

**Family, Friend or Neighbor Child Care (FFN):**<sup>1</sup> When they are not with their parents, more children in Illinois receive home child care from a member of the family, a friend or a neighbor than in a child care center or licensed family child care home.

Researchers find that many parents prefer to place their children in FFN home care because they especially trust their particular caregiver or they find the provider more flexible than other providers in accommodating parents' work or pay schedules.

From the point of view of the State of Illinois, FFN care is legal and "exempt from licensing" if no more than three unrelated children receive care at one time. If they care for more than three unrelated children at one time, providers must be licensed by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

In order to receive reimbursement for providing child care under the Illinois Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), an FFN provider must pass a background check. Under CCAP, an FFN provider is reimbursed at a much lower rate than child care centers and licensed homes.

Children with Child Care Assistance in FFN Home Care <sup>2</sup>	Chicago	Cook County	Illinois
Percent of All Children with Assistance Who Are in FFN Home Care	43%	38%	36%
Ages 0 through 2	33%	28%	27%
Ages 3 through 5	30%	25%	25%
Ages 6 through 12	59%	53%	50%
Ages 13 and Over with Special Needs	73%	71%	71%
Children with Assistance Who Are in Full-time FFN Home Care <sup>3</sup>	17,535	23,013	37,659
Children with Assistance Who Are in Part-time FFN Home Care	4,299	5,816	13,525
Percent of Children in Each Type of FFN Home Care			
Relative in Child's Home	28%	28%	26%
Relative Outside of Child's Home	42%	42%	43%
Non-Relative in Child's Home	15%	14%	13%
Non-Relative Outside of Child's Home	16%	16%	18%
<b>FFN Home Providers</b>			
FFN Providers Participating in Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)	10,672	13,978	24,505
As Percent of All Providers Participating in CCAP	81%	78%	74%
State Reimbursement Rate for FFN Home Care, Four-Year-Old <sup>4</sup>	\$14.64/day	\$14.64/day	\$14.64/day
As Percent of Reimbursement Rate for Licensed Child Care	53%	53%	53% - 65%
As Percent of Reimbursement Rate for Child Care Centers	45%	45%	45% - 62%

<sup>1</sup> Also known as "license-exempt" care and "kith and kin" care.

<sup>2</sup> Illinois Child Care Assistance Program, March 2012, prepared by Illinois Action for Children. We report solely on children with CCAP because data exists for this population. We do not have similar data for the large number of children in FFN care not using CCAP.

<sup>3</sup> Here full-time is defined as 5 or more hours of care at least 3 days per week.

<sup>4</sup> Rate for full-day care as of January 1, 2012.