



Child Care Quality Indicator Information

A System about Child Care Quality in Oregon

More than 90,000 of Oregon's children under the age of six are in child care. Little is known about the quality of child care in Oregon.

- Parents ask "Where is the best place I can take my child?"
- Child care providers ask "How can I differentiate myself in the market?"
- Local and state funders ask "How can we be sure our investments produce results?"

National Trends are Star Rating Systems

- Easy to understand
- Introduces subjectivity when assigning points for specific indicators
- Very costly!

Oregon Strategy

"We won't spend more money on measuring the quality of child care than we invest in improving the quality of child care." Tom Olsen, Administrator, Child Care Division

Seven Indicators of Child Care Quality Shown to Improve Child Outcomes

- Ratio of children per adult
- Group size
- Education
- Training of teachers/caregivers
- Staff turnover rate or stability in caregiver-child relationship
- Accreditation
- Teacher compensation levels

How it Works

- Information is collected on each indicator during the Child Care Division licensing review
- An annual Child Care Report is generated
- If child care facilities authorize, the Quality Indicator reports will be available online

Child Care Quality Indicators Will Produce

- Baseline information about the quality of child care in a community
- A Quality Indicator Report that compares quality indicators of an Oregon child care facility, the community average, and national recommended standards

Child Care Quality Indicators Project Results

- Parents have information to help identify quality child care that meets their needs and values
- Child care facilities can market unique strengths and identify areas to invest in
- Policymakers and investors have measurable, research-based information to guide policy and investments in child care

*A partnership between Oregon Child Care Resource and Referral Network
and the State of Oregon Child Care Division*