GATHERING LOCAL DATA

Understanding child care supply and demand will differ depending on your state. This tool provides some starting points for data collection. Consider how updated these sources are and identify whether additional data collection is needed to meet your needs.

- Bipartisan Policy Center has a state by state dashboard and fact sheet about child care supply and estimated gap by congressional district here.

- Kids Count, provided by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, has state by state information about the number of children by age group, the number of children with all available adults in the workforce, and the number of child care spaces here.

- Child Care Aware of America has state by state resources and information about where to go for additional state-based data here.

- Childcaredeserts.org has visualizations of child care supply versus demand estimates. Review the methodology to understand when the data was last updated and how relevant it might be today.

- Your state child care licensing entity may provide data about licensed child care spaces by zip code, city, and/or county and that data may include greater detail about the ages served by those spaces. For example, in Colorado this data can be downloaded and analyzed.

Some of these sources do not distinguish the age group that existing child care supply supports. In many parts of the U.S., supply is severely limited for infants and toddlers (typically defined as children under 3), compared to somewhat higher levels of supply for preschoolers, children aged 3-5. Consider attempting to find local data that includes information about the ages of the children being cared for.

LOCAL LANDSCAPE

For our community, the licensed capacity vs population is as follows

AGE GROUP:	LICENSED CAPACITY ESTIMATE :	POPULATION ESTIMATE :	% OF CHILDREN SERVED IN A LICENSED SETTING :
Infants (0-18 months)			
Toddler (18-36 months)			
Preschooler (36-60 months)			

The data indicates that there are ☐ **child care facilities in operation.**

(quantity)

They have capacity to serve ☐ **total infants,** ☐ **total toddlers,** ☐ **total preschoolers.**

From reviewing these sources, the data that stands out includes:

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What aligns with or is different from what you have heard about the local context for child care as you review this data?