



Infants and Toddlers in CCDBG: 2008 Update

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Hannah Matthews and Teresa Lim

What we know about infants and toddlers in the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) program

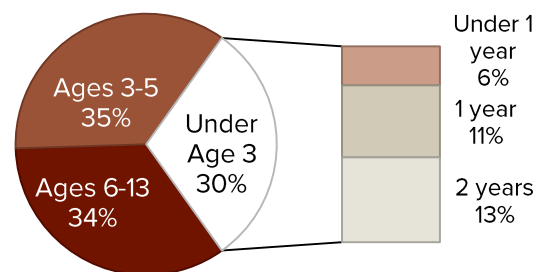
CCDBG is the primary source of federal funding for child care subsidies for low-income working families and to improve child care quality. CCDBG provides child care assistance to children from birth to age 13. In fiscal year 2010, states received a total of \$5 billion in federal CCDBG funds. States are expected to contribute an additional \$2.2 billion to draw down all federal funds. This fact sheet highlights key information about infants and toddlers and CCDBG.¹

CCDBG allows states a great deal of flexibility, within minimum federal guidelines, in how they design their programs. Among policies set by states are payment rates for providers, which are a critical component in access to quality care for infants and toddlers. In 2008, ten states reported using a higher reimbursement rate for infant/toddler care in order to improve access.² In 2009, only nine states had rates equal to the 75th percentile of current market rates for child care, the level recommended by federal regulations; 19 states set their maximum payment rates for a 1-year-old in a child care center at 20 percent or more below the 75th percentile.³ Other state policies to improve the access to and quality of infant care include direct contracts with child care providers, small group sizes, good staff-to-child ratios, and training on critical health and safety issues for infant/toddler caregivers.⁴

Fewer than a third of children served in CCDBG are under the age of 3. In FY 2008, more than 480,000 infants and toddlers received CCDBG-funded child care assistance in an average month, comprising approximately 30 percent of all children receiving CCDBG (see Figure 1). The share of children receiving CCDBG who are infants and toddlers varies from state to state. Arkansas serves the greatest share with more than half (55 percent) of children under the age of 3. Infants and toddlers make up the smallest share of children served in California (18 percent).

Infants and toddlers make up one-third or more of all children served in CCDBG in 22 states: Alaska (33 percent), Colorado (33 percent), Minnesota (33 percent), New Jersey (33 percent), Texas (33 percent), Virginia (33 percent), Wyoming (33 percent), Iowa (34 percent), Kentucky (34 percent), Ohio (34 percent), Georgia (35 percent), Montana (35 percent), Nebraska (35 percent), Oklahoma (35 percent), Tennessee (35 percent), Missouri (36 percent), South Dakota (36 percent), South Carolina

Figure 1. Ages of Children Served in CCDBG, 2008



(39 percent), North Dakota (40 percent), Louisiana (42 percent), District of Columbia (44 percent), and Arkansas (55 percent, see Table 1).

More than half of infants and toddlers in CCDBG are cared for in center-based settings. Infants and toddlers in low-income families that receive child care assistance are more likely to be in center-based care compared to other low-income infants and toddlers. Fifty-seven percent of infants and 63 percent of toddlers receiving CCDBG are cared for in centers. Among all children under age 3 of employed mothers, only 18 percent from poor households (under 100 percent of poverty) and 16 percent from low-income households (100-200 percent of poverty) are cared for in centers.⁵ A family home was the second most common setting for infants and toddlers in CCDBG (see Figure 2).

The CCDBG infant/toddler earmark funds a range of services. Federal CCDBG funding includes an earmark to improve the quality of care for infants and toddlers. In FY 2010, the infant/toddler earmark in CCDBG was funded at \$99.5 million, or approximately 2 percent of federal CCDBG funds. The earmark was initially funded at \$50 million in 1998. It increased to \$100 million in 2001 and subsequently declined slightly as CCDBG discretionary funding has been subject to flat funding and minor cuts.

States use the infant/toddler earmark to fund a range of services including technical assistance; training or education for infant and toddler child care providers; financial incentives such as scholarships, wage supplements, or higher reimbursement rates; grants for specialized equipment and supplies for programs serving infants and toddlers; support for infant and toddler specialists or health consultants; support for parent and consumer education initiatives; and collaborations with Early Head Start.⁶

Funds earmarked for infants and toddlers comprise a small portion of CCDBG spending. In FY 2007, the latest year data are available, states collectively spent \$10.2 billion in state and federal CCDBG funds—including funds transferred from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant to CCDBG. This total includes funds that were appropriated and liquidated in FY 2007, as well as funds that were appropriated in prior years but liquidated in 2007.⁷

Total spending of funds earmarked for infants and toddlers, including funds appropriated in prior fiscal years, was \$117 million, or 1 percent of total federal and state CCDBG expenditures.

Figure 2. Settings in Which Children Were Served, 2008

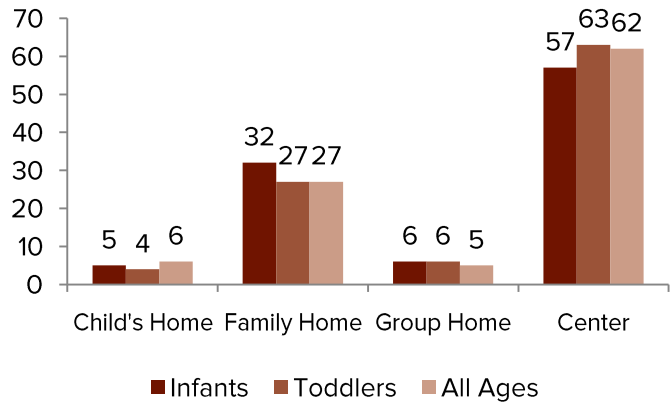


Table 1. Ages of Children Served in CCDBG by State, 2008

State	Infants/Toddlers (Under Age 3)	Preschoolers (Ages 3-5)	School-Age (Ages 6-13)
Alabama	32%	33%	34%
Alaska	33%	36%	31%
Arizona	31%	36%	32%
Arkansas	55%	45%	0%
California	18%	42%	39%
Colorado	33%	38%	29%
Connecticut	31%	37%	32%
Delaware	32%	34%	33%
District of Columbia	44%	37%	19%
Florida	32%	40%	29%
Georgia	35%	34%	31%
Hawaii	31%	43%	26%
Idaho	31%	37%	32%
Illinois	27%	31%	41%
Indiana	30%	38%	31%
Iowa	34%	33%	33%
Kansas	31%	36%	33%
Kentucky	34%	34%	32%
Louisiana	42%	33%	24%
Maine	24%	43%	33%
Maryland	32%	33%	35%
Massachusetts	30%	38%	32%
Michigan	26%	29%	44%
Minnesota	33%	34%	32%
Mississippi	30%	34%	37%
Missouri	36%	36%	27%
Montana	35%	40%	26%
Nebraska	35%	34%	31%
Nevada	30%	36%	33%
New Hampshire	29%	37%	33%
New Jersey	33%	32%	34%
New Mexico	32%	37%	30%
New York	25%	35%	39%
North Carolina	27%	33%	40%
North Dakota	40%	34%	26%
Ohio	34%	32%	34%
Oklahoma	35%	36%	28%
Oregon	31%	33%	36%

Pennsylvania	28%	34%	38%
Rhode Island	27%	34%	40%
South Carolina	39%	35%	27%
South Dakota	36%	38%	26%
Tennessee	35%	33%	32%
Texas	33%	35%	32%
Utah	28%	35%	36%
Vermont	28%	39%	33%
Virginia	33%	36%	30%
Washington	30%	35%	33%
West Virginia	30%	36%	34%
Wisconsin	32%	33%	35%
Wyoming	33%	40%	27%
U.S.	30%	35%	34%

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Youth, Child Care Bureau, *Table 9: Child Care and Development Fund, Average Monthly Percentages of Children In Care By Age Group (FFY 2008)*, http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/data/ccdf_data/08acf800_preliminary/list.htm.

¹ The information in this fact sheet is limited to infants and toddlers receiving CCDBG-funded child care assistance in federal fiscal year 2008. Participation data on children served through other sources, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds, are not available. Data, unless otherwise noted, comes from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Services, Child Care Bureau, *FFY 2008 CCDF Data Tables (Preliminary Estimates)*, http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/data/ccdf_data/08acf800_preliminary/list.htm. For information on children of all ages served in CCDBG, see Hannah Matthews, *Child Care and Development Block Grant Participation in 2008*, Center for Law and Social Policy, 2009, <http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/ccdbg-08-participation.pdf>.

² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Child Care Bureau, *Child Care and Development Fund: Report of State and Territory Plans, FY 2008-FY 2009*, 2008, <http://www.nccic.org/pubs/stateplan2008-09/index.html>.

³ Karen Schulman and Helen Blank, *State Child Care Assistance Policies 2009: Most States Hold the Line, But Some Lose Ground in Hard Times*, National Women's Law Center, 2009, <http://www.nwlc.org/pdf/nwlcstatechildcareassistancepolicies2009.pdf>.

⁴ See Rachel Schumacher, Elizabeth Hoffmann, and Anne Goldstein, *Charting Progress for Babies in Child Care: Policy Framework Summary*, Center for Law and Social Policy, 2008, <http://childcareandearlyed.clasp.org/babiesinchildcare.html>.

⁵ Jennifer Macomber, Gina Adams, and Kathryn Tout, *Who's Caring for Our Youngest Children? Child Care Patterns of Infants and Toddlers*, Urban Institute, 2001, <http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=310029>.

⁶ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, *Child Care and Development Fund: Report of State and Territory Plans*.

⁷ CCDBG contains several funding streams, each with their own rules for liquidation. Funds appropriated for the infant/toddler earmark must be obligated (or legally committed) in two years and liquidated in the subsequent year. For more information on child care spending, see Hannah Matthews, *Child Care Assistance in 2007: Spending Update*, CLASP, 2009, <http://www.clasp.org/admin/site/publications/files/childcareassistance2007.pdf>.