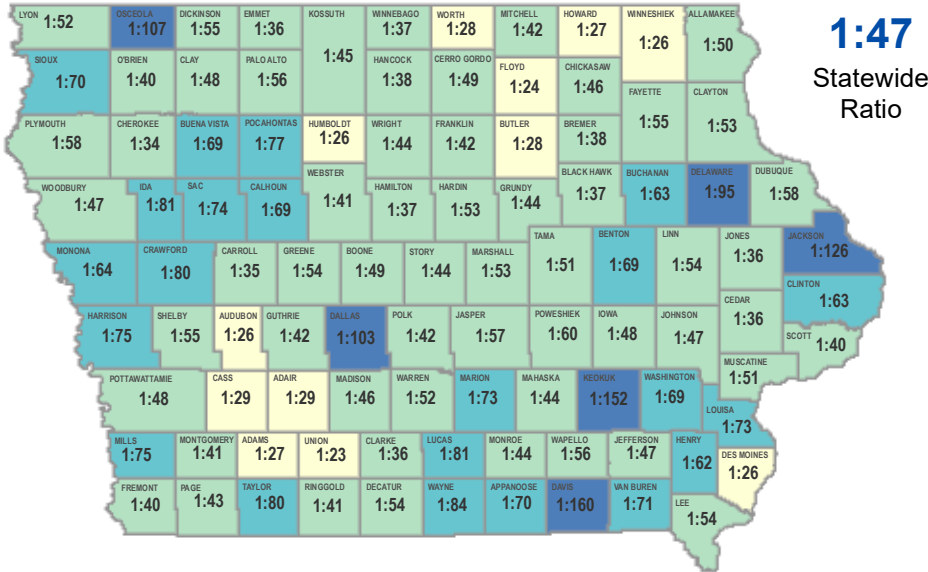


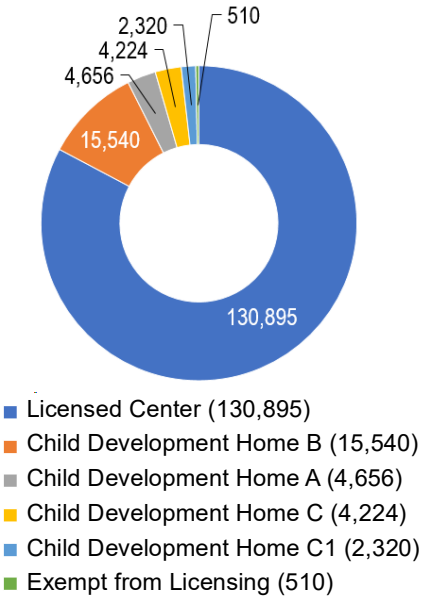
Iowa Child Care Providers

Three types of child care providers are regulated in Iowa: licensed centers, child development homes (homes serving more than five children are required to register). The Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) performs background checks, minimum health and safety training, and completes annual monitoring visits to all child development homes.

Ratio of Children Under Age Five Per Child Care Provider



Registered Child Care Provider Types by Capacity



[Click here](#) for more information on provider types.

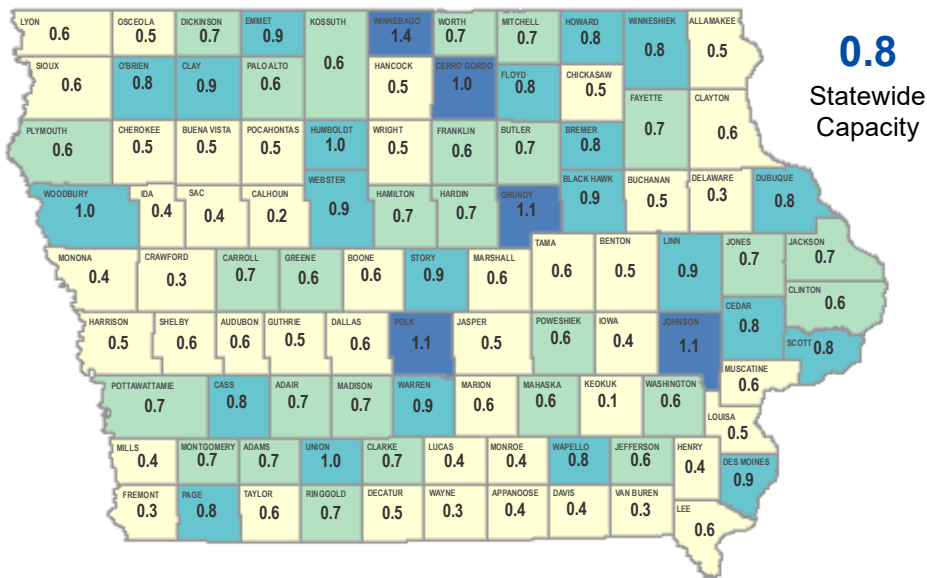
Ratio per Provider

4,146

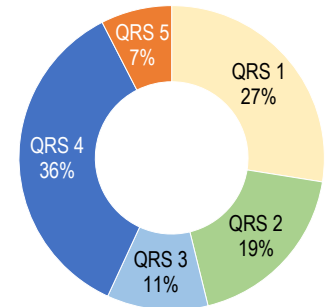
158,145 Capacity

Number of Registered Child Care Providers **195,636** Children Under Age 5

Child Care Provider Capacity Per Child Under Age Five



Quality Rating System (QRS) Percentage of Providers by Rating



- QRS 1: Meets standard licensing or regulatory requirements.
- QRS 2: Meets a set of specific criteria including participation in food programs, ChildNet, certifications and training for staff.
- QRS 3-5: Based on a point system by category. Level 5 requires a minimum number of points as well as an Environment Rating Score (ERS) by an Iowa State University assessor.

[Click here](#) for more information on QRS.

For more information, visit the [DHS Dashboard on Child Care](#).

To view an interactive map of child care providers by availability, [click here](#).