



The 2005 Child Care Licensing Study: Final Report

**Prepared by the
National Association for Regulatory Administration
and the
National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center**



This report is a product of a collaborative effort between the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) and the National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center (NCCIC), a service of the Child Care Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For additional copies, contact NARA at 770-388-7771 or visit the Web at <http://nara-licensing.org>.

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December 2006

Child Care Licensing Study Dedication

The National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) dedicates the 2005 Child Care Licensing Study to Kay Hollestelle, retired executive director of the Children's Foundation. Under her leadership, the Children's Foundation published the child care licensing studies for 20 years, beginning with the family child care study and adding the child care center study in 1991. Every year, Kay worked feverishly and single-handedly to conduct the research and prepare the studies for publication. NARA is honored to carry on Kay's legacy to the early care and education field with the publication of this report. Thank you, Kay, for your contributions and strong commitment to young children.

Acknowledgements

The 2005 Child Care Licensing Study is the culmination of several years of planning and many people's hard work. The National Association of Regulatory Administration (NARA) must recognize the following people and organizations for their efforts.

- **The Children's Foundation** and **Kay Hollestelle**, former executive director, for publishing the studies for 20 years, partnering with NARA in 2003 on the studies, and asking NARA to assume full responsibility in 2005.
- **The National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center (NCCIC)**, a service of the Child Care Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, for assuming responsibility for technical support, research, data collection, and report writing. NARA wants especially to acknowledge the following staff who work or have worked on the NCCIC project for their contributions to this study:
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 - President **Judy Collins** and Executive Director **Pauline Koch** for their planning with NCCIC, methodology development, data clarification and efforts to ensure responses were received from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, and their help in writing and reviewing the report.

- **NARA office staff and Lagniappe Associates** under the direction of **Suzanne Grace**, NARA executive administrator, for their planning, technical support for the licensing program survey, efforts in posting the report online, and their work in report distribution.
 - NARA Board of Directors members, **Carolynne Stevens**, vice president of professional development, **Janet Carter**, incoming secretary, **J. Patrick Byrne**, former NARA president, and **Harold Gazan**, former at-large member, for their review of and input on *The 2005 NARA Child Care Licensing Program Survey* instrument.
- NARA gives special recognition to the **child care licensing directors in all 50 states and the District of Columbia** for completing *The 2005 NARA Child Care Licensing Program Survey* and responding to requests for clarification.
 - NARA deeply appreciates the **National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education** and **Barbara Hamilton**, assistant director, for maintaining the Web site of state child care licensing regulations, which is the primary source for regulations data.

Finally, a special thank you goes to the lead team members of this study, **Sheri Azer**, **Judy Collins**, and **Pauline Koch**, for their enormous contributions and dedication to the 2005 Child Care Licensing Study and future studies.

Table of Contents

PART 1: Introduction.....	1
1.1 History of the Child Care Licensing Studies	1
1.2 Methodology	2
1.3 Format of the Report	4
1.4 Next Steps.....	5
PART 2: State Licensing Programs and Policies	7
2.1 Number of Licensed Facilities.....	7
2.2 Licensing Staff.....	9
2.3 Types of Inspections	12
2.4 Frequency of Inspections	15
2.5 Frequency of Licensing	16
2.6 Inspections and Monitoring.....	16
2.7 Complaint Investigations.....	23
2.8 Enforcement Actions	26
2.9 Licensing Information on the Internet	27
2.10 Licensing Fees	28
2.11 Licensing Staff Requirements.....	29
2.12 Licensing’s Role in Quality Initiatives	34
PART 3: Child Care Center Licensing Regulations in 2005	37
3.1 Licensing Regulations	37
3.2 Definition of Licensed Child Care Centers.....	38
3.3 Staff Roles and Age Requirements.....	42
3.4 Staff Qualifications and Ongoing Training Requirements	44
3.5 Staff Hiring Requirements	56
3.6 Additional Staff Training Requirements.....	60
3.7 Child-Staff Ratios and Group Size.....	63
3.8 Supervision of Children.....	67
3.9 Care of Children	79
3.10 Facility Requirements	95

PART 1:

Introduction

State child care licensing regulations and monitoring and enforcement policies help provide a baseline of protection for the health and safety of children in out-of-home care. Licensing helps prevent various forms of harm to children—risks from the spread of disease, fire and other building safety hazards, injury, and developmental impairment from the lack of healthy relationships with adults, adequate supervision, and developmentally appropriate activities.

Licensing is a process administered by state governments that sets a baseline of requirements below which it is illegal for facilities to operate. States have regulations that include the requirements facilities must comply with and policies to support the enforcement of those regulations.

The 2005 Child Care Licensing Study provides information collected in 2005 on child care licensing programs and policies and the regulations for child care centers in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

1.1 History of the Child Care Licensing Studies

The Children's Foundation was established more than 30 years ago to provide support for family child care providers. The Child Care Licensing Studies were the brainchild of Kay Hollestelle, retired Executive Director of the Foundation.

The Foundation first published regulatory information on family child care in 1978 to promote the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program. After helping to launch the National Association for Family Child Care in 1982, the Foundation published its next official study of family child care licensing regulations in 1984. In 1986, it began to publish the studies with expanded information every August.

In 1991, in response to requests from many groups, the Children's Foundation developed a similar study on child care center regulations. Starting in 1993, the Foundation expanded the center information and began to publish the studies every February.

The licensing studies were single-handedly researched by Kay Hollestelle each year. Kay asked the states to verify and update the information from the previous year's study and included some additional open-ended survey questions for the states to answer. These questions were usually based on current trends and issues in the regulatory and early childhood fields.

The studies were first published to help individuals interested in starting a business in family child care or center-based care, but then became a tool for advocacy in states for upgraded licensing regulations and policies. Each report provided a summary of licensing data for each state and additional comparison information in many areas related to regulations and state practices.

In 2001-2002, at the request of the Children's Foundation, the **National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA)** submitted regulatory questions to be included in the annual state surveys for each of the studies. In October 2002, the Children's Foundation approached NARA to collaborate on the publication of the studies for 2 years and then to

take over the full publication of the annual studies. The 2003 and 2004 licensing studies were co-published by NARA and the Children's Foundation.

In 2005, when the Children's Foundation closed its doors, NARA assumed full responsibility for the research and publication of the studies. To continue this work, NARA formed a partnership with the **National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center (NCCIC)**, which shared NARA's belief in the crucial role licensing plays in the early care and education system.

What is NARA?

NARA was formed in 1976 and represents all human care licensing, including child care, child welfare, adult day care, adult residential and assisted living care, and program licensing for services related to mental illness, developmental disabilities, and abuse of drugs and alcohol. NARA members include human service regulatory professionals, human service providers, university faculty, independent researchers and consultants, allied professions from the health and safety and legal disciplines, and consumers. NARA promotes its mission—consumer protection through prevention—with its activities, including sponsoring an annual licensing seminar, providing training and technical assistance, producing publications, and conducting research.

What is NCCIC?

NCCIC, a service of the Child Care Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is a national clearinghouse and technical assistance center linking parents, providers, policy-makers, researchers, and the public to early care and education information. NCCIC responds to requests from parents, child care providers and other early education professionals, researchers, policy-makers, national organizations, businesses, and the general public. NCCIC also provides technical assistance and training to states, territories, and tribes.

1.2 Methodology

The partnership between NARA and NCCIC on the research for the Child Care Licensing Studies brought the opportunity to update the methods used for data collection. As described previously, in the past, the Children's Foundation would have representatives from state licensing agencies update the information on their states that was in the previous year's reports. Instead of continuing with this process, NARA and NCCIC engaged in a year of planning and decided to use two new methods to collect data.

Fast Facts

- DC is counted as a state in this report. Data were collected on all states, except ID, which does not license child care facilities at the state level.
- It was beyond the scope of this study to include information about states that have child care licensing programs at the city or county levels, such as ID, Anchorage, AK, New York City, and the counties in FL that have their own licensing programs.

A. The 2005 NARA Child Care Licensing Program Survey

In February 2005, a survey was sent by NARA to all state child care licensing agencies. The survey included questions on the state child care licensing processes and policies for licensing child care centers and small and large/group family child care homes. The survey was disseminated by mail and e-mail, and respondents submitted their answers either by mail, fax, or e-mail. By December 2005, all states had responded.

A Microsoft Access database was developed to compile data collected from the survey, and additional follow-up was done to clarify questions NARA had on the states' responses. The survey data were complete in the spring of 2006. The data collected from the survey are presented in "PART 2: State Licensing Programs and Policies" of this report.

Terminology

Child care center: A non-residential facility, generally providing child care services for fewer than 24 hours per day per child, unless care in excess of 24 hours is due to the nature of the parents' work. States define child care centers differently in their licensing regulations.

Child care licensing agency: An agency that is usually housed in a state department of human services, social services, or health and is responsible for the regulation and licensing of child care facilities across a state.

Large/group family child care home: A child care program located in the licensee's residence, generally including one provider and an assistant and a large number of children. States define family child care homes differently in their licensing regulations.

Licensing/licensed: Permission from a state that is required to operate a child care facility, including specifically required center or family child care standards. Some states may call their regulatory processes **certification** or **registration**; for purposes of this study, the terms **licensing** or **licensed** are used to represent all regulatory processes.

Regulation: A state's official promulgated licensing rules that are used to evaluate a child care program's operation. This study only includes information from state child care licensing regulations. Additional requirements for child care facilities may be in state statutes, administrative codes, or other state laws. It was beyond the scope of this study to review all laws that pertain to child care programs.

Small family child care home: A child care program located in the licensee's residence, generally including one provider and a small number of children. States define family child care homes differently in their licensing regulations.

B. Compilation of Child Care Center Regulations

All data on child care center regulations are from the regulations posted on the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (NRC) Web site at <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/STATES/states.htm>. NRC is located at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver, Colorado, and is funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

NARA and NCCIC spent much planning time determining which regulations to compile and developed a list of more than 1,500 variables that covered the areas of licensing definitions, personnel and staffing, supervision, care of children, and facilities. A Microsoft Access database was developed, and several months were spent compiling the information from the regulations that were posted on the NRC Web site from January 1, 2005, to December 31, 2005. NARA and NCCIC worked together to clarify questions and finalize data. This portion of the data collection phase was complete in the spring of 2006. The data collected from the child care center regulations are presented in "PART 3: Child Care Center Licensing Regulations in 2005" of this report.

1.3 Format of the Report

There are two parts of the report. The first part is a national summary of all of the data that were collected from the survey, and the second part is an overview of data compiled from state child care center regulations. This report contains information on the number of states that have certain policies and regulations presented in table and graphic format. Summarizing text is included to describe the data.

There are also three sets of Data Profiles referenced throughout the report that present the data collected for each of the 50 states*:

1. **Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies**, which include all data reported by the state licensing agencies from *The 2005 NARA Child Care Licensing Program Survey*;
2. **Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations**, which include the data compiled from state child care center licensing regulations posted on the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (NRC) Web site; and
3. **Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Staff Qualifications**, which include the data on staff training, education, and experience qualifications for center director and teaching roles compiled from state child care licensing regulations on the NRC Web site.

Accompanying this report are the Data Profiles as well as several **50-State Data Tables**. These tables are referenced throughout the report (Table A, Table B, etc.). All study materials, including *The 2005 Child Care Licensing Study: Executive Summary*, are available on the NARA Web site at <http://nara-licensing.org>.

By presenting both a national summary and the data collected for each state, this report can be used as a reference tool for making comparisons among states and conducting deeper analyses on regulatory policies.

* ID is excluded because it does not license child care facilities at the state level.

The following abbreviations are used to identify states throughout this report.

State Abbreviations			
State	Abbreviation	State	Abbreviation
Alabama	AL	Montana	MT
Alaska	AK	Nebraska	NE
Arizona	AZ	Nevada	NV
Arkansas	AR	New Hampshire	NH
California	CA	New Jersey	NJ
Colorado	CO	New Mexico	NM
Connecticut	CT	New York	NY
Delaware	DE	North Carolina	NC
District of Columbia	DC	North Dakota	ND
Florida	FL	Ohio	OH
Georgia	GA	Oklahoma	OK
Hawaii	HI	Oregon	OR
Idaho	ID	Pennsylvania	PA
Illinois	IL	Rhode Island	RI
Indiana	IN	South Carolina	SC
Iowa	IA	South Dakota	SD
Kansas	KS	Tennessee	TN
Kentucky	KY	Texas	TX
Louisiana	LA	Utah	UT
Maine	ME	Vermont	VT
Maryland	MD	Virginia	VA
Massachusetts	MA	Washington	WA
Michigan	MI	West Virginia	WV
Minnesota	MN	Wisconsin	WI
Mississippi	MS	Wyoming	WY
Missouri	MO		

1.4 Next Steps

This report provides a baseline of information on child care licensing programs and policies and center regulations. The next report prepared by NARA and NCCIC will include the results of a study of the 2006 child care licensing regulations for small and large/group family child care homes, and updates of key data collected from the licensing program survey and the center regulations data. After the publication of these two reports, annual studies to update all data will be conducted and published.

Strong licensing policies and regulations are key to ensuring the health and safety of our nation's children who spend time in out-of-home care. The potential for licensing to have a positive impact on children is very large given that there are more than nine million licensed child care slots in the United States. However, there is still much research needed in order to determine which licensing policies and procedures are the most effective and which regulations are best at protecting children from harm. The data in this study will help inform the regulatory and early care and education fields and hopefully spark researchers' interest in pursuing further analyses.

PART 2: **State Licensing Programs and Policies**

This chapter presents the responses from state child care licensing agencies to *The 2005 NARA Child Care Licensing Program Survey*. It focuses on the processes and policies in each state related to staffing for the licensing program, monitoring facilities, and enforcement of licensing regulations. The data cover the following topic areas:

- Number of licensed facilities;
- Licensing staff;
- Types of inspections;
- Frequency of inspections;
- Frequency of licensing;
- Inspections and monitoring;
- Complaint investigations;
- Enforcement actions;
- Licensing information on the Internet;
- Licensing fees;
- Licensing staff requirements; and
- Licensing's role in quality initiatives.

2.1 Number of Licensed Facilities

A. Types of Licensed Facilities

As shown in Table 1, the vast majority of states license child care settings. Only one state, ID, does not license child care facilities at the state level; however, some large cities and counties in ID have their own licensing programs.

Table 1: Number of States that License Facilities	
Facility Type	Number of States
Child care centers	50
Family child care homes	48
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small family child care homes ▪ Large/Group family child care homes 	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> 45 39 </div>
Other licensed facilities	17

Note: "Other licensed facilities" reported by states includes part-day preschools and nursery schools, school-age care facilities, registered family child care homes, Head Start programs, child placing agencies, and others.

Most states license some type of family child care; however, three states (ID, LA, NJ) do not license family child care homes at all. As mentioned previously, ID does not license child care facilities at the state level. LA has a registration process for family child care homes with no more than six children that is only required if the provider cares for children subsidized by the federal Child Care and Development Fund. NJ has a voluntary registration process for family child care homes that is operated by child care resource and referral agencies in the state.

The following states **do not license** specific types of family child care homes:

- Six states (ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA) do not license small family child care homes; and
- Twelve states (AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI) do not license large/group family child care homes.

B. Number of Licensed Facilities

Table 2 shows the total number of child care centers, family child care homes, and other licensed facilities in the United States in 2005. State-by-state data are available in *Table A: Number of Licensed Child Care Facilities in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables. Additional information, including the number of other licensed programs in each state, is provided in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 2: Number of Licensed Facilities in States	
Facility Type	Number of Facilities
Child care centers	105,444
Family child care homes	213,966
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small family child care homes ▪ Large/Group family child care homes 	166,514 47,452
Other licensed facilities	16,110
Total	335,520

Note: "Other licensed facilities" reported by states includes part-day preschools and nursery schools, school-age care facilities, registered family child care homes, Head Start programs, child placing agencies, and others.

C. Licensed Capacity

Licensed capacity is the maximum number of children a child care facility is licensed to serve. Capacity is also called "child care slots." While there are more licensed family child care homes in the United States, they serve a smaller number of children. More than 70 percent of children is in center-based care.

Fast Facts

- There are a total of 335,520 licensed facilities in the United States. Almost two-thirds of all licensed facilities are family child care homes.
- There are more than nine million licensed child care slots across the United States.

Table 3 shows the total licensed capacity for all facility types. State-by-state data are available in *Table B: Licensed Capacity in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables. Additional information, including the licensed capacity of “other licensed programs” in each state, is provided in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 3: Capacity of Licensed Facilities in States	
Facility Type	Licensed Capacity
Child care centers	6,634,247
Family child care homes	1,921,639
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Small family child care homes ▪ Large/Group family child care homes 	1,225,858 695,781
Other licensed facilities	449,001
Total	9,004,887

Note: “Other licensed facilities” reported by states includes part-day preschools and nursery schools, school-age care facilities, registered family child care homes, Head Start programs, child placing agencies, and others.

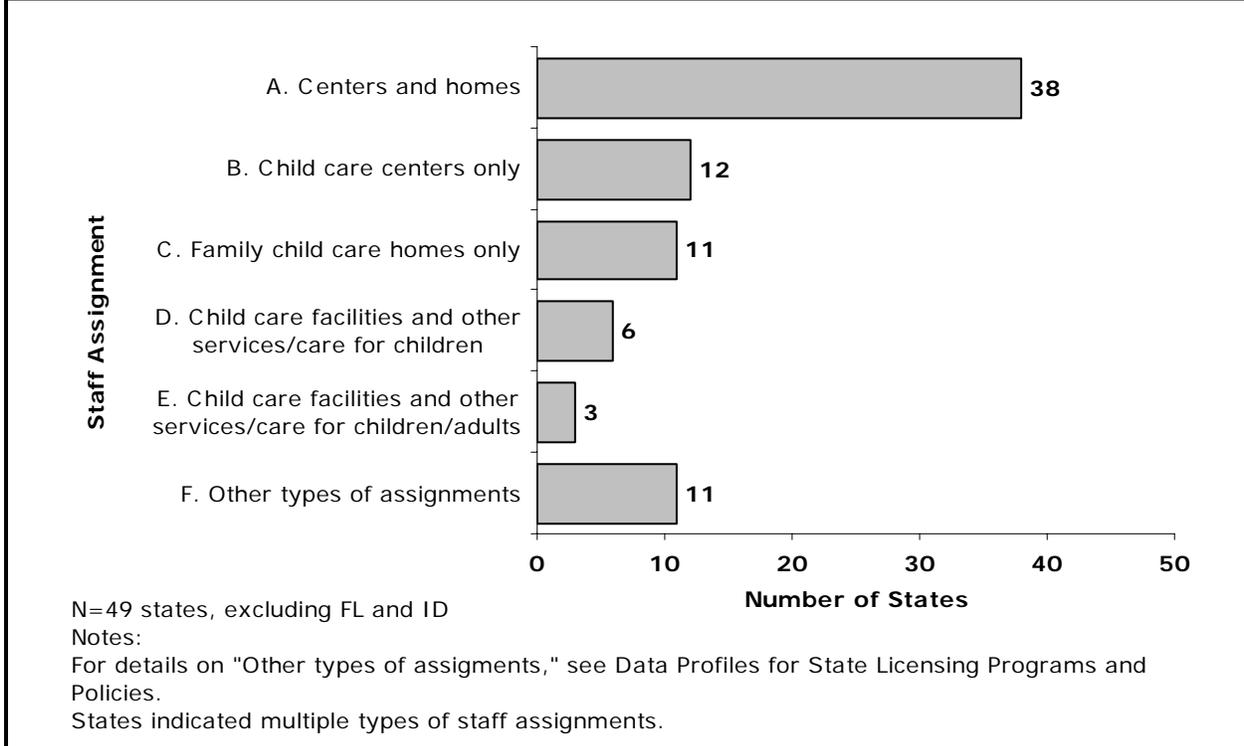
2.2 Licensing Staff

A. Licensing Line Staff Assignment

All state licensing agencies, except FL and ID, reported that they assign line staff to conduct inspections in a variety of ways. Some states assign licensing staff to inspect only centers or only homes, and some assign staff to inspect child care facilities and other human service/care programs. As Chart 1 shows, most states assign line staff to inspect both child care centers and family child care homes. Some states reported multiple ways of assigning line staff and appear in the categories in Chart 1 more than once. In addition, 14 states (AL, CO, FL, IL, MI, MN, NJ, NV, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, WI) vary the assignment of licensing staff by county or area of the state.

Terminology
<p>Inspection: A visit by licensing agency staff to a facility in order to assess the facility's compliance with regulations.</p>
<p>Licensed capacity: The maximum number of children a child care facility is licensed to serve.</p>
<p>Licensing line staff: Individuals who work for the state licensing agency and whose primary responsibility is to inspect child care facilities for compliance with regulations.</p>
<p>Licensing supervisors: Individuals who oversee the work of licensing line staff and other aspects of the licensing program.</p>

Chart 1: State Licensing Staff Assignments



A	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, IL, KS, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY
B	AL, CO, CT, GA, IA, IN, MA, NJ, OH, OK, WA, WV
C	AL, CO, CT, GA, IA, IN, MA, OH, OK, WA, WV
D	CO, DE, KY, NH, NM, WI
E	LA, MN, TN
F	AR, CT, IN, MA, MO, MT, NJ, NM, NY, SD, WY

B. Number of Line Staff

Table 4 shows the number of full-time equivalent line staff reported to be employed by each state licensing agency. Additional information about these data is available in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 4: Number of Full-Time Equivalent* Child Care Licensing Line Staff by State									
State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff
AK	13	GA	67	ME	15	NJ	27	SD	12
AL	23	HI	25	MI	61	NM	11	TN	149
AR	41	IA	13	MN	7	NV	19	TX	238
AZ	33	IL	170	MO	67	NY	471	UT	24
CA	210	IN	23	MS	20	OH	52	VA	68
CO	51	KS	57	MT	13	OK	107	VT	7
CT	25	KY	58	NC	100	OR	39	WA	96
DC	4	LA	23	ND	19	PA	60	WI	55
DE	14	MA	60	NE	23	RI	8	WV	39
FL	78	MD	111	NH	7	SC	29	WY	13

N=50 states, excluding ID

*If the number of full-time equivalent staff was reported as a fraction by states, NARA and NCCIC rounded the fraction to the nearest whole number.

C. Estimated Line Staff Caseload

Caseload ratios were calculated by NARA and NCCIC by dividing the total number of licensed facilities by the total number of licensing line staff. The data are reported as a ratio of a number of facilities assigned to one staff person who conducts inspections (e.g., 60:1). The state with the lowest caseload is TN, which reported having 149 line staff to inspect 3,772 facilities (centers and family child care homes) for a ratio of 25:1. The state with the highest caseload is IA, which reported 13 line staff to inspect 7,688 facilities (centers and family child care homes) for a ratio of 591:1. State-by-state data on estimated caseloads are available in *Table C: Estimated Licensing Line Staff Caseloads in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables.

Fast Fact

The average caseload across all states is 130:1.

D. Number of Supervisors

Table 5 shows the number of full-time equivalent licensing supervisors reported to be employed by each state licensing agency. Additional information is available in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 5: Number of Full-Time Equivalent* Child Care Licensing Supervisors by State									
State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff
AK	3	GA	9	ME	2	NJ	4	SD	1
AL	4	HI	6	MI	11	NM	4	TN	16
AR	6	IA	1	MN	1	NV	1	TX	28
AZ	5	IL	16	MO	12	NY	123	UT	3
CA	34	IN	5	MS	9	OH	8	VA	10
CO	9	KS	4	MT	1	OK	22	VT	1
CT	5	KY	4	NC	15	OR	3	WA	13
DC	1	LA	4	ND	4	PA	10	WI	7
DE	3	MA	10	NE	3	RI	1	WV	5
FL	18	MD	17	NH	2	SC	4	WY	3

N=50 states, excluding ID

*If the number of full-time equivalent staff was reported as a fraction by states, NARA and NCCIC rounded the fraction to the nearest whole number.

2.3 Types of Inspections

State licensing inspections are conducted routinely for a variety of reasons, including inspecting to ensure a child care facility's compliance with regulations prior to issuing a license, inspecting at the time of license renewal, and inspecting for compliance at other times during the licensing period.

As shown in Table 6, all states that license child care centers conduct an inspection prior to issuing a license to child care centers. That is not the case with family child care homes. Several states do not conduct initial inspections on homes.

Most of the states that conduct inspections prior to licensing reported that they let facilities know (i.e., they announce to facilities) that inspections will be done during specific time periods. The opposite is true for licensing inspections conducted for routine compliance. Most states conduct these inspections, but they do not announce them to facilities. A large number of states conduct inspections at the time when licenses are renewed; however, there is close to an even distribution of states that conduct these inspections either announced or unannounced.

Additional information about types of licensing inspections and how they are conducted for each state is available in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Terminology

Announced inspection: An inspection that occurs after a child care facility is alerted by the licensing agency that it will be inspected on a certain day and time.

License renewal: The process for continuing an existing license without interruption of child care services.

Routine inspection: An inspection of facility for compliance with the regulations that occurs periodically throughout the year and is not part of the initial licensure or renewal process.

Unannounced inspection: An inspection that occurs without alerting the facility that it will be inspected.

Table 6: Types of Licensing Inspections and Ways Conducted in States			
Inspection Type	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
Inspection conducted prior to issuing a license	50	36	37
• Announced only	39	30	30
• Unannounced only	4	2	1
• Both	5	2	3
• No response	2	2	3
Inspection conducted for license renewal	39	29	32
• Announced only	17	14	16
• Unannounced only	17	12	11
• Both	4	3	4
• No response	1	0	1
Inspection conducted for routine compliance	48	36	34
• Announced only	0	1	0
• Unannounced only	38	29	25
• Both	10	6	9
• No response	0	0	0

2.4 Frequency of Inspections

Table 7 shows how often states conduct licensing inspections. State-by-state data and additional details are available in *Table D: Frequency of Licensing Inspections in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables, and in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 7: Frequency of Licensing Inspections in States			
Frequency	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
More than three times a year	3	2	2
Three times a year	3	2	2
Twice a year	7	7	9
Once a year	27	15	15
Once every 2 years	6	5	4
Once every 3 years	0	3	1
Less than once every 3 years	1	3	3
Facility not inspected	0	3	1
Other frequency of inspection	3	5	2

Note: For details on "Other frequency of inspection," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Fast Facts

- The most common frequency of inspection is once a year.
- Licenses are valid in most states for either 1 or 2 years.

2.5 Frequency of Licensing

As shown in Table 8, the length of time a license remains valid varies by state. A total of 12 states (AR, CA, CO, GA, KS, MD, NC, NE, OK, SD, TX, WI) offer a non-expiring license for either centers and/or family child care homes. In these states, facilities are inspected on a regular basis, but do not have to complete license renewal paperwork. The license remains in effect until the facility closes or it is suspended or revoked by the state. State-by-state data and additional details are available in *Table E: Frequency of Licensing in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables.

Table 8: Frequency of Licensing in States			
Frequency	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
1 year	17	14	11
2 years	14	14	13
3 years	5	6	5
Non-expiring license	12	9	8
Other length of license	2	2	2

Note: For details on "Other length of license," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

2.6 Inspections and Monitoring

A. Full Compliance Reviews

As shown in Table 9, the most common frequency of a full compliance review is once a year. The next most common frequency is once every 2 years. State-by-state data are available in *Table F: Frequency of Full Compliance Reviews in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables.

Terminology

Abbreviated compliance form: A tool used during inspections that has an abbreviated list of the requirements on it. This tool may also be called an "indicator checklist." Some states determine the items included on the form by analyzing common non-compliance issues in the state.

Full compliance review: An inspection that occurs when a facility is assessed for compliance with all child care regulations.

Table 9: Frequency of Full Compliance Reviews in States			
Frequency	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
More than three times a year	0	0	0
Three times a year	2	1	1
Twice a year	1	2	2
Once a year	23	14	15
Once every 2 years	13	10	9
Once every 3 years	4	6	4
Less than once every 3 years	1	3	3
Other frequency	6	6	4
Not conducted	0	3	1

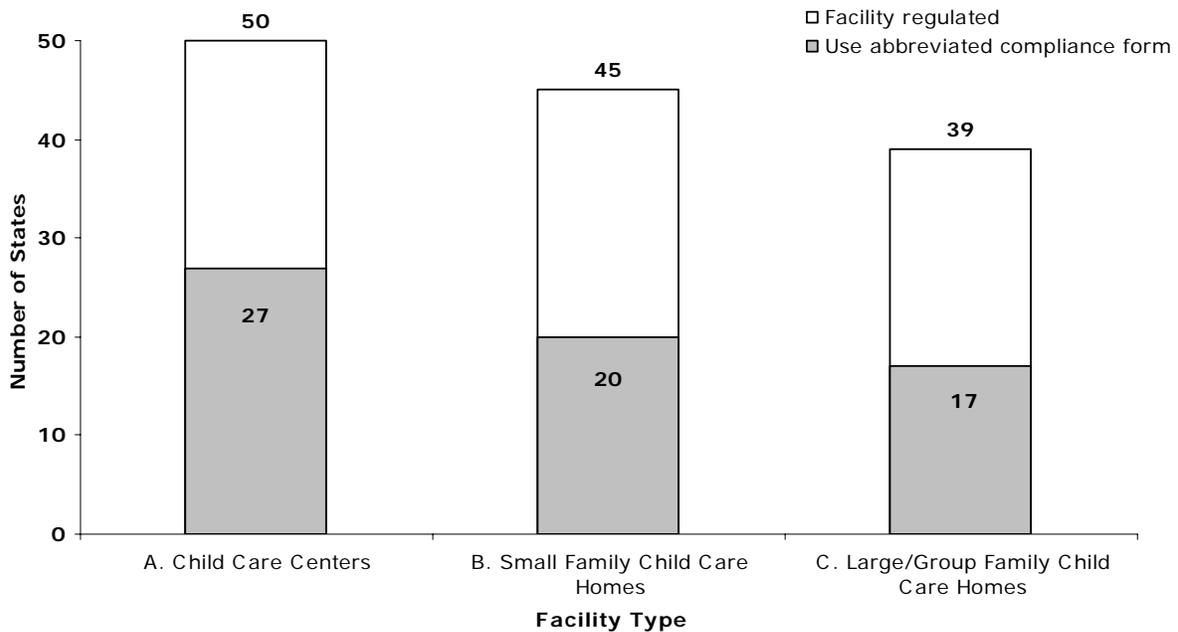
Note: For details on "Other frequency," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

B. Use of Abbreviated Compliance Forms

As shown in Chart 2, more than half of states reported that they use an abbreviated compliance form during inspections of centers. Slightly less than half the states use it for inspections of either small or large/group family child care homes.

Of the 27 states that use abbreviated compliance forms when inspecting centers, 20 (AR, AZ, CO, CT, FL, HI, IA, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NJ, NV, NY, OH, PA, SC, TN, WA) indicated that they have policies on determining when to switch from an abbreviated compliance form to a full compliance review. Fourteen states (AR, AZ, CO, CT, HI, IA, MD, MO, NV, NY, SC, TN, WA, WV) have such policies when inspecting small family child care homes, and 13 (AZ, CO, CT, HI, IA, MI, MO, NV, NY, OH, PA, SC, TN) have these policies for inspecting large/group family child care homes. One additional state, VA, reported not using an abbreviated compliance form, but indicated that a portion of the regulations may be looked at during an inspection visit; it has policies for determining when to switch to a full compliance review. Additional information about states' use of abbreviated compliance forms is available in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Chart 2: Number of States Using Abbreviated Compliance Forms During Inspections



A	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IA, LA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NE, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, UT, WA
B	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
	AK, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, KY, MD, MO, NE, NV, NY, OK, SC, TN, UT, WA, WV
C	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
	AK, AZ, CO, CT, HI, IA, MI, MO, NE, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, UT

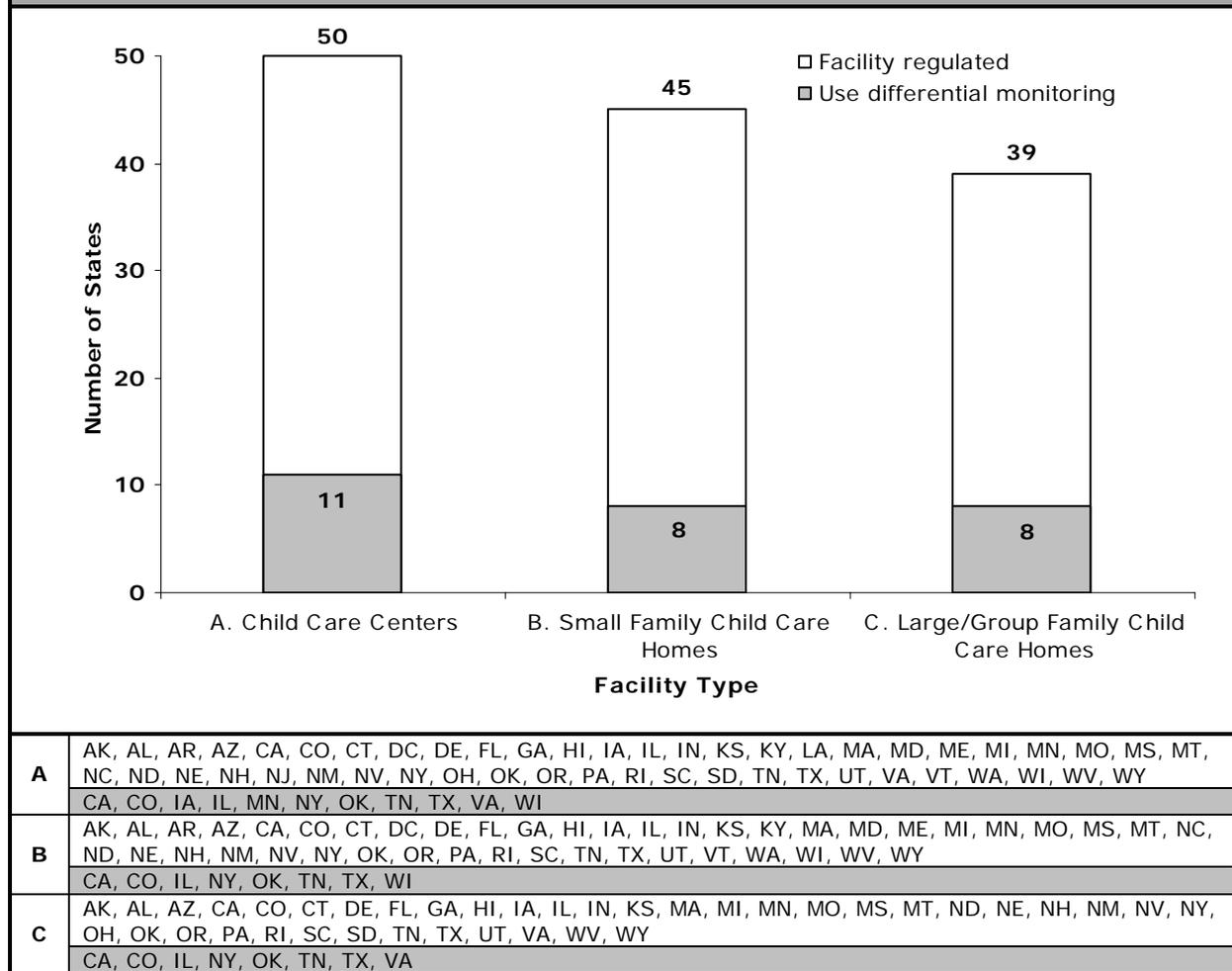
C. Differential Monitoring

Another method states use is differential monitoring. Chart 3 shows which state licensing agencies use differential monitoring. Additional information about differential monitoring is available in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Terminology

Differential monitoring: A method for determining the frequency and/or depth of monitoring based on an assessment of a facility's level of compliance with regulations. This process may also be called "risk assessment monitoring" or "risk-based monitoring" and can be used to determine the number of inspections needed for a particular facility and the content of inspections.

Chart 3: Number of States Using Differential Monitoring



D. Technical Assistance and Consultation

Most state licensing agencies reported that they provide technical assistance and/or consultation to child care facilities as part of the licensing process. As shown in Table 10, almost all states provide technical assistance and/or consultation to help child care facilities achieve compliance with licensing regulations. Many states also reported that they provide assistance to help facilities move beyond minimum licensing standards.

Table 10: Types of Technical Assistance and/or Consultation Provided to Licensed Facilities in States			
Technical Assistance and/or Consultation Type	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
To help facilities achieve compliance with licensing regulations	48	42	35
To help facilities move beyond minimum licensing standards	31	27	21

Note: States indicated multiple types of technical assistance and/or consultation.

As shown in Table 11, state licensing agencies reported that a variety of methods are used to provide technical assistance and/or consultation to child care facilities, including assistance during licensing inspections, on the telephone, and as needed by the licensee. In addition, most states refer facilities to other agencies, organizations, or individuals when deemed necessary to meet facilities' needs. Other methods of providing assistance include provider orientation and other meetings, newsletters, training workshops, and inspection visits related to enforcement actions.

Additional information about how state licensing agencies provide technical and/or consultation to facilities, including details on the types of referrals they make, is available in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 11: Methods of Providing Technical Assistance and/or Consultation in States			
Method	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
During application inspection visits	47	41	34
During routine inspection visits	47	42	35
During renewal inspection visits	46	41	34
On the telephone	44	38	32
As needed by licensee	44	38	32
Referrals made to other agencies, organizations, or individuals	43	40	32
Other means	10	8	6

Notes:

For details on "Other means," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

States indicated multiple types of methods used for providing technical assistance and/or consultation.

E. Automation

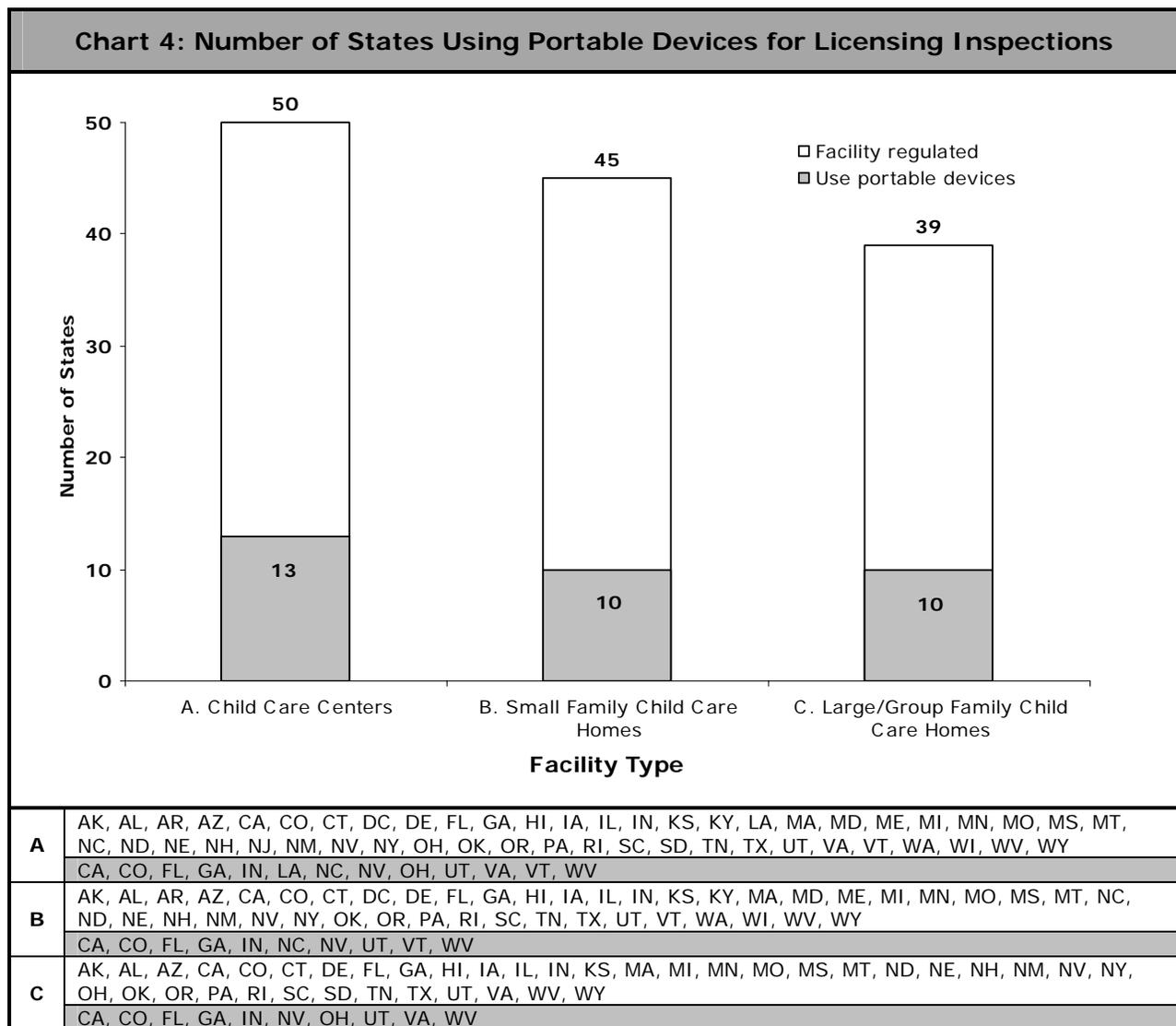
States are also streamlining the licensing process is through the use of automation and technology. Forty-two state licensing agencies (AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) reported that they have computer databases to store information about licensed facilities. Eight states reported that they do not have databases (AL, IA, MO, ND, NJ, NM, NV, PA).

State licensing agencies are also using portable, hand-held devices such as laptops, portable digital assistants, and computer tablets with specific software for capturing information during licensing inspections. Chart 4 shows which states reported using these portable devices.

In addition, 23 states (AZ, DC, FL, HI, IA, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NM, NY, OH, SC, TN, TX, WA, WV, WY) reported either using or considering the use of other automated tools for licensing inspections, including the following:

- Devices that determine areas where moisture is evident to spot potential mold growth;
- Devices that measure openings in playground equipment for entrapment dangers;
- Digital cameras;
- Laser measuring devices;
- Light meters; and
- Thermometers.

Additional information about licensing automation is available in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.



2.7 Complaint Investigations

A. Investigations

All state licensing agencies, except ID, reported that they conduct complaint investigations in child care centers. As Table 12 shows, most state licensing agencies reported that the same staff who conduct inspections for initial licensure and routine compliance checks also conduct investigations of complaints. One state (CT) uses only investigation staff dedicated to work exclusively on complaints; a few states reported that they have both types of staff to investigate complaints.

Table 12: Staff for Complaint Investigations in States			
Staff	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
Same staff who conduct inspections for initial licensure and routine compliance	42	36	33
Separate staff who only work on complaint investigations	1	1	1
Same staff and separate staff	3	3	1
Other types of staff for complaint investigations	13	13	9
Complaint investigations not conducted*	0	1	1

*MN reported that it did not conduct complaint investigations in small and large/group family child care homes.

Notes:

For details on "Other types of staff for complaint investigations," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

States indicated multiple types of staff used for complaint investigations.

Excluding ID, which does not have state licensing, only two state licensing agencies (CO, UT) reported that they do not investigate complaints against licensed facilities that are filed anonymously. The Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies include additional information reported by the licensing agencies about the number of licensing complaints filed and substantiated in 2005.

B. Types of Licensing Complaints

Forty states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV) reported the most common types of complaints that are filed against licensed facilities. An analysis shows many commonalities among states. The top four most common are included in Table 13.

Table 13: Top Four Common Types of Licensing Complaints across States		
Complaint Type	Number of States	State
1. Child-staff ratios	31	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, KY, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, WV
2. Supervision	27	AK, AL, AR, CO, HI, LA, ME, MI, MN, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, UT, WA, WI, WV
3. Discipline/behavior management	22	AK, AL, AR, AZ, IA, LA, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, UT, WA, WI, WV
4. Health/safety/cleanliness/nutrition	18	AK, AL, AZ, CO, DC, GA, IA, KY, ME, MN, MS, NV, OH, PA, SD, UT, WA, WI

N=40 states, excluding CA, ID, IN, KS, MD, MO, NC, NY, VA, VT, and WY

Table 14 shows other common types of complaints filed against licensed facilities. The Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies include the most common complaints reported by each state.

Table 14: Other Common Types of Licensing Complaints in States		
Complaint Type	Number of States	State
Licensed capacity exceeded	11	DE, HI, ME, MI, NE, OR, RI, SD, TX, WI, WV
Lack of staff qualifications/suitability	11	DC, DE, IL, KY, MA, MI, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX
Illegal operation	9	AZ, DC, FL, LA, NH, NM, SC, TX, WI
Poor care of children/child abuse and neglect	8	CO, CT, MS, ND, NJ, OH, OK, WA
Poor administration/record keeping	5	IL, LA, MA, OR, WI
Transportation issues	3	AR, MT, TN
Other types of complaints	5	CT, HI, IL, MA, TN

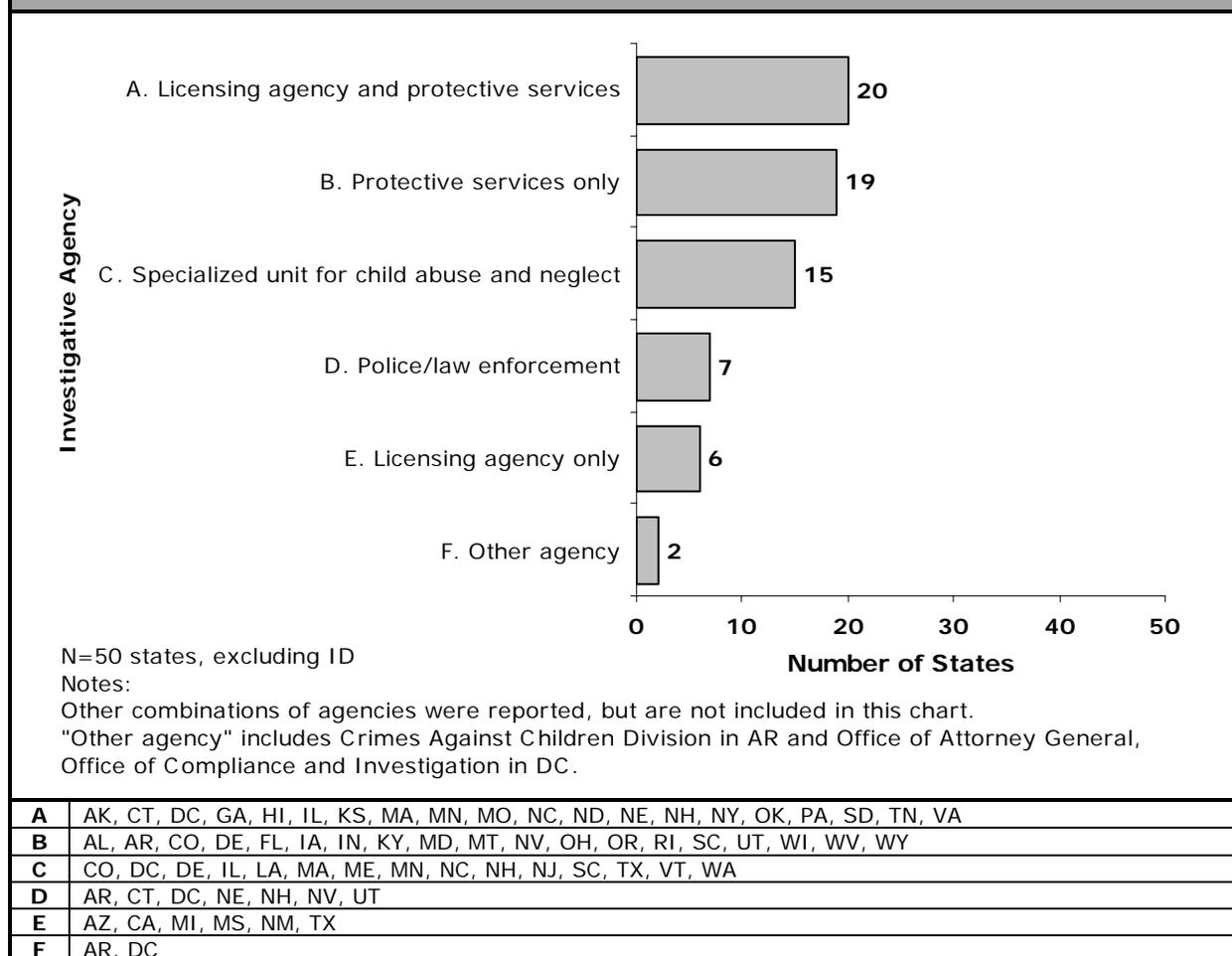
N=40 states, excluding CA, ID, IN, KS, MD, MO, NC, NY, VA, VT, and WY

Note: "Other types of complaints" includes complaints relating to communication with parents, emergency drills, and enrollment. For further details, see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

C. Child Abuse and Neglect

As shown in Chart 5, most states reported that the protective services agency investigates complaints against licensed child care facilities on issues of child abuse and neglect, either in partnership with the licensing agency or alone.

Chart 5: Agencies that Investigate Child Abuse and Neglect Complaints in States



2.8 Enforcement Actions

A. Use of Actions

State licensing agencies reported which enforcement actions they use with facilities that are in violation of the licensing regulations, as shown in Table 15.

Fast Fact

The most frequently used actions are revocation of a license, denial of a license, immediate closure of a facility, non-renewal of a license, and a civil fine.

States listed different types of enforcement actions, including suspension of a license, suspension of part of the program (e.g., transportation), warning notice/letter, cease and desist order, order to correct, safety plan, and mandated training.

Table 15: State Use of Enforcement Actions with Licensed Facilities			
Enforcement Action	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
Revocation of license	46	37	26
Denial of license	44	37	28
Immediate closure of facility	36	32	25
Non-renewal of license	28	24	19
Civil fine	26	24	18
Consent agreement	21	19	15
Conditional license	21	17	15
Probation	17	17	12
Criminal fine	5	5	3
Imprisonment	3	3	2
Other enforcement actions	16	15	11

Notes:

For details on "Other enforcement actions," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies. States indicated multiple types of enforcement actions used with licensed facilities.

B. Legal Representation

All states, except four (CT, ID, MI, OH), provided information about the type of legal representation available to the child care licensing agency for various legal matters. Overall, the two most common types of legal representation are the assignment of a representative from the state's attorney general's office to the licensing agency, and an in-house attorney on staff or in a legal unit within the department where the agency is located. Each state's type of legal representative is included in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

2.9 Licensing Information on the Internet

Ten states (FL, GA, IN, LA, MI, NY, OH, TX, VA, VT) reported that they post licensing information about child care facilities on their Web sites for access by parents and the general public. Table 16 shows the types of inspection reports and licensing complaint information that are available on these Web sites.

In addition, 18 states (AZ, DE, HI, IA, KS, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NM, NV, OK, SC, TN, WV, WY) reported that they do not make inspection reports available to the public on their Web sites, but are planning to do so in the future. Additional information about types of licensing information on the Internet is included in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 16: Types of Licensing Information Available on the Internet in States				
State	Licensing Inspection Report		Licensing Complaint	
	Full Reports	Inspection Summary	All Complaints	Substantiated Complaints
FL	✓			✓
GA	✓			✓
IN	✓			✓
LA	✓			
MI	✓		✓	
NY		✓		
OH		✓		✓
TX	✓		✓	
VA	✓			✓
VT				✓
Total	7	2	2	6

N=10 states, excluding AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, WA, WI, WV, and WY

2.10 Licensing Fees

As shown in Table 17, almost two-thirds of the state agencies reported that they charge a fee to child care centers for obtaining a license. Approximately half of the states that license family child care homes charge a fee.

More than half of state licensing agencies reported that the fee charged to child care centers is based on the maximum number of children allowed in the facility. The opposite was reported for small and large/group family child care homes—most states with fees to obtain a license charge a flat fee to home-based facilities. Information about the actual dollar amount charged by each state for licensing fees is included in *Table G: Child Care Licensing Fees in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables, and the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 17: Child Care Licensing Fees in States			
Fee Type	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small Family Child Care Homes	Large/Group Family Child Care Homes
Facility regulated	50	45	39
Licensing fee charged	31	23	19
Flat fee amount for all facilities	8	19	12
Fee based on maximum number of children allowed in facility	17	3	3
Both fee types	3	0	2
Other fee types	2	0	1
No response*	1	1	1

*NM reported charging fees to all facility types, but did not report the type of fee charged.

Note: For details on "Other fee types," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

2.11 Licensing Staff Requirements

A. Licensing Staff Positions

All but four state licensing agencies (ID, MS, NE, WV) reported the position title for licensing line staff. As Table 18 shows, the most common title for line staff is "licensing specialist." The Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies include each state's response.

Table 18: Common Licensing Staff Position Titles in States	
Position Title	Number of States
Licensing specialist	19
Child care/licensing consultant	6
Licensors	5
Surveyor	4
Social worker/caseworker	3
Licensing inspector	2
Licensing worker	2
Other titles	11

N=47 states, excluding ID, MS, NE, and WV

Notes:

For details on "Other titles," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

States reported multiple staff position titles.

Other reported titles include the following:

- Child care licensing worker;
- Compliance officer;
- Day care licensing representative;
- Family child care monitor;
- Licensing counselor;
- Licensing and evaluation coordinator;
- Licensing program analyst;
- Licensing program representative;
- Program evaluator; and
- State health program manager.

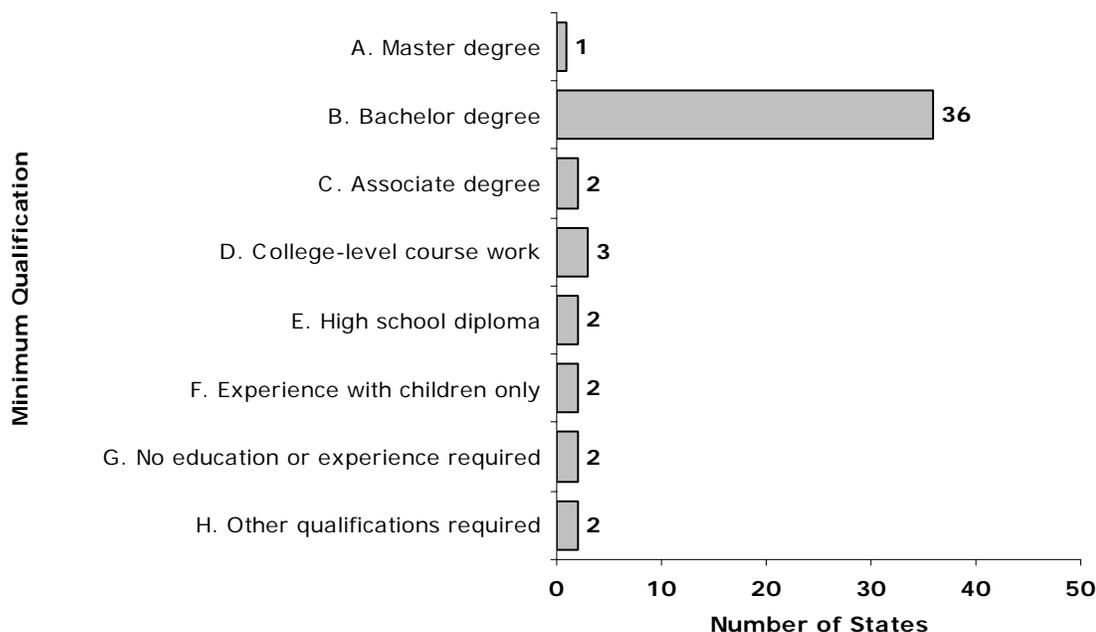
B. Staff Qualifications

All states that license child care facilities reported minimum qualifications for licensing line staff. As shown in Chart 6, most state licensing agencies require staff to have at least a bachelor degree to work as a child care licenser. Nineteen states (DC, GA, IA, IL, MA, MD, MI, MN, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NY, PA, UT, VT, WA, WY) also require experience working in a setting with children in addition to one of the educational qualifications listed in Chart 6. Also, 13 states (AL, DC, GA, IL, KS, MA, MD, MT, NC, OH, VT, WA, WY) reported that the content and/or major of the required degree or course work must be in early childhood education, child development, or a related topic. The Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies have additional details about each state's requirements, including the specific content areas accepted for degrees and/or course work.

Fast Facts

- Most state licensing agencies require staff to have at least a bachelor degree to work as a child care licenser.
- Most state licensing agencies use funds from the federal Child Care and Development Fund to hire and support child care licensing staff.

Chart 6: Minimum Educational Qualifications for Licensing Line Staff in States



N=50 states, excluding ID

Note: For details on "Other qualifications required," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

A	MI
B	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, LA, MA, MD, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, WV
C	KS, VT
D	NM, OH, WY
E	ME, SD
F	AZ, CT
G	OR, WI
H	IN, UT

C. Staff Training

Twenty-one state licensing agencies (AR, AZ, CA, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, NE, OK, TN, UT, VT, WA, WV, WY) reported that child care licensing staff are required to complete additional training each year. Of these states, 16 (AR, AZ, CA, FL, GA, IN, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, OK, TN, UT, VT, WA) reported the required topics for this training. As shown in Table 19, the most common required training topics are related to regulations and licensing policies, followed by health and safety issues, identifying child abuse and neglect, and early care and education/child development. The Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies include additional information about other training topics reported and the amount of training required by each state.

Table 19: Required Training Topics for Licensing Staff in States		
Training Topic	Number of States	State
Training required	21	AR, AZ, CA, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, NE, OK, TN, UT, VT, WA, WV, WY
Topics specified	16	AR, AZ, CA, FL, GA, IN, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, OK, TN, UT, VT, WA
Regulatory issues	11	CA, FL, GA, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, OK, UT, WA
State licensing policies and procedures	10	FL, GA, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, OK, UT, WA
State regulations	9	FL, GA, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, UT, WA
Health and safety issues	8	GA, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, UT, WA
Identifying child abuse and neglect	8	GA, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, UT, WA
Early childhood education/child development	8	CA, GA, KS, MD, MS, MT, OK, WA
Fire safety	6	KS, MD, MS, MT, UT, WA
Supervision	4	GA, MD, MT, OK
Adult development	2	GA, WA
Business administration/management	1	WA
Other topics	10	AR, AZ, FL, IN, KS, MT, ND, TN, UT, VT

N=21 states, excluding AK, AL, CO, CT, DC, HI, IA, ID, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, and WI

Notes:

For details on "Other topics," see Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

States identified more than one training topic.

D. Sources of Training

While less than half of the state licensing agencies reported that licensing staff are required to complete training each year, all states, except ID, reported that there is training available for licensing staff to attend, as shown in Table 20. Nearly all states reported that licensing staff are allowed to attend local and/or state conferences. Nearly all agencies also reported that they provide training themselves to staff.

Table 20: Sources of Training for Licensing Staff in States		
Source of Training	Number of States	State
State identified sources of training	50	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Local and/or state conferences	47	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY
Licensing agency	45	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY
National conferences	29	AL, AR, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, ME, MS, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, VA, VT, WV, WY
Community-based organizations	22	CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, KY, MD, ME, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, SD, TN, VA, WY
Outside consultants	17	AR, AZ, DC, IN, MA, MD, ME, MT, NE, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, SD, TN, WA
Arrangement with college/university	10	AR, GA, NJ, NY, OH, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA
Other training sources	3	NV, PA, WA

N=50 states, excluding ID

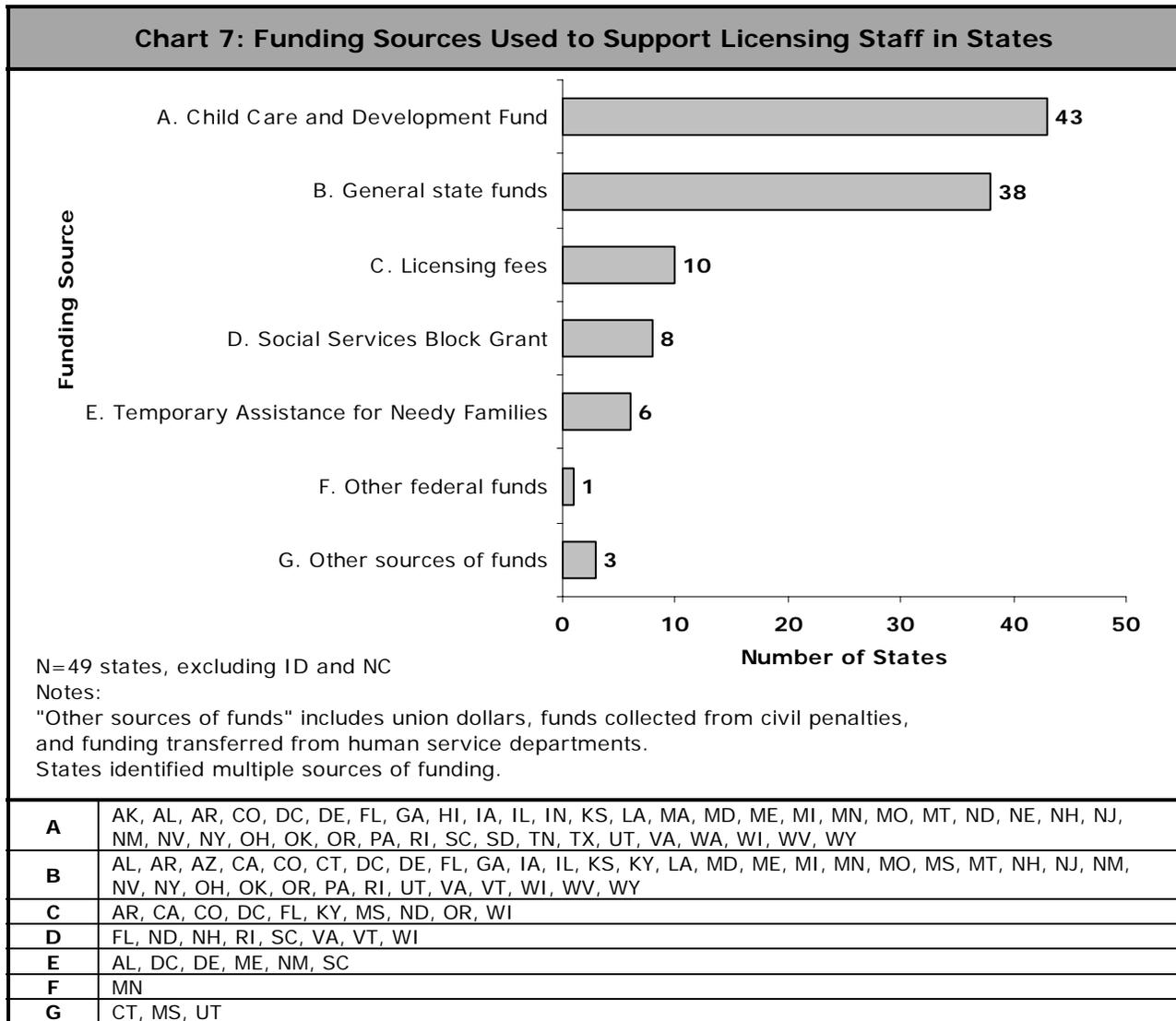
Notes:

"Other training sources" includes sharing training with child welfare staff, training provided by other state agencies, and conferences held by child development and early learning agencies.

States identified multiple sources of training.

E. Funding to Support Licensing Staff

As shown in Chart 7, all states, except ID and NC, reported that they use several different sources of funds to hire and support child care licensing staff. Many states use general state funds for this purpose. Other sources of funds include union dollars, funds collected from civil penalties, and funding transferred from human service departments. Additional information about funding is included in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.



2.12 Licensing's Role in Quality Initiatives

Child care licensing plays a critical role in the infrastructure of the early care and education system. In most states, licensing agencies are involved in planning and implementing various initiatives designed to improve the quality of child care. Table 21 illustrates state responses to a question included in *The 2005 NARA Child Care Licensing Program Survey* about the role licensing agencies play in key quality initiatives, such as tiered quality strategies, accreditation facilitation, professional development systems, and program

assessments. The data show that licensing agencies in most states are either the lead agency for an initiative, the administrative home for an initiative, and/or a partner in planning for quality improvement. Additional information about the role of state licensing agencies in quality initiatives, including information about initiatives other than those included in Table 21, is in the Data Profiles for State Licensing Programs and Policies.

Table 21: Role of Licensing Agencies in State Quality Initiatives						
Quality Initiative Type	Role of Licensing Agency in States					
	Licensing is Lead Agency for Initiative	Initiative in Same Agency as Licensing	Licensing Participates in Planning	Licensing Not Involved	State Does Not Have Initiative	No Response
Accreditation facilitation project	4	8	14	9	13	6
Assessing quality with an environment rating scale	12	7	11	11	11	3
Professional development system	10	13	22	3	3	3
Tiered quality strategy*	16	12	17	5	4	2

N=51 states

*A tiered quality strategy can be a quality rating system, tiered reimbursement, and/or rated licensing.

Note: Some states reported more than one role for a specific quality initiative.

PART 3:

Child Care Center Licensing Regulations in 2005

All data in this chapter were compiled from the child care center licensing regulations posted on the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (NRC) Web site at <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/STATES/states.htm>. A study of the 2006 child care licensing regulations for small and large/group family child care homes will be conducted by NARA and NCCIC in 2007.

This study only includes information from state child care licensing regulations. In some cases, additional requirements may be in state statutes, administrative codes, or other state laws. However, it is beyond the scope of this study to review all laws that pertain to child care programs.

The data in this chapter cover the following areas:

- Licensing regulations;
- Definition of licensed child care centers;
- Staff roles and age requirements;
- Staff qualifications and ongoing training requirements;
- Staff hiring requirements;
- Additional staff training requirements;
- Child-staff ratios and group size;
- Supervision of children;
- Care of children; and
- Facility requirements.

3.1 Licensing Regulations

A. Regulations Summary

The child care center licensing regulations used for this study are those that were posted on the NRC Web site between January 1, 2005, and December 31, 2005. Any changes to regulations during that time period are included in this report.

Table 1: Years of Child Care Center Licensing Regulation Revisions in States

1987	1990	1993	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
										AR AZ CT IL ME MS NC NV SD UT WA	CA CO DE FL MD NJ NM NY OH OK TN VA WI
DC	KS	RI SC	MA	GA NE	MN ND	LA NH	AL OR VT WY	AK HI KY MO MT	IA IN MI PA TX WV		
1	1	2	1	2	2	2	4	5	6	11	13

N=50 states, excluding ID

Table 1 shows the dates when child care center licensing regulations used in this study were last updated according to the regulation documents on the NRC Web site. These years reflect when either a full overhaul of the regulations was done or when only minor edits were made. Additional information about each state's regulations is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations, and the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Staff Qualifications.

Several states have separate regulations for specific types of center-based child care programs. Table 2 shows the states with separate regulations. The most common type of care with separate regulations is school-age care.

Table 2: States with Separate Regulations by Facility Type		
Facility Type	Number of States	State
School-age care	14	CA, CO, HI, IN, KS, ND, NM, NY, OK, RI, SD, TN, VT, WA
Infant and toddler care	3	CA, HI, MT
Care for mildly ill children	3	CA, DE, FL
Drop-in child care	1	VT

N=50 states, excluding ID

3.2 Definition of Licensed Child Care Centers

A. Definition of Licensed Centers

All state child care center licensing regulations define the type of center-based facility that is required to be licensed. An analysis was conducted to determine the common elements that are included in each state's definition of a child care center. Table 3 includes a list of these common elements and the number of states with those elements in their definitions.

A large number of states define a center by the minimum number of children in the facility. For example, some states specify that a child care center is a facility that serves a minimum of 13 children. Another common element is the specific requirement that a center operate for less than 24 hours per day. This can often distinguish child care facilities where children are cared for part of the day from residential care facilities where children reside. The full text of each state's definition and a summary of the elements are included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

**Table 3: Elements Included in State
Child Care Center Licensing Definitions**

Definition Element	Number of States	State
Minimum number of children in facility	37	AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV, WY
Services are provided for less than 24 hours or any part of a 24-hour day	35	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, ME, MI, MS, MT, NC, NE, NJ, NM, OH, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY
Services are provided on an ongoing/regular or scheduled basis	24	AK, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, IA, IL, KY, LA, MA, ME, MT, NC, ND, NE, NV, NY, OR, SC, SD, UT, VT, WA
Ages of children in facility (minimum/maximum)	21	AK, CA, CO, GA, KS, MA, ME, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, PA, RI, TX, VA, VT, WA
Services can be provided for payment or compensation	19	AL, AZ, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, MO, ND, NE, NV, NY, OH, OR, RI, SC, UT, VT, WI
Provider and children are not related by blood, marriage, and/or adoption; children are not from one family (i.e., are not siblings)	17	AL, AZ, FL, IA, IL, IN, MA, MS, MT, NC, NE, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, WI
Services are not provided in child's home	13	AZ, CT, HI, MT, NC, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, TX, VA, VT
Number of hours services are provided (minimum/maximum)	13	AL, AR, CO, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, NC, NE, NY, OK, SC
Services can be provided either for profit or not for profit	7	AR, FL, MS, NC, PA, SC, WY
Services are provided in a non-residential setting	6	IN, MI, NM, NY, RI, WV
Services can be provided in a public facility	4	AR, DE, PA, WV
Services are provided before or after school hours	4	HI, KS, PA, TX

**Table 3: Elements Included in State
Child Care Center Licensing Definitions (con.)**

Definition Element	Definition Element	State
Services are not provided in provider's/licensee's home	4	OH, TX, UT, VA
Services can be provided in a private facility	3	AR, PA, WV
Services are provided at the parent's work site	2	PA, RI

N=50 states, excluding ID

Note: States include multiple elements in their definitions.

B. Exemptions from Licensing

In addition to defining center-based facilities that are required to be licensed, licensing regulations in all states that license centers also define facilities that are not required to be licensed (i.e., those that are exempt from licensing). Table 4 provides a list of types of facilities/programs that are identified as exempt from licensing in child care center regulations. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include further details about the types of facilities/programs that are exempt from licensing in each state.

Table 4: Types of Facilities/Programs Exempt from Licensing in States

Facility/Program Type	Number of States	State
Services provided in a facility where the parent is on the premises and accessible (e.g., a shopping mall, resort, health club, etc.)	27	AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, KY, MD, MN, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV
Facilities with a small number of children in care	26	AK, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, ME, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NV, NY, OH, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV, WY
Recreation programs, instructional classes for children, and/or club programs (e.g., Boys and Girls Club, etc.)	25	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, GA, IA, IL, KY, MD, MN, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, VA, VT, WI
Day camps (summer, seasonal, etc.)	22	AR, DE, FL, GA, IA, KY, ME, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, SC, TN, TX, WI, WV

Table 4: Types of Facilities/Programs Exempt from Licensing in States (con.)

Facility/Program Type	Number of States	State
Facilities operating part-day; for a small number of hours per day/week (including nursery schools, preschool programs, kindergarten programs, and Head Start programs)	20	AK, AL, AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MO, NC, ND, OK, OR, RI, SC, WA, WI
Preschool programs operated by public schools or systems	19	AL, CT, DE, FL, IA, IL, MA, MN, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, OR, WV, WY
Child care services provided during religious services	17	AZ, CO, DC, IA, IL, KY, MA, MI, MN, MO, ND, NH, NJ, PA, TN, VT, WV
Programs that offer religious instruction	17	AZ, CO, CT, IA, IL, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NY, TX, VA
Preschool programs approved by the state department of education	17	AK, CT, DE, FL, IA, IL, KY, ME, MS, NE, NJ, RI, TN, TX, VA, VT, WV
Child care services provided by a relative or parent/guardian of the children in care	15	AK, AZ, CA, CT, MA, MT, NE, NH, NV, OK, OR, PA, VT, WA, WY
Child care facilities operated by religious organizations	12	AL, AR, FL, IL, IN, LA, MD, MO, SC, TN, UT, VA
Child care services provided irregularly/occasionally	11	AK, CO, DC, MA, NE, NJ, NV, OR, UT, VT, WY
Preschool programs operated by private schools or systems	11	AL, CT, DE, FL, IA, IL, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OK
Facilities operated by local, state, or federal government agencies	10	AL, CO, IL, NJ, NM, OK, OR, TX, WA, WY
Services provided on military installations/bases	4	AK, KY, TX, WA

N=50 states, excluding ID

Note: States define multiple types of facilities that are exempt from licensing.

3.3 Staff Roles and Age Requirements

A. Staff Roles

State child care center licensing regulations include requirements for a variety of staff who have direct contact with children in the facility. For the purpose of this study, common generic names are used for each role. As shown in Chart 1, all states that license child care centers include requirements for **teachers** and **directors** in their regulations. For the purposes of this study, a “teacher” is defined as a staff person who can be solely responsible for a group of children. A “director” of a center is the administrator who is ultimately responsible for establishing the program, choosing and supervising all other staff, managing both income and expenditures, and maintaining quality.*

Sixteen states (AK, CA, CT, FL, IN, MA, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, VT, WV) require at least one teacher in a program or classroom to be qualified at a higher level. This position is often called a lead teacher, head teacher, chief caregiver, fully qualified teacher, child care associate, or supervisor by the states. This role has been generically labeled **master teacher** in this study to reflect that this person is required to have more training, experience, and/or skills than other teachers.

More than half the states have requirements for **assistant teachers**, and more than a third have requirements for center classroom **aides**. Staff in both these positions must be supervised in their work with children.

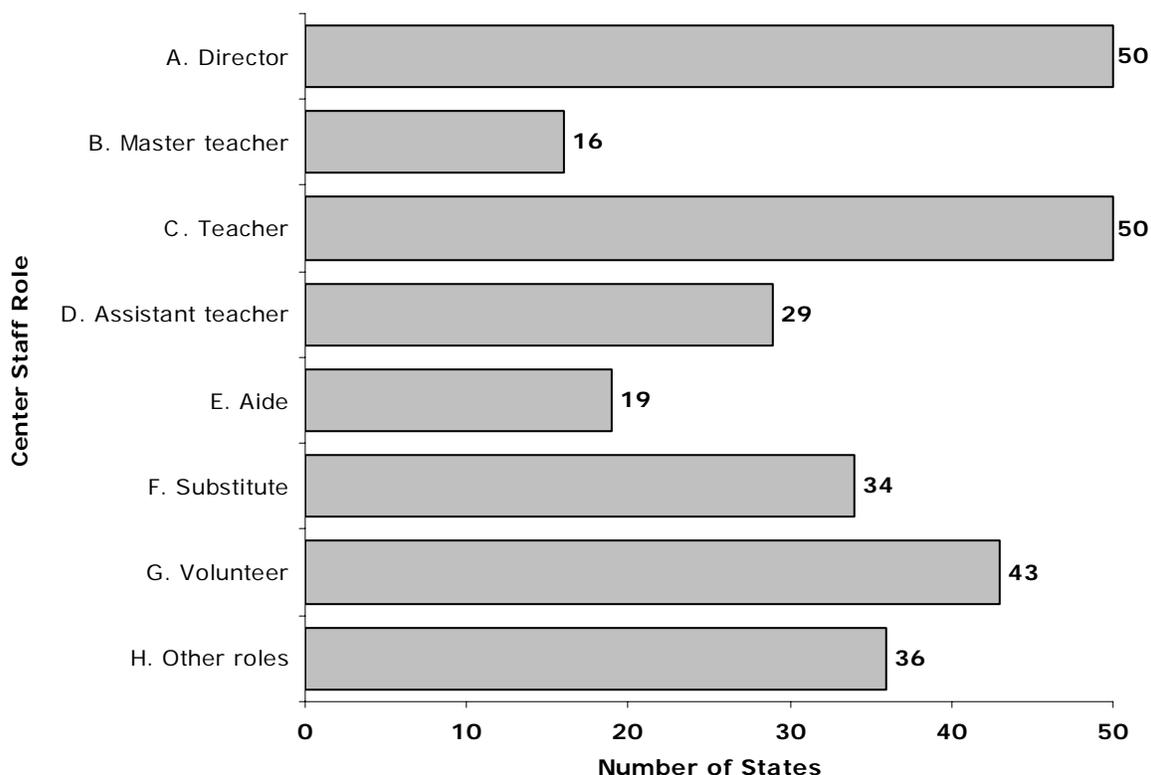
Many states also have requirements for individuals who work as **substitutes** and **volunteers** in child care centers. In addition, 36 states (AL, AR, AZ, CO, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY) include other roles in their requirements. In 32 of these states (AL, AZ, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY), **driver** (e.g., bus driver, transportation staff) is one of these other roles. Also frequently included in center regulations are maintenance/custodial staff, clerical staff, and food service staff. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include further details about the staff roles included in child care center regulations for each state, including the specific names given to each role.

Fast Fact

All states that license child care centers include requirements for teachers and directors in their regulations.

* Morgan, G., Azer, S. L., Costley, J. B., Genser, A., Goodman, I. F., Lombardi, J., & McGimsey, B. (1993). *Making a career of it: The state of the states report on career development in early care and education*. Boston, MA: The Center for Career Development in Early Care and Education.

Chart 1: Number of States that Regulate Center Staff Roles



N=50 states, excluding ID

Note: For details on "Other roles," see Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

A	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
B	AK, CA, CT, FL, IN, MA, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, VT, WV
C	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
D	AL, AZ, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IL, KS, LA, MA, ME, MN, MS, NE, NH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
E	AL, AZ, CA, CO, DC, HI, IL, MD, ME, MN, MT, NC, NE, OK, OR, RI, TX, VT, WV
F	AK, AL, CA, CO, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VT, WI, WV, WY
G	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
H	AL, AR, AZ, CO, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY

B. Minimum Age Requirements

Table 5 summarizes states' minimum age requirements for center directors and teaching staff, including the range of ages states reported for each staff role and the most common age required for each role. In addition, *Table H: Minimum Age Requirements for Center Staff Roles in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables shows the specific age requirements for directors and all teaching roles for all states. Information on these requirements for substitutes, volunteers, and other roles in child care centers is included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Center Staff Role	Number of States that Regulate Role	Range of Required Age	Most Common Age
Director	50	16–21 years	21 years
Master Teacher	16	16–21 years	18 years
Teacher	50	14–21 years	18 years
Assistant Teacher	29	14–21 years	16 years
Aide	19	13–18 years	16 years

3.4 Staff Qualifications and Ongoing Training Requirements

This section provides a summary of the state preservice and ongoing training requirements for center staff. Table 6 shows the number of states that have requirements for each role in the “Role Regulated” column and then the number that require a high school diploma or General Educational Development Test (GED), preservice qualifications, and/or ongoing training.

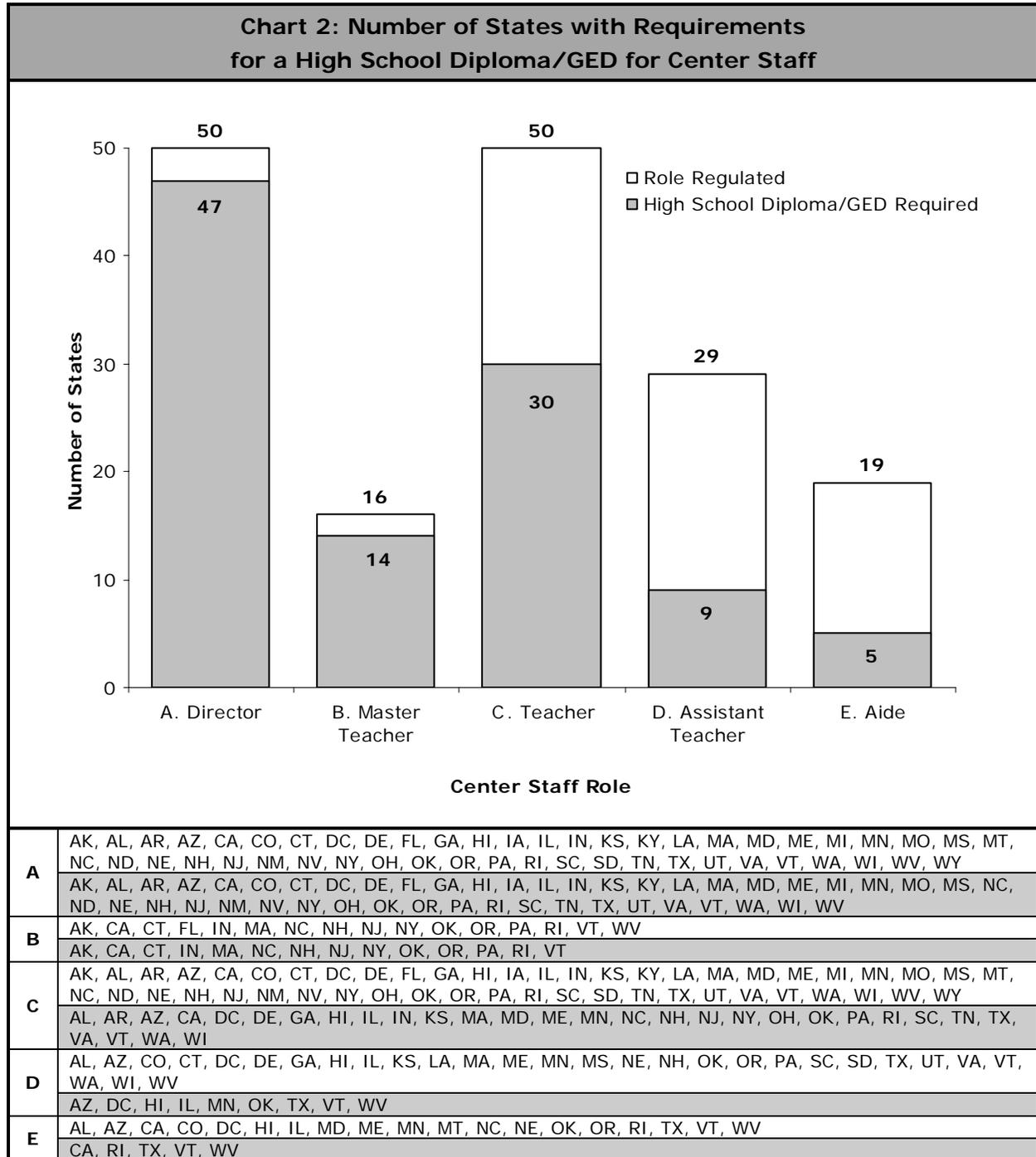
Center Staff Role	Number of States			
	Role Regulated	High School Diploma or GED	Preservice Qualifications	Ongoing Training
Director	50	47	49	43
Master Teacher	16	14	16	15
Teacher	50	30	40	47
Assistant Teacher	29	9	17	23
Aide	19	5	10	11

Terminology

Preservice qualifications: Training, education, and/or experience required by the state prior to assuming a role in a child care center.

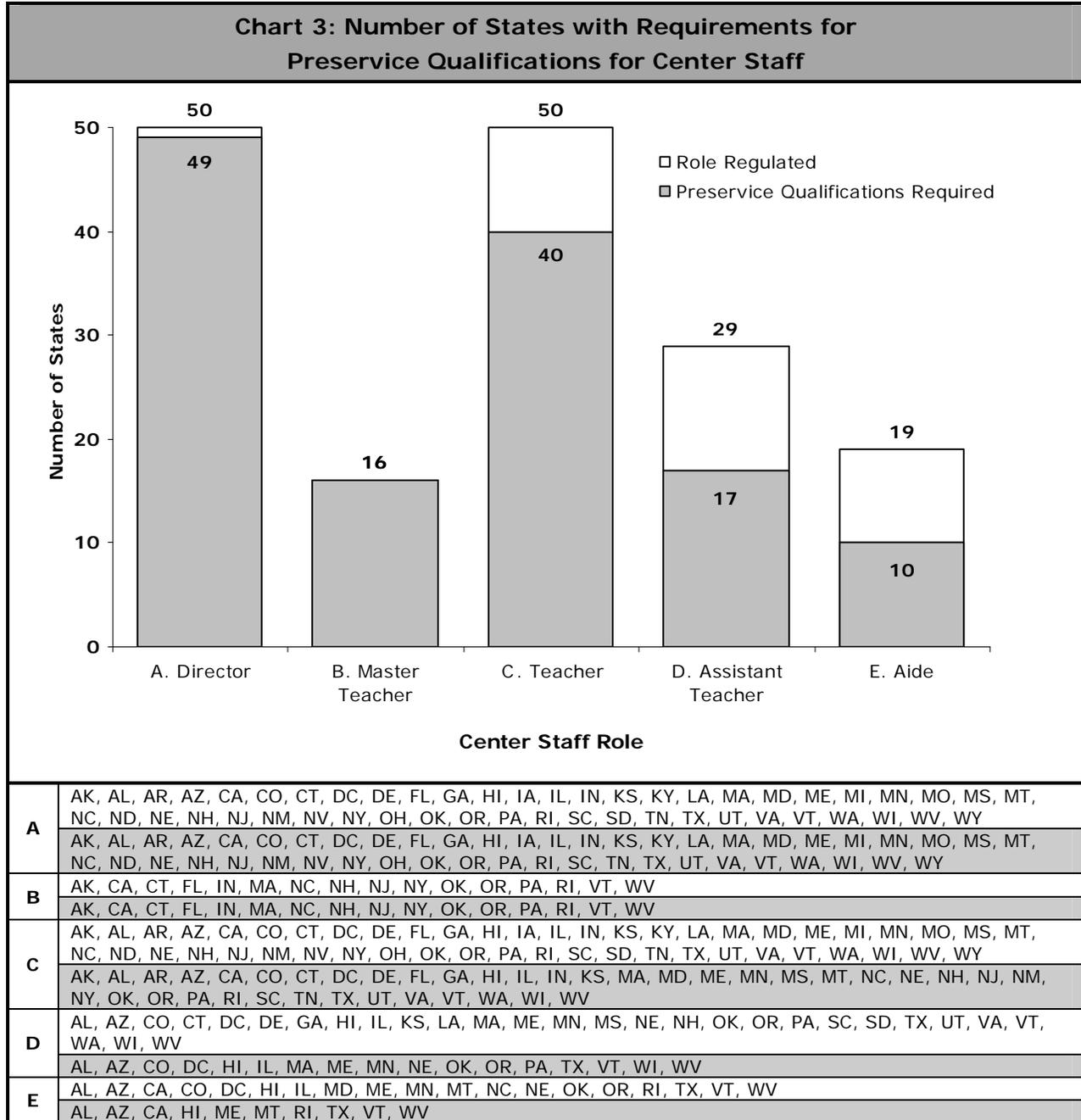
A. High School Diploma Requirements

Chart 2 shows the states that require child care center staff to have a high school diploma or GED prior to working in these roles. State-by-state data on these requirements for directors and all teaching roles are available in *Table 1: High School Diploma Requirements for Center Staff Roles in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables. Information on these requirements for substitutes, volunteers, and other roles in child care centers is included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.



B. Preservice Qualifications

Most states that regulate the director and teacher role, and all states that regulate the master teacher role, have required preservice qualifications as shown in Chart 3. Fewer states have preservice qualifications for assistant teachers and aides.



Fast Facts

- The majority of states with director, master teacher, and teacher roles require these staff to have a high school diploma or GED.
- The most common minimum qualification for both center directors and master teachers is the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential.

Minimum Staff Qualifications

Table 7 compiles the types of training, education, and experience that represent the least amount individuals must have to qualify for center director and teaching roles.

For the 40 states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MN, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV) that have minimum qualifications for teachers, the most common type is experience—either alone or with a high school diploma or GED for a total of 15 states (AZ, CO, GA, ME, MS, MT, NC, NE, NY, OR, PA, RI, TX, WA, WV).

The same is true for assistant teachers—four (CO, DC, NE, OR) of the 17 states (AL, AZ, CO, DC, HI, IL, MA, ME, MN, NE, OK, OR, PA, TX, VT, WI, WV) that have qualifications require experience alone or with a high school diploma or GED.

Of the 10 states (AL, AZ, CA, HI, ME, MT, RI, TX, VT, WV) that have qualifications for aides, the most common minimum qualification is enrollment in a child care vocational training program.

Table J: Minimum Preservice Qualifications for Center Staff Roles in 2005 in the 50-State Data Tables shows the types of minimum qualifications required in each state for all roles. Information on the amount of required training, education, and experience for all qualification alternatives is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Staff Qualifications.

Table 7: Types of Minimum Qualifications Required for Center Staff Roles in States					
Qualification Type	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
Preservice qualifications required	49	16	40	17	10
Experience only	2	2	7	3	1
Experience (with high school diploma or GED)	4	1	8	1	0
At least 8th grade education	0	0	0	2	1

Table 7: Types of Minimum Qualifications Required for Center Staff Roles in States (con.)

Qualification Type	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
Enrolled in high school or GED program	0	0	2	3	2
High school diploma or GED	3	0	7	2	0
Enrolled in child care vocational training program	0	0	0	0	3
Child care vocational training program	2	0	3	1	0
Early care and education training clock hours	10	0	7	2	0
CDA credential*	18	8	6	2	0
State early childhood credential	0	1	0	1	0
State director credential	3	0	0	0	0
Early care and education training college credit hours	4	0	0	0	1
Associate degree	2	1	0	0	0
Bachelor degree	1	2	0	0	0
Master degree	0	0	0	0	0
Doctorate degree	0	0	0	0	0
State teacher certification/licensure	0	1	0	0	0
Other minimum qualifications	0	0	2	0	2

*States vary on whether the CDA credential is awarded for college credit. However, state licensing regulations do not specify that center staff are required to complete the CDA for college credit.

Note: "Other minimum qualifications" includes demonstrated competency in child care and observation of classrooms in licensed preschools and child care centers for teachers, and orientation training and enrollment in a state credential program for aides.

Qualification Alternatives

Most states with minimum preservice requirements define multiple alternative routes for qualifying for a particular role. For example, a state may require teachers to have 2 years of supervised teaching experience, but can also qualify those who have completed a three-credit college-level course, completed a CDA credential, or obtained an associate degree. In short, there are alternative ways an individual can qualify for one role.

Fast Fact

Multiple alternative routes offer access to center roles for those with college education and those who are working to acquire skills while employed. As a result, a mix of staffing can occur in centers.

Across all states, there is an average of six alternative routes defined for the director and master teacher roles—meaning that there is an average of more than five ways an individual can qualify for those roles. For teachers, the average is four qualification alternatives. The average is three for assistant teachers and two for aides.

Table K: Number of Alternative Routes for Preservice Qualifications for Center Roles in 2005 in the 50-State Data Tables includes this information for the director role and all center teaching roles for each state. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Staff Qualifications include the specific requirements from state regulations for all alternative qualifications for each center role.

Types of Training in Qualification Alternatives

The types of training, credentials, and degrees that states include in the various qualification alternatives are compiled in Table 8. For example, this figure shows that in some states, an individual can qualify to be a center director with a bachelor degree in early childhood education. This is not the minimum requirement, but one way of qualifying for that role. In other words, a pathway has been established in a state's regulations that includes a bachelor degree. The highest number of states include a CDA credential as a qualification for directors. For teachers, most states include training awarded for college credit or the CDA credential.

Qualification Type	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
Preservice qualifications required	49	16	40	17	10
Early care and education training clock hours	15	2	12	3	0
CDA credential	38	10	19	3	0

Table 8: Number of States that Include Various Types of Training, Credentials, and Degrees in Qualification Alternatives (con.)

Qualification Type	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
State credential (total):	7	3	4	1	1
• Director credential	4	0	1	0	0
• Early childhood credential	3	3	3	1	1
Early care and education training college credit hours	31	11	20	6	1
Associate degree (general)	8	3	3	1	0
Associate degree in field related to early childhood (e.g., education)	6	2	4	1	0
Associate in early childhood	25	7	8	1	0
Bachelor degree (general)	22	7	6	1	0
Bachelor degree related to early childhood (e.g., education)	9	4	5	1	0
Bachelor degree in early childhood	18	7	4	0	0
Bachelor degree in early childhood or higher	4	0	1	0	0
Master degree (general)	2	2	2	0	0
Master degree related to early childhood (e.g., education)	5	3	0	0	0
Master degree in early childhood	5	4	0	0	0
Doctorate degree	2	3	2	0	0
State teacher certification/licensure	5	5	3	1	0

Note: Most states have multiple alternative routes for preservice qualifications, and therefore have many types of training, credentials, and/or degrees in their qualification alternatives. Further details on the qualification alternatives are available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Staff Qualifications.

C. Experience Requirements

Many states include requirements for experience within their preservice qualifications—either as the qualification itself or in combination with training and/or education. Table 9 illustrates state experience requirements. For center directors, 34 states (AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, WY) require that experience be in a specific setting, such as a child care center, and 23 states (CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, NE, NH, NV, NY, PA, TN, VT, WA, WI) require that experience must be gained specifically from working with children.

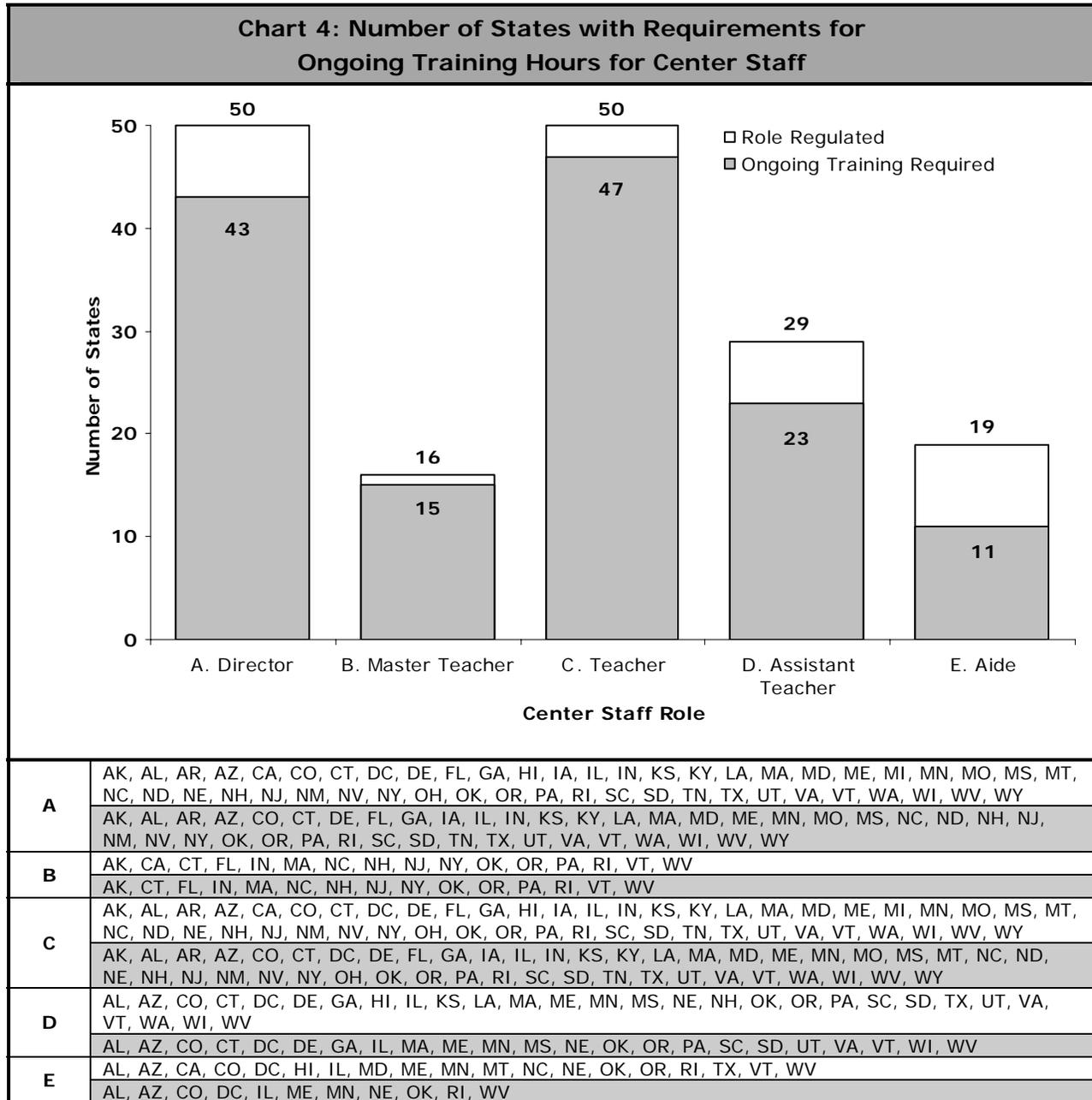
The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Staff Qualifications have further details, including the amount of experience required for each qualification alternative and the specific requirements for experience.

Table 9: Number of States with Requirements for Experience in Preservice Qualifications					
Experience Requirement	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
Preservice qualifications required	49	16	40	17	10
State has requirements for experience	45	13	27	9	2
Experience must be in a specific setting	34	9	14	4	0
Experience must be from working with children	23	9	18	3	1
Experience must be with a specific age group of children	6	5	8	2	0
Experience must be verified by employer/supervisor	7	6	3	2	0
Experience must be supervised	6	4	6	0	1
Experience must be from continuous employment	1	1	0	0	0
Experience as a parent can count to qualify for role	0	0	0	0	0
Experience must be in an accredited center or family child care home	0	0	0	0	0

Note: Many states have multiple requirements for experience in preservice qualifications. Further details are available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Staff Qualifications.

D. Ongoing Training

Chart 4 shows the number of states that require ongoing training hours after hire for each center staff role. State-by-state data on the requirements for ongoing training are available in *Table L: Number of Ongoing Training Hours Required for Center Staff Roles in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables.



Tables 10 and 11 summarize information about the number of required ongoing training hours for each center staff role.

Table 10: Number of Required Annual Ongoing Training Hours for Center Staff in States*					
Number of Hours	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
Role regulated	50	16	50	29	19
Ongoing hours required	43	15	47	23	11
Unspecified number of hours	2	1	3	3	2
1–12 hours	18	7	23	9	5
13–19 hours	10	3	12	6	2
20 or more hours	13	4	9	5	2

*Some states require an amount of training over a 2-year period. NARA and NCCIC calculated the required hours of training for these states by dividing the number of hours by two.

Table 11: Most Common Number, Median, and Range of Ongoing Training Hour Requirements in States for Center Staff

Center Staff Role	Number of States that Require Ongoing Hours	Most Common Number of Hours Required	Median Number of Hours Required*	Lowest Number of Required Hours	Highest Number of Required Hours
Director	43	15, 20 (8 states each)	12	3	30
Master Teacher	15	12 (4 states)	12	6	45 hours every 2 years
Teacher	47	15 (11 states)	12	3	30
Assistant Teacher	23	15 (6 states)	12	6	30
Aide	11	12 (4 states)	12	9	30

* The median is the middle value in a list of numbers. This figure includes the middle value compiled from state regulations for the number of training hours required for each role.

Table 12 summarizes additional regulations for ongoing training requirements for child care center staff. Many states have requirements regarding approved delivery methods for ongoing training. However, few states specify approved types of training. Delivery methods can include adult education courses, institutions of higher education, vocational programs, audio-visual materials, reading materials, conference workshops, distance learning, and in-service training provided by the center director. Additional information about state requirements for the content of ongoing training and approved training delivery methods is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Fast Fact

Many states require specific content for ongoing training hours.

Table 12: Number of States that Specify Content and Delivery Methods of Ongoing Training Hours			
Center Staff Role	Number of States		
	Number of States that Require Ongoing Hours	Specify Content	Specify Approved Delivery Methods
Director	43	33	21
Master Teacher	15	10	8
Teacher	47	30	20
Assistant Teacher	23	17	11
Aide	11	8	5

3.5 Staff Hiring Requirements

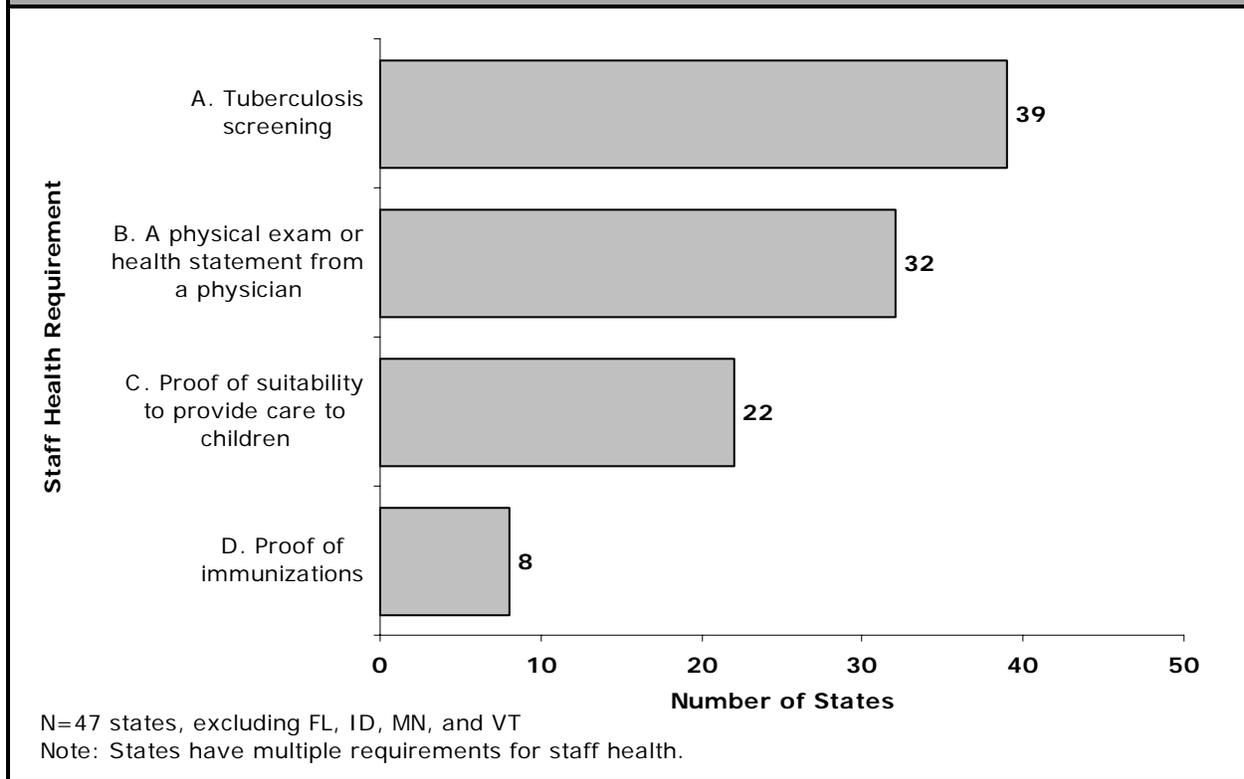
A. Staff Health Requirements

As shown in Chart 5, all but four (FL, ID, MN, VT) state child care center licensing regulations include requirements for the health of the staff, such as requiring a physical exam, a tuberculosis screening, immunizations, or proof of physical or mental suitability to care for children. In addition, 35 states (AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY) require child care centers to include staff health reports in facility records.

Of the 32 states (AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, WI, WV) that require staff to have a physical exam or provide a health statement, 26 (AL, CA, CT, DE, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, WI, WV) specify that proof must be submitted to the center at the time of hire.

Fifteen states (AL, CT, IL, LA, MA, MI, NC, NE, NH, NY, OH, PA, SC, TN, WV) require physical exams either annually or at some other time interval. Only one state (AR) requires staff to have a screening for drugs, alcohol, and other substances. Additional data about staff health requirements are available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Chart 5: Number of States with Requirements for Staff Health



A	AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MO, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
B	AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, WI, WV
C	AK, AL, CA, CO, DE, GA, HI, IL, KS, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, SC, TN, VA, WI
D	AZ, CO, MA, ME, MS, MT, OH, SC

B. Background Checks

Of the 50 states that license child care centers, all but seven states (DC, DE*, ID, MN, ND, NV, VT) require center staff to undergo at least one type of criminal background check, either a check of criminal history records, child abuse and neglect registries, fingerprints, and/or sex offender registries. Five states (DE, NC, NE, NY, OH) require center staff to sign a statement about criminal status.

Fast Fact

Most states require center staff to undergo at least one type of background check prior to working with children.

* NARA and NCCIC received information after data analyses were complete regarding Delaware's separate set of regulations for background checks. This error will be corrected when data are updated in the future.

Table 13 provides additional details about criminal background check requirements for center staff. As the table shows, most states with background check requirements mandate that all staff be checked. In addition, several states require volunteers to undergo a background check. The requirements for each state are available in *Table M: Criminal Background Check Requirements for Center Staff in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables, and in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 13: Number of States with Requirements for Criminal Background Checks for Center Staff		
Background Check Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires check of criminal history records for center staff	41	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State criminal history record check required 	28	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NM, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, VA, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal criminal history record check required 	6	AK, AL, AR, CT, IL, TX
Required for all center staff	36	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV, WY
Required for center staff having contact with children	4	AK, IA, RI, WA
Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)	0	
Required for volunteers	19	AR, CA, IA, IN, KS, KY, MA, ME, MS, MT, NM, OK, OR, RI, SC, TX, WA, WV, WY
State requires check of child abuse and neglect registries for center staff	24	AL, AR, CA, CO, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, PA, RI, SD, TX, WV, WY
Required for all center staff	22	AL, AR, CA, CO, HI, IL, KS, KY, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, PA, SD, TX, WV, WY

**Table 13: Number of States with Requirements
for Criminal Background Checks for Center Staff (con.)**

Background Check Requirement	Number of States	State
Required for center staff having contact with children	2	IA, RI
Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)	0	
Required for volunteers	14	AR, CA, IA, KS, KY, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, RI, TX, WV, WY
State requires checks of fingerprint records for center staff	18	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, HI, IL, LA, MS, NC, NJ, NM, OH, RI, TN, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State fingerprint record check required 	11	AK, AL, CO, CT, IL, NC, NM, OH, RI, TN, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal fingerprint record check required 	4	AR, CT, IL, RI
Required for all center staff	13	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, HI, IL, LA, MS, NJ, NM, TN, WV
Required for center staff having contact with children	2	AK, RI
Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)	1	AR
Required for volunteers	4	MS, NM, RI, WV
State requires checks of sex offender registries	7	IA, IL, IN, MI, NY, OK, SC

N=44 states, excluding DC, DE, ID, MN, ND, NV, and VT

C. References

A total of 26 states (AK, AL, AZ, DE, IL, KS, LA, MA, ME, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV, WY) require references when hiring center directors and/or other center staff, as shown in Table 14. In addition, regulations specify that references must be obtained in written and/or verbal form for center directors in 17 states (AZ, DE, IL, LA, ME, NE, NH, NJ, OH, PA, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV) and for other center staff in 18 states (AK, AL, AZ, DE, IL, LA, ME, MT, NE, NH, NJ, OH, PA, SD, TN, VA, VT, WV). Additional details about state requirements for references are available for each state in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 14: Number of States that Require References for Hiring Center Staff		
Reference Requirement	Number of States	
	Center Directors	Other Center Staff
References are required	25	24
References must be from certain people (total):	15	15
• Non-relatives	13	13
• Professional acquaintances	3	2
• Previous employers	4	6

N=26 states, excluding AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IN, KY, MD, MI, MN, MO, NC, ND, NM, NV, OR, RI, TX, UT, and WI

Note: Some states require references to be from more than one type of person.

3.6 Additional Staff Training Requirements

A. Orientation Training

As shown in Table 15, three-quarters of states that license child care centers require staff to complete some type of orientation training to work in a center. States' requirements often specify that the training must be about the facility's policies and procedures and/or state licensing requirements. In addition, 25 states (AK, AZ, CO, DE, IA, IL, IN, LA, MA, ME, MN, NC, NJ, NM, NV, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY) require centers to provide orientation training to new employees and volunteers. This is usually a responsibility of facility directors. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include further information about the requirements for orientation training in each state, including required content and further details on who must complete the training.

Fast Fact

Forty-six states require center staff to complete first aid training; 44 require staff to complete cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training.

Table 15: Number of States with Requirements for Orientation Training for Center Staff		
Orientation Training Requirement	Number of States	State
Center staff required to complete orientation training	38	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NV, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
Required training is about facility's policies and procedures	30	AK, AR, AZ, CO, DE, GA, IA, IN, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MS, NC, ND, NJ, NM, NV, OK, OR, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV
Required training is about state licensing regulations	26	AK, CO, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, MA, ME, MN, MO, MS, NC, NJ, NM, OK, OR, RI, SD, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=38 states, excluding AL, CT, DC, FL, HI, ID, KS, MI, NH, NY, OH, PA, and VT

Note: States have multiple types of orientation training.

B. Health and Safety Training

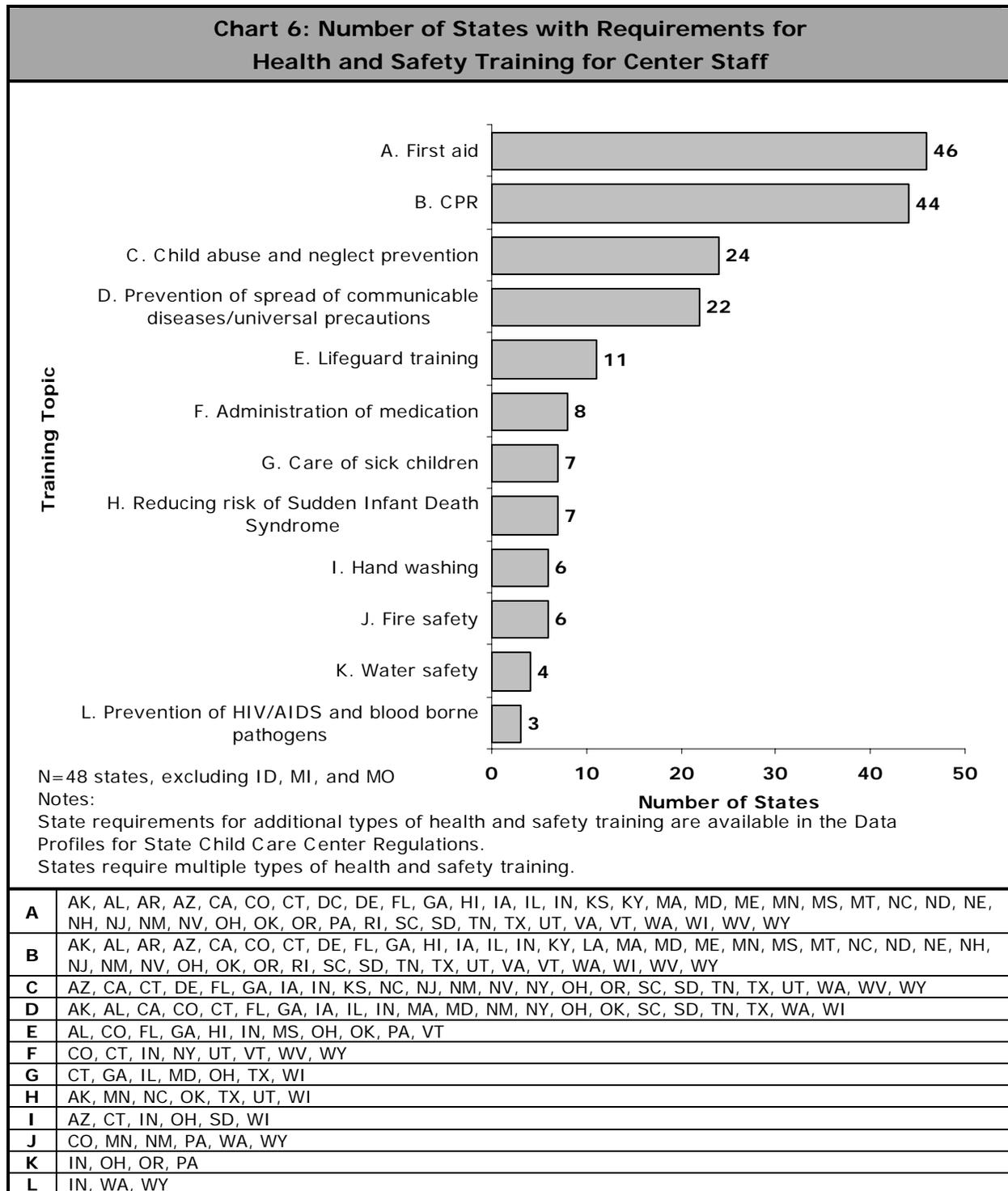
All states, except three (ID, MI, MO) require center staff to complete health and safety training, with most requiring either CPR or first aid training.

All states except seven (DC, ID, KS, MI, MO, NY, PA) require CPR training. Thirty-three (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, DE, FL, HI, IA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MT, NC, NH, NV, OH, OK, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) of these states specify that it must focus on the care of infants and/or children. Thirty-six states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NV, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY) specify staff must have current CPR certification.

All but five states (ID, LA, MI, MO, NY) require first aid training. However, only 11 states (AK, AZ, CA, IA, KY, OK, TN, UT, VA, VT, WV) specify that it must focus on the care of infants and/or children. In addition, state regulations specify that staff must have current certification in first aid in 32 states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MS, MT, ND, NH, NJ, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WV, WY).

States often do not require all center staff to complete first aid or CPR training. Twenty-eight states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, KY, ME, MS, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, WY) require first aid training only for one person on duty at the center, not all staff; this is the case with CPR training in 32 states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KY, MA, ME, MN, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, WY).

Chart 6 shows the states that require first aid and CPR training and information about required training on other health and safety topics, including prevention of the spread of communicable diseases, administration of medication, water safety, hand washing, and others. Additional data on health and safety training requirements are available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.



3.7 Child-Staff Ratios and Group Size

A. Child-Staff Ratios

All states that license child care centers have requirements for child-staff ratios. Child-staff ratio requirements are based on the ages of the children in care. Table 16 presents a summary of the range of child-staff ratio requirements for infants, toddlers, and preschool- and school-age children. Included in this summary are the lowest and highest required ratios across the states and the most common required ratio for each age group of children.

Also included in Table 16 are the recommended child-staff ratios for children's ages from *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs, 2nd Edition* (CFOC).^{*} These guidelines include more than 600 performance standards or best practices for child care facilities and are often used by state licensing agencies when they are revising regulations. Each standard in CFOC includes a rationale supported by research. As Table 16 shows, the states with the lowest child-staff ratios come close to meeting the CFOC standards. The states' most common ratios are higher than the CFOC standards, especially for older children. State-by-state data on child-staff ratios are available in *Table N: Center Child-Staff Ratio Requirements in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables, and the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Terminology

Child-staff ratio: The number of children one staff member is allowed to supervise.

Group size: The maximum number of children that is assigned to specific staff and can occupy one physical space.

^{*} American Public Health Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, & Health Resources and Services Administration. (2002). *Caring for our children: National health and safety performance standards: Guidelines for out-of-home child care programs, 2nd Edition*. Retrieved on September 5, 2006, from <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/CFOC/index.html>

Table 16: Range of Child-Staff Ratio Requirements in States							
Age of Children	Lowest Required Ratio	Number of States	Highest Required Ratio	Number of States	Most Common Required Ratio	Number of States	CFOC Guidelines*
Infants							
6 weeks	3:1	3	6:1	5	4:1	34	3:1
9 months	3:1	3	6:1	6	4:1	33	3:1
Toddlers							
18 months	3:1	1	9:1	3	6:1	14	4:1
27 months	4:1	4	12:1	2	6:1; 10:1	9 each	4:1
Preschool-age children							
3 years	7:1	2	15:1	4	10:1	23	7:1
4 years	8:1	1	20:1	2	10:1	17	8:1
School-age children							
5 years	9:1	1	25:1	3	15:1	13	8:1
10 years	10:1	1	26:1	1	15:1	15	12:1

N=50 states, excluding ID

*Recommended child-staff ratios for centers are from *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs, 2nd Edition*, which is available online at <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/CFOC/index.html>.

B. Group Size

Not all states regulate group size, as they do with child-staff ratios. Table 17 shows the states that do not regulate group size for child care centers.

Table 17: Number of States that Do Not Regulate Group Size		
Age of Children	Number of States	State
Infants		
6 weeks	14	AL, AZ, CA, DE, FL, IA, ID, LA, MI, MT, NM, NV, SC, VA
9 months	14	AL, AZ, CA, DE, FL, IA, ID, LA, MI, MT, NM, NV, SC, VA
Toddlers		
18 months	14	AL, AZ, DE, FL, IA, ID, LA, MI, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
27 months	15	AL, AZ, DE, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, MI, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
Preschool-age children		
3 years	17	AL, AZ, CA, DE, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
4 years	17	AL, AZ, CA, DE, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
School-age children		
5 years	18	AL, AZ, CA, DE, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
10 years	22	AL, AR, AZ, CA, DE, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT

N=22 states, excluding AK, CO, CT, DC, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MN, MS, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, and WY

Table 18 presents a summary of the range of group size requirements for infants, toddlers, and preschool- and school-age children. Included in this summary are the lowest and highest group size requirements across the states that regulate group size and the most common group size for each age group of children.

Also included in Table 18 are the recommended group sizes from the CFOC standards. As with ratios, the states with the lowest group size requirements are similar to the CFOC standards, and the states' most common group sizes are higher than the CFOC standards, especially for older children. State-by-state data on group size requirements are available in *Table O: Center Group Size Requirements in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables, and the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 18: Range of Group Size Requirements in States							
Age of Children	Lowest Required Group Size	Number of States	Highest Required Group Size	Number of States	Most Common Required Group Size	Number of States	CFOC Guidelines*
Infants							
6 weeks	6	1	20	1	8	18	6
9 months	6	1	20	1	8	18	6
Toddlers							
18 months	8	8	20	2	12	10	8
27 months	8	2	22	1	14	8	8
Preschool-age children							
3 years	14	2	30	2	20	16	14
4 years	20	17	36	1	20	17	16
School-age children							
5 years	20	9	40	1	30	10	16
10 years	20	2	50	1	30	14	24

N=29 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, DE, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, RI, SC, TN, VA, and VT

* Recommended child-staff ratios for centers are from *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards: Guidelines for Out-of-Home Child Care Programs, 2nd Edition*, which is available online at <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/CFOC/index.html>.

C. Mixed-Age Groups

All but five states (ID, MT, NE, NV, SC) allow child care centers to have mixed-age groups of children. All of these states have requirements for child-staff ratios for mixed-age groups; however, only 23 states (AK, CO, CT, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, ND, NY, OK, PA, RI, TN, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements for group size for mixed-age groups. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include the state regulation text for the ratio and group size requirements for mixed-age groups.

Terminology
Mixed-age groups: Groups of children who are different ages (e.g., toddlers and preschool-age children) together in the same classroom for at least part of the day.

D. Additional Requirements for Grouping Children

In their child care center regulations, 19 states (GA, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MS, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, VT, WI, WV, WY) have a definition for a “group” of children. The text of the states’ definitions is included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Fourteen states (AK, CT, KY, ME, NJ, OH, OK, PA, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV) also require that each group of children has a designated space within the center—either a separate room or delineated space in a large room.

Some states, under certain conditions, allow child care centers to exceed grouping requirements:

- One state (NH) allows centers to exceed their licensed capacity;
- Twelve states (CA, IA, IL, KY, MA, MS, OH, RI, TX, UT, VA, WY) allow centers to exceed required child-staff ratios; and
- Nineteen states (AK, AR, DE, GA, IL, KY, MD, MN, MS, OH, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV, WI, WY) allow centers to exceed group size requirements.

The conditions under which states allow centers to exceed grouping limitations legally varies widely. For example, in IA, for a period of 2 hours or less at the beginning or end of the day, one staff person may care for six or fewer children, i.e., exceed the child-staff ratio, provided no more than two of the children are younger than 2 years of age. Also, in AK, maximum group size limitations do not apply during naptimes, lunch times, outdoor play periods, field trips, or the length of special occasions, including holiday parties and visits from special guests. Additional information about the conditions during which centers can legally exceed grouping limits is included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

3.8 Supervision of Children

A. General Supervision Requirements

As shown in Table 19, all but three states (HI, ID, KY) have requirements in their child care center regulations for staff while they are supervising children. Among those states, some specify that staff must be able to see and/or hear children at all times or must be free of other duties while supervising children. A few states require that staff are alert and awake at all times. Details on these requirements for each state are in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 19: Number of States with Requirements for Staff Supervising Children		
Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for staff supervising children	48	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Staff must be able to see children at all times	12	AZ, MT, NH, OH, OK, OR, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WV
Staff must be free of other duties	11	AL, AZ, CA, IN, NC, ND, NM, OH, TX, WA, WI
Staff must be able to hear children at all times	10	AZ, MT, NH, OH, OK, OR, TX, UT, VA, WA
Staff must be alert/awake	4	GA, ME, NC, WV

N=48 states, excluding HI, ID, and KY

Note: States have multiple types of requirements on supervision, some of which are not included in this table.

In addition to the requirements summarized in Table 19, states have the following requirements related to the supervision of children:

- Seventeen states (CA, DC, DE, LA, MD, ME, NC, NV, OH, OR, SC, SD, TN, TX, VT, WA, WV) have requirements related to the supervision of children during emergencies;
- Six states (AL, CA, NY, OK, RI, VA) have requirements related to supervision and the use of substitutes for staff;
- Four states (CO, IA, NH, NJ) allow centers to use video surveillance cameras or electronic monitors in lieu of direct supervision; and
- One state (NY) has requirements related to the use of video surveillance cameras for parents to view their children while at the center.

Additional information regarding these requirements is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

B. Supervision During Specific Times/Activities

All state child care center licensing regulations, except DC's and ID's, include requirements for the supervision of children during specific times, such as naptime or care during evening/overnight hours, or during certain activities, such as outdoor play, when children are in vehicles, and field trips. Table 20 presents an overview of the number of states that have requirements for the supervision of children during these various time periods and activities.

Table P: *Supervision Requirements for Times/Activities in Centers in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables provides state-by-state information on the data presented in Table 20. The next sections in this report provide further details on states' supervision requirements.

Table 20: Number of States with Supervision Requirements for Specific Times/Activities		
Time/Activity	Number of States	State
State has supervision requirements for specific time/activity	49	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Transportation in vehicles	47	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Field trips	40	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Naptime	38	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, LA, ME, MN, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Swimming/water activities	37	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Evening/overnight care	33	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MN, MO, MT, ND, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY

Table 20: Number of States with Supervision Requirements for Specific Times/Activities (con.)		
Time/Activity	Number of States	State
Outdoor play	29	AK, AR, CT, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, NC, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI
Large group activities	17	AK, AR, GA, MD, MN, MS, NJ, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV, WY

N=49 states, excluding DC and ID

Note: States have supervision requirements for multiple times/activities.

Naptime

Of the states that license centers, 38 (AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, LA, ME, MN, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements in their center regulations for the supervision of children during naptime. Table 21 provides an overview of the states that have specific types of requirements for staff supervising napping children. The specific ratio and group size requirements for each state are included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Evening/Overnight Care

Thirty-four states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MN, MO, MT, ND, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements in their center regulations for the supervision of children during evening/overnight care. Table 22 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements for staff supervising children during evening hours. The specific ratio and group size requirements for each state are included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations. See "3.9 Care of Children" for additional requirements for evening/overnight care.

Table 21: Number of States with Requirements for Supervision During Naptime		
Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the supervision of children during naptime	38	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, LA, ME, MN, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has specific child-staff ratio requirements for naptime	28	AL, AR, CA, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, LA, NC, NE, NJ, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
Staff person must be present in room where children are napping	17	AL, AR, DE, GA, IA, IN, MO, NC, NE, NJ, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, VT, WV
Staff must be able to see napping children	15	AK, AL, AR, FL, LA, MO, NC, NV, OK, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the supervision of children during naptime that are delineated by the age of the child (total):	17	AK, AR, CO, FL, IA, IN, MO, NC, OK, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State has requirements for the supervision of infants and toddlers during naptime 	13	AK, AR, CO, FL, IA, IN, MO, OK, PA, TN, VA, VT, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State has requirements for the supervision of preschool-age children during naptime 	8	IN, MO, NC, OK, PA, UT, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State has requirements for the supervision of school-age children during naptime 	4	MO, TX, UT, WI
Staff must be able to hear napping children	11	AK, CO, FL, MO, NH, NV, OK, VA, WA, WI, WV
State has specific group size requirements for naptime	10	AK, MN, NJ, OH, OR, TN, TX, WI, WV, WY
Center must have written supervision plan for naptime	2	CT, UT
Staff person supervising during naptime must be free of other duties	1	LA

N=38 states, excluding AZ, DC, ID, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MS, MT, ND, NY, and SD
Note: States have multiple types of requirements for supervision during naptime.

Table 22: Number of States with Requirements for Supervision During Evening/Overnight Care		
Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the supervision of children during evening/overnight care	34	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MN, MO, MT, ND, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has specific child-staff ratio requirements for evening/overnight care	16	AL, CO, GA, IL, IN, MN, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, WA, WV, WY
State has specific group size requirements for evening/overnight care	9	IL, IN, OH, OK, SD, TN, WI, WV, WY
Staff must be able to see sleeping children	7	AL, AR, FL, OR, WA, WV, WY
Staff must be able to hear sleeping children	7	CA, FL, MO, ND, OR, WA, WV
Staff person must be present in room where children are sleeping	5	AL, IA, IL, SC, TN
Staff person supervising sleeping children must be free of other duties	1	DE
Center must have written supervision plan for evening/overnight care	1	CT

N=34 states, excluding DC, ID, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, RI, UT, VA, and VT
Note: States have multiple types of requirements for supervision during evening/overnight care.

Outdoor Play

Twenty-nine states (AK, AR, CT, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, NC, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI) have requirements in their center regulations for the supervision of children during outdoor play. Table 23 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements for staff supervising children playing outdoors. The specific ratio and group size requirements for each state are included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations

Table 23: Number of States with Requirements for Supervision During Outdoor Play		
Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the supervision of children during outdoor play	29	AK, AR, CT, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, NC, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI
State has specific group size requirements for outdoor play	10	AK, GA, MD, MN, NJ, OH, OK, OR, TX, WI
State has specific child-staff ratio requirements for outdoor play	9	AR, GA, IA, MI, OR, TN, VA, WA, WI
Staff must be able to see children playing outdoors	6	IN, ME, MT, NC, VT, WA
Staff person must be present outdoors with children	3	LA, PA, WA
Staff must be able to hear children playing outdoors	2	NC, WA
Center must have written supervision plan for outdoor play	2	AK, CT

N=29 states, excluding AL, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, HI, ID, IL, KY, MA, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, SD, UT, WV, and WY

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for supervision during outdoor play.

Large Group Activities

As shown in Table 24, 17 states (AK, AR, GA, MD, MN, MS, NJ, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV, WY) have requirements for the supervision of children during large group activities. The only types of requirements these states have are specified child-staff ratios and group sizes. The specific ratio and group size requirements for each state are included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 24: Number of States with Requirements for Supervision During Large Group Activities		
Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the supervision of children during large group activities	17	AK, AR, GA, MD, MN, MS, NJ, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV, WY
State has specific group size requirements for large group activities	16	AK, AR, GA, MD, MN, MS, NJ, OH, OK, OR, RI, TX, UT, WA, WV, WY
State has specific child-staff ratio requirements for large group activities	8	GA, MS, OR, RI, TN, TX, WA, WV
Staff must be able to see children during large group activities	0	
Staff must be able to hear children during large group activities	0	
Center must have written supervision plan for large group activities	0	

N=17 states, excluding AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, PA, SC, SD, VA, VT, and WI

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for supervision during large group activities.

Swimming/Water Activities

As shown in Table 25, 37 states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements for the supervision of children during swimming or water activities. More than half of those states require centers to obtain written permission from parents to take children swimming. The specific ratio and group size requirements for each state are included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 25: Number of States with Requirements for Supervision During Swimming/Water Activities		
Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the supervision of children when swimming or participating in water activities	37	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has specific child-staff ratio requirements for swimming and water activities	31	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MD, MI, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI, WV, WY
Written permission from parents required for swimming and water activities	20	AK, AL, AR, AZ, GA, IL, IN, MD, MI, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, VA, VT, WV, WY
Staff person must be present with children when swimming or participating in water activities	10	CO, IN, MD, MO, NC, NM, OK, UT, WV, WY
State has specific group size requirements for swimming and water activities	3	KS, NH, WI
Staff must be able to see children	2	OH, TX
Center must have written supervision plan for swimming and water activities	2	GA, VT
Staff must be able to hear children	0	

N=37 states, excluding CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, KY, LA, MA, MN, ND, NV, RI, and SD

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for supervision during swimming and water activities.

Transporting Children in Vehicles

All but four states (DC, ID, RI, SD) have requirements for the supervision of children traveling in vehicles. As shown in Table 26, most states have child-staff ratio requirements for transportation and specify that children must not be left unattended in vehicles. Almost half of the states require that children are supervised when boarding and exiting the vehicle, centers obtain written permission from parents, and staff or drivers ensure that children are received by a parent or a designated person. The specific ratio and group size requirements for each state are included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations. See “3.10 Facility Requirements” for additional requirements for transportation.

Table 26: Number of States with Requirements for Supervision of Children Traveling in Vehicles		
Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the supervision of children when transported in a vehicle	47	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has specific child-staff ratio requirements for transporting children in a vehicle	37	AL, AR, AZ, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driver is counted in child-staff ratio 	22	AL, AR, AZ, FL, GA, IA, IL, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MT, ND, NM, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, VT, WI
Children must not be left unattended in a vehicle	34	AL, CA, CO, DE, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Staff must supervise children when they board and exit the vehicle	23	AL, AR, AZ, CO, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, LA, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NM, NV, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX
Written permission from parents required for transporting children	22	AK, AL, CO, CT, DE, IL, IN, MO, MT, NE, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY
Staff or driver must ensure that children are received by a parent or other designated person	20	AK, AL, GA, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MI, MO, MT, NC, NJ, NV, OK, OR, SC, TN, TX, WI
Emergency contact information for children must be taken on vehicle	14	AZ, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MO, NC, OK, TX, VA, WA, WI

Table 26: Number of States with Requirements for Supervision of Children Traveling in Vehicles (con.)		
Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
Attendance record of children must be kept	14	AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MI, NJ, OH, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV
Additional checks for children remaining on board must be conducted once vehicle is unloaded	4	AL, AR, FL, TN
State has specific group size requirements for transporting children in a vehicle	1	PA
Center must have written supervision plan for transporting children in a vehicle	1	OH

N=47 states, excluding DC, ID, RI, and SD

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for supervision of children traveling in vehicles.

Field Trips

Forty states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements in their center regulations for the supervision of children during field trips. Table 27 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements for staff supervising children during field trips. Most states require centers to obtain written permission from parents to take children on field trips. The specific ratio and group size requirements for each state are included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 27: Number of States with Requirements for Supervision During Field Trips

Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the supervision of children during field trips	40	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Written permission from parents required for field trips	34	AR, AZ, CO, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has specific child-staff ratio requirements for field trips	22	AZ, CO, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, MD, MI, MN, MS, NH, NJ, OH, OR, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV
Attendance record of children on field trips must be kept	12	AL, AR, AZ, CO, DE, GA, IN, NH, OH, TX, VA, WV
Emergency contact information for children must be taken on field trips	12	AZ, CO, DE, GA, IA, IN, MA, MN, NH, TX, UT, WV
State has specific group size requirements for field trips	11	AK, CA, MD, MN, NH, OH, OK, OR, TX, WI, WV
Children are required to wear name tags or other identification	6	AZ, DE, GA, OH, TX, UT
Additional staff/adults (e.g., volunteers, parents, drivers) must attend field trips under certain conditions	5	FL, GA, IA, OH, TX
Center must have written supervision plan for field trips	4	AK, CO, OH, OR

N=40 states, excluding CT, DC, ID, IL, KY, ND, NE, NV, NY, PA, and SD

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for supervision during field trips.

3.9 Care of Children

A. Age Definitions

State child care licensing regulations often include a definition for the different age groups of children. For example, several states define an infant as being younger than 12 months of age, and a preschool-age child as 3–5 years of age.

Table 28 shows the number of states that have age definitions in their center regulations. The text of each state's definitions is included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 28: Number of States with Child Age Definitions in Regulations		
Age Group	Number of States	State
Infants	44	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY
Toddlers	38	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY
Preschool-age children	31	AK, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, VA, WA, WY
School-age children	41	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=50 states, excluding ID

B. Health Requirements

Physical Exams

More than half the states require that children have a physical exam prior to enrolling in a child care center, as shown in Table 29. Also, almost half of states require centers to keep records of children's physicals.

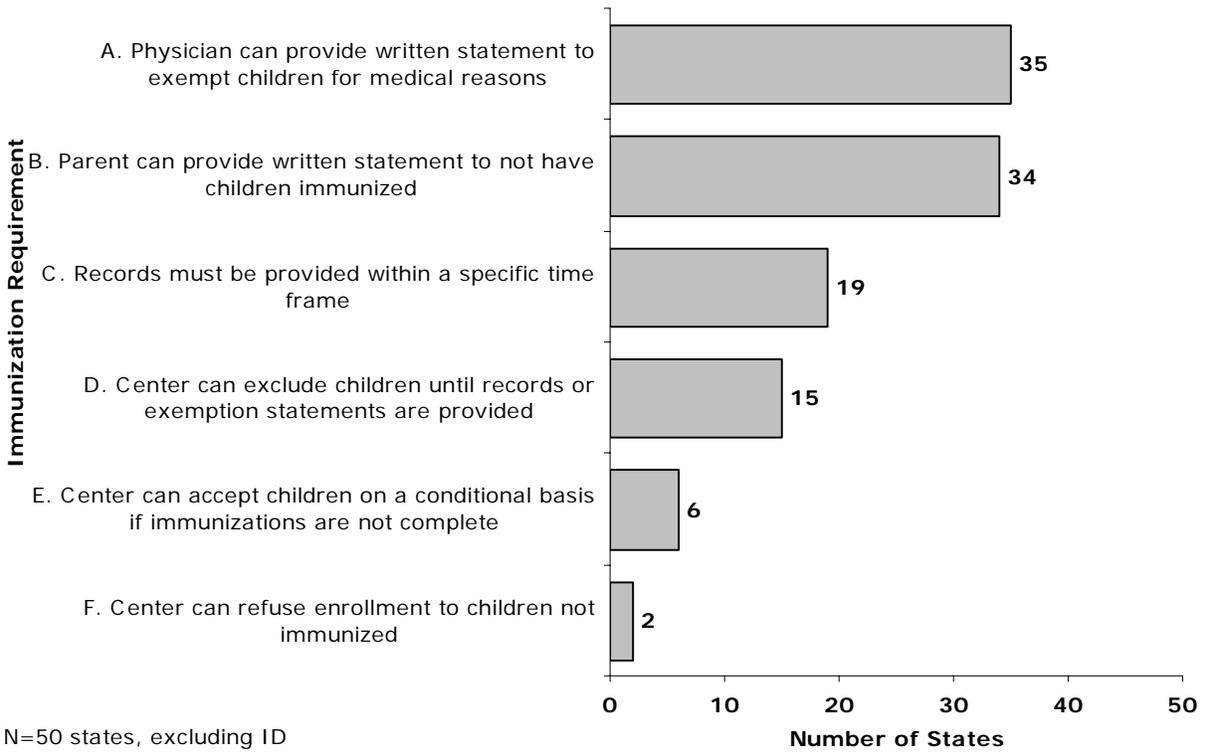
Requirement	Number of States	State
Children required to have a physical exam to enroll in a center	29	CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, ND, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, PA, RI, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV
Center required to keep records of children's physical exams	24	CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MI, MN, ND, NH, NJ, OH, PA, TX, VA, WI, WV
Health records must be provided to center within a specific time frame	18	CA, CO, DE, FL, IA, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, NH, NJ, OH, PA, TX, VA, WI, WV

N=50 states, excluding ID

Immunization Requirements

All states, except ID, require children to be immunized prior to enrollment in centers. As shown in Chart 7, most states allow exemptions from immunization requirements if written statements are provided to the center from either physicians stating that children are exempt from immunizations for medical reasons or from parents stating that they do not wish their children to be immunized.

Chart 7: Number of States with Requirements for Immunizations for Children



A	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WV
B	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WV
C	AL, AR, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, ME, MI, NE, NH, NJ, OH, PA, TX, WA, WV
D	AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, GA, IN, MD, MT, NE, OK, RI, UT, VA
E	AK, AZ, CA, MT, TX, WA
F	CO, WA

Additional Health Requirements

Five states (IL, MA, MD, NY, RI) require children to have a blood lead level screening prior to enrolling in a child care center. Also, 42 states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) require centers to keep emergency contact information in children's records. Additional information about child health requirements is included in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations, including further details on immunization requirements.

C. Nutrition

All states that license child care centers have requirements about nutrition for children. As shown in Table 30, most states also have requirements for feeding infants, specify a number of or time interval between meals/snacks served to children, and require centers to post a menu. Only a few states require that centers provide all food served to children, therefore most states allow parents to provide food for meals or snacks. Information about each state's nutrition requirements is in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 30: Number of States with Requirements for Nutrition for Children		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about nutrition and meals/snacks for children	50	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the nutritional content of meals/snacks served to children	50	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for feeding infants	47	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements include a number of or time interval between meals/snacks served to children	45	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Center required to post a menu of meals/snacks served to children	40	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MS, MT, NC, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Table 30: Number of States with Requirements for Nutrition for Children (con.)		
Requirement	Number of States	State
Parent/guardian allowed to provide food for their own children	35	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY
Center required to provide supplemental food (to what parents provide) to meet nutritional content requirements	11	CO, DE, KY, NC, ND, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, VA
Center required to provide all meals/snacks for children	5	AL, IL, IN, MI, WV
Parent/guardian allowed to bring food for all children for special occasions	4	IA, IL, MS, WA

N=50 states, excluding ID

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for nutrition.

D. Behavior Guidance and Discipline

All states, except DC and ID, have requirements in their child care center licensing regulations related to behavior guidance and/or discipline. As seen in Table 31, most states' regulations specify types of behavior guidance and/or discipline that centers are allowed to use. More than half allow children to be separated from the group if supervised. Two states (LA, SC) allow corporal punishment by specifically listing it as a form of acceptable discipline. By having no requirements for behavior guidance and/or discipline, DC and ID do not prohibit corporal punishment in child care centers.

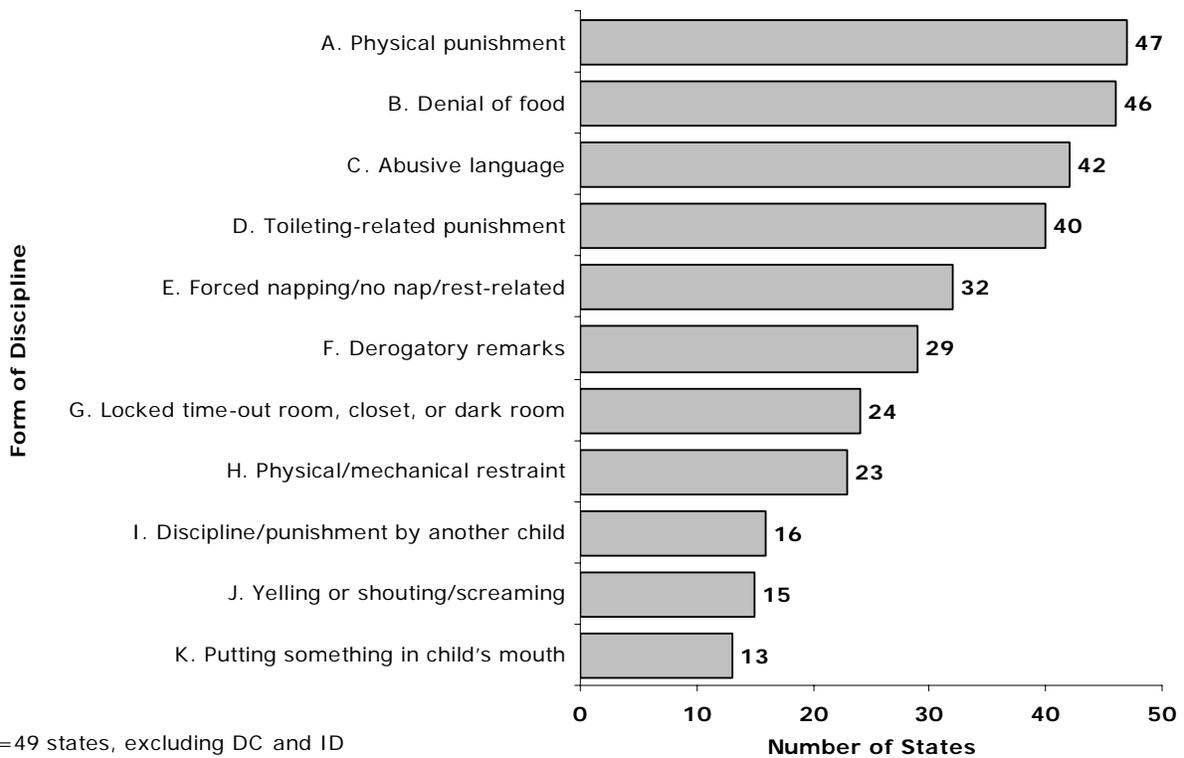
Table 31: Number of States that Specify Forms of Discipline Allowed in Child Care Centers		
Form of Discipline	Number of States	State
State has requirements on behavior guidance and/or discipline	49	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State regulations specify types of discipline that are allowed for use with children	41	AK, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervised separation from the group 	24	AR, AZ, CO, DE, IL, LA, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, SC, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporal punishment* 	2	LA, SC

N=49 states, excluding DC and ID

*DC and ID allow corporal punishment by not specifically prohibiting it in their child care center regulations.

In their regulations, all states, except DC and ID, specify forms of behavior guidance and/or discipline that are **not** allowed. Chart 8 shows the different types of discipline prohibited in the states. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include information for each state about additional forms of discipline that are and are not allowed to be used.

Chart 8: Number of States that Specify Forms of Discipline Prohibited in Child Care Centers



A	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
B	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
C	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
D	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI, WV, WY
E	AK, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, ME, MI, MO, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV, WY
F	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, GA, IA, IL, LA, MA, MN, MO, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, OK, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
G	AK, CO, GA, IA, IN, KS, MI, MO, NC, ND, NY, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
H	AK, AL, AR, CT, GA, IA, IN, KS, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, NH, OH, OK, SD, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
I	AL, AZ, GA, LA, MS, NC, ND, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, SD, VA, WV, WY
J	AK, AL, AR, IN, KY, MD, MO, ND, NE, NH, NM, OR, SC, TX, WA
K	AL, AR, KS, MD, ME, MS, NM, NY, OK, SC, SD, TX, WV

E. Activities and Equipment/Materials

Almost all states have requirements in their regulations that address the daily activities centers must provide for children. These requirements help facilities establish a learning environment for children by specifying that activities must meet children’s developmental needs. State regulations also often include lists of required equipment and materials needed for children. *Table Q: Requirements for Activities and Equipment/Materials in Centers for Children in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables provides state-by-state data on these requirements for child care centers. Additional details are available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Schedule of Activities

Of the 50 states that license child care centers, 37 (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV) require centers to have a written daily schedule of activities. Of those states, 23 (AL, AZ, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NE, NM, OH, OR, PA, TX, UT, VA, WA, WV) require centers to post the daily schedule in the facility.

Fast Facts

- Almost all states specify the types of activities centers must include for children in the daily schedule.
- Most states specify that the developmental needs of children must be addressed in the activities provided for them in centers.

Types of Required Activities

Table 32 summarizes the types of activities child care centers are required to have in the daily schedule for children. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include information about additional types of activities required for children in each state.

Table 32: Number of States with Requirements for Activities for Children		
Type of Activity	Number of States	State
State regulations require certain activities for children	49	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Outdoor play	44	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

Table 32: Number of States with Requirements for Activities for Children (con.)		
Type of Activity	Number of States	State
Active play	38	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OH, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV
Quiet play	38	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, OH, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV
Nap or rest period	35	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, NC, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV
Individual activities	33	AK, CT, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Group activities	32	AK, AZ, CT, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MI, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Indoor play	31	AK, AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, ME, MN, MO, NC, ND, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV
Regular meal/snack times	26	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, ME, MO, MS, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, VA, WI, WV
Gross motor activities	20	AK, AZ, DC, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MN, NV, OH, OR, RI, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Staff-initiated activities	20	AZ, CT, GA, IA, IL, IN, MD, MI, MN, NC, NJ, NY, OK, RI, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV

Table 32: Number of States with Requirements for Activities for Children (con.)		
Type of Activity	Number of States	State
Child-initiated activities	19	AZ, GA, HI, IA, IL, MD, MI, MN, NC, ND, NJ, NY, OK, RI, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Free play	18	DE, GA, HI, IL, KY, MA, MO, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, OR, PA, TN, VA, WA, WV
Fine motor activities	17	AZ, DC, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MN, OR, RI, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Toileting and washing/hand washing	15	AK, AL, CA, CT, GA, IL, KS, MA, MO, NE, NH, NV, OR, WI, WV
Creative expression	14	AK, CT, DC, GA, IN, MA, MN, NH, OH, OR, VA, VT, WA, WI
Small group activities	14	AZ, CT, GA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MO, NC, ND, NY, OK, RI, VT
Large group activities	11	AK, AZ, GA, IL, IN, MA, MI, NC, NY, RI, VT

N=49 states, excluding ID and WY

Note: States require multiple types of activities for children.

Child Developmental Domains Addressed in Activities

Table 33 shows that most of the states that require centers to address the development needs of children during activities require centers to address social, physical, language/literacy, cognitive/intellectual, and emotional development. Fewer, but nearly half, of these states require centers to address cultural development.

Table 33: Number of States that Address Developmental Domains in Required Activities for Children		
Developmental Domain	Number of States	State
State regulations address child development in activities	41	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Social development	32	AK, AZ, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Physical development	32	AK, AZ, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, MI, MN, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Language/literacy development	31	AK, AZ, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MD, MI, MS, MT, ND, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Cognitive/intellectual development	31	AK, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, MI, MN, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV
Emotional development	31	AK, AR, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MD, MI, MN, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, SD, TX, VT, WA, WI
Cultural development	18	AZ, CT, DC, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MN, ND, NJ, NV, NY, PA, RI, VT, WA, WV

N=41 states, excluding CA, CO, ID, LA, ME, MO, NE, TN, UT, and WY

Note: States address multiple developmental domains in their requirements.

As shown in Table 34, some state regulations also include lists of specific activities centers should provide to meet each of the developmental needs. For example, the TX regulations require centers to provide children with opportunities for social development and include examples of age-appropriate equipment or activities to meet that developmental need, such as dress-up clothes and accessories, mirrors, dolls, simple props for different themes, puppets, transportation toys, play animals, and table games.

Table 34: Number of States that List Specific Activities Centers Must Provide to Address Developmental Domains		
Developmental Domain	Number of States	State
State lists specific activities to address developmental domains	16	AK, CT, GA, HI, IA, IN, MA, MI, MS, MT, ND, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Language/literacy development	12	AK, CT, GA, IN, MI, MS, MT, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Physical development	7	AK, CT, GA, HI, TX, VT, WV
Cognitive/intellectual development	7	AK, CT, HI, TX, VT, WA, WV
Cultural development	6	HI, IA, MA, ND, VT, WV
Social development	5	HI, MA, TX, VT, WV
Emotional development	4	CT, HI, TX, VT

N=16 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, ID, IL, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, WI, and WY

Note: States list multiple activities to address developmental domains.

Equipment and Materials

Table 35 shows the types of equipment and materials child care centers are required to have for children. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include information about additional types of materials for children that are required in each state.

Table 35: Number of States with Requirements for Equipment and Materials		
Equipment/Material Type	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the types of equipment/materials a center must have for children	38	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, GA, HI, IL, IN, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Gross motor equipment—indoor and/or outdoor	31	AL, AZ, CO, DC, GA, HI, IL, IN, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, VT, WI, WV

**Table 35: Number of States with Requirements
for Equipment and Materials (con.)**

Equipment/Material Type	Number of States	State
Fine motor/manipulatives	30	AK, AL, AZ, CO, GA, HI, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NJ, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, VT, WI, WV
Books and other literacy materials	29	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, IL, IN, LA, MA, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NJ, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Dramatic play/pretend materials	28	AL, AZ, CO, GA, IL, IN, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NJ, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, VA, VT, WI, WV
Art supplies/creative activities	28	AL, AZ, CO, GA, IL, IN, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NJ, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, VT, WI, WV
Music materials	23	AL, AZ, CO, IL, IN, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, NJ, OH, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WV
Science/experimental/math (counting/sorting) materials	20	AL, AZ, CO, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, NC, NJ, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, VT, WI, WV
Sensory materials	18	IN, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NJ, OH, OR, TN, TX, VA, VT, WV
Blocks/construction materials	15	IN, MA, MN, MO, MS, OH, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WI, WV
Technology/computers	1	WV

N=38 states, excluding CA, DE, FL, IA, ID, KS, KY, ND, NE, NH, NM, UT, and WY

Note: States require multiple types of equipment and materials.

In addition to the equipment and materials included in Table 35, the following six states have requirements regarding the number and/or type of books that centers must have.

- **AK:** Centers must have a minimum of five developmentally appropriate books per child in care.
- **AL:** Centers must have two books per child.

- **IL:** Centers must have at least 20 books per group of 10 or fewer children. Groups larger than 10 must have 2 books per child. All books need not be displayed at all times; child care staff may rotate books on display.
- **MN:** Centers must have two books per child.
- **MS:** Books shall be on shelves and tables for children to look at and read. Every child shall have age-appropriate materials (including picture books) read to and discussed with him or her every day. When appropriate, the materials should cover topics with which the children are involved.
- **WV:** Books for children 24–36 months of age must be sturdy with heavy paper or cardboard pages and include tactile features. Books for children 36–72 months of age must be picture books with simple stories and rhymes, or complex pop-up books with age-appropriate stories.

F. Parent Involvement

Twenty-three states (AK, AZ, CT, DC, DE, IL, MA, ME, MI, ND, NJ, NV, OH, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV, WY) have requirements for centers regarding parent involvement. Ten states (DE, MA, ME, NJ, OH, OK, RI, TX, VA, WV) require centers to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in activities, and seven states (AK, IL, ND, OH, PA, VT, WA) require centers to encourage parent involvement.

Forty-three states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) require centers to provide parents with access to the facility at all times, allowing parents to visit without giving prior notice.

As shown in Table 36, most states have requirements regarding communication between the center and the parents of children in care. These requirements include providing written policies and procedures to parents, keeping logs of children's care, and having regular meetings with parents.

Table 36: Number of States with Requirements for Parent Communication		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the center's communication with parents	44	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Center must provide written copies of policies and procedures to parents	39	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, LA, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Center must keep logs of children's care and communicate with parents	22	AR, AZ, DE, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MN, ND, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Center must hold regularly scheduled meetings with parents	15	CO, DE, HI, IN, MA, MN, ND, NJ, NY, OH, OK, RI, VA, VT, WI
Center must have a resource area for parents	2	AK, OK

N=44 states, excluding CT, DC, FL, ID, KY, NE, and SD

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for communication with parents.

G. Specialized Care of Children

Within child care center licensing regulations, there are requirements for specialized types of care for children, such as infant and toddler care, school-age care, and evening/overnight care. Table 37 shows whether states have requirements in their center regulations for five common types of specialized care. It also shows the types of requirements states have for specialized care. For example, many states have requirements for activities for children that pertain just to infant and toddler care or school-age care. In addition, several states have specific facility requirements for these different types of care.

Table 37: Number of States with Requirements for Types of Specialized Care for Children					
Requirement	Number of States				
	Infant and Toddler Care	School-Age Care	Care of Mildly III Children	Evening/Overnight Care	Drop-In Care
State has requirements for specialized care	48	46	47	41	15
Types of requirements for specialized care					
Supervision of children	43	19	32	N/A	5
Staff qualifications	16	26	N/A	N/A	N/A
Activities for children	39	41	7	30	9
Materials/equipment	43	25	15	37	N/A
Facility	33	34	12	25	4

N=50 states, excluding ID

N/A=Requirement not applicable to type of care

Table R: States with Requirements for Specialized Child Care in Centers in 2005 in the 50-State Data Tables includes state-by-state data on whether states have requirements for specialized care. Additional information is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations, including the qualifications for staff who work with infants and toddlers and school-age children.

Additional Requirements for Infant and Toddler Care

Center regulations generally have more requirements for infant and toddler care than the other types of specialized care listed in Table 37; therefore, this study highlights some of these requirements.

Twenty-three states (AK, AL, AZ, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MD, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NV, OH, OK, RI, TX, WI, WV) require a consistent primary caregiver be assigned to each child in that age group.

Fast Fact

Fewer than half of states require infants to be placed on their backs to sleep.

States differ in their requirements to place infants on their backs to sleep. This sleep position has been proven to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in infants.* Table 38 shows state requirements related to the prevention of SIDS. *Table S: Requirements for Reducing the Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in Centers in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables, and the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include additional information on these requirements.

Table 38: Number of States with Requirements for Reducing the Risk of SIDS		
Requirement	Number of States	State
Infants must be placed on their backs to sleep	24	AK, AL, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, MD, ME, MS, NC, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Physicians can authorize a different sleep position for infants	20	AK, AL, FL, GA, IA, IL, MD, ME, MS, NC, NJ, NY, OK, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Soft bedding/materials must not be used in cribs	17	AK, AL, AZ, CO, GA, IL, MA, MD, ME, NJ, OH, OK, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI
Staff are required to complete training on SIDS prevention	7	AK, MN, NC, OK, TX, UT, WI
Parents can authorize a different sleep position for infants	5	IA, NC, NJ, OH, WA

N=50 states, excluding ID

3.10 Facility Requirements

A. Environmental Tests and Inspections

Twelve states (CT, DE, IA, MA, ME, MS, NH, NJ, RI, UT, VA, VT) require centers to conduct environmental tests for substances such as lead paint, lead in water, asbestos, and radon.

As shown in Table 39, a large number of states require centers to have environmental inspections. Almost all of these states require centers to have a fire inspection prior to obtaining a license.

* Task Force on Infant Sleep Position and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, American Academy of Pediatrics. (2000). Changing concepts of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome: Implications for infant sleeping environment and sleep position. *Pediatrics*, 105(3), 650–656.

Table 39: Number of States with Requirements for Environmental Inspections		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for environmental inspections	39	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
State requires fire inspections	37	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WV, WY
State requires health inspections	22	AL, AR, CO, IL, KS, LA, MA, MO, MT, NC, NH, NY, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
State requires building code inspections	6	KS, MA, NC, NY, RI, WI

N=39 states, excluding CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, KY, MI, OK, PA, and VT
 Note: States have multiple types of requirements for environmental inspections.

Most states require that environmental inspections be conducted prior to receiving a license; some also require centers to have inspections on an annual basis. *Table T: Frequency of Environmental Inspections of Centers in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables includes information about how often centers must have fire, health, and building code inspections. Additional information about requirements for environmental tests and inspections for each state is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

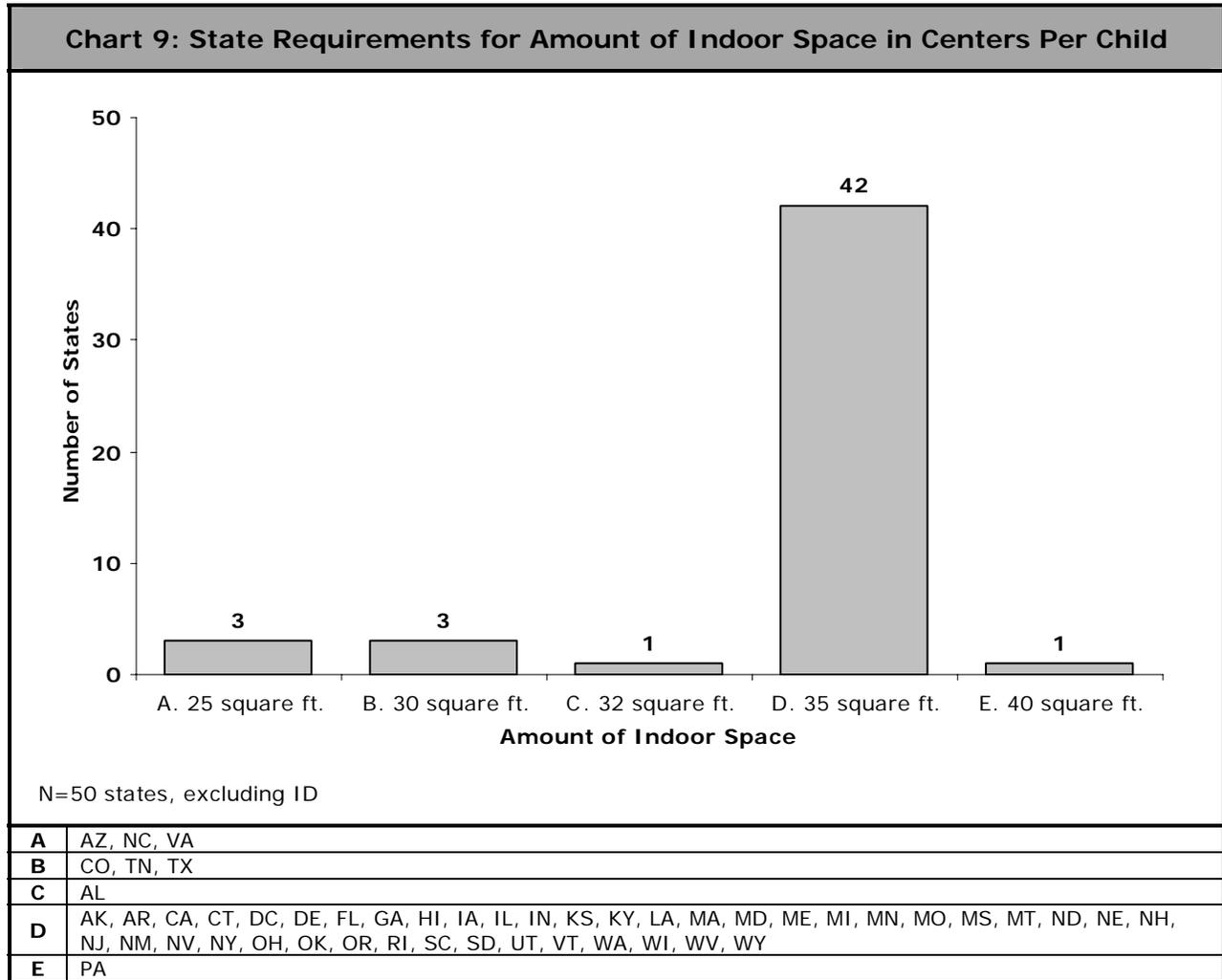
Fast Fact

The information in this study only includes data from child care center licensing regulations. There may be other state laws that require centers to have environmental tests and inspections.

B. Square Footage

Indoor Space Requirements

All states that license child care centers have requirements for the amount of indoor space that must be provided for each child. As shown in Chart 9, most states require child care centers to have 35 square feet of indoor space per child.



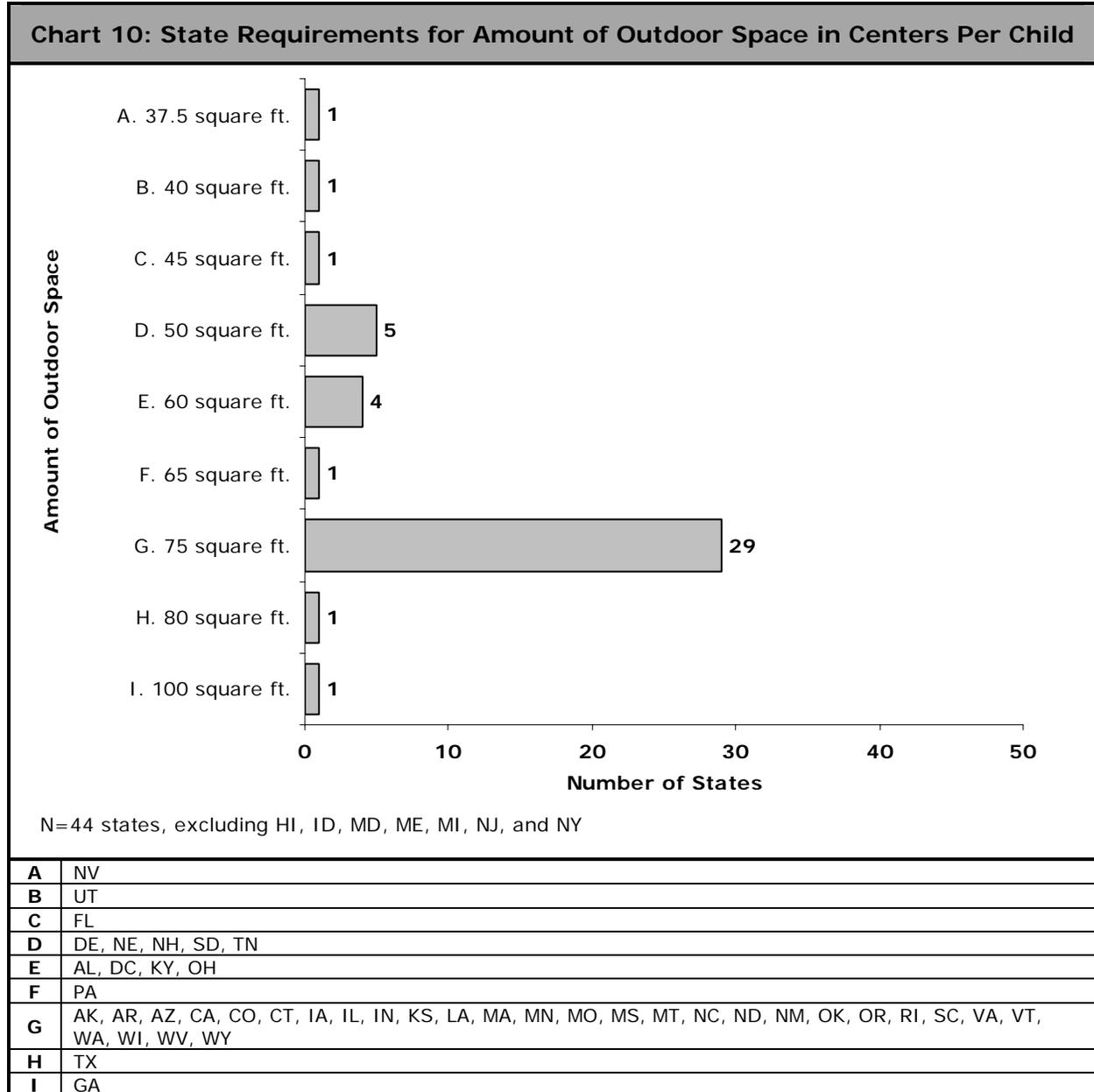
In addition, 14 states (AZ, CO, IL, IN, MI, MO, MS, NY, OR, PA, RI, VA, WA, WY) specify the amount of required indoor space by the age of the child. Table 40 lists the specific space requirements for infants, toddlers, and preschool- and school-age children in these states.

State	Table 40: State Requirements for Amount of Indoor Space Per Child by Age Group			
	Age of Children			
	Infants	Toddlers	Preschool-Age Children	School-Age Children
AZ	35 square feet	35 square feet	25 square feet	N/A
CO	50 square feet	45 square feet	30 square feet	30 square feet
IL	55 square feet	55 square feet	35 square feet	N/A
IN	50 square feet	N/A	N/A	N/A
MI	50 square feet	50 square feet	35 square feet	N/A
MO	35 square feet	35 square feet	35 square feet	35 square feet
MS	40 square feet	45 square feet	35 square feet	35 square feet
NY	35 square feet	35 square feet	N/A	N/A
OR	N/A	N/A	N/A	50 square feet
PA	40 square feet	50 square feet	N/A	N/A
RI	45 square feet	45 square feet	35 square feet	N/A
VA	25 square feet	N/A	N/A	N/A
WA	50 square feet	35 square feet	35 square feet	N/A
WY	35 square feet	35 square feet	N/A	N/A

N/A=Not addressed; state does not specify square footage for age group

Outdoor Space Requirements

All states except seven (HI, ID, MD, ME, MI, NJ, NY) have requirements for the amount of outdoor space that must be provided for each child. As shown in Chart 10, most states require centers to have 75 square feet of outdoor space for each child.



Eight states (CO, KS, MI, MN, MO, NJ, OK, WI) have requirements for the total minimum amount of outdoor space that centers are required to have, as shown in Table 41.

Table 41: States with Requirements for the Total Minimum Amount of Outdoor Space	
State	Minimum Requirement
CO	1,500 square feet
KS	750 square feet
MI	1,200 square feet
MN	1,500 square feet
MO	750 square feet
NJ	150 square feet
OK	1,800 square feet
WI	750 square feet

Table U: Amount of Indoor and Outdoor Space Required in Centers in 2005 in the 50-State Data Tables includes the square footage requirements for each state. Additional information is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

C. Condition of Facility and Equipment

As shown in Table 42, all states, except ID and IN, have requirements for the condition of the facility and/or equipment, e.g., that it must be in good condition. Additional information is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 42: Number of States with Requirements for the Condition of the Facility and/or Equipment		
Requirement	Number of States	State
Indoor area and equipment		
State has requirements for the condition of the indoor area of the building/facility	47	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the condition of indoor equipment	45	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Outdoor area and equipment		
State has requirements for the condition of the outdoor area of the building/facility	46	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the condition of outdoor equipment	45	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Materials and toys		
State has requirements for the condition of materials and toys for children	38	AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, UT, WI, WV, WY

N=49 states, excluding ID and IN

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for indoor and outdoor areas and equipment, materials, and toys.

D. Safety of Equipment

As seen in Table 43, most states have requirements for the safety of indoor and outdoor equipment. Additional information is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations, including each state's requirements for surfaces under indoor and outdoor equipment.

Table 43: Number of States with Requirements for Equipment Safety		
Requirement	Number of States	State
Indoor equipment		
State has requirements for sleeping equipment (e.g., cots, cribs, etc.)	48	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the safety of indoor equipment	43	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the surfaces under indoor equipment	12	LA, MI, MS, NH, NV, OH, PA, TX, UT, VA, VT, WV
Outdoor equipment		
State has requirements for the safety of outdoor equipment	45	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the surfaces under outdoor equipment	38	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, LA, MA, ME, MI, MO, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI, WV, WY
Indoor and outdoor equipment		
State requires equipment to be free of components that can pinch, shear, or crush body tissues	28	AK, AL, AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, IL, KY, MA, MN, MO, MT, NC, NE, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV

N=49 states, excluding ID and IN

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for the safety of indoor and outdoor equipment.

E. Outdoor Space

Enclosures or Fencing

As shown in Table 44, 34 states (AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) require child care centers to have a fence or other enclosure around the outdoor play space. Most of these states require that the fence be at least four feet in height. One state (NE) requires fencing to be at least three feet in height, one state (MO) requires fencing to be at least 42 inches in height, and 10 states (DC, HI, IN, KY, LA, NV, OH, TN, VT, WA) do not specify the height of the fence in their regulations. Information about each state's requirements is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 44: Number of States with Requirements for Outdoor Fencing		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires that outdoor space is enclosed or has a fence	34	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State requires that height of fence be at least four feet	22	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IL, KS, MS, MT, NC, NM, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, WI, WV, WY

N=34 states, excluding AK, AR, DE, IA, ID, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, ND, NH, NJ, NY, SC, SD, and VA

Bodies of Water

Forty states (AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY) have requirements for the safety of swimming pools in child care centers. In addition, 24 states (AK, AR, CA, CO, DE, FL, LA, MD, MN, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, SC, TX, WI, WV) have requirements to protect children from bodies of water (e.g., ponds, lakes, rivers, etc.).

F. Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness

Fire Safety

Forty-five states (AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements regarding fire safety. Of those states, 32 (AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, IA, IL, IN, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY) require centers to have a plan for how to evacuate the children and staff in case of a fire in the facility.

Fast Fact

The information in this study only includes data from child care center licensing regulations. There may be other state laws on fire safety that require centers to have a fire evacuation plan or conduct fire drills.

Thirty-seven states (AR, AZ, CO, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY) also require child care centers to conduct fire drills. As shown in Table 45, most of these states require centers to conduct fire drills at least once a month.

Table 45: Number of States with Requirements for Frequency of Fire Drills

Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires fire drills	37	AR, AZ, CO, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
More than once a month	2	RI, WV
At least once a month	27	AZ, AR, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, NC, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY
More than four times a year	3	MT, NH, PA
At least four times a year	3	MI, NE, SD
Other frequency*	1	CO
Time interval not specified in regulations	1	ND

N=37 states, excluding AK, AL, CA, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, ID, KY, MA, SC, TN, and VT

*CO requires that fire drills be held often enough so that all staff are familiar with drill procedures and their conduct during drills is a matter of established routine.

General Emergency Plans

In addition to the requirements related to fires, several states also have requirements for plans and drills for general emergencies (not specifically fires). Eight states (AK, AZ, DE, FL, MA, MS, VT, WV) require centers to have evacuation plans for general emergencies, and 24 states (AK, AR, CA, CO, DE, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NV, OK, OR, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT) require centers to perform general emergency drills. *Table V: Fire and Emergency Evacuation and Drill Requirements for Centers in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables provides state-by-state data on evacuation and drill requirements. Additional details are available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Emergency Preparedness

Table 46 shows the states that have preparedness requirements for specific emergencies caused by weather, utility-related problems, and/or acts of terrorism.

Table 46: Number of States with Requirements for Emergency Preparedness		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for emergency preparedness	33	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI
Center must have emergency plans/procedures for natural disasters (e.g., tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes, other weather)	28	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NJ, NV, OH, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI
Center must have emergency plans/procedures for utility-related problems (e.g., blackouts)	7	AL, GA, IA, MA, OH, OK, UT
Center must have emergency plans/procedures for acts of terrorism	4	IA, OH, OK, VA

N=33 states, excluding AK, AZ, DC, DE, FL, ID, KY, LA, ME, MT, NC, NH, NY, RI, SC, VT, WV, and WY

Notes:

"Acts of terrorism" includes intruders within the center, intoxicated parents, lost or abducted children, threats of violence, man-made disasters, and others.

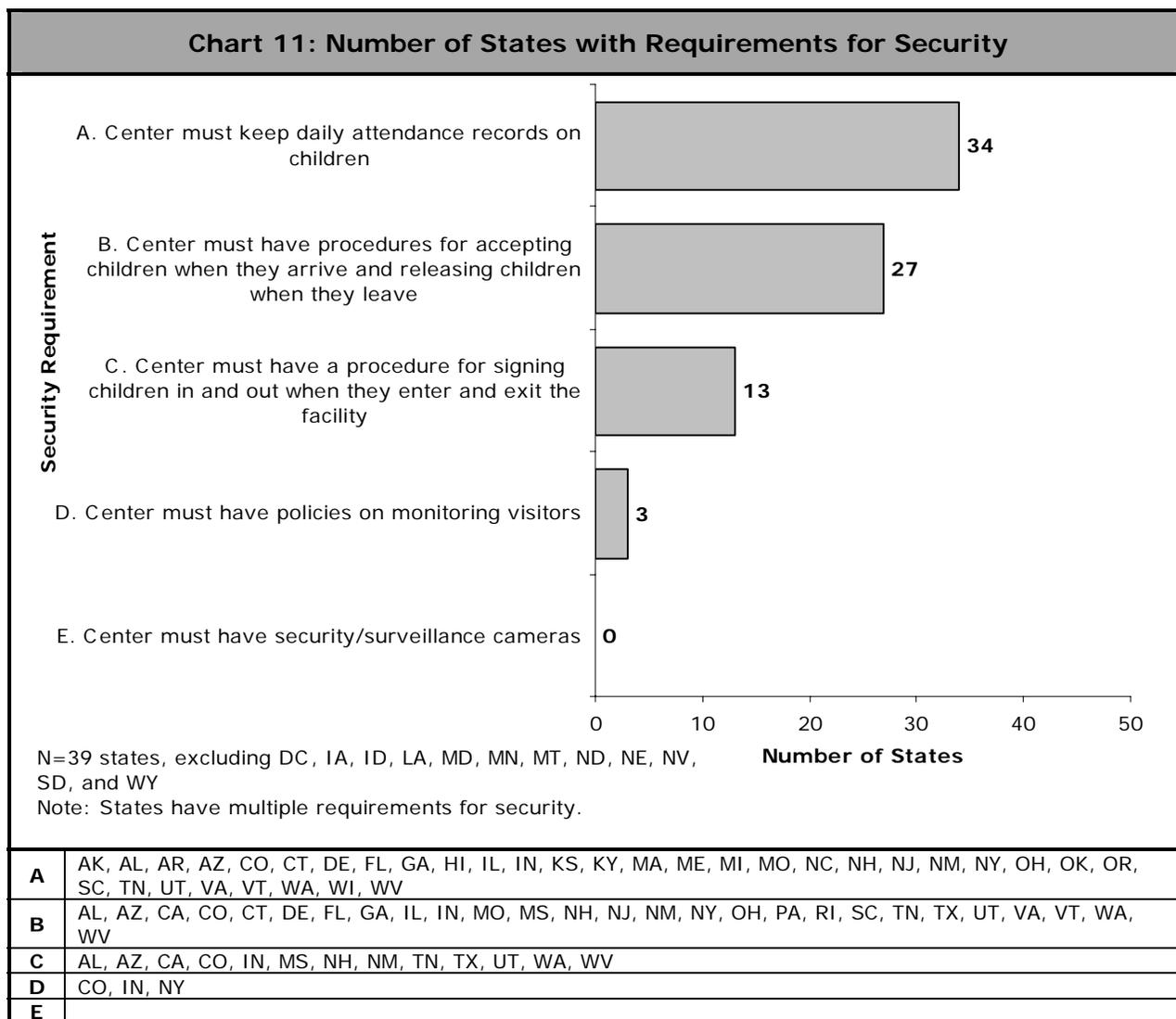
States have multiple requirements for emergency preparedness.

Fast Fact

More than half the states require centers to be prepared for specific emergencies caused by weather, utility-related problems, and/or acts of terrorism.

G. Security

Many states have requirements for centers related to the security of children. For example, as shown in Chart 11, most states require centers to keep daily attendance records of children, and more than half require centers to establish procedures for accepting children when they enter the center and releasing children at the end of the day. At this time, no states require centers to have surveillance cameras to protect the facility.



H. Transportation

General Requirements

All states, except DC, ID, and SC, have requirements regarding transporting children in vehicles. Table 47 shows some of the specific requirements states have for transporting children. See “3.8 Supervision of Children” for more information about requirements for transportation. Additional information about transportation requirements is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 47: Number of States with Requirements for Transportation		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements on transportation	48	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the driver of the vehicle (e.g., the driver must have valid driver’s license, a minimum age requirement)	38	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for the condition of the vehicle	31	AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MI, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, SC, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
First aid kit must be kept in the vehicle	24	AZ, CO, DE, GA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MI, MS, NC, NJ, NM, OH, OK, PA, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for seating in the vehicle	20	AL, AR, CA, CO, GA, KY, MA, MI, MO, NC, NE, NJ, NM, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, VT, WI
State has requirements for emergency equipment needed in the vehicle	13	AK, DE, GA, IN, LA, MI, NC, NJ, NM, TN, TX, WA, WV

N=48 states, excluding DC, ID, and SD

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for transportation.

Vehicle Safety Restraints

Most states also have requirements for centers regarding vehicle safety restraints for children, such as seat belts and car seats, as shown in Table 48.

Table 48: Number of States with Requirements for Vehicle Safety Restraints for Children		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for vehicle safety restraints for children	41	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for seat belts for children	35	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI, WV, WY
State has requirements for car seats/child restraint systems	38	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=41 states, excluding CT, DC, DE, HI, ID, LA, ND, NV, RI, and SD

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for vehicle safety restraints.

I. Liability and Automobile Insurance

Thirty-two states (AR, AZ, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV) require child care centers to have either liability insurance or automobile insurance as protection from accidents and injuries to children in care, as shown in Table 49. Fifteen states (AZ, DE, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, ND, NJ, NV, RI, SD, TN, VT, WI) require centers to have both types of insurance. *Table W: Liability and Automobile Insurance Requirements for Centers in 2005* in the 50-State Data Tables shows the states that have these requirements and the amount of insurance required if specified in the state regulations. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations also include additional information about insurance requirements for each state.

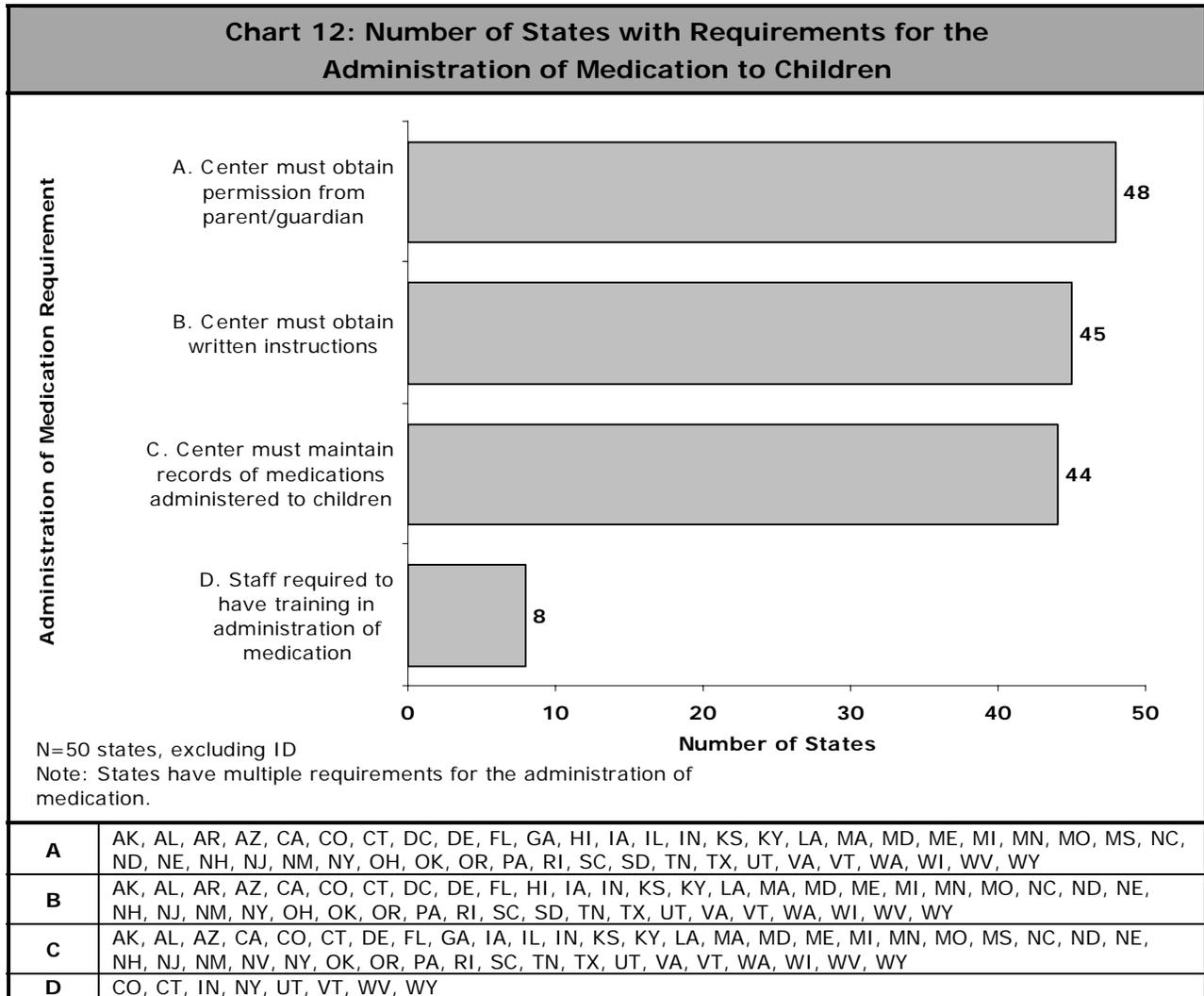
Table 49: Number of States with Requirements for Liability and Automobile Insurance		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires insurance	32	AZ, AR, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Automobile insurance required	26	AR, AZ, DE, FL, HI, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MS, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OK, RI, SD, TN, VT, WA, WI
General liability insurance required	21	AZ, DE, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MT, ND, NJ, NV, NY, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, VT, WI, WV

N=32 states, excluding AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, GA, IA, ID, MD, MN, MO, NE, OH, OR, SC, TX, UT, and WY
 Note: States require multiple types of insurance.

J. Medical Care and Related Issues

Administration of Medication

All states, except ID, have requirements on the administration of medication to children. As shown in Chart 12, nearly all states must obtain permission from parents to administer medication, get written instructions on how to give the medication to children, and keep records on medications given to children.



Medical Procedures

Seven states (AL, CT, DC, IN, MI, OH, SC) have requirements for centers related to performing medical procedures, such as blood glucose tests, on children with medical conditions. These states require that permission is obtained from the parents and/or instructions are obtained from parents or a physician on how to perform the procedure. Three states (AL, CT, MI) require centers to keep records of medical procedures.

Fast Facts

- All states that license child care centers have requirements for the administration of medication to children.
- Almost all states have requirements for centers on how to care for children who are ill.

Care of Ill Children

As shown in Table 50, most states allow centers to exclude mildly ill children from the facility, meaning they must be kept at home until they are well enough to return to the program. Fewer states specifically allow child care centers to admit children into the program when they are mildly ill.

As shown in “3.9 Care of Children,” many states also have requirements for the supervision of ill children, the types of activities centers should make available to ill children, and for the facility where ill children are located. Additional information about these requirements is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 50: Number of States with Requirements for the Care of Mildly Ill Children

Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for the care of mildly ill children	47	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Center can exclude children who are mildly ill	38	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Center can admit children who are mildly ill	18	AK, HI, IA, IL, MA, MO, MT, NC, ND, NY, OR, PA, RI, SC, UT, WA, WI, WY

N=47 states, excluding ID, MD, NE, and NV

Note: States have multiple requirements for the care of mildly ill children.

Incident Reporting

Table 51 shows that most states have requirements for reporting serious injuries and deaths of children in child care centers. Most states also require centers to keep their own records of these incidents. Additional information about incident reporting requirements is available in the Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations.

Table 51: Number of States with Requirements for Incident Reporting		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for incident reporting	44	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Center must keep a record of all serious injuries that occur to children in the program	39	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY
Center must report all serious injuries that occur to children in the program to the licensing agency	33	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, MA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Centers must report all deaths that occur to children in the program to the licensing agency	30	AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MI, MN, MS, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=44 states, excluding AZ, DC, HI, ID, KY, NE, and SD
Note: States have multiple requirements for incident reporting.

Health Consultants

Of the states that license child care centers, 19 (CO, CT, DE, HI, IN, MA, MD, ME, MN, NC, ND, NJ, NV, NY, OK, RI, WA, WI, WV) require centers to have a health consultant available to the staff.

Terminology
Child care health consultants: Health professionals who are used by child care centers to provide information and expertise on health issues.

First Aid Kits

In addition, all except four states (AL, ID, MO, SD) require centers to keep a first aid kit in the facility. Twenty-seven (AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NE, NM, OK, OR, PA, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV, WY) of those states specify the items that must be contained in the first aid kit.

K. Hand Washing

Requirements for Staff

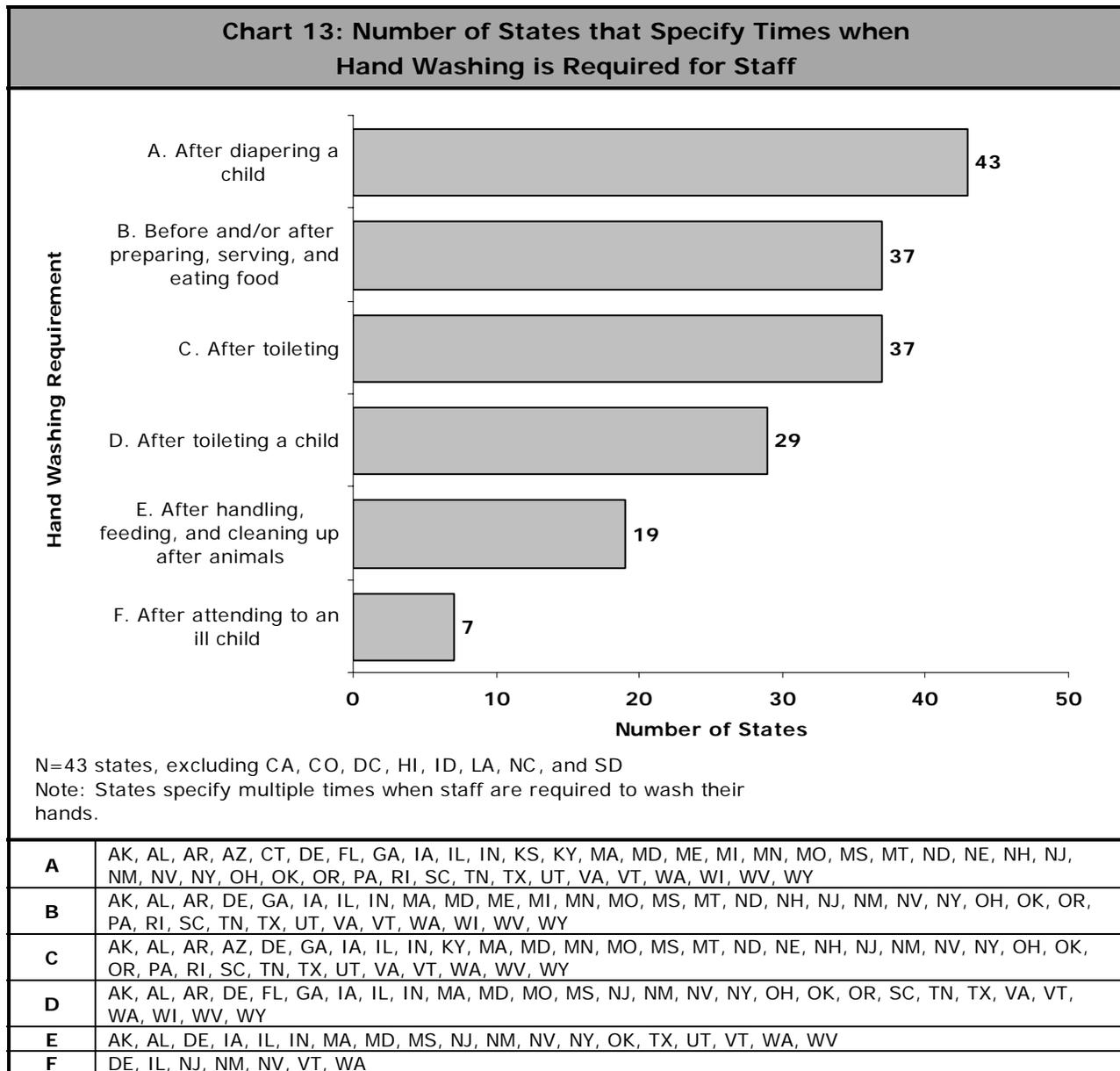
As shown in Table 52, most states have requirements for hand washing for staff. A few require staff to complete training on this topic. In addition, 17 states (AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DE, IL, IN, KY, MD, MO, MT, NM, NV, RI, SC, VA) have requirements for the location and/or amount of hand washing facilities for staff.

Table 52: Number of States with Requirements for Hand Washing for Center Staff		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for hand washing for staff	44	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
State specifies when staff must wash their hands	43	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Staff required to complete training on hand washing	6	AZ, CT, IN, OH, SD, WI

N=44 states, excluding CA, CO, DC, HI, ID, LA, and NC

Note: States have multiple types of requirements for hand washing for staff.

Of the states that have requirements for hand washing for staff, only SD does not specify when staff must wash their hands. Chart 13 shows the times when center staff must wash their hands. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include information about additional times staff are required to wash their hands.



Requirements for Children

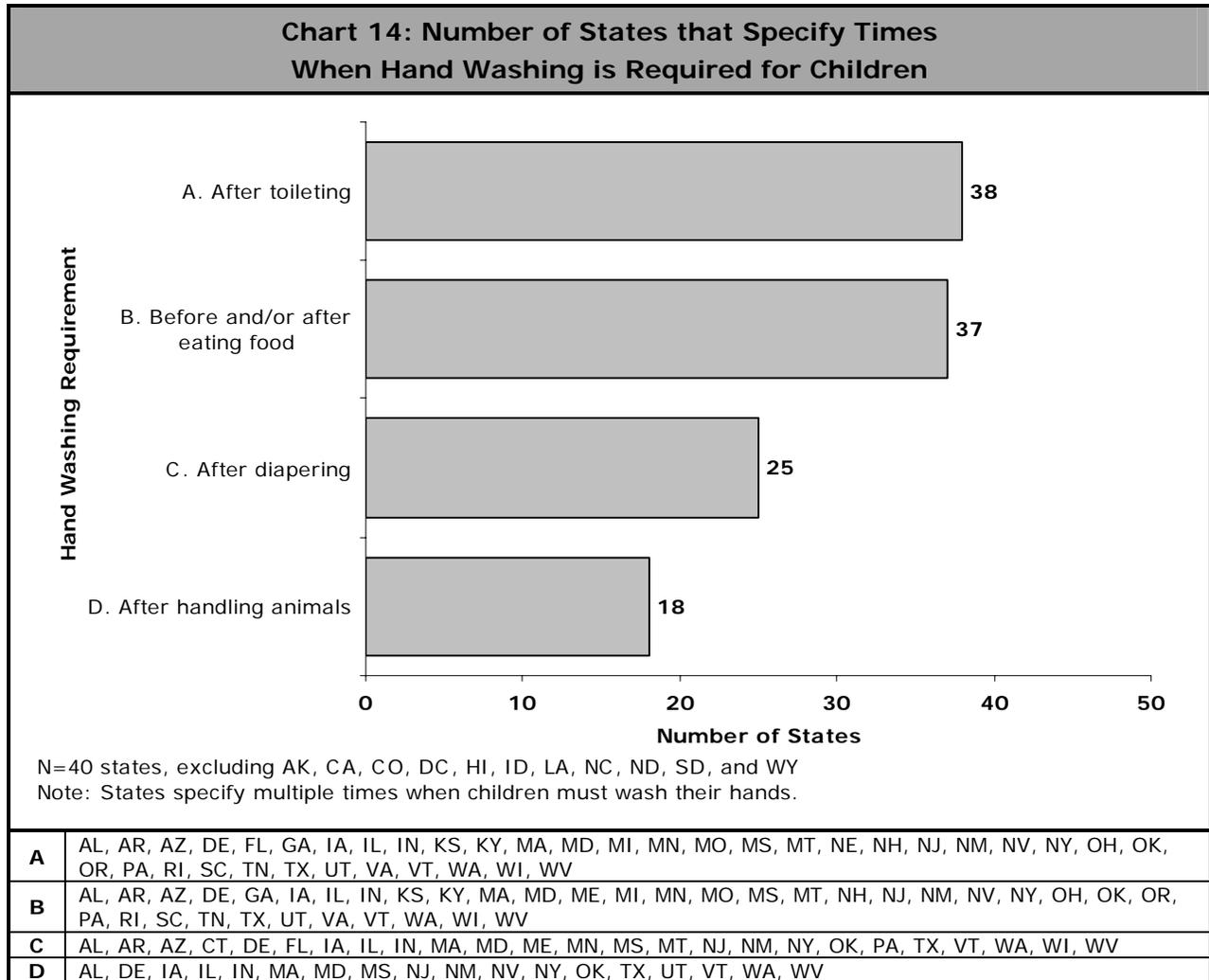
As shown in Table 53, most states have requirements for centers regarding washing children's hands. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include information about additional times children are required to wash their hands.

In addition, 42 states (AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements for the location and/or amount of hand washing facilities for children.

Table 53: Number of States with Requirements for Hand Washing for Children		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements for hand washing for children	41	AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
State specifies when children must wash their hands	40	AL, AR, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

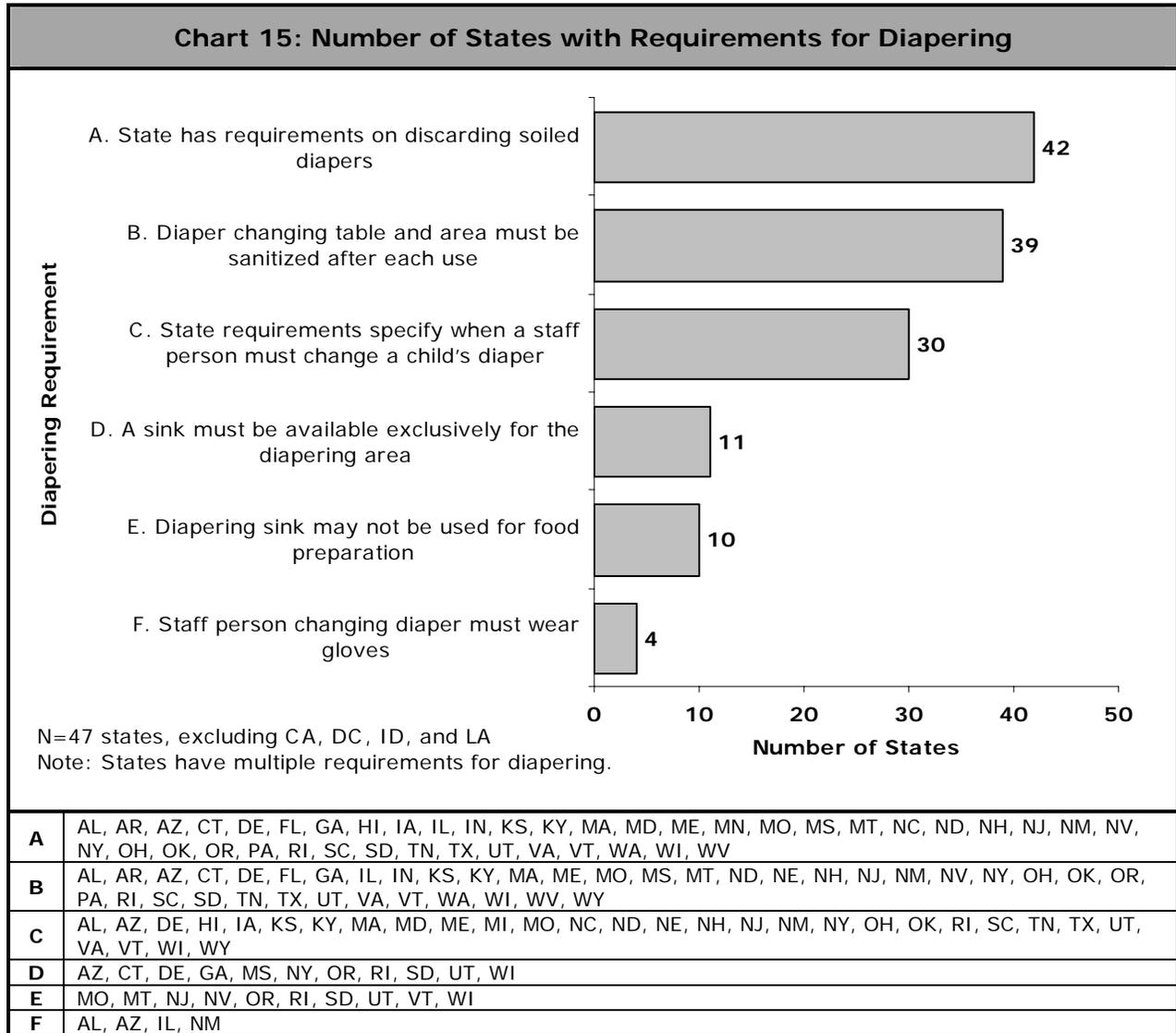
N=41 states, excluding AK, CA, DC, HI, ID, LA, NC, ND, SD, and WY

Of the 41 states that have requirements for hand washing for children, only CO does not specify when children must wash their hands. Chart 14 shows the times when children must wash their hands. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include information about additional times children are required to wash their hands.



L. Diapering

All states except four (CA, DC, ID, LA) have requirements for diapering. As shown in Chart 15, these requirements include information about discarding soiled diapers, sanitation of diapering areas, and when to change children's diapers. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations have additional information about the diapering requirements in each state, including the requirements for the proximity of sinks to diapering areas.



M. Smoking Policies

Table 54 shows that almost all states have requirements regarding smoking in child care centers. Most states specify that smoking is not allowed in a center facility; however, some states allow centers to permit smoking on the grounds or in a designated area of the center.

Table 54: Number of States with Requirements about Smoking in Centers		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about smoking in centers	47	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Smoking is not allowed in a child care center	31	AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MS, MT, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Smoking is not allowed on the grounds of a child care center	19	AL, CA, CT, FL, GA, IA, IN, LA, MD, ME, MI, MS, MT, NM, TX, UT, VT, WI, WV
Smoking is not allowed in the presence of children	18	AR, DE, HI, IL, KY, ME, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, OH, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Smoking is not allowed in a vehicle while transporting children	14	CO, FL, GA, IA, KS, NM, NY, OR, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Smoking is not allowed in areas used for the care of children	11	CO, DE, MA, MO, NC, NM, NY, OR, PA, SC, WY
Smoking is allowed in a designated area	10	AR, AZ, CT, GA, KY, MS, NV, OH, SC, WA
Smoking is not allowed in areas where food is prepared	6	DE, MO, NM, PA, SC, WY

N=47 states, excluding DC, ID, MN, and SD

Note: States have multiple types of requirements about smoking.

N. Hazardous Materials

All states except five (HI, IA, ID, NV, SD) have requirements regarding the accessibility of hazardous materials and substances, such as cleaning products and other chemicals, in child care centers. Of those 46 states, 39 (AK, AR, AZ, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) specify that hazardous materials must be kept out of the reach of children. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include additional information on these requirements.

Fast Fact

One-third of states that license centers specify that firearms are not allowed in the facility.

O. Firearms

As shown in Table 55, more than half of states have requirements regarding the presence of firearms in child care centers. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include additional information on these requirements.

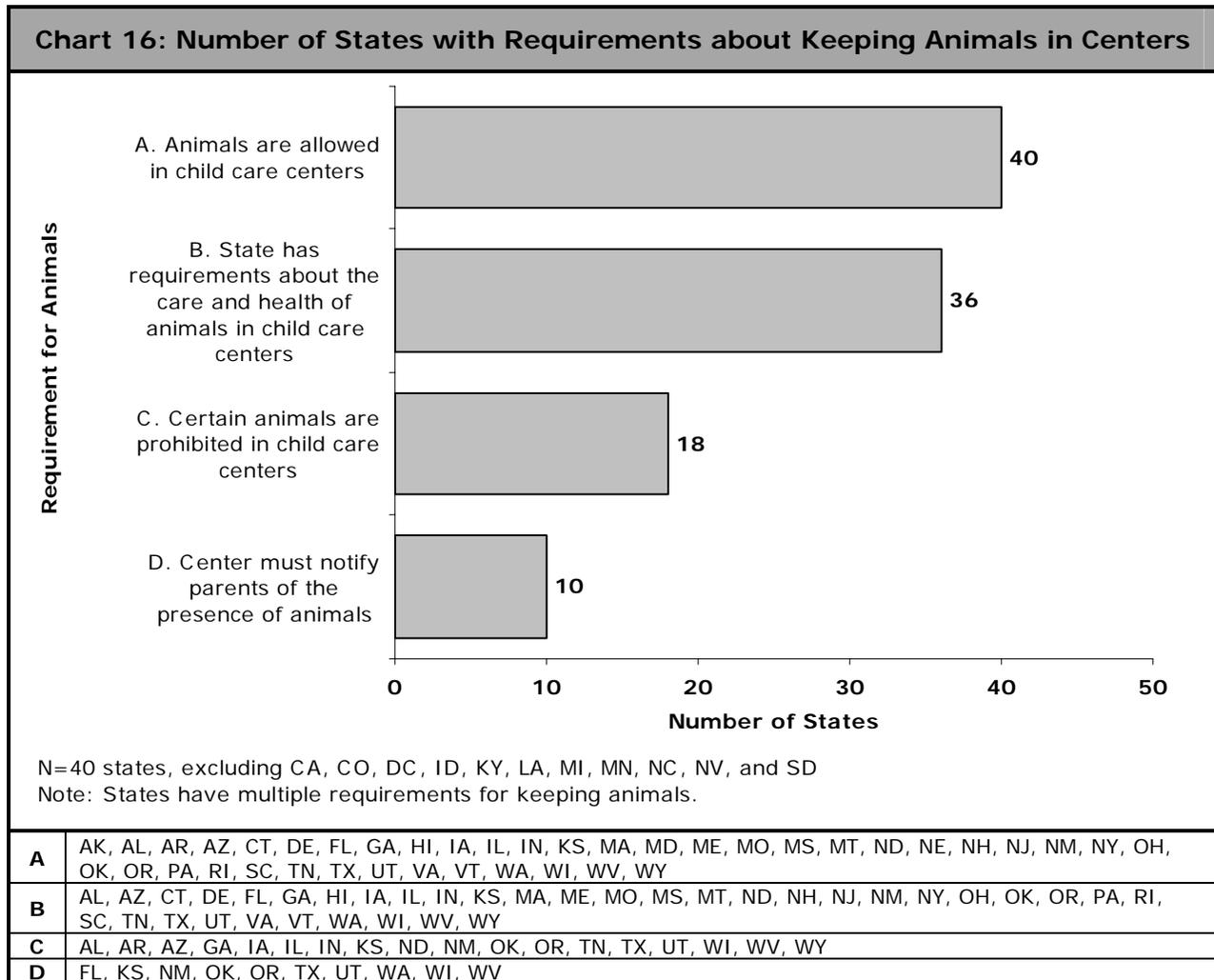
Table 55: Number of States with Requirements about the Presence of Firearms in Centers

Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about the presence of firearms in the facility	31	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, FL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Firearms are not allowed in child care centers	17	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, FL, IN, ME, NM, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, WA, WI, WV
Firearms are allowed in child care centers, but must be in a locked container or closet	8	KY, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, OK, UT
Firearms are allowed in child care centers, but ammunition must be separate from firearms	3	MT, OK, UT
Center must notify parents of the presence of firearms in the facility	2	OK, WY

N=31 states, excluding AR, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, MA, MI, MN, ND, NJ, NV, NY, RI, SD, VA, and VT
 Note: States have multiple types of requirements about the presence of firearms.

P. Animals in Facility

Forty states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements about keeping animals in child care centers. As shown in Chart 16, the same 40 states allow animals to be kept in centers. Most of these states have requirements for centers on the care of animals. The Data Profiles for State Child Care Center Regulations include additional information on these requirements.





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