

## **Childcare Survey – Statistics breakdown and tables**

294 childcare centres, across eight capital cities, were contacted in March 2014 to determine their fees, available places for babies, toddlers and preschool children and the length of their waiting lists.

### **Waiting lists**

There has been a significant spike in almost every city when it comes to waiting lists that are 12 to 24 months long.

In Canberra, of the centres who do have a waiting list, the percentage that were between one and two years long has jumped from just 20% to almost 80% (77.8%).

Sydney centres also saw a dramatic increase of one to two year waiting lists, growing from 25% of centres to 70.8%.

Brisbane was the only city that didn't see an increase in its waiting lists and was able to virtually maintain its 2013 figures.

### **Daily fees**

Every city, except for Adelaide, saw its average daily fees increase over the year.

Sydney had the most expensive care at \$105.70 per day, an increase of over \$4 per day from 2013.

Melbourne became the only other city to breach the \$100 per day mark this year, with a daily fee average of \$103.22, up from \$96.53.

Adelaide was the only city to record a reduction in fees, though that was only by an average of 4 cents per day (from \$79.17 to \$79.13), making it the cheapest city in the country.

### **Availability**

There is a crippling lack of availability with no vacancies at all in almost 40% (38.1%) of centres across Australia.

Only 12.5% of centres across Australia had full time vacancies in all three age groups. In Melbourne, none of the centres polled had vacancies in all three age groups.

Nationwide, almost 70% (69.4%) of centres had no vacancies in their baby rooms.

55% of surveyed centres in Adelaide had no vacancies across any of the age groups making it the worst performing city in that regard.

Baby rooms – a mixed result with an overall slight improvement in availability. The worst performer was Hobart which went from 44% of centres with a vacancy, to just 16% of centres with a vacancy

Toddlers – a mixed result with an overall slight improvement in availability. The worst performer was Hobart which went from 53% of centres with a vacancy, to just 28% of centres with a vacancy

Preschoolers – best availability of the three categories, with a significant increase in availability, but still almost 40% (39.5%) of the centres across the country had no vacancy for toddlers.

**Table 1: Percentage of full-time vacancies available by group and state**

	<i>Babies</i>	<i>Toddlers</i>	<i>Pre-schoolers</i>	<i>centres with FT vacancies in every group</i>
<i>Sydney</i>	15	17	21	8
<i>Melbourne</i>	7	11	23	0
<i>Perth</i>	37	48	13	28
<i>Adelaide</i>	17	17	22	17
<i>Canberra</i>	13	13	50	13
<i>Brisbane</i>	2	23	41	2
<i>Darwin</i>	15	50	60	20
<i>Hobart</i>	15	20	48	12
<b>Average</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>12.5</b>

**Table 2: Percentage of No Vacancies overall in each state**

	<i>Babies</i>	<i>Toddlers</i>	<i>Pre-schoolers</i>	<i>centres with no vacancies in any group</i>
<i>Sydney</i>	70	66	55	53
<i>Melbourne</i>	70	65	36	34
<i>Perth</i>	40	34	17	17
<i>Adelaide</i>	74	67	57	55
<i>Canberra</i>	73	70	40	40
<i>Brisbane</i>	81	53	35	33
<i>Darwin</i>	65	45	30	25
<i>Hobart</i>	84	72	32	32
<b>Total No Vacancies</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>38.1</b>

## WAITING LISTS

Of the centres that had waiting lists the break-down is as follows:

NATIONAL WAITING LISTS	Waiting list of 6-<12 months (2013)	Waiting list of 6-<12 months (2014)	Waiting list of 1-2 years (2013)	Waiting list of 1-2 years (2014)	Waiting list of 2-3 years (2013)	Waiting list of 2-3 years (2014)
Adelaide	27%	37% (+10%)	38%	50% (+12%)	14%	8.3% (-5.7%)
Sydney	10%	4.16% (-5.84%)	25%	70.8% (+45.8%)	50%	16.7% (-33.3%)
Melbourne	27%	40% (+13%)	36%	46.7% (+10.7%)	18%	6.7% (-11.3%)
Brisbane	32%	30% (-2%)	31%	30% (-1%)	0%	0%
Canberra	27%	5.5% (-21.5%)	20%	77.8% (+57.7%)	33%	16.7% (-16.3%)
Hobart	0%	42.9% (+42.9%)	18%	57.1% (+39.1%)	0%	0%
Perth	19%	35.7% (+16.7%)	13%	35.7% (+22.7%)	0%	0%
Darwin	33%	66.6% (+33.6%)	0%	33.3% (+33.3%)	0%	0%

## DAILY FEES

Average Daily Fees Per City	2013	2014
Adelaide	\$79.17	\$79.13
Perth	\$89.95	\$93.24
Melbourne	\$96.53	\$103.22
Sydney	\$101.54	\$105.7
Hobart	\$79.15	\$83.41
Darwin	\$71.55	\$85.53
Brisbane	\$75.85	\$82.93
ACT	\$86.95	\$89.95

## AVIALABILITY COMPARISONS to 2013

### 4: BABY ROOMS (0-2)

Location	2014 Unavailability %	2013 Unavailability %
Adelaide	74	74
Brisbane	81	78
Sydney	70	83
Perth	40	61
Canberra	73	79
Melbourne	70	76
Hobart	84	56
Darwin	65	70
Total Surveyed	69.6%	72.13%

### 5: TODDLERS (25-35 months)

Location	2014 Unavailability %	2013 Unavailability %
Adelaide	67	63
Brisbane	53	61
Sydney	66	73
Perth	34	58
Canberra	70	90
Melbourne	65	74
Hobart	72	47
Darwin	45	30
Total Surveyed	59%	62.00%

**6: PRESCHOOLERS (35 months +)**

<b>Location</b>	<b>2014 Unavailability %</b>	<b>2013 Unavailability %</b>
<b>Adelaide</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Brisbane</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Sydney</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Perth</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Canberra</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Melbourne</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Hobart</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Darwin</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Total Surveyed</b>	<b>39.5%</b>	<b>62.00%</b>