

CASS COUNTY

Total Population: 13,695

- Children under age 5: 934
- Children ages 5 to 9: 950
- Children ages 10 to 14: 954

Cass County is the home for a major butchering and meat processing plant. Excel Corporation provides shift work and seasonal work to Cass and its surrounding counties. Located just an hour's drive from Springfield, IL, many employees reside in outlying counties. Recently, the Hispanic population has experienced a growth (8.5% of population) mainly due to employment opportunities available at Excel Corporation and countywide truck farms.

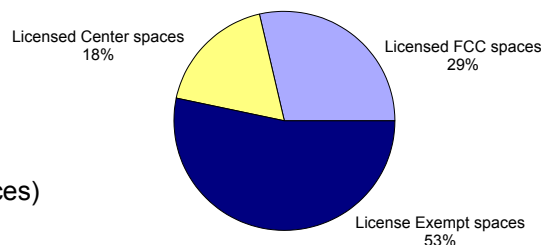
Through a three year Quality Enhancement Grant awarded to West Central Child Care Connection in 1999, the agency has been delivering library resources to family child care homes and centers. Each month a staff member is available to drop off books, educational videos and thematic unit prop boxes to child care providers outside of the Quincy area and living within the nine county region of the SDA. As a result of this grant, each month an average of about 80 programs & family child care homes are visited. In addition, the grant has allowed the CCR&R to sponsor "Foundations of Family Child Care" to home providers within the SDA and award a financial stipend to the provider upon completion.

Child Care Capacity

There are a total of 41 child care facilities listed with the local CCR&R with a capacity to serve 755 children.

Of those facilities, there are a total of:

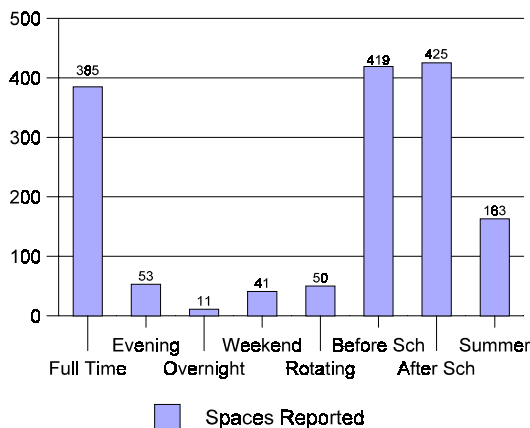
- 26 Licensed Family Child Care (217 spaces)
- 0 Licensed Group Homes (0 spaces)
- 3 Licensed Centers (136 spaces)
- 12 License Exempt Centers & Homes (402 spaces)



Child Care Capacity by Age Group and Schedule

Child care programs listed with the local CCR&R report the potential capacity by age group and schedule, as shown below. The actual enrollment or available spaces may vary.*

Age Group	Spaces Reported
Infants	62
Toddlers	17
2 Years	68
3 & 4 Years	288
5 & Ks	220
School-Age B/A School	92
School-Age Summer Care	0



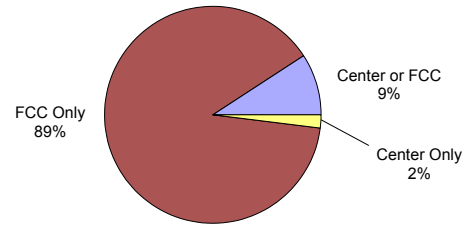
* For more information about these data, please refer to "Understanding The County Data Pages" at the beginning of this section.

Child Care Requests

In Cass County, 37 families called the CCR&R to request care for 53 children.

Of those requests:

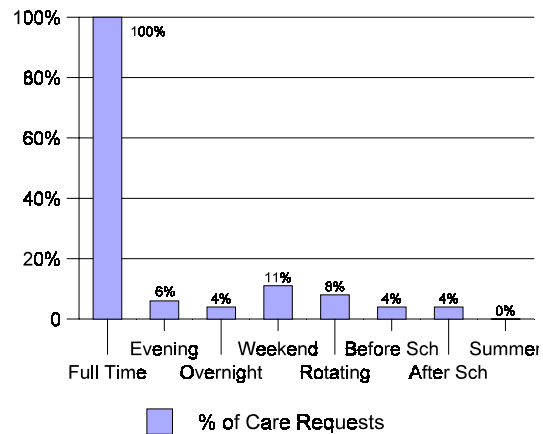
- 5 were for either Center or Family Child Care
- 47 were for Family Child Care Only
- 1 were for Center Only
- 0 were for In-Home Only
- 0 were for Other types of care



Requests by Age Group and Schedule

Individuals calling the local CCR&R requested the types of care by the ages and schedules shown below.

Age Group	% Requested
Infants	32%
Toddlers	25%
2 Years	9%
3 & 4 Years	11%
5 & Ks	4%
School-Age	19%

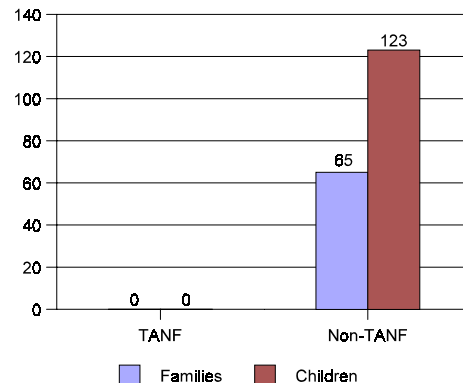


Assistance Paying for Care

The average provider rate for full-time care for an infant in Cass County is \$75.07 per week, which is about 8% of the state median weekly family income of \$997.

Assistance in paying for child care is provided through subsidies by DHS. In June 2001, there were a total of 65 families receiving subsidies for 123 children in care. This figure includes both TANF and non-TANF recipients.

Out of the 41 child care facilities in Cass County, 32 (78%) report that they accept DHS child care subsidies.



For more information about child care in Cass County, contact the West Central Child Care Connection office: 800-782-7318

Data is from Fiscal Year 2001 (July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001)