Profile.

<sup>2</sup> Policy change in 2018 increased the exit level for some families.

## Families receiving child care assistance by activity<sup>1</sup>

### Percent of families served by the Basic Sliding Fee Child Care Program

State Fiscal Year	Employment only	Education only	Employment and training
2018	89.3	2.6	8.1
2017	90.3	2.6	7.1
2016	89.7	2.8	7.6
2015	86.5	3.6	10

### Percent of families served by the Minnesota Family Investment Program Child Care Program

State Fiscal Year	Employment only	Education only	Employment and training	Other activities	Transition Year/ Transition Year Extension Employment only
2018	42.2	4.7	10.3	6.2	36.6
2017	45.4	4.8	10.1	6.2	33.5
2016	43.8	5.6	9.9	6.5	34.2
2015	42.6	6.2	9.2	6.6	35.4

<sup>1</sup>Based on payments made on behalf of families served during the reporting period.

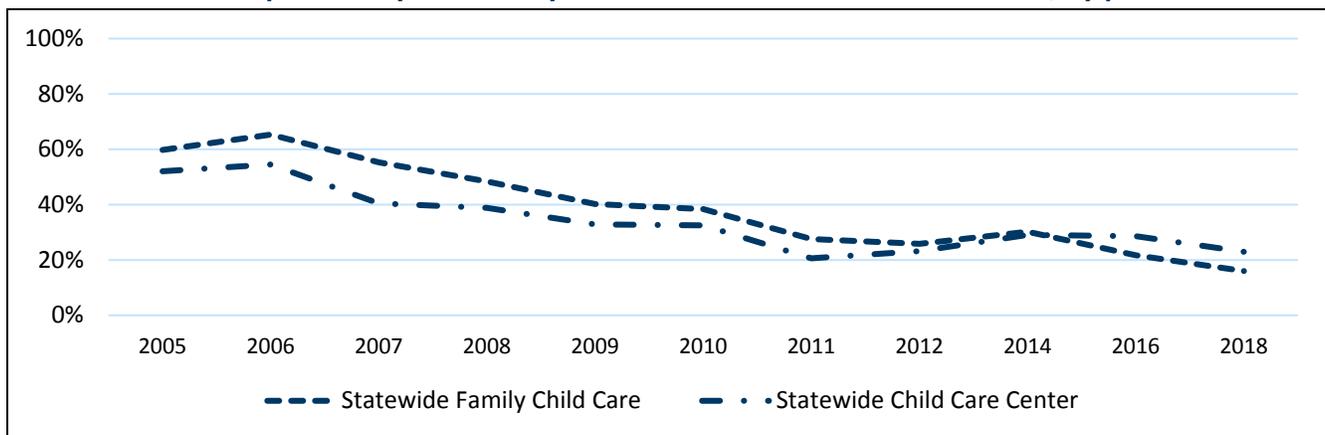
## Provider prices relative to Standard Maximum Rates

Provider prices fully covered by Standard Maximum Rates, in percent

Survey Year <sup>1</sup>	Licensed family statewide	Licensed family metro <sup>2</sup>	Licensed family non-metro	Center statewide	Center metro	Center non-metro
2018	16.3	15.6	16.7	23	25.9	15.1
2016	21.7	20.8	22.3	28.6	31.5	21.5
2014	30.2	28.9	30.9	29	26.4	34.1
2012	25.8	22.2	27.9	23.2	24.8	20.4
2011	27.6	22.4	30.8	20.6	20.4	21
2010	38.4	34.3	41	32.5	33.7	30.2
2009	40.2	37.4	42	32.9	34.4	30
2008	48.4	43.5	51.6	38.8	38.4	39.5
2007	55.3	49.1	59.6	40.4	38.5	44.6
2006	65.3	61.4	67.7	54.5	53.1	57.5
2005	59.8	57.6	61.2	52.1	51.3	53.9

Reported provider prices are typically compared to [the maximum rates in effect](#)<sup>3</sup> on the last day of the calendar year in which the survey of licensed child care providers was completed. The percent of provider prices fully covered is calculated by dividing the number of prices that are at or below the applicable standard maximum rate by the total number of all provider prices reported.

Provider prices fully covered by Standard Maximum Rates statewide, by percent



<sup>1</sup> Starting in 2013, provider price data has been analyzed biennially.

<sup>2</sup> Metro analysis includes provider prices in Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington counties. All other provider prices are included in the non-metro analysis. Percent of provider prices fully covered varies across counties within these metro and non-metro regions.

<sup>3</sup> The 2018, 2016 and 2014 prices were compared to the current maximum rates set on Feb. 3, 2014. The 2012 and 2011 prices were compared to the maximum rates set on Nov. 28, 2011. The 2006-10 prices were compared to the maximum rates set on July 1, 2006. The 2005 prices were compared to the maximums set Jan. 1, 2006.

## 2018 Provider prices relative to Quality Differential Maximum Rates

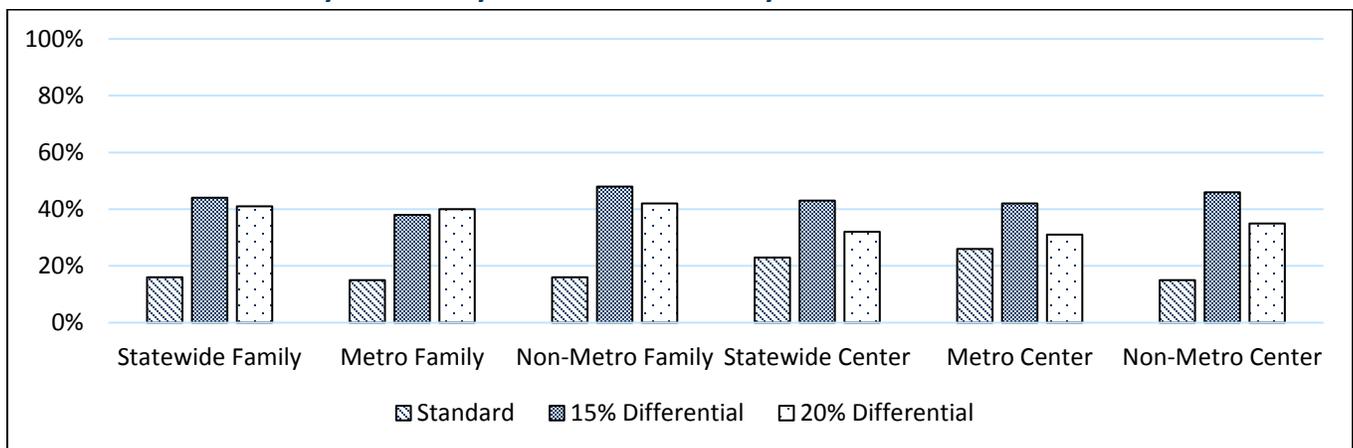
2018 Provider prices fully covered by Standard and Quality Differential<sup>1</sup> Maximum Rates, by percent

Current maximum rate	Licensed family statewide	Licensed family metro	Licensed family non-metro	Center statewide	Center metro	Center non-metro
<b>Standard</b>	16.3	15.6	16.7	23	25.9	15.1
<b>15 percent differential</b>	44.7	38.7	48.4	43.2	42.5	45.9
<b>20 percent differential</b>	41.5	40	42.6	31.8	31	35.1

In 2018, Minnesota’s current standard maximum rates covered approximately 16 percent of the prices charged by family child care providers and approximately 23 percent of the prices charged by child care centers in Minnesota.

For child care providers meeting criteria for the quality rate differentials, these differentials cover more of the prices charged. The impact of the differentials on percent of rates covered varies dependent upon the differential type and the geographic region. The 15 percent quality differential fully covered approximately 44 percent of the prices charged by family child care providers and approximately 43 percent of the prices charged by child care centers. The 20 percent quality differential fully covered approximately 41 percent of the prices charged by family child care providers and approximately 31 percent of the prices charged by child care centers.

Prices fully covered by Standard and Quality Differential Maximum Rates



<sup>1</sup> The Child Care Assistance Program has higher maximum rates that can be paid to providers meeting certain quality standards. Providers rated Four-Stars by Parent Aware are eligible for a [20 percent differential](#) while Three-Star Rated providers and those with certain accreditations or educational credentials are eligible for a [15 percent differential](#).





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HUMAN SERVICES**

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