

Child Care

Nevada

During January 1, 2003, to June 30, 2003, 1,041 licensed child-care facilities operated in Nevada. The two most common types were family home and child-care centers (560 and 340, respectively). See table at right. Based on data from the Current Population Survey, in 2000, 28 percent of children under age six in Nevada were in paid child care while their parents worked. The corresponding percentage for the nation was 26.¹

The 2003 Las Vegas Perspective Survey, conducted by CBER, queried southern Nevadans about their child care. In 2003, 54 households paid, on average, \$85.48 per week for child care. Households were most likely to have paid for child care provided by the family (70.9 percent), followed by preschool facility (21.3 percent) and care provided in home, but not family (7.8 percent).²

Significant Factors

Findings from the 2002 National Survey of America’s Families showed that children, especially three- and four-year-olds, in low-income families were more likely to be cared for by relatives; whereas, children in higher-income families were more likely to be in center-based arrangements.³

The Nevada Child Care Work Force Study identified a relationship between quality child care and children’s outcomes using the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale.⁴ Better language and premath skills, better command of basic knowledge, and more positive social skills were found in children receiving care in highly rated classrooms where the interaction between children and teachers was positive.

Definition

“‘Child care’ . . . means the full range of services used by families to educate and nurture children--services that also allow parents to work or go to school.”⁵

Comparison of the Number of Child-Care Licenses in Nevada by Type of Facility: January 1 - June 30, 2000 and 2003

Type of Facility*	Licenses 2000	Licenses 2003
Family home	590	560
Child-care center	352	340
Accommodation facility	35	38
Group home	33	31
Preschool	38	49
On-site child-care facility	7	9
Nursery for infants and toddlers	5	8
Child-care institution	4	4
Special-needs facility	1	2
TOTAL	1,065	1,041
TOTAL SPACES	40,480	46,372

*Definitions of facilities are in the Notes section.
 Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Division of Child & Family Services, Bureau of Services for Child Care, *Statewide Child Care Licensing Report, 2000 and 2003*.

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Child-Care Subsidies

The child-care subsidy program in Nevada, funded through the Child Care Development Fund, provides “. . . subsidies for individuals who are in 1) “Applicant Job Search (AJS) status (actually looking for a job while eligibility for cash assistance is being determined), 2) [New Employees of Nevada] NEON training status (actually in a training program and receiving cash assistance), 3) NEON Disregard status (working and receiving cash assistance and earnings are being either totally or partially disregarded), 4) [Assistance with Childcare for the Employed] ACE status (working but no longer receiving cash), 5) At-Risk status (working but still at-risk of needing cash assistance), 6) Discretionary status (either a student, a foster child or no longer at-risk of needing cash assistance).”⁶

Families may be eligible for subsidy support if their “income is at or below 75% of the State’s Median Income for a family of that size.”⁷ Families are expected to pay a co-payment based on this income.

In Nevada, 6,035 children received child-care support services during June 2003. Most children were served in licensed care (75.9 percent). Overwhelmingly, families cite employment (82.9 percent) as the reason for receiving child-care assistance. The average monthly expenditure for child care during June of 2003 was \$294.00 (monthly subsidy + parent fee). Clark County, by far, had the highest percentage of families (67.0) and children (68.9) who received subsidies for child care.

**Race/Ethnicity of Children in the Nevada Child-Care Subsidy Program:*
June 2003**

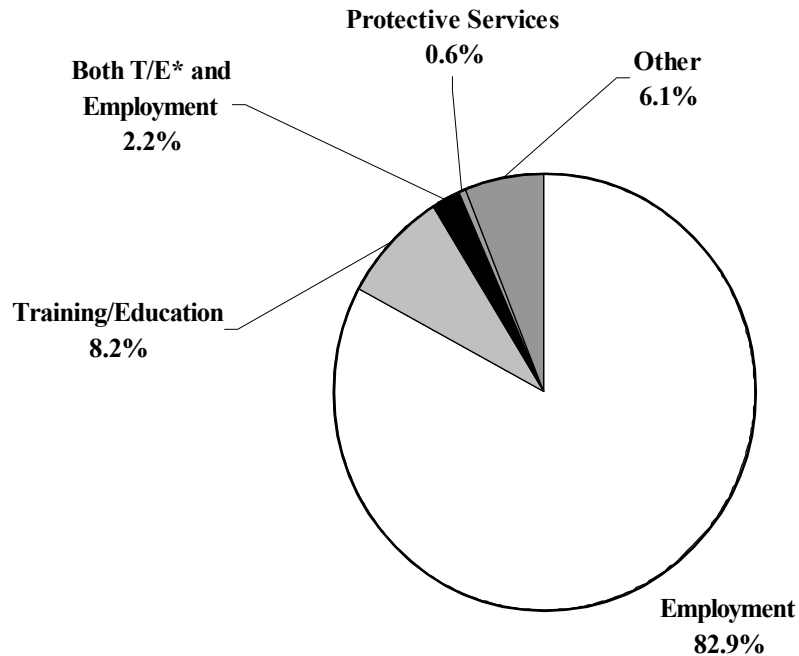
Race	Latino		Not Latino		Total Race	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Native American/ Alaskan Native	21	0.3	68	1.1	89	1.5
Asian	11	0.2	62	1.0	73	1.2
Black (African American)	69	1.1	1,879	31.1	1,948	32.3
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	5	0.1	44	0.7	49	0.8
White	1,115	18.5	2,443	40.5	3,558	59.0
Multiraces	84	1.4	234	3.9	318	5.3
ALL RACES	1,305	21.6	4,730	78.4	6,035	100.0

*Child-care subsidy programs receive state and federal funds to subsidize low-income parents’ purchase of child care. Such child-care subsidies most commonly take the form of vouchers to clients or direct payments to providers that offset some or all of the cost of care.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, August 25, 2003, *Child Care and Development Fund Fact Sheet*.

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Nevada Families' Reasons for Receiving Child-Care Assistance: June 2003



*T/E = Training and Education.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, August 25, 2003, *Child Care and Development Fund Fact Sheet*.

Nevada Average Monthly Expenditures* for Child Care by Age of Child and Type of Care: June 2003

Age	In-Home \$	Family Home \$	Group Home \$	Center \$	All Types \$
0-11 months	286	351	462	364	355
12-23 months	279	353	388	352	347
24-35 months	273	375	346	370	364
36-47 months	277	348	374	329	326
48-59 months	272	335	340	333	333
60-71 months	270	341	384	320	320
72-155 months	248	310	352	198	215
156+ months	259	420	--	133	228
ALL AGES	263	336	362	292	294

*Monthly subsidy + parent fee.

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, August 25, 2003, *Child Care and Development Fund Fact Sheet*.

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Number and Percentage of Nevada Families and Children Who Received Subsidies for Child Care by County: June 2003

<i>County</i>	<i>Number of Families</i>	<i>Percent of Families</i>	<i>Number of Children</i>	<i>Percent of Children</i>
Carson City	188	5.3	295	4.9
Churchill	61	1.7	117	1.9
Clark	2,364	67.0	4,159	68.9
Douglas	57	1.6	94	1.6
Elko	32	0.9	37	0.6
Esmeralda	0	0.0	0	0.0
Eureka	1	0.0	1	0.0
Humboldt	8	0.2	14	0.2
Lander	1	0.0	1	0.0
Lincoln	0	0.0	0	0.0
Lyon	65	1.8	109	1.8
Mineral	5	0.1	8	0.1
Nye	30	0.9	49	0.8
Pershing	11	0.3	20	0.3
Storey	2	0.1	3	0.0
Washoe	696	19.7	1,119	18.5
White Pine	8	0.2	9	0.1
NEVADA	3,529	100.0	6,035	100.0

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Welfare Division, August 25, 2003, Child Care and Development Fund Fact Sheet.