

COVID-19 has dramatically impacted every day life and the industry of child care is no exception. Child care is an important function by supporting working parents. The capacity of the child care industry to care for children during a period of changing needs and emergency requirements affects how working parents determine child care options.

DPHHS data on licensed child care facility counts, infant care capacity, and overall child capacity in the state shows an overall decrease in child care facilities and capacity. Highlights on child care capacity from February 2020 are below.

Statewide, the number of licensed child care facilities are down 9% (-75 facilities)
Overall child capacity including infants is down 3% (-578 total slots)

Infant child care capacity is down 6% (-295 infant care slots)
14/50 Montana counties show increase in capacity

22/50 counties in Montana are at a reduced capacity

13/50 counties showing no change or a small increase/reduction
Counties with the largest increased capacity are Madison (233%) and Granite (100%)
Counties with the largest decreased capacity are Garfield (-100%) and Glacier (-41%)

DATA SOURCE: CCUBS System via Northrup Grumman

County	2/1/2020		8/31/2020	
	Infant Capacity	Total Capacity	Infant Capacity	Total Capacity
Beaverhead	48	144	48	132
Big Horn	28	79	28	85
Blaine	20	52	23	58
Broadwater	12	41	3	35
Carbon	18	84	18	84
Cascade	461	2472	410	2273
Chouteau	12	30	12	30
Custer	52	108	49	188
Daniels	6	12	6	12
Dawson	44	154	40	142
Deer Lodge	24	114	24	126
Fergus	79	173	80	195
Flathead	425	1484	406	1394
Gallatin	525	2006	521	2016
Garfield	6	12	0	0
Glacier	44	98	26	58
Granite	6	12	12	24
Hill	92	218	118	338
Jefferson	46	195	70	186
Judith Basin	6	12	6	12
Lake				

DATA SOURCE: CCUBS System via Northrup Grumman

County	2/1/2020		8/31/2020	
	Infant Capacity	Total Capacity	Infant Capacity	Total Capacity
McCone	15	30	12	24
Meagher	6	12	9	18
Mineral	8	18	12	24
Missoula	670	2962	596	2621
Musselshell	9	18	9	18
Park	79	335	68	261
Phillips	6	34	6	26
Pondera	24	48	18	48
Powder River	6	12	6	12
Powell	24	48	12	30
Prairie	6	12	6	12
Ravalli	140	547	148	553
Richland	48	143	48	143
Roosevelt	15	30	12	24
Rosebud	34	95	26	71
Sanders	15	30	12	24
Sheridan	18	36	12	24
Silver Bow	281	720	249	768
Stillwater	12	60	16	72
Sweet Grass	9	18	9	18
Teton				

	181	503	142	393
Lewis and Clark	356	1692	364	2159
Liberty	9	18	9	18
Lincoln	64	253	49	223
Madison	9	18	18	60

	18	44	18	36
Toole	12	35	12	35
Valley	18	88	15	62
Wheatland	6	12	6	12
Yellowstone	969	3849	907	3465
State Total	5021	19220	4726	18642