



# **The 2008 Child Care Licensing Study**

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



This report is a product of a collaborative effort between 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, and the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA). NCCIC and NARA wish to thank the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education for maintaining the Web site of state child care licensing regulations, which is the primary source for regulations data. NCCIC and NARA also thank the child care licensing agencies in all 50 states and the District of Columbia for responding to the survey and requests for clarification.

For additional information, call NARA at 859-514-1921 or visit <http://naralicensing.org>.

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# **Part 1: Introduction**



# 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/or 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 2008 Child Care Licensing Study provides information collected about child care licensing programs and policies and the regulations for child care centers, small family child care (FCC) homes, and large/group FCC homes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia in 2008.

## 1.1 History of the Child Care Licensing Studies

The Children's Foundation was established more than 30 years ago to provide support for FCC providers. The Child Care Licensing Studies were the brainchild of Kay Hollestelle, retired executive director of the Foundation.

The Foundation first published regulatory information about FCC 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 FCC 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 about 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 and school-age care and education field.

The studies were first published to help those interested in starting businesses in FCC or center-based care, but then became an advocacy tool for states interested in upgrading 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 take over the full publication of the annual studies. NARA and the Children's Foundation co-published the 2003 and 2004 licensing studies.

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 and school-age care and education system.

## 1.2 Methodology

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

### **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, policymakers, researchers, and the public to early and school-age care and education information. NCCIC responds to requests from parents, child care providers and other early education professionals, researchers, policymakers, national organizations, businesses, and the general public. NCCIC also provides technical assistance and training to states, territories, and tribes.

### Notes

- 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 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey

In May 2009, NARA sent a survey to all state child care licensing agencies via SurveyMonkey, an online survey tool. The survey included questions about state child care licensing processes and policies for licensing child care centers and small and large/group FCC homes. Respondents submitted their answers via the Internet, and by October 2009, all states had responded.

NCCIC created a Microsoft Access database to compile data collected from the survey and asked additional followup questions to clarify states' responses. The data collected from the survey are presented in "Part 2: State Licensing Programs and Policies" of this report.

### Terminology

**Child care center:** A nonresidential facility that generally provides 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 FCC home:** A child care program located in the licensee's residence that generally includes one provider, an assistant, and a larger number of children. States define FCC homes differently in their licensing regulations.

**Licensing/Licensed:** Permission from a state that is required to operate a child care facility, which includes meeting specific center or FCC 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 FCC home:** A child care program located in the licensee's residence that generally includes one provider and a small number of children. States define FCC homes differently in their licensing regulations.

## **B. Compilation of Child Care Facility Regulations**

All data regarding child care center and FCC home 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://nrckids.org/STATES/states.htm>. NRC is located at the University of Colorado Denver, CO, and is funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

NCCIC and NARA have three Microsoft Access databases that each contains more than 1,500 variables that cover licensing definitions, personnel and staffing, supervision, care of children, and facilities. The data collected from the child care facility regulations are presented in "Part 3: Child Care Center Licensing Regulations in 2008," "Part 4: Small Family Child Care Home Licensing Regulations in 2008," and "Part 5: Large/Group Family Child Care Home Licensing Regulations in 2008" of this report.

### **1.3 Format of the Report**

There are four parts of the report, in addition to the introduction. The first part is a national summary of data collected from the survey, and the last three parts provide an overview of data compiled from state child care facility regulations. This report contains information about the number of states that have certain policies and regulations presented in table and graphic format. Summarizing text is included to describe the data.

Accompanying this report are numerous **50-state Data Tables**. These tables are referenced throughout the report (e.g., Table 1 and Table 2). Also included are a set of **State Profiles** that provide short summaries of key licensing policies and facility requirements for every state. All study materials are available on the NARA Web site at <http://naralicensing.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 regulatory policy analyses.

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

<b>State Abbreviations</b>			
<b>State</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>
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 Final Thoughts**

Strong licensing policies and regulations are key to help ensure 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 9.8 million licensed child care slots in the United States. Even in states with strong regulations and monitoring and enforcement policies, the potential for harm to children exists. 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 and school-age care and education field and hopefully spark researchers' interest in pursuing further analyses.

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



## Part 2:

# State Licensing Programs and Policies

This chapter presents state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*. It focuses on the processes and policies in each state related to licensing program staffing, facility monitoring, and enforcement of licensing regulations. The data cover the following topics:

- 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 Licensed Facilities

### A. Types of Licensed Facilities

As shown in Table 2.1, the vast majority of states license child care center and family child care (FCC) home 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.

Facility Type	Number of States
Child care centers	50
FCC homes	48
• Small FCC homes	44
• Large/group FCC homes	39
Other licensed facilities*	17

N=50 states, excluding ID

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

Most states license some type of FCC; however, three states (ID, LA, NJ) do not license FCC at all. As mentioned previously, ID does not license child care facilities at the state level. LA has a registration process for FCC 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.<sup>1</sup> NJ has a voluntary registration process for FCC homes that is operated by child care resource and referral agencies in the state.

<sup>1</sup> The Child Care and Development Fund, authorized by the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act, and Section 418 of the Social Security Act assist low-income families, families receiving temporary public assistance, and those transitioning from public assistance in obtaining child care so they can work or attend training/education. For more information, visit the Child Care Bureau's Web site at [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/ccdf/factsheet.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/ccdf/factsheet.htm).

The following states **do not license** specific types of FCC homes:

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

## B. Number of Licensed Facilities

Table 2.2 shows the total number of child care centers, FCC homes, and other licensed facilities in the United States in 2008. State-by-state data are available in *Table 1: Number of Licensed Child Care Facilities in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 2.2: Number of Licensed Facilities Across States	
Facility Type	Number of Facilities
Child care centers	107,199
FCC homes	199,216
• Small FCC homes	155,230
• Large/group FCC homes	43,986
Other licensed facilities*	23,467
<b>Total</b>	<b>329,882</b>

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*"Other licensed facilities" reported by states includes part-day preschools and nursery schools, school-age care facilities, registered FCC homes, Head Start programs, child placing agencies, residential programs, 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 FCC homes in the United States, they serve a smaller number of children. More than 75 percent of children are in center-based care.

### Fast Facts

- There are a total of 329,882 licensed facilities in the United States. Approximately 60 percent of all licensed facilities are FCC homes.
- There are more than 9.8 million licensed child care slots across the United States.

Table 2.3 shows the total licensed capacity for all facility types. State-by-state data are available in *Table 2: Licensed Capacity in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 2.3: Capacity of Licensed Facilities Across States	
Facility Type	Licensed Capacity
Child care centers	7,435,774
FCC homes	1,775,494
• Small FCC homes	1,271,163
• Large/group FCC homes	504,331
Other licensed facilities*	663,568
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,874,836</b>

N=50 states, excluding ID

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

### Terminology

**Inspection:** A visit by licensing agency staff to a facility in order to assess its compliance with regulations.

**Licensed capacity:** The maximum number of children a child care facility is licensed to serve.

**Licensing line staff:** Staff who work for the state licensing agency and whose primary responsibility is to inspect child care facilities for compliance with regulations.

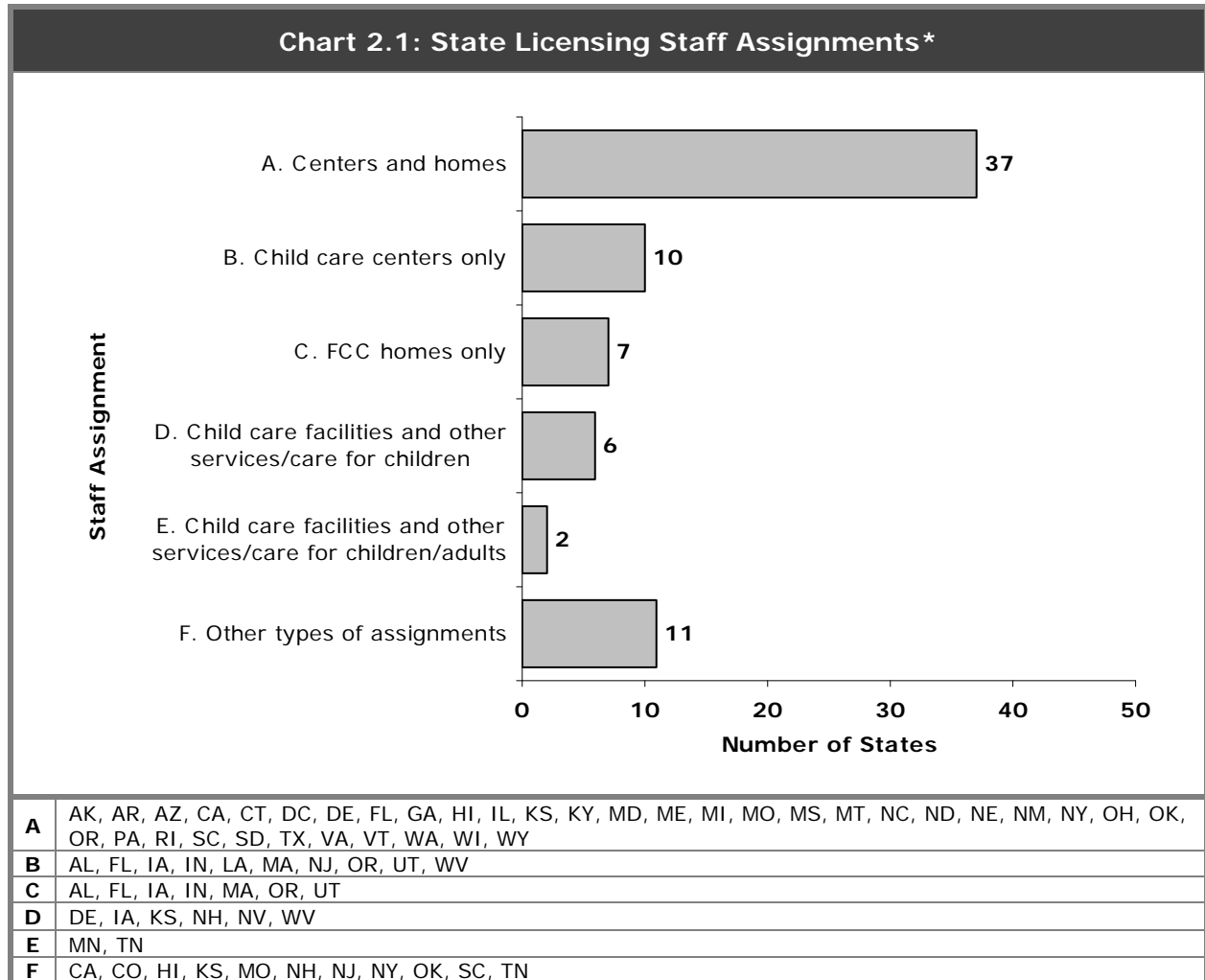
**Licensing supervisors:** Those who oversee the work of licensing line staff and other aspects of the licensing program.

## 2.2 Licensing Staff

### A. Licensing Line Staff Assignments

All state licensing agencies, except 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 2.1 shows, most states assign line staff to inspect both child care centers and FCC homes. Some states reported multiple ways of assigning line staff and appear in the categories in Chart 2.1 more than once. In addition, 15 states (AK, AL, CA, CT, FL, IA, IL, IN, KY, MN, MT, ND, OH, TX, VA) vary the assignment of licensing staff by county or area of the state.



N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states indicated multiple types of staff assignments.

## B. Number of Supervisors

Table 2.4 shows the number of full-time equivalent licensing supervisors reported to be employed by each state licensing agency. Across the states, there is an average of nine supervisors.

Table 2.4: 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	6	GA	6	ME	2	NJ	4	SD	1
AL	4	HI	4	MI	8	NM	4	TN	17
AR	6	IA	1	MN	1	NV	8	TX	36
AZ	7	IL	26	MO	8	NY	54	UT	3
CA	53	IN	3	MS	3	OH	8	VA	10
CO	11	KS	NR	MT	1	OK	22	VT	1
CT	5	KY	9	NC	16	OR	3	WA	16
DC	1	LA	6	ND	2	PA	12	WI	7
DE	2	MA	10	NE	3	RI	1	WV	5
FL	16	MD	18	NH	NR	SC	4	WY	3

N=50 states, excluding ID

NR=No response

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

### C. Number of Line Staff

Table 2.5 shows the number of full-time equivalent line staff reported to be employed by each state licensing agency. Across the states, there is an average of 59 line staff.

State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff	State	No. of Staff
AK	24	GA	71	ME	15	NJ	26	SD	13
AL	27	HI	25	MI	81	NM	12	TN	141
AR	40	IA	11	MN	9	NV	24	TX	247
AZ	40	IL	198	MO	55	NY	322	UT	22
CA	254	IN	29	MS	24	OH	54	VA	73
CO	47	KS	78	MT	11	OK	106	VT	9
CT	25	KY	31	NC	108	OR	40	WA	89
DC	8	LA	25	ND	17	PA	58	WI	55
DE	15	MA	66	NE	23	RI	7	WV	46
FL	84	MD	111	NH	9	SC	40	WY	13

N=50 states, excluding ID

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

### D. Estimated Line Staff Caseload

NCCIC and NARA calculated the estimated caseload ratios by dividing the total number of licensed facilities by the total number of licensing line staff. The data are reported as ratios of the 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 141 line staff to inspect 3,328 facilities for a ratio of 24:1. The state with the highest caseload is CA, which reported 254 line staff to inspect 58,047 facilities for a ratio of 229:1. These caseload estimates do not take into account the workload and other responsibilities of individual licensing line staff in a state. An indepth analysis of the actual caseloads and workloads of state licensing staff is beyond the scope of this study. The data in this study are presented to show a rough estimate of the number of facilities in each state and how they could possibly be divided across the number of line staff working in the licensing agency. State-by-state data are available in *Table 3: Estimated Licensing Line Staff Caseloads in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

**Fast Fact**

The average caseload across all states is 108:1.

## 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 new license, at the time of license renewal, and for compliance at other times during the licensing period.

As shown in Table 2.6, all states that license child care centers conduct inspections prior to issuing licenses to child care centers. That is not the case with FCC homes. Several states do not conduct initial FCC home inspections.

Most of the states that conduct inspections prior to licensing reported that they let facilities know when inspections will occur (i.e., they conduct announced visits). The opposite is true for licensing inspections conducted for routine compliance. Most states conduct these inspections, but they do not announce when they will occur to facilities (i.e., they conduct unannounced visits). 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 announced and those that conduct them unannounced.

State-by-state data are available in *Table 4: State Policies on Inspections Conducted Prior to Issuing a License in 2008*, *Table 5: State Policies on Inspections Conducted for License Renewal in 2008*, and *Table 6: State Policies on Inspections Conducted for Routine Compliance in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

**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 of continuing an existing license without interruption of child care services.

**Routine inspection:** An inspection of a 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.

<b>Table 2.6: Types and Methods of Licensing Inspections</b>			
<b>Inspection Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>		
	<b>Child Care Centers</b>	<b>Small FCC Homes</b>	<b>Large/Group FCC Homes</b>
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Inspection conducted prior to issuing a license</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>37</b>
• Announced only	34	22	26
• Unannounced only	9	8	4
• Both	7	5	6
• No response	0	1	1
<b>Inspection conducted for license renewal*</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>
• Announced only	13	9	13
• Unannounced only	20	13	14
• Both	5	3	4
• No response	0	0	0
<b>Inspection conducted for routine compliance</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>37</b>
• Announced only	0	0	0
• Unannounced only	37	28	25
• Both	11	9	11
• No response	1	1	1

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Twelve states (AR, CA, CO, GA, KS, MD, NC, NE, OK, SD, TX, WI) have nonexpiring licenses for centers and/or small or large/group FCC homes. Some of these states reported that they conduct onsite renewal inspections. See "2.5 Frequency of Licensing Renewal" for additional information.

## 2.4 Frequency of Inspections

Table 2.7 shows how often states conduct routine licensing inspections. State-by-state data are available in *Table 7: Frequency of Licensing Inspections in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Frequency	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group Family FCC Homes
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
More than three times a year	2	1	1
Three times a year	3	2	1
Twice a year	9	7	10
Once a year	26	15	17
Once every 2 years	5	8	5
Once every 3 years	1	2	1
Less than once every 3 years	1	0	0
Facility not inspected	0	4	1
Other frequency of inspection*	3	5	3

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*For details about "Other frequency of inspection," see *Table 7: Frequency of Licensing Inspections in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

### 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 Renewal

As shown in Table 2.8, 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 nonexpiring licenses for either centers and/or FCC 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 are available in *Table 8: Frequency of Licensing Renewal in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 2.8: Frequency of Licensing Renewal			
Frequency	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group FCC Homes
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
Once a year	19	15	13
Once every 2 years	12	12	11
Once every 3 years	5	5	4
Once every 4 years	1	1	1
Nonexpiring license	12	9	8
Other length of license*	1	2	2

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*For details about "Other length of license," see *Table 8: Frequency of Licensing Renewal in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

### Terminology

**Abbreviated compliance form:** An abbreviated list of requirements used during inspections. This tool may also be called an "indicator checklist." Some states determine the items included by analyzing common noncompliance issues in the state.

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

## 2.6 Inspections and Monitoring

### A. Full-compliance Reviews

As shown in Table 2.9, the most common frequency of full-compliance reviews is once a year. The next most common frequency is once every 2 years. State-by-state data are available in *Table 9: Frequency of Full Compliance Reviews in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 2.9: Frequency of Full-compliance Reviews			
Frequency	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group FCC Homes
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
More than three times a year	0	0	0
Three times a year	2	1	1
Twice a year	4	3	5
Once a year	23	17	16
Once every 2 years	11	8	7
Once every 3 years	4	5	4
Less than once every 3 years	1	0	0
Other frequency*	5	9	6
Not conducted	0	1	0

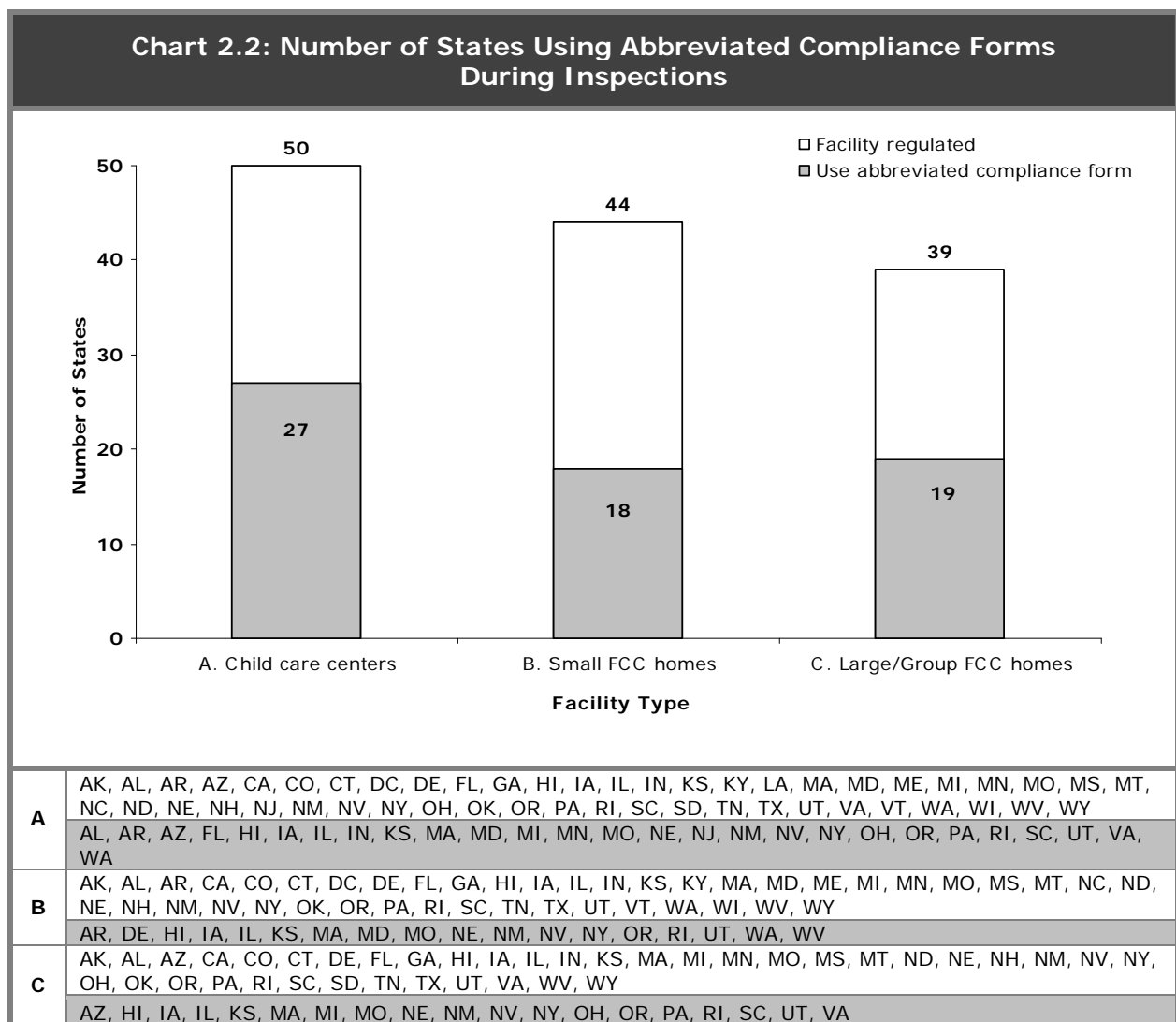
N=50 states, excluding ID

\*For details about "Other frequency," see *Table 9: Frequency of Full Compliance Reviews in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

## B. Use of Abbreviated Compliance Forms

As shown in Chart 2.2, more than half of states reported that they use an abbreviated compliance form during inspections of centers. Approximately one-third of states use it for inspections of either small or large/group FCC homes.

Of the 27 states that use abbreviated compliance forms when inspecting centers, 20 (AR, AZ, FL, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MO, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, VA, WA) indicated that they have policies for determining when to switch from an abbreviated compliance form to a full compliance review. Thirteen states (AR, DE, HI, IA, IL, MA, MO, NV, NY, OR, RI, WA, WV) have such policies when inspecting small FCC homes, and 15 (AZ, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MO, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, VA) have these policies for inspecting large/group FCC homes. State-by-state data are available in *Table 10: State Use of Abbreviated Compliance Forms for Inspections in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.



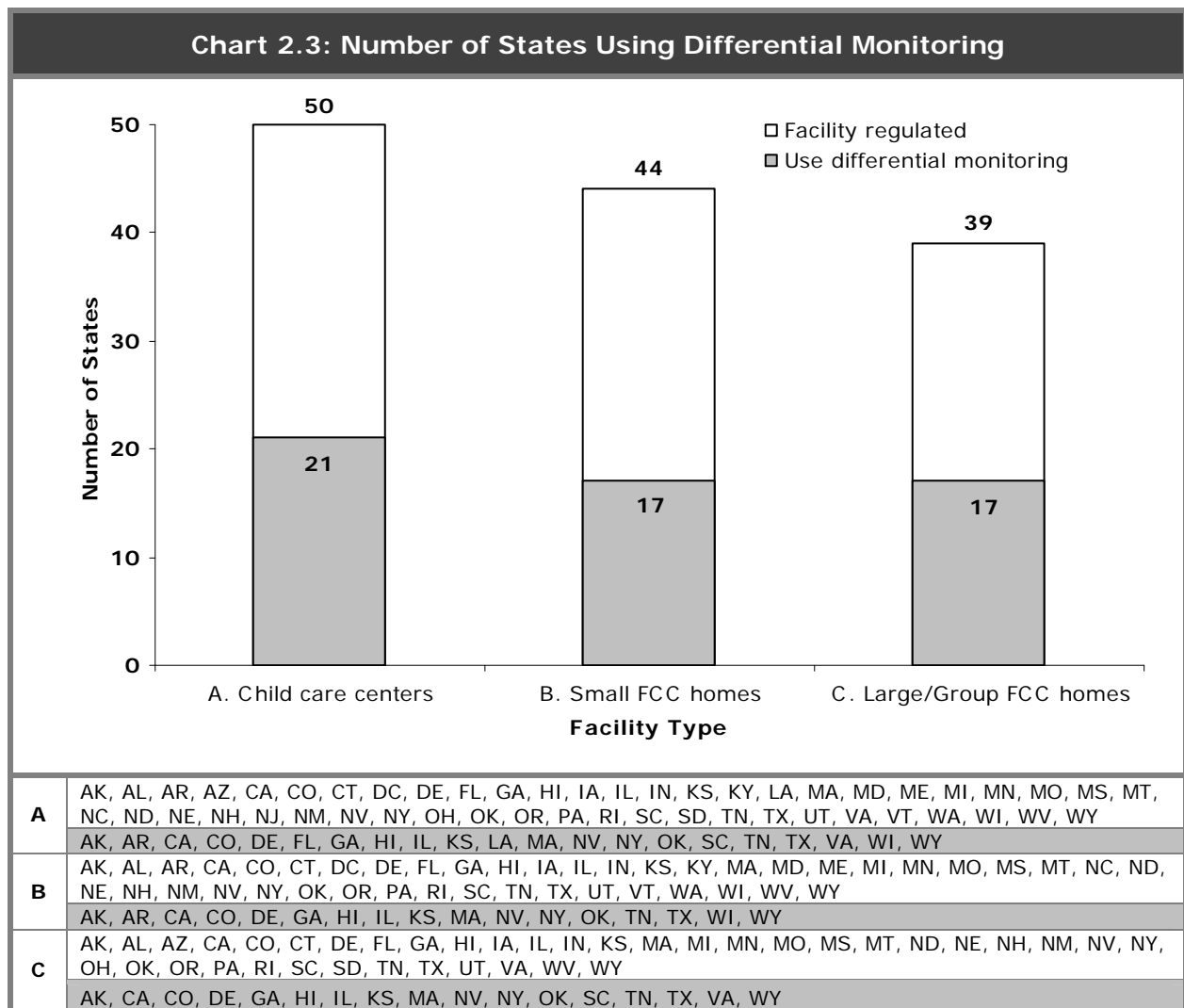
N=50 states, excluding ID

**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.

**C. Differential Monitoring**

Another method states use is differential monitoring. Chart 2.3 shows which state licensing agencies use this method. State-by-state data are available in *Table 11: State Use of Differential Monitoring in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.



N=50 states, excluding ID

## 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 2.10, 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.

Technical Assistance and/or Consultation Type	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group FCC Homes
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
To help facilities achieve compliance with licensing regulations	48	41	38
To help facilities move beyond minimum licensing standards	31	29	26

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states indicated multiple types of technical assistance and/or consultation.

As shown in Table 2.11, state licensing agencies reported that they use a variety of methods to provide technical assistance and/or consultation to child care facilities, including assistance during licensing inspections, on the telephone, and on an as-needed basis. In addition, most states refer facilities to other agencies, organizations, or people 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.

**Table 2.11: Methods of Providing Technical Assistance and/or Consultation\***

Method	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group FCC Homes
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
Referrals made to other agencies, organizations, or people	50	42	38
As needed by licensee	47	42	38
On the telephone	46	41	36
During routine inspection visits	45	39	35
During application inspection visits	45	36	35
During renewal inspection visits	35	27	29
Other method	13	12	12

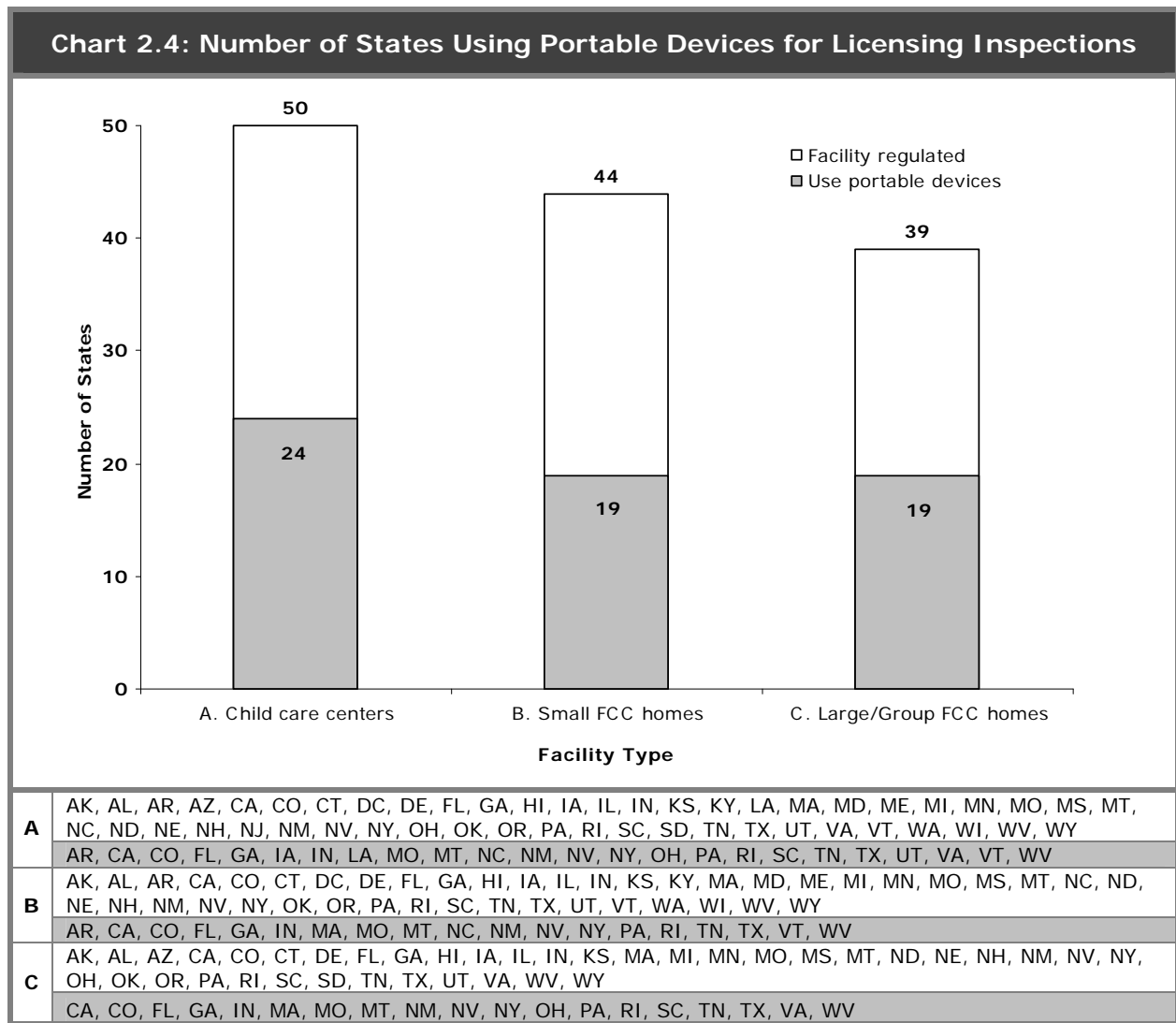
N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states indicated multiple types of methods used for providing technical assistance and/or consultation.

## E. Automation

States are also streamlining the licensing process through the use of automation and technology. All state licensing agencies, except ID, reported that they have computer databases to store information about licensed facilities.

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 2.4 shows which states reported using these portable devices.



N=50 states, excluding ID

In addition, 25 states (AR, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, MN, MO, MS, NE, NM, NY, OK, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV) 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.

## 2.7 Complaint Investigations

### A. Investigations

All state licensing agencies, except ID, reported that they conduct complaint investigations in child care facilities. As Table 2.12 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.

Staff	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group FCC Homes
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
Same staff who conduct inspections for initial licensure and routine compliance	42	36	33
Separate staff who only work on complaint investigations	2	2	2
Same staff and separate staff	3	3	2
Other type of staff for complaint investigations	9	9	6

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some 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.

## B. Types of Licensing Complaints

Thirty-one states (AL, AR, AZ, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NJ, NM, NV, OH, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI) 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 2.13.

<b>Complaint Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>1. Child-staff ratios</b>	24	AL, AR, AZ, DC, FL, GA, IN, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NM, NV, OH, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA
<b>2. Supervision</b>	23	AL, AR, FL, GA, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NJ, NV, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI
<b>3. Discipline/behavior management</b>	15	AL, AR, AZ, GA, KS, MI, MO, NM, NJ, NV, OH, SD, TN, UT, WI
<b>4. Condition of the facility and environment</b>	15	AZ, DC, GA, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MN, NJ, OH, RI, SC, SD, WA

N=31 states, excluding AK, CA, CO, DE, IA, ID, IL, MA, ME, NC, ND, NE, NH, NY, OK, OR, PA, VT, WV, WY

Table 2.14 shows other common types of complaints filed against licensed facilities.

<b>Table 2.14: Other Common Types of Licensing Complaints</b>		
<b>Complaint Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Poor care of children/child abuse and neglect	9	CT, HI, KS, MD, NM, OH, TX, VA, WA
Poor administration/record keeping	7	FL, HI, MS, NV, UT, WA, WI
Lack of staff qualifications/suitability	6	DC, IN, KY, MS, MT, VA
General health and safety issues	4	AL, HI, MI, MT
Illegal operation	4	CT, HI, SC, WI
Transportation issues	3	AR, MO, TN
Licensed capacity exceeded	2	MS, RI
Other type of complaint*	4	CT, DC, TN, TX

N=31 states, excluding AK, CA, CO, DE, IA, ID, IL, MA, ME, NC, ND, NE, NH, NY, OK, OR, PA, VT, WV, WY

\*"Other type of complaint" includes complaints relating to program issues, staff lack of judgment, and general licensing violations.

### C. Child Abuse and Neglect

All states, except ID, reported the types of agencies that investigate child abuse and neglect complaints against licensed child care facilities. As shown in Table 2.15, most states reported that the protective services agency investigates these types of complaints. In addition, most states reported that more than one agency conducts investigations.

<b>Agency Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Protective services	37	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, UT, VA, WI, WV, WY
Police/law enforcement agency	30	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, KS, KY, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NH, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, WI
Licensing agency	23	AK, AZ, CA, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, KY, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, RI, SC, TX
Specialized unit for child abuse and neglect	18	AK, AR, CA, DE, FL, KY, ME, MN, MS, NC, NJ, OH, SC, TN, TX, VT, WA, WV
Other agency	8	AK, AR, IN, KS, OR, RI, TN, TX

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Most states indicated multiple types of agencies that investigate child abuse and neglect complaints.

#### **Fast Fact**

The most frequently used enforcement actions are revocation of a license, denial of a license, immediate closure of a facility, nonrenewal of a license, and a civil fine.

## 2.8 Enforcement Actions

### A. Use of Actions

State licensing agencies reported which enforcement actions they use with facilities that are in violation of licensing regulations, as shown in Table 2.16.

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.

Additional data are available in *Table 12: State Use of Enforcement Actions With Child Care Centers in 2008*, *Table 13: State Use of Enforcement Actions With Small FCC Homes in 2008*, and *Table 14: State Use of Enforcement Actions With Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 2.16: State Use of Enforcement Actions With Licensed Facilities*</b>			
<b>Enforcement Action</b>	<b>Number of States</b>		
	<b>Child Care Centers</b>	<b>Small FCC Homes</b>	<b>Large/Group FCC Homes</b>
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
Revocation of license	39	33	25
Denial of license	35	32	25
Immediate closure of facility	27	25	20
Conditional license	26	17	22
Civil fine	22	18	17
Nonrenewal of license	20	18	15
Consent agreement	20	15	11
Probation	18	15	12
Criminal fine	2	2	1
Imprisonment	1	1	0
Other enforcement action**	16	11	11

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states indicated multiple types of enforcement actions used with licensed facilities.

\*\*For details about "Other enforcement action," see Tables 12, 13, and 14 in the 50-state Data Tables.

## B. Legal Representation

All states, except five (CO, ID, MO, ND, NV), 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 inhouse attorney on staff or in a legal unit within the department where the agency is located.

### 2.9 Licensing Information on the Internet

Twenty-one states (AR, AZ, CO, FL, GA, IN, LA, MD, MI, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI) reported that they post licensing information about child care facilities on their Web sites for access by parents and the general public. Table 2.17 shows the types of inspection reports and licensing complaint information that are available on these sites.

In addition, 17 states (CA, CT, DE, IA, KY, MA, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NM, NV, TN, WA, 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.

State	Licensing Inspection Report		Licensing Complaints	
	Full Report	Inspection Summary	All Complaints	Substantiated Complaints
AR		✓		✓
AZ	✓		✓	
CO		✓		
FL	✓			✓
GA	✓			✓
IN	✓			✓
LA		✓		
MD		✓		
MI	✓			✓
NH	✓			✓
NY		✓		
OH	✓			✓
OK		✓	✓	

State	Licensing Inspection Report		Licensing Complaints	
	Full Report	Inspection Summary	All Complaints	Substantiated Complaints
OR				✓
PA	✓			✓
SC		✓		
TX	✓		✓	
UT*		✓		✓
VA	✓		✓	
VT				✓
WI	✓			✓
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>

N=21 states, excluding AK, AL, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, KY, MA, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NV, RI, SD, TN, WA, WV, WY

\*Note: Utah reported that the information available on the Internet is made available to the public by a local newspaper, not the licensing agency.

## 2.10 Licensing Fees

As shown in Table 2.18, 32 states (AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MN, MS, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY) reported that they charge fees to child care centers for obtaining licenses. Twenty-four states (AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, KS, KY, MA, ME, MI, MS, ND, NE, NM, NV, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY) that license small FCC homes charge fees, and 21 states (AZ, CA, CO, CT, KS, MA, MI, MS, ND, NE, NM, NV, OH, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WY) that license large/group FCC homes charge fees.

A little 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. Licensing agencies reported the opposite for small and large/group FCC 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 15: Child Care Licensing Fees in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Fee Type	Number of States		
	Child Care Centers	Small FCC Homes	Large/Group FCC Homes
<b>Facility regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Licensing fee charged</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>
Flat fee amount for all facilities	9	19	13
Fee based on maximum number of children allowed in facility	17	5	6
Both fee types	3	0	1
Other fee types	3	0	1

N=32 states, excluding AK, AL, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, MD, MO, MT, NH, NY, OK, PA, SD, VT, WV

As shown in Table 2.19, close to an equal number of states reported that the revenue collected from licensing fees is used to support the licensing agency or put into the state's general fund.

Fee Use	Number of States	State
Fees are put into state's general fund	15	AZ, CT, KS, LA, MA, MN, NJ, NM, OH, RI, SC, TX, UT, WA, WY
Fees are used to support the licensing agency	13	CA, CO, DC, FL, KY, MI, MS, ND, NE, NV, OR, WA, WI
Other use	4	AR, OR, TN, VA

N=32 states, excluding AK, AL, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, MD, ME, MO, MT, NC, NH, NY, OK, PA, SD, VT, WV

\*Some states identified more than one use of revenue from licensing fees.

## 2.11 Licensing Staff Requirements

### A. Licensing Staff Positions

All state licensing agencies, except ID, MA, WY, reported the position title for “licensing line staff.” As Table 2.20 shows, the most common title for a line staff person is “licensing specialist.”

<b>Position Title</b>	<b>Number of States</b>
Licensing specialist	19
Child care/licensing consultant	6
Licenser	5
Surveyor	4
Licensing worker	2
Licensing inspector	2
Other title	10

N=50 states, excluding ID

Other reported titles include the following:

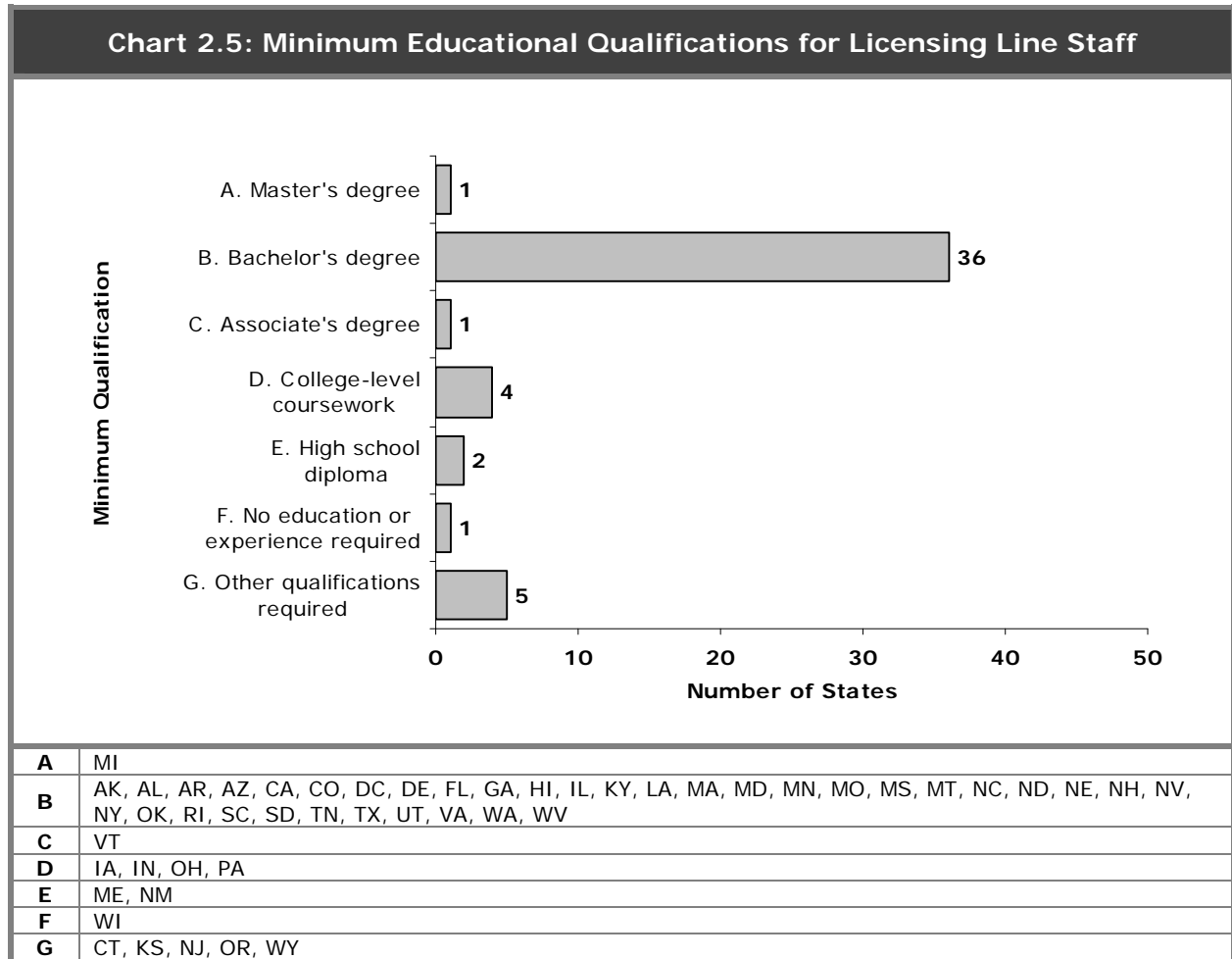
- Certification representative;
- Child care licensing official;
- Child care quality assurance inspector;
- Compliance officer;
- Licensing coordinator;
- Licensing counselor;
- Licensing program analyst;
- Licensing representative;
- Program evaluator; and
- Social caseworker.

#### **Fast Facts**

- Most state licensing agencies require staff to have at least a bachelor’s 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.

## B. Staff Qualifications

All states that license child care facilities reported minimum qualifications for licensing line staff. As shown in Chart 2.5, most state licensing agencies require staff to have at least a bachelor's degree to work as a child care licenser. Nineteen states (AL, AZ, CT, DC, GA, IL, MA, MI, MN, NC, NH, NM, NV, PA, UT, VA, VT, WA, WY) also require experience working in a setting with children in addition to one of the educational qualifications listed in Chart 2.5. Also, 14 states (AL, AZ, CT, DC, GA, MD, NC, ND, NH, NV, OH, VA, VT, WY) reported that the content and/or major of the required degree or coursework must be in early childhood education, child development, or a related topic.



N=50 states, excluding ID

## C. Staff Training

More than 40 percent of state licensing agencies reported that child care licensing staff are required to complete additional training each year. Of these states, all but two (DE, OK) reported that staff must take training in one or more of the topics shown in Table 2.21. The most common required training topics are related to regulations and licensing policies, followed by health and safety issues, early childhood education/child development, and identifying child abuse and neglect. State-by-state data about the amount of training required are available in *Table 16: Amount of Training Required for Child Care Licensing Staff in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Training Topic</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Training required</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MT, NE, OK, RI, TX, UT, VA, VT, WY</b>
<b>Topics specified</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>AR, AZ, CO, CT, FL, GA, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MT, NE, RI, TX, UT, VA, VT, WY</b>
State licensing policies and procedures	15	AR, AZ, CO, CT, GA, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MT, NE, RI, TX, UT
State regulations	15	AR, AZ, CO, CT, FL, GA, KS, KY, MN, MS, MT, NE, RI, TX, UT
Regulatory issues	14	AR, AZ, CO, CT, GA, KS, KY, LA, MS, MT, NE, RI, TX, UT
Health and safety issues	13	AR, AZ, CO, CT, GA, KS, KY, LA, MN, MS, MT, RI, TX
Early childhood education/child development	10	AR, AZ, CO, CT, GA, KS, KY, MS, MT, RI
Identifying child abuse and neglect	9	AZ, CO, CT, KS, KY, MS, MT, RI, TX
Fire safety	6	AZ, CO, CT, KS, MS, MT
Supervision	3	CO, CT, MT
Adult development	3	AZ, CT, KY
Business administration/management	2	AZ, CT
Other topic	8	CT, FL, KY, RI, TX, VA, VT, WY

N=21 states, excluding AK, AL, CA, DC, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, WA, WI, WV

\*Some 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 AK, DC, ID, TN, reported that there is training available for licensing staff to attend, as shown in Table 2.22. 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.

Source of Training	Number of States	State
Local and/or state conferences	43	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, 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, SD, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Licensing agency	43	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, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Community-based organizations	35	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SD, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY
National conferences	24	AL, AR, CO, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MD, ME, MO, MS, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, SD, TX, VT, WI, WY
Outside consultants	22	AR, AZ, CA, FL, IL, IN, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NM, NV, OK, PA, RI, SD, TX, WA, WY
Arrangement with college/university	19	AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, IN, MD, MO, MS, ND, NH, NV, NY, OH, OK, RI, TX, WA, WY
Other training source**	15	CT, FL, IL, LA, MA, MI, MS, ND, NV, NY, PA, SC, VA, WV, WY

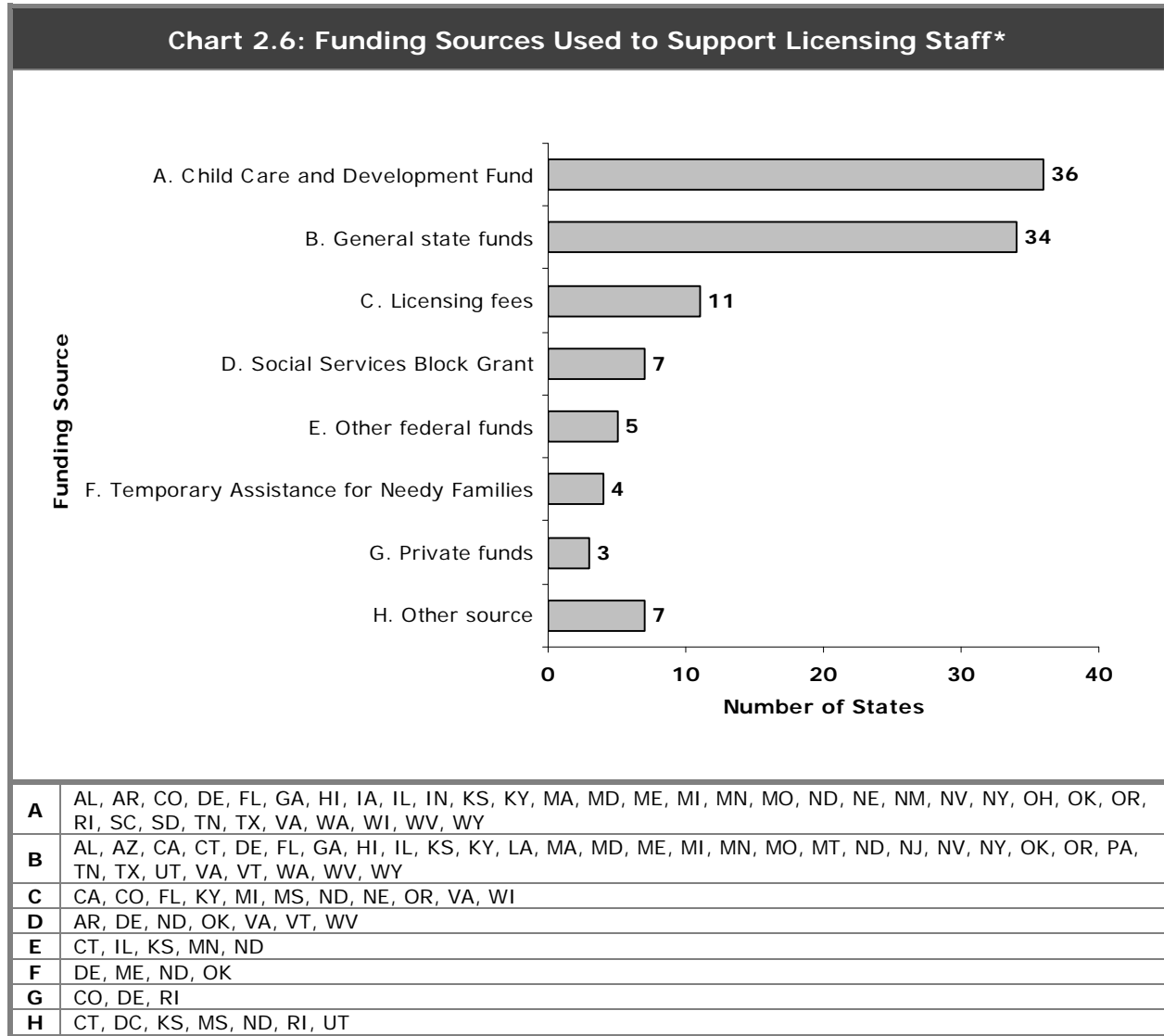
N=47 states, excluding AK, DC, ID, TN

\*Some states identified multiple sources of training.

\*\*"Other training source" includes on-the-job training; national certified investigator/inspector training; training provided by or shared with other state agencies; training that is available for child care providers; training provided by NARA; and other national training programs and certifications.

### E. Funding to Support Licensing Staff

As shown in Chart 2.6, all states, except AK, ID, NC, NH, 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.



N=47 states, excluding AK, ID, NC, NH

\*Some states identified multiple sources of funding.

\*\*“Other source” of funds include union dollars, emergency planning funds, local funds, county funds, funds collected from civil penalties, funds from community agencies, and funds transferred from human service departments.

## 2.12 Quality Initiatives and Resources for Formulating Regulations

### A. Licensing's Role in Quality Initiatives

Child care licensing plays a critical role in the infrastructure of the early and school-age 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 2.23 illustrates state responses to a question included in *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies 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 many states are either the lead agency for an initiative, the administrative home for an initiative, and/or a partner in planning for quality improvement.

Quality Initiative Type	Role of Licensing Agency					
	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	5	7	11	8	11	8
Assessing quality with environment rating scale	6	9	13	11	7	4
Professional development system	6	9	27	4	1	3
Tiered quality strategy*	7	11	18	5	7	2

N=50 states, excluding ID

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

## B. Resources for Formulating Regulations

State licensing agencies reported the types of resources they use when creating and updating child care licensing regulations. As shown in Table 2.24, most states reported that they look at other states' regulations and the *Caring for Our Children Health and Safety Standards*. These guidelines include more than 600 performance standards or best practices for child care facilities. Each standard in *Caring for Our Children* includes a rationale supported by research. This resource is available at <http://nrc.uchsc.edu/CFOC/index.html>. The National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education has the full text of state child care licensing regulations on its Web site at <http://nrckids.org/STATES/states.htm>.

Resource	Number of States
State child care licensing regulations	42
<i>Caring for Our Children Health and Safety Standards</i> <sup>1</sup>	42
<i>Stepping Stones to Using Caring for Our Children</i> <sup>2</sup>	30
NARA services	30
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Early Childhood Program Accreditation Standards and Criteria <sup>3</sup>	26
Head Start Performance Standards <sup>4</sup>	23
National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Accreditation Standards <sup>5</sup>	20
Other resource	24

N=50 states, excluding ID

<sup>1</sup> American Public Health Association (APHA), the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2002). *Caring for our children: National health and safety performance standards: Guidelines for out-of-home child care programs, 2nd edition*. Retrieved March 24, 2010, from <http://nrckids.org/CFOC/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> APHA, AAP, & the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education. (2003). *Stepping stones to using caring for our children, 2nd edition*. Retrieved March 24, 2010, from <http://nrckids.org/STEPPING/SteppingStones.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Information about NAEYC accreditation is available at [www.naeyc.org/academy/primary/standardsintro](http://www.naeyc.org/academy/primary/standardsintro).

<sup>4</sup> Title 45 – Public Welfare, 4 C.F.R. § 1304 (2009); and Title 45 – Public Welfare, 4 C.F.R. § 1306 (2009).

<sup>5</sup> Information about NAFCC accreditation is available at [www.nafcc.org/accreditation/about\\_accreditation.asp](http://www.nafcc.org/accreditation/about_accreditation.asp).



**Part 3:**  
**Child Care Center Licensing Regulations**  
**in 2008**



## Part 3: Child Care Center Licensing Regulations in 2008

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://nrckids.org/STATES/states.htm>.

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;
- Licensed and exempt 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.

The child care center licensing regulations used for this study are those that were posted on the NRC Web site between January 1, 2008, and December 31, 2008. Any changes to regulations after that time period are not included in this report.

Table 3.1 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.

### 3.1 Licensing Regulations

Table 3.1: Years of Child Care Center Regulation Revisions in States													
1990	1993	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
											AK		CO
											AL		CT
											AR		FL
											CA	CO	KY
											IA	DC	MD
											IL	DE	ME
											MD	FL	MI
											MI	ME	MS
											MS	NC	NC
										CT	NH	NC	NH
										NJ	MT	OH	OH
										NY	NH	OK	PA
										PA	NM	OR	TN
			GA	MN			HI			AZ	SC	TN	TX
			NE	ND			KY			NV	WI	TX	TX
							MO			SD	UT	VA	VA
KS	RI	MA			LA	VT		IN		WY	WA	WV	WA
1	1	1	2	2	1	1	3	1	3	7	15	12	16

N=50 states, excluding ID

Several states have separate regulations for specific types of center-based child care programs. Table 3.2 shows the states with separate regulations. The most common type of care with separate regulations is school-age care.

<b>Facility Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
School-age care	15	CA, CO, HI, IN, KS, MA, NC, ND, NM, NY, OK, RI, SD, 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 Licensed and Exempt 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 3.3 includes a list of these common elements and the number of states with those elements in their definitions.

Most 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.

Table 3.3: Elements Included in State Child Care Center Licensing Definitions*		
Definition Element	Number of States	State
Minimum number of children in facility	38	AL, AZ, CO, 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 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 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 provided for payment or compensation	20	AL, AZ, CO, 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
Number of hours services are provided (minimum/maximum)	16	AL, AR, CA, CO, GA, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, NC, NE, NY, OK, SC, WI
Services not provided in child's home	14	AZ, CT, HI, KY, MT, NC, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, TX, VA, VT
Services provided are either for profit or not for profit	7	AR, FL, MS, NC, PA, SC, WY
Services provided in a nonresidential setting	6	IN, MI, NM, NY, RI, WV
Services provided during before- or after-school hours	5	CO, HI, KS, PA, TX
Services provided in a public facility	4	AR, DE, PA, WV

Definition Element	Number of States	State
Services provided in provider's/licensee's home	4	OH, TX, UT, VA
Services provided in a private facility	3	AR, PA, WV
Services provided at the parent's work site	2	PA, RI

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some 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 3.4 provides a list of facility/program types that are identified as exempt from licensing in child care center regulations.

Facility/Program Type	Number of States	State
Facilities that provide services where parents are on the premises and accessible (e.g., shopping malls, resorts, and/or health clubs)	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 small numbers 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 Clubs)	26	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, GA, IA, IL, KY, MD, MN, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, VA, VT, WI

<b>Table 3.4: Types of Center-based Facilities/Programs Exempt From Licensing, con. *</b>		
<b>Facility/Program Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Facilities operating part-day or for a small number of hours per day/week (including nursery schools, preschool programs, kindergarten programs, and Head Start programs)	24	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, MO, NC, ND, NE, NY, OK, OR, RI, SC, WA, WI
Day camps (summer, seasonal, etc.)	22	AK, AR, DE, FL, GA, IA, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MO, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NY, OH, RI, SC, TN, TX
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
Facilities that provide services 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 state departments of education	17	AK, CT, DE, FL, IA, IL, KY, ME, MS, NE, NJ, RI, TN, TX, VA, VT, WV
Arrangements in which services are provided by relatives or parents/guardians of children in care	15	AK, AZ, CA, CT, MA, MT, NE, NH, NV, OK, OR, PA, VT, WA, WY
Facilities operated by religious organizations	12	AL, AR, FL, IL, IN, LA, MD, MO, SC, TN, UT, VA
Facilities that provide services 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
Facilities that provide services on military installations/bases	4	AK, KY, TX, WA

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some 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 facilities. For the purpose of this study, common generic names are used for each role. As shown in Chart 3.1, 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.<sup>1</sup>

Seventeen states 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. This role has been generically labeled **master teacher** in this study to indicate that she or he 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.

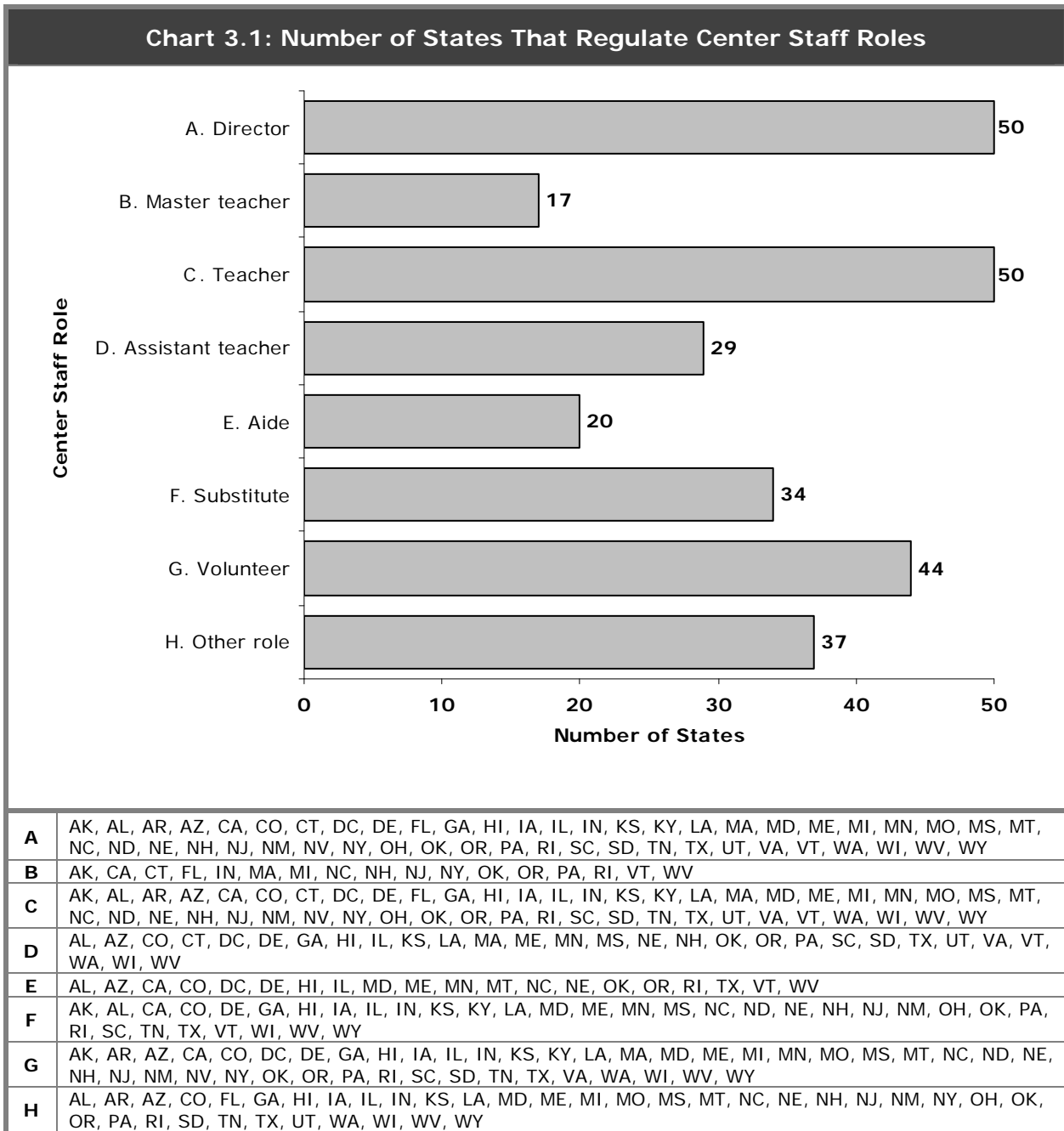
Many states also have requirements for those who work as **substitutes** and **volunteers** in child care centers. In addition, 37 states include other roles in their requirements. In 32 of these states (AL, AZ, CO, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY), **driver** (e.g., bus driver or transportation staff) is one of these other roles. Also frequently included in center regulations are maintenance/custodial staff, clerical staff, and food service staff. State-by-state data are available in *Table 17: Center Staff Roles Regulated by States in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

#### Fast Fact

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

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<sup>1</sup> 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.



N=50 states, excluding ID

### B. Minimum Age Requirements

Table 3.5 summarizes states' minimum age requirements for center directors and teaching staff, including the range of ages that states reported for each staff role and the most common age required for each role. In addition, *Table 18: Minimum Age Requirements for Center Staff Roles in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables shows the specific age requirements for directors and all teaching roles for all states.

**Table 3.5: Minimum Age Requirements for Center Staff Roles**

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	17	16–21 years	18 years
Teacher	50	14–21 years	18 years
Assistant teacher	29	14–21 years	16 years
Aide	20	13–18 years	16 years

N=50 states, excluding ID

### 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 3.6 shows the number of states that have requirements for each role in the “Role Regulated” column. It also indicates the number of states that require a high school diploma or General Educational Development Test (GED), preservice qualifications, and/or ongoing training.

**Table 3.6: States With Requirements About High School Diploma and/or GED, Preservice Qualifications, and Ongoing Training**

Center Staff Role	Number of States			
	Role Regulated	High School Diploma or GED	Preservice Qualifications	Ongoing Training
Director	50	48	49	46
Master teacher	17	15	17	16
Teacher	50	30	39	48
Assistant teacher	29	11	18	23
Aide	20	6	10	13

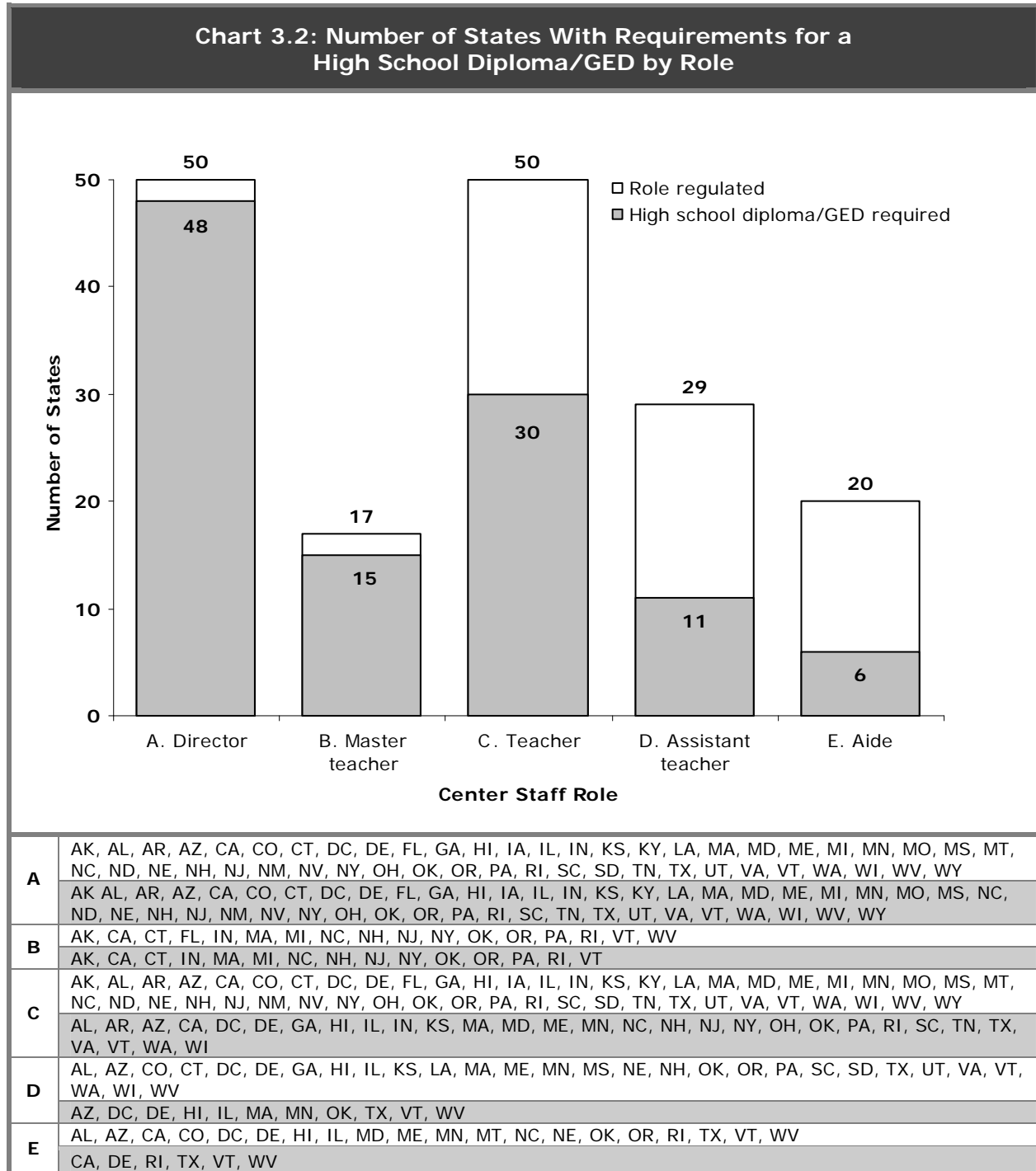
N=50 states, excluding ID

#### Terminology

**Preservice qualifications:** Training, education, and/or experience a state requires for staff prior to their assuming roles in child care centers.

### A. High School Diploma Requirements

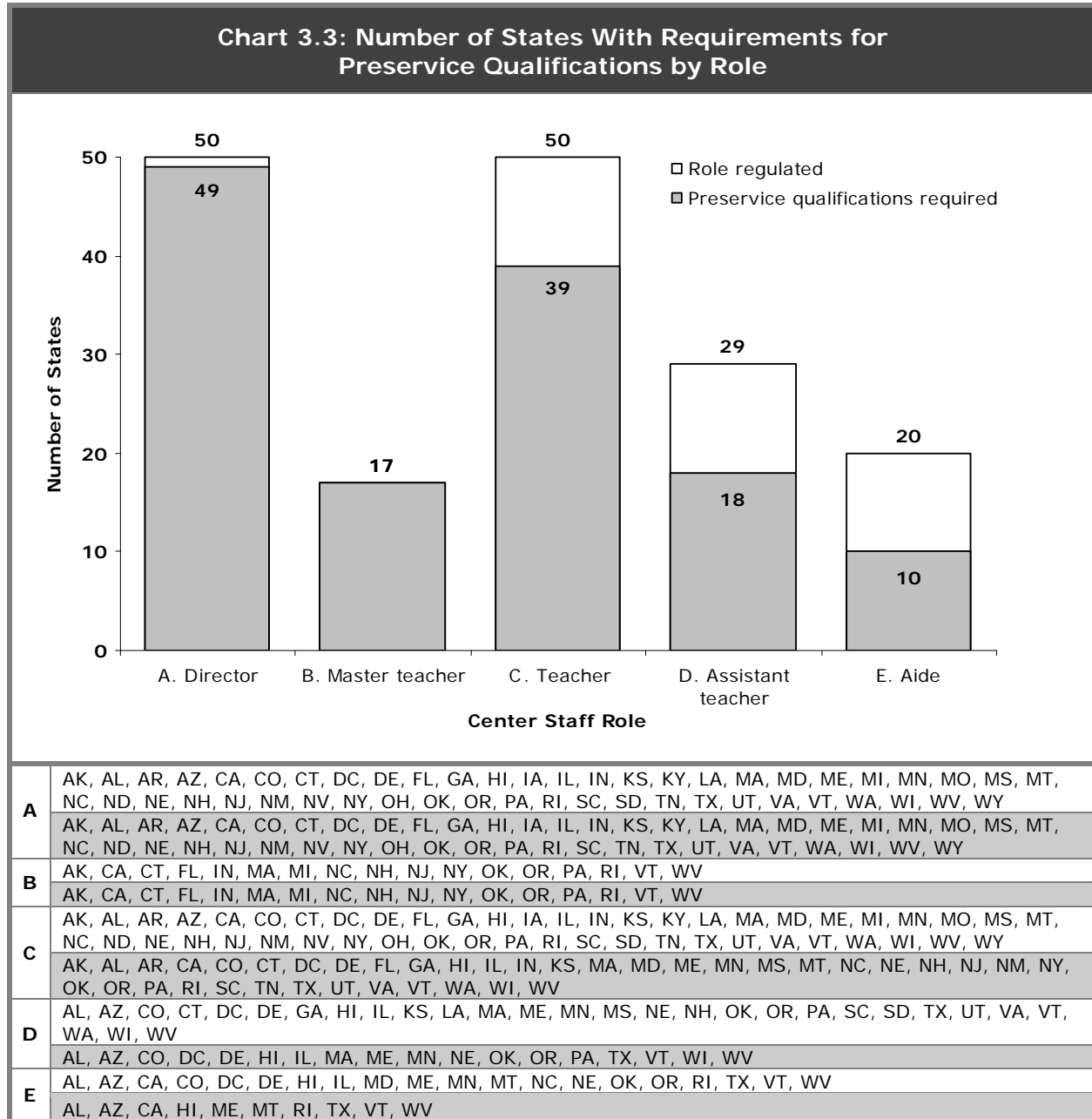
Chart 3.2 shows the states that require child care center staff to have high school diplomas or GEDs prior to working in these roles. State-by-state data about these requirements for directors and all teaching roles are available in *Table 19: High School Diploma Requirements for Center Staff Roles in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.



N=50 states, excluding ID

## B. Preservice Qualifications

Nearly all 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 3.3. Fewer states have preservice qualifications for assistant teachers and aides.



N=50 states, excluding ID

**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 Preservice Qualifications

Table 3.7 compiles the types of training, education, and experience that represent the least amount people must have to qualify for center director and teaching roles.

The CDA credential is the most common minimum qualification for **directors**—with a total of 18 states (AK, CT, DE, HI, IL, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, ND, NH, NV, NY, OH, RI, VT, WA).

For the 39 states (AK, AL, AR, 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 14 states (AZ, GA, ME, MS, MT, NC, NE, NY, OR, PA, RI, TX, WA, WV).

Of the 18 states (AL, AZ, CO, DC, DE, HI, IL, MA, ME, MN, NE, OK, OR, PA, TX, VT, WI, WV) that have qualifications for **assistant teachers**, there are three common types of qualifications—experience only (CO, NE, WV), enrollment in high school or GED program (AZ, ME, OK), and clock hours of training (DE, VT, WI).

Of the 10 states (AL, AZ, CA, HI, ME, MT, RI, TX, VT, WV) that have qualifications for **aides**, the most common minimum qualifications are enrollment in high school or GED program or enrollment in a child care vocational training program for a total of four states (ME, RI, TX, VT).

*Table 20: Minimum Preservice Qualifications for Center Staff Roles in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables shows the types of minimum qualifications required in each state for all roles.

Table 3.7: Types of Minimum Preservice Qualifications Required*					
Qualification Type	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>
Experience only	2	2	6	3	1
Experience with high school diploma or GED	4	1	8	1	0
At least an 8th grade education	0	0	0	2	1

Qualification Type	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
Enrollment in high school or GED program	0	0	2	3	2
High school diploma or GED	3	0	5	2	0
Enrollment in a child care vocational training program	0	0	0	1	2
Completion of a child care vocational training program	2	0	4	0	1
Early care and education training clock hours	10	1	8	3	0
CDA credential*	13	6	5	2	0
State early childhood credential	0	2	0	1	0
State director credential	4	0	0	0	0
Early care and education college credit hours	3	0	0	0	1
CDA credential with college credit hours	5	1	0	0	0
Associate's degree	2	1	0	0	0
Bachelor's degree	1	2	0	0	0
Master's degree	0	0	0	0	0
Doctorate degree	0	0	0	0	0
State teacher certification/licensure	0	1	0	0	0
Other minimum qualification**	0	0	1	0	2

N=50, excluding ID

\*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 CDA credentials for college credit.

\*\*"Other minimum qualification" includes observation of classrooms in licensed preschools and child care centers for teachers, and orientation trainings and enrollment in state credential programs for aides.

Qualification Alternatives

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

**Fast Fact**

Multiple alternative routes help people with college educations and those working to acquire skills while employed gain access to center roles. 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, which means that there is an average of more than five ways an individual can qualify for those roles. For teachers, the average is five qualification alternatives. The average is three for assistant teachers and two for aides.

*Table 21: Number of Alternative Routes for Preservice Qualifications for Center Roles in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables includes this information for the director role and all center teaching roles for each state.

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 3.8. For example, this table shows that in some states, an individual can qualify to be a center director with a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education. This is not the minimum requirement, but one way of qualifying for that role. The highest number of states includes CDA credentials as qualifications for directors. For teachers, most states include training awarded for college credit or CDA credentials.

<b>Table 3.8: States That Include Various Types of Training, Credentials, and Degrees in Qualification Alternatives*</b>					
<b>Qualification Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>				
	<b>Director</b>	<b>Master Teacher</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Assistant Teacher</b>	<b>Aide</b>
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>
Early care and education training clock hours	18	3	14	5	0
CDA credential	38	10	19	3	0

<b>Table 3.8: States That Include Various Types of Training, Credentials, and Degrees in Qualification Alternatives, con.*</b>					
<b>Qualification Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>				
	<b>Director</b>	<b>Master Teacher</b>	<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Assistant Teacher</b>	<b>Aide</b>
State credential (total):	11	4	5	1	1
• Director credential	6	0	1	0	0
• Early childhood credential	6	4	2	1	1
Early care and education college credit hours	33	12	21	7	1
Associate's degree (general)	10	2	4	1	0
Associate's degree in a field related to early childhood (e.g., education)	7	2	4	1	0
Associate's in early childhood education	24	8	10	1	0
Bachelor's degree (general)	24	6	6	1	0
Bachelor's degree related to early childhood (e.g., education)	10	4	4	1	0
Bachelor's degree in early childhood education	16	7	5	0	0
Bachelor's degree in early childhood or higher	4	1	1	0	0
Master's degree (general)	3	1	2	0	0
Master's degree related to early childhood (e.g., education)	5	3	0	0	0
Master's degree in early childhood education	5	4	1	0	0
Doctorate degree	2	2	2	0	0
State teacher certification/licensure	5	5	4	1	0

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Most states have multiple alternative routes for preservice qualifications and have many types of training, credentials, and/or degrees in their qualification alternatives.

### C. Experience Requirements

Many states include requirements about experience within their preservice qualifications, either as the qualification itself or in combination with training and/or education. Table 3.9 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 22 states (CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, NE, NH, NV, NY, PA, TN, VT, WA, WI) require that experience be gained specifically from working with children. State-by-state data are available in *Table 22: Experience Requirements for Center Staff Roles in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

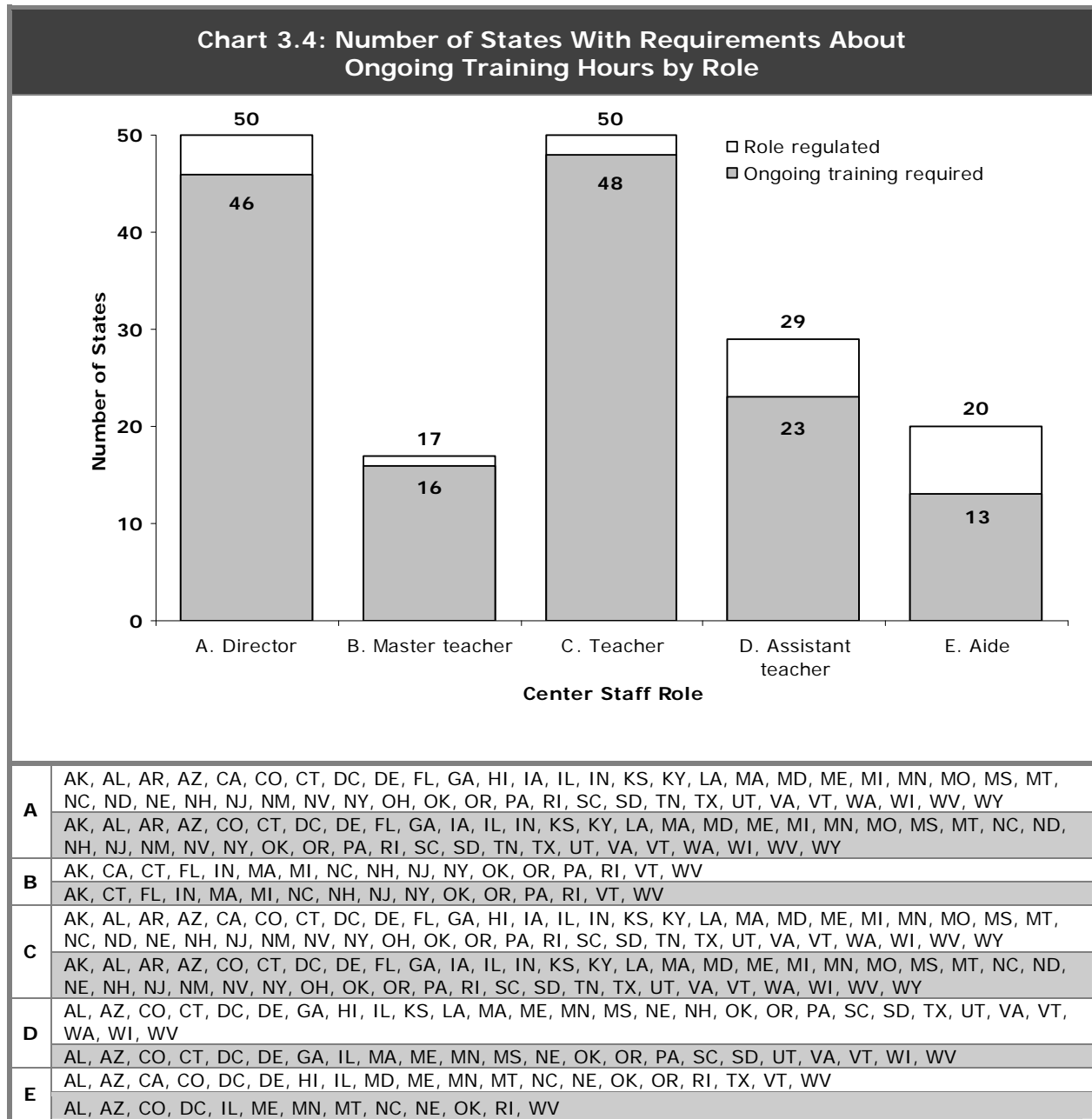
Experience Requirement	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Requirements about experience</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>
Experience must be in a specific setting	34	8	15	5	0
Experience must be from working with children	22	8	18	4	1
Experience must be with a specific age group of children	6	5	8	3	0
Experience must be verified by employer/supervisor	7	5	3	2	0
Experience must be supervised	8	4	7	1	1
Experience must be from continuous employment	2	1	0	0	0
Experience must be in an accredited center or family child care home	0	0	0	0	0

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about experience in preservice qualifications.

### D. Ongoing Training

Chart 3.4 shows the number of states that require ongoing training hours after hire for each center staff role. State-by-state data about the requirements about ongoing training are available in *Table 23: Number of Ongoing Training Hours Required for Center Staff Roles in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.



N=50 states, excluding ID

Tables 3.10 and 3.11 summarize information about the number of required ongoing training hours for each center staff role.

Number of Hours	Number of States				
	Director	Master Teacher	Teacher	Assistant Teacher	Aide
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Ongoing hours required</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>
Unspecified number of hours	2	1	2	2	2
1–12 hours	19	8	24	9	6
13–19 hours	13	3	13	7	2
20 or more hours	12	4	9	5	3

N=50, excluding ID

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

Center Staff Role	Number of States That Require Ongoing Hours	Most Common Number of Required Hours	Median Number of Required Hours*	Lowest Number of Required Hours	Highest Number of Required Hours
Director	46	15 (8 states)	15	3	30
Master teacher	16	12 (5 states)	12	6	45 hours every 2 years
Teacher	48	12, 15 (10 states each)	12	3	30

<b>Table 3.11: Most Common Number, Median, and Range of Ongoing Training Hour Requirements, con.</b>					
<b>Center Staff Role</b>	<b>Number of States That Require Ongoing Hours</b>	<b>Most Common Number of Required Hours</b>	<b>Median Number of Required Hours*</b>	<b>Lowest Number of Required Hours</b>	<b>Highest Number of Required Hours</b>
Assistant teacher	23	12, 15 (5 states each)	15	6	30
Aide	13	12 (4 states)	12	8	30

N=50, excluding ID

\*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 3.12 summarizes additional regulations for ongoing training requirements for child care center staff. Many states have requirements regarding the content and approved delivery methods for ongoing training. Delivery methods include adult education courses, institutions of higher education, vocational programs, audio-visual materials, reading materials, conference workshops, distance learning, and/or inservice training provided by the center director. State-by-state data are available in *Table 24: State Requirements About the Content of Ongoing Training Hours for Child Care Center Teachers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

**Fast Fact**

Many states require specific content for ongoing training hours.

Center Staff Role	Number of States		
	Require Ongoing Hours	Specify Content	Specify Approved Delivery Methods
Director	<b>46</b>	37	22
Master teacher	<b>16</b>	12	9
Teacher	<b>48</b>	37	22
Assistant teacher	<b>23</b>	19	9
Aide	<b>13</b>	9	6

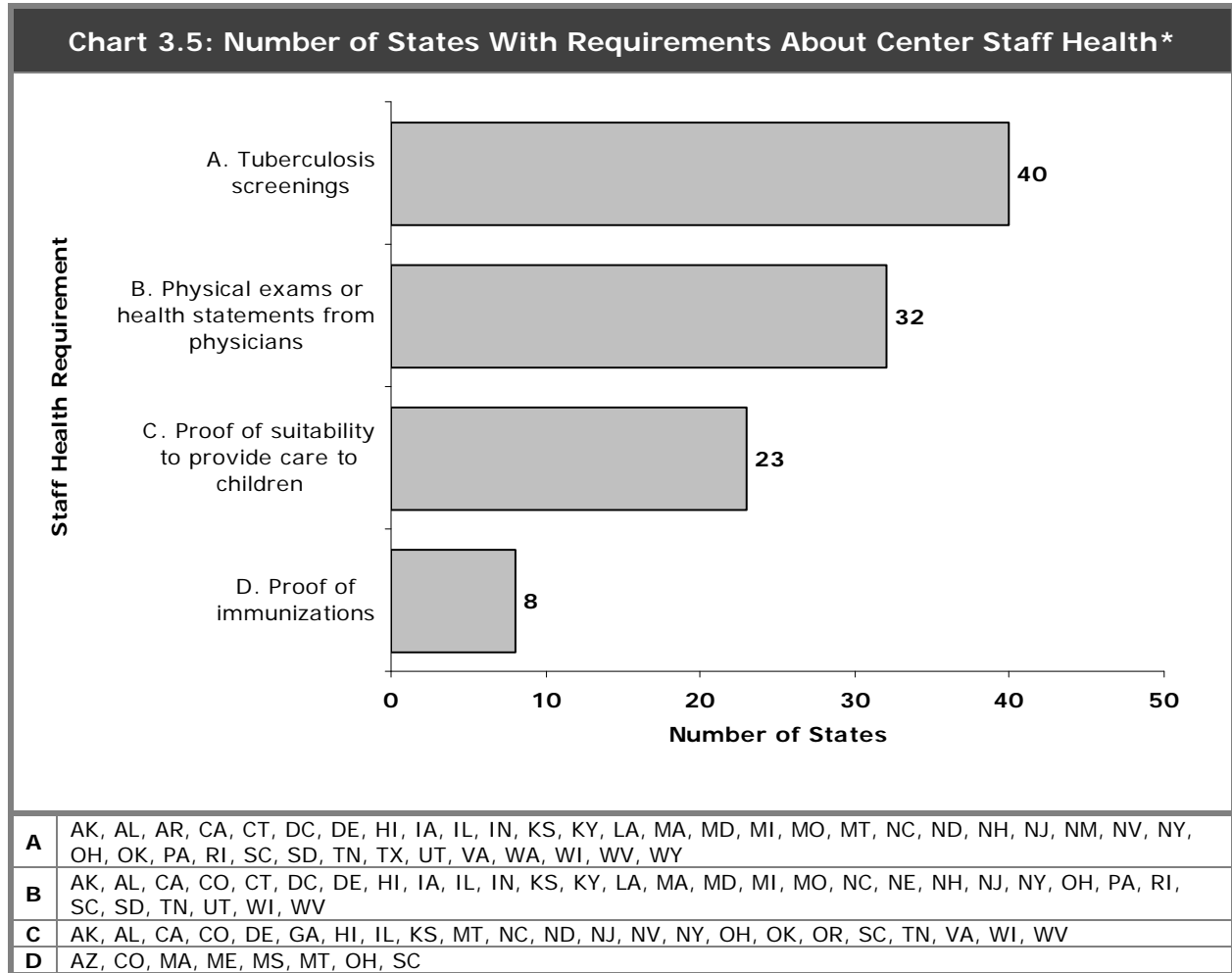
N=50, excluding ID

## 3.5 Staff Hiring Requirements

### A. Staff Health Requirements

As shown in Chart 3.5, all but four states (FL, ID, MN, VT) have requirements about staff health, 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 that require staff to have physical exams or provide health statements, 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 centers 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 screenings for drugs, alcohol, and other substances.



N=47 states, excluding FL, ID, MN, VT

\*Some states have multiple requirements about staff health.

## B. Background Checks

The data about background checks were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

### Types of Required Background Checks

Of the 50 states that license child care centers, all 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. Thirty-five states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, NE, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY) require center staff to sign statements about criminal status.

### Fast Fact

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

Table 3.13 provides additional details about criminal background check requirements for center staff. The requirements for each state are available in *Table 25: Criminal Background Check Requirements for Center Staff in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 3.13: States With Requirements About Criminal Background Checks*</b>		
<b>Background Check Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requires check of criminal history records</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>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, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State criminal history record check required</li> </ul>	46	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, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal criminal history record check required</li> </ul>	30	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MD, MI, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all center staff</li> </ul>	38	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for center staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	10	CA, HI, KY, MN, ND, NH, NM, NV, PA, VA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	31	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IN, KS, KY, MA, MO, MS, MT, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	6	CO, IL, NC, NV, OH, WY
<b>State requires check of child abuse and neglect registries</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, 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, SD, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all center staff</li> </ul>	31	AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NJ, NV, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for center staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	9	CA, HI, KY, MI, NH, NV, PA, SC, VA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	29	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	1	NV

<b>Table 3.13: States With Requirements About Criminal Background Checks, con. *</b>		
<b>Background Check Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requires checks of fingerprint records</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MD, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State fingerprint record check required</li> </ul>	24	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, MD, MS, NC, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OR, SC, SD, TN, TX, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal fingerprint record check required</li> </ul>	29	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MD, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NV, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all center staff</li> </ul>	23	AK, AL, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, MD, MS, NC, NJ, NV, NY, OH, SC, SD, TN, TX, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for center staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	7	CA, HI, NH, NM, NV, PA, RI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	20	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IA, MS, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, SD, TN, TX, WA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	12	AR, CO, IL, MN, MT, NC, ND, NV, OH, UT, WA, WY
<b>State requires checks of sex offender registries</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>AK, CA, DE, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC, WA, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all center staff</li> </ul>	13	AK, CA, DE, IA, IL, IN, MA, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC, WA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for center staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	3	IL, KY, OK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	11	DE, IA, IL, IN, KY, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC, WA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for center staff under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	1	WY

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about background checks.

Frequency of Background Checks

Table 3.14 shows how often center staff must undergo criminal background checks. Most states require staff to have background checks prior to working in centers. Many states require additional checks on a regular basis. State-by-state data are available in *Table 26: Frequency of Criminal Background Checks for Center Staff in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 3.14: Frequency of Criminal Background Checks for Center Staff*</b>		
<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Prior to working in a child care center	45	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI, WV, WY
Annually	5	HI, MT, OK, UT, VT
Every 2 years	6	AR, IA, MA, MI, MO, TX
Every 3 years	4	KS, NH, VA, WA
Every 4 years	2	OH, WI
Every 5 years	4	AR, FL, MS, WV
Less than every 5 years	1	NV
Other frequency	7	CA, CO, NE, NJ, NV, OR, WV

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the frequency of background checks.

Portability of Background Checks

Table 3.15 shows state policies about whether background checks can be transferred or new checks are conducted when center staff change jobs, move to other facilities, or have breaks in employment. In most states, checks are not portable, and new background checks are conducted.

<b>Table 3.15: State Policies About the Portability of Criminal Background Checks*</b>		
<b>Policy</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has policies about the portability of background checks</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>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>
New background check is conducted	28	CT, DC, DE, GA, IA, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, OH, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WY
Current background check is portable and moves with the individual	16	AL, AR, AZ, CA, HI, IL, KS, MI, MS, ND, NV, NY, OR, SC, SD, WI
Other policy	11	CO, FL, MD, MO, NC, NM, OK, PA, SC, VA, WV

N=49 states, excluding AK and ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the portability of background checks.

Notification of Changes in Background Checks

Eighteen states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, IL, MD, MI, MN, MS, NJ, NM, NY, OR, TX, UT, WV) indicated that their background check systems will notify the licensing agencies if someone's criminal record has changed.

Funding for Background Checks

As shown in Table 3.16, almost half of the states that license child care centers reported that people pay for their own background checks. In some of the states that indicated another source of payment, the child care facility pays for staff members' background checks.

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Individual pays for background checks	24	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, KY, MD, MI, MO, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, PA, SC, TX, VA, WA, WI
State pays for background checks	13	AK, AR, DE, IA, IL, MA, ND, NY, RI, SD, TN, WV, WY
Other source of payment	9	IN, KS, LA, MS, MT, NJ, OK, OR, UT
No response	4	ME, MN, NC, VT

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the funding of background checks.

## 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 3.17. 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).

Reference Requirement	Number of States	
	Center Directors	Other Center Staff
<b>References are required</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>
References must be from certain people (total)*:	15	15
• Nonrelatives	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, WI

\*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 3.18, more than three-quarters of states that license child care centers require staff to complete some type of orientation training to work in centers. States' requirements often specify that the training must be about facility policies and procedures and/or state licensing regulations. In addition, 27 states (AK, AZ, CO, CT, DE, IA, IL, IN, LA, MA, ME, MN, MS, 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 facility director's responsibility.

#### Fast Fact

Forty-seven states require center staff to complete first aid training; 46 require staff to complete CPR training.

<b>Orientation Training Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Center staff required to complete orientation training</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Required training is about facility's policies and procedures	32	AK, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, 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, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=41 states, excluding AL, FL, HI, ID, KS, MI, NH, NY, OH, VT

\*Some states have multiple types of orientation training.

## **B. Health and Safety Training**

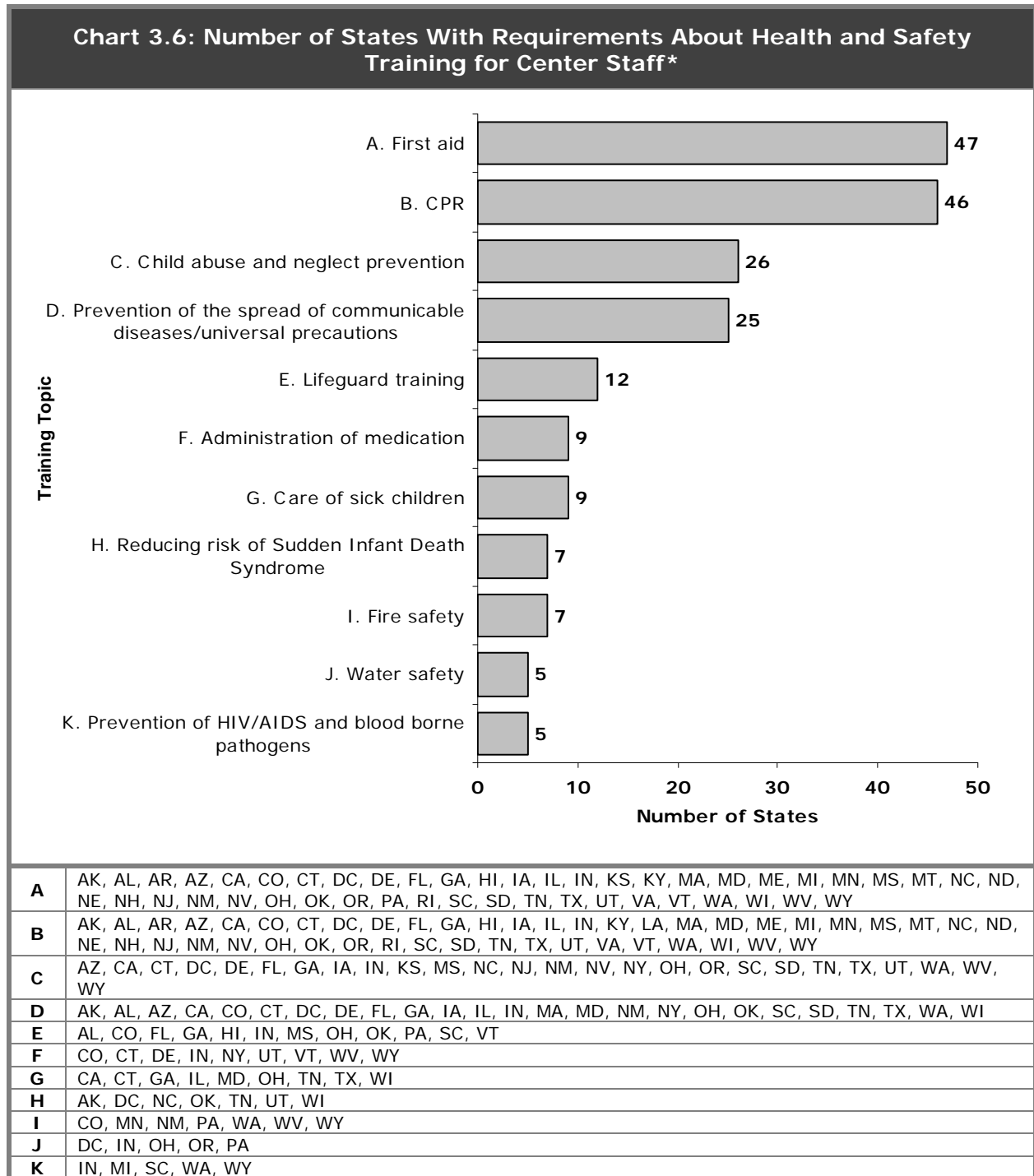
All states, except two (ID, MO) require center staff to complete health and safety training, with most requiring first aid and CPR training.

All states except five (ID, KS, MO, NY, PA) require CPR training. Thirty-three of these states (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) specify that it must focus on the care of infants and/or children. Thirty-seven states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, 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 certifications.

All but four states (ID, LA, 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 certifications in first aid in 33 states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, DC, 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-nine states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DC, 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 33 states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, 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 3.6 shows the states that require first aid and CPR training and information about required training regarding other health and safety topics, including prevention of the spread of communicable diseases, administration of medication, water safety, handwashing, and others.



N=49 states, excluding ID, MO

\*Some states require multiple types of health and safety training.

## 3.7 Child-staff Ratios and Group Size

### A. Child-staff Ratios

All states that license child care centers have requirements about child-staff ratios. Child-staff ratio requirements are based on ages of children in care. Table 3.19 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 3.19 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).<sup>2</sup> 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 3.19 shows, the states with the lowest child-staff ratios come close to meeting CFOC standards. The states' most common ratios are higher than the CFOC standards, especially for older children. State-by-state data about child-staff ratios are available in *Table 27: Center Child-staff Ratio Requirements in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

#### 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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 March 24, 2010, from <http://nrckids.org/CFOC/index.html>

Table 3.19: 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*
<b>Infants</b>							
6 weeks	3:1	3	6:1	4	4:1	33	<b>3:1</b>
9 months	3:1	3	6:1	5	4:1	32	<b>3:1</b>
<b>Toddlers</b>							
18 months	3:1	1	9:1	3	6:1	14	<b>4:1</b>
27 months	4:1	5	12:1	2	8:1	10	<b>4:1</b>
<b>Preschool-age children</b>							
3 years	7:1	2	15:1	4	10:1	23	<b>7:1</b>
4 years	8:1	1	20:1	1	10:1	17	<b>8:1</b>
<b>School-age children</b>							
5 years	9:1	1	25:1	2	15:1	14	<b>8:1</b>
10 years	10:1	1	26:1	1	15:1	16	<b>12:1</b>

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 at <http://nrckids.org/CFOC/index.html>.

## B. Group Size

Not all states regulate group size as they do with child-staff ratios. Table 3.20 shows the states that do not regulate group size for child care centers. Twenty-one states (AL, AR, AZ, CA, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT) do not regulate group size for at least one age group of children. Eleven states (AL, AZ, FL, IA, ID, LA, MT, NM, NV, SC, VA) do not regulate group size at all. However, 40 states (AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) regulate group size for one or more age groups.

Table 3.20: States That Do Not Regulate Group Size		
Age of Children	Number of States	State
<b>Infants</b>		
6 weeks	12	AL, AZ, CA, FL, IA, ID, LA, MT, NM, NV, SC, VA
9 months	12	AL, AZ, CA, FL, IA, ID, LA, MT, NM, NV, SC, VA
<b>Toddlers</b>		
18 months	12	AL, AZ, FL, IA, ID, LA, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
27 months	13	AL, AZ, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
<b>Preschool-age children</b>		
3 years	16	AL, AZ, CA, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
4 years	16	AL, AZ, CA, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
<b>School-age children</b>		
5 years	17	AL, AZ, CA, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, SC, VA
10 years	21	AL, AR, AZ, CA, FL, HI, IA, ID, LA, ME, MI, MO, MT, NE, NM, NV, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT

N=21 states, excluding AK, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MN, MS, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY)

Table 3.21 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 3.21 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 about group size requirements are available in *Table 28: Center Group Size Requirements in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 3.21: Range of Group Size Requirements							
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*
<b>Infants</b>							
6 weeks	6	1	20	1	8	20	<b>6</b>
9 months	6	1	20	1	8	20	<b>6</b>
<b>Toddlers</b>							
18 months	8	8	20	2	12	12	<b>8</b>
27 months	8	2	22	1	12, 14	8 states each	<b>8</b>
<b>Preschool-age children</b>							
3 years	14	2	30	2	20	18	<b>14</b>
4 years	20	18	36	1	20	18	<b>16</b>
<b>School-age children</b>							
5 years	20	9	40	2	30	11	<b>16</b>
10 years	20	2	50	1	30	15	<b>24</b>

N=40 states, excluding AL, AZ, FL, IA, ID, LA, MT, NM, NV, SC, VA

\*Recommended group sizes 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 at <http://nrckids.org/CFOC/index.html>.

### C. Mixed-age Groups

All but four states (ID, MT, NE, NV) allow child care centers to have mixed-age groups of children. All of these states have requirements about child-staff ratios for mixed-age groups, and 25 states (AK, CO, CT, DE, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, ND, NY, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements about group size for mixed-age groups. State-by-state data about these requirements are available in *Table 29: Center Child-staff Ratio and Group Size Requirements for Mixed-age Groups in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

#### 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 About Grouping Children

Twenty states (DE, GA, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MS, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, VT, WI, WV, WY) have definitions for “group” in their child care center regulations. Fourteen states (AK, CT, KY, ME, NJ, OH, OK, PA, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV) 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;
- Thirteen states (AK, 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, WI, WV, WY) allow centers to exceed group size requirements.

The conditions in which states allow centers to exceed grouping limitations legally vary 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 during special occasions, including holiday parties and visits from special guests.

## 3.8 Supervision of Children

### A. General Supervision Requirements

As shown in Table 3.22, all but five states (HI, ID, LA, NV, SD) 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.

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements for staff supervising children</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Staff must be able to see children at all times	16	AK, AL, AZ, KY, MT, NH, OH, OK, OR, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WV, WY
Staff must be able to hear children at all times	13	AK, AZ, KY, MT, NH, OH, OK, OR, TX, UT, VA, WA, WY
Staff must be free of other duties	12	AL, AZ, CA, IN, KY, NC, ND, NM, OH, TX, WA, WI
Staff must be alert/awake	7	AL, DE, GA, ME, NC, OH, WV

N=46 states, excluding HI, ID, LA, NV, SD

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements regarding supervision, some of which are not included in this table.

In addition to the requirements summarized in Table 3.22, 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 staff substitutes; and
- Four states (CO, IA, NH, NJ) allow centers to use video surveillance cameras or electronic monitors in lieu of direct supervision.

### B. Supervision During Specific Times/Activities

All 50 states with child care center licensing regulations have requirements about 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 3.23 presents an overview of the number of states that have requirements about the supervision of children during these various time periods and activities.

Table 30: *Supervision Requirements for Times/Activities for Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state information about the data presented in Table 3.23. The next sections provide further details about states' supervision requirements.

<b>Table 3.23: States With Supervision Requirements for Specific Times/Activities*</b>		
<b>Time/Activity</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has supervision requirements for specific time/activity</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>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>
Transportation in vehicles	48	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, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Field trips	44	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Naptime	40	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, LA, ME, MI, 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	40	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, 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	34	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, 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
Outdoor play	30	AK, AR, CT, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, KY, 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=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have supervision requirements for multiple times/activities.

Naptime

Of the states that license centers, 40 have requirements in their center regulations for the supervision of children during naptimes. Table 3.24 provides an overview of the states that have specific types of requirements for staff supervising napping children.

<b>Table 3.24: States With Requirements About Supervision During Naptime*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during naptime</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, LA, ME, MI, MN, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Specific child-staff ratio requirements	29	AL, AR, CA, CT, DC, 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 must be present in room where children are napping	18	AK, AL, AR, DE, GA, IA, IN, MO, NC, NE, NJ, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, VT, WV
Staff must be able to see children	15	AK, AL, AR, FL, LA, MO, NC, NV, OK, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements delineated by the age of the child (total):	18	AK, AR, CO, FL, IA, IN, MI, MO, NC, OK, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State has requirements about the supervision of infants and toddlers during naptime</li> </ul>	14	AK, AR, CO, FL, IA, IN, MI, MO, OK, PA, TN, VA, VT, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State has requirements about the supervision of preschool-age children during naptime</li> </ul>	8	IN, MO, NC, OK, PA, UT, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State has requirements about the supervision of school-age children during naptime</li> </ul>	4	MO, TX, UT, WI
Staff must be able to hear children	11	AK, CO, FL, MO, NH, NV, OK, VA, WA, WI, WV
Specific group size requirements	10	AK, MN, NJ, OH, OR, TN, TX, WI, WV, WY
Centers must have written supervision plans	2	CT, UT
Staff supervising during naptime must be free of other duties	1	LA

N=40 states, excluding AZ, ID, KS, KY, MA, MD, MS, MT, ND, NY, SD

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during naptime.

Evening/Overnight Care

Thirty-five states have requirements in their center regulations for the supervision of children during evening/overnight care. Table 3.25 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements for staff supervising children during evening hours. See “3.9 Care of Children” for additional requirements about evening/overnight care.

<b>Table 3.25: States With Requirements About Supervision During Evening/Overnight Care*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during evening/overnight care</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, 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</b>
Specific child-staff ratio requirements	16	AL, CO, GA, IL, IN, MN, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, WA, WV, WY
Specific group size requirements	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 must be present in room where children are sleeping	5	AL, IA, IL, SC, TN
Staff supervising sleeping children must be free of other duties	1	DE
Centers must have written supervision plans	1	CT

N=35 states, excluding ID, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, RI, UT, VA, VT

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during evening/overnight care.

Outdoor Play

Thirty states have requirements in their center regulations for the supervision of children during outdoor play. Table 3.26 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements for staff supervising children playing outdoors.

Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during outdoor play</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>AK, AR, CT, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, NC, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI</b>
Specific group size requirements	11	AK, GA, MD, MN, NJ, OH, OK, OR, TX, WA, WI
Specific child-staff ratio requirements	9	AR, GA, IA, MI, OR, TN, VA, WA, WI
Staff must be able to see children	8	IN, KY, ME, MT, NC, TN, VT, WA
Staff must be present with children	4	FL, LA, PA, WA
Centers must have written supervision plans	3	AK, CT, TN
Staff must be able to hear children	2	NC, WA

N=30 states, excluding AL, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, HI, ID, IL, MA, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, SD, UT, WV, WY

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during outdoor play.

Large Group Activities

As shown in Table 3.27, 17 states have requirements about the supervision of children during large group activities. The only types of requirements these states have are specified child-staff ratios and group sizes.

Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during large group activities</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>AK, AR, GA, MD, MN, MS, NJ, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV, WY</b>
Specific group size requirements	15	AK, AR, GA, MD, MN, MS, NJ, OH, OK, OR, RI, TX, WA, WV, WY
Specific child-staff ratio requirements	8	GA, MS, OR, RI, TN, TX, WA, WV

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, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during large group activities.

Swimming/Water Activities

As shown in Table 3.28, 40 states have requirements about 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.

<b>Table 3.28: States With Requirements About Supervision During Swimming/Water Activities*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children when swimming or participating in water activities</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, 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</b>
Specific child-staff ratio requirements	33	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MD, ME, 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	21	AK, AL, AR, AZ, DC, GA, IL, IN, MD, MI, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, VA, VT, WV, WY
Staff must be present with children	13	AL, CO, CT, IN, MD, ME, MO, NC, NM, OK, UT, WV, WY
Specific group size requirements	3	KS, NH, WI
Staff must be able to see children	3	ME, OH, TX
Centers must have written supervision plans	2	GA, VT
Staff must be able to hear children	1	ME

N=40 states, excluding HI, IA, ID, KY, LA, MA, MN, ND, NV, RI, SD

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during swimming/water activities.

Transporting Children in Vehicles

All but three states (ID, RI, SD) have requirements about the supervision of children while traveling in vehicles. As shown in Table 3.29, most states have child-staff ratio requirements about transportation and specify that children must not be left unattended in vehicles. Approximately half of the states require that children are supervised when boarding and exiting vehicles, centers obtain written permission from parents, and staff or drivers ensure that children are received by parents or designated people. See “3.10 Facility Requirements” for additional transportation requirements.

<b>Table 3.29: States With Requirements About Supervision of Children Traveling in Vehicles*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children when transported in vehicles</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>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, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Specific child-staff ratio requirements about transporting children in vehicles	38	AL, AR, AZ, FL, 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"> <li>• Driver is counted in child-staff ratio</li> </ul>	21	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 vehicles	35	AL, CA, CO, DC, 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
Written permission from parents required for transporting children	25	AK, AL, CO, CT, DC, DE, IL, IN, MI, MO, MT, NE, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY
Staff must supervise children when they board and exit vehicles	23	AL, AR, AZ, CO, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, LA, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NM, NV, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX
Staff or drivers must ensure that children are received by parents or other designated people	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 vehicles	17	AZ, DC, DE, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MO, NC, OK, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI
Attendance records of children being transported must be kept	15	AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MI, NJ, OH, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV
Additional checks for children remaining on board must be conducted once vehicles are unloaded	4	AL, AR, FL, TN

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Specific group size requirements about transporting children in vehicles	1	PA
Centers must have written supervision plans	1	OH

N=48 states, excluding ID, RI, SD

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision of children traveling in vehicles.

Field Trips

Forty-four states have requirements in their center regulations for the supervision of children during field trips. Table 3.30 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.

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during field trips</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Written permission from parents required	36	AR, AZ, CO, DC, FL, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OR, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Specific child-staff ratio requirements	23	AZ, CO, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, MD, MI, MN, MS, NH, NJ, OH, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV
Emergency contact information for children must be taken on field trips	13	AZ, CO, DC, DE, GA, IA, IN, MA, MN, NH, TX, UT, WV
Attendance records of children on field trips must be kept	12	AL, AR, AZ, CO, DE, GA, IN, NH, OH, TX, VA, WV
Specific group size requirements	12	AK, CA, CT, MD, MN, NH, OH, OK, OR, TX, WI, WV

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Children are required to wear name tags or other identification	7	AZ, DC, DE, GA, OH, TX, UT
Additional staff/adults (e.g., volunteers, parents, and/or drivers) must attend field trips under certain conditions	5	FL, GA, IA, OH, TX
Centers must have written supervision plans	4	AK, CO, OH, OR

N=44 states, excluding ID, IL, KY, ND, NE, NV, SD

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during field trips.

### 3.9 Care of Children

#### A. Health Requirements

##### Physical Exams

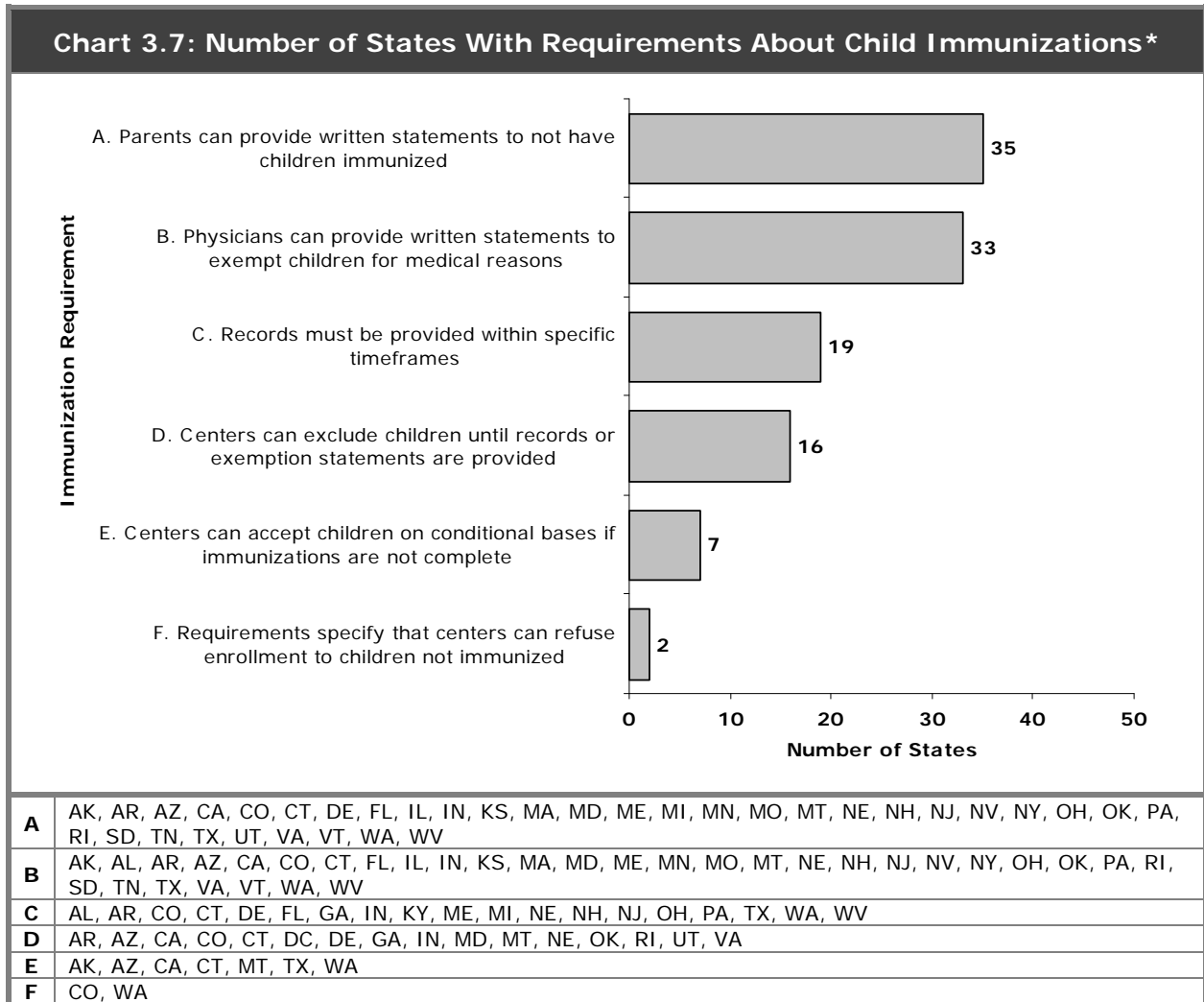
More than half the states require that children have physical exams prior to enrolling in child care centers, as shown in Table 3.31. Also, half of states require centers to keep records of children's physicals.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Children required to have physical exams to enroll in centers</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, ND, NH, NJ, NV, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV</b>
Centers required to keep records of children's physical exams	26	CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MI, MN, ND, NH, NJ, OH, PA, SC, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV
Health records must be provided to centers within specific timeframes	19	CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, IA, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, NH, NJ, OH, PA, TX, VA, WI, WV

N=30 states, excluding AK, AL, AR, AZ, GA, ID, KY, LA, ME, MS, MT, NC, NE, NM, OK, OR, SD, TN, VT, WA, WY

Immunization Requirements

All states, except ID, require children to be immunized prior to enrollment in centers. As shown in Chart 3.7, most states allow exemptions from immunization requirements if written statements are provided from either physicians stating that children are exempt from immunizations for medical reasons or parents stating that they do not wish their children to be immunized.



N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about immunizations.

Additional Health Requirements

Six states (DC, IL, MA, MD, NY, RI) require children to have lead-level blood screenings prior to enrolling in child care centers. 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.

## B. Nutrition

All states that license child care centers have requirements about nutrition for children. As shown in Table 3.32, nearly all states also have requirements about feeding infants, most specify a number of or time interval between meals/snacks served to children, and most require centers to post a menu. Only a few states require that centers provide all food served to children. Most states allow parents to provide food for meals or snacks.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about nutrition and meals/snacks for children</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>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>
Requirements about 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
Requirements about feeding infants	48	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, 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	46	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, 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
Centers required to post menus 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
Parents/guardians 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
Centers 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

<b>Table 3.32: States With Requirements About Nutrition for Children, con.*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Centers required to provide all meals/snacks to children	6	AL, IL, IN, MI, MO, WV
Parents/guardians allowed to bring food for all children for special occasions	4	IA, IL, MS, WA

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple types of nutrition requirements.

### C. Behavior Guidance and Discipline

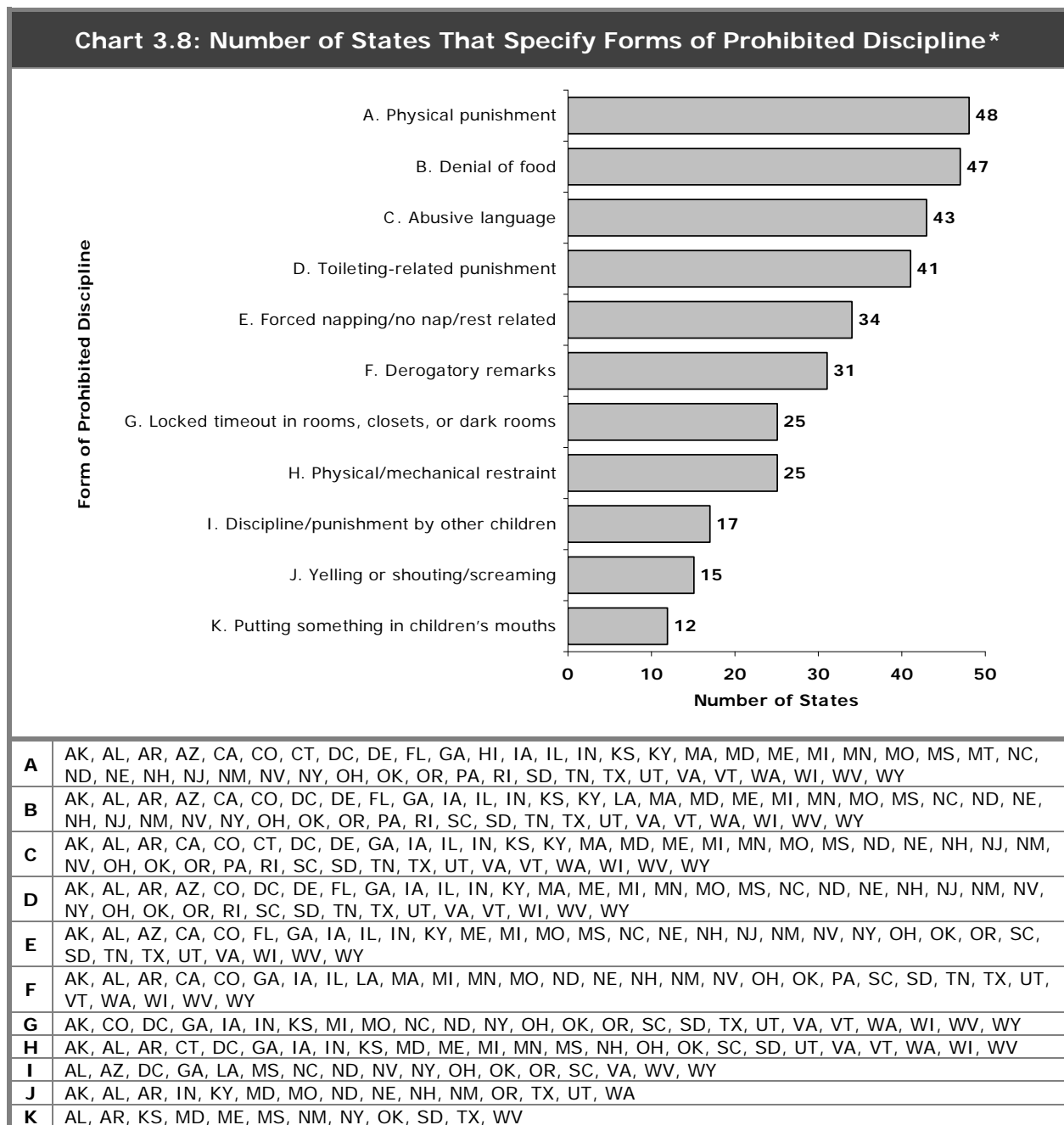
All states that license centers have requirements in their child care center licensing regulations related to behavior guidance and/or discipline. As seen in Table 3.33, most states' regulations specify types of behavior guidance and/or discipline that centers are allowed to use. Of those states, more than half allow children to be separated from groups if they are supervised. Two states allow corporal punishment by specifically listing it as a form of acceptable discipline.

<b>Table 3.33: States That Specify Forms of Discipline Allowed*</b>		
<b>Form of Discipline</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about behavior guidance and/or discipline</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>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>
Regulations specify types of discipline that are allowed for use with children	42	AK, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, 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
• Supervised separation from groups	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
• Corporal punishment	2	LA, SC

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the types of allowed discipline.

In their regulations, all states, except ID, specify forms of behavior guidance and/or discipline that are **not** allowed. Chart 3.8 shows the different types of discipline prohibited in states.



N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states specify multiple forms of prohibited discipline.

## D. 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 learning environments 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 31: Requirements About Activities and Equipment and Materials in Centers for Children in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state data about these requirements.

### Schedule of Activities

Of the 50 states that license child care centers, 39 (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, 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 written daily schedules of activities. Of those, 25 states (AL, AZ, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NE, NM, OH, OR, PA, TX, UT, VA, WA, WV) require centers to post daily schedules in facilities.

<b>Fast Facts</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Almost all states specify the types of activities that centers must include for children in daily schedules.</li> <li>• Most states specify that the developmental needs of children must be addressed in the activities provided.</li> </ul>	

### Types of Required Activities

Table 3.34 summarizes the types of activities child care centers are required to have in daily schedules for children.

Type of Activity	Number of States	State
<b>State has requirements about activities for children</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>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</b>
Outdoor play	46	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, 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
Active play	39	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, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV

Table 3.34: States With Requirements About Activities, con.*		
Type of Activity	Number of States	State
Quiet play	39	AK, AL, 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	37	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, NC, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV
Group activities	34	AK, AL, AZ, CT, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, VT, 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
Indoor play	32	AK, AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, ME, MN, MO, NC, ND, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV
Regular meal/snack times	28	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DC, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MA, ME, MO, MS, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV
Child-initiated activities	22	AZ, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, IL, MD, MI, MN, NC, ND, NJ, NY, OH, RI, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Gross motor activities	20	AK, AZ, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MN, NV, OH, OK, OR, RI, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Staff-initiated activities	20	AZ, CT, DC, GA, IA, IL, IN, MD, MI, MN, NC, NJ, NY, RI, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Free play	19	AL, DE, GA, HI, IL, KY, MA, MO, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, OR, PA, TN, VA, WA, WV
Fine motor activities	17	AZ, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MN, OK, OR, RI, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV
Toileting and washing/handwashing	16	AK, AL, CA, CT, GA, IL, KS, MA, MO, NE, NH, NV, OR, UT, WI, WV
Small group activities	15	AL, AZ, CT, GA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MO, NC, ND, NY, OK, RI, VT
Creative expression	14	AK, CT, GA, IA, IN, MA, MN, NH, OH, OR, VA, VT, WA, WI
Large group activities	12	AK, AZ, GA, IL, IN, MA, MI, NC, NY, OK, RI, VT

N=49 states, excluding ID and WY

\*Some states require multiple types of activities for children.

Child Developmental Domains Addressed in Activities

Table 3.35 shows that most of the states that require centers to address the developmental needs of children during activities require centers to address social, physical, cognitive/intellectual, emotional, and language/literacy development. Fewer, but nearly half, of these states require centers to address cultural development. State-by-state data are available in *Table 32: Developmental Domains Addressed in Required Activities for Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 3.35: States That Address Developmental Domains in Required Activities*		
Developmental Domain	Number of States	State
State requirements address child development in activities	42	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, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Social development	33	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, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Physical development	33	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, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Cognitive/intellectual development	32	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, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV
Emotional development	32	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, UT, VT, WA, WI
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
Cultural development	19	AZ, CT, DC, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MN, ND, NJ, NV, NY, PA, RI, VT, WA, WV

N=42 states, excluding CA, CO, ID, LA, ME, MO, NE, TN, WY

\*Some states address multiple developmental domains in their requirements.

As shown in Table 3.36, some state regulations also include lists of specific activities centers should provide to meet each of the developmental needs.

<b>Table 3.36: States That List Specific Activities Centers Must Provide to Address Developmental Domains*</b>		
<b>Developmental Domain</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requirements address child development in activities</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>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, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV</b>
<b>State lists specific activities to address developmental domains</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>AK, CT, GA, HI, IA, IN, MA, MI, MS, MT, ND, TX, VA, VT, WA, WV</b>
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=42 states, excluding CA, CO, ID, LA, ME, MO, NE, TN, WY

\*Some states list multiple specific activities to address developmental domains.

Equipment and Materials

Table 3.37 shows the types of equipment and materials child care centers are required to have for children.

<b>Table 3.37: States With Requirements About Equipment and Materials*</b>		
<b>Equipment/Material Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the types of equipment/materials centers must have for children</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>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</b>
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
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
Art supplies/creative activities	29	AL, AZ, CO, GA, IL, IN, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NJ, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, VT, WI, 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
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

**Table 3.37: States With Requirements About Equipment and Materials, con.\***

Equipment/Material Type	Number of States	State
Blocks/construction materials	18	AL, IN, MA, MD, ME, 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, WY

\*Some states require multiple types of equipment and materials.

In addition to the equipment and material requirements included in Table 3.37, 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 must be on shelves and tables for children to look at and read. Every child must 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.

## E. 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. Eleven states (DE, MA, ME, NJ, OH, OK, RI, TX, VA, WV, WY) require centers to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in activities, and eight states (AK, DC, IL, ND, OH, PA, VT, WA) require centers to encourage parent involvement.

Forty-six states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, 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, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) require centers to provide parents with access to facilities at all times, allowing them to visit without giving prior notice.

As shown in Table 3.38, most states have requirements regarding communication between centers 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.

<b>Table 3.38: States With Requirements About Parent Communication*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about centers’ communication with parents</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, 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</b>
Centers must provide written copies of policies and procedures to parents	40	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DC, 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
Centers 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
Centers must hold regularly scheduled meetings with parents	16	CO, DE, HI, IN, MA, MN, ND, NJ, NY, OH, OK, RI, VA, VT, WI, WY
Centers must have resource areas for parents	2	AK, OK

N=45 states, excluding CT, FL, ID, KY, NE, SD

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about communication with parents.

## **F. Specialized Care of Children**

There are requirements for specialized types of care for children within child care center licensing regulations, such as infant and toddler care, school-age care, and evening/overnight care. Table 3.39 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 about activities that pertain only to infant and toddler care or school-age care. In addition, many states have specific facility requirements for these different types of care.

<b>Table 3.39: States With Requirements for Types of Specialized Care*</b>					
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>				
	<b>Infant and Toddler Care</b>	<b>School-age Care</b>	<b>Care of Mildly III Children</b>	<b>Evening/Overnight Care</b>	<b>Drop-in Care</b>
<b>State has requirements about specialized care</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Types of requirements for specialized care</b>					
Supervision of children	43	20	35	34	6
Staff qualifications	17	28	N/A	N/A	N/A
Activities for children	42	43	7	32	8
Materials/equipment	44	28	16	38	N/A
Facility	35	37	12	28	4

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about specialized care.

N/A=Requirement not applicable to type of care

*Table 33: States With Requirements for Specialized Care in Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables includes state-by-state data about requirements for specialized care.

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 3.39. 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. *Table 34: Qualifications for Center Staff Working With Infants and Toddlers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables includes details about the required preservice qualifications for staff who work with this age group.

<b>Fast Fact</b>
More than half of states require infants to be placed on their backs to sleep.

SIDS Risk Reduction

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.<sup>3</sup> Table 3.40 shows state requirements related to the prevention of SIDS.

*Table 35: State Requirements About Reducing Risk of SIDS in Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables has additional information about these requirements.

Table 3.40: States With Requirements About Reducing the Risk of SIDS*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
Infants must be placed on their backs to sleep	30	AK, AL, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Physicians may authorize different sleep positions for infants	25	AK, AL, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, PA, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Soft bedding/materials must not be used in cribs	22	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DC, GA, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, NJ, OH, OK, PA, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI
Staff are required to complete training about SIDS prevention	7	AK, DC, NC, OK, TN, UT, WI
Parents may authorize different sleep positions for infants	5	IA, NC, NJ, OH, WA

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the prevention of SIDS.

### 3.10 Facility Requirements

#### A. Environmental Tests and Health Inspections

Environmental Tests

Thirteen states (CT, DE, IA, MA, ME, MI, 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

**Note**

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

**Environmental Health Inspections**

The following data about environmental inspections were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

Of the 50 states that license centers, 40 reported that they require centers to have environmental health inspections. Table 3.41 shows how often centers must have inspections. The most common frequency is once a year. State-by-state data are available in *Table 36: Frequency of Environmental Health Inspections of Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 3.41: State Requirements About the Frequency of Environmental Health Inspections</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Environmental health inspections required</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, FL, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Once a year	19	AR, AZ, DC, KS, KY, LA, ME, MO, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NV, OR, SD, TN, TX, VA, WY
Once every 2 years	8	CO, CT, MA, MI, NE, NY, OK, SC
Once every 3 years	2	IL, NH
Other frequency*	9	AL, FL, MD, MN, MS, OH, RI, UT, WV
No response	2	AK, NM

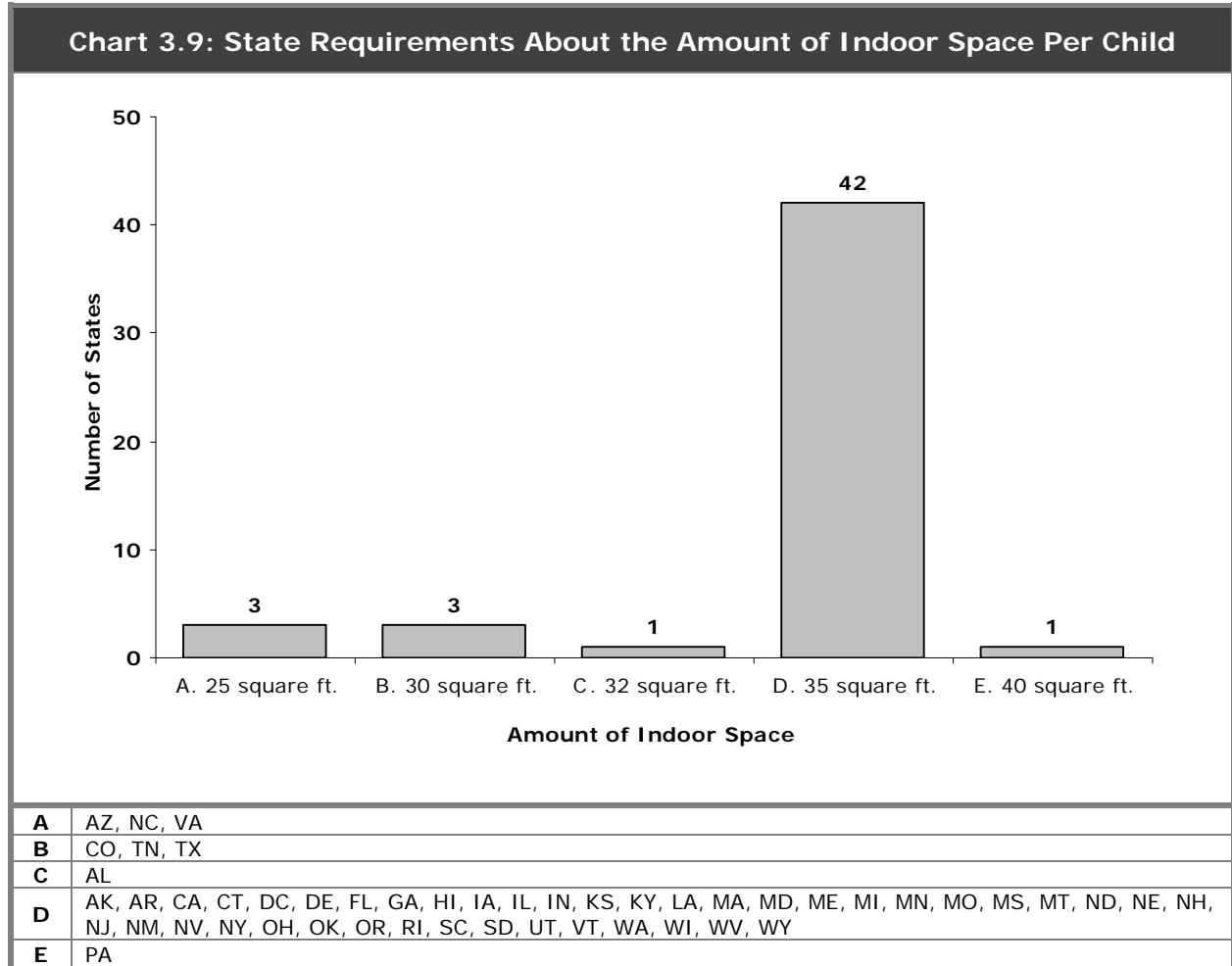
N=40 states, excluding CA, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IN, PA, VT, WA, WI

\*For details about "Other frequency," see *Table 36: Frequency of Environmental Health Inspections of Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

## B. Square Footage

### Indoor Space Requirements

All states that license child care centers have requirements about the amount of indoor space that must be provided for each child. As shown in Chart 3.9, most states require child care centers to have 35 square feet of indoor space per child.



N=50 states, excluding ID

In addition, 14 states specify the amount of required indoor space by age of children. Table 3.42 lists the specific space requirements for infants, toddlers, and preschool- and school-age children in these states.

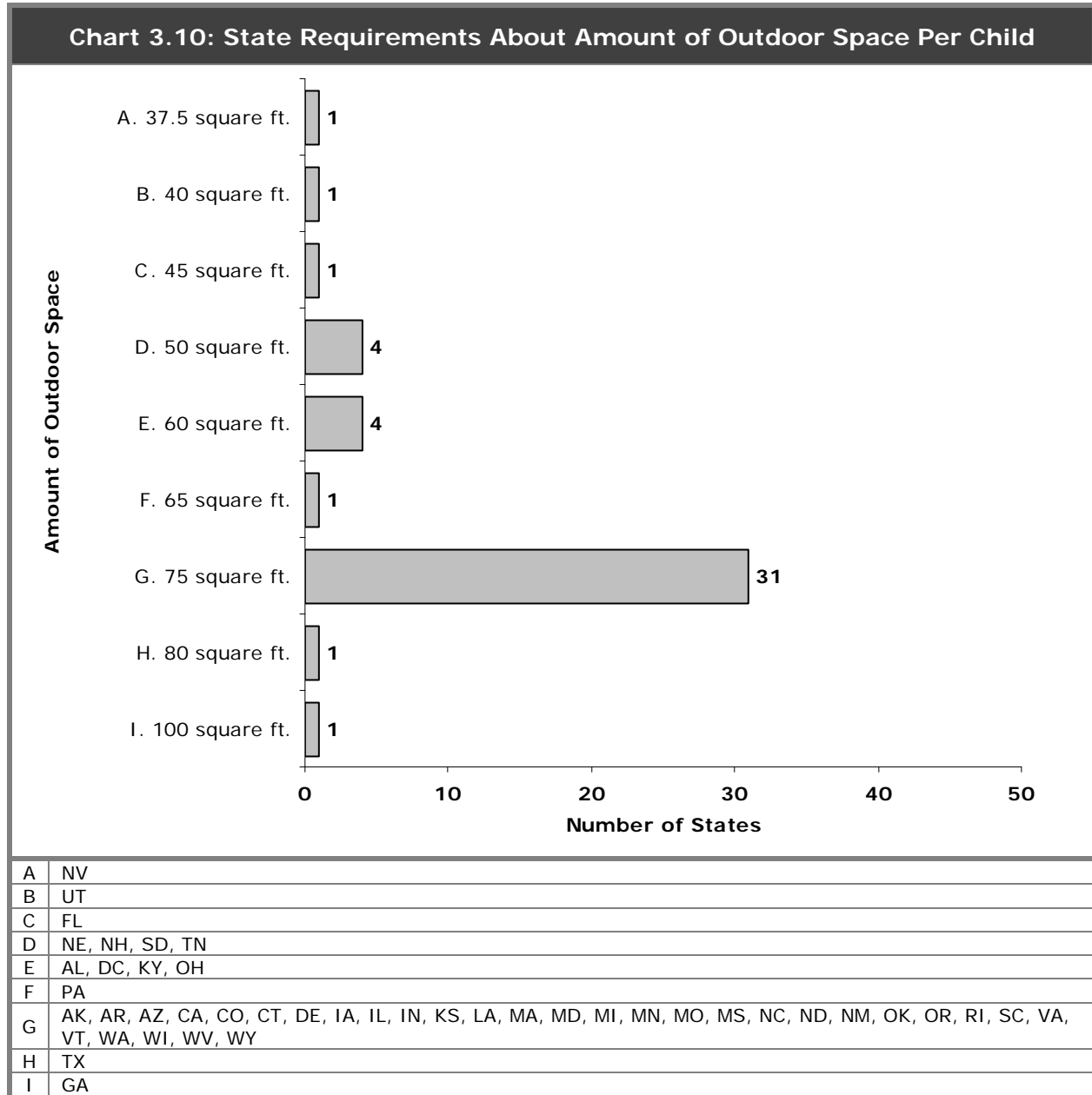
<b>Table 3.42: State Requirements About Amount of Indoor Space Per Child by Age Group</b>				
<b>State</b>	<b>Age of Children</b>			
	<b>Infants</b>	<b>Toddlers</b>	<b>Preschool-age Children</b>	<b>School-age Children</b>
AZ	35 square feet	35 square feet	25 square feet	N/A
CO	50 square feet	45 square 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=14 states, excluding AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, WI, WV

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

Outdoor Space Requirements

All states except six (HI, ID, ME, MT, NJ, NY) have requirements about the amount of outdoor space that must be provided for each child. As shown in Chart 3.10, most states require centers to have 75 square feet of outdoor space for each child.



N=45 states, excluding HI, ID, ME, MT, NJ, NY

Eight states (CO, KS, MI, MN, MO, NJ, OK, WI) have requirements about the total minimum amount of outdoor space that centers are required to have, as shown in Table 3.43.

Minimum Requirement	State
150 square feet	NJ
750 square feet	KS, MO, WI
1,200 square feet	MI
1,500 square feet	CO, MN
1,800 square feet	OK

N=8 states, excluding AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WV, WY

Table 37: Amount of Indoor and Outdoor Space Required in Centers in 2008 in the 50-state Data Tables includes the square footage requirements for each state.

### C. Condition of Facility and Equipment

As shown in Table 3.44, all states, except ID and IN, have requirements about the condition of facilities and/or equipment (e.g., facilities and equipment must be in good condition).

Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Indoor area and equipment</b>		
Requirements about 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
Requirements about 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

<b>Table 3.44: States With Requirements About the Condition of the Facility and/or Equipment, con.*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Outdoor area and equipment</b>		
Requirements about 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
Requirements about the condition of outdoor equipment	46	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, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<b>Materials and toys</b>		
Requirements about the condition of materials and toys for children	39	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, SC, UT, WI, WV, WY

N=49 states, excluding ID and IN

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about indoor and outdoor areas and equipment, materials, and toys.

## D. Safety of Equipment

As seen in Table 3.45, all states, except ID and IN, have requirements about the safety of indoor and outdoor equipment. Information about each state's requirements about surfaces under indoor and outdoor equipment is available in *Table 38: Requirements About Surfaces Under Indoor and Outdoor Equipment in Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 3.45: States With Requirements About Equipment Safety*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Indoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about sleeping equipment (e.g., cots and cribs)	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
Requirements about the safety of indoor equipment	44	AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, 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
Requirements prohibiting the use of stackable cribs	25	AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NH, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, VA, WA, WY
Requirements about the surfaces under indoor equipment	12	LA, MI, MS, NH, NV, OH, PA, TX, UT, VA, VT, WV
<b>Outdoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about the safety of outdoor equipment	46	AK, 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, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements about the surfaces under outdoor equipment	40	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, KY, 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
<b>Indoor and outdoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about equipment to be free of components that can pinch, shear, or crush body tissues	30	AK, AL, AR, CA, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, KY, MA, MN, MO, MT, NC, NE, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=49 states, excluding ID and IN

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about the safety of indoor and outdoor equipment.

## E. Outdoor Space

### Enclosures or Fencing

As shown in Table 3.46, 39 states require child care centers to have fences or other enclosures around outdoor play spaces. Most of these states require that fences be at least 4 feet in height. State-by-state data are available in *Table 39: Height Requirements for Outdoor Enclosures and Fences for Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 3.46: States With Requirements About Outdoor Fencing		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires that outdoor space is enclosed or has a fence	39	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Height must be at least 4 feet	29	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, KS, ME, MI, MS, MT, NC, NM, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WI, WV, WY
Height must be 42 inches	1	MO
Height must be 3 feet	1	NE
Height not specified	8	HI, IN, KY, LA, NV, OH, VT, WA

N=39 states, excluding AK, IA, ID, MA, MD, MN, ND, NH, NJ, NY, SD, VA

### Bodies of Water

Forty-two states (AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, 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, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY) have requirements about the safety of swimming pools in child care centers. In addition, 26 states (AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, 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, and rivers).

## F. Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness

### Fire Inspections

The following data about fire inspections were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

#### Note

The information in this study only includes data from child care center licensing regulations and state child care licensing agency responses to a survey. There may be other state laws regarding fire safety that require centers to have fire inspections or fire evacuation plans or conduct fire drills.

All states, except ID, reported that they require centers to have fire inspections. Table 3.47 shows how often centers must have inspections. A majority of states require annual fire inspections. State-by-state data are available in *Table 40: Frequency of Center Fire Inspections in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Requirement	Number of States	State
Fire inspections required	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
Once a year	29	AR, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OR, RI, SD, TN, TX, VA, WI, WY
Once every 2 years	11	AK, CO, HI, IA, MA, MD, NE, NY, OK, SC, WV
Once every 3 years	3	AZ, NH, WA
Other frequency*	7	AL, CA, MI, MN, PA, UT, VT

N=50 states, excluding ID

\*For details about "Other frequency," see *Table 40: Frequency of Fire Inspections of Centers in 2008* in the 50-state data tables.

Fire Safety and Fire Drills

Forty-six 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, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements regarding fire safety. Of those states, 34 (AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, IL, IN, IA, MD, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WY) require centers to have plans for how to evacuate the children and staff in case of fires in facilities.

Thirty-eight states also require child care centers to conduct fire drills. As shown in Table 3.48, most of these states require centers to conduct fire drills at least once a month.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requires fire drills</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>AR, AZ, CO, DC, 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</b>
More than once a month	2	RI, WV
At least once a month	27	AR, AZ, 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	4	DC, 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=38 states, excluding AK, AL, CA, CT, DE, GA, HI, ID, KY, MA, SC, TN, VT

\*CO requires that fire drills be held at unexpected times and under varying conditions to simulate the conditions of actual fires.

Smoke Detectors and Fire Extinguishers

As shown in Table 3.49, some states that license centers require them to have smoke detectors and/or fire extinguishers. Fourteen states (AR, AZ, HI, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NM, NY, OK, OR, TX, WY) require centers to have smoke detectors and/or fire extinguishers, and nine states (AR, MI, MO, MT, ND, NM, NY, OK, WY) require centers to have both.

Table 3.49: States With Requirements About Smoke Detectors and Fire Extinguishers		
Requirement	Number of States	State
Centers must have smoke detectors	12	AR, AZ, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NM, NY, OK, OR, WY
Centers must have fire extinguishers	12	AR, HI, MI, MO, MT, ND, NM, NY, OK, OR, TX, WY

N=14 states, excluding AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NV, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

General Emergency Plans

In addition to the requirements related to fires, several states also have requirements about plans and drills for general emergencies (i.e., not specifically fires). Nine states (AK, AZ, DE, FL, MA, MS, PA, VT, WV) require centers to have evacuation plans for general emergencies, and 20 states (AR, CA, CO, DE, IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NV, OK, OR, SD, TX, UT, VA) require centers to perform general emergency drills. *Table 41: Fire and Emergency Evacuation and Drill Requirements for Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state data about evacuation and drill requirements.

Fast Fact
More than two-thirds of states require centers to be prepared for specific emergencies caused by weather, utility-related problems, and/or intruders/acts of violence.

Emergency Preparedness

Table 3.50 shows the states that have preparedness requirements about specific emergencies caused by weather, utility-related problems, and/or intruders/acts of violence. State-by-state data are available in *Table 42: Requirements About Emergency Preparedness for Centers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 3.50: States With Requirements About Specific Emergency Preparedness*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about specific emergency preparedness</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI</b>
Centers must have emergency plans/procedures for natural disasters (e.g., tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes, and other weather)	31	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NJ, NV, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI
Centers must have emergency plans/procedures for utility-related problems (e.g., blackouts)	8	AL, DE, GA, IA, MA, OH, OK, UT
Centers must have emergency plans/procedures for intruders/acts of violence**	5	DE, IA, OH, OK, VA

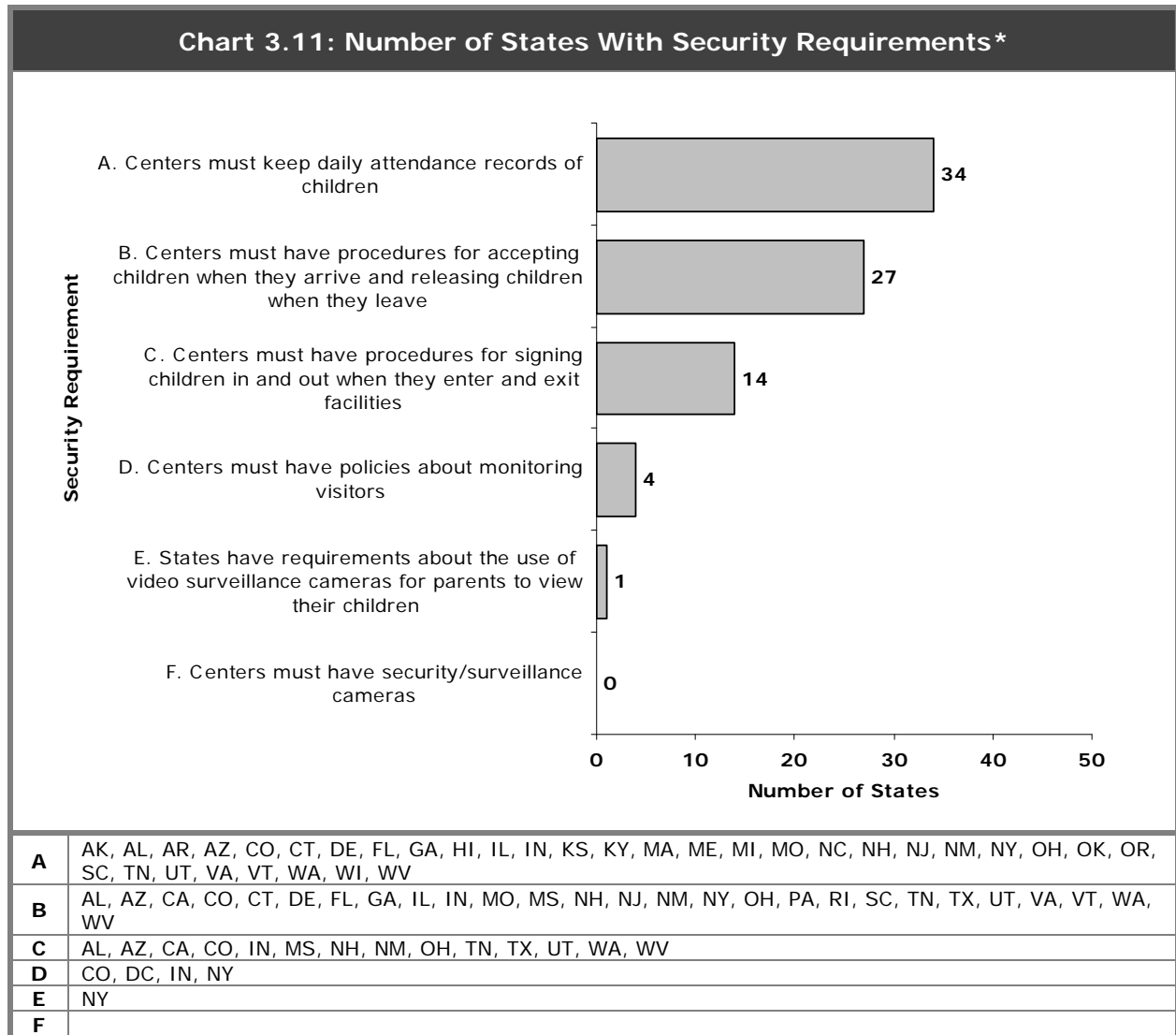
N=36 states, excluding AK, AZ, FL, ID, KY, LA, ME, MT, NC, NH, NY, RI, VT, WV, WY

\*Some states have multiple requirements about emergency preparedness.

\*\*"Intruders/acts of violence" includes intruders within the center, intoxicated parents, lost or abducted children, threats of violence, man-made disasters, and others.

## G. Security

Most states have requirements for centers related to the security of children. For example, as shown in Chart 3.11, 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 centers and releasing children at the end of the day. At this time, no states require centers to have surveillance cameras to protect facilities.



N=40 states, excluding IA, ID, LA, MD, MN, MT, ND, NE, NV, SD, WY

\*Some states have multiple security requirements.

## H. Transportation

### General Requirements

All states, except ID and SC, have requirements regarding transporting children in vehicles. Table 3.51 shows some of the specific requirements states have for transporting children. See "3.8 Supervision of Children" for more information about transportation requirements.

<b>Table 3.51: States With Requirements About Transportation*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about transportation</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>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, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Requirements for vehicle drivers (e.g., drivers must have valid licenses)	41	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, 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
Requirements about the condition of vehicles	36	AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MI, MS, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, SC, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements for first aid kits to be kept in vehicles	27	AZ, CO, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MI, MS, NC, NJ, NM, OH, OK, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements about vehicle seating	24	AL, AR, CA, CO, DC, FL, GA, KY, MA, ME, MI, MO, NC, NE, NJ, NM, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, VA, VT, WI
Requirements about emergency equipment needed in vehicles	17	AK, AR, DC, DE, GA, IN, KY, LA, MI, NC, NJ, NM, OH, TN, TX, WA, WV

N=49 states, excluding ID and SD

\*Some states have multiple types of transportation requirements.

Vehicle Safety Restraints

Nearly all states also have requirements for centers regarding vehicle safety restraints for children, such as seatbelts and carseats, as shown in Table 3.52.

<b>Table 3.52: States With Requirements About Vehicle Safety Restraints for Children*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about vehicle safety restraints for children</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, 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</b>
Requirements about carseats/child restraint systems	40	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, DC, DE, 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
Requirements about seatbelts for children	36	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WI, WV, WY

N=43 states, excluding CT, HI, ID, LA, ND, NV, RI, SD

\*Some states have multiple types of vehicle safety restraint requirements.

## I. Liability and Automobile Insurance

Thirty-three states 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 3.53. Seventeen states (AZ, DC, DE, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, NC, ND, NJ, NV, RI, SD, TN, VT, WI) require centers to have both types of insurance. *Table 43: Liability and Automobile Insurance Requirements for Centers in 2008* 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.

Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires insurance	33	AR, AZ, DC, 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
Requires automobile insurance	27	AR, AZ, DC, DE, FL, HI, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, ME, MI, MS, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OK, RI, SD, TN, VT, WA, WI
Requires general liability insurance	23	AZ, DC, DE, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NV, NY, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, VT, WI, WV

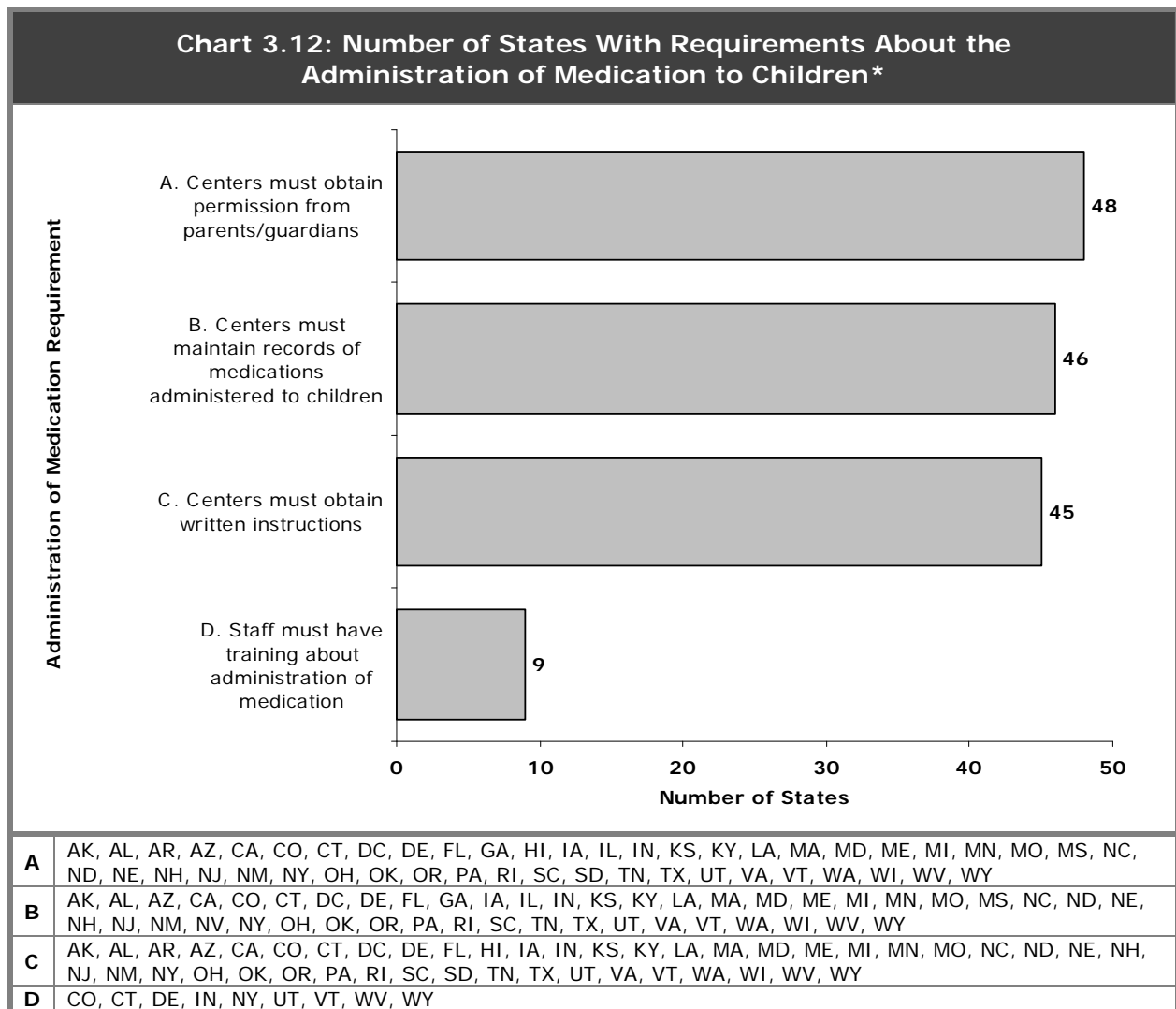
N=33 states, excluding AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, GA, IA, ID, MD, MN, MO, NE, OH, OR, SC, TX, UT, WY

\*Some states require multiple types of insurance.

## J. Medical Care and Related Issues

### Administration of Medication

All states, except ID, have requirements about the administration of medication to children. As shown in Chart 3.12, nearly all states must obtain permission from parents to administer medications, keep records of medications given to children, and get written instructions about how to give medications to children.



N=50 states, excluding ID

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the administration of medication.

### 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 be obtained from parents, and/or instructions are obtained from parents or physicians about how to perform procedures. Three states (AL, CT, MI) require centers to keep records of medical procedures.

**Fast Facts**

- All states that license child care centers have requirements about the administration of medication to children.
- Nearly all states have requirements for centers regarding the care of children who are mildly ill.

Care of Ill Children

As shown in Table 3.54, most states allow centers to exclude mildly ill children from facilities, meaning they must be kept at home until they are well enough to return to programs. Fewer states specifically allow child care centers to admit children into programs when they are mildly ill.

As shown in “3.9 Care of Children,” many states also have requirements about the supervision of ill children, the types of activities centers should make available to ill children, and the facilities where ill children are located.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the care of mildly ill children</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>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</b>
Allows centers to 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
Allows centers to 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, NV

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the care of mildly ill children.

Incident Reporting

Table 3.55 shows that most states have requirements about reporting serious injuries and deaths of children in child care centers. Most states also require centers to keep their own records of these incidents.

Table 3.55: States With Requirements About Incident Reporting*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about incident reporting	45	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, 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
Centers must keep records of all serious injuries that occur to children in programs	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
Centers must report all serious injuries that occur to children in programs to the licensing agency	34	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, KY, 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 programs to the licensing agency	31	AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MS, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=45 states, excluding AZ, DC, HI, ID, NE, SD

\*Some states have multiple requirements about 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 health consultants available to staff.

**Terminology**

**Child care health consultants:** Health professionals who child care centers use to provide information and expertise about health issues.

### First Aid Kits

All states except four (AL, ID, MO, SD) require centers to keep first aid kits in facilities. Twenty-seven of those states (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) specify items that must be contained in kits.

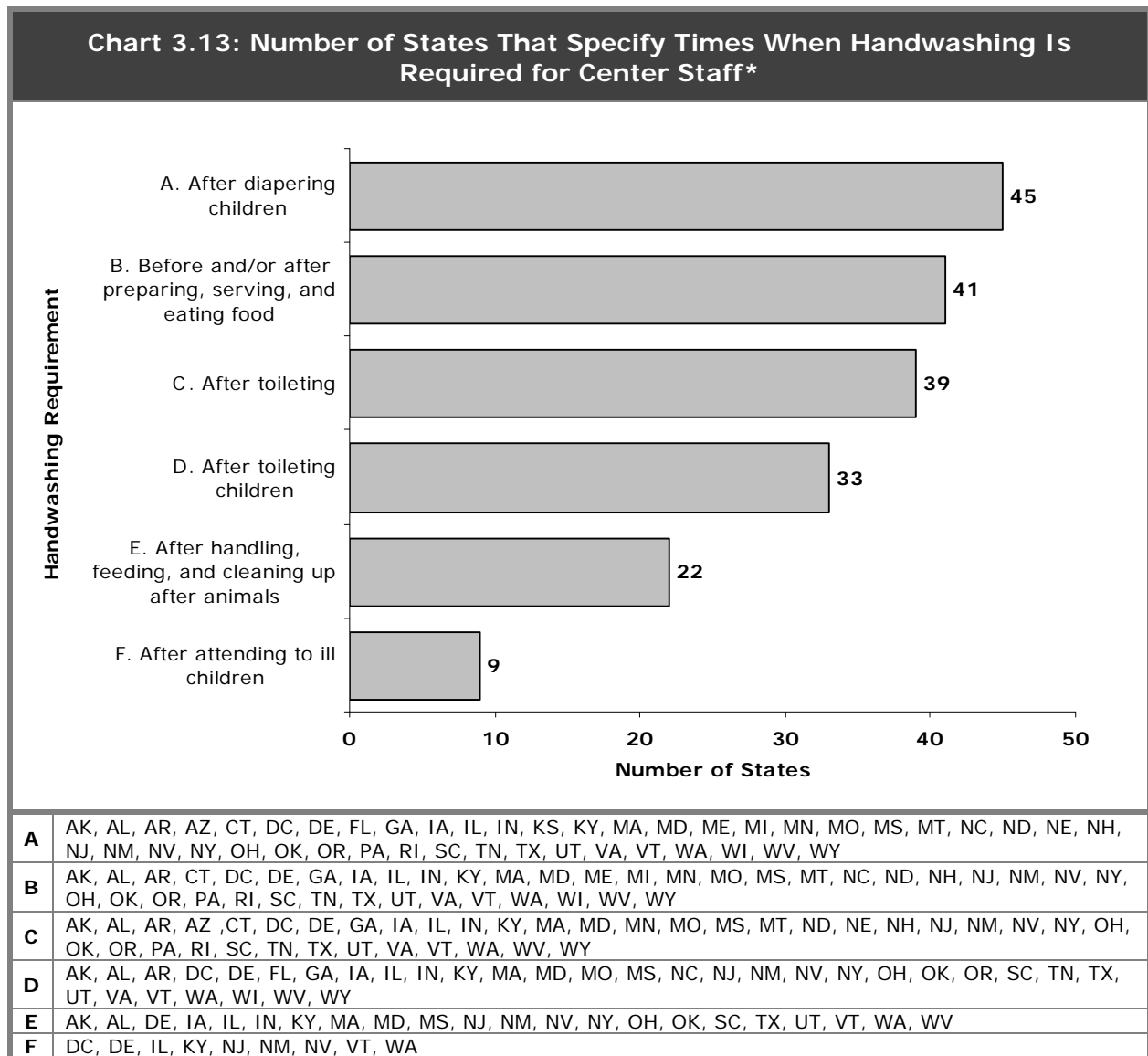
CA

## **K. Handwashing**

### Requirements for Staff

Forty-six states (excluding CA, CO, HI, ID, LA) have requirements about handwashing for staff. In addition, 17 states (AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DE, IL, IN, KY, MD, MO, MT, NM, NV, RI, SC, VA) have requirements about locations and/or amount of handwashing facilities for staff.

Forty-five states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, 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, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) specify when staff must wash their hands. Chart 3.13 shows the times when center staff must wash their hands.



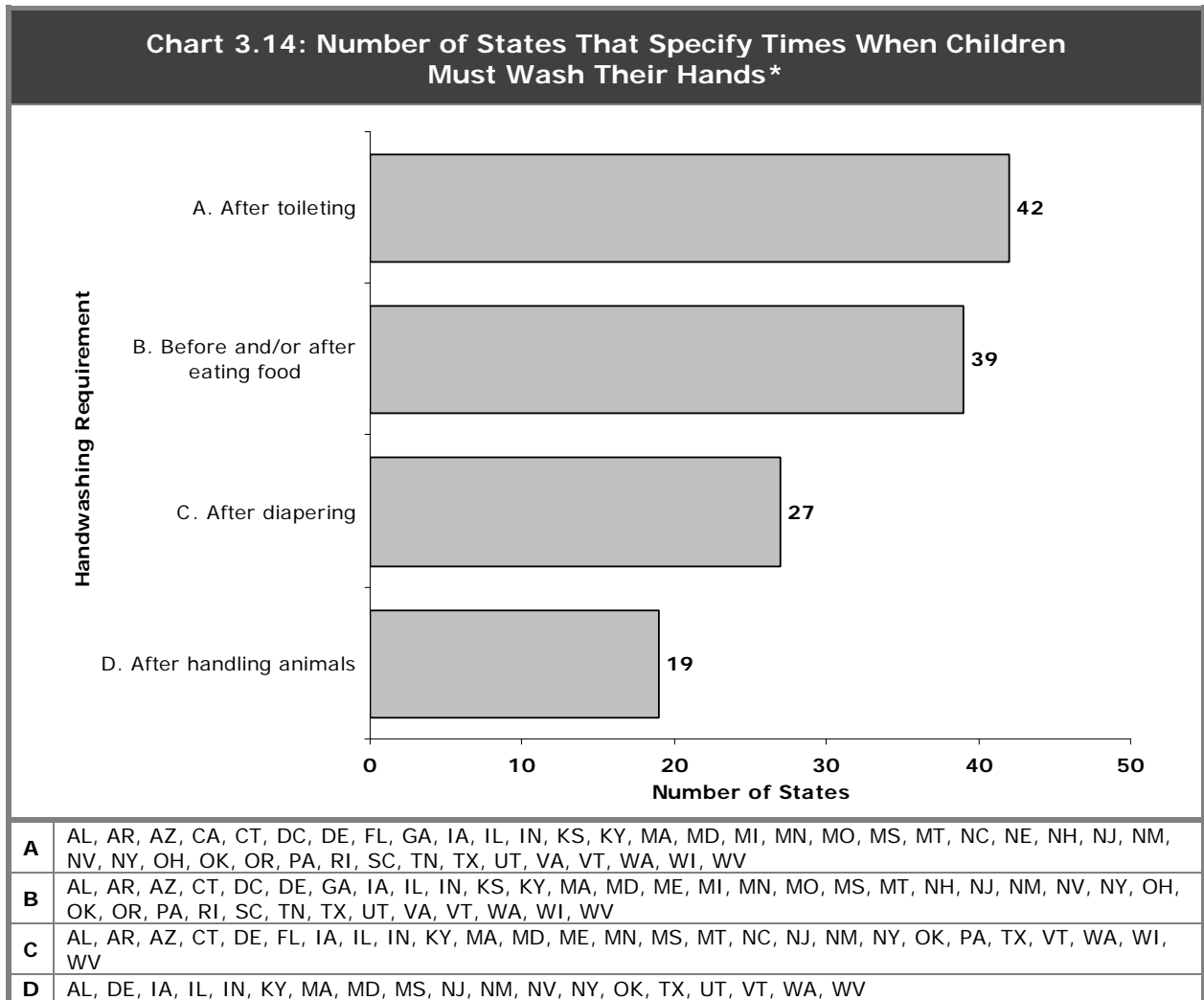
N=45 states, excluding CA, CO, HI, ID, LA, SD

\*Some states specify multiple times when staff are required to wash their hands.

Requirements for Children

Forty-four states (excluding AK, HI, ID, LA, ND, SD, WY) have requirements for centers regarding washing children’s 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 about locations and/or number of handwashing facilities for children.

Forty-three states (AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV) specify when children must wash their hands. Chart 3.14 shows the times when children must wash their hands.

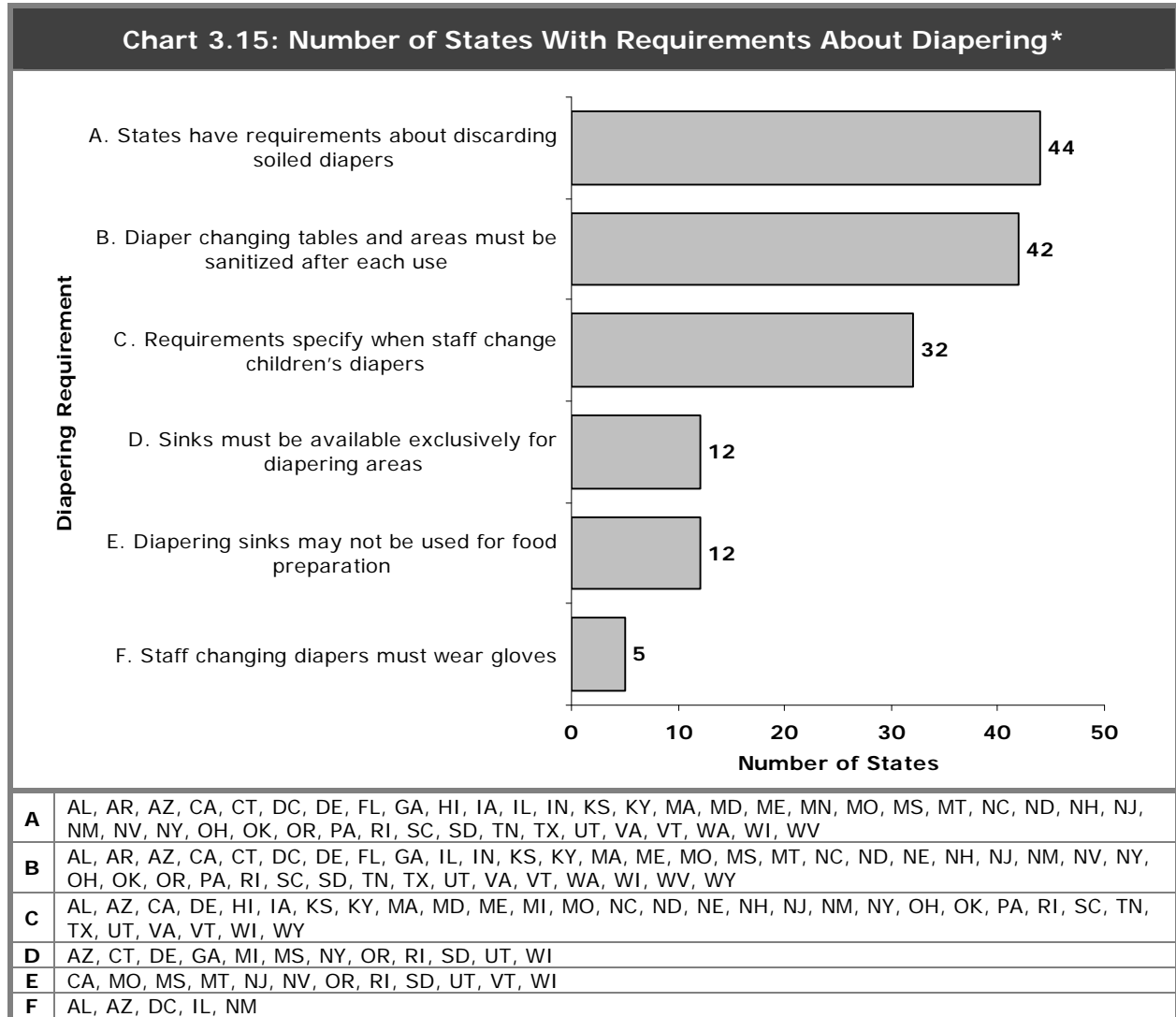


N=43 states, excluding AK, CO, HI, ID, LA, ND, SD, WY

\*Some states specify multiple times when children must wash their hands.

## L. Diapering

All states except two (ID, LA) have requirements about diapering. As shown in Chart 3.15, these requirements include information about discarding soiled diapers, sanitation of diapering areas, and when to change children’s diapers.



N=49 states, excluding ID, LA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about diapering.

## M. Smoking Policies

Table 3.56 shows that almost all states have requirements regarding smoking in child care centers. Most states specify that smoking is not allowed in center facilities. However, some states allow centers to permit smoking on the grounds or in designated areas of centers.

Table 3.56: States With Requirements About Smoking*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about smoking in centers	48	AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, 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
Does not allow smoking in centers	31	AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, DC, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MD, ME, MI, MS, MT, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OK, RI, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Does not allow smoking on the grounds of centers	19	AL, CA, CT, FL, GA, IA, IN, LA, MD, ME, MI, MS, MT, NM, TX, UT, VT, WI, WV
Does not allow smoking in the presence of children	18	AR, DE, HI, IL, KY, ME, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, OH, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Does not allow smoking in vehicles while transporting children	16	CO, DC, FL, GA, IA, KS, MI, NM, NY, OR, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Does not allow smoking in areas used for the care of children	11	CO, DE, MA, MO, NC, NM, NY, OR, PA, SC, WY
Does not allow smoking in designated areas	10	AR, AZ, CT, GA, KY, MS, NV, OH, SC, WA
Does not allow smoking in areas where food is prepared	6	DE, MO, NM, PA, SC, WY

N=48 states, excluding ID, MN, SD

\*Some 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 children's reach.

### Fast Fact

Slightly more than one-third of states that license centers specify that firearms are not allowed in facilities.

## O. Firearms

As shown in Table 3.57, two-thirds of states have requirements regarding the presence of firearms in child care centers.

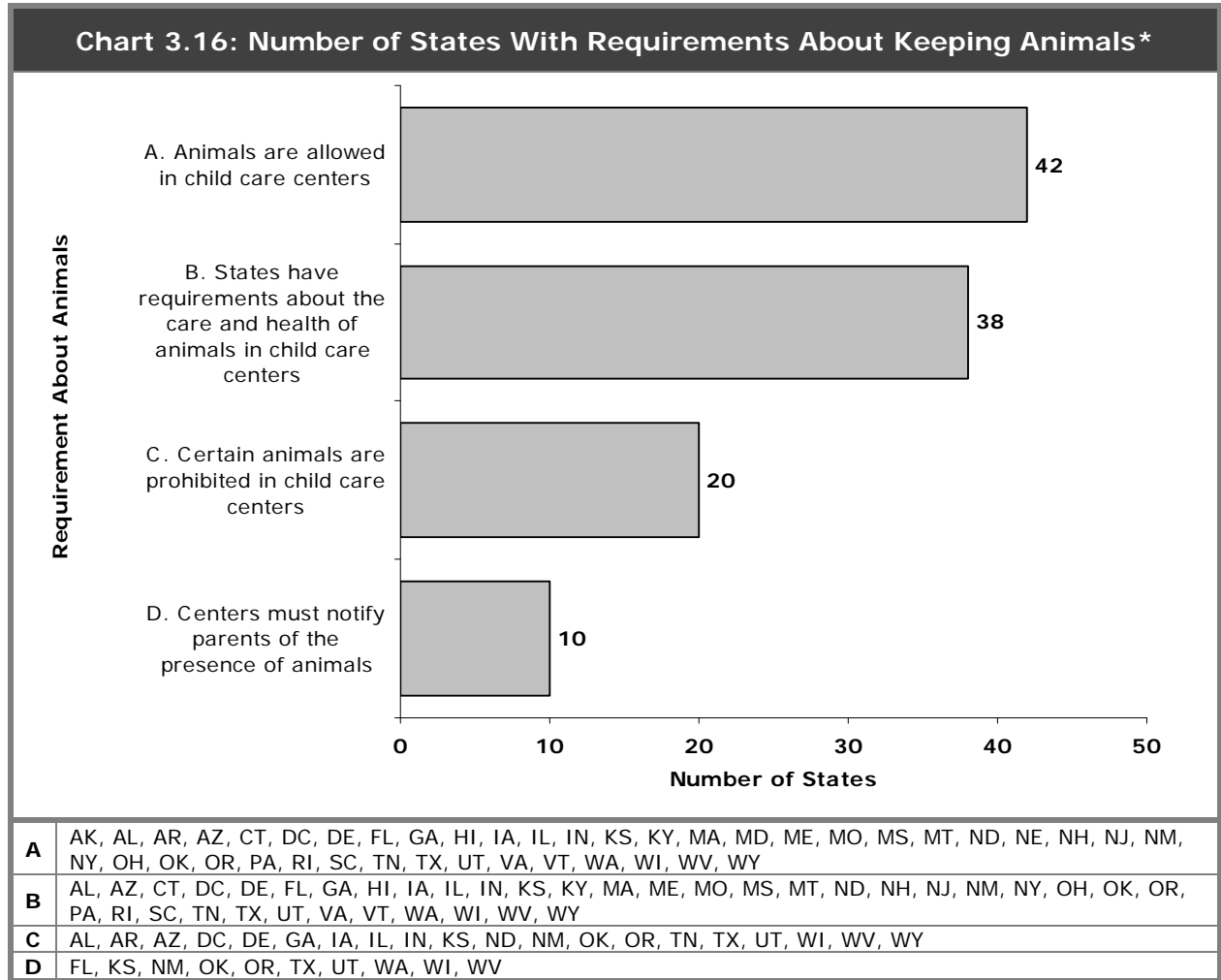
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about the presence of firearms in the facility	34	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Does not allow firearms in centers	20	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, IN, ME, NM, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, WA, WI, WV
Allows firearms in centers, but requires them to be in locked containers or closets	8	KY, MO, MT, NC, NE, NH, OK, UT
Allows firearms in centers, but requires ammunition to be separate	4	KY, MT, OK, UT
Requires centers to notify parents of the presence of firearms in facilities	2	OK, WY

N=34 states, excluding AR, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, MA, MI, MN, ND, NJ, NV, NY, RI, SD, VA, VT

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about the presence of firearms.

### P. Animals in Facilities

Forty-three states (AK, AL, AR, AZ, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, 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 3.16, all except one (MI) of these 43 states allow animals to be kept in centers. Most of these states have requirements about the care of animals.



N=43 states, excluding CA, CO, ID, LA, MN, NC, NV, SD  
 \*Some states have multiple requirements about keeping animals.



**Part 4:**  
**Small Family Child Care Home Licensing**  
**Regulations in 2008**



## **Part 4: Small Family Child Care Home Licensing Regulations in 2008**

All data in this chapter were compiled from the small family child care (FCC) home licensing regulations posted on the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (NRC) Web site at <http://nrckids.org/STATES/states.htm>.

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;
- Licensed small FCC homes;
- Provider roles and age requirements;
- Provider qualifications and ongoing training requirements;
- Provider hiring requirements;
- Additional provider training requirements;
- Number of children allowed with one provider;
- Supervision of children;
- Care of children; and
- Facility requirements.

### **4.1 Licensing Regulations**

#### **A. Regulations Summary**

The small FCC home licensing regulations used for this study are those that were posted on the NRC Web site between January 1, 2008, and December 31, 2008. Any changes to regulations after that time period are not included in this report.

Table 4.1 shows the dates when small FCC home 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.

1985	1993	1994	1996	1999	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
												CO
												FL
												IL
												KY
												MD
												ME
												MS
										AK		NC
										AR		NH
										CA		OR
									AL	MI	DC	PA
									CT	MT	OK	TN
									NY	NM	RI	UT
									WI	NM	WV	WA
									WY	TX		
MN	SC	DE GA	VT	ND NE	IN KS	HI MO	MA	IA NV				
1	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	2	5	7	4	14

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

## B. Licensing Process

As described in “Part 1: Introduction,” this study uses the terms “**licensing**” and “**licensed**” to cover all of the different types of regulatory processes in states. The study defines licensing/licensed as permission from a state that is required to operate a child care facility, which includes meeting specific center or FCC standards. Some states may call their regulatory processes “certification” or “registration.” Table 4.2 shows the terms states use for their regulatory processes for small FCC homes. State-by-state data are available in *Table 44: Type of Licensing Process for Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Licensing Process	Number of States	State
Licensing	28	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OK, RI, TN, UT, WA, WI, WY
Registration	14	CT, GA, HI, IA, KS, MD, MT, NY, OR, PA, SC, TX, VT, WV
Certification	2	KY, ME

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

## 4.2 Licensed Small FCC Homes

### A. Licensing Threshold

Each state has a minimum number of children in care (i.e., threshold) that determines when a license is required. Table 4.3 shows that 10 states (AL, CT, DC, DE, KS, MA, MD, MI, OK, WA) require small FCC homes to be licensed if there is just one child in care that is not related to the provider. Most states set the licensing threshold at three or four children. Seven states (AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA) do not license small FCC homes. Additional information about the types of facilities licensed by states is in “Part 2: State Licensing Programs and Policies.”

Threshold for Licensing	Number of States	State
1 child	10	AL, CT, DC, DE, KS, MA, MD, MI, OK, WA
2 children	5	CA, CO, FL, MN, SC
3 children	8	GA, HI, ME, MT, NC, NY, VT, WY
4 children	11	IL, KY, ND, NE, NH, OR, PA, RI, TX, WI, WV
5 children	6	AK, MO, NM, NV, TN, UT
6 children	4	AR, IA, IN, MS

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

### B. Maximum Number of Children Allowed in Small FCC Homes

States often include numbers of children allowed in care in their definitions of small FCC homes. For example, a state may define small FCC homes as the care of one to six children. In some states, there is a second category of licensed homes called “large/group FCC homes.” See “Part 5: Large/Group Family Child Care Home Regulations in 2008” for additional information.

Table 4.4 shows maximum numbers of children allowed in small FCC homes. In addition, *Table 45: Number of Children Allowed in Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables shows requirements for each state.

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 39 (AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) count providers’ children or other children living in homes in the maximum numbers allowed.

Table 4.4: Maximum Number of Children Allowed in Small FCC Homes		
Number of Children	Number of States	State
4 children plus additional school-age children (SAC)	1	DE*
5 children plus additional SAC	1	NC
6 children	15	AL, CA, CO, DC, HI, KS, KY, MA, MI, MT, NM, PA, RI, SC, WV
6 children plus additional SAC	9	CT, IA, MN, NH, NV, NY, OR, TX, VT
6 children plus additional children age 3 and older	1	GA
7 children	1	OK
7 children plus additional SAC	1	ND
7 children plus additional children related to the provider	1	TN
8 children	4	AK, MD, UT, WI
8 children plus additional SAC	2	IL, NE
10 children	3	FL, MO, WY
12 children	3	ME, MS, WA
12 children plus additional SAC	1	IN
16 children	1	AR

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*DE has two levels of small FCC homes—Level I and Level II. In Level I homes, the provider must meet the qualifications for initial licensure and can enroll up to four preschool-age children and two additional SAC, or up to five preschool-age children with no additional SAC. A Level II provider must have more extensive qualifications, as demonstrated by education, credentials, or experience specified in the rules, and is permitted to enroll more children. For example, a Level II provider can enroll six preschool-age children and up to three additional SAC children.

### C. Definition of Licensed Small FCC Homes

Small FCC home licensing regulations define home-based facilities that are required to be licensed. An analysis was conducted to determine the common elements that are included in each state's definition of a small FCC home. Table 4.5 includes a list of these common elements and the number of states with those elements in their definitions.

Table 4.5: Elements Included in State Small FCC Home Licensing Definitions*		
Definition Element	Number of States	State
Services are provided for less than 24 hours or any part of a 24-hour day	30	AK, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MD, MN, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
FCC provider is the holder of the license	23	CA, CT, DE, GA, IA, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OK, OR, TN, WA, WV, WY
Services are provided on an ongoing/regular or scheduled basis	18	AK, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, IA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MT, NC, NE, NV, NY, OR, UT
Services are provided in the residence of the provider/licensee	18	AL, CA, DC, DE, FL, IL, KS, KY, NE, NH, NM, OR, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WV
Services are provided for payment or compensation	14	AK, AL, DE, FL, GA, IN, MD, MN, MO, NE, NY, OR, PA, UT
Number of hours that services are provided (minimum/maximum)	10	AL, CT, IN, MD, MO, NC, NE, NY, UT, WV

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Some states included multiple elements in their definitions of small FCC homes.

### 4.3 Provider Roles and Age Requirements

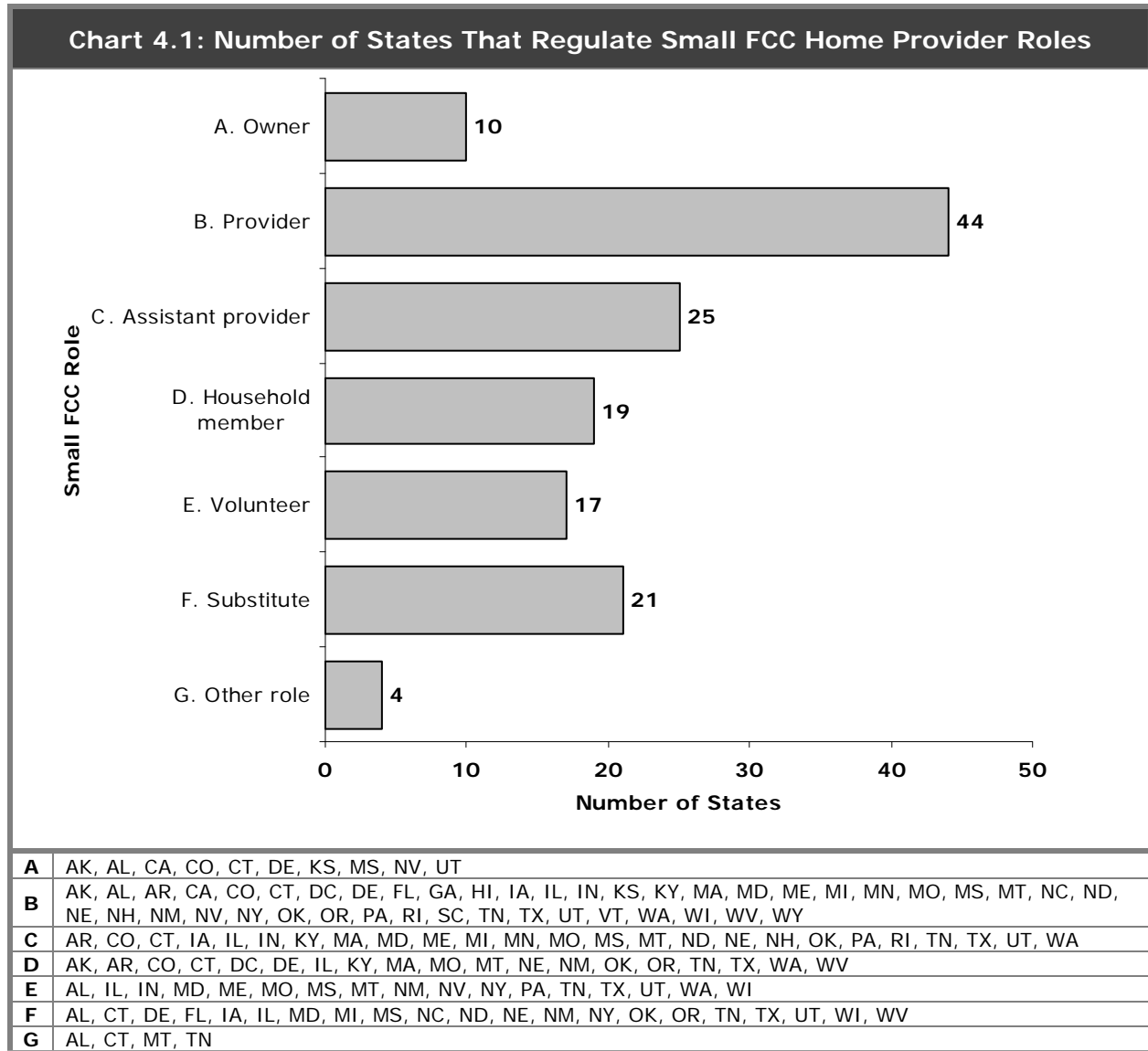
#### A. Provider Roles

State small FCC home licensing regulations include requirements for a variety of adults who have direct contact with children in homes. For the purpose of this study, common generic names are used for each role. As shown in Chart 4.1, all states that license small FCC homes include requirements for **providers** in their regulations. For the purposes of this study, a provider is defined as the person who is responsible for the care of the children and the daily operation of the FCC home.

#### Fast Fact

All states that license small FCC homes include requirements for providers in their regulations.

More than half the states that license small FCC homes have requirements for **assistant providers**. More than 40 percent of states that license small FCC homes have requirements for **members of the provider’s household**. These requirements often include criminal background checks. Many states also have requirements for those who work as **substitutes** and **volunteers** in small FCC homes. State-by-state data are available in *Table 46: Small FCC Provider Roles Regulated by States in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.



N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

## B. Minimum Age Requirements

Table 4.6 summarizes states' minimum age requirements for providers and assistant providers, including the range of ages that states reported and the most common age required for each role. In addition, *Table 4.7: Minimum Age Requirements for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables shows the specific age requirements for providers and assistant providers for all states.

Small FCC Provider Role	Number of States That Regulate Role	Range of Required Age	Most Common Age
Provider	44	16–21 years	18
Assistant provider	25	13–18 years	18

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

## 4.4 Provider Qualifications and Ongoing Training Requirements

This section provides a summary of state preservice and ongoing training requirements for small FCC home providers. Table 4.7 shows the number of states that have requirements for providers and assistant providers in the "Role Regulated" column. It also includes the number of states that require a high school diploma or General Educational Development Test (GED), preservice qualifications, and/or ongoing training.

Small FCC Provider Role	Number of States			
	Role Regulated	High School Diploma or GED	Preservice Qualifications	Ongoing Training
Provider	44	12	21	39
Assistant provider	25	2	3	13

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

**Terminology**

**Preservice qualifications:** Training, education, and/or experience a state requires for providers prior to their assuming roles in small FCC homes.

**A. High School Diploma Requirements**

Table 4.8 shows the states that require small FCC home providers and assistant providers to have high school diplomas or GEDs prior to working in these roles. State-by-state data about these requirements are available in *Table 48: High School Diploma Requirements for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 4.8: States With Requirements for High School Diploma and/or GED</b>			
<b>Small FCC Provider Role</b>	<b>Role Regulated</b>	<b>High School Diploma or GED Required</b>	<b>State</b>
Provider	<b>44</b>	12	AL, AR, DC, GA, MI, MS, NC, OK, PA, RI, TX, WY
Assistant provider	<b>25</b>	2	MS, TX

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

**B. Preservice Qualifications**

Almost half the states that license small FCC homes have required preservice qualifications for providers as shown in Table 4.9. Only three states have preservice qualifications for assistant providers.

<b>Table 4.9: States With Requirements for Preservice Qualifications</b>			
<b>Small FCC Provider Role</b>	<b>Role Regulated</b>	<b>Preservice Qualifications Required</b>	<b>State</b>
Provider	<b>44</b>	21	AL, AR, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, MN, MS, ND, NM, NV, NY, OR, RI, TN, WA, WI, WY
Assistant provider	<b>25</b>	3	MD, MN, MS

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

Minimum Provider Preservice Qualifications

Table 4.10 compiles the types of training, education, and experience that represent the least amount people must have to qualify for provider and assistant provider roles.

For the 21 states (AL, AR, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, MN, MS, ND, NM, NV, NY, OR, RI, TN, WA, WI, WY) that have minimum qualifications for **providers**, the most common type is early care and education training clock hours for a total of 15 states (AL, CA, CO, DE, FL, MD, MN, ND, NM, NV, OR, RI, TN, WA, WI).

*Table 49: Minimum Preservice Qualifications for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables shows the types of minimum qualifications required in each state for providers and assistant providers.

Table 4.10: Types of Minimum Preservice Qualifications Required		
Qualification Type	Number of States	
	Provider	Assistant Provider
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>
Experience only	3	0
High school diploma or GED	2	1
Early care and education training clock hours	15	2
Child Development Associate (CDA) credential*	1	0

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*States vary on whether the CDA credential is awarded for college credit. However, state licensing regulations do not specify that small FCC home providers are required to complete CDA credentials for college credit.

Types of Training in Qualification Alternatives

Most states with minimum preservice requirements define multiple alternative routes for qualifying for particular roles. For example, a state may require providers to have 6 clock hours of training in early care and education, but can also accept someone who has completed a three-credit, college-level course; completed a CDA credential; or obtained an associate's degree. In short, there are alternative ways an individual can qualify for one role. Information about the number of alternative routes defined by each state is available in *Table 50: Number of Alternative Routes for Preservice Qualifications for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

The types of training, credentials, and degrees that states include in the various qualification alternatives are compiled in Table 4.11. For example, this table shows that in some states, an individual can qualify to be a small FCC home provider with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. This is not the minimum requirement, but one way of qualifying for that role. The highest number of states includes early care and education training clock hours for providers as qualification alternatives. This is also the minimum qualification in most states.

Qualification Type	Number of States	
	Provider	Assistant Provider
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>
Early care and education training clock hours	16	2
CDA credential	3	1
State credential (total):	2	0
• Director credential	1	0
• Early childhood credential	1	0
Early care and education college credit hours	4	1
Associate's degree (general)	1	0
Associate's degree in a field related to early childhood (e.g., education)	1	0
Associate's in early childhood education	3	0
Bachelor's degree (general)	0	0
Bachelor's degree related to early childhood (e.g., education)	2	0
Bachelor's degree in early childhood education	3	0
Bachelor's degree in early childhood or higher	0	0
Master's degree (general)	0	0
Master's degree related to early childhood (e.g., education)	0	0
Master's degree in early childhood education	0	0
Doctorate degree	0	0
State teacher certification/licensure	0	0

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Most states have multiple alternative routes for preservice qualifications and have many types of training, credentials, and/or degrees in their qualification alternatives.

### C. Experience Requirements

Four states (MA, MS, NY, WY) include requirements about experience within their preservice qualifications for **providers**, and one state (MS) has these requirements for **assistant providers**—either as the qualification itself or in combination with training and/or education. Table 4.12 illustrates state experience requirements. State-by-state data are available in *Table 51: Experience Requirements for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 4.12: States With Requirements for Experience in Preservice Qualifications*		
Experience Requirement	Number of States	
	Provider	Assistant Provider
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>State has requirements about experience</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>
Experience must be from working with children	3	1
Experience must be with a specific age group of children	2	0
Experience as a parent can count to qualify for role	2	0
Experience must be in a specific setting	1	0
Experience must be verified by employer/supervisor	0	0
Experience must be supervised	0	0
Experience must be from continuous employment	0	0
Experience must be in an accredited center or FCC home	0	0

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about experience in preservice qualifications.

## D. Ongoing Training

Table 4.13 shows the number of states that require ongoing training hours after hire for FCC home providers and assistant providers. State-by-state data about ongoing training requirements are available in *Table 52: Number of Ongoing Training Hours Required for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Small FCC Provider Role	Role Regulated	Ongoing Training Required	State
Provider	<b>44</b>	39	AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Assistant provider	<b>25</b>	13	ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, PA, RI, TX, UT, WA

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

Tables 4.14 and 4.15 summarize information about the number of required ongoing training hours for small FCC home providers and assistant providers.

Qualification Type	Number of States	
	Provider	Assistant Provider
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Ongoing training required</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13</b>
Unspecified number of hours	3	1
1–12 hours	26	9
13–19 hours	7	2
20 or more hours	3	1

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

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

**Table 4.15: Most Common Number, Median, and Range of Ongoing Training Hour Requirements**

Small FCC Provider Role	Number of States That Require Ongoing Hours	Most Common Number of Required Hours	Median Number of Required Hours*	Lowest Number of Required Hours	Highest Number of Required Hours
Provider	<b>39</b>	12	12	4	20
Assistant provider	<b>13</b>	6, 12 (3 states each)	10	5	20

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*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 4.16 summarizes additional regulations for ongoing training requirements for small FCC home providers and assistant providers. Many states have requirements regarding the content and approved delivery methods for ongoing training. Delivery methods include adult education courses, institutions of higher education, vocational programs, audio-visual materials, reading materials, conference workshops, distance learning, and/or inservice training provided by the operator. State-by-state data are available in *Table 53: State Requirements About the Content of Ongoing Training Hours for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

**Table 4.16: States That Specify Content and Delivery Methods of Ongoing Training Hours**

Small FCC Provider Role	Number of States		
	Require Ongoing Hours	Specify Content	Specify Approved Delivery Methods
Provider	<b>39</b>	33	14
Assistant provider	<b>13</b>	12	6

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

## 4.5 Provider Hiring Requirements

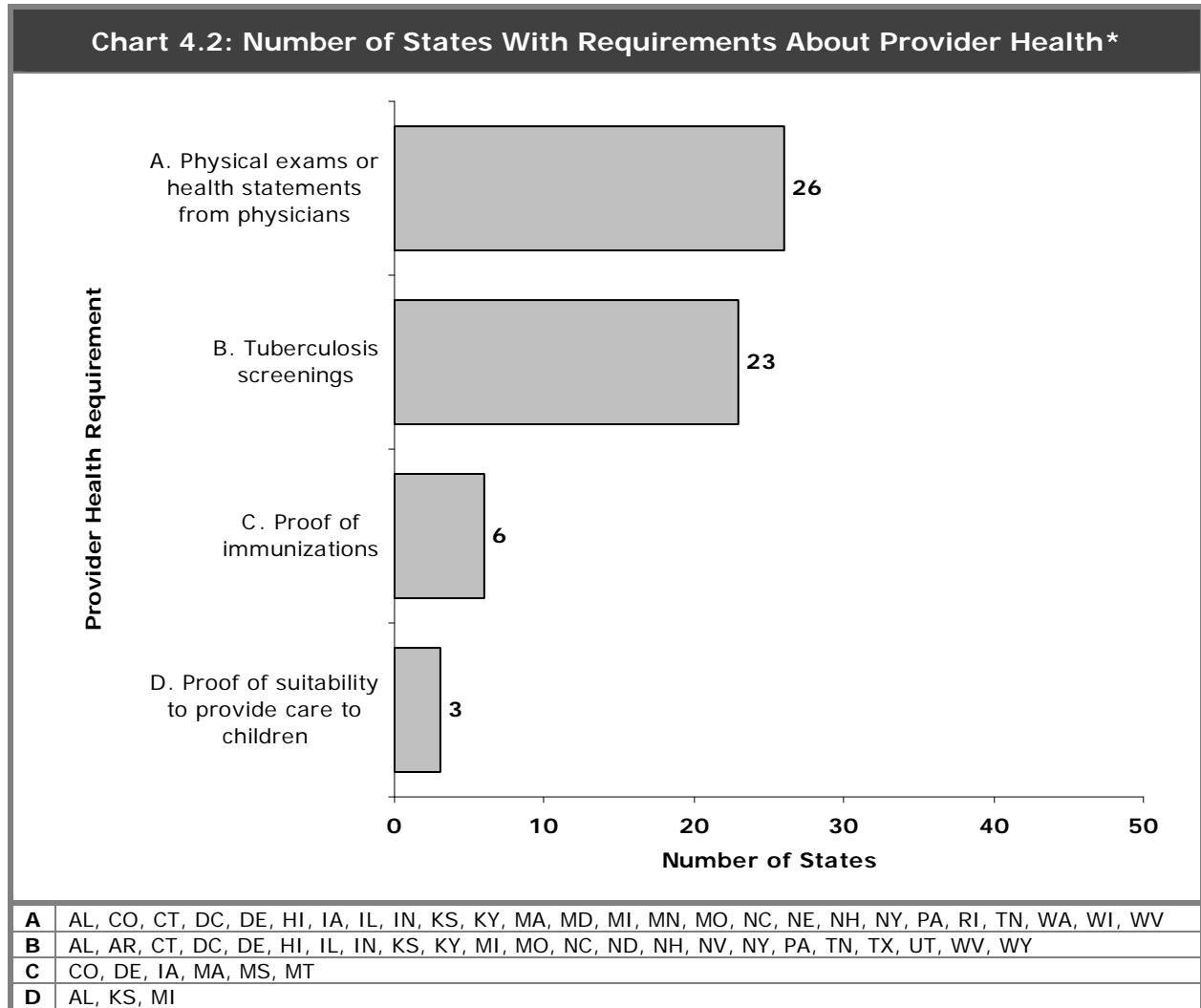
### A. Provider Health Requirements

As shown in Chart 4.2, 34 states (AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NV, NY, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have small FCC home licensing regulations that include requirements about the health of the providers, such as requiring a physical exam, a tuberculosis screening, immunizations, or proof of physical or mental suitability to care for children. In addition, 26 states (AL, CO,

CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NV, NY, PA, TN, TX, WI, WV, WY) require small FCC homes to include provider health reports in facility records.

Of the 26 states (AL, CO, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NC, NE, NH, NY, PA, RI, TN, WA, WI, WV) that require providers to have physical exams or provide health statements, all but one (CO) specify that proof must be submitted at the time of initial licensure or hire.

Sixteen states (AL, CO, CT, DC, IA, IL, MA, MI, NC, NE, NH, NY, PA, RI, TN, WV) require physical exams either annually or at some other time interval.



N=34 states, excluding AK, AZ, CA, FL, GA, ID, LA, ME, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, VA, VT

\*Some states have multiple requirements about provider health.

## B. Background Checks

The data about background checks were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

### Types of Required Background Checks

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, all require small FCC home providers 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. Thirty states (AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, NE, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY) require small FCC home providers to sign statements about criminal status.

#### Fast Fact

All states that license small FCC homes require providers to undergo at least one type of background check **prior to caring for children**.

Table 4.17 provides additional details about criminal background check requirements for small FCC home providers. The requirements for each state are available in *Table 54: Criminal Background Check Requirements for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 4.17: States With Requirements About Criminal Background Checks*		
Background Check Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires check of criminal history records	43	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State criminal history record check required</li> </ul>	40	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal criminal history record check required</li> </ul>	25	AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MD, MS, NC, NH, NM, NV, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all staff in the small FCC home</li> </ul>	31	AK, AL, AR, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NV, NY, OK, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	10	CA, HI, KY, MN, ND, NH, NM, NV, PA, SC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	24	AL, AR, CA, DE, FL, GA, HI, IN, KS, KY, MA, MO, MS, MT, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, RI, SC, TN, UT, WA

<b>Table 4.17: States With Requirements About Criminal Background Checks, con. *</b>		
<b>Background Check Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for household members</li> </ul>	38	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for small FCC home providers under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in a state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	6	CO, DE, IL, NC, NV, WY
<b>State requires check of child abuse and neglect registries</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all staff in the small FCC home</li> </ul>	29	AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NV, OR, RI, SC, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	7	CA, HI, KY, NH, NV, PA, SC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	24	AL, AR, CA, CO, DE, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OR, RI, SC, TX, WA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for household members</li> </ul>	35	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, WA, WI, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for small FCC home providers under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in a state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	1	NV
<b>State requires check of fingerprint records</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MD, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WA, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State fingerprint record check required</li> </ul>	20	AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, MD, MS, NC, NM, NV, NY, OR, SC, TN, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal fingerprint record check required</li> </ul>	24	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MD, MS, NC, NH, NM, NV, PA, RI, SC, TN, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all staff in the small FCC home</li> </ul>	17	AK, AL, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IL, MD, MS, NC, NV, NY, SC, TN, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	7	CA, HI, NH, NM, NV, PA, RI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	14	AL, CA, CO, DE, FL, HI, MS, NH, NM, NV, NY, SC, TN, WA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for household members</li> </ul>	20	AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, MD, MS, NH, NM, NV, PA, RI, SC, TN, WA, WV

<b>Table 4.17: States With Requirements About Criminal Background Checks, con. *</b>		
<b>Background Check Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for small FCC home providers under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in a state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	13	AR, CO, DE, IL, MN, MT, NC, ND, NV, TX, UT, WA, WY
<b>State requires check of sex offender registries</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>AK, CA, DE, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC, WA, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all staff in the small FCC home</li> </ul>	13	AK, CA, DE, IA, IL, IN, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	3	IL, KY, OK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	11	DE, IA, IL, IN, KY, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC, WA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for household members</li> </ul>	14	AK, DE, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MS, ND, OK, SC, WA, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for small FCC home providers under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in a state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	1	WY

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Some states may have multiple requirements about background checks.

#### Frequency of Background Checks

Table 4.18 shows how often small FCC providers must undergo criminal background checks. Almost all of the states require small FCC home providers to have background checks prior to becoming providers. Some states require additional checks on a regular basis. State-by-state data are available in *Table 55: Frequency of Criminal Background Checks for Small FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 4.18: Frequency of Criminal Background Checks*		
Frequency	Number of States	State
Prior to becoming a small FCC home provider	38	AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WI, WY
Annually	6	HI, IN, MT, OK, UT, VT
Every 2 years	7	AR, IA, KY, MN, MO, RI, TX
Every 3 years	5	KS, MA, MI, NH, WA
Every 4 years	1	WI
Every 5 years	4	AR, FL, MS, WV
Less than every 5 years	1	NV
Other frequency	6	CA, CO, NC, NE, NV, OR

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the frequency of background checks.

#### Portability of Background Checks

Table 4.19 shows state policies about whether background checks can be transferred or new checks are conducted when FCC providers change jobs, move to other facilities, or have breaks in employment. In most states, checks are not portable, and new background checks are conducted.

<b>Table 4.19: State Policies About the Portability of Criminal Background Checks *</b>		
<b>Policy</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has policies about the portability of background checks</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>AL, AR, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, 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</b>
New background check is conducted	24	CT, DC, DE, GA, IA, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, NE, NH, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, VT, WA, WV, WY
Current background check is portable and moves with the individual	12	AL, AR, CA, HI, IL, MS, ND, NV, NY, OR, TX, WI
Other policy	7	FL, MD, MO, NC, NM, OK, PA

N=40 states, excluding AK, AZ, CO, ID, KS, KY, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the portability of background checks.

Notification of Changes in Background Checks

Eighteen states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, IL, MD, MI, MN, MS, NJ, NM, NY, OR, TX, UT, WV) indicated that their background check systems will notify the licensing agencies if someone's criminal record has changed.

Funding for Background Checks

As shown in Table 4.20, almost half of the states that license small FCC homes reported that people pay for their own background checks. In some of the states that indicated another source of payment, the child care facility pays for staff members' background checks.

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Individual pays for background checks	21	AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, KY, MD, MI, MO, NE, NH, NM, NV, PA, SC, TX, WA, WI
State pays for background checks	12	AK, AR, DE, IA, IL, MA, ND, NY, RI, TN, WV, WY
Other source of payment	7	IN, KS, MS, MT, OK, OR, UT
No response	4	ME, MN, NC, VT

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the funding of background checks.

### C. References

A total of 19 states (AK, AL, CT, DC, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, ME, MO, NE, NY, OK, SC, TN, VT, WA, WY) require references from providers at initial licensure or when hired, as shown in Table 4.21. In addition, regulations specify that references must be obtained in written and/or verbal form for small FCC home providers in nine states (AK, AL, DC, GA, HI, IA, IL, SC, VT).

<b>Reference Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>
<b>References are required</b>	<b>19</b>
References must be from certain people (total)*:	16
• Nonrelatives	13
• Professional acquaintances	1
• Previous employers	1
• Not specified	2

N=19 states, excluding AR, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, TX, UT, VA, WI, WV

\*Some states require references to be from more than one type of person.

## 4.6 Additional Provider Training Requirements

### A. Orientation Training

As shown in Table 4.22, half of the states that license small FCC homes require providers to complete some type of orientation training. States' requirements often specify that the training must be about small FCC home policies and procedures and/or state licensing regulations. In addition, six states (DC, NV, RI, TX, WI, WY) require small FCC home providers to offer orientation training to new employees and volunteers.

<b>Orientation Training Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Small FCC home providers required to complete orientation training</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>AK, AR, CA, DC, DE, GA, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, MT, NE, NV, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WY</b>
Required training is about state licensing regulations	12	AK, DC, DE, GA, MD, MS, NE, RI, TX, UT, VT, WY
Required training is about small FCC home's policies and procedures	8	AK, DC, GA, NV, RI, TX, UT, WI

N=22 states, excluding AL, AZ, CO, CT, FL, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, KY, LA, MN, MO, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, VA, WV

\*Some states have multiple types of orientation training.

### B. Health and Safety Training

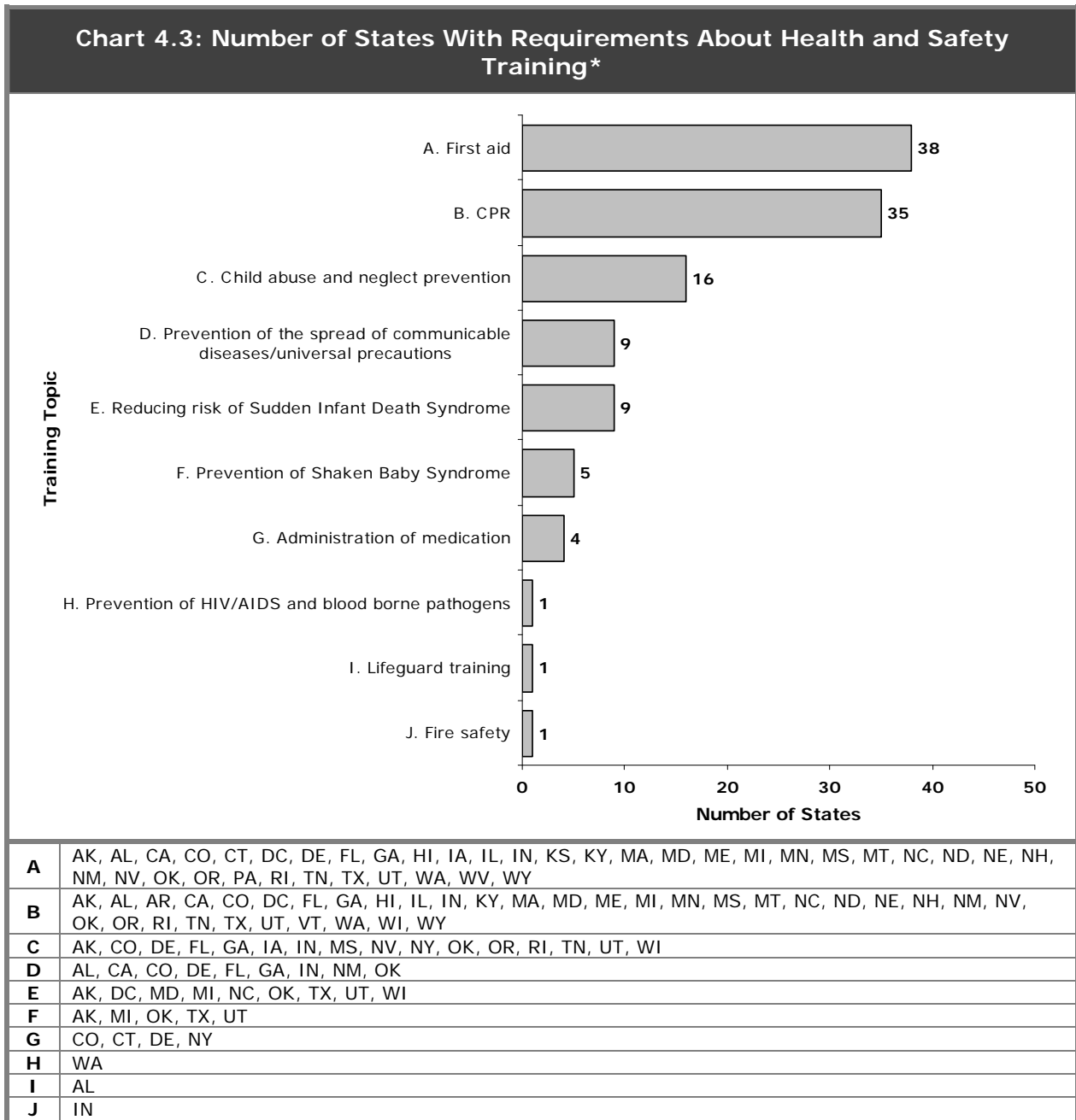
Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, all except two (MO, SC) require providers to complete health and safety training, with most requiring CPR and first aid training.

Of the 35 states that require CPR training, 30 (AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, NC, NH, NV, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WY) specify that it must focus on the care of infants and/or children. Thirty-one states (AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NV, OK, OR, RI, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY) specify that small FCC home providers must have current CPR certifications.

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, all but six states (AR, MO, NY, SC, VT, WI) require first aid training. However, only 12 states (CA, CO, DC, DE, GA, IA, KY, MA, ME, MN, TN, UT) specify that it must focus on the care of infants and/or children. In addition, state regulations specify that small FCC home providers must have current certifications in first aid in 30 states (AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, OK, OR, RI, UT, WA, WY).

In six states (MA, MD, MI, OK, RI, WY), assistant providers in small FCC homes are required to complete first aid and/or CPR training.

Chart 4.3 shows the states that require first aid and CPR training and information about required training regarding other health and safety topics, including prevention of the spread of communicable diseases, administration of medication, handwashing, and others.



N=42 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, MO, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states require multiple types of health and safety training.

## 4.7 Number of Children Allowed With One Provider

For child care centers, all states have requirements about child-staff ratios, which is the number of children one staff member is allowed to supervise. Child-staff ratio requirements are based on the ages of children in care. For small FCC homes, states do not have child-staff ratio requirements since there is typically only one provider in the home caring for a mixed-age group of children. Instead, states have requirements about the number of children allowed in a home when one provider is present.

There is great variability in these requirements across states, which makes it difficult to summarize these requirements. Some states include in their requirements the maximum numbers of children of any age who are allowed (e.g., six or eight children); while other states have requirements that allow more or fewer children to be in care with one provider, depending on children's ages. For example, a state may allow 1 provider to care for up to 10 children if there are only 2 children that are younger than 2 years of age, or only 8 children if there are 4 children younger than 2 years of age. Each state's requirements are in *Table 56: Number of Children Allowed to One Provider in Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

## 4.8 Supervision of Children

### A. General Supervision Requirements

As shown in Table 4.23, all but one state (SC) have requirements in their small FCC home regulations for providers supervising children. Among those states, most have requirements about the use of substitutes if providers are absent from homes for periods of time. In addition, some specify that providers must be able to see and/or hear children at all times or must be alert/awake while children are in care. A few states require providers to be on the same floors as the children or be free of other duties.

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about supervising children</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, 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, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Requirements about the use of substitutes during providers' absence	29	AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, NC, NE, NV, NY, OK, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, WI, WV, WY
Providers must be able to see children at all times	16	AK, CT, HI, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, NC, NY, OR, PA, TX, WA, WI, WY
Providers must be able to hear children at all times	15	AK, AR, CT, HI, MA, MD, ME, MN, NC, OR, PA, TX, WA, WI, WY

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Providers must be alert/awake	7	AK, IL, MD, ME, MI, RI, WI
Providers must be on the same floors as children	4	AK, MA, MD, WA
Providers must be free of other duties	3	AL, CT, WI

N=43 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements regarding supervision, some of which are not included in this table.

In addition to the requirements summarized in Table 4.23, states have the following requirements related to the supervision of children:

- Twelve states (AK, CO, DE, MA, MO, MT, NH, NV, NY, OK, TX, WY) do not allow small FCC providers to leave children unattended in infant seats, playpens, or cribs while they are awake;
- Seven states (AK, DC, MA, MN, NH, NY, WY) have requirements specifically for the supervision of school-age children; and
- Four states (AK, AR, ME, NV) have requirements related to the supervision of children during emergencies.

## **B. Supervision During Specific Times/Activities**

All but two of the states (CA, SC) that license small FCC homes have requirements about 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 4.24 presents an overview of the number of states that have requirements about the supervision of children during these various time periods and activities.

*Table 57: Supervision Requirements for Times/Activities for Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state information about the data presented in Table 4.24. The next sections provide further details about states' supervision requirements.

<b>Table 4.24: States With Supervision Requirements for Specific Times/Activities*</b>		
<b>Time/Activity</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has supervision requirements for specific time/activity</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, 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, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Transportation in vehicles	41	AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Swimming/water activities	34	AK, AL, CT, DC, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Field trips	26	AK, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, NH, NM, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY
Outdoor play	25	AK, AL, AR, CT, DC, FL, IL, KY, MA, ME, MN, MO, MT, ND, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV
Evening/overnight care	24	AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, HI, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NY, OK, OR, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY
Naptime	17	AK, AR, CO, FL, MA, MD, ME, MO, NC, NV, NY, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WY

N=42 states, excluding AZ, CA, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have supervision requirements for multiple times/activities.

Naptime

Of the 44 that license small FCC homes, more than one-third of states have requirements in their regulations for the supervision of children during naptimes. Table 4.25 provides an overview of the states that have specific types of requirements about the supervision of napping children.

<b>Table 4.25: States With Requirements About Supervision During Naptime*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during naptime</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>AK, AR, CO, FL, MA, MD, ME, MO, NC, NV, NY, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WY</b>
Providers must be able to hear napping children	6	AK, MO, NC, NV, TX, WY
Providers must be on the same floors where children are napping	5	AK, MO, NC, NY, RI
Providers must observe napping children in certain time intervals	5	AR, MA, MD, NV, VT
Room doors must be ajar or open	5	AR, FL, MA, NC, NY
Baby monitors may be used under certain conditions	5	AK, CO, MA, NY, VT
Providers must be able to see napping children	3	AK, NV, WY

N=17 states, excluding AL, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, VA, WI, WV

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during naptime.

Evening/Overnight Care

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, more than half have requirements about the supervision of children during evening/overnight care. Table 4.26 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements about the supervision of children during evening hours. See "4.9 Care of Children" for additional requirements about evening/overnight care.

<b>Table 4.26: States With Requirements About Supervision During Evening/Overnight Care*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during evening/overnight care</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, HI, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NE, NY, OK, OR, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Requirements about whether providers must be awake when children are in overnight care (total):	19	AR, CO, DC, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NE, NY, OK, OR, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providers must be awake until the children are asleep</li> </ul>	5	KY, MA, NE, TX, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providers must be awake at all times</li> </ul>	3	AR, ME, WI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other requirements regarding providers being awake</li> </ul>	11	CO, DC, IL, MD, MI, NC, NY, OK, OR, WA, WY
Providers must be able to hear sleeping children	7	DC, HI, IL, MO, MT, NE, WY
Providers must be able to see sleeping children	1	DC

N=24 states, excluding AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, ID, IN, KS, LA, MN, MS, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, VT

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during evening/overnight care.

Outdoor Play

More than half of the states that license small FCC homes have requirements about the supervision of children during outdoor play. Table 4.27 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements about the supervision of children playing outdoors.

<b>Table 4.27: States With Requirements About Supervision During Outdoor Play*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during outdoor play</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CT, DC, FL, IL, KY, MA, ME, MN, MO, MT, ND, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV</b>
Providers must be present with children	6	AR, IL, MA, ME, MO, WI
Providers must be able to see children	6	CT, DC, OR, VT, WA, WI
Providers must be able to hear children	5	CT, OR, VT, WA, WI
Requirements specifically for the supervision of school-age children playing outdoors	3	AR, MA, MO

N=25 states, excluding AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IN, KS, LA, MD, MI, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OH, SC, SD, TN, VA, WY

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during outdoor play.

Swimming/Water Activities

As shown in Table 4.28, three-quarters of the states that license small FCC homes have requirements about the supervision of children during swimming or water activities. More than half of those states require small FCC homes to obtain written permission from parents to take children swimming.

<b>Table 4.28: States With Requirements About Supervision During Swimming/Water Activities*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children when swimming or participating in water activities</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>AK, AL, CT, DC, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Written permission from parents required	21	AK, AL, CT, DC, DE, GA, IA, IL, MD, ME, MI, NE, NH, NM, NY, OR, PA, RI, VT, WV, WY

<b>Table 4.28: States With Requirements About Supervision During Swimming/Water Activities, con.*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Providers must be present with children	17	AL, DE, IA, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MT, NE, NH, PA, UT, WA, WV, WY
Specific child-staff ratio requirements	15	AL, DC, GA, KS, ME, MI, MS, MT, NE, NH, PA, TX, WI, WV, WY

N=34 states, excluding AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, HI, ID, KY, LA, MN, NC, NJ, NV, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during swimming/water activities.

### Transporting Children in Vehicles

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, all but three (CA, IA, SC) have requirements about the supervision of children while traveling in vehicles. As shown in Table 4.29, most states specify that children must not be left unattended in vehicles and/or require small FCC homes to obtain written permission from parents. See "4.10 Facility Requirements" for additional transportation requirements.

<b>Table 4.29: States With Requirements About Supervision of Children Traveling in Vehicles*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children when transported in vehicles</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Children must not be left unattended in vehicles	28	AL, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NH, NY, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WI, WY
Written permission from parents required for transporting children	25	AK, AL, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IL, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NY, OK, OR, PA, TX, VT, WY
Specific child-staff ratio requirements when transporting children in vehicles	13	HI, IL, KS, ME, MO, MS, NE, NV, TN, TX, WA, WI, WY

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Emergency contact information for children must be taken on vehicles	13	DC, DE, FL, KY, MI, MO, NC, OK, PA, TX, WI, WV, WY
Providers must supervise children when they board and exit vehicles	12	AR, CO, DC, IL, MO, MS, NM, NV, NY, OK, TN, TX
Providers or drivers must ensure that children are received by parents or other designated people	10	AK, AL, CO, IL, MO, MS, MT, NV, TN, WI
Attendance records of children being transported must be kept	8	AL, AR, FL, MO, OK, TN, TX, WA
Additional checks for children remaining on board must be conducted once vehicles are unloaded	4	AR, FL, MO, TN

N=41 states, excluding AZ, CA, IA, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision of children traveling in vehicles.

Field Trips

More than half of the states that license small FCC homes have requirements about the supervision of children during field trips. Table 4.30 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements about the supervision of children during field trips. Most states require small FCC homes to obtain written permission from parents.

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during field trips</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>AK, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, NH, NM, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY</b>
Written permission from parents required	22	DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, NH, NM, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY

**Table 4.30: States With Requirements About Supervision During Field Trips, con.\***

Supervision Requirement	Number of States	State
Emergency contact information for children must be taken on field trips	6	FL, MI, NH, PA, TX, UT
Specific child-staff ratio requirements	5	NH, PA, TN, TX, UT
Attendance records of children on field trips must be kept	3	MO, NH, TX
Children are required to wear name tags or other identification	2	DC, TX

N=26 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NV, NY, OH, OK, SC, SD, VA, VT, WV

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during field trips.

## 4.9 Care of Children

### A. Health Requirements

#### Physical Exams and/or Health Statements

More than half the states that license small FCC homes require that children have physical exams or provide health statements prior to enrolling in small FCC homes, as shown in Table 4.31. Also, almost half of states require small FCC homes to keep records of children's physicals.

**Table 4.31: States With Requirements About Physical Exams and/or Health Statements for Children\***

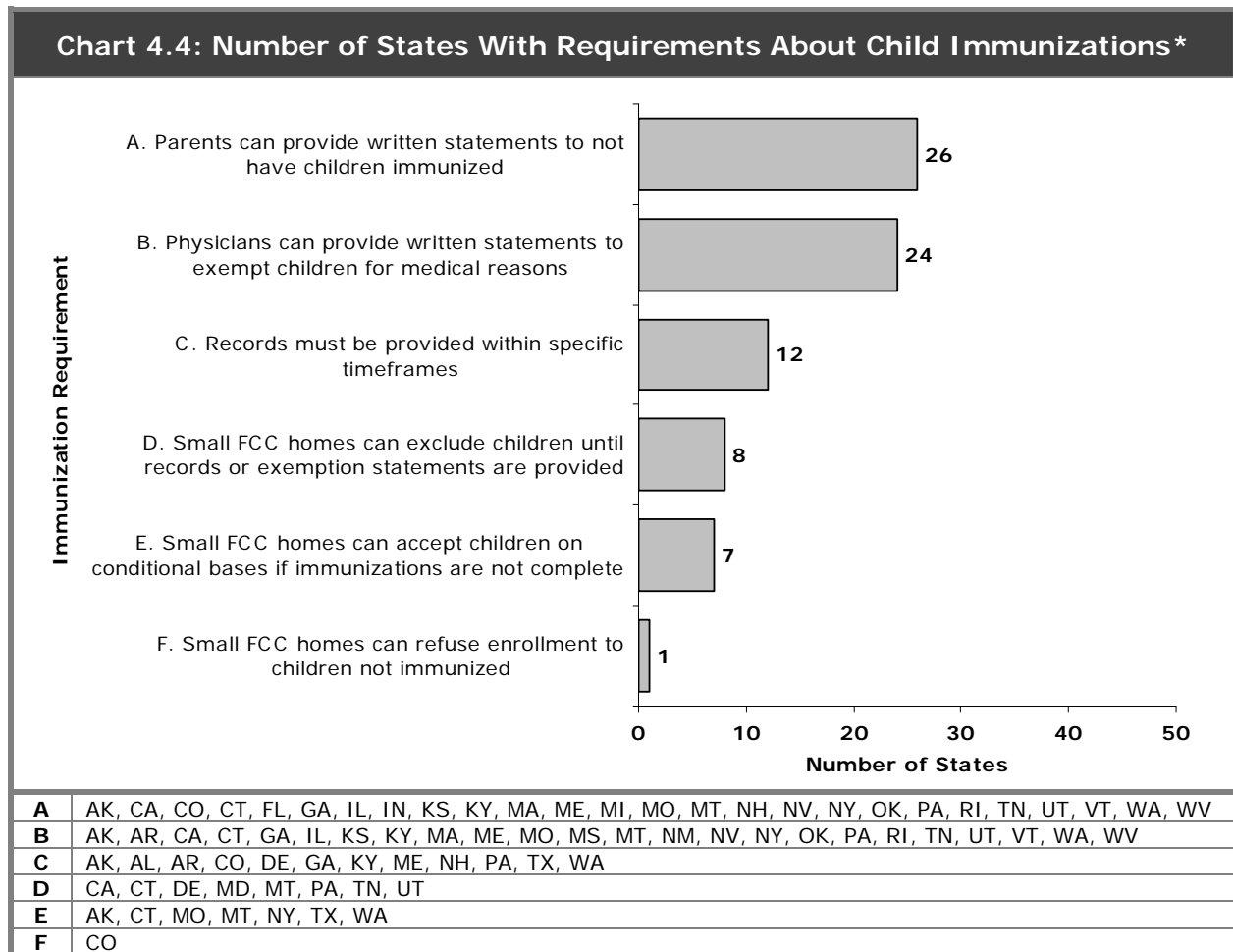
Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Children required to have physical exams or provide health statements to enroll in small FCC homes</b>	26	AL, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, MI, MO, NC, ND, NH, NV, NY, PA, RI, TX, UT, WI, WV
Small FCC homes required to keep records of children's physical exams or health statements	18	AL, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, IA, IL, MA, MD, MI, ND, NH, NV, RI, UT, WI, WV
Health records must be provided to small FCC homes within specific time periods	15	CO, DC, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, MA, MO, NH, NV, PA, TX, WI, WV

N=26 states, excluding AK, AR, AZ, CA, GA, ID, KS, LA, ME, MN, MS, MT, NE, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WY

\*Some states have multiple requirements about physical exams and/or health statements for children.

Immunizations

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, all but one (SC) require children to be immunized. As shown in Chart 4.4, most states allow exemptions from immunization requirements if written statements are provided to small FCC homes from either parents stating they do not wish their children to be immunized or from physicians stating that children are exempt from immunizations for medical reasons.



N=43 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about immunizations.

Additional Health Requirements

Seven states (AL, DC, DE, IL, MA, NY, RI) require children to have lead-level blood screenings prior to enrolling in small FCC homes. Also, 27 states (AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, IA, IN, MA, ME, MN, MO, MT, NC, NH, NM, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, UT, VT, WV, WY) require small FCC homes to keep emergency contact information in children’s records.

## B. Nutrition

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, all but three (CA, KS, SC) have requirements about nutrition for children. As shown in Table 4.32, most states also have requirements about feeding infants, the nutritional content of meals and snacks, and a number of or time interval between meals/snacks served to children. Only a few states require small FCC homes to post menus. More than half of the states allow parents to provide food for meals or snacks, and only a few states require that small FCC homes provide all food served to children.

Table 4.32: States With Requirements About Nutrition for Children*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about nutrition and meals/snacks for children	41	AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements about feeding infants	36	AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IL, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements about the nutritional content of meals/snacks served to children	36	AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements include a number of or time interval between meals/snacks served to children	30	AL, AR, CO, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MD, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY
Parents/guardians allowed to provide food for their own children	22	AK, AR, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, MA, ME, MI, MN, NH, NM, NV, NY, PA, RI, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY
Small FCC homes required to provide supplemental food (to what parents provide) to meet nutritional content requirements	7	AR, HI, IL, MA, NH, NY, WA
Small FCC homes required to post menus of meals/snacks served to children	7	DC, KY, NM, NV, OK, TN, UT
Small FCC homes required to provide all meals/snacks to children	7	AL, GA, MO, MS, NC, OK, TN
Parents/guardians allowed to bring food for all children for special occasions	1	MS

N=41 states, excluding AZ, CA, ID, KS, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about nutrition.

### C. Behavior Guidance and Discipline

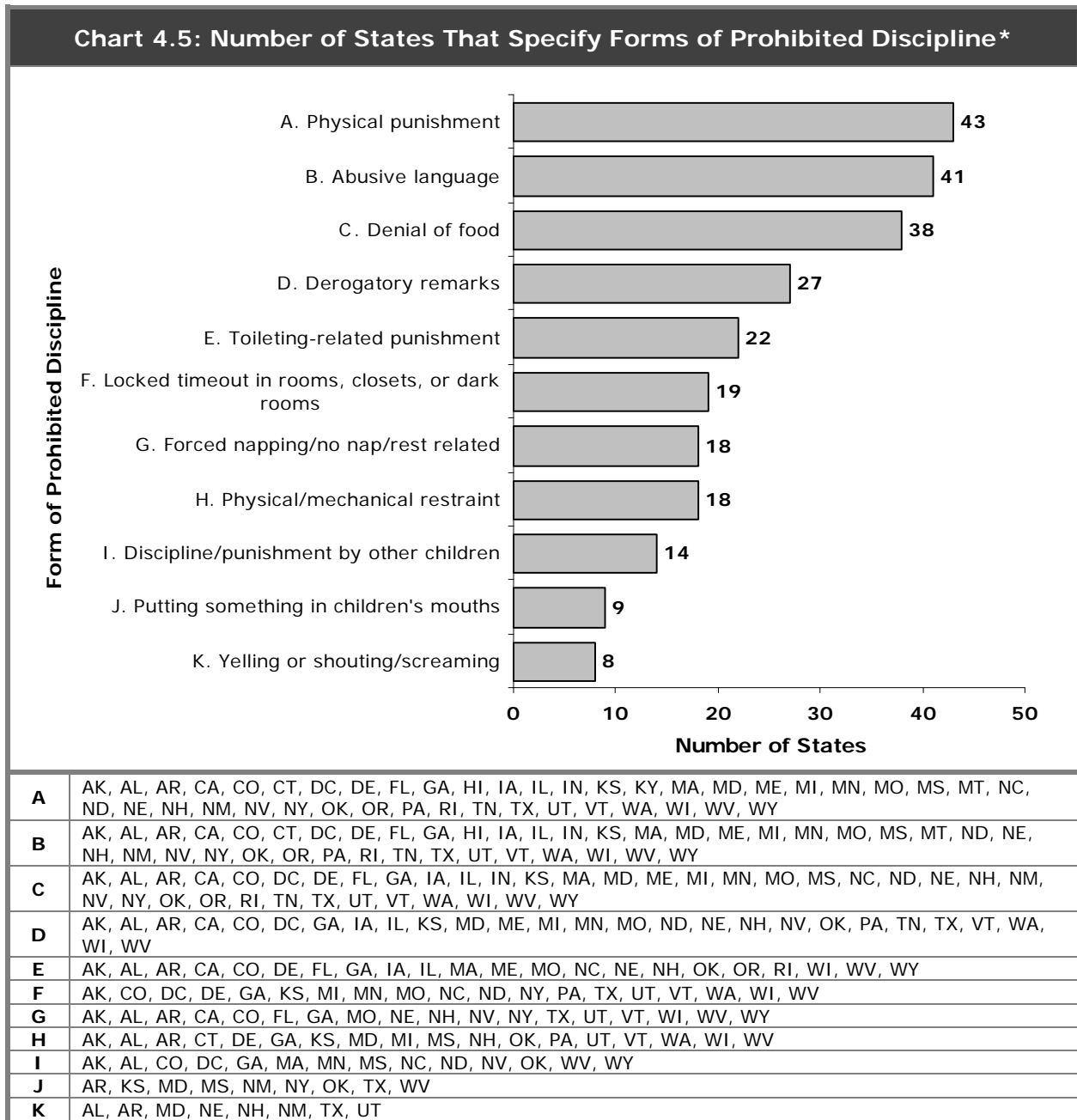
Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, only one state (SC) does not have requirements in licensing regulations related to behavior guidance and/or discipline. Fourteen states (AK, DC, DE, FL, IN, KS, MI, MT, NC, NM, NY, OR, RI, WY) require small FCC homes to have written policies about behavior guidance and/or discipline. As shown in Table 4.33, most states' regulations specify types of behavior guidance and/or discipline that small FCC homes are allowed to use. Most of these states allow children to be separated from groups if they are supervised. By having no requirements about behavior guidance and/or discipline in regulations for small FCC homes, SC does not prohibit corporal punishment.

<b>Form of Discipline</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about behavior guidance and/or discipline</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, 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, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Regulations specify types of discipline that are allowed for use with children	29	AK, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervised separation from groups</li> </ul>	21	AK, AR, CO, DC, DE, IL, MA, MN, MO, MS, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, RI, TX, WI, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corporal punishment</li> </ul>	1	SC*

N=43 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*SC does not have requirements that prohibit the use of corporal punishment in its regulations for small FCC homes.

In their regulations, all states that license small FCC homes, except SC, specify forms of behavior guidance and/or discipline that are **not** allowed. Chart 4.5 shows the different types of discipline prohibited in states.



N=43 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states specify multiple forms of prohibited discipline.

## D. Activities and Equipment/Materials

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, all but six states (CA, FL, KS, NE, SC, WY) have requirements in their regulations that address the daily activities small FCC homes must provide for children. These requirements help facilities establish learning environments 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 58: Requirements About Activities and Equipment and Materials in Small FCC Homes for Children in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state data about these requirements.

### Schedule of Activities

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 11 (AL, AR, KY, MO, MT, NC, NM, PA, RI, TN, WV) require homes to have written daily schedules of activities. Of those, eight states (AL, AR, KY, NC, NM, PA, TN, WV) require homes to post daily schedules in facilities.

#### Fast Facts

- Most states specify types of activities that small FCC homes must include for children in the daily schedules.
- More than half of states that license small FCC homes specify that the developmental needs of children must be addressed in the activities provided.

### Types of Required Activities

Table 4.34 summarizes the types of activities small FCC homes are required to have in daily schedules for children.

Type of Activity	Number of States	State
State has requirements about activities for children	38	AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV
Outdoor play	33	AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV
Nap or rest period	25	AK, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, RI, TX, UT, WV
Active play	23	AK, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NV, NY, OR, RI, TX, VT, WI, WV

**Table 4.34: States With Requirements About Activities, con.\***

Type of Activity	Number of States	State
Quiet play	22	AK, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NY, OR, RI, TX, VT, WI, WV
Indoor play	21	AK, CT, DC, IL, IN, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, ND, NH, NY, OK, OR, RI, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV
Regular meal/snack times	17	AK, AL, CO, CT, DE, IL, IN, MA, MO, MS, NH, NM, NY, OK, RI, TX, WV
Large group activities	11	AK, CO, CT, DE, MA, MI, MO, NH, TX, WA, WI
Creative expression	11	AK, DC, MA, MI, MN, MT, NH, TX, WA, WI, WV
Gross motor activities	9	AK, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, TX, WA, WI
Provider-initiated activities	9	DC, DE, MA, MN, NC, RI, TN, TX, WA
Child-initiated activities	9	DC, DE, HI, MA, MN, RI, TN, TX, WA
Free play	9	CT, DE, HI, MO, MT, NC, PA, WA, WV
Fine motor activities	7	IA, IL, MI, MN, TX, WA, WI
Toileting and washing/handwashing	5	AK, IL, MO, RI, WV
Small group activities	2	MT, WA

N=38 states, excluding AZ, CA, FL, ID, KS, LA, NE, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA, WY

\*Some states require multiple types of activities for children.

Child Developmental Domains Addressed in Activities

Table 4.35 shows that most of the states that require small FCC homes to address the developmental needs of children during activities require homes to address emotional, physical, cognitive/intellectual, social, and language/literacy development. Fewer require small FCC homes to address cultural development. State-by-state data are available in *Table 59: Developmental Domains Addressed in Required Activities for Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 4.35: States That Address Developmental Domains in Required Activities *</b>		
<b>Developmental Domain</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requirements address child development in activities</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>AK, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NH, NV, NY, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI</b>
Emotional development	19	AK, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NV, NY, PA, TX, UT, WA, WI
Physical development	18	AK, CT, DC, DE, HI, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NV, NY, PA, TX, UT, WA, WI
Cognitive/intellectual development	17	AK, CT, DC, DE, HI, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NV, NY, PA, TX, UT, WA, WI
Social development	16	AK, CT, DC, DE, HI, MA, MN, MT, ND, NV, NY, PA, TX, UT, WA, WI
Language/literacy development	15	AK, DE, HI, MA, MI, MN, ND, NH, NV, NY, PA, TX, UT, WA, WI
Cultural development	9	CT, HI, MA, NV, NY, PA, RI, WA, WI

N=25 states, excluding AL, AZ, CA, FL, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MS, NC, NE, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, VA, VT, WV, WY

\*Some states address multiple developmental domains in their requirements.

As shown in Table 4.36, some state regulations also include lists of specific activities small FCC homes should provide to meet each of the developmental needs.

<b>Table 4.36: States That List Specific Activities That Small FCC Homes Must Provide to Address Developmental Domains*</b>		
<b>Developmental Domain</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requirements address child development in activities</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>AK, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NH, NV, NY, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI</b>
<b>State lists specific activities to address developmental domains</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>AK, HI, MA, MN, TX, WA</b>
Physical development	6	AK, HI, MA, MN, TX, WA
Cognitive/intellectual development	6	AK, HI, MA, MN, TX, WA
Social development	6	AK, HI, MA, MN, TX, WA
Emotional development	5	HI, MA, MN, TX, WA
Language/literacy development	5	AK, MA, MN, TX, WA
Cultural development	2	HI, WA

N=25 states, excluding AL, AZ, CA, FL, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MS, NC, NE, NJ, NM, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, VA, VT, WV, WY

\*Some states list multiple specific activities to address developmental domains.

Equipment and Materials

Table 4.37 shows the types of equipment and materials small FCC homes are required to have for children.

Table 4.37: States With Requirements About Equipment and Materials*		
Equipment/Material Type	Number of States	State
<b>State has requirements about the types of equipment/materials small FCC homes must have for children</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, GA, HI, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, WI, WV</b>
Books and other literacy materials	17	AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, GA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, OK, RI, TX, WV
Fine motor/manipulatives	16	AK, AL, AR, CO, HI, MA, ME, MI, MO, MS, OK, PA, RI, TX, WI, WV
Gross motor equipment (indoor and/or outdoor)	15	AL, AR, CO, HI, MA, ME, MI, MO, MS, OK, PA, RI, TX, WI, WV
Dramatic play/pretend materials	13	AL, MA, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, OK, PA, RI, TX, WI, WV
Art supplies/creative activities	13	AL, CO, MA, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, OK, PA, RI, TX, WV
Music materials	9	AL, MA, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, OK, RI
Sensory materials	6	AL, ME, MO, MS, PA, TX
Science/experimental/math (counting/sorting) materials	5	AL, MD, ME, MO, WV

N=25 states, excluding AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, IA, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MN, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NV, OH, OR, SC, SD, UT, VA, VT, WA, WY

\*Some states require multiple types of equipment and materials.

In addition to the equipment and material requirements included in Table 4.37, the following four states have requirements regarding the number and/or type of books that small FCC homes must have.

- **AK:** Small FCC homes must have a minimum of five developmentally appropriate books per child in care.
- **AL:** Small FCC homes must have age-appropriate books.

- **MS:** Books must be on shelves and tables for children to look at and read. Every child must 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:** Small FCC homes must ensure that age-appropriate books are read on a daily basis to children between the ages of 6 months and 5 years of age.

### E. Parent Involvement

Four states (DC, KY, NM, PA) have requirements for small FCC homes regarding parent involvement. Three states (KY, NM, PA) require small FCC homes to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in activities.

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 36 (AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) require small FCC homes to provide parents with access to facilities at all times, allowing parents to visit without giving prior notice.

As shown in Table 4.38, most states have requirements regarding communication among small FCC home providers and 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.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about small FCC homes’ communication with parents</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WY</b>
Small FCC homes must provide written copies of policies and procedures to parents	32	AK, AL, AR, CA, DC, DE, FL, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WY
Small FCC homes must keep logs of children’s care and communicate with parents	3	KY, MS, RI
Small FCC homes must hold regularly scheduled meetings with parents	1	HI
Small FCC homes must have resource areas for parents	1	RI

N=36 states, excluding AZ, CO, GA, IA, ID, KS, LA, ME, ND, NE, NJ, OH, SD, VA, WV

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about communication with parents.

## F. Specialized Care of Children

There are requirements for specialized types of care for children within small FCC home licensing regulations, such as infant and toddler care, school-age care, and evening/overnight care. Table 4.39 shows whether states have requirements in their small FCC home regulations that address these common types of specialized care. It also shows the types of requirements states have for specialized care. For example, many states have requirements about activities 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 4.39: States With Requirements for Types of Specialized Care*			
Requirement	Number of States		
	Infant and Toddler Care	School-age Care	Evening/ Overnight Care
<b>State has requirements about specialized care</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Types of requirements for specialized care</b>			
Supervision of children	8	5	24
Activities for children	26	12	19
Materials/equipment	25	6	24
Facility	11	0	17

N=38 states, excluding AZ, CA, ID, IN, IA, KS, LA, NJ, ND, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about specialized care.

*Table 60: States With Requirements for Specialized Care in Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables includes state-by-state data about requirements for specialized care.

### Additional Requirements for Infant and Toddler Care

More states' small FCC home regulations have requirements for infant and toddler care than the other types of specialized care listed in Table 4.39.

#### **Fast Fact**

More than half of states that license small FCC homes require infants to be placed on their backs to sleep.

SIDS Risk Reduction

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.<sup>1</sup> Table 4.40 shows state requirements related to the prevention of SIDS.

*Table 61: State Requirements About Reducing Risk of SIDS in Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables includes additional information about these requirements.

<b>Table 4.40: States With Requirements About Reducing the Risk of SIDS*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Infants must be placed on their backs to sleep	24	AK, AL, DC, FL, GA, IA, IL, MD, ME, MI, MS, MT, NC, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Physicians may authorize different sleep positions for infants	23	AK, AL, DC, FL, GA, IA, IL, MD, ME, MI, MS, MT, NC, NY, OK, PA, RI, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Soft bedding/materials must not be used in cribs	16	AK, AL, DC, GA, IL, MD, ME, MI, MT, NC, NE, PA, TX, WA, WI, WV
Providers required to complete training about SIDS prevention	9	AK, DC, MD, MI, NC, OK, TX, UT, WI
Providers must check on sleeping infants	7	MD, ME, MI, NC, RI, TN, UT
Parents may authorize different sleep positions for infants	3	NC, RI, WA

N=44 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the prevention of SIDS.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

## 4.10 Facility Requirements

### A. Zoning

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 16 (AL, AR, CO, DC, DE, HI, MD, ME, MN, MO, NH, NM, TN, VT, WA, WY) specify in their licensing regulations that small FCC homes must comply with local zoning ordinances.

### B. Environmental Tests and Health Inspections

#### Environmental Tests

Nineteen states (CT, IA, IL, MA, ME, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NY, OK, RI, UT, WI, WV, WY) require small FCC homes to conduct environmental tests for substances such as lead paint, lead in water, asbestos, and radon.

#### **Note**

The information in this study only includes data from small FCC home licensing regulations and child care licensing agency responses to a survey. There may be other state laws that require small FCC homes to have environmental tests and inspections.

#### Environmental Health Inspections

The following data about environmental inspections were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 12 require small FCC homes to have environmental health inspections. Table 4.41 shows how often homes must have inspections. The most common frequency is once a year. State-by-state data are available in *Table 62: Frequency of Environmental Health Inspections of Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

**Table 4.41: State Requirements About the Frequency of Environmental Health Inspections**

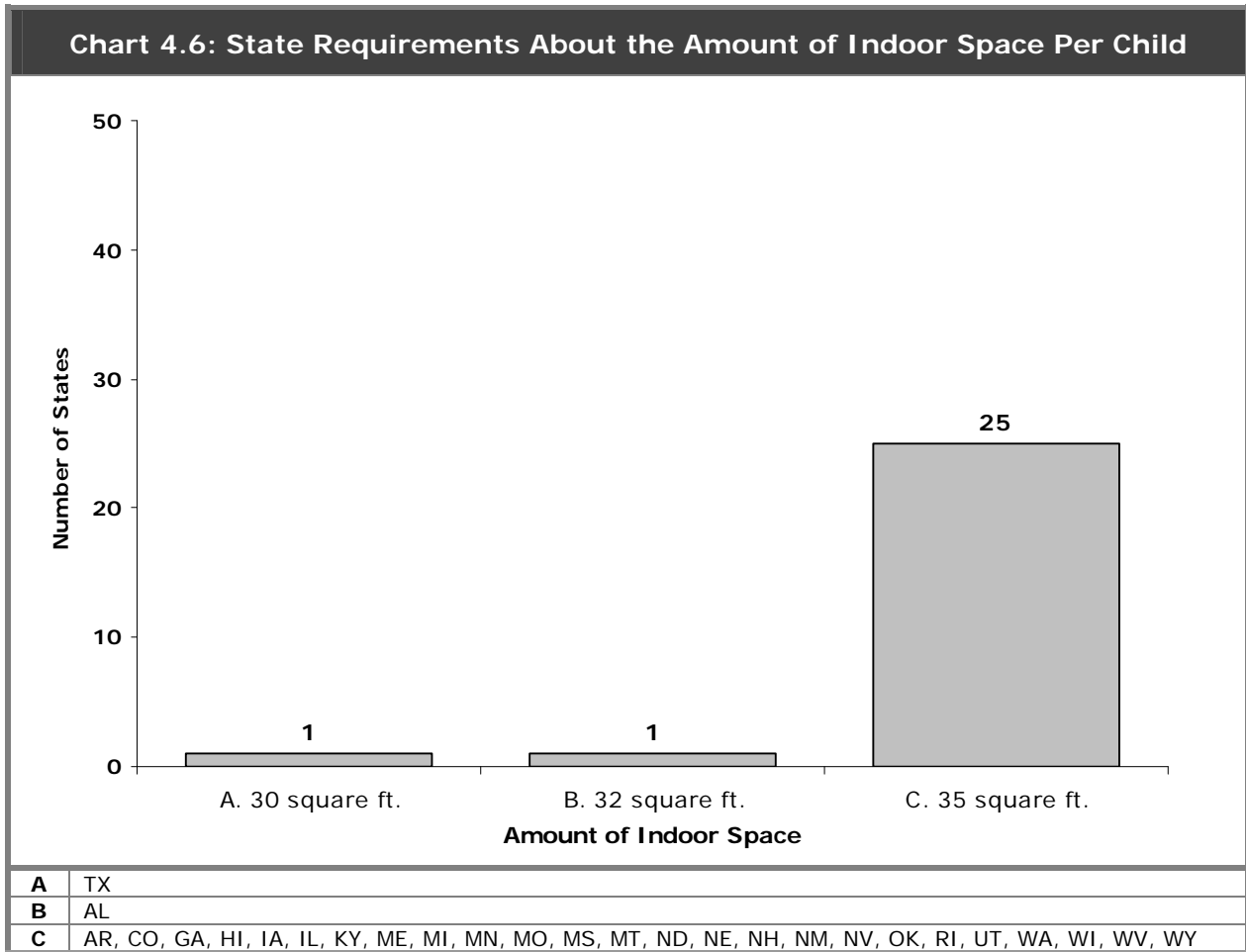
Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Environmental health inspections required</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>AK, DC, MD, ME, MO, MS, NH, NM, NV, TN, UT, WY</b>
Once a year	6	DC, ME, MO, NV, TN, WY
Once every 2 years	0	
Once every 3 years	1	NH
Other frequency	3	MD, MS, UT
No response	2	AK, NM

N=12 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MI, MN, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

### C. Square Footage

#### Indoor Space Requirements

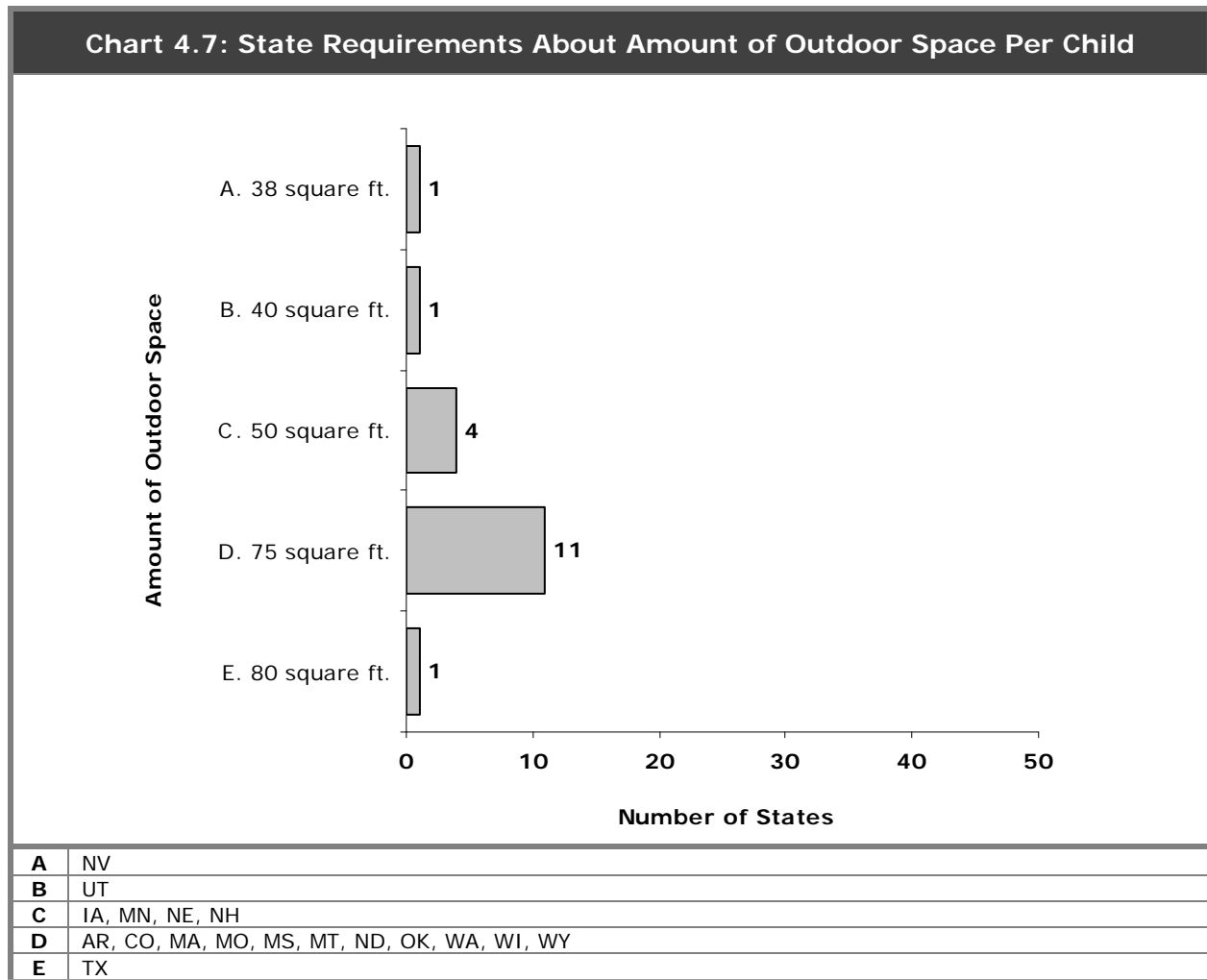
Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 27 (AL, AR, CO, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OK, RI, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements about the amount of indoor space that must be provided for each child. As shown in Chart 4.6, most of these states require small FCC homes to have 35 square feet of indoor space per child.



N=27 states, excluding AK, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, ID, IN, KS, LA, MA, MD, NC, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT

Outdoor Space Requirements

Eighteen states (AR, CO, IA, MA, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NV, OK, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY) have requirements about the amount of outdoor space that must be provided for each child. As shown in Chart 4.7, most of these states require small FCC homes to have 75 square feet of outdoor space for each child.



N=18 states, excluding AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT, WV

Three states (AL, HI, MI) have requirements about the total minimum amount of outdoor space that small FCC homes are required to have, as shown in Table 4.42. These states do not have requirements about amounts of outdoor space per child.

Minimum Requirement	State
150 square feet	HI
300 square feet	AL
400 square feet	MI

N=3 states, excluding AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, 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

Table 63: Amount of Indoor and Outdoor Space Required in Small FCC Homes in 2008 in the 50-state Data Tables includes the square footage requirements for each state.

### D. Condition of Facility and Equipment

As shown in Table 4.43, all states that license small FCC homes, except AK, KS, and SC, have requirements about the condition of facilities and/or equipment (e.g., facilities and equipment must be in good condition).

Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Indoor area and equipment</b>		
Requirements about the condition of the indoor area of the home	37	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements about the condition of indoor equipment	34	AR, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV
Requirements about the condition of stairs in the home	27	AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, IL, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements about basement used for the care of children	22	AR, CO, DE, IA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, OK, OR, RI, TX, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

Table 4.43: States With Requirements About the Condition of the Home and/or Equipment, con.*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Outdoor area and equipment</b>		
Requirements about the condition of the outdoor area of the home	32	AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NH, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, UT, WA, WI, WV
Requirements about the condition of outdoor equipment	30	AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<b>Materials and toys</b>		
Requirements about the condition of materials and toys for children	24	DC, GA, HI, IL, KY, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, UT, WA, WV, WY

N=41 states, excluding AK, AZ, ID, KS, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about indoor and outdoor areas and equipment, materials, and toys.

### E. Safety of Equipment

As seen in Table 4.44, most states have requirements about the safety of indoor and outdoor equipment. Information about each state's requirements about surfaces under indoor and outdoor equipment is available in *Table 64: Requirements About Surfaces Under Indoor and Outdoor Equipment in Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 4.44: States With Requirements About Equipment Safety*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Indoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about sleeping equipment (e.g., cots and cribs)	28	AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, DE, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NH, NM, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV
Requirements about the safety of indoor equipment	23	AR, DC, DE, IL, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Prohibits stackable cribs	7	DC, FL, MS, NH, NY, PA, WY
Requirements about the surfaces under indoor equipment	2	NH, TX

<b>Table 4.44: States With Requirements About Equipment Safety, con.*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Outdoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about the safety of outdoor equipment	31	AL, AR, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements about the surfaces under outdoor equipment	24	AL, AR, CO, DC, DE, FL, ME, MI, MO, MT, NC, NH, NM, NV, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
<b>Indoor and outdoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about equipment to be free of components that can pinch, sheer, or crush body tissues	10	AR, DC, DE, FL, MO, OK, PA, TX, UT, WY

N=35 states, excluding AZ, CA, CT, HI, IA, ID, IN, KS, LA, NE, NJ, OH, OR, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about the safety of indoor and outdoor equipment.

## F. Outdoor Space

### Enclosures or Fencing

As shown in Table 4.45, approximately one-third of states that licensing small FCC homes require them to have fences or other enclosures around outdoor play spaces. Most of these states require that fences be at least four feet in height. State-by-state data are available in *Table 65: Height Requirements for Outdoor Enclosures and Fences for Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 4.45: States With Requirements About Outdoor Fencing</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requires that outdoor space is enclosed or has a fence</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>AL, CO, DC, FL, GA, MO, MS, MT, NM, NV, RI, TX, UT, WA, WY</b>
Height must be at least 4 feet	11	AL, DC, FL, GA, MS, MT, NM, TX, UT, WA, WY
Height must be 42 inches	2	CO, MO
Height not specified	2	NV, RI

N=15 states, excluding AK, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DE, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT, WI, WV

Bodies of Water

Thirty-eight states (AL, 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, NY, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements about the safety of swimming pools in small FCC homes. In addition, 23 states (AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, FL, IL, MA, MD, MI, MN, MT, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, RI, TX, UT, WA, WI) have requirements to protect children from bodies of water (e.g., ponds, lakes, and rivers).

**G. Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness**Fire Inspections

The following data about fire inspections were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

**Note**

The information in this study only includes data from small FCC home licensing regulations and child care licensing agency responses to a survey. There may be other state laws about fire safety that require homes to have fire inspections or fire evacuation plans or conduct fire drills.

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 40 percent require small FCC homes to have fire inspections. Table 4.46 shows how often homes must have inspections. Several of those states require annual fire inspections. State-by-state data are available in *Table 66: Frequency of Small FCC Home Fire Inspections in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

**Table 4.46: State Requirements About the Frequency of Fire Inspections**

Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Fire inspections required</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>AK, AL, DC, DE, IL, MD, ME, MO, MS, NE, NH, NM, NV, PA, RI, TN, UT, WY</b>
Once a year	8	IL, ME, MO, MS, NM, NV, TN, WY
Once every 2 years	3	AK, MD, RI
Once every 3 years	1	NH
Other frequency	6	AL, DC, DE, NE, PA, UT

N=18 states, excluding AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MI, MN, MT, NC, ND, NJ, NY, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

Fire Safety and Fire Drills

All of the 44 states that license small FCC homes have requirements regarding fire safety. Of those states, 33 (AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, TX, UT, WA, WV, WY) require small FCC homes to have plans for how to evacuate children and providers in case of fires in homes.

Thirty-seven states also require small FCC homes to conduct fire drills. As shown in Table 4.47, most of these states require small FCC homes to conduct fire drills at least once a month.

<b>Table 4.47: States With Requirements About Frequency of Fire Drills</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requires fire drills</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, RI, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
At least once a month	26	AR, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, RI, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY
More than four times a year	3	DC, MT, NE
At least four times a year	4	CT, IN, PA, UT
Less than four times a year	1	CA
Other frequency	1	HI*
Time interval not specified in regulations	2	CO, KY

N=37 states, excluding AK, AL, AZ, ID, LA, ND, NJ, OH, OR, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT

\*HI requires that fire drills be practiced at regular intervals.

Smoke Detectors and Fire Extinguishers

As shown in Table 4.48, 35 states (CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) that license small FCC homes require them to have smoke detectors and/or fire extinguishers. Twenty-nine states of these states (CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) require small FCC homes to have both.

<b>Table 4.48: States With Requirements About Smoke Detectors and Fire Extinguishers</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Small FCC homes must have smoke detectors	34	CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Small FCC homes must have fire extinguishers	30	CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=35 states, excluding AK, AL, AR, AZ, DC, ID, KS, LA, MD, NJ, NV, OH, SC, SD, TN, VA

General Emergency Plans

In addition to the requirements related to fires, several states also have requirements about plans and drills for general emergencies (i.e., not specifically fires). Six states (MT, NY, OR, PA, VT, WA) require small FCC homes to have evacuation plans for general emergencies, and two states (MT, VT) require small FCC homes to perform general emergency drills.

*Table 67: Fire and Emergency Evacuation and Drill Requirements for Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state data about evacuation and drill requirements.

Emergency Preparedness

Table 4.49 shows the states that have preparedness requirements about specific emergencies caused by weather or utility-related problems. No states have requirements about emergency plans/procedures for intruders/acts of violence in homes. State-by-state data are available in *Table 68: Requirements About Emergency Preparedness for Small FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 4.49: States With Requirements About Specific Emergency Preparedness *</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about specific emergency preparedness</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NV, OK, RI, TX, UT, WI</b>
Small FCC homes must have emergency plans/procedures for natural disasters (e.g., tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes, and other weather)	21	AL, AR, CO, DC, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NV, OK, TX, UT, WI
Small FCC homes must have emergency plans/procedures for utility-related problems (e.g., blackouts)	7	AL, DC, GA, MA, MI, OK, UT
Small FCC homes must have emergency plans/procedures for intruders/acts of violence**	0	

N=26 states, excluding AK, AZ, DE, ID, IN, LA, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV, WY

\*Some states have multiple requirements about emergency preparedness.

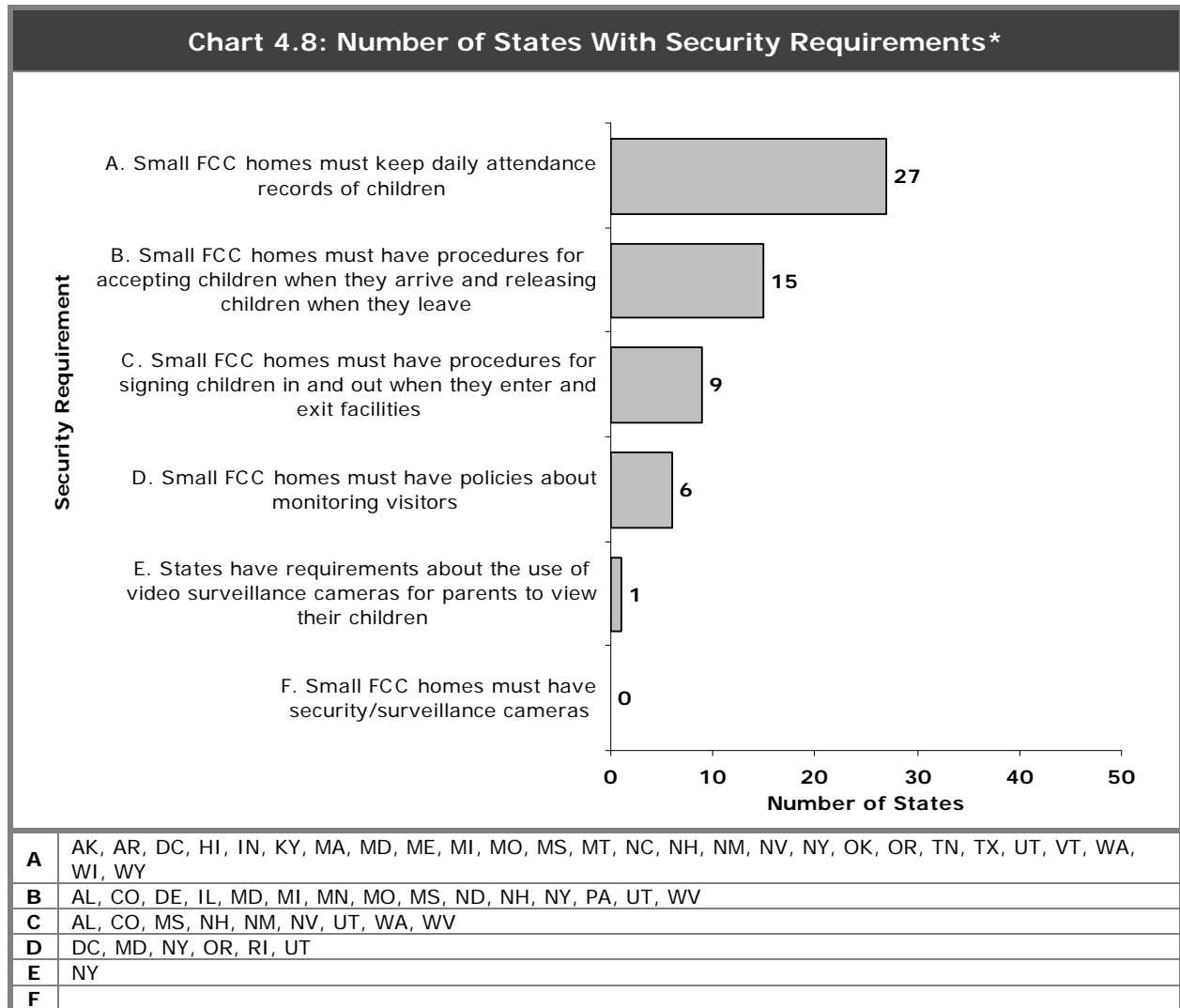
\*\*"Intruders/acts of violence" includes intruders within the home, intoxicated parents, lost or abducted children, threats of violence, man-made disasters, and others.

**Fast Fact**

More than half of the 44 states that license small FCC homes require them to be prepared for specific emergencies caused by weather, utility-related problems, and/or acts of terrorism.

## H. Security

Many states have requirements for small FCC homes related to the security of children. For example, as shown in Chart 4.8, more than half of states that license small FCC homes require homes to keep daily attendance records of children, and several require small FCC homes to establish procedures for accepting children when they enter homes and releasing children at the end of the day.



N=36 states, excluding AZ, CA, CT, FL, GA, IA, ID, KS, LA, NE, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple security requirements.

## I. Transportation

### General Requirements

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, all except one (SC) have requirements regarding transporting children in vehicles. Table 4.50 shows some of the specific requirements states have for transporting children. See “4.8 Supervision of Children” for more information about transportation requirements.

Table 4.50: States With Requirements About Transportation*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about transportation	43	AL, AK, AR, 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, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements for vehicle drivers (e.g., drivers must have valid licenses)	32	AL, AR, CA, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, TN, UT, VT, WA, WV, WY
Requirements about condition of vehicles	21	AK, AR, CA, CO, DC, DE, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, ND, NH, NM, OK, TN, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements for first aid kits to be kept in vehicles	12	DC, DE, IA, KS, MI, NM, OK, PA, TN, UT, WI, WY
Requirements about vehicle seating	11	AR, CO, FL, KY, ME, MO, MT, NC, NE, PA, TN
Requirements about emergency equipment needed in vehicles	5	AK, AR, DC, NM, TN

N=43 states, excluding AZ, ID, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about transportation.

Vehicle Safety Restraints

Most states also have requirements for small FCC homes regarding vehicle safety restraints for children, such as seatbelts and carseats, as shown in Table 4.51.

<b>Table 4.51: States With Requirements About Vehicle Safety Restraints for Children*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about vehicle safety restraints for children</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Requirements about carseats/child restraint systems	35	AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Requirements about seatbelts for children	33	AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, FL, GA, HI, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=40 states, excluding AZ, IA, ID, LA, ND, NJ, NV, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about vehicle safety restraints.

**J. Liability and Automobile Insurance**

Twenty-three states require small FCC homes to have either liability insurance or automobile insurance as protection from accidents and injuries to children in care, as shown in Table 4.52. Five states (DC, KY, NV, RI, TN) require small FCC homes to have both types of insurance. *Table 69: Liability and Automobile Insurance Requirements for Small FCC Homes in 2008* 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.

<b>Table 4.52: States With Requirements About Liability and Automobile Insurance*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requires insurance</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>AR, CT, DC, FL, IL, IN, KS, KY, MI, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, VT, WA, WV</b>
Requires automobile insurance	22	AR, CT, DC, FL, IL, IN, KS, KY, MI, MS, ND, NH, NM, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, VT, WA, WV
Requires general liability insurance	6	DC, KY, MT, NV, RI, TN

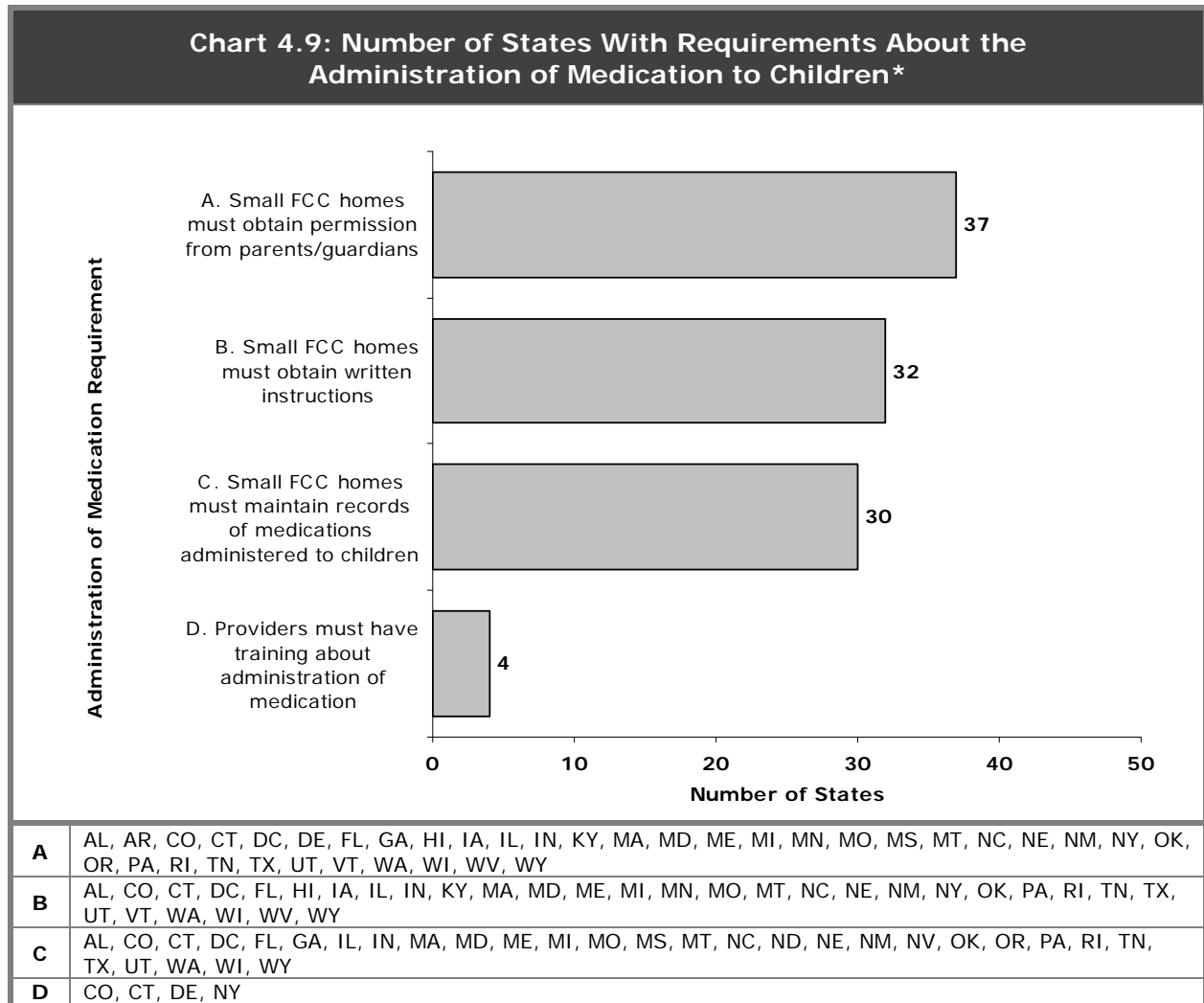
N=23 states, excluding AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, NC, NE, NJ, NY, OH, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WI, WY

\*Some states require multiple types of insurance.

## K. Medical Care and Related Issues

### Administration of Medication

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 39 (AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements regarding the administration of medication to children. As shown in Chart 4.9, most of these states require that small FCC homes obtain permission from parents to administer medications, get written instructions about how to give the medications to children, and keep records of medications given to children.



N=39 states, excluding AK, AZ, CA, ID, KS, LA, NH, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the administration of medication.

Medical Procedures

Seven states (AL, CT, DC, MA, MS, NY, OK) have requirements for small FCC homes related to performing medical procedures, such as blood glucose tests, on children with medical conditions. These states require that permission be obtained from parents, and/or instructions are obtained from parents or physicians about how to perform procedures. Three states (AL, CT, OK) require small FCC homes to keep records of medical procedures.

Care of Ill Children

As shown in Table 4.53, most states that have requirements regarding the care of mildly ill children allow small FCC homes to exclude them from care, meaning they must be kept at home until they are well enough to return. Much fewer states specifically allow small FCC homes to admit children into care when they are mildly ill.

<b>Fast Facts</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the states that license small FCC homes have requirements for the administration of medication to children.</li> <li>• Most of the states that license small FCC homes have requirements regarding the care of children who are mildly ill.</li> </ul>	

<b>Table 4.53: States With Requirements About the Care of Mildly Ill Children*</b>		
Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>State has requirements about the care of mildly ill children</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>AL, AR, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KY, MA, MD, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Allows small FCC homes to admit children who are mildly ill	12	CT, DE, FL, IL, KY, MA, NC, PA, TN, UT, VT, WI
Allows small FCC homes to exclude children who are mildly ill	10	AL, AR, DC, IA, MD, MT, RI, TX, WI, WY

N=35 states, excluding AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, IN, KS, LA, ME, MI, NH, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the care of mildly ill children.

Incident Reporting

Table 4.54 shows that most states have requirements about reporting serious injuries and deaths of children in small FCC homes. Most states also require small FCC homes to keep their own records of these incidents.

<b>Table 4.54: States With Requirements About Incident Reporting*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about incident reporting</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Small FCC homes must report all serious injuries that occur to children in care to the licensing agency	32	AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, MA, MD, MI, MN, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Small FCC homes must keep records of all serious injuries that occur to children	28	AL, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, MA, MD, ME, MO, MS, MT, NC, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WY
Small FCC homes must report all deaths that occur to children in care to the licensing agency	25	AL, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, MA, MD, MI, MN, MS, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OK, PA, TX, WA, WI, WV, WY

N=38 states, excluding AK, AZ, CA, HI, ID, KS, KY, LA, NH, NJ, OH, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about incident reporting.

### Health Consultants

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, four (DE, HI, NC, NY) require small FCC homes to have health consultants available to providers.

#### **Terminology**

**Child care health consultants:** Health professionals who FCC homes use to provide information and expertise about health issues.

### First Aid Kits

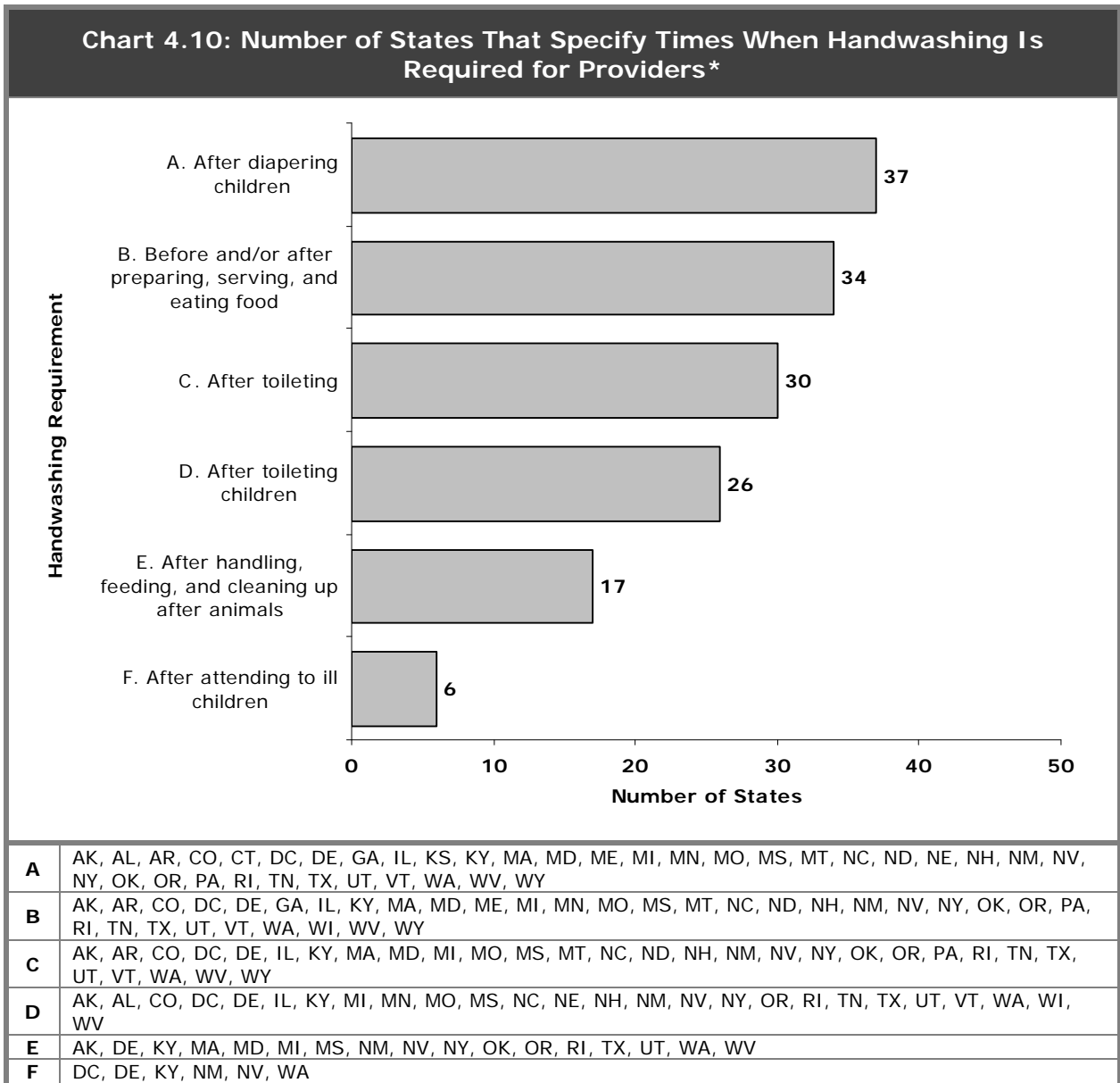
Thirty-two states (AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MT, NE, NM, NV, NY, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WV, WY) require small FCC homes to have first aid kits. Nineteen (AR, DE, FL, GA, IL, KY, MA, MN, MT, NE, NM, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WY) of those states specify items that must be contained in the kits.

## **L. Handwashing**

### Requirements for Providers

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 39 (AK, AL, AR, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements about handwashing for providers. In addition, 28 states (AK, AR, DE, HI, IN, KS, KY, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NH, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements about the locations and/or number of handwashing facilities in small FCC homes.

Of the states that have requirements about handwashing for small FCC home providers, all of them specify when providers must wash their hands. Chart 4.10 shows the times when small FCC home providers must wash their hands.



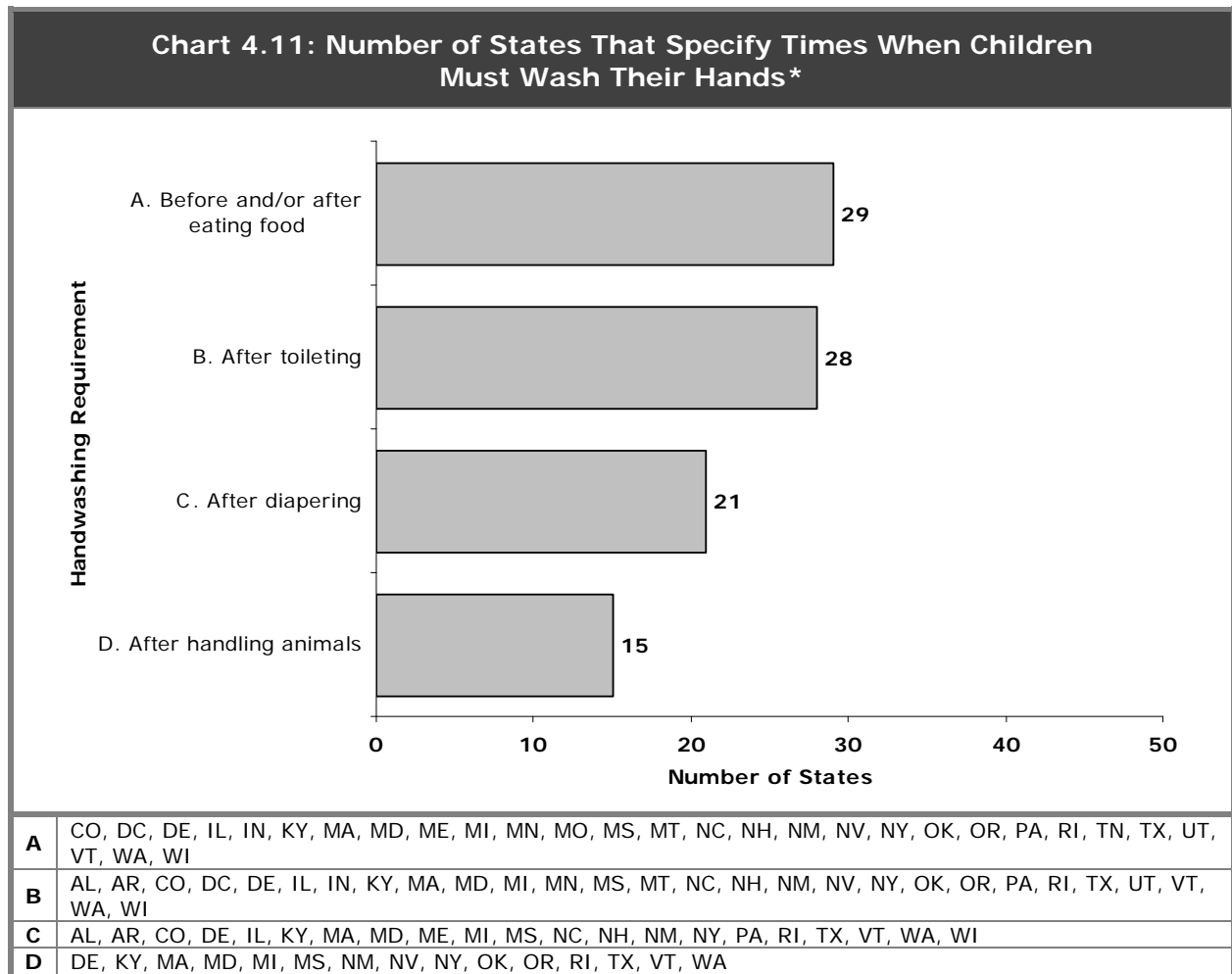
N=39 states, excluding AZ, CA, HI, IA, ID, IN, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states specify multiple times when providers are required to wash their hands.

Requirements for Children

Thirty-five states (AK, AL, AR, CO, DC, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV) have requirements for small FCC homes regarding washing children’s hands.

Of the 35 states that have requirements about handwashing for children, only HI does not specify when children must wash their hands. Chart 4.11 shows the times when children must wash their hands.

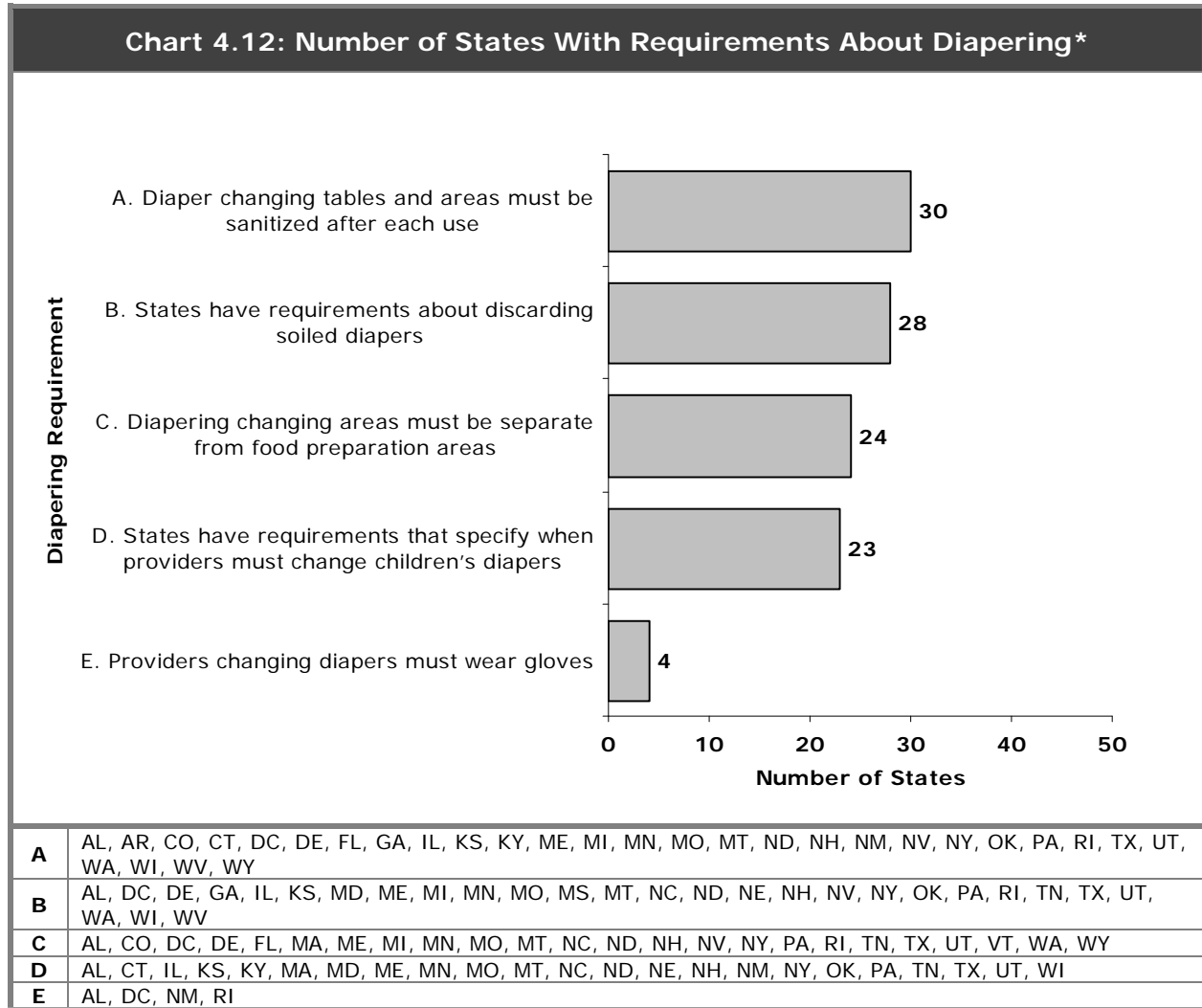


N=34 states, excluding AZ, CA, CT, GA, HI, IA, ID, KS, LA, ND, NE, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA, WY

\*Some states specify multiple times when children must wash their hands.

### M. Diapering

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, more than 80 percent have requirements about diapering. As shown in Chart 4.12, these requirements include information about discarding soiled diapers, sanitation of diapering areas, and when to change children’s diapers.



N=37 states, excluding AK, AZ, CA, HI, IA, ID, IN, LA, NJ, OH, OR, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about diapering.

## N. Smoking Policies

Table 4.55 shows that most states have requirements regarding smoking in small FCC homes. Eighteen states specify that smoking is not allowed in small FCC homes. However, some states allow FCC homes to permit smoking on the grounds or in designated areas.

Table 4.55: States With Requirements About Smoking*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about smoking in small FCC homes	39	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY
Does not allow smoking in small FCC homes	18	AL, AR, CA, CO, FL, KS, MD, MS, MT, ND, NH, NY, OK, OR, RI, TX, WI, WV
Requires providers to notify parents of smoking in homes	17	AR, CT, DE, FL, HI, MA, MD, MI, MN, NE, NV, OK, PA, RI, TN, VT, WV
Does not allow smoking in the presence of children	15	CT, DC, DE, IL, KY, MA, MD, ME, MO, NC, NH, NM, OK, TN, VT
Does not allow smoking in areas used for the care of children	14	DC, IL, KS, ME, MI, MS, NE, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, WA, WI
Does not allow smoking in areas where food is prepared	2	PA, WY

N=39 states, excluding AK, AZ, GA, IA, ID, IN, LA, NJ, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about smoking.

## O. Hazardous Materials

Of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, 40 (AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements regarding the accessibility of hazardous materials and substances, such as cleaning products and other chemicals, in small FCC homes. Of those 40 states, all except one (VT) specify that hazardous materials must be kept out of children's reach.

### Fast Fact

Only one state specifies that firearms are not allowed in small FCC homes.

## P. Firearms

As shown in Table 4.56, of the 44 states that license small FCC homes, more than 80 percent have requirements regarding the presence of firearms in small FCC homes.

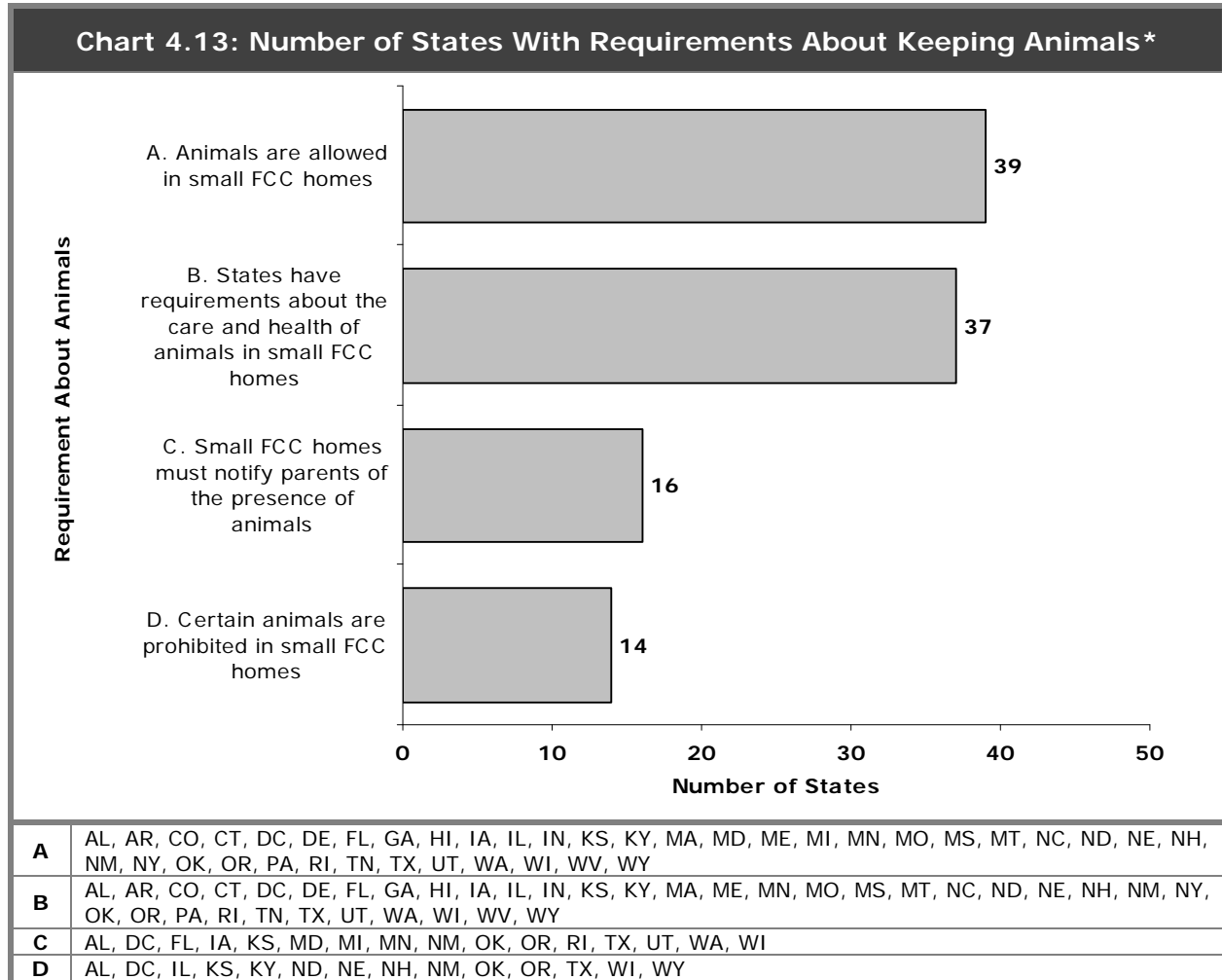
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the presence of firearms in small FCC homes</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY</b>
Allows firearms in homes, but requires them to be in locked containers or closets or other safe locations	34	AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WI, WV, WY
Allows firearms in homes, but requires ammunition to be separate	22	AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, IL, KY, MA, ME, MI, MN, MT, ND, NE, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, VT, WY
Requires providers to notify parents of the presence of firearms in homes	3	MA, MI, PA
Does not allow firearms in homes	1	DC

N=37 states, excluding AK, AZ, GA, IA, ID, KS, LA, NJ, NV, NY, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about the presence of firearms.

### Q. Animals in Facilities

Thirty-nine states (AL, AR, 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, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, WA, WI, WV, WY) have requirements about keeping animals in small FCC homes. As shown in Chart 4.13, those same 39 states allow animals to be kept in small FCC homes. All but two (MD, MI) have requirements about the care of animals.



N=39 states, excluding AK, AZ, CA, ID, KY, LA, NJ, NV, OH, SC, SD, VA

\*Some states have multiple requirements about keeping animals.

**Part 5:  
Large/Group Family Child Care Home  
Licensing Regulations in 2008**



## Part 5: Large/Group Family Child Care Home Licensing Regulations in 2008

All data in this chapter were compiled from the large/group family child care (FCC) home licensing regulations posted on the National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (NRC) Web site at <http://nrckids.org/STATES/states.htm>.

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;
- Licensed large/group FCC homes;
- Provider roles and age requirements;
- Provider qualifications and ongoing training requirements;
- Provider hiring requirements;
- Additional provider training requirements;
- Child-staff ratios;
- Supervision of children;
- Care of children; and
- Facility requirements.

### 5.1 Licensing Regulations

#### A. Regulations Summary

The large/group FCC home licensing regulations used for this study are those that were posted on the NRC Web site between January 1, 2008, and December 31, 2008. Any changes to regulations after that time period are not included in this report.

Table 5.1 shows the dates when large/group FCC home 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.

Table 5.1: Years of Large/Group FCC Home Regulation Revisions in States											
1985	1990	1994	1999	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
											CO
											CT
											FL
											IL
									AK		MS
									CA		NH
									MI		OH
							AZ	AL	MT		OR
			ND		GA		IA	NY	NM	OK	PA
			NE		HI		NV	SC	TX	RI	TN
MN	KS	DE		IN	MO	MA	SD	WY	VA	WV	UT
1	1	1	2	1	3	1	4	4	7	3	11

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

## B. Licensing Process

As described in “Part 1: Introduction,” this study uses the terms “**licensing**” and “**licensed**” to cover all of the different types of regulatory processes in states. The study defines licensing/licensed as permission from a state that is required to operate a child care facility, which includes meeting specific center or FCC standards. Some states may call their regulatory processes “certification” or “registration.” Table 5.2 shows the terms states use for their regulatory processes for large/group FCC homes. State-by-state data are available in *Table 70: Type of Licensing Process for Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Twelve states (AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI) do not have the large/group FCC home category in their licensed facilities. Additional information about the types of facilities licensed by states is in “Part 2: State Licensing Programs and Policies.”

Licensing Process	Number of States	State
Licensing	33	AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV
Certification	4	AZ, OR, PA, WY
Registration	2	IA, MT

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

## 5.2 Licensed Large/Group FCC Homes

### A. Number of Children Allowed in Large/Group FCC Homes

States often include numbers of children allowed in care in their definitions of large/group FCC homes. For example, many states define large/group FCC homes as the care of 7–12 children. Tables 5.3 and 5.4 show the minimum and maximum number of children allowed in large/group FCC homes. In addition, *Table 71: Number of Children Allowed in Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables shows requirements for each state.

Table 5.3 shows the minimum number of children for facilities to be licensed as large/group FCC homes. Seven states do not specify a minimum licensing threshold of children in their large/group FCC home definitions.

<b>Table 5.3: Minimum Number of Children in Facilities Licensed as Large/Group FCC Homes</b>		
<b>Number of Children</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
4 children	1	IL
5 children	1	AZ
6 children	2	IA, VA
7 children	18	AL, CO, CT, DE, GA, KS*, MA, MI, MT, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, SC, WV
8 children	3	ND, OK, TN
9 children	3	AK, RI, UT
11 children	1	MO
13 children	3	IN, MS, SD
Not specified	7	CA, FL, HI, MN, NE, TX, WY

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*KS has two types of licensed FCC homes. Licensed "day care homes" can care for up to 10 children with 1 adult. The data in this report reflect the requirements for licensed "group day care homes" that can care for 7 to 12 children with 2 adults.

Table 5.4 shows the maximum numbers of children allowed in large/group FCC homes.

<b>Table 5.4: Maximum Number of Children Allowed in Large/Group FCC Homes</b>		
<b>Number of Children</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
10 children	2	AZ, MA
12 children	20	AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, FL, HI, KS*, MI, MT, NE, NM, NY, OH, OK, RI, SC, TX, VA, WV
12 children plus additional school-age children (SAC)	7	DE, IA, IL, NV, PA, TN, NH
14 children	1	MN
15 children	1	WY

**Table 5.4: Maximum Number of Children Allowed in Large/Group FCC Homes, con.**

Number of Children	Number of States	State
16 children	3	IN, OR, UT
18 children	2	GA, ND
20 children	2	MO, SD
Not specified	1	MS

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*KS has two types of licensed FCC homes. Licensed “day care homes” are allowed to have a maximum of 10 children younger than 16 years of age. The data in this report reflect the requirements for licensed “group day care homes” that are allowed to have a maximum of 12 children younger than 16 years of age.

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 31 (AK, AL, CA, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) count providers’ children or other children living in homes in the maximum numbers allowed.

## B. Definition of Licensed Large/Group FCC Homes

Large/group FCC home licensing regulations define home-based facilities that are required to be licensed. An analysis was conducted to determine the common elements that are included in each state’s definition of a large/group FCC home. Table 5.5 includes a list of these common elements and the number of states with those elements in their definitions.

**Table 5.5: Elements Included in State Large/Group FCC Home Licensing Definitions\***

Definition Element	Number of States	State
Services are provided for less than 24 hours or any part of a 24-hour day	25	AK, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, IN, MA, MN, MS, MT, NE, NH, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, VA, WY
Services are provided on an ongoing/regular or scheduled basis	15	AK, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, MA, MN, MT, NE, NV, NY, OR, SD, UT
Services are provided for payment or compensation	14	AK, AL, AZ, DE, FL, GA, IN, MN, MO, NE, NY, OR, UT, WV
FCC provider is the holder of the license	11	CA, FL, IA, MA, MN, ND, NM, OH, OK, OR, VA

**Table 5.5: Elements Included in State Large/Group FCC Home Licensing Definitions, con.\***

Definition Element	Number of States	State
Services are provided in the residence of the provider/licensee	9	AL, AZ, CA, FL, NH, NM, OH, SC, TX
Number of hours services are provided (minimum/maximum)	6	AL, IN, NE, NY, UT, WV

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states included multiple elements in their definitions of large/group FCC homes.

## 5.3 Provider Roles and Age Requirements

### A. Provider Roles

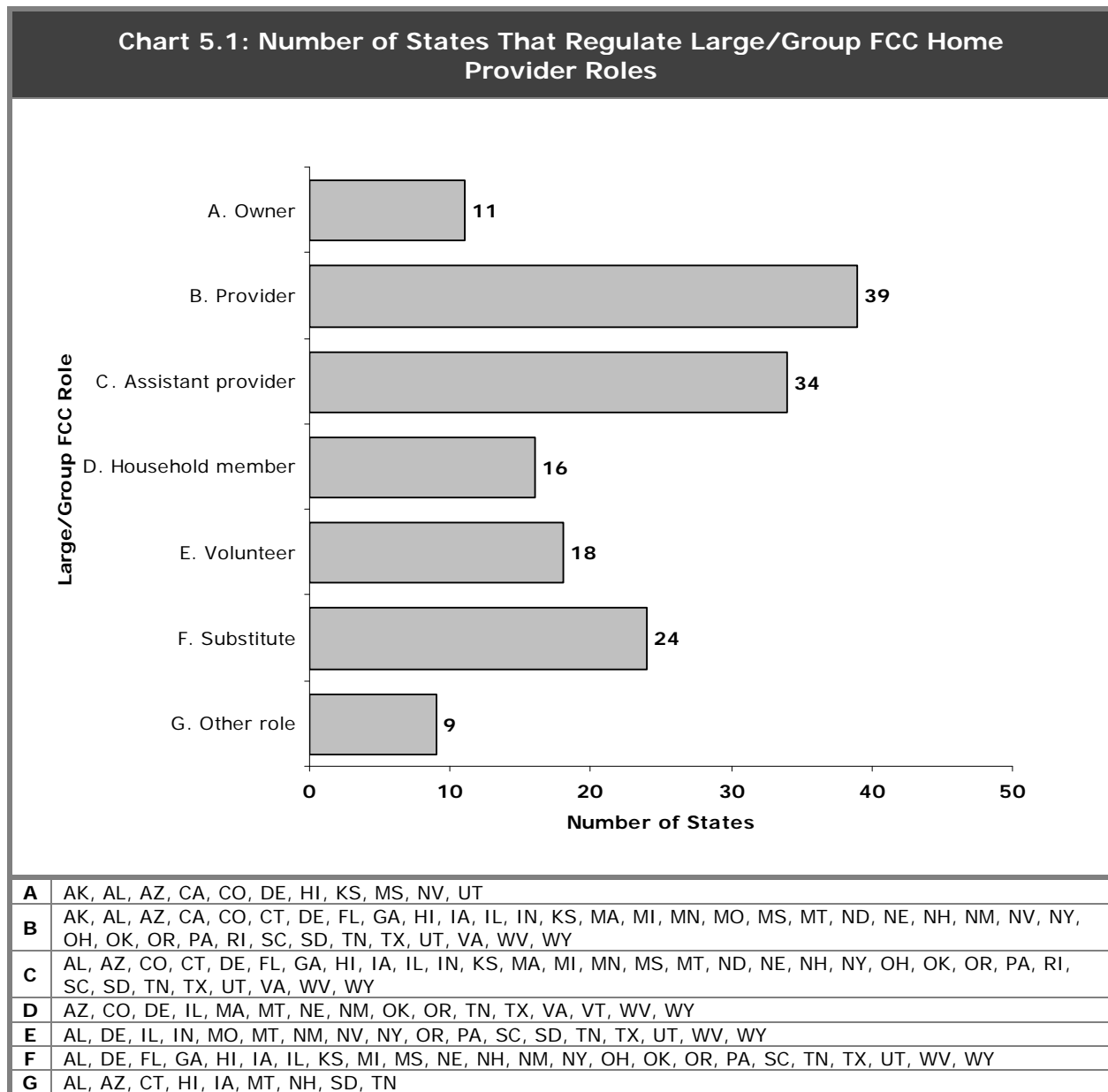
State large/group FCC home licensing regulations include requirements for a variety of adults who have direct contact with children in homes. For the purpose of this study, common generic names are used for each role. As shown in Chart 5.1, all states that license large/group FCC homes include requirements for **providers** in their regulations. For the purposes of this study, a provider is defined as the person who is responsible for the care of the children and the daily operation of the FCC home.

More than three-quarters of states have requirements for **assistant providers**. Approximately 40 percent of states have requirements for **members of the provider's household**. These requirements often include criminal background checks.

Many states also have requirements for those who work as **substitutes** and **volunteers** in large/group FCC homes. State-by-state data are available in *Table 72: Large/Group FCC Home Provider Roles Regulated by States in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

#### Fast Fact

All states that license large/group FCC homes include requirements for providers in their regulations.



N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

## B. Minimum Age Requirements

Table 5.6 summarizes states' minimum age requirements for providers and assistant providers, including the range of ages that states reported and the most common age required for each role. In addition, *Table 73: Minimum Age Requirements for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables shows the specific age requirements for providers and assistant providers for all states.

Large/Group FCC Provider Role	Number of States That Regulate Role	Range of Required Age	Most Common Age
Provider	39	16–21	18
Assistant provider	34	13–21	18

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

## 5.4 Provider Qualifications and Ongoing Training Requirements

This section provides a summary of the state preservice and ongoing training requirements for large/group FCC home providers. Table 5.7 shows the number of states that have requirements for providers and assistant providers in the “Role Regulated” column. It also includes the number of states that require a high school diploma or General Educational Development Test (GED), preservice qualifications, and/or ongoing training.

Large/Group FCC Provider Role	Number of States			
	Role Regulated	High School Diploma or GED	Preservice Qualifications	Ongoing Training
Provider	39	17	31	36
Assistant provider	34	9	13	29

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

### A. High School Diploma Requirements

Table 5.8 shows the states that require large/group FCC home providers and assistant providers to have high school diplomas or GEDs prior to working in these roles. State-by-state data about these requirements are available in *Table 74: High School Diploma Requirements for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

#### Terminology

**Preservice qualifications:** Training, education, and/or experience a state requires for providers prior to their assuming roles in large/group FCC homes.

Table 5.8: States With Requirements for High School Diploma and/or GED			
Large/Group FCC Provider Role	Role Regulated	High School Diploma or GED Required	State
Provider	39	17	AL, AZ, CT, IA, IL, MI, MO, MS, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, WY
Assistant provider	34	9	AL, AZ, CT, IA, MS, OH, SC, TX, WY

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

## B. Preservice Qualifications

More than three-quarters of the states that license large/group FCC homes have required preservice qualifications for providers as shown in Table 5.9. Thirteen states have preservice qualifications for assistant providers.

Table 5.9: States With Requirements for Preservice Qualifications			
Large/Group FCC Provider Role	Role Regulated	Preservice Qualifications Required	State
Provider	39	31	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, MA, MN, MO, MS, ND, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, WV, WY
Assistant provider	34	13	AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, MS, NY, PA, SC, WY

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

### Fast Fact

Clock hours of training in early care and education is the most common minimum qualification for large/group FCC home providers.

Minimum Provider Preservice Qualifications

Table 5.10 compiles the types of training, education, and experience that represent the least amount people must have to qualify for provider and assistant provider roles.

For the 31 states (AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, MA, MN, MO, MS, ND, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, WV, WY) that have minimum qualifications for **providers**, the most common type is early care and education training clock hours (AL, AZ, CA, CO, MA, NM, NV, TN, TX, WV, WY).

For the 13 states (AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, MS, NY, PA, SC, WY) that have minimum qualifications for **assistant providers**, the most common type is experience only (GA, IA, NY, SC, WY).

*Table 75: Minimum Preservice Qualifications for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008 in the 50-state Data Tables shows the types of minimum qualifications required in each state for providers and assistant providers.*

Table 5.10: Types of Minimum Preservice Qualifications Required		
Qualification Type	Number of States	
	Provider	Assistant Provider
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>13</b>
Experience only	7	5
At least 8th grade education	0	1
High school diploma or GED	0	2
Experience (with high school diploma or GED)	3	0
Child care vocational training program	2	0
Early care and education training clock hours	11	4
Child Development Associate (CDA) credential*	6	1
State early childhood credential	1	0
Other minimum qualifications**	1	0

N=39, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*States vary on whether the CDA credential is awarded for college credit. However, state licensing regulations do not specify that large/group FCC home providers are required to complete CDA credentials for college credit.

\*\*"Other minimum qualifications" include observation sessions in licensed facilities.

Types of Training in Qualification Alternatives

Most states with minimum preservice requirements define multiple alternative routes for qualifying for particular roles. For example, a state may require providers to have 6 clock hours of training in early care and education, but can also accept someone who has completed a three-credit, college-level course; completed a CDA credential; or obtained an associate's degree. In short, there are alternative ways an individual can qualify for one role. Information about the number of alternative routes defined by each state is available in *Table 76: Number of Alternative Routes for Preservice Qualifications for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

The types of training, credentials, and degrees that states include in the various qualification alternatives are compiled in Table 5.11. For example, this table shows that in some states, an individual can qualify to be a large/group FCC home provider with a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. This is not the minimum requirement, but one way of qualifying for that role. The highest number of states includes early care and education college credit hours for providers as qualification alternatives. For assistant providers, most states include early care and education training clock hours as qualification alternatives.

Qualification Type	Number of States	
	Provider	Assistant Provider
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>13</b>
Early care and education training clock hours	17	6
CDA credential	17	3
State credential (total):	5	0
• Director credential	2	0
• Early childhood credential	3	0
Early care and education college credit hours	20	2
Associate's degree (general)	1	1
Associate's degree in field related to early childhood (e.g., education)	1	0

<b>Table 5.11: States That Include Various Types of Training, Credentials, and Degrees in Qualification Alternatives, con.*</b>		
<b>Qualification Type</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	
	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Assistant Provider</b>
Associate's in early childhood education	9	2
Bachelor's degree (general)	4	1
Bachelor's degree related to early childhood (e.g., education)	5	0
Bachelor's degree in early childhood education	8	1
Bachelor's degree in early childhood or higher	0	0
Master's degree (general)	0	0
Master's degree related to early childhood (e.g., education)	1	0
Master's degree in early childhood education	1	0
Doctorate degree	0	0
State teacher certification/licensure	3	0

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Most states have multiple alternative routes for preservice qualifications and have many types of training, credentials, and/or degrees in their qualification alternatives.

### C. Experience Requirements

Twenty-five states (CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, MA, MN, MO, MS, ND, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, WV, WY) include requirements for experience within their preservice qualifications for providers, and eight states (CT, GA, HI, IA, MS, NY, PA, WY) have these requirements for assistant providers—either as the qualification itself or in combination with training and/or education. Table 5.12 illustrates state experience requirements. State-by-state data are available in *Table 77: Experience Requirements for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 5.12: States With Requirements for Experience in Preservice Qualifications*</b>		
<b>Experience Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	
	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Assistant Provider</b>
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Preservice qualifications required</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>State has requirements for experience</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>
Experience must be in a specific setting	21	4
Experience must be from working with children	12	4
Experience must be with a specific age group of children	6	1
Experience must be supervised	2	0
Experience as a parent can count to qualify for role	1	1

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements for experience in preservice qualifications.

### D. Ongoing Training

Table 5.13 shows the number of states that require ongoing training hours after hire for large/group FCC providers and assistant providers. State-by-state data about the requirements for ongoing training are available in *Table 78: Number of Ongoing Training Hours Required for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Large/Group FCC Provider Role	Role Regulated	Ongoing Training Required	State
Provider	<b>39</b>	36	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, 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
Assistant provider	<b>34</b>	29	AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

Tables 5.14 and 5.15 summarize information about the number of required ongoing training hours for large/group FCC home providers and assistant providers.

Qualification Type	Number of States	
	Provider	Assistant Provider
<b>Role regulated</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Ongoing training required</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>29</b>
Unspecified number of hours	1	1
1–12 hours	18	20
13–19 hours	13	7
20 or more hours	4	1

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

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

Large/Group FCC Provider Role	Number of States That Require Ongoing Hours	Most Common Number of Required Hours	Median Number of Required Hours*	Lowest Number of Required Hours	Highest Number of Required Hours
Provider	<b>36</b>	15	12	5	20
Assistant provider	<b>29</b>	12, 15 (7 states each)	12	2	20

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*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 5.16 summarizes additional regulations for ongoing training requirements for large/group FCC home providers and assistant providers. Many states have requirements regarding the content and approved delivery methods for ongoing training. Delivery methods include adult education courses, institutions of higher education, vocational programs, audio-visual materials, reading materials, conference workshops, distance learning, and/or inservice training provided by the operator. State-by-state data are available in *Table 79: State Requirements About the Content of Ongoing Training Hours for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Large/Group FCC Provider Role	Number of States		
	Number of States That Require Ongoing Hours	Specify Content	Specify Approved Delivery Methods
Provider	<b>36</b>	31	16
Assistant provider	<b>29</b>	24	13

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

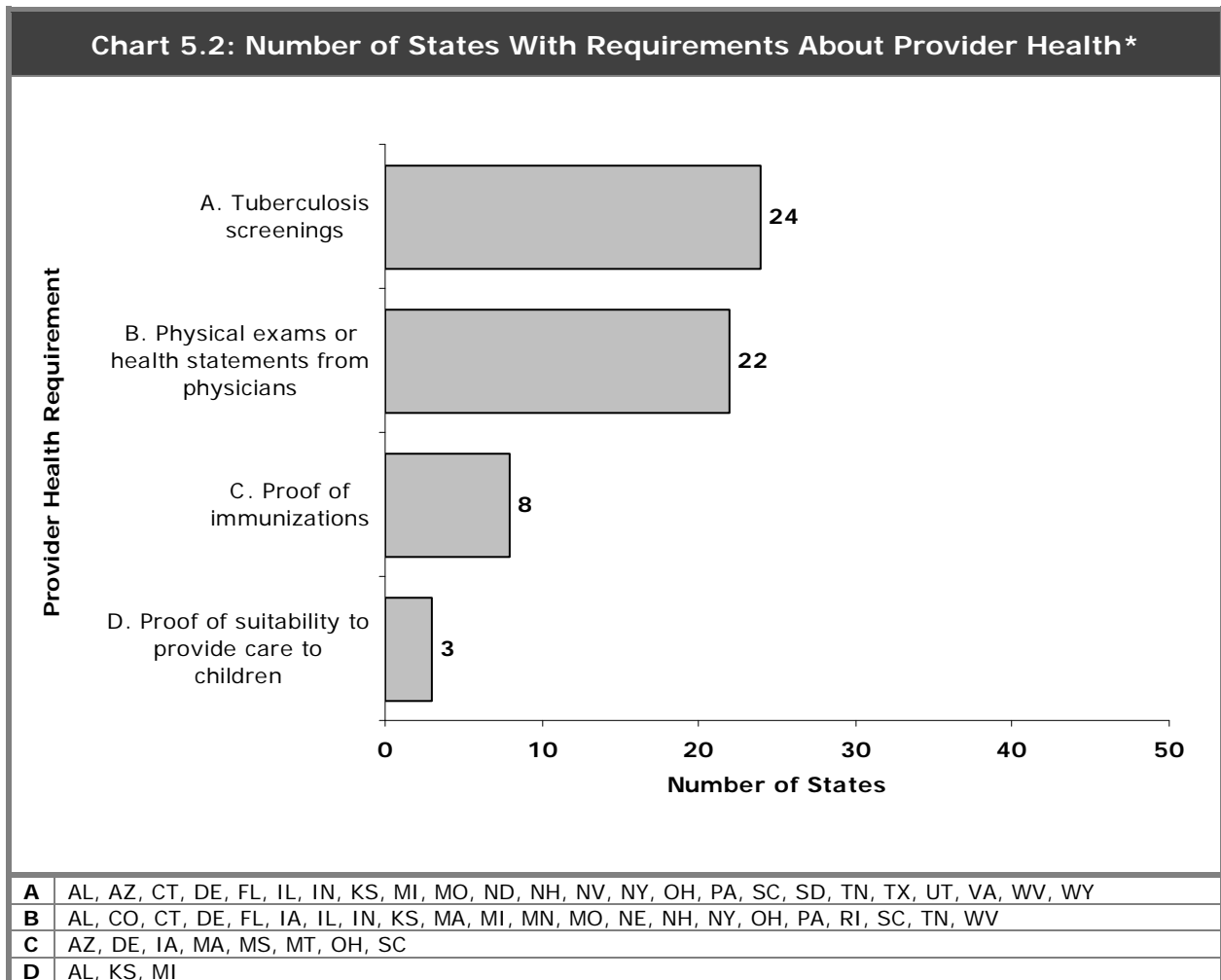
## 5.5 Provider Hiring Requirements

### A. Provider Health Requirements

As shown in Chart 5.2, 32 states (AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NV, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) have large/group FCC home licensing regulations that include requirements about the health of providers, such as requiring a physical exam, a tuberculosis screening, immunizations, or proof of physical or mental suitability to care for children. In addition, 26 states (AL, CO, CT, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NV, NY, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WV, WY) require large/group FCC homes to include provider health reports in facility records.

Of the 23 states that require providers to have physical exams or provide health statements, all but one (CO) specify that proof must be submitted at the time of initial licensure or hire.

Sixteen states (AL, CO, CT, IA, IL, MA, MI, NE, NH, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, WV) require physical exams either annually or at some other time interval.



N=32 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, DC, GA, HI, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, NM, OK, OR, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about provider health.

## B. Background Checks

The data about background checks were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

### Types of Required Background Checks

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all require large/group FCC home providers 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. Thirty-two states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) require large/group FCC home providers to sign statements about criminal status.

#### Fast Fact

Most states require large/group FCC home providers to undergo at least one type of background check **prior to caring for children**.

Table 5.17 provides additional details about criminal background check requirements for large/group FCC home providers. The requirements for each state are available in *Table 80: Criminal Background Check Requirements for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Background Check Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>State requires check of criminal history records</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV</b>
• State criminal history record check required	36	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV
• Federal criminal history record check required	23	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MS, NH, NM, NV, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, WV
• Required for all staff in the large/group FCC home	27	AK, AL, AZ, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MO, MS, MT, ND, NV, NY, OH, OK, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV
• Required for staff having contact with children	9	CA, HI, MN, ND, NH, NM, NV, PA, VA
• Required for volunteers	23	AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IN, KS, MA, MO, MS, MT, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, TN, UT
• Required for household members	30	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV

<b>Table 5.17: States With Requirements About Criminal Background Checks, con. *</b>		
<b>Background Check Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for large/group FCC home providers under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in a state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	4	CO, IL, NV, OH
<b>State requires check of child abuse and neglect registries</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all staff in the large/group FCC home</li> </ul>	24	AK, AL, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NV, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	7	CA, HI, NH, NV, PA, SC, VA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	23	AL, CA, CO, CT, DE, HI, IL, IN, KS, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for household members</li> </ul>	27	AK, AL, CA, CO, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NV, NY, OK, OR, RI, SD, TX, VA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for large/group FCC home providers under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in a state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	1	NV
<b>State requires check of fingerprint records</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State fingerprint record check required</li> </ul>	19	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, MS, NM, NV, NY, OR, SC, SD, TN, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal fingerprint record check required</li> </ul>	22	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MS, NH, NM, NV, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all staff in the large/group FCC home</li> </ul>	16	AK, AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, MS, NV, NY, OH, SC, SD, TN, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	7	CA, HI, NH, NM, NV, PA, RI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	16	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, MS, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, SD, TN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for household members</li> </ul>	15	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, IL, MS, NH, NM, NV, RI, TN, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for large/group FCC home providers under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in a state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	10	CO, IL, MN, MT, ND, NV, OH, TX, UT, WY

Table 5.17: States With Requirements About Criminal Background Checks, con.*		
Background Check Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>State requires check of sex offender registries</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>AK, CA, DE, IA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC, WV, WY</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for all staff in the large/group FCC home</li> </ul>	12	AK, CA, DE, IA, IL, IN, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for staff having contact with children</li> </ul>	2	IL, OK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for volunteers</li> </ul>	9	DE, IA, IL, IN, MO, MS, ND, OK, SC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for household members</li> </ul>	11	AK, DE, IA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MS, ND, OK, WV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Required for large/group FCC home providers under certain conditions (e.g., for those who have lived in a state a certain period of time)</li> </ul>	1	WY

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states may have multiple requirements about background checks.

### Frequency of Background Checks

Table 5.18 shows how often large/group FCC providers must undergo criminal background checks. Most of the states that license large/group FCC homes require providers to have background checks prior to becoming providers. Some states require additional checks on a regular basis. State-by-state data are available in *Table 81: Frequency of Criminal Background Checks for Large/Group FCC Home Providers in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Table 5.18: Frequency of Criminal Background Checks*		
Frequency	Number of States	State
Prior to becoming a large/group FCC home provider	34	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WY
Annually	5	HI, IN, MT, OK, UT
Every 2 years	6	IA, MI, MN, MO, RI, TX
Every 3 years	4	KS, MA, NH, VA
Every 4 years	1	OH
Every 5 years	3	FL, MS, WV

**Table 5.18: Frequency of Criminal Background Checks, con.\***

Frequency	Number of States	State
Less than every 5 years	1	NV
Other frequency	5	CA, CO, NE, NV, OR

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the frequency of background checks.

### Portability of Background Checks

Table 5.19 shows state policies about whether background checks can be transferred or new checks are conducted when FCC providers change jobs, move to other facilities, or have breaks in employment. In most states, checks are not portable, and new background checks are conducted.

**Table 5.19: State Policies About the Portability of Criminal Background Checks\***

Policy	Number of States	State
<b>State has policies about the portability of background checks</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>AL, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, 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</b>
New background check is conducted	21	CT, DE, GA, IA, IN, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, NE, NH, OH, PA, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY
Current background check is portable and moves with the individual	12	AL, AZ, CA, HI, IL, MS, ND, NV, NY, OR, SC, SD
Other policy	7	FL, MO, NM, OK, PA, SC, VA

N=36 states, excluding AK, AR, CO, DC, ID, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the portability of background checks.

### Notification of Changes in Background Checks

Eighteen states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, IL, MD, MI, MN, MS, NJ, NM, NY, OR, TX, UT, WV) indicated that their background check systems will notify the licensing agencies if someone's criminal record has changed.

### Funding for Background Checks

As shown in Table 5.20, half of the states that license large/group FCC homes reported that people pay for their own background checks. In some of the states that indicated another source of payment, the child care facility pays for staff members' background checks.

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Individual pays for background checks	19	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, MI, MO, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, PA, SC, TX, VA
State pays for background checks	12	AK, DE, IA, IL, MA, ND, NY, RI, SD, TN, WV, WY
Other source of payment	7	IN, KS, MS, MT, OK, OR, UT
No response	1	MN

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the portability of background checks.

### C. References

A total of 18 states (AK, AL, AZ, DE, GA, IL, MA, MO, MT, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, WV, WY) require references from providers at initial licensure or when hired, as shown in Table 5.21. In addition, regulations specify that references must be obtained in written and/or verbal form for large/group FCC home providers in nine states (AK, AL, DE, GA, IL, OH, PA, SD, WV).

<b>Reference Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>
<b>References are required</b>	<b>18</b>
References must be from certain people (total)*:	15
• Nonrelatives	11
• Professional acquaintances	0
• Previous employers	2
• Not specified	3

N=18 states, excluding AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, HI, IA, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OR, RI, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states require references to be from more than one type of person.

## 5.6 Additional Provider Training Requirements

### A. Orientation Training

As shown in Table 5.22, more than 60 percent of the states that license large/group FCC homes require providers to complete some type of orientation training. States' requirements often specify that the training must be about large/group FCC home policies and procedures and/or state licensing regulations. In addition, nine states (IL, NV, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, WV, WY) require large/group FCC home providers to offer orientation training to new employees and volunteers.

<b>Orientation Training Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Large/group FCC home providers required to complete orientation training</b>	<b>25</b>	AK, AZ, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MA, MI, MS, MT, NE, NV, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, WV, WY
Required training is about state licensing regulations	15	AK, AZ, CA, DE, GA, IL, MS, NE, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, WV, WY
Required training is about large/group FCC home's policies and procedures	11	AK, CT, DE, GA, NV, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT

N=25 states, excluding AL, AR, CO, DC, IA, ID, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MO, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of orientation training.

### B. Health and Safety Training

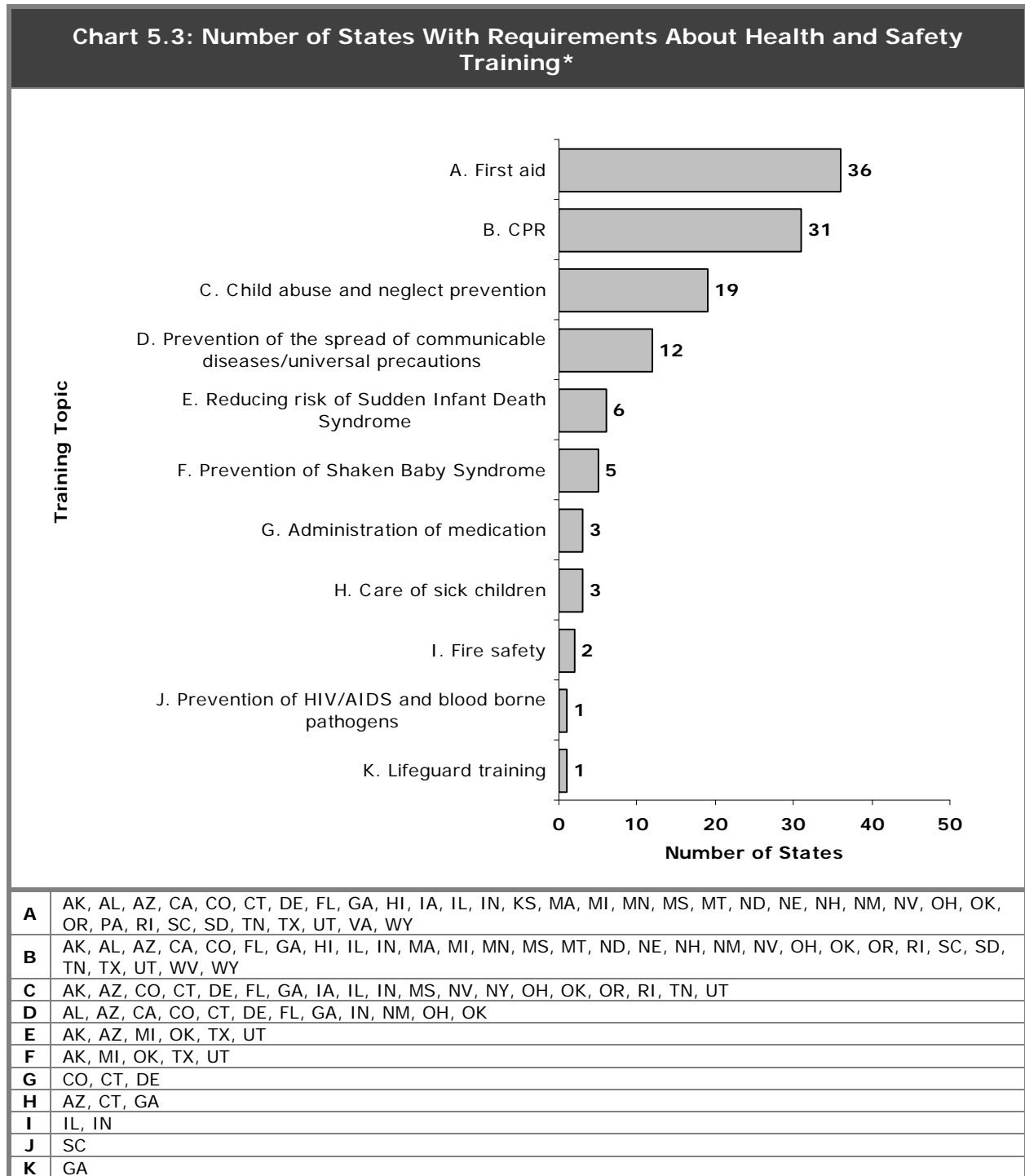
Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all except one (MO) require providers to complete health and safety training, with most requiring CPR and first aid training.

Of the 31 states that require CPR training, 24 (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, MI, MN, MT, NH, NV, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WY) specify that it must focus on the care of infants and/or children. Twenty-eight states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, HI, IL, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NV, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, WV, WY) specify that large/group FCC home providers must have current CPR certifications.

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all but 3 states (MO, NY, WV) require first aid training. However, only 11 states (AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, IA, MN, SC, TN, UT, VA) specify that it must focus on the care of infants and/or children. In addition, state regulations specify that large/group FCC home providers must have current certifications in first aid in 28 states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, UT, VA, WY).

In nine states (DE, GA, MA, MI, OK, RI, SD, WV, WY), assistant providers in large/group FCC homes are required to complete first aid and/or CPR training.

Chart 5.3 shows the states that require first aid and CPR training and information about required training regarding other health and safety topics, including prevention of the spread of communicable diseases, administration of medication, water safety, handwashing, and others.



N=38 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states require multiple types of health and safety training.

## 5.7 Child-staff Ratios

For child care centers, all states have requirements about child-staff ratios, which is the number of children one staff member is allowed to supervise. Child-staff ratio requirements are based on the ages of children in care. For large/group FCC homes, states have child-staff ratio requirements, however not all states base these requirements on ages of children because home providers typically care for mixed-age groups.

There is great variability in these requirements across states, which makes it difficult to summarize these requirements. Some states have child-staff ratios for entire groups of children (e.g., 6:1 or 8:1), while other states have ratios based on the ages of children in the group. For example, a state may require a child-staff ratio of 4:1 for children younger than 3 years and a ratio of 10:1 for children age 3 years and older. Each state's requirements are in *Table 82: Large/Group FCC Home Child-staff Ratio Requirements in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

## 5.8 Supervision of Children

### A. General Supervision Requirements

As shown in Table 5.23 all states that license large/group FCC homes have requirements in their regulations for providers supervising children. Among those states, most have requirements about the use of substitutes if providers are absent from homes for periods of time. In addition, some specify that providers must be able to see and/or hear children at all times or must be alert/awake while children are in care. A few states require providers to be on the same floors as children or be free of other duties.

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about supervising children</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>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</b>
Requirements about the use of substitutes during providers' absence	26	AL, CA, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, NE, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Providers must be able to see children at all times	11	AK, AZ, HI, MA, MN, NY, OH, OR, PA, TX, WY
Providers must be able to hear children at all times	10	AK, AZ, HI, MA, MN, OH, OR, PA, TX, WY
Providers must be alert/awake	4	AK, IL, MI, RI

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Providers must be on the same floors as children	3	AK, MA, OR
Providers must be free of other duties	1	AL

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements regarding supervision, some of which are not included in this table.

In addition to the requirements summarized in Table 5.23, states have the following requirements related to the supervision of children:

- Nineteen states (AK, AZ, CO, CT, DE, MA, MO, MT, ND, NH, NV, NY, OH, OK, SC, TX, VA, WV, WY) do not allow large/group FCC providers to leave children unattended in infant seats, playpens, or cribs while they are awake;
- Seven states (AK, MA, MN, NH, NY, WV, WY) have requirements specifically for the supervision of school-age children;
- Four states (AK, CO, GA, NV) have requirements related to the supervision of children during emergencies; and
- One state (NY) has requirements related to the use of video surveillance cameras for parents to view their children while at FCC homes.

## **B. Supervision During Specific Times/Activities**

All but one (CA) of the states that license large/group FCC homes have requirements about 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 5.24 presents an overview of the number of states that have requirements about the supervision of children during these various time periods and activities.

*Table 83: Supervision Requirements for Times/Activities in Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state information about the data presented in Table 5.24. The next sections provide further details about states' supervision requirements.

<b>Table 5.24: States With Supervision Requirements for Specific Times/Activities*</b>		
<b>Time/Activity</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has supervision requirements for specific time/activity</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, 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</b>
Transportation in vehicles	35	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Swimming/water activities	31	AL, AZ, CT, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Field trips	28	AK, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, NH, NM, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Evening/overnight care	23	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, GA, HI, IL, MA, MI, MO, MT, NE, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TX, WV, WY
Outdoor play	18	AK, AL, AZ, CT, FL, IL, KS, MA, MN, MO, MT, NY, OH, OK, SC, TX, UT, WV
Naptime	13	AK, CO, FL, GA, MA, NV, NY, OH, RI, SC, TX, UT, WY

N=38 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have supervision requirements for multiple times/activities.

Naptime

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 13 have requirements in their regulations for the supervision of children during naptimes. Table 5.25 provides an overview of the states that have specific types of requirements about the supervision of napping children.

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during naptime</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>AK, CO, FL, GA, MA, NV, NY, OH, RI, SC, TX, UT, WY</b>
Providers must be able to see napping children	5	AK, NV, OH, TX, WY
Baby monitors may be used under certain conditions	4	AK, CO, MA, NY
Providers must be on the same floors where children are napping	3	AK, NY, RI
Room doors must be ajar or open	3	FL, MA, NY
Providers must be able to hear napping children	2	AK, NV
Providers must observe napping children in certain time intervals	2	MA, NV

N=13 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during naptime.

Evening/Overnight Care

Twenty-three states have requirements in their large/group FCC home regulations for the supervision of children during evening/overnight care. Table 5.26 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements about the supervision of children during evening hours. See “5.9 Care of Children” for additional requirements about evening/overnight care.

<b>Table 5.26: States With Requirements About Supervision During Evening/Overnight Care*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during evening/overnight care</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, GA, HI, IL, MA, MI, MO, MT, NE, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TX, WV, WY</b>
Requirements about whether the provider must be awake when children are in overnight care (total):	16	AZ, CO, CT, IL, MA, MI, NE, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TX, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providers must be awake until the children are asleep</li> </ul>	5	AZ, MA, NE, OH, TX
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providers must be awake at all times</li> </ul>	2	CT, SD
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other requirements regarding providers being awake</li> </ul>	9	CO, IL, MI, NY, OK, OR, PA, WV, WY
Providers must be able to hear sleeping children	7	AZ, HI, IL, MO, MT, NE, WY
Providers must be able to see sleeping children	1	OH

N=23 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, DE, FL, IA, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MS, NC, ND, NH, NJ, NM, NV, RI, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during evening/overnight care.

Outdoor Play

Eighteen states have requirements in their large/group FCC home regulations for the supervision of children during outdoor play. Table 5.27 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements about the supervision of children playing outdoors.

<b>Table 5.27: States With Requirements About Supervision During Outdoor Play*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during outdoor play</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, CT, FL, IL, KS, MA, MN, MO, MT, NY, OH, OK, SC, TX, UT, WV</b>
Providers must be present with children	4	IL, MA, OH, SC
Providers must be able to see children playing outdoors	2	AZ, OH
Requirements specifically for the supervision of school-age children playing outdoors	2	MA, MO

N=18 states, excluding AR, CA, CO, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IN, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NV, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during outdoor play.

Swimming/Water Activities

As shown in Table 5.28, 31 states have requirements about the supervision of children during swimming or water activities. More than half of those states require large/group FCC homes to obtain written permission from parents to take children swimming.

<b>Table 5.28: States With Requirements About Supervision During Swimming/Water Activities*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children when swimming or participating in water activities</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>AL, AZ, CT, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Specific child-staff ratio requirements about swimming and water activities	18	AL, CT, DE, GA, KS, MI, MS, MT, NE, NH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WY

<b>Table 5.28: States With Requirements About Supervision During Swimming/Water Activities, con.*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Written permission from parents required for swimming and water activities	17	AL, AZ, GA, IA, IL, MI, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, WV, WY
Providers must be present with children when swimming or participating in water activities	14	IA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MO, MT, NE, NH, OK, OR, UT, VA, WY

N=31 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, CO, DC, FL, HI, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, NC, NJ, NV, SD, VT, WA, WI  
 \*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during swimming and water activities.

Transporting Children in Vehicles

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all but four (CA, HI, IA, SD) have requirements about the supervision of children traveling in vehicles. As shown in Table 5.29, most states require large/group FCC homes to obtain written permission from parents and/or specify that children must not be left unattended in vehicles. See “5.10 Facility Requirements” for additional transportation requirements.

<b>Table 5.29: States With Requirements About Supervision of Children Traveling in Vehicles*</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children when transported in vehicles</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Children must not be left unattended in vehicles	27	AL, AZ, CO, DE, GA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY
Written permission from parents required for transporting children	24	AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, VA, WY
Providers must supervise children when they board and exit vehicles	15	AZ, CO, GA, IL, MO, MS, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX
Specific child-staff ratio requirements when transporting children in vehicles	15	CO, GA, IL, KS, MO, MS, ND, NE, NV, OH, PA, SC, TN, TX, WY
Emergency contact information for children must be taken on vehicles	13	AZ, DE, GA, MI, MO, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, VA, WV, WY

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Providers or drivers must ensure that children are received by parents or other designated people	11	AK, AL, CO, GA, IL, MO, MS, MT, NV, OR, TN
Attendance records of children being transported must be kept	7	AL, FL, GA, MO, OK, TN, TX
Additional checks for children remaining on board must be conducted once vehicles are unloaded	3	FL, MO, TN

N=35 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, HI, IA, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision of children traveling in vehicles.

### Field Trips

Twenty-eight states have requirements in their large/group FCC home regulations for the supervision of children during field trips. Table 5.30 provides an overview of the number of states that have specific types of requirements about the supervision of children during field trips. Most states require large/group FCC homes to obtain written permission from parents.

<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the supervision of children during field trips</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>AK, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, NH, NM, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Written permission from parents required for field trips	27	AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, NH, NM, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Emergency contact information for children must be taken on field trips	10	AZ, FL, GA, MI, NH, OH, PA, SC, TX, UT
Specific child-staff ratio requirements for field trips	9	DE, FL, HI, NH, OH, PA, TN, TX, UT

<b>Table 5.30: States With Requirements About Supervision During Field Trips, con. *</b>		
<b>Supervision Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Attendance records of children on field trips must be kept	6	AZ, DE, MO, NH, OH, TX
Children are required to wear name tags or other identification	5	AZ, DE, GA, OH, TX

N=28 states, excluding AL, AR, CA, CO, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MT, NC, ND, NE, NJ, NV, NY, OK, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about supervision during field trips.

## 5.9 Care of Children

### A. Health Requirements

#### Physical Exams and/or Health Statements

More than half the states require that children have physical exams or provide health statements prior to enrolling in large/group FCC homes, as shown in Table 5.31. Also, almost half of states require large/group FCC homes to keep records of children’s physicals.

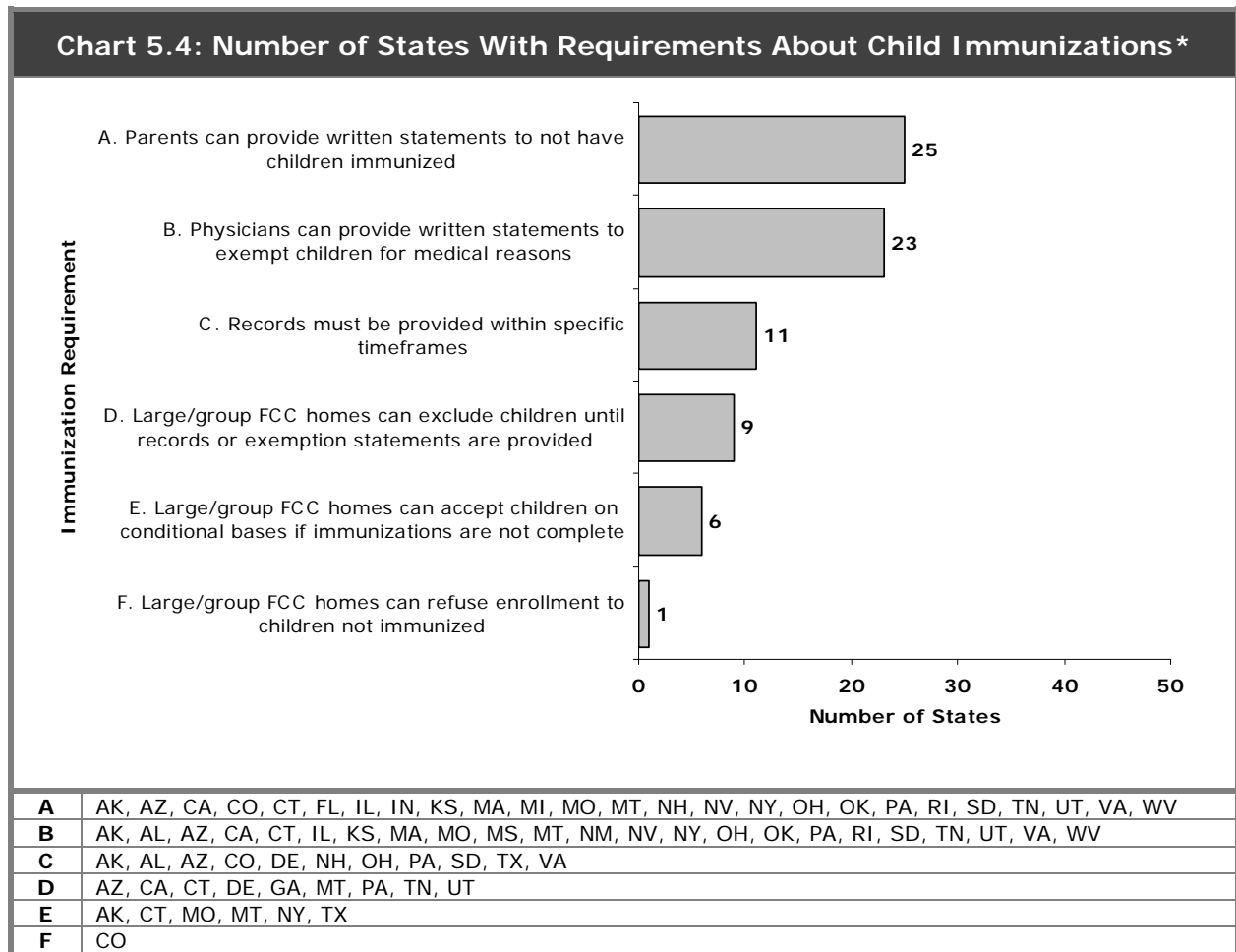
<b>Table 5.31: States With Requirements About Physical Exams and/or Health Statements for Children*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Children required to have physical exams or provide health statements to enroll in large/group FCC homes</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, ND, NH, NV, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, WV</b>
Large/group FCC homes required to keep records of children’s physical exams or health statements	16	CO, CT, DE, FL, IA, IL, MA, MI, ND, NH, NV, OH, RI, SC, UT, WV
Health records must be provided to large/group FCC homes within specific time periods	14	CO, DE, FL, IA, IL, IN, MA, NH, NV, OH, PA, TX, VA, WV

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about physical exams and/or health statements for children.

Immunizations

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all require children to be immunized. As shown in Chart 5.4, most states allow exemptions from immunization requirements if written statements are provided to large/group FCC homes from either parents stating they do not wish their children to be immunized or from physicians stating that children are exempt from immunizations for medical reasons.



N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about immunizations.

Additional Health Requirements

Five states (DE, IL, MA, NY, RI) require children to have lead-level blood screenings prior to enrolling in large/group FCC homes. Also, 28 states (AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MN, MO, MT, NH, NM, NV, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, VA, WV, WY) require large/group FCC homes to keep emergency contact information in children's records.

## B. Nutrition

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all but one (CA) have requirements about nutrition for children. As shown in Table 5.32, most states also have requirements about the nutritional content of meals and snacks, feeding infants, and specify a number of or time interval between meals/snacks served to children. Some states require large/group FCC homes to post menus. More than two-thirds of the states allow parents to provide food for meals or snacks, and only a few states require that large/group FCC homes provide all food served to children.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about nutrition and meals/snacks for children</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, 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</b>
Requirements about the nutritional content of meals/snacks served to children	36	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Requirements about feeding infants	33	AK, AL, AZ, CO, DE, GA, IL, 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
Requirements include a number of or time interval between meals/snacks served to children	32	AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, HI, IA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Parents/guardians allowed to provide food for their own children	27	AK, AZ, CT, DE, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Large/group FCC homes required to provide supplemental food (to what parents provide) to meet nutritional content requirements	13	AZ, GA, HI, IL, MA, ND, NH, NY, OH, OR, SC, VA, WV
Large/group FCC homes required to post menus of meals/snacks served to children	13	AZ, CT, GA, NM, NV, OH, OK, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, WV
Large/group FCC homes required to provide all meals/snacks for children	5	AL, MO, MS, OK, TN
Parents/guardians allowed to bring food for all children for special occasions	1	MS

N=38 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about nutrition.

### C. Behavior Guidance and Discipline

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all have requirements in their large/group FCC home licensing regulations related to behavior guidance and/or discipline. Sixteen states (AK, CT, DE, FL, IN, KS, MI, MT, ND, NM, NY, OH, OR, RI, WV, WY) require large/group FCC homes to have written policies about behavior guidance and/or discipline. As seen in Table 5.33, most states' regulations specify types of behavior guidance and/or discipline that large/group FCC homes are allowed to use. Approximately half of these states allow children to be separated from groups if they are supervised. By having no requirements about behavior guidance and/or discipline in regulations for large/group FCC homes, SC does not prohibit corporal punishment.

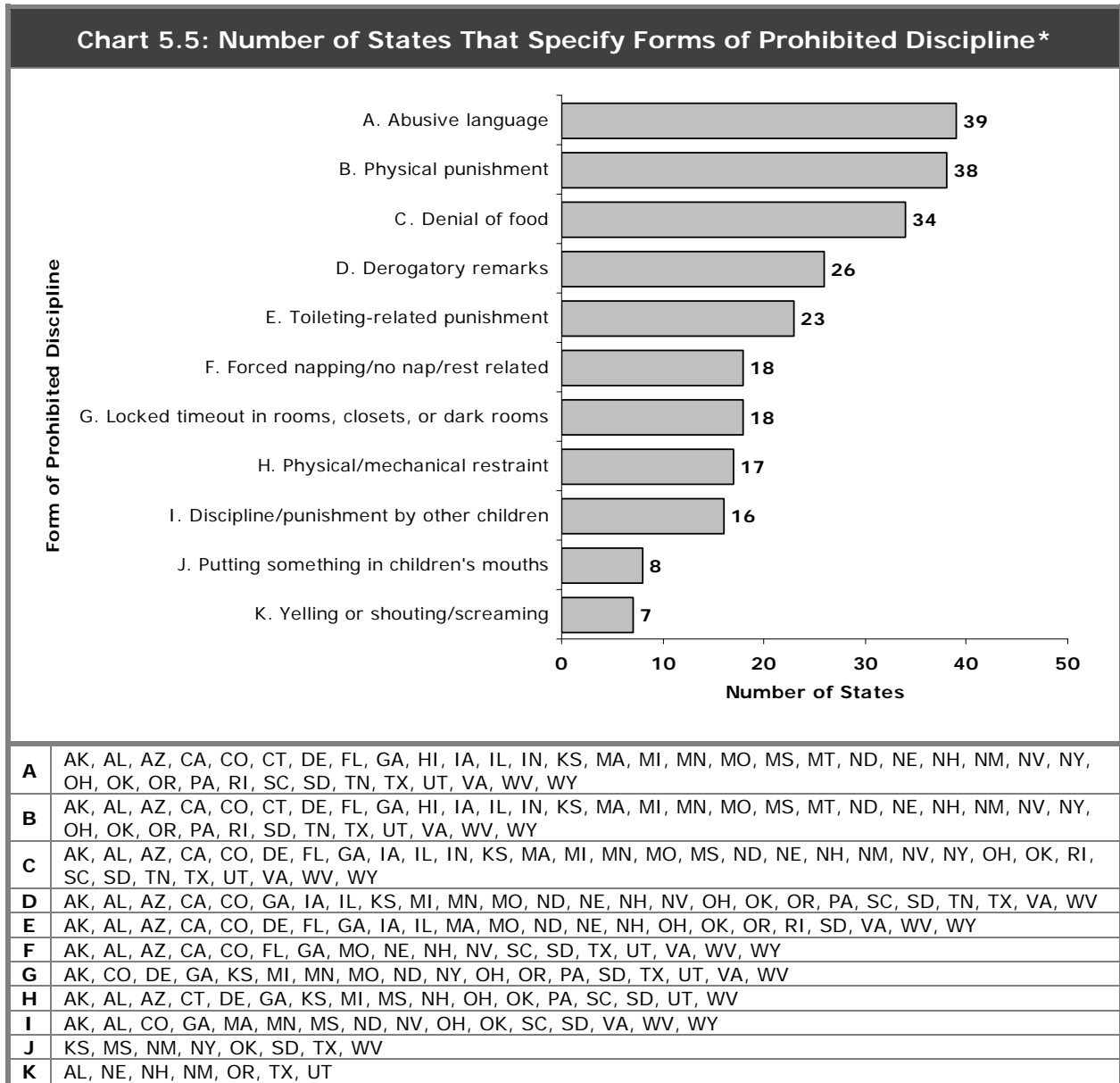
<b>Form of Discipline</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about behavior guidance and/or discipline</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Regulations specify types of discipline that are allowed for use with children	30	AK, AZ, CO, CT, DE, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervised separation from groups</li> </ul>	22	AK, AZ, CO, DE, IL, MA, MN, MO, MS, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, RI, SC, TX, VA, WV, WY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Corporal punishment</li> </ul>	1	SC**

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the types of allowed discipline.

\*\*Corporal punishment can be used in SC only if authorized in writing by parents/guardians.

In their regulations, all states that license large/group FCC homes specify forms of behavior guidance and/or discipline that are **not** allowed. Chart 5.5 shows the different types of discipline prohibited in states.



N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states specify multiple forms of prohibited discipline.

## D. Activities and Equipment/Materials

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all but four states (CA, NE, SD, WY) have requirements in their regulations that address the daily activities homes must provide for children. These requirements help facilities establish learning environments 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 84: Requirements About Activities and Equipment and Materials in Large/Group FCC Homes for Children in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state data about these requirements for large/group FCC homes.

### Schedule of Activities

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 13 (AL, CT, FL, GA, MO, MT, ND, NM, OH, OR, PA, RI, TN) require homes to have written daily schedules of activities. Of those, eight states (AL, CT, FL, GA, NM, OH, PA, TN) require large FCC homes to post daily schedules in facilities.

#### Fast Facts

- Nearly all states specify types of activities that large/group FCC homes must include for children in the daily schedules.
- More than half of states that license large/group FCC homes specify that the developmental needs of children must be addressed in the activities provided.

### Types of Required Activities

Table 5.34 summarizes the types of activities large/group FCC homes are required to have in daily schedules for children.

Type of Activity	Number of States	State
State has requirements about activities for children	35	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV
Outdoor play	31	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV
Nap or rest period	28	AK, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, NY, OK, OR, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, WV
Active play	23	AK, CT, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NV, NY, OH, OR, RI, TX, VA, WV

Table 5.34: States With Requirements About Activities, con.*		
Type of Activity	Number of States	State
Quiet play	23	AK, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NY, OH, OR, RI, TX, VA, WV
Regular meal/snack times	21	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MO, MS, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, RI, TX, WV
Indoor play	20	AK, CT, FL, GA, IL, IN, MI, MN, MO, ND, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, TX, VA, WV
Large group activities	12	AK, CO, CT, DE, GA, MA, MI, MO, NH, OR, TX, WV
Creative expression	12	AZ, CT, GA, MA, MI, MN, MT, NH, OH, OR, TX, WV
Gross motor activities	10	CT, GA, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, OH, OR, TX
Provider-initiated activities	10	CT, DE, GA, MA, MN, RI, TN, TX, VA, WV
Child-initiated activities	10	CT, DE, HI, MA, MN, RI, TN, TX, VA, WV
Free play	9	DE, GA, HI, MO, MT, OR, PA, VA, WV
Fine motor activities	8	CT, GA, IA, IL, MI, MN, OR, TX
Toileting and washing/handwashing	8	AK, CT, GA, IL, MO, OR, RI, WV
Small group activities	2	GA, MT

N=35 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NE, NJ, SD, VT, WA, WI, WY

\*Some states require multiple types of activities for children.

Child Developmental Domains Addressed in Activities

Table 5.35 shows that most of the states that require large/group FCC homes to address the developmental needs of children during activities require homes to address emotional, physical, cognitive/intellectual, and social development. One-third of these states require large/group FCC homes to address cultural development. State-by-state data are available in *Table 85: Developmental Domains Addressed in Required Activities for Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Developmental Domain</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requirements address child development in activities</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>AK, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NH, NV, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV</b>
Emotional development	19	AK, CT, DE, FL, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NV, NY, PA, TX, UT, VA, WV
Physical development	18	AK, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NV, NY, PA, TX, UT, VA, WV
Cognitive/intellectual development	17	AK, CT, DE, FL, HI, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NV, NY, PA, TX, UT, VA, WV
Language/literacy development	17	AK, CT, DE, GA, HI, MA, MI, MN, ND, NH, NV, NY, OH, PA, TX, UT, WV
Social development	16	AK, DE, FL, HI, IL, MA, MN, MT, ND, NV, NY, PA, TX, VA, UT, WV
Cultural development	8	CT, HI, MA, ND, NV, NY, PA, RI

N=26 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, DC, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MS, NC, NE, NJ, NM, OK, OR, SD, VT, WA, WI, WY

\*Some states address multiple developmental domains in their requirements.

As shown in Table 5.36, some state regulations also include lists of specific activities large/group FCC homes should provide to meet each of the developmental needs.

<b>Table 5.36: States That List Specific Activities Large/Group Homes Must Provide to Address Developmental Domains*</b>		
<b>Developmental Domain</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requirements address child development in activities</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>AK, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NH, NV, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV</b>
<b>State lists specific activities to address developmental domains</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>AK, CT, GA, HI, MA, MN, TX</b>
Physical development	6	AK, CT, HI, MA, MN, TX
Cognitive/intellectual development	6	AK, CT, HI, MA, MN, TX
Language/literacy development	6	AK, CT, GA, MA, MN, TX
Social development	5	AK, HI, MA, MN, TX
Emotional development	5	CT, HI, MA, MN, TX
Cultural development	1	HI

N=26 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, DC, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MO, MS, NC, NE, NJ, NM, OK, OR, SD, VT, WA, WI, WY

\*Some states list multiple specific activities to address developmental domains.

Equipment and Materials

Table 5.37 shows the types of equipment and materials large/group FCC homes are required to have for children.

Table 5.37: States With Requirements About Equipment and Materials*		
Equipment/Material Type	Number of States	State
<b>State has requirements about the types of equipment/materials large/group FCC homes must have for children</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, GA, HI, IL, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NM, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, WV</b>
Fine motor/manipulatives	16	AK, AL, AZ, CO, GA, HI, MA, MI, MO, MS, OH, OK, PA, RI, TX, WV
Books and other literacy materials	16	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, GA, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, OH, OK, RI, TX, WV
Dramatic play/pretend materials	15	AL, AZ, CO, GA, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, OH, OK, PA, RI, TX, WV
Art supplies/creative activities	15	AL, AZ, CO, GA, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, OH, OK, PA, RI, TX, WV
Gross motor equipment (indoor and/or outdoor)	14	AL, AZ, CO, GA, HI, MA, MI, MO, MS, OH, OK, PA, RI, TX
Music materials	12	AL, AZ, CO, GA, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, OH, OK, RI
Science/experimental/math (counting/sorting) materials	7	AL, AZ, CO, GA, MO, OH, WV
Sensory materials	6	AL, MO, MS, OH, PA, TX

N=23 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, DE, FL, IA, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NV, OR, SC, SD, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY

\*Some states require multiple types of equipment and materials.

In addition to the equipment and material requirements included in Table 5.37, the following four states have requirements regarding the number and/or type of books that large/group FCC homes must have.

- **AK:** Large/group FCC homes must have a minimum of five developmentally appropriate books per child in care.
- **AL:** Large/group FCC homes must have books that are age appropriate.

- **MS:** Books must 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:** Large/group FCC homes must ensure that age-appropriate books are read on a daily basis to children between the ages of 6 months and 5 years of age.

### E. Parent Involvement

Four states (CT, NM, PA, WV) have requirements for large/group FCC homes regarding parent involvement. Two states (NM, PA) require large/group FCC homes to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in activities, and one state (WV) requires homes to encourage parent involvement.

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 35 (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA, WV, WY) require large/group FCC homes to provide parents with access to facilities at all times, allowing parents to visit without giving prior notice.

As shown in Table 5.38, most states have requirements regarding communication between large/group FCC home providers 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.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about large/group FCC homes’ communication with parents</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>AK, AL, CA, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Large/group FCC homes must provide written copies of policies and procedures to parents	27	AK, AL, CA, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Large/group FCC homes must keep logs of children’s care and communicate with parents	2	MS, RI
Large/group FCC homes must hold regularly scheduled meetings with parents	1	HI
Large/group FCC homes must have resource areas for parents	1	RI

N=30 states, excluding AR, AZ, CO, CT, DC, GA, IA, ID, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, ND, NE, NJ, SD, VT, WA, WI  
 \*Some states have multiple types of requirements about communication with parents.

## F. Specialized Care of Children

Within large/group FCC home 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 5.39 shows whether states have requirements in their large/group FCC home regulations that address these common types of specialized care. It also shows the types of requirements states have for specialized care. For example, many states have requirements about activities 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 5.39: States With Requirements for Types of Specialized Care*			
Requirement	Number of States		
	Infant and Toddler Care	School-age Care	Evening/ Overnight Care
<b>State has requirements about specialized care</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Types of requirements for specialized care</b>			
Supervision of children	9	5	23
Activities for children	27	11	18
Materials/equipment	28	6	23
Facility	11	2	17

N=35 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, IA, ID, IN, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, RI, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about specialized care.

*Table 86: States With Requirements for Specialized Care in Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables includes state-by-state data about requirements for specialized care.

### Additional Requirements for Infant and Toddler Care

More states' large/group FCC home regulations have requirements for infant and toddler care than the other types of specialized care listed in Table 5.39. Six states (AK, DE, MO, MT, NM, NV) require a consistent primary caregiver be assigned to each child in that age group.

#### **Fast Fact**

More than half of states that license large/group FCC homes require infants to be placed on their backs to sleep.

SIDS Risk Reduction

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.<sup>1</sup> Table 5.40 shows state requirements related to the prevention of SIDS.

Table 87: State Requirements About Reducing Risk of SIDS in Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008 in the 50-state Data Tables includes additional information about these requirements.

Table 5.40: States With Requirements About Reducing the Risk of SIDS*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
Infants must be placed on their backs to sleep	22	AK, AL, AZ, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, MI, MS, MT, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, WV, WY
Physicians may authorize different sleep positions for infants	21	AK, AL, AZ, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, MI, MS, MT, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, WV, WY
Soft bedding/materials must not be used in cribs	13	AK, AL, AZ, CT, GA, IL, MI, MT, NE, PA, SC, TX, WV
Providers required to complete training about SIDS prevention	6	AK, AZ, MI, OK, TX, UT
Providers must check on sleeping infants	4	MI, RI, TN, UT
Parents may authorize different sleep positions for infants	1	RI

N=39 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, VT, WA, WI  
 \*Some states have multiple requirements about the prevention of SIDS.

**5.10 Facility Requirements**

**A. Zoning**

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 13 (AL, CO, CT, GA, HI, MN, MO, NH, NM, OR, RI, TN, WY) specify in their licensing regulations that large/group FCC homes must comply with local zoning ordinances.

<sup>1</sup> 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.

## B. Environmental Tests and Health Inspections

### Environmental Tests

Eighteen states (CT, IA, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, UT, VA) require large/group FCC homes to conduct environmental tests for substances such as lead paint, lead in water, asbestos, and radon.

#### Note

The information in this study only includes data from large/group FCC home licensing regulations and state child care licensing agency responses to a survey. There may be other state laws that require large/group FCC homes to have environmental tests and inspections.

### Environmental Health Inspections

The following data about environmental inspections were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 17 require large/group FCC homes to have environmental health inspections. Table 5.41 shows how often homes must have inspections. The most common frequency is once a year. State-by-state data are available in *Table 88: Frequency of Environmental Health Inspections of Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

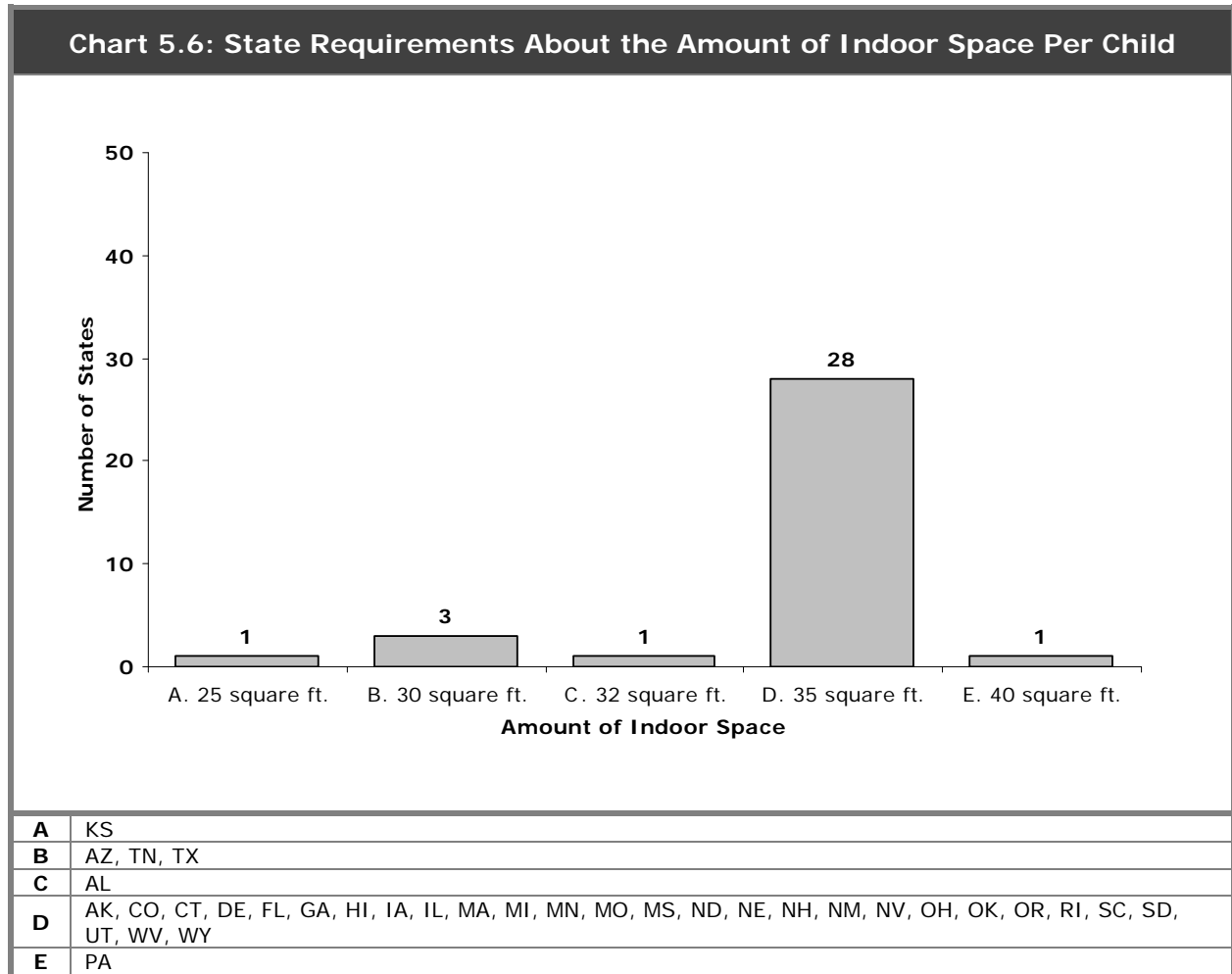
Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Environmental health inspections required</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>AK, CT, KS, MO, MS, ND, NH, NM, NV, OH, OR, SC, SD, TN, UT, WV, WY</b>
Once a year	8	KS, MO, ND, NV, OR, SD, TN, WY
Once every 2 years	2	CT, SC
Once every 3 years	1	NH
Other frequency	3	MS, OH, UT
No response	4	AK, NM, OH, WV

N=17 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, NC, NE, NJ, NY, OK, PA, RI, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI

### C. Square Footage

#### Indoor Space Requirements

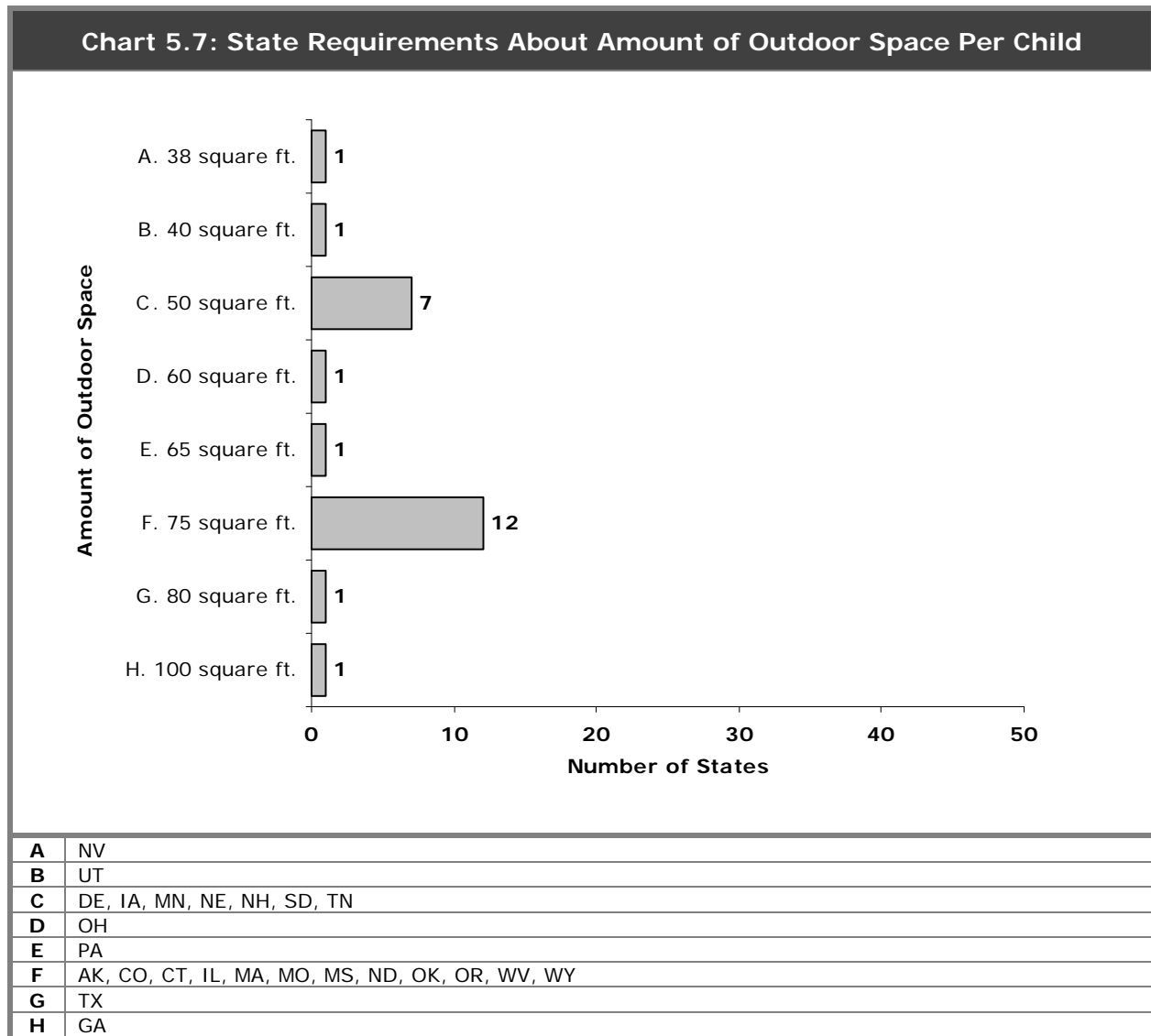
Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 34 (AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY) have requirements about the amount of indoor space that must be provided for each child. As shown in Chart 5.6, most of these states require large/group FCC homes to have 35 square feet of indoor space per child.



N=34 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, ID, IN, KY, LA, MD, ME, MT, NC, NJ, NY, VA, VT, WA, WI

Outdoor Space Requirements

Twenty-five states (AK, CO, CT, DE, GA, IA, IL, MA, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY) have requirements about the amount of outdoor space that must be provided for each child. As shown in Chart 5.7, most of these states require large/group FCC homes to have 75 square feet of outdoor space for each child.



N=25 states, excluding AL, AR, AZ, CA, DC, FL, HI, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MT, NC, NJ, NM, NY, RI, SC, VA, VT, WA, WI

Five states (AL, AZ, FL, MI, MO) have requirements about the total minimum amount of outdoor space that large/group FCC homes are required to have, as shown in Table 5.42. All but one (MO) of these states do not have requirements about amounts of outdoor space per child.

Table 5.42: States With Requirements About the Total Minimum Amount of Outdoor Space	
State	Minimum Requirement
270 square feet	FL
375 square feet	AZ
600 square feet	AL, MI
750 square feet	MO

N=5 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, 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

Table 89: Amount of Indoor and Outdoor Space Required in Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008 in the 50-state Data Tables includes the square footage requirements for each state.

### D. Condition of Facility and Equipment

As shown in Table 5.43, all states that license large/group FCC homes, except AK and SD, have requirements about the condition of facilities and/or equipment (e.g., facilities and equipment must be in good condition).

Table 5.43: States With Requirements About the Condition of the Home and/or Equipment*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>Indoor area and equipment</b>		
Requirements about the condition of the indoor area of the home	34	AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Requirements about the condition of indoor equipment	29	AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WV
Requirements about the condition of stairs in the home	25	AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NY, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, UT, VA, WV, WY

<b>Table 5.43: States With Requirements About the Condition of the Home and/or Equipment, con.*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Requirements about basement used for the care of children	17	CO, DE, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, NH, NY, OK, RI, TX, WY
<b>Outdoor area and equipment</b>		
Requirements about the condition of the outdoor area of the home	28	AL, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, VA, WV
Requirements about the condition of outdoor equipment	28	AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY
<b>Materials and toys</b>		
Requirements about the condition of materials and toys for children	23	AZ, CT, FL, GA, HI, IL, KS, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, PA, SC, UT, WV, WY

N=37 states, excluding AK, AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about indoor and outdoor areas and equipment, materials, and toys.

## E. Safety of Equipment

As seen in Table 5.44, most states that license large/group FCC homes have requirements about the safety of indoor and outdoor equipment. Information about each state's requirements about surfaces under indoor and outdoor equipment is available in *Table 90: Requirements About Surfaces Under Indoor and Outdoor Equipment in Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 5.44: States With Requirements About Equipment Safety*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Indoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about sleeping equipment (e.g., cots and cribs)	27	AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, HI, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, WV

<b>Table 5.44: States With Requirements About Equipment Safety, con.*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
Requirements about the safety of indoor equipment	24	CT, DE, GA, HI, IL, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NH, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY
Prohibits stackable cribs	10	AZ, CT, GA, MO, MS, NH, OH, PA, SC, WY
Requirements about the surfaces under indoor equipment	3	NH, OH, TX
<b>Outdoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about the safety of outdoor equipment	29	AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IL, KS, MA, MI, MO, MS, MT, ND, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY
Requirements about the surfaces under outdoor equipment	26	AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, KS, MI, MO, MT, NH, NM, NV, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY
<b>Indoor and outdoor equipment</b>		
Requirements about equipment to be free of components that can pinch, shear, or crush body tissues	8	DE, MO, OK, PA, SC, TX, UT, WY

N=34 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, IA, ID, IN, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NE, NJ, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about the safety of indoor and outdoor equipment.

## F. Outdoor Space

### Enclosures or Fencing

As shown in Table 5.45, 19 states require large/group FCC homes to have fences or other enclosures around outdoor play spaces. Most of these states require that fences be at least 4 feet in height. State-by-state data are available in *Table 91: Height Requirements for Outdoor Enclosures and Fences for Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

Requirement	Number of States	State
State requires that outdoor space is enclosed or has a fence	19	AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, MO, MS, MT, NM, NV, OK, OR, RI, SC, TX, UT, WY
Height must be at least 4 feet	14	AL, AZ, CT, FL, GA, MS, MT, NM, OK, OR, SC, TX, UT, WY
Height must be 42 inches	2	CO, MO
Height not specified	3	DE, NV, RI

N=19 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, DC, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

### Bodies of Water

Thirty-six states (AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) have requirements about the safety of swimming pools in large/group FCC homes. In addition, 23 states (AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, MA, MI, MN, MT, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, TX, UT) have requirements to protect children from bodies of water (e.g., ponds, lakes, and rivers).

## G. Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness

### Fire Inspections

The following data about fire inspections were compiled from state child care licensing agency responses to *The 2008 NARA Child Care Licensing Programs and Policies Survey*.

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 25 require large/group FCC homes to have fire inspections. Table 5.46 shows how often homes must have inspections. The most common frequency is one a year. State-by-state data are available in *Table 92: Frequency of Large/Group FCC Home Fire Inspections in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 5.46: State Requirements About the Frequency of Fire Inspections</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Fire inspections required</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>AK, AL, CA, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, KS, MO, MS, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, WV, WY</b>
Once a year	16	CT, FL, GA, IL, KS, MO, MS, ND, NM, NV, OH, RI, SD, TN, WV, WY
Once every 2 years	2	AK, SC
Once every 3 years	1	NH
Other frequency	6	AL, CA, DE, NE, PA, UT

N=25 states, excluding AR, AZ, CO, DC, HI, IA, ID, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MT, NC, NJ, NY, OK, OR, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI

Fire Safety and Fire Drills

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all states except one (AK) have requirements regarding fire safety. Of those, 30 states (AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, IA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) require large/group FCC homes to have plans for how to evacuate children and providers in case of fires in homes.

**Note**

The information in this study only includes data from large/group FCC home licensing regulations and child care licensing agency responses to a survey. There may be other state laws about fire safety that require homes to have fire inspections or fire evacuation plans or conduct fire drills.

Thirty-two states also require large/group FCC homes to conduct fire drills. As shown in Table 5.47, most of these states require large/group FCC homes to conduct fire drills at least once a month.

Requirement	Number of States	State
<b>State requires fire drills</b>	<b>32</b>	AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SD, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
At least once a month	22	AZ, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, RI, TX, VA, WV
More than four times a year	3	MT, NE, PA
At least four times a year	3	IN, SD, UT
Less than four times a year	1	CA
Time interval not specified in regulations	3	CO, ND, WY

N=32 states, excluding AK, AL, AR, CT, DC, HI, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, OR, SC, TN, VT, WA, WI

#### Smoke Detectors and Fire Extinguishers

As shown in Table 5.48, 28 states (AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, RI, TX, UT, VA, WY) that license large/group FCC homes require them to have smoke detectors and/or fire extinguishers. Twenty-three states (AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NM, OK, OR, RI, TX, UT, VA, WY) require large/group FCC homes to have both.

Requirement	Number of States	State
Large/group FCC homes must have smoke detectors	27	AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, RI, TX, UT, VA, WY
Large/group FCC homes must have fire extinguishers	24	AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NM, OK, OR, RI, TX, UT, VA, WY

N=28 states, excluding AK, AL, AR, CT, DC, HI, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, NV, OH, PA, SC, SD, TN, VT, WA, WI, WV

### General Emergency Plans

In addition to the requirements related to fires, some states also have requirements about plans and drills for general emergencies (i.e., not specifically fires). Four states (MT, NY, PA, SD) require large/group FCC homes to have evacuation plans for general emergencies, and one state (MT) requires large/group FCC homes to perform general emergency drills. *Table 93: Fire and Emergency Evacuation and Drill Requirements for Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables provides state-by-state data about evacuation and drill requirements.

#### **Fast Fact**

More than half of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes require them to be prepared for specific emergencies caused by weather, utility-related problems, and/or intruders/acts of violence.

### Emergency Preparedness

Table 5.49 shows the states that have preparedness requirements about specific emergencies caused by weather, utility-related problems, and/or intruders/acts of violence. State-by-state data are available in *Table 94: Requirements About Emergency Preparedness for Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* in the 50-state Data Tables.

<b>Table 5.49: States With Requirements About Specific Emergency Preparedness*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about specific emergency preparedness</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>AL, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NV, OH, OK, OR, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WV</b>
Large/group FCC homes must have emergency plans/procedures for natural disasters (e.g., tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes, and other weather)	23	AL, CO, CT, GA, HI, IA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, NV, OH, OK, OR, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WV
Large/group FCC homes must have emergency plans/procedures for utility-related problems (e.g., blackouts)	8	AL, GA, MA, MI, OH, OK, OR, UT
Large/group FCC homes must have emergency plans/procedures for intruders/acts of violence**	1	OH

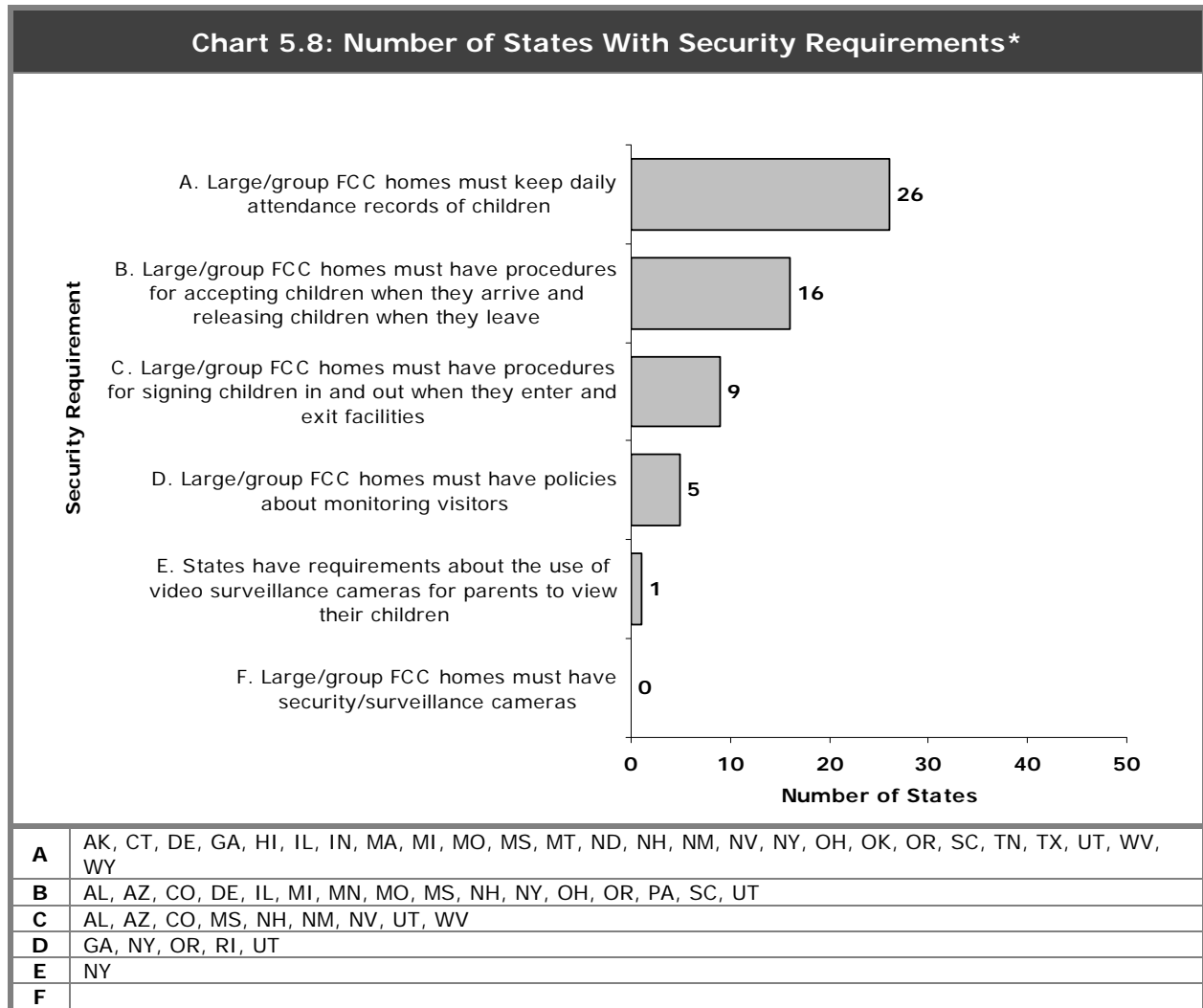
N=26 states, excluding AK, AR, AZ, DC, DE, ID, IN, KY, LA, MD, ME, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, PA, TN, VT, WA, WI, WY

\*Some states have multiple requirements about emergency preparedness.

\*\*"Intruders/acts of violence" includes intruders within the home, intoxicated parents, lost or abducted children, threats of violence, man-made disasters, and others.

## H. Security

Many states have requirements for large/group FCC homes related to the security of children. For example, as shown in Chart 5.8, more than half of states that license large/group FCC homes require homes to keep daily attendance records of children, and several require large/group homes to establish procedures for accepting children when they enter homes and releasing children at the end of the day.



N=32 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, FL, IA, ID, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NE, NJ, SD, VA, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple security requirements.

## I. Transportation

### General Requirements

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, all except one (SD) have requirements regarding transporting children in vehicles. Table 5.50 shows some of the specific requirements states have for transporting children. See “5.8 Supervision of Children” for more information about transportation requirements.

<b>Table 5.50: States With Requirements About Transportation*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about transportation</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>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, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Requirements for vehicle drivers (e.g., drivers must have valid licenses)	29	AL, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, HI, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MT, ND, NE, NH, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, UT, WV, WY
Requirements about condition of vehicles	21	AK, AZ, CA, CO, DE, GA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, ND, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, TN, UT, WV, WY
Requirements for first aid kits to be kept in vehicles	14	AZ, CO, DE, GA, IA, KS, MI, NM, OK, PA, TN, UT, VA, WY
Requirements about vehicle seating	10	CO, FL, GA, MO, MT, NE, OH, OR, PA, TN
Requirements about emergency equipment needed in vehicles	4	AK, AZ, NM, TN

N=38 states, excluding AR, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about transportation.

Vehicle Safety Restraints

Most states also have requirements for large/group FCC homes regarding vehicle safety restraints for children, such as seatbelts and carseats, as shown in Table 5.51.

<b>Table 5.51: States With Requirements About Vehicle Safety Restraints for Children*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about vehicle safety restraints for children</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Requirements about carseats/child restraint systems	26	AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NM, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY
Requirements about seatbelts for children	25	AK, AL, AZ, CO, FL, GA, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY

N=32 states, excluding AR, CT, DC, HI, IA, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, ND, NJ, NV, SC, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about vehicle safety restraints.

**J. Liability and Automobile Insurance**

Nineteen states require large/group FCC homes to have either liability insurance or automobile insurance as protection from accidents and injuries to children in care, as shown in Table 5.52. Seven states (AZ, DE, IL, NV, PA, TN, WV) require large/group FCC homes to have both types of insurance. *Table 95: Liability and Automobile Insurance Requirements for Large/Group FCC Homes in 2008* 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.

<b>Table 5.52: States With Requirements About Liability and Automobile Insurance*</b>		
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State requires insurance</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>AZ, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KS, MI, MS, MT, ND, NH, NM, NV, OK, PA, RI, TN, WV</b>
Requires automobile insurance	18	AZ, DE, FL, HI, IL, IN, KS, MI, MS, ND, NH, NM, NV, OK, PA, RI, TN, WV
Requires general liability insurance	8	AZ, DE, IL, MT, NV, PA, TN, WV

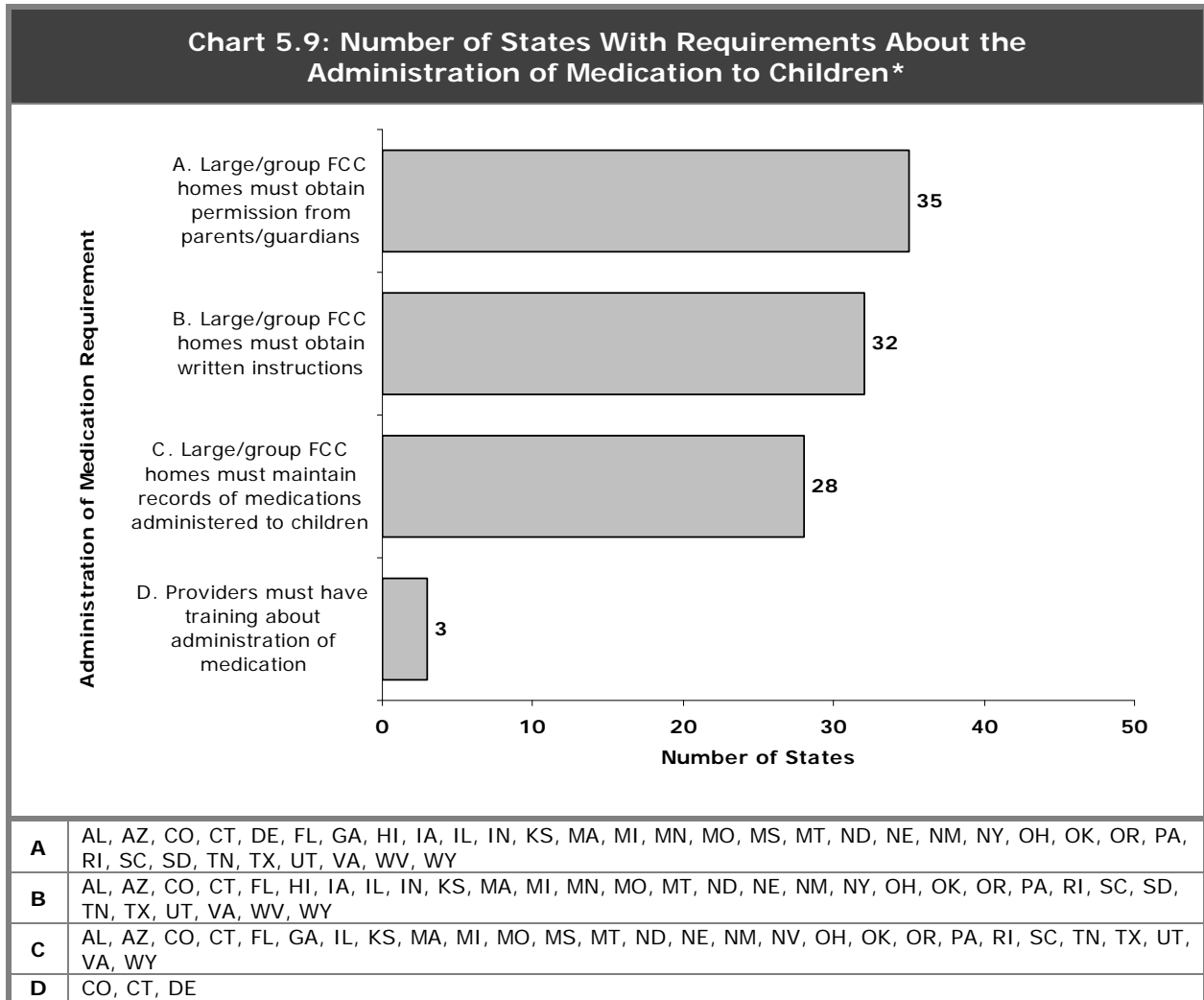
N=19 states, excluding AK, AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, GA, IA, ID, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, NC, NE, NJ, NY, OH, OR, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WY

\*Some states require multiple types of insurance.

## K. Medical Care and Related Issues

### Administration of Medication

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 36 (AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) have requirements about the administration of medication to children. As shown in Chart 5.9, nearly all these states require that large/group FCC homes obtain permission from parents to administer medications, get written instructions about how to give medications to children, and keep records of medications given to children.



N=36 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about the administration of medication.

### Medical Procedures

Seven states (AL, CT, MA, NY, OH, OK, SC) have requirements for large/group FCC homes related to performing medical procedures, such as blood glucose tests, on children with medical conditions. These states require that permission be obtained from parents, and/or instructions are obtained from parents or physicians about how to perform procedures.

Three states (AL, CT, OK) require large/group FCC homes to keep records of medical procedures.

**Fast Facts**

- Most of the states that license large/group FCC homes have requirements for the administration of medication to children.
- Most of the states that license large/group FCC homes have requirements regarding the care of children who are mildly ill.

Care of Ill Children

As shown in Table 5.53, most states that have requirements regarding the care of mildly ill children allow large/group FCC homes to exclude them from care, meaning they must be kept at home until they are well enough to return. Fewer states specifically allow large/group FCC homes to admit children into care when they are mildly ill.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the care of mildly ill children</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>AL, AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, MA, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Allows large/group FCC homes to exclude children who are mildly ill	17	AL, AZ, CT, HI, IA, MO, MT, ND, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, VA, WV, WY
Allows large/group FCC homes to admit children who are mildly ill	9	DE, FL, HI, IL, MA, MO, PA, SD, UT

N=29 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, CO, DC, ID, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NM, TN, VT, WA, WI  
 \*Some states have multiple requirements about the care of mildly ill children.

Incident Reporting

Table 5.54 shows that most states that license large/group FCC homes have requirements about reporting serious injuries and deaths of children. Most of these states also require large/group FCC homes to keep their own records of these incidents.

Table 5.54: States With Requirements About Incident Reporting*		
Requirement	Number of States	State
State has requirements about incident reporting	33	AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Large/group FCC homes must report all serious injuries that occur to children in care to the licensing agency	27	AL, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, IN, MA, MI, MN, MS, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Large/group FCC homes must keep records of all serious injuries that occur to children	25	AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IA, MA, MO, MS, MT, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WY
Large/group FCC homes must report all deaths that occur to children in care to the licensing agency	24	AL, CO, CT, DE, GA, IL, MA, MI, MN, MS, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TX, VA, WV, WY

N=33 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, DC, HI, ID, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about incident reporting.

Health Consultants

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 5 states (CT, DE, HI, ND, NY) require large/group FCC homes to have health consultants available to providers.

Terminology
<b>Child care health consultants:</b> Health professionals who FCC homes use to provide information and expertise about health issues.

First Aid Kits

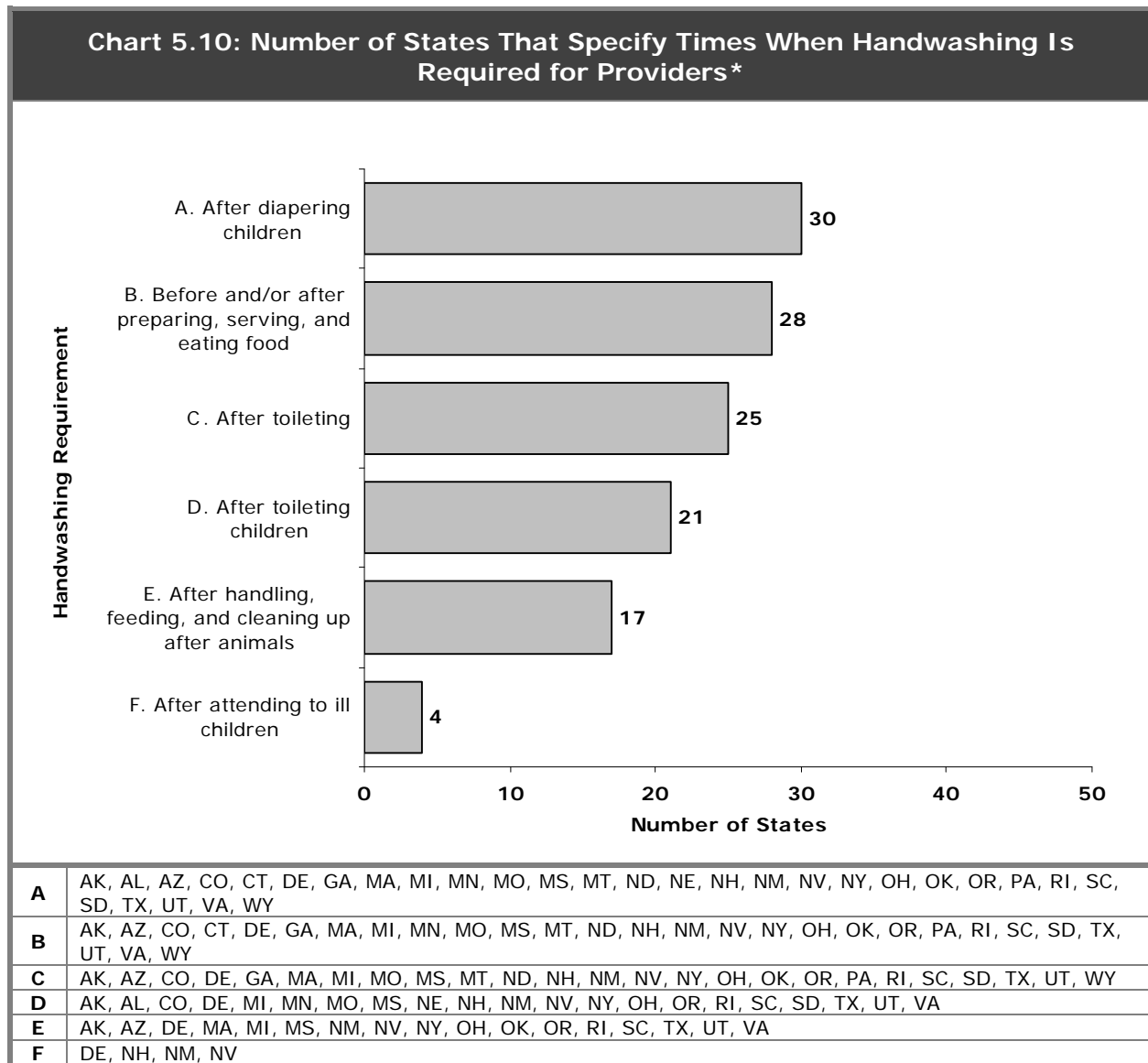
Thirty states (AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, MA, MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) require large/group FCC homes to have first aid kits. Twenty-one (AZ, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, MA, MN, MT, NE, NM, OH, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) of those states specify items that must be contained in kits.

## L. Handwashing

### Requirements for Providers

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 32 (AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) have requirements about handwashing for providers. In addition, 17 states (AZ, CT, DE, GA, IN, MI, MO, MT, ND, NE, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TX, WY) have requirements about the locations and/or numbers of handwashing facilities in large/group FCC homes.

Of the states that have requirements about handwashing for large/group FCC home providers, all except one (WV) specify when providers must wash their hands. Chart 5.10 shows the times when large/group FCC home providers must wash their hands.



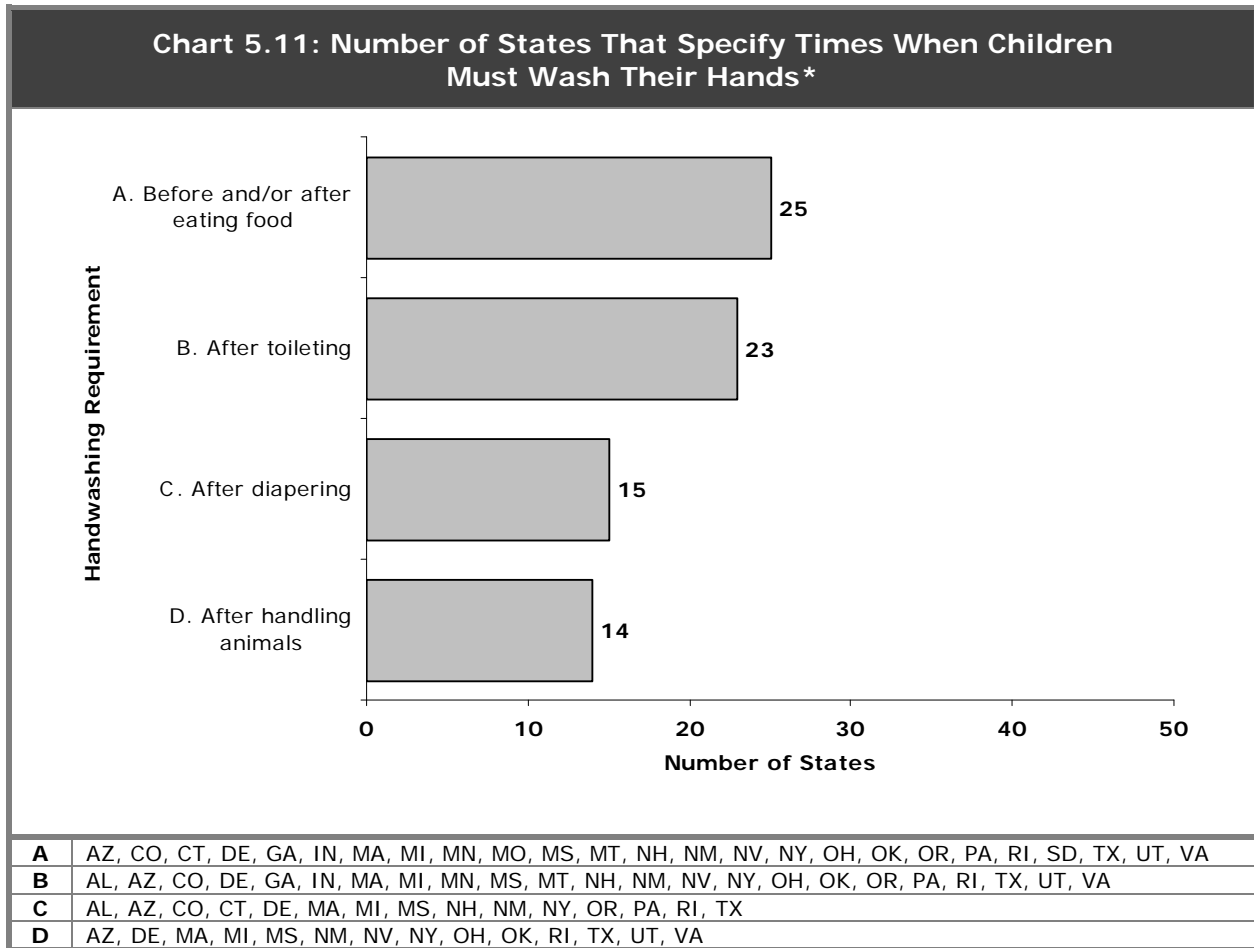
N=31 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, TN, VT, WA, WI, WV

\*Some states specify multiple times when providers are required to wash their hands.

Requirements for Children

Thirty states (AK, AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IN, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, WV) have requirements for large/group FCC homes regarding washing children’s hands.

Of the 30 states that have requirements about handwashing for children, only SC and WV do not specify when children must wash their hands. Chart 5.11 shows the times when children must wash their hands.

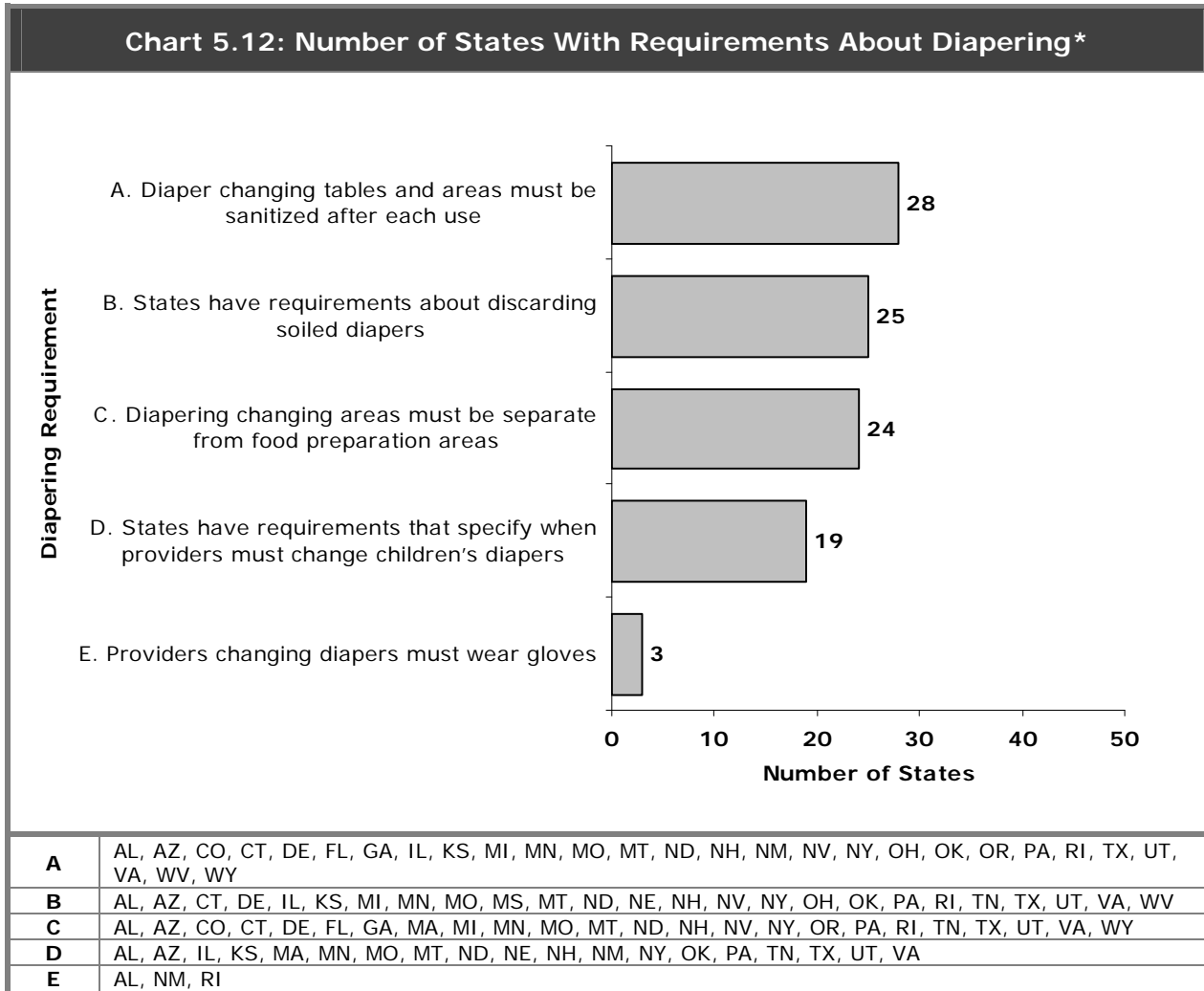


N=28 states, excluding AR, CA, DC, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, ND, NE, NJ, SC, TN, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

\*Some states specify multiple times when children must wash their hands.

### M. Diapering

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 32 (AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) have requirements about diapering. As shown in Chart 5.12, these requirements include information about discarding soiled diapers, sanitation of diapering areas, and when to change children’s diapers.



N=32 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, DC, HI, IA, ID, IN, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, SC, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about diapering.

## N. Smoking Policies

Table 5.55 shows that most states have requirements regarding smoking in large/group FCC homes. Fifteen states specify that smoking is not allowed in large/group FCC homes. However, some states allow FCC homes to permit smoking, but it cannot be in the presence of children or in areas where children are in care.

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about smoking in large/group FCC homes</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, IL, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Does not allow smoking in large/group FCC homes	15	AL, CA, CO, FL, MS, MT, ND, NH, NY, OH, OK, OR, RI, TX, WV
Does not allow smoking in areas used for the care of children	15	AZ, CT, GA, IL, MI, MO, MS, NE, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, SC, VA
Does not allow smoking in the presence of children	10	AZ, HI, IL, KS, MA, NH, NM, OH, OK, TN
Requires providers to notify parents of smoking in homes	10	MA, MI, MN, NE, NV, OH, OK, RI, TN, WV
Does not allow smoking in areas where food is prepared	4	MO, PA, SC, WY

N=34 states, excluding AK, AR, DC, DE, IA, ID, IN, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about smoking.

## O. Hazardous Materials

Of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 34 (AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) have requirements regarding the accessibility of hazardous materials and substances, such as cleaning products and other chemicals, in large/group FCC homes. Of those 34 states, all specify that hazardous materials must be kept out of children's reach.

### **Fast Fact**

Only two states specify that firearms are not allowed in large/group FCC homes.

## P. Firearms

As shown in Table 5.56, of the 39 states that license large/group FCC homes, 32 states have requirements regarding the presence of firearms in large/group FCC homes. All but two states (CT, OH) that have regulations about firearms require them to be in locked containers or closets or other safe locations.

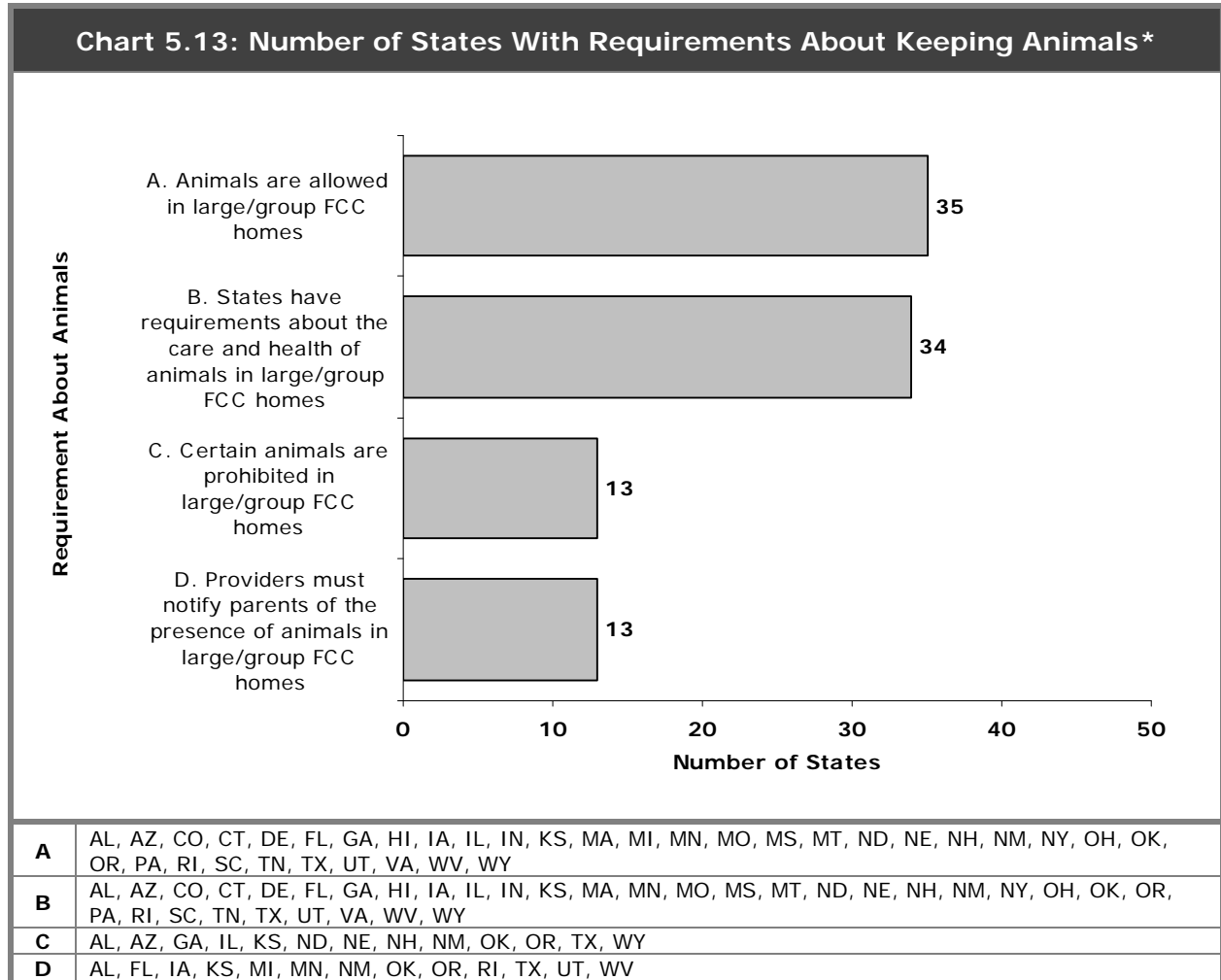
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Number of States</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>State has requirements about the presence of firearms in large/group FCC homes</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY</b>
Allows firearms in homes, but requires them to be in locked containers or closets or other safe locations	30	AL, AZ, CA, CO, DE, FL, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY
Allows firearms in homes, but requires ammunition to be separate	19	AL, CA, CO, DE, IL, MA, MI, MN, MT, ND, NE, OK, OR, PA, RI, TX, UT, VA, WY
Requires providers to notify parents of the presence of firearms in homes	3	MA, MI, PA
Does not allow firearms in homes	2	CT, OH

N=32 states, excluding AK, AR, DC, GA, HI, IA, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, NV, NY, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple types of requirements about the presence of firearms.

## Q. Animals in Facilities

Thirty-five states (AL, AZ, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NE, NH, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WY) have requirements about keeping animals in large/group FCC homes. As shown in Chart 5.13, those same 35 states allow animals to be kept in large/group FCC homes. All but one (MI) of these states have requirements about the care of animals.



N=35 states, excluding AK, AR, CA, DC, ID, KY, LA, MD, ME, NC, NJ, NV, SD, VT, WA, WI

\*Some states have multiple requirements about keeping animals.



# **State Licensing Agency Contact Information**



## State Licensing Agency Contact Information

### Alabama

Child Care Services Division  
Alabama Department of Human Resources  
50 North Ripley Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130-1801  
Phone: 334-242-1425  
Toll free: 866-528-1694  
Web site:  
[www.dhr.alabama.gov/page.asp?pageid=648](http://www.dhr.alabama.gov/page.asp?pageid=648)

### Arizona

Office of Child Care Licensing  
Division of Licensing Services  
Arizona Department of Health Services  
150 North 18th Avenue, Suite 400  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
Phone: 602-364-2539  
Toll free: 800-615-8555  
Web site:  
[www.azdhs.gov/als/childcare/index.htm](http://www.azdhs.gov/als/childcare/index.htm)

### California

Child Care Program Office  
Community Care Licensing Division  
California Department of Social Services  
744 P Street, Mail Stop 19-48  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: 916-229-4500  
Web site: <http://cclcd.ca.gov/PG411.htm>

### Connecticut

Child Day Care Licensing Program  
Connecticut Department of Public Health  
410 Capitol Avenue  
Mail Station 12 CBR  
P.O. Box 340308  
Hartford, CT 06134-0308  
Phone: 860-509-8045  
Toll free: 800-282-6063  
Web site:  
[www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3141&Q=387158&dphNav\\_GID=1823&dphPNavCtr=|47014|#47023](http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3141&Q=387158&dphNav_GID=1823&dphPNavCtr=|47014|#47023)

### Alaska

Child Care Program Office  
Division of Public Assistance  
Alaska Department of Health and Social Services  
619 E. Ship Creek Avenue, Suite 230  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone: 907-269-4500  
Toll free: 888-268-4632 (within state)  
Web site:  
[www.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/ccare/](http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/ccare/)

### Arkansas

Licensing and Accreditation  
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
Arkansas Department of Human Services  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S-150  
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437  
Phone: 501-682-8590  
Toll free: 800-445-3316  
Web site:  
[www.arkansas.gov/childcare/licensing](http://www.arkansas.gov/childcare/licensing)

### Colorado

Division of Child Care  
Colorado Department of Human Services  
1575 Sherman Street, First Floor  
Denver, CO 80203-1714  
Phone: 303-866-5958  
Toll free: 800-799-5876  
Web site:  
[www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/Licensing\\_home.htm](http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/childcare/Licensing_home.htm)

### Delaware

Office of Child Care Licensing  
Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families  
1825 Faulkland Road  
Wilmington, DE 19805-1121  
Phone: 302-892-5800  
Toll free: 800-822-2236  
Web site:  
<http://kids.delaware.gov/occl/occl.shtml>

**District of Columbia**

Office of the State Superintendent of Education  
825 North Capitol Street NE.  
Suite 2265  
Washington, DC 20002  
Phone: 202-442-4733

**Florida**

Child Care Program Office  
Child Care Services  
Florida Department of Children and Families  
1317 Winewood Boulevard  
Building 6, Room 398  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0700  
Phone: 850-488-4900  
Web site:  
[www.dcf.state.fl.us/childcare/licensing.shtml](http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/childcare/licensing.shtml)

**Georgia**

Bright From the Start  
Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
10 Park Place South SE., Suite 600  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Phone: 404-657-5562  
Toll free: 888-442-7735 (888-4GA-PREK)  
Web site:  
<http://dec.al.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/ChildCareServicesMain.aspx>

**Hawaii**

Benefit, Employment, and Support Services Division  
Hawaii Department of Human Services  
820 Millilani Street, Suite 606  
Honolulu, HI 96813-2936  
Phone: 808-586-7050  
Web site: [www.hawaii.gov/dhs/self-sufficiency/childcare/licensing/](http://www.hawaii.gov/dhs/self-sufficiency/childcare/licensing/)

**Idaho**

Bureau of Family and Community Services  
Idaho Department of Health and Welfare  
211 Idaho Careline  
450 Westgate Drive  
Boise, ID 83720-0036  
Toll free: (2-1-1 Idaho CareLine) or 800-926-2588  
Web site:  
<http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/children/daycarelicensing/tabid/306/default.aspx>

**Illinois**

Central Office of Licensing  
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services  
406 East Monroe Street, Station 60  
Springfield, IL 62701-1498  
Phone: 217-785-2688  
Toll free: 877-746-0829  
Web site:  
[www.state.il.us/dcfs/daycare/index.shtml](http://www.state.il.us/dcfs/daycare/index.shtml)

**Indiana**

Bureau of Child Care  
Division of Family Resources  
Indiana Family and Social Services Administration  
402 West Washington Street, Room W-361  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
Phone: 317-233-0058  
Toll free: 877-511-1144  
Web site:  
[www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/2736.htm](http://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/2736.htm)

**Iowa**

Bureau of Child Care and Community Services  
Division of Child and Family Services  
Iowa Department of Human Services  
Hoover Building, 5th Floor  
1305 East Walnut Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319-0114  
Phone: 515-281-5584  
Web site:  
[www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Child\\_Care/ChildCareMenu.html](http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/Consumers/Child_Care/ChildCareMenu.html)

**Kansas**

Child Care Licensing and Registration Program  
Bureau of Child Care and Health Facilities  
Kansas Department of Health and Environment  
Curtis State Office Building  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 200  
Topeka, KS 66612-1274  
Phone: 785-296-1270  
Web site: [www.kdheks.gov/bcclr/index.html](http://www.kdheks.gov/bcclr/index.html)

**Louisiana**

Child Care Licensing and Regulatory Section  
Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education  
Louisiana Department of Social Services  
P.O. Box 3078  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3078  
Phone: 225-342-9905  
Web site:  
[www.dss.state.la.us/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=247](http://www.dss.state.la.us/index.cfm?md=pagebuilder&tmp=home&pid=247)

**Maryland**

Office of Child Care Licensing Branch  
Division of Early Childhood Development  
Maryland State Department of Education  
200 West Baltimore Street, 10th Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
Phone: 410-767-7802  
Toll free: 800-332-6347  
Web site:  
[www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child\\_care/licensing\\_branch/licensing\\_branch.htm](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care/licensing_branch/licensing_branch.htm)

**Michigan**

Bureau of Children and Adult Licensing  
Michigan Department of Human Services  
7109 West Saginaw, 2nd Floor  
P.O. Box 30650  
Lansing, MI 48909-8150  
Phone: 517-241-2488  
Toll free: 866-685-0006  
Web site: [www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,1607,7-124-5455\\_49572---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs/0,1607,7-124-5455_49572---,00.html)

**Kentucky**

Division of Regulated Child Care  
Office of the Inspector General  
Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services  
275 East Main Street 5E-F  
Frankfort, KY 40621  
Phone: 502-564-7962  
Web site:  
<http://chfs.ky.gov/os/oig/drcc.htm>

**Maine**

Child Care Licensing Unit  
Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services  
Maine Department of Health and Human Services  
State House Station #11  
41 Anthony Avenue  
Augusta, ME 04333  
Phone: 207-287-9300  
Toll free: 800-791-4080  
Web site: [www.maine.gov/dhhs/dlrs](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/dlrs)

**Massachusetts**

Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care  
51 Sleeper Street, 4th Floor  
Boston, MA 02210  
Phone: 617-988-6600  
Web site:  
[www.eec.state.ma.us/oo\\_licensing.aspx](http://www.eec.state.ma.us/oo_licensing.aspx)

**Minnesota**

Division of Licensing  
Minnesota Department of Human Services  
P.O. Box 64242  
St. Paul, MN 55164  
Phone: 651-296-3971  
Web site: [www.dhs.state.mn.us/Licensing](http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/Licensing)

**Mississippi**

Child Care Facilities Licensure  
Mississippi State Department of Health  
P.O. Box 1700  
Jackson, MS 39215-1700  
Phone: 601-364-2827  
Toll free: 866-489-8734 (complaint line)  
Web site:  
[http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\\_static/30,0,183.html](http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,183.html)

**Montana**

Child Care Licensing Program  
Quality Assurance Division  
Montana Department of Public Health and  
Human Services  
P.O. Box 202953  
Helena, MT 59620-2953  
Phone: 406-444-1954  
Web site: [www.dphhs.mt.gov/earlychildhood](http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/earlychildhood)

**Nevada**

Bureau of Services for Child Care  
Division of Child and Family Services  
Nevada Department of Health and Human  
Services  
4126 Technology Way, 3rd Floor  
Carson City, NV 89706  
Phone: 775-684-4463  
Web site:  
[www.dcfhs.state.nv.us/DCFS\\_ChildCare.htm](http://www.dcfhs.state.nv.us/DCFS_ChildCare.htm)

**New Jersey**

Office of Licensing  
New Jersey Department of Children and  
Families  
P.O. Box 717  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0717  
Phone: 609-826-3980  
Toll free: 877-667-9845  
Web site:  
[www.state.nj.us/dcf/divisions/licensing](http://www.state.nj.us/dcf/divisions/licensing)

**Missouri**

Section for Child Care Regulation  
Missouri Department of Health and Senior  
Services  
323 Veteran's Lane  
P.O. Box 570  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
Phone: 573-751-2450  
Web site: [www.dhss.mo.gov/ChildCare/](http://www.dhss.mo.gov/ChildCare/)

**Nebraska**

Children's Services Licensing  
Licensure Unit  
Division of Public Health  
Nebraska Department of Health and Human  
Services  
P.O. Box 94986  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4986  
Phone: 402-471-1802  
Toll free: 800-600-1289  
Web site:  
[www.dhhs.ne.gov/crl/childcare/childcareindex.htm](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/crl/childcare/childcareindex.htm)

**New Hampshire**

Bureau of Child Care Licensing  
Office of Program Support  
New Hampshire Department of Health and  
Human Services  
129 Pleasant Street  
Concord, NH 03301-3852  
Phone: 603-271-4624  
Toll free: 800-852-3345, ext. 4624  
Web site:  
[www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/BCCL/default.htm](http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/BCCL/default.htm)

**New Mexico**

Office of Child Development  
New Mexico Children, Youth and Families  
Department  
4359 Jager Drive NE, Suite A  
Rio Rancho, NM 87144  
Phone: 505-771-5901  
Toll free: 800-832-1321  
Web site:  
[www.newmexicokids.org/pages/earlycare/childcare/prelicense.htm](http://www.newmexicokids.org/pages/earlycare/childcare/prelicense.htm)

**New York**

Division of Child Care Services  
New York State Office of Children & Family Services  
South Building, Room 309  
52 Washington Street  
Rensselaer, New York 12144-2796  
Phone: 518-402-3038  
Toll free: 800-732-5207  
Web site:  
[www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/childcare/daycare\\_reg.asp](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/childcare/daycare_reg.asp)

**North Dakota**

Children and Family Services  
North Dakota Department of Human Services  
600 East Boulevard Ave., Department 325  
State Capitol Building  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0250  
Phone: 701-328-3541  
Toll free: 800-472-2622  
Web site:  
[www.nd.gov/dhs/services/childcare/info](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/childcare/info)

**Oklahoma**

Child Care Services Licensing Unit  
Oklahoma Department of Human Services  
P.O. Box 25352  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0352  
Phone: 405-521-3561  
Toll free: 800-347-2276  
Web site:  
[www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/cc/docs/default.htm](http://www.okdhs.org/programsandservices/cc/docs/default.htm)

**Pennsylvania**

Bureau of Certification Services  
Office of Child Development and Early Learning  
Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare  
333 Market Street, 6th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
Phone: 717-346-9320  
Toll free: 877-4-PA-KIDS (877-472-5437, within state)  
Web site:  
[www.dpw.state.pa.us/PartnersProviders/ChildCareEarlyEd/003678427.htm](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/PartnersProviders/ChildCareEarlyEd/003678427.htm)

**North Carolina**

Regulatory Services Section  
Division of Child Development  
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
2201 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-2201  
Phone: 919-662-4499  
Toll free: 800-859-0829 (within state)  
Web site:  
[http://ncchildcare.dhhs.state.nc.us/provider\\_s/pv\\_sn2\\_rcc.asp](http://ncchildcare.dhhs.state.nc.us/provider_s/pv_sn2_rcc.asp)

**Ohio**

Bureau of Child Care and Development  
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services  
P.O. Box 182709  
Columbus, OH 43218-2709  
Phone: 614-466-1043  
Toll free: 866-886-3537, option 4  
Web site: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/page2.stm>

**Oregon**

Child Care Division  
Oregon Employment Department  
2510 Oakmont Way  
Eugene, OR 95401  
Phone: 503-947-1400  
Toll free: 800-556-6616  
Web site:  
[www.oregon.gov/EMPLOY/CCD/forProviders.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/EMPLOY/CCD/forProviders.shtml)

**Rhode Island**

Day Care Licensing Unit  
Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth, and Families  
101 Friendship Street, 4th Floor  
Providence, RI 02903-3716  
Phone: 401-528-3624  
Web site: [www.dcyf.ri.gov/licensing.php](http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/licensing.php)

**South Carolina**

Child Care Licensing Program  
Division of Child Care Services  
South Carolina Department of Social Services  
2638 Two Notch Road, Suite 200  
Columbia, SC 29204  
Phone: 803-898-9020  
Toll free: 800-556-7445  
Web site:  
<http://childcare.sc.gov/main/general/programs/licensing/index.aspx>

**South Dakota**

Division of Child Care Services  
South Dakota Department of Social Services  
700 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone: 605-773-4766  
Toll free: 800-227-3020 (within state)  
Web site:  
[www.dss.sd.gov/childcare/licensing/](http://www.dss.sd.gov/childcare/licensing/)

**Tennessee**

Child and Adult Care Licensing  
Tennessee Department of Human Services  
400 Deaderick Street, 14th Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243  
Phone: 615-313-4778  
Toll free: 800-462-8261 (complaints line)  
Web site:  
[www.tennessee.gov/humanserv/adfam/cc\\_main.html](http://www.tennessee.gov/humanserv/adfam/cc_main.html)

**Texas**

Child Care Licensing  
Texas Department of Family and Protective Services  
P.O. Box 149030  
Austin, TX 78714-9030  
Phone: 512-834-3195  
Toll free: 800-862-5252  
Web site:  
[www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child\\_Care/About\\_Child\\_Care\\_Licensing/](http://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Care/About_Child_Care_Licensing/)

**Utah**

Bureau of Child Care Licensing  
Utah Department of Health  
228 North, 1460 West  
P.O. Box 142003  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-2003  
Phone: 801-538-9084  
Web site: <http://health.utah.gov/licensing>

**Vermont**

Child Care Licensing Unit  
Child Development Division, 3 NORTH  
Department for Children and Families  
Vermont Agency of Human Services  
103 South Main Street  
Waterbury, VT 05671  
Phone: 802-241-3110  
Toll free: 800-649-2642 (within state)  
Web site:  
[http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/child\\_care\\_licensing](http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/child_care_licensing)

**Virginia**

Division of Licensing Programs  
Virginia Department of Social Services  
7 North Eighth Street, 2nd Floor  
Richmond, VA 23219-3301  
Phone: 804-726-7165  
Toll free: 800-543-7545  
Web site:  
[www.dss.virginia.gov/division/license/](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/division/license/)

**Washington**

Washington State Department of Early Learning  
P.O. Box 40970  
Olympia, WA 98504-0970  
Phone: 360-725-4665  
Toll free: 866-482-4325  
Web site:  
[www.del.wa.gov/care/about/Default.aspx](http://www.del.wa.gov/care/about/Default.aspx)

**West Virginia**

Division of Early Care and Education  
Bureau for Children and Families  
West Virginia Department of Health and  
Human Resources  
350 Capitol Street, Room B-18  
Charleston, WV 25301  
Phone: 304-558-1885  
Web site: [www.wvdhhr.org/bcf/ece](http://www.wvdhhr.org/bcf/ece)

**Wyoming**

Division of Early Childhood  
Wyoming Department of Family Services  
2300 Capitol Avenue  
Hathaway Building, 3rd Floor  
Cheyenne, WY 82002-0490  
Phone: 307-777-6595  
Web site:  
<http://dfswapps.state.wy.us/DFSDivEC/Parents/ParentsCCLR.asp>

**Wisconsin**

Division of Early Care and Education  
Bureau of Early Care Regulation  
Wisconsin Department of Children and  
Families  
P.O. Box 8916  
Madison, WI 53708-8916  
Phone: 608-266-9314  
Web site:  
<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed>








National Association for  
Regulatory Administration  
403 Marquis Avenue, Suite 200  
Lexington, KY 40502  
859-514-1921  
<http://naralicensing.org>



National Child Care Information  
and Technical Assistance Center  
800-616-2242  
<http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov>

NCCIC is a service of the  Child Care Bureau

The logo for the Child Care Bureau, which is a white heart shape with a circular arrow around it, pointing clockwise.