

→ Missouri

Methodology

Child care prices are reported at the county-level for infant child care and child care for four year olds where available across the state. To determine the affordability of child care prices by county, we compared the average price of center-based and family child care to household median income by county. Affordability was calculated by dividing the average price of care in that county by the county's median income as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS 5-year estimates, 2013-2017, Table B19126). **Child Care Aware® of America would like to thank Child Care Aware® of Missouri for generously providing the data needed to complete this analysis.**

Findings

The state of Missouri is comprised of 114 counties and 1 independent city. Statewide, center-based child care for infants costs married couple families 11.6% of median income. Prices for this provider type and age group exceeds the statewide affordability average by at least 2% in Boone County and Greene County.

Overall, center-based child care for 4 year olds does not significantly exceed the statewide affordability percentage. This means that this type of child care does not significantly cost families more in any particular county.

While the statewide affordability percentage for family-based infant child care is 6.7%, Jasper County and Newton County both exceed this percentage by at least 4%, meaning that this type of child care is less affordable in these 2 counties.

For family-based child care of 4 year olds, the statewide affordability percentage is 5.8%. In all, 4 counties exceed this affordability percentage by at least 3% (Wright, Jasper, Buchanan, and Pulaski Counties).

Table 1: Least Affordable Counties for Infant Child Care by Type of Care

Rank	County	Average Annual Price of Infant Care*	Percent of Median Income: Married Couple with Children	Difference between County-Level and Statewide Affordability**
Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 11.6%				
1	Boone County	\$12,972	14.6%	3.0%
2	Greene County	\$10,140	13.6%	2.0%
3	Newton County	\$8,147	13.2%	1.6%
4	Buchanan County	\$9,550	12.7%	1.1%
5	Adair County	\$8,190	12.2%	0.6%
Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 6.7%				
1	Jasper County	\$7,410	11.0%	4.3%
2	Newton County	\$6,630	10.8%	4.1%
3	Buchanan County	\$7,800	10.4%	3.7%
4	Wright County	\$4,550	10.1%	3.4%
5	Howell County	\$5,980	9.9%	3.2%

Note: NR = Not Reported (meaning that data is unavailable for a given county); NA = Not Applicable

*Source: Child Care Aware® of Missouri

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Table 2: County-Level Prices by Age and Type, MISSOURI

County	Infant, Center			4 Year Old, Center		
	Price*	% of Median Income	Difference to State Average**	Price*	% of Median Income	Difference to State Average**
	Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 11.6%			Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 8.1%		
Adair County	\$8,190	12.2%	0.6%	\$6,500	9.7%	1.6%
Andrew County	NR	NR	NR	\$5,434	6.3%	-1.8%
Atchison County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Audrain County	\$5,720	8.1%	-3.5%	\$4,810	6.8%	-1.3%
Barry County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Barton County	\$4,680	6.8%	-4.8%	\$3,553	5.1%	-3.0%
Bates County	\$4,940	6.3%	-5.3%	\$4,030	5.1%	-3.0%
Benton County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Bollinger County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Boone County	\$12,972	14.6%	3.0%	\$8,463	9.5%	1.4%
Buchanan County	\$9,550	12.7%	1.1%	\$6,559	8.7%	0.6%
Butler County	\$6,344	9.5%	-2.1%	NR	NR	NR
Caldwell County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Callaway County	\$7,338	9.1%	-2.5%	NR	NR	NR
Camden County	\$6,240	9.0%	-2.6%	NR	NR	NR
Cape Girardeau County	\$8,964	11.2%	-0.4%	\$6,804	8.5%	0.4%
Carroll County	\$4,680	6.1%	-5.5%	NR	NR	NR
Carter County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Cass County	\$9,456	10.2%	-1.4%	\$6,517	7.0%	-1.1%
Cedar County	NR	NR	NR	\$3,120	5.9%	-2.2%

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	Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 11.6%			Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 8.1%		
Chariton County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Christian County	\$7,497	9.7%	-1.9%	\$4,738	6.1%	-2.0%
Clark County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Clay County	\$11,230	11.6%	0.0%	\$8,682	8.9%	0.8%
Clinton County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Cole County	\$8,121	9.5%	-2.1%	\$6,065	7.1%	-1.0%
Cooper County	\$5,720	7.3%	-4.3%	\$3,510	4.5%	-3.6%
Crawford County	\$6,032	9.7%	-1.9%	\$3,848	6.2%	-1.9%
Dade County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Dallas County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Daviess County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
De Kalb County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Dent County	\$5,200	7.5%	-4.1%	\$4,680	6.8%	-1.3%
Douglas County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Dunklin County	NR	NR	NR	\$3,120	5.2%	-2.9%
Franklin County	\$7,215	8.5%	-3.1%	\$5,525	6.5%	-1.6%
Gasconade County	\$4,420	6.2%	-5.4%	\$3,640	5.1%	-3.0%
Gentry County	NR	NR	NR	\$4,160	6.9%	-1.2%
Greene County	\$10,140	13.6%	2.0%	\$6,313	8.5%	0.4%
Grundy County	\$6,630	9.3%	-2.3%	\$4,030	5.6%	-2.5%

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	Price*	% of Median Income	Difference to State Average**	Price*	% of Median Income	Difference to State Average**
	Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 11.6%			Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 8.1%		
Harrison County	\$5,590	9.0%	-2.6%	\$5,720	9.2%	1.1%
Henry County	\$5,005	6.9%	-4.7%	\$4,030	5.6%	-2.5%
Hickory County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Holt County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Howard County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Howell County	\$6,760	11.2%	-0.4%	\$4,524	7.5%	-0.6%
Iron County	\$5,980	10.4%	-1.2%	\$4,940	8.6%	0.5%
Jackson County	\$9,454	10.6%	-1.0%	\$6,822	7.6%	-0.5%
Jasper County	\$6,453	9.6%	-2.0%	\$5,037	7.5%	-0.6%
Jefferson County	\$9,261	10.5%	-1.1%	\$7,130	8.0%	-0.1%
Johnson County	\$7,956	11.2%	-0.4%	\$5,113	7.2%	-0.9%
Knox County	\$4,680	7.9%	-3.7%	\$4,160	7.0%	-1.1%
Laclede County	\$6,500	10.0%	-1.6%	\$2,990	4.6%	-3.5%
Lafayette County	\$8,147	10.0%	-1.6%	\$5,577	6.8%	-1.3%
Lawrence County	\$5,590	9.8%	-1.8%	\$4,550	8.0%	-0.1%
Lewis County	\$6,240	9.4%	-2.2%	\$5,200	7.8%	-0.3%
Lincoln County	\$8,233	10.6%	-1.0%	\$6,365	8.2%	0.1%
Linn County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Livingston County	\$4,160	6.1%	-5.5%	NR	NR	NR
McDonald County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

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	Price*	% of Median Income	Difference to State Average**	Price*	% of Median Income	Difference to State Average**
	Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 11.6%			Statewide Center-Based Affordability: 8.1%		
Macon County	\$6,500	9.8%	-1.8%	\$5,460	8.2%	0.1%
Madison County	\$3,510	6.5%	-5.1%	\$3,380	6.3%	-1.8%
Maries County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Marion County	\$6,422	8.6%	-3.0%	\$4,914	6.6%	-1.5%
Mercer County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Miller County	\$5,330	7.1%	-4.5%	\$4,608	6.1%	-2.0%
Mississippi County	\$3,120	5.3%	-6.3%	\$2,600	4.4%	-3.7%
Moniteau County	\$7,020	10.0%	-1.6%	\$4,290	6.1%	-2.0%
Monroe County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Montgomery County	\$3,640	5.2%	-6.4%	\$2,600	3.7%	-4.4%
Morgan County	\$6,760	11.5%	-0.1%	\$5,300	9.0%	0.9%
New Madrid County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Newton County	\$8,147	13.2%	1.6%	\$5,980	9.7%	1.6%
Nodaway County	NR	NR	NR	\$3,250	4.7%	-3.4%
Oregon County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Osage County	\$5,460	6.6%	-5.0%	\$5,200	6.2%	-1.9%
Ozark County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Pemiscot County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Perry County	\$6,500	8.2%	-3.4%	\$4,706	5.9%	-2.2%
Pettis County	\$6,413	10.5%	-1.1%	\$4,940	8.1%	0.0%

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Phelps County	\$5,941	8.9%	-2.7%	\$5,700	8.6%	0.5%
Pike County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Platte County	\$11,660	10.6%	-1.0%	\$9,308	8.5%	0.4%
Polk County	\$7,020	11.4%	-0.2%		0.0%	
Pulaski County	\$6,061	8.9%	-2.7%	\$5,040	7.4%	-0.7%
Putnam County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Ralls County	\$4,680	6.0%	-5.6%	\$3,380	4.4%	-3.7%
Randolph County	\$8,320	10.3%	-1.3%	\$5,850	7.2%	-0.9%
Ray County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Reynolds County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Ripley County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
St Charles County	\$11,532	10.4%	-1.2%	\$8,273	7.4%	-0.7%
St Clair County	NR	NR	NR	\$3,640	6.5%	-1.6%
Ste Genevieve County	\$4,940	6.2%	-5.4%	\$4,507	5.7%	-2.4%
St Francois County	\$6,344	10.2%	-1.4%	NR	NR	NR
St Louis City	\$9,456	11.2%	-0.4%	\$6,813	8.1%	0.0%
St Louis County	\$12,605	11.0%	-0.6%	\$8,557	7.5%	-0.6%
Saline County	NR	NR	NR	\$2,160	3.4%	-4.7%
Schuyler County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Scotland County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

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Scott County	\$5,720	9.3%	-2.3%	\$3,952	6.4%	-1.7%
Shannon County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Shelby County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Stoddard County	\$5,330	9.0%	-2.6%	\$3,952	6.7%	-1.4%
Stone County	NR	NR	NR	\$4,290	7.0%	-1.1%
Sullivan County	NR	NR	NR	\$3,640	5.4%	-2.7%
Taney County	\$6,500	11.8%	0.2%	\$4,605	8.4%	0.3%
Texas County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Vernon County	\$6,240	9.3%	-2.3%	\$3,900	5.8%	-2.3%
Warren County	\$8,060	10.5%	-1.1%	\$7,150	9.3%	1.2%
Washington County	\$6,500	11.0%	-0.6%	\$4,420	7.5%	-0.6%
Wayne County	\$6,110	11.8%	0.2%	\$4,680	9.1%	1.0%
Webster County	\$6,327	9.4%	-2.2%	\$4,826	7.2%	-0.9%
Worth County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Wright County	NR	NR	NR	\$4,264	9.4%	1.3%
County	Infant, FCC			4 Year Old, FCC		
	Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 6.7%			Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 5.8%		
Adair County	\$4,030	6.0%	-0.7%	\$4,030	6.0%	0.2%
Andrew County	\$3,900	4.5%	-2.2%	\$3,900	4.5%	-1.3%
Atchison County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR

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	Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 6.7%			Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 5.8%		
Audrain County	\$4,602	6.5%	-0.2%	\$3,929	5.5%	-0.3%
Barry County	\$3,380	6.1%	-0.6%	\$3,380	6.1%	0.3%
Barton County	\$4,680	6.8%	0.1%	\$4,095	5.9%	0.1%
Bates County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Benton County	\$4,420	7.1%	0.4%	\$3,900	6.3%	0.5%
Bollinger County	\$3,640	5.4%	-1.3%	\$3,640	5.4%	-0.4%
Boone County	\$8,255	9.3%	2.6%	\$7,540	8.5%	2.7%
Buchanan County	\$7,800	10.4%	3.7%	\$7,020	9.3%	3.5%
Butler County	\$5,200	7.8%	1.1%	\$4,420	6.6%	0.8%
Caldwell County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Callaway County	\$4,732	5.9%	-0.8%	\$4,507	5.6%	-0.2%
Camden County	\$5,200	7.5%	0.8%	\$4,160	6.0%	0.2%
Cape Girardeau County	\$5,893	7.4%	0.7%	\$4,680	5.9%	0.1%
Carroll County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Carter County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Cass County	\$7,800	8.4%	1.7%	\$6,632	7.1%	1.3%
Cedar County	\$3,120	5.9%	-0.8%	\$3,120	5.9%	0.1%
Chariton County	\$3,900	5.2%	-1.5%	\$3,692	4.9%	-0.9%
Christian County	\$5,980	7.7%	1.0%	\$4,784	6.2%	0.4%
Clark County	\$3,867	5.9%	-0.8%	\$3,868	5.9%	0.1%

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	Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 6.7%			Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 5.8%		
Clay County	\$7,497	7.7%	1.0%	\$6,595	6.8%	1.0%
Clinton County	\$5,373	6.4%	-0.3%	\$5,287	6.3%	0.5%
Cole County	\$5,850	6.8%	0.1%	\$5,590	6.5%	0.7%
Cooper County	\$5,070	6.5%	-0.2%	\$5,027	6.4%	0.6%
Crawford County	\$4,680	7.5%	0.8%	\$4,160	6.7%	0.9%
Dade County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Dallas County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Daviess County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
De Kalb County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Dent County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Douglas County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Dunklin County	\$3,900	6.5%	-0.2%	\$3,640	6.1%	0.3%
Franklin County	\$4,680	5.5%	-1.2%	\$4,316	5.1%	-0.7%
Gasconade County	\$5,070	7.1%	0.4%	\$5,070	7.1%	1.3%
Gentry County	\$3,510	5.8%	-0.9%	\$3,250	5.4%	-0.4%
Greene County	\$6,890	9.2%	2.5%	\$5,547	7.4%	1.6%
Grundy County	\$3,120	4.4%	-2.3%	\$3,120	4.4%	-1.4%
Harrison County	\$4,550	7.3%	0.6%	\$4,550	7.3%	1.5%
Henry County	\$5,200	7.2%	0.5%	\$3,900	5.4%	-0.4%
Hickory County	\$3,900	7.3%	0.6%	\$3,900	7.3%	1.5%

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	Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 6.7%			Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 5.8%		
Holt County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Howard County	\$4,212	5.5%	-1.2%	\$4,160	5.4%	-0.4%
Howell County	\$5,980	9.9%	3.2%	\$4,940	8.2%	2.4%
Iron County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Jackson County	\$7,020	7.9%	1.2%	\$5,136	5.8%	0.0%
Jasper County	\$7,410	11.0%	4.3%	\$6,500	9.6%	3.8%
Jefferson County	\$7,627	8.6%	1.9%	\$5,781	6.5%	0.7%
Johnson County	\$4,875	6.9%	0.2%	\$4,524	6.4%	0.6%
Knox County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Laclede County	\$3,997	6.1%	-0.6%	\$3,608	5.5%	-0.3%
Lafayette County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Lawrence County	\$4,247	7.5%	0.8%	\$3,813	6.7%	0.9%
Lewis County	\$3,467	5.2%	-1.5%	\$3,467	5.2%	-0.6%
Lincoln County	\$6,890	8.9%	2.2%	\$5,200	6.7%	0.9%
Linn County	\$4,160	5.7%	-1.0%	\$3,172	4.4%	-1.4%
Livingston County	\$3,315	4.8%	-1.9%	\$3,120	4.6%	-1.2%
McDonald County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Macon County	\$4,160	6.3%	-0.4%	\$4,160	6.3%	0.5%
Madison County	\$3,380	6.3%	-0.4%	\$3,380	6.3%	0.5%
Maries County	\$4,030	6.2%	-0.5%	\$4,030	6.2%	0.4%

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	Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 6.7%			Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 5.8%		
Marion County	\$4,888	6.6%	-0.1%	\$4,368	5.9%	0.1%
Mercer County	\$3,640	6.4%	-0.3%	\$3,640	6.4%	0.6%
Miller County	\$4,712	6.3%	-0.4%	\$4,290	5.7%	-0.1%
Mississippi County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Moniteau County	\$5,070	7.3%	0.6%	\$4,485	6.4%	0.6%
Monroe County	\$3,900	5.1%	-1.6%	\$3,727	4.9%	-0.9%
Montgomery County	\$5,720	8.2%	1.5%	\$5,460	7.8%	2.0%
Morgan County	\$3,640	6.2%	-0.5%	\$3,640	6.2%	0.4%
New Madrid County	\$3,813	5.7%	-1.0%	\$3,380	5.0%	-0.8%
Newton County	\$6,630	10.8%	4.1%	\$5,200	8.4%	2.6%
Nodaway County	\$5,590	8.2%	1.5%	\$4,875	7.1%	1.3%
Oregon County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Osage County	\$5,460	6.6%	-0.1%	\$4,680	5.6%	-0.2%
Ozark County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Pemiscot County	\$4,680	7.7%	1.0%	\$3,510	5.8%	0.0%
Perry County	\$5,373	6.8%	0.1%	\$4,615	5.8%	0.0%
Pettis County	\$5,200	8.5%	1.8%	\$3,458	5.7%	-0.1%
Phelps County	\$5,850	8.8%	2.1%	\$4,810	7.2%	1.4%
Pike County	\$4,940	6.9%	0.2%	\$4,680	6.5%	0.7%
Platte County	\$8,667	7.9%	1.2%	\$7,627	6.9%	1.1%

Note: NR = Not Reported (meaning that data is unavailable for a given county); NA = Not Applicable

*Source: Child Care Aware® of Missouri

**Affordability, or Percent of Median Income, is a comparison of average price against county median income. The state affordability percentage was subtracted from county affordability percentage. A positive percentage difference indicates that the average county affordability exceeds the average statewide affordability.

Table 2: County-Level Prices by Age and Type, MISSOURI

County	Infant, FCC			4 Year Old, FCC		
	Price*	% of Median Income	Difference to State Average**	Price*	% of Median Income	Difference to State Average**
	Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 6.7%			Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 5.8%		
Polk County	\$4,420	7.2%	0.5%	\$4,290	7.0%	1.2%
Pulaski County	\$6,760	9.9%	3.2%	\$5,980	8.8%	3.0%
Putnam County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Ralls County	\$4,160	5.4%	-1.3%	\$3,640	4.7%	-1.1%
Randolph County	\$5,893	7.3%	0.6%	\$5,460	6.8%	1.0%
Ray County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Reynolds County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Ripley County	\$4,030	7.5%	0.8%	\$3,510	6.5%	0.7%
St Charles County	\$7,651	6.9%	0.2%	\$6,939	6.2%	0.4%
St Clair County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Ste Genevieve County	\$5,720	7.2%	0.5%	\$4,940	6.2%	0.4%
St Francois County	\$5,079	8.2%	1.5%	\$4,073	6.6%	0.8%
St Louis City	\$8,294	9.8%	3.1%	\$6,734	8.0%	2.2%
St Louis County	\$10,920	9.6%	2.9%	\$8,138	7.1%	1.3%
Saline County	\$4,160	6.6%	-0.1%	\$4,030	6.4%	0.6%
Schuyler County	\$3,900	5.6%	-1.1%	\$3,900	5.6%	-0.2%
Scotland County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Scott County	\$3,692	6.0%	-0.7%	\$4,160	6.7%	0.9%
Shannon County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Shelby County	\$3,900	6.7%	0.0%	\$3,640	6.2%	0.4%

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	Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 6.7%			Statewide Family Child Care Affordability: 5.8%		
Stoddard County	\$4,420	7.4%	0.7%	\$3,640	6.1%	0.3%
Stone County	\$4,680	7.6%	0.9%	\$4,030	6.5%	0.7%
Sullivan County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Taney County	\$5,056	9.2%	2.5%	\$4,304	7.8%	2.0%
Texas County	NR	NR	NR	\$4,225	8.0%	2.2%
Vernon County	\$4,420	6.6%	-0.1%	NR	NR	NR
Warren County	\$5,200	6.8%	0.1%	\$5,200	6.8%	1.0%
Washington County	\$4,550	7.7%	1.0%	\$3,727	6.3%	0.5%
Wayne County	\$4,680	9.1%	2.4%	\$3,900	7.6%	1.8%
Webster County	\$3,900	5.8%	-0.9%	\$3,380	5.0%	-0.8%
Worth County	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Wright County	\$4,550	10.1%	3.4%	\$4,550	10.1%	4.3%

Note: NR = Not Reported (meaning that data is unavailable for a given county); NA = Not Applicable

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