



Redwood County Child Care Status

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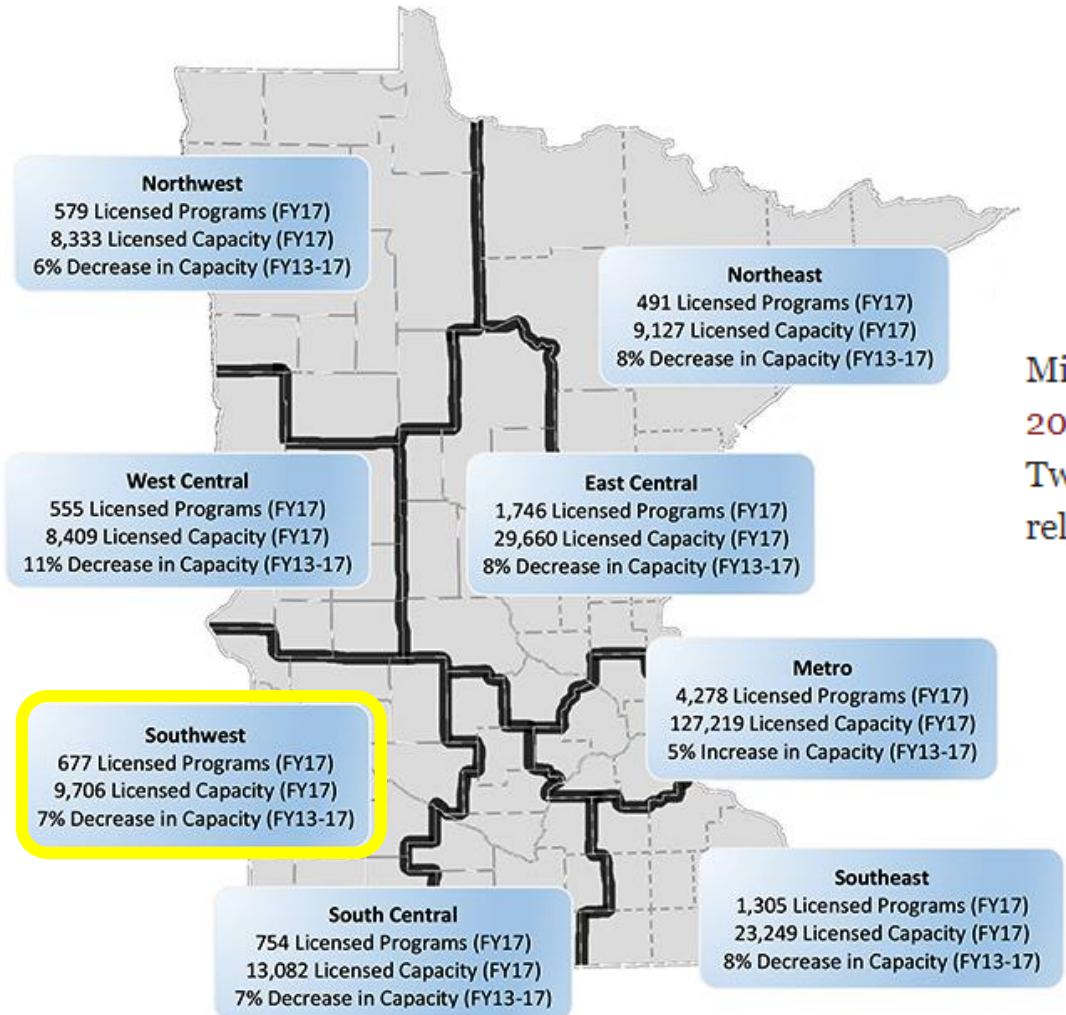
“If employees can’t find quality care for their children, they won’t work for you. They won’t move to your community, or they’ll be forced to move away, or they might have to consider quitting their job to stay home with their children because they have no other option.”

- Kris Bevell Editor

Prairie Business Magazine



Regional Trends in Licensed Child Care



Minnesota Department of Human Services
Regional trends in licensed child care (centers and family child care programs) (FY2013-2017)

Minnesota was ranked the fifth least affordable state in the country for infant care in a 2017 report. And while it's not impossible to find child care options — if expensive — in the Twin Cities metro area, the service has become scarcer in rural Minnesota, where parents rely heavily on smaller, more dispersed in-home businesses.

<https://www.minnpost.com/good-jobs/2019/01/senate-republicans-push-to-make-addressing-minnesotas-child-care-woes-a-priority/>

Gap Analysis Results

	2017	2018
Sanborn	-59	-59
Lamberton	-30	-20
Revere	15	5
Walnut Grove	-36	-46
Belview	-26	-26
Clements	-26	-16
Lucan	1	1
Milroy	7	-3
Morgan	-11	-11
Redwood Falls	-44	6
Seaforth	6	6
Vesta	-3	7
Wabasso	-6	4
Wanda	0	0
	-212	-152



Data produced by First Children's Finance

In-Home Child Care Provider Stats

	2017	2018	Total Slots	Provider Need
Sanborn	0	0	0	5
Lamberton	2	4	48	2
Revere	1	1	12	0
Walnut Grove	2	2	24	4
Belview	0	0	0	2.1
Clements	0	1	12	1.3
Lucan	2	3	36	0
Milroy	3	2	24	0.25
Morgan	5	6	72	1
Redwood Falls	18	22	264	0
Seaforth	1	1	12	0
Vesta	2	3	36	0
Wabasso	6	6	72	0
Wanda	0	0	0	0
Morton *	?	2	24	?
Lower Sioux	0	0	52	0
TOTAL	42	51	664	15.65
New	4	12		
Closed	7	3		
Net Gain	-3	9		

	2017	2018
Total Family Providers	42	51
Average Length of Service	12.9 years	10.3 years
Less than 5 years	13/29.5%	23/45%
More than 20 years	12/27.3%	9/17.6%



Data produced by Southwest Health and Human Services

Redwood Area School District Child Care Programs

Cardinal Kids Club Total Capacity 50

46 children were enrolled in the
Cardinal Kids Club Program
(3 – 5 years)

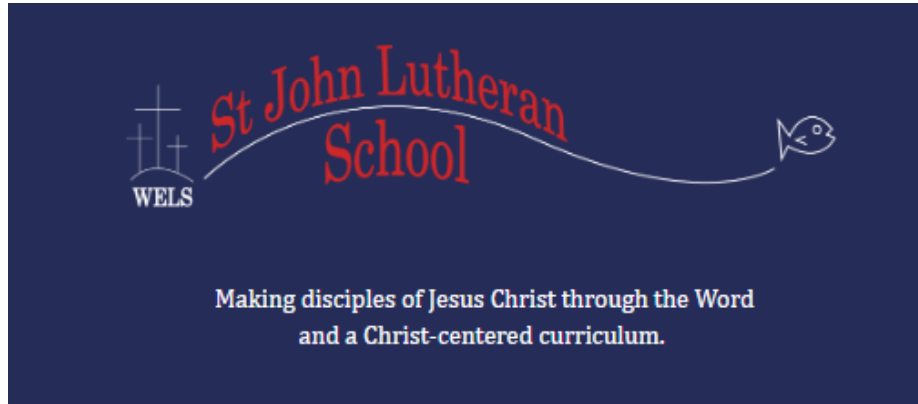
School Age Child Care Capacity is based on need

94 children were enrolled in the
School Age Child Care Program
(K – 5th grade)



Data from 2017-18 School Year by the
Redwood Area School District

St. John Lutheran Early Childhood Learning Center



Total Capacity 49

37 children were enrolled in the
Early Childhood Learning Center
Program (3 – 5 years)



Lower Sioux Early Head Start & Preschool Cansayapi Wakanyeza Owayawa Ti

Total Capacity 74

Center Based Learning

- Infant (6 weeks to 12 months): 8 slots
- Little 1's (10 to 22 months): 8 slots
- Room #1 Mixed 2 – 3's (22 to 36 months): 8 slots
- Room #2 Mixed 2 – 3's (22 to 36 months): 8 slots
- Preschool (3 to 5 years): 20 slots

Home-Based Learning (Birth to 3 years): 10 slots

Expectant Family Learning: 12 slots



Activities to Address the Shortage

2015

- Public meetings held with SW Initiative Foundation and First Children's Finance

2016

- Community Solution Action Plan developed by First Children's Finance based on public meetings held
- Child Care Provider Leadership Cohort completed with First Children's Finance
- Countywide Child Care survey conducted

2017

- SW Minnesota Opportunity Council – hosted Infant and Toddler Credential Training
 - County offered training for free to Providers in the amount of \$1,000
- County created new Economic Development Coordinator position, primary focus Child Care
- (Re-)Established working relationships with support agencies to include: First Children's Finance, Child Care Aware, Southwest Initiative Foundation, Center for Inclusive Child Care, Southwest Health and Human Services, Department of Human Services, United Community Action (Thrive)
- Program and surrounding community solution research
- Met with all City Councils
- Gap Analysis completed by First Children's Finance
- 4 new Family Based Child Care Providers licensed and 7 closed; net gain of -3

2018

- Public meetings held in Redwood Falls and Wabasso
- Taskforce of 30 people established
- Outreach and Education to public – features in the local papers and radio interviews
- Center for Inclusive Child Care hires Relationship Coach in Redwood County
- Taskforce met and developed two goals: Increase Capacity and Support/Retain Current Providers
- Solution planning with the City of Lamberton
- Co-hosted Child Care Provider Appreciation Event
- Lower Sioux Early Head Start and Preschool program opens
- Child Care Provider Survey conducted
- Child Care Center site visits in Southwest Minnesota
- Testified to Senate Child Care Access Working Group
- Established financial partnership with Child Care Aware to offset training cost, in an effort to keep trainings local and affordable for Providers
- Public meeting held in Lucan to include solution planning
- 12 new Family Based Child Care Providers licensed, 3 closed (2 due to retirement and 1 due to low enrollment in Milroy). This produced an increase of 90 new slots for the first year and 108 slots for all years following

2019

- Continued monitoring of Child Care Provider licensing
- Continued outreach and education to public about importance of accessing child care
- Continued solution planning with the City of Lambertton
- City of Sanborn Community Survey and solution planning
- Solution planning with the City of Belview
- Second Child Care Provider Leadership Cohort with First Children's Finance
- How to become a Child Care Provider Workshop
- Child Care Provider Appreciation Event
- Meetings with Red Rock Central, Westbrook-Walnut Grove Schools



Questions?

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