

# CHILD CARE LICENSING REPORT STATE FISCALYEAR 2019

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES OFFICE OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Annual Child Care Licensing Report provides information regarding the licensing activities and inspections performed by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, Office of Family Assistance, Bureau of Child Care Licensing and Monitoring, as required by Section 5104.04 of the Ohio Revised Code:

The Department shall prepare an annual report on inspections conducted under this section. The report shall include the number of inspections conducted, the number and types of violations found, and the steps taken to address the violations. The department shall file the report with the governor, the president and minority leader of the senate, and the speaker of the house of representatives on or before the first day of January of each year, beginning in 1999.

The Bureau of Child Care Licensing and Monitoring is managed by a bureau chief, who oversees all bureau operations. The bureau is structured with a central office and five regional offices throughout the state, in Akron, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Toledo. Additionally, the 88 county departments of job and family services monitor type A homes and type B homes.

This report outlines licensing activities conducted during state fiscal year 2019, between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019, for licensed child care centers and type A and B homes. A child care center is defined as any place that is not the permanent residence of the licensee or administrator in which child care is provided, with or without compensation, for seven to 12 children at one time, or any place in which child care is provided for 13 or more children at one time. A type A home is defined as a residence of a child care provider in which care is provided for seven to 12 children. A type B home is defined as a residence of a child care provider in which care is provided for one to six children.

During state fiscal year 2019, Ohio had 7,442 licensed child care programs, which included 4,349 child care centers, 266 type A homes, and 2,827 type B homes.

## **INSPECTION SUMMARY**

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services utilizes a hybrid method when conducting inspections of child care centers. This includes differential and risk assessment monitoring. Differential monitoring is a regulatory method for determining the frequency or depth of monitoring based on a program's history of compliance. Therefore, additional inspections may be conducted based on the history of non-compliances. A risk assessment model identifies rules that pose the greatest risk of harm to children and assigns a point value to determine the need for additional inspections or enforcement actions. Child care centers, type A homes, and type B homes are inspected by state and county licensing specialists to assess minimum health and safety standards, as required in Ohio Revised Code 5104 and Ohio Administrative Code 5101:2-12 and 5101:2-13. An announced initial pre-licensing inspection is completed for newly licensed programs. Once licensed, programs are issued a one-year provisional license. If the program demonstrates full compliance, the provisional license may be amended to a non-expiring continuous license. Child care centers receive at least one unannounced inspection each year, and type A and B homes receive at least two inspections, one of which must be unannounced, after the initial license is approved. In addition to routine inspections, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and county agency licensing specialists are mandated to investigate complaints regarding rule violations of Ohio's

licensing regulations. After completing an investigation, the licensing specialist determines if the allegation is substantiated, unsubstantiated, or unable to be determined for each allegation. A substantiated allegation is one in which there is enough evidence to support the allegation. An unsubstantiated allegation is one in which there is clear evidence that the allegation was false or did not occur. An allegation deemed "unable to be determined" means that the licensing specialist could not determine whether the allegation was true or false.

During on-site inspections, licensing specialists document findings in a mobile software application known as the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System and generate reports with details of the onsite inspections. Any areas of non-compliance require corrective action plans. At the end of each inspection, the licensing specialist conducts an exit interview to review each finding and provide technical assistance to help support the program's compliance. Once the report and exit interview are complete, a copy of the report is electronically forwarded to the program, and the report is uploaded to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services website for review by the public.

#### Child Care Center, Type A and B Home Inspections

During state fiscal year 2019, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services licensing specialists successfully performed 6,121 inspections and licensed 300 new child care centers. County agency specialists successfully performed 5,283 inspections and licensed 140 new type A and B home providers. Of the inspections completed, 2,066 were initiated due to child care center complaints, and 291 were initiated due to type A and B home complaints.

Figure 1 reflects the number of inspections completed during each of the past five state fiscal years, along with the number of complaint investigations. Note that state fiscal years 2015, 2016, and 2017 include data for child care centers and type A homes only. State fiscal year 2018 and state fiscal year 2019 include data for all child care programs.



#### **Technical Assistance**

In addition to monitoring and facilitating compliance through inspections and complaint investigations, licensing specialists offer technical assistance and training to child care programs to promote compliance and educate providers on quality practices. Technical assistance consists of providing suggestions for reaching or maintaining compliance, explaining the intent of the rule, and sharing best practices. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services licensing specialists provide targeted technical assistance to new administrators by contacting them by telephone upon hire to answer questions and provide resources. Additionally, routine trainings are conducted throughout Ohio. These trainings review all licensing requirements so that administrators have a clear understanding of the expectations. Additionally, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services provides various technical assistance documents to programs on licensing and Step Up To Quality requirements.

### CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Licensed programs must submit a corrective action plan for identified non-compliances cited during an inspection. The program submits the corrective action plan through the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System, outlines their plan to correct the non-compliance, and indicates how they will ensure continued compliance. All non-compliances are documented in the licensing inspection report and reviewed with the administrator, type A or B home provider, or designee upon completion of the inspection. The program is given a deadline date to complete the corrective action plan and submit the required documentation in the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System. The status of the corrective action plan is displayed on the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services website documenting the corrective action plan resolution.

#### SUMMARY OF COMPLIANCE FINDINGS

During on-site inspections, licensing specialists verify program compliance with licensing rules by making observations, conducting interviews, and reviewing documentation. If an inspection identifies multiple violations of the same rule, the program is cited for that non-compliance only once.

Non-compliances are categorized as serious, moderate, or low risk and are assigned a point value based on the severity of the non-compliance. Serious risk non-compliances are rule violations that may lead to the greatest risk of harm, immediately endangering the health and safety of children while in care and/or potentially causing death. A serious risk non-compliance must be observed or determined, not inferred, by the licensing specialist and is a 6-point violation. A moderate risk non-compliance, which is a 3-point violation, must also be observed and not inferred by the licensing specialist. A low-risk non-compliance, a 1-point violation, still poses a health or safety risk to children while in care.

The following tables illustrate the type and most frequent serious, moderate, and low-risk rule violations cited during state fiscal year 2019 for child care centers and type A and B homes.

### Child Care Center Most Frequently Cited Non-Compliances by Finding and Risk Level

CENTER SERIOUS-RISK NON-COMPLIANCES			
Rule	Total Number of Violations Determined in state fiscal year 2019		
Absent Supervision – Child Left Outside of Facility	107		
Prohibited Guidance and Management Technique Used Which Resulted in Substantiated Public Children Services Agency Abuse/Neglect Finding	36		
Children Not Protected from Situation that Resulted in Serious Incident / Injury	32		
Administrator / Owner Provided Misleading or False Information	20		
Failure to Report Abuse and Neglect to the Public Children Services Agency	18		
Employee with Ineligible Background Check – Still Employed	16		
Driver Transporting Children without Appropriate License	9		
Child(ren) Unattended in Vehicle	8		
Medication Administered to Wrong Child	5		
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Denied Access to Facility to Complete Inspection	2		
Total	253		

CENTER MODERATE-RISK NON-COMPLIANCES			
Rule	Total Number of Violations Determined in state fiscal year 2019		
Administration of Medication Form Not on File or Missing Information	1,219		
Child Health Care Plan Missing Information	908		
Not Meeting Staff/Child Ratio During Inspection	728		
Background Check Not Requested for Employee	699		
Child Health Care Plan Not on File	580		
Program Notification of Background Check Review Not on File	574		
Toxic Chemicals Stored Within Reach of Children	368		
Absent Supervision Inside Facility	273		
Not Meeting Staff/Child Ratio More Than Once During Inspection	245		
Background Checks Not Updated for Employee	245		
Total	5,839		

CENTER LOW-RISK NON-COMPLIANCES		
Rule	Total Number of Violations Determined in state fiscal year 2019	
Child Enrollment Form Not Complete	2,893	
One Hour Child Abuse Training Not Completed	1,611	
Staff Medical Statement Not on File	1,382	
Emergency Drills Not Completed	1,344	
General Safety Hazards	1,344	
Staff Orientation Not Complete	1,153	
Missing Information on Staff Medical Statement	1,146	
Staff Education Verification Not on File	1,096	
Professional Development Not Completed	1,058	
First Aid Kit with Missing Items	992	
Total	14,019	

# Type A and B Home Most Frequently Cited Non-Compliance by Finding and Risk Level

TYPE A AND B HOME SERIOUS-RISK NON-COMPLIANCES		
Rule	Total Number of Violations Determined in state fiscal year 2019	
Alcohol Within Reach of Children	51	
Provider Presented Misleading or False Information	25	
Supervision – No Adult Outside	19	
County Agency Denied Access to Home to Complete Inspection	18	
Prohibited Guidance and Management Technique Used by Provider	16	
Provided Failed to Report Suspicions of Abuse/Neglect	5	
Provider or Employee with Ineligible Background Check – Still Employed	5	
Firearms Not Secured	5	
Provider or Employee Refused to Obtain a Background Check	2	
Children Not Protected from Situation that Posed a Safety Risk	2	
Total 148		

TYPE A AND B HOME MODERATE-RISK NON-COMPLIANCES		
Rule	Total Number of Violations Determined in state fiscal year 2019	
Toxic Chemicals Stored in Children's Reach	359	
Background Checks Not Updated for Provider or Employee	249	
Child Health Care Plan Not on File	209	
Not Following Manufacturer's Guidelines for Carbon Monoxide Detector	185	
Administration of Medication Form Missing Information or Not on File	177	
Background Checks Not Requested for Provider or Employee	176	
Health and Safety Hazards in the Home	130	
Resident Over 18 years of Age with No Background Check	81	
Supervision – Children Not within Sight or Hearing	74	
Infant Not Placed in Crib or Playpen to Sleep	73	
Total 1,713		

TYPE A AND B HOME LOW-RISK NON-COMPLIANCES			
Rule	Total Number of Violations Determined in state fiscal year 2019		
Provider Medical Not on File or Expired	1,936		
First Aid Kits with Missing Items or Items Not Replaced	912		
Child Enrollment Form Incomplete	884		
Disaster Plan Not Available or Complete	780		
Safety Drills Not Conducted or Available for Verification	714		
No Liability Insurance	567		
Electrical Outlets Not Covered	530		
Communicable Disease or Child Abuse Training Not of File for Provider	505		
Fire or Weather Plan Not Posted	491		
Ohio Professional Registry Profile Not Created	491		
Total	7,810		

### Center and Type A and B Home Enforcement

When a program is unable to achieve and maintain compliance or places children at imminent risk of harm without correcting the issue immediately, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services may suspend or revoke the program's license, pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Chapters 119 and 5104. After a program is recommended for revocation, a settlement may be reached that includes an agreement of terms between the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the program.

The table below shows the number of license revocations, settlement agreements, and license suspensions during state fiscal year 2019.

LICENSING ENFORCEMENT			
Program Type	License Revocation	Settlement Agreement	License Suspension
Centers	17	8	0
Type A Homes	4	0	0
Type B Homes	24	0	8
Total	45	8	8

#### Serious Incidents, Injuries, Child Fatalities, Child Abuse/Neglect

Serious incidents or injuries are most often caused by accidental or unintentional circumstances, such as children falling and bumping their heads, being left unattended, or sustaining a broken bone. Programs must report these situations to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, which then investigates. If complaints are received that include allegations of child abuse or neglect, the allegations are investigated jointly by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services or the county department of job and family services agency and the county public children services agency. At the end of the investigation, the children services agency will issue a final determination of child abuse or neglect.

The table below indicates the number of serious incidents, injuries, fatalities, and substantiated abuse or neglect findings for all program types licensed and monitored by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services or participating in publicly funded child care.

REPORTED SERIOUS INCIDENTS/INJURIES, CHILD FATALITIES			
Program Type	Serious Incident/Injury	Child Fatalities	Substantiated Child Abuse/Neglect
Centers	3,976	0	36
Type A Homes	11	0	0
Type B Homes	24	1	5
Day Camps	0	0	0
In-Home Aides	0	0	0
Total	4,011	1	41