

Child Care Subsidy Program

Threads of Progress: CCSP Year in Review and What's to Come!

FALL 2025 BPRO
TRAINING



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SOCIAL SERVICES

AGENDA AND OVERVIEW

- This session will provide an overview of updates to policy and structure for the Child Care Subsidy Program over the past year and take a glance at what to expect in the upcoming year.
- VDSS and VDOE New Agency Organizational Structure and Staffing
- CCSP Data Trends
- Guidance Changes and Priorities for FY26
 - T225 Interim Guidance
 - HB407
 - Job Search
 - Copayment Scale
 - T226
- Slot Allocation Update
- Child Care PASS: Attendance Tracking
- Discussion and Questions

WELCOME! – “ROLE CALL”

Room Poll- How do you define your current role?

- Benefit Program Specialist/Supervisor
- Family Service Specialist/Supervisor
- Self-Sufficiency Specialist/Supervisor
- Senior Worker
- Benefit/Family Service/Self-Sufficiency Program Managers
- LDSS Director

Section 1:

Updates on State Agency Organizational Structures



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TRANSITION OVERVIEW: VDSS TO VDOE

- As of June 25, 2025, the Vendor Relations and Payment Accuracy teams have transitioned from the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). Vendor Relations is now known as CCSP Provider Services.
- VDOE's organizational structure is also shifting to better reflect and support the operations of the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP), including provider services, program operations, and ECCE access and system alignment.

Department of Early Childhood Access, Enrollment, and Policy

Office of Early Childhood
Public-Private Provider
Services

Office of Early Childhood Policy
and Innovation

Office of Child Care Subsidy
Program Operations

Provides
support/resources
to subsidy providers

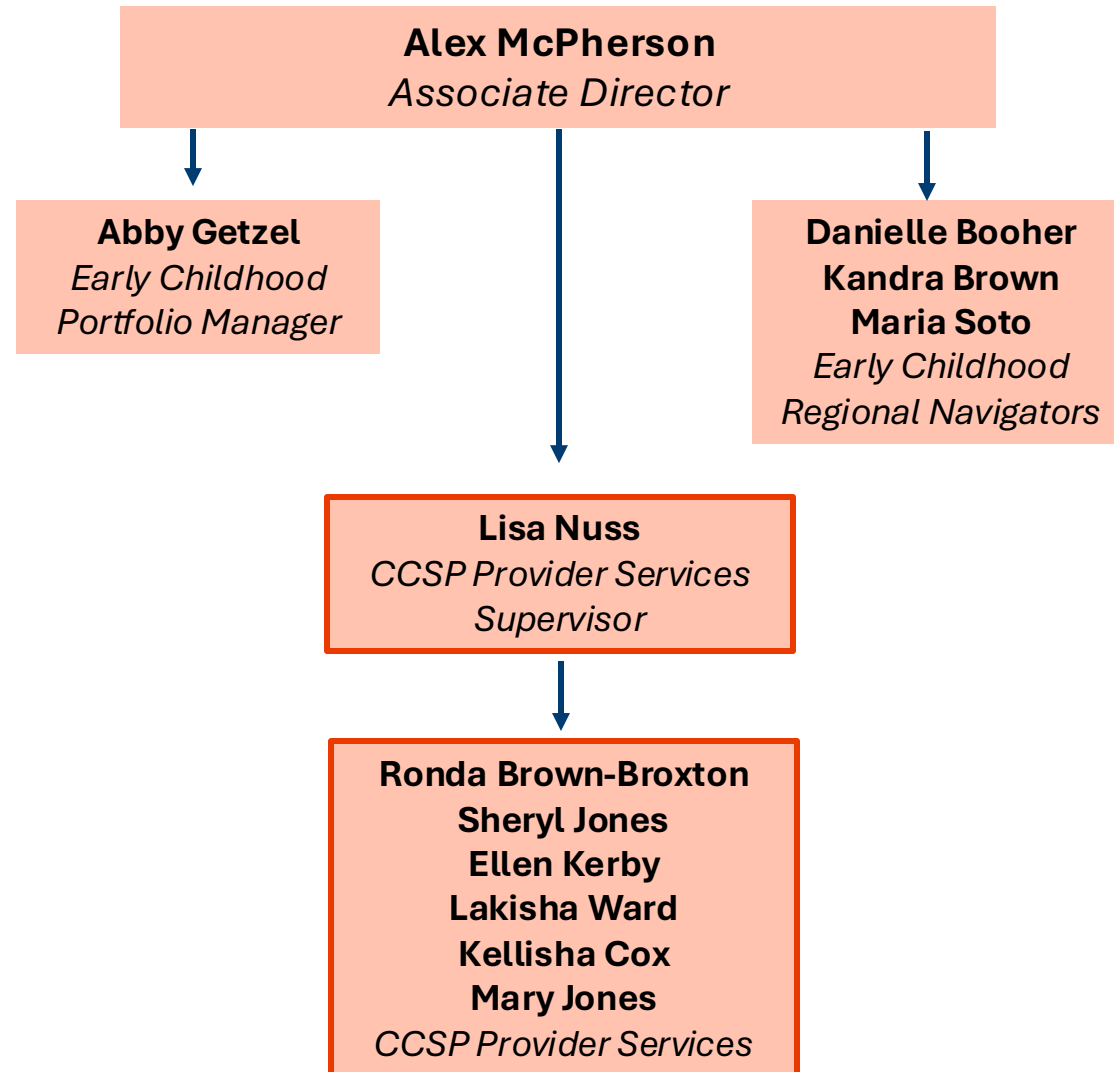
Guides/supports CCSP
data and knowledge-
building

CCSP policy/guidance,
LDSS and family
support, payment
accuracy

Office of Early Childhood Public-Private Provider Services

Expand and support the portfolio of privately-operated, publicly-funded providers

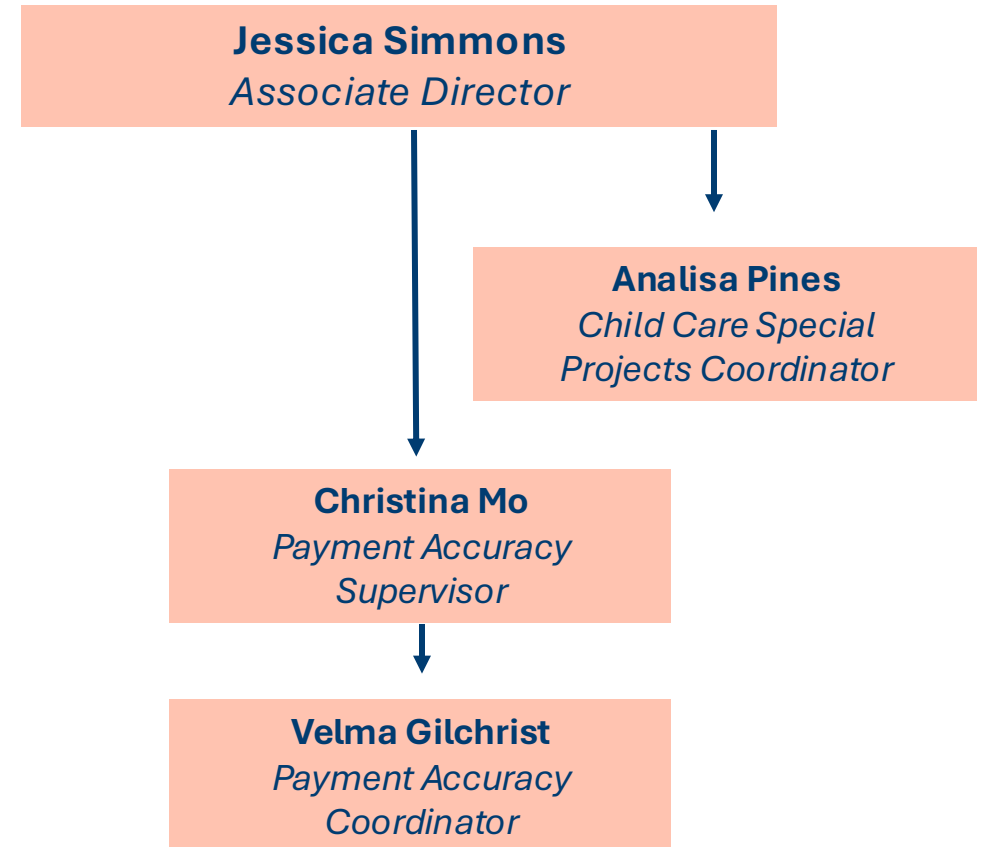
- Building on partnerships with 3,000 providers and promote a culture of customer service
- Processing applications and facilitating provider management for the CCSP
- Establishing and maintaining clear, consistent expectations for participation in state-administered publicly-funded programs
- Refining and scaling an innovative, regionalized navigator model to offer 1-1 assistance to providers that need support to apply for or participate in publicly-funded programs



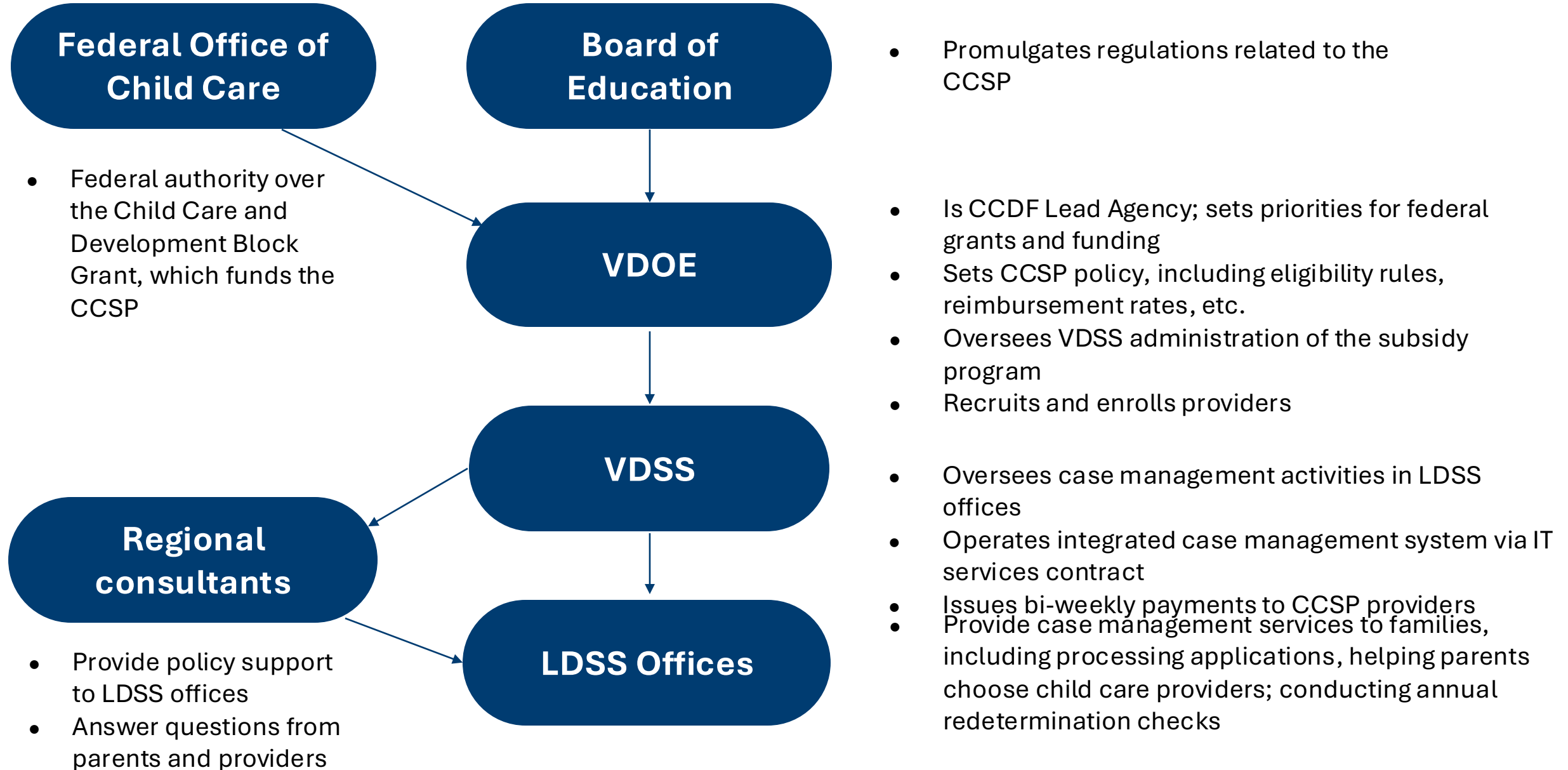
Office of Child Care Subsidy Program Operations

Strategic oversight of application, enrollment, and case management functions in the CCSP

- Building on partnerships with VDSS and 120 local departments of social services to facilitate continuous improvement and ensure the program is positioned to be continuously responsive to family demand
- Using data to identify trends and areas for improved family experience and reduced administrative burden
- Managing complex IT projects to achieve program goals
- Implementing priority policy and process changes and monitoring intended impacts
- Ensuring program policies are carried out with fidelity via triennial reviews, subrecipient monitoring, and training and resources



CCSP Oversight as of July 1, 2025



Section 2:

CCSP Data Trends



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GOING FORWARD: A NEW HIGH IN ACCESS

Biennial State Budget made historic investments for ECCE via Building Blocks — ~\$1.2 billion in state funding over the biennium, two-thirds of which is state funding.

- FY26 budget dedicates \$593 million towards ECCE, including the largest ever single year state investment in early childhood of \$462 million.
- FY26 funding will support up to ~5,200 additional slots beyond FY25 enrollment.
- New state law ensures that dollars more closely follow parent choice.

More children will have access to publicly-funded slots in FY26 than ever before.

Program	Slots Available for FY26	Change from FY25 Slots Used	Change from 2018	Percent Increase from 2018
Total	74, 793	+5,187	+37,818	102%
Child Care Subsidy Program	47,676	+ 4,126	+28,875	153%
Virginia Preschool Initiative	24,487	+ 961	+6,563	37%
Mixed Delivery Program	2,630	+ 100*	+2,380	952%

Source: FY 2019-2024 Enrollment Data – VDOE *Note: VECF and Ready Regions maximized funds in FY25 to serve more slots than allocated in the budget and will continue to do the same in FY26 and beyond.

CONTINUING TO ADDRESS WAITLISTS

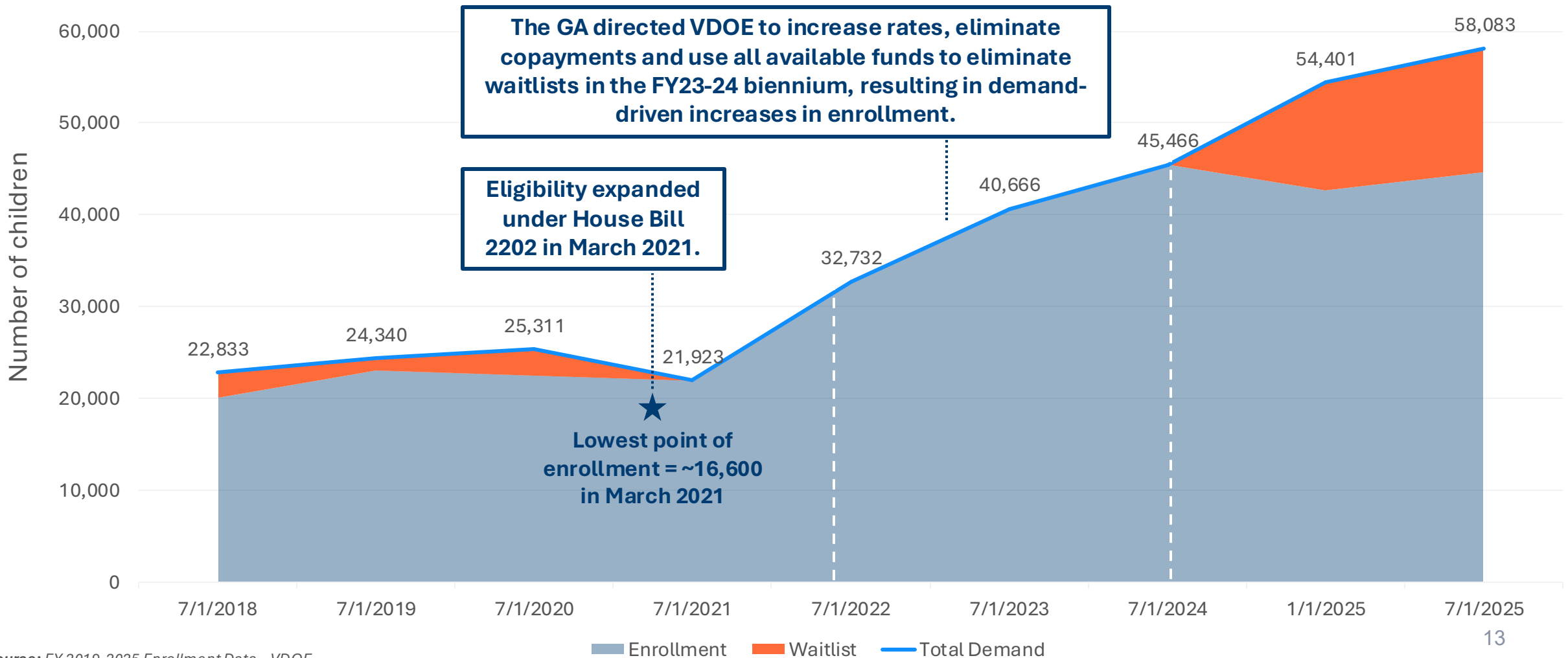
For every 5 slots in CCSP and Mixed Delivery, 1 child is on a waitlist.

- Historic state investments in FY25-26 biennial budget ensured that no children would lose services following the end of pandemic funding.
- However, there has been ongoing growth in parental demand from working families, including households of school-age children. As a result, waitlists in CCSP and Mixed Delivery grew steadily during FY25.
 - Currently, ~13,500 children are on CCSP waitlists – 60% of which are birth-5.
 - Currently, ~2,000 children are on Mixed Delivery waitlists.

	Children on CCSP Waitlist (7/1/25)		Children on MD Waitlist (6/18/25)	
	Number	As % of Waitlist	Number	As % of Waitlist
Infants/Toddlers	4,568	34%	1,381	71%
Preschool (3-5 yrs)	3,533	26%	572	29%
School-Age (6+)	5,385	40%	-	
Total	13,486		1,953	

WORKING FAMILIES DRIVE GROWING DEMAND

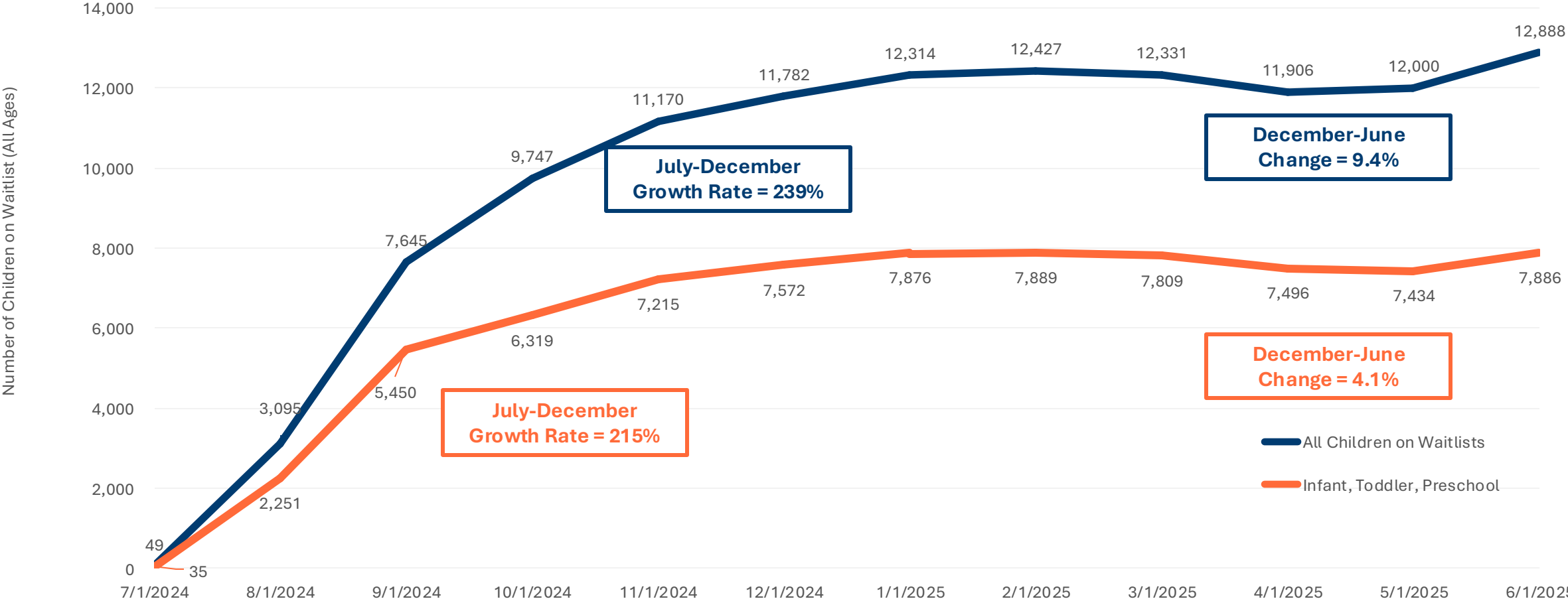
Demand for CCSP has increased consistently year over year since 2021.



CHILD CARE WAITLISTS CONTINUE TO GROW

Rate of growth of waitlists has slowed as working families face difficult choices.

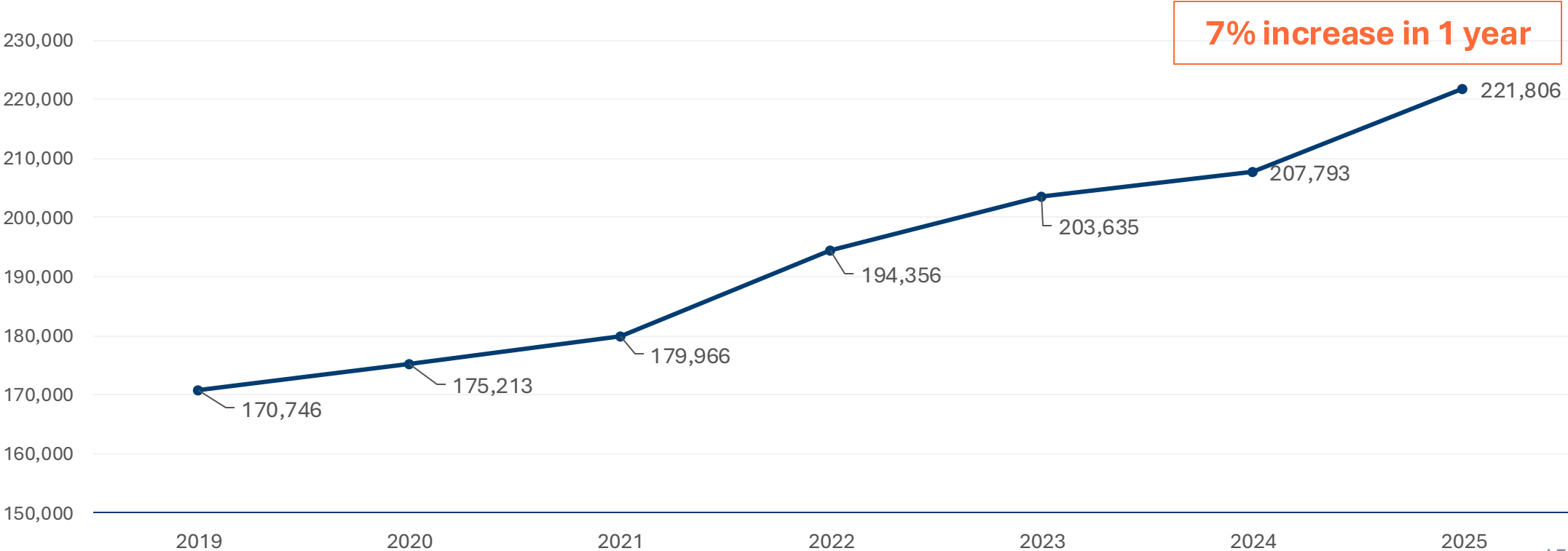
FY25 CCSP Waitlist Counts, by Month



MORE PRIVATE PROVIDERS TAKE PUBLIC FUNDS

More private providers are choosing to take public funds, with maximum capacity increasing by 30% since 2019.

Capacity to Serve Publicly-Funded Children in Private Settings in Virginia, 2019-2025

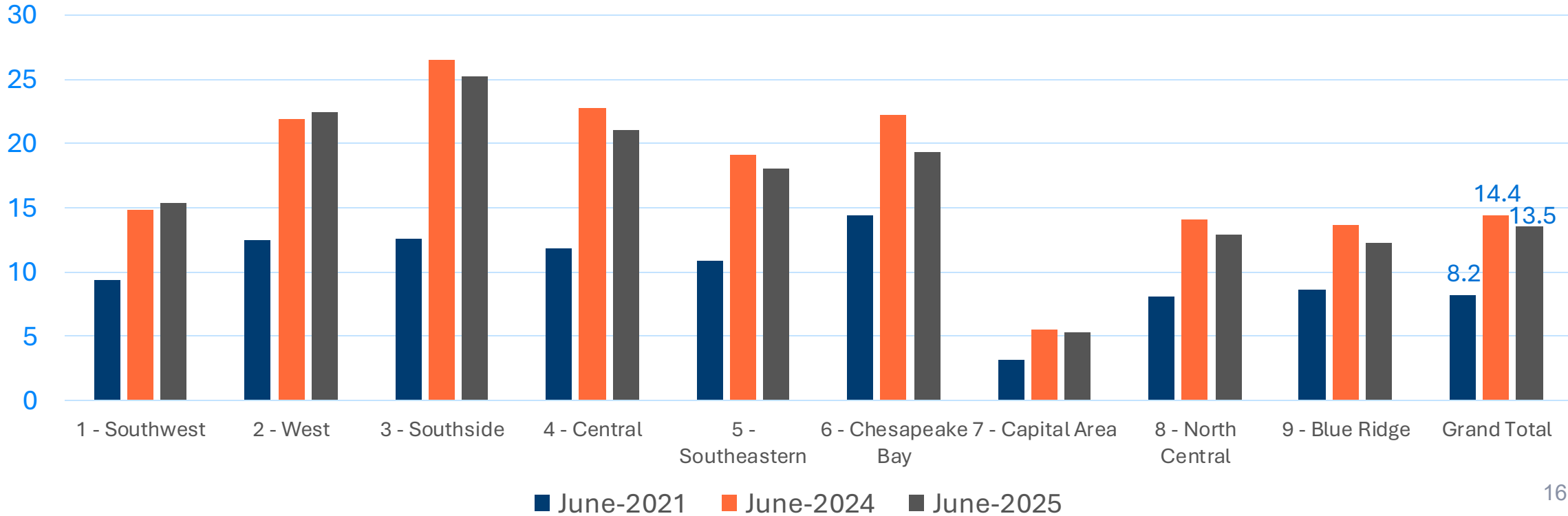


Source: ECCE Site Data – VDOE

MORE CCSP PROVIDERS, MORE CCSP KIDS PER PROVIDER

CCSP supply has grown because 1) more providers take CCSP and 2) CCSP providers are serving more CCSP kids than before. However, CCSP kids per provider has dropped in response to waitlists since 7/1/2024.

Average Number of CCSP Authorizations per CCSP Provider



KEY PRIORITIES FOR FY26

To better support local staff and families, CCSP is working to improve operations, technology, and communication. This involves clearer messaging, improved tools, and more strategic planning of systems. These initiatives will help streamline program management and improve processing across localities. Our goals include the following:

- Improving program communications and resources for T225 and future transmittals
- Improving waitlist processing time and increasing efficiency of slot allocation
- Implementing and monitoring Child Care PASS, the new attendance tracking system

Section 3:

Guidance Changes and Priorities for FY26



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T225 INTERIM GUIDANCE

Transmittal 225 CCSP Guidance manual is currently awaiting approval by the ORM. In the meantime, localities should refer to Interim Guidance posted on Fusion.

- **HB407** – Families receiving Medicaid (MA) or WIC are automatically income-eligible for CCSP (with continued verification at redetermination).
- **Copayments** – A revised flat monthly per-child copayment schedule, capped at three children per household and not to exceed five percent of gross household income, was applied.
- **Job Search** – Families may receive up to 90 days of subsidized care while seeking work, with one possible 90-day extension for extraordinary circumstances.
- **Waitlist** – Standard screening and quarterly updates required; families prioritized in two tiers, with tracking of funding and available slots in VaCMS.

Interim guidance replaces prior manual sections until T225 is published; ensures compliance with Ch. 725 and HB407 requirements.

Source: [CCSP Interim Guidance July 1 2025](#)

(Waitlist, Copayments, HB407, and Job Search) 19

HB407: CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY FOR MA AND WIC PARTICIPANTS

- [HB407](#) Provides that any family that receives public assistance through Medicaid (MA) or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) also satisfies income eligibility requirements to receive assistance through the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP).
- CR873 in the March 2025 release made the necessary changes in VaCMS for LDSS to appropriately implement.
- Resources available on Fusion for implementation and clarification
 - [How to Implement \(QRG\)](#)
 - [Checking MA in VaCMS](#)
 - [HB407 FAQ 5.13.25](#)
 - [Self-Attestation Form-English](#)
 - [Self-Attestation Form- Spanish](#)
 - [WIC Verification Form- English](#)

TIME LIMIT ON JOB SEARCH

At the direction of the General Assembly, CCSP now allows parents and guardians to receive child care assistance for up to 90 days while actively seeking employment.

- Conditional approval allows families to receive subsidized child care services while they secure employment and/or enroll in an education or training program (as long as they have not received services under the job search provision in the prior 12 months).
- In extraordinary circumstances, families may be approved for a one-time 90-day extension.
 - Extraordinary circumstances may include agency processing delays, unforeseeable challenges that prevented parents from looking for or accepting an offer of employment, or additional time needed to complete the job search process
- Families with verifiable job loss in the last 90 days can qualify for 90-day conditional approval when reporting job search as their only activity

REVISED COPAYMENT SCALE

At the direction of the General Assembly, Virginia revised the CCSP copayment scale so more children can be served across the state.

- The new CCSP Copayment Scale went into effect on July 1, 2025.
- Most families will pay a little more per child, but the maximum amount any family will pay was reduced from 7% to 5% of household income.
- Cost savings associated with the changes to copayments will free up funding for ~1,200 additional slots in the CCSP.

Income Threshold	Previous Copayment Scale Before July 1, 2025	Current FY 26 Copayment Scale
Income = \$0	\$0	\$0
>0-100% FPG	\$0	\$5
101-150% FPG	\$60	\$125
151-200% FPG		\$175
201-250% FPG	\$120	\$225
251-300% FPG		\$275
301-350% FPG	\$180	\$325
351% FPG - 85% SMI		\$375
Maximum total copayment	7% of family income	5% of family income

UPCOMING CCSP POLICY CHANGES

The CCSP team is currently working on Transmittal 226. Upcoming additions, amendments, and retractions are aimed to be published late Spring 2026.

- Current Special Needs Rate procedures will be permanent.
- Further in-depth fraud and repayment clarification.
- Updating Attendance Tracking System (PASS) Information
- Name change process clarification

If there are other policy clarifications that would be helpful, please provide recommendations via your Regional Practice Consultant.

Section 4:

Slot Allocation Update



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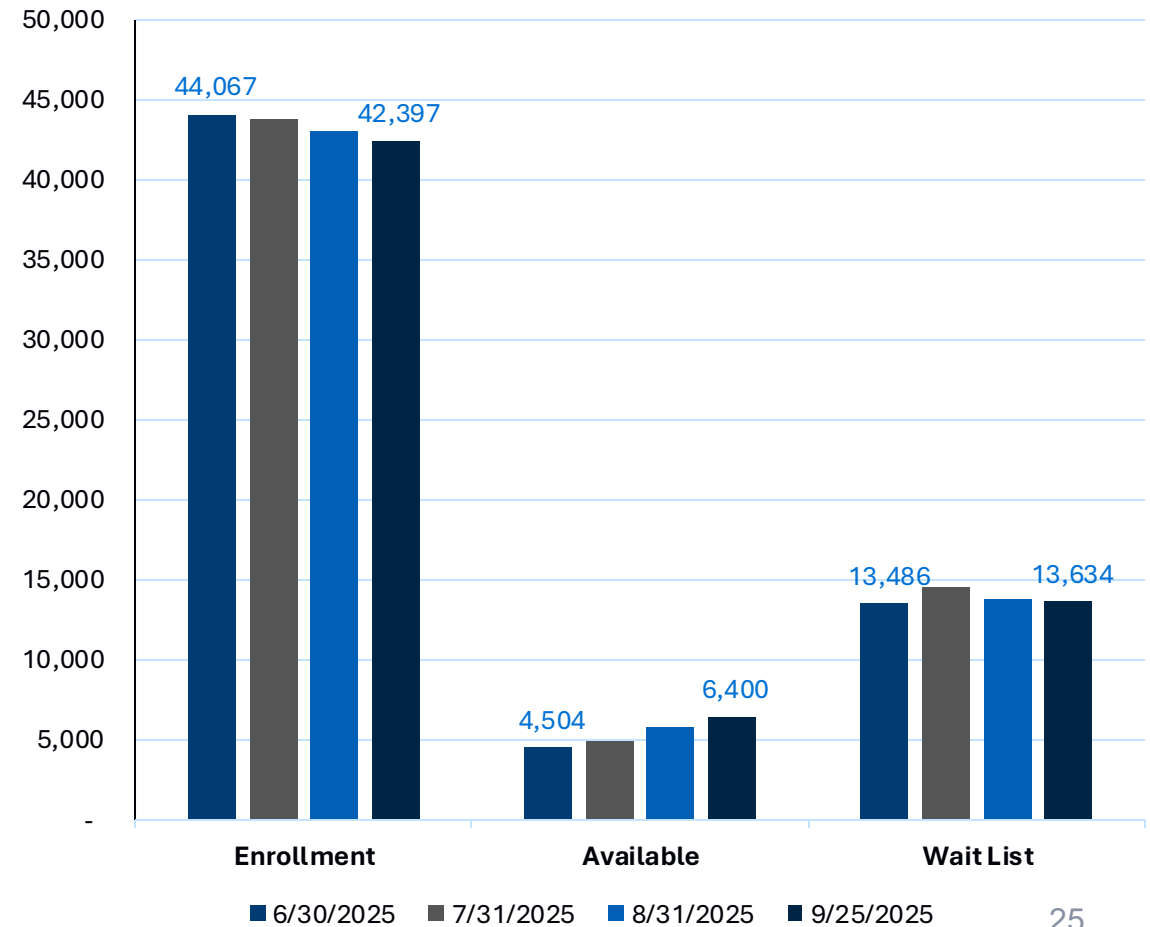
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DATA SHOWS NEED TO ACT TO REDUCE UNUSED SLOTS

- Statewide, **enrollment** has decreased by 1,670 since 6/30/25
- Available/**unused slots** have increased by 1,896
- Currently **6,400 unused slots** available
- **13,634** children remain on the waitlist

All BLs	Enrollment	Available	Waitlist
6/30/2025	44,067	4,504	13,486
7/31/2025	43,838	4,851	14,566
8/31/2025	42,985	5,782	13,766
9/25/2025	42,397	6,400	13,634

Trends Since 6/30/25



TWO-PART SOLUTION: ADJUST ALLOCATIONS AND MAINTAIN SLOTS AT THE STATE LEVEL

1. VDOE will ensure that localities do not have more slots available than they are able to utilize by fiscal year end by making adjustments to local targets that account for processing capacity.
 - Multiple localities will see targets adjusted downward but 3,615 unused slots will be retained by localities to provide a reasonable cushion.
2. At the same time, VDOE will create a statewide pool of slots for immediate need, specifically once a locality has met its target and has children ready to authorize for enrollment.
 - 2,130 slots will be stored in a statewide pool to be allocated based on requests in VaCMS for children ready to be authorized for enrollment.

This will eliminate the large number of unused available slots while still meeting true needs and will improve statewide enrollment and waitlist numbers.

NEW STATEWIDE POOL FOR IMMEDIATE NEEDS

- Management of the statewide pool:
 - Additional slots may be requested in VaCMS if the locality has more children ready to be authorized for enrollment than there are available slots.
 - Requests will be reviewed and approved/denied by VDOE within 2 business days.
 - All mandatory BL 871 TANF requests will continue to be approved for children ready to authorize for enrollment, regardless of the statewide count.
- Ongoing monitoring and adjustments:
 - VDOE will monitor encumbrance and WL reports for additional needs to prevent disruption to the locality's processing of authorizations.
 - Statewide pool of available slots may be adjusted up or down throughout the year based on projected available funds.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE FIELD

Here is how VDOE and VDSS will communicate this change to the field:

Before initial slot reallocation:

- Conduct statewide webinars so all 120 local offices can ask questions and prepare;
- Provide localities with adjusted slot counts, noting changes were made based on the average monthly change in enrollment by locality from FY23 to date;

On an ongoing basis:

- Provide monthly updates on waitlist totals and the balance of slots maintained by the state; and
- Respond to individual questions in a timely manner.

Section 5:

**Child Care PASS:
Virginia's Approach
to Modernized Attendance
Tracking**



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KEY FEATURES DESIGNED TO SUPPORT PROVIDERS AND FAMILIES

Virginia is partnering with KinderSystems to launch a new, modernized attendance tracking system called Child Care Program, Attendance, and Schedule System (PASS) on December 1, 2025. Key features of the system include:

- The new system reduces administrative burden by simplifying attendance tracking and reducing manual errors.
- Accurate attendance records support timely and full subsidy payments for providers.
 - No manual attendance necessary
 - Providers to enter operating schedules, including planned days of closure
- Families can log absences remotely using the mobile app, providers can also log attendance on their behalf if a parent forgets to check in or out.
- Flexible pickup authorization allows parents to designate trusted individuals to sign children in and out.
- Providers can use the attendance recording functionality for all families. Only attendance data for publicly funded children is submitted to the state.

HELPING FAMILIES AND PROVIDERS TRANSITION SMOOTHLY

Providers and families may have PASS questions or feedback. Here's where to direct them:

- Providers will be asked verify their contact and mailing information with the provider services team, and can email those updates to: providerservices@doe.virginia.gov
- Providers and families will receive training materials, including guides and videos, for using Kinder Sign and Kinder Smart: <https://vapass.info/>
- LDSS can view all new information sent to providers on Fusion under the CCSP's VDOE's CCSP Provider Services tab.
- The state will offer a help desk to provide technical support to providers and families during and after system implementation:
supportva@kindersystems.com or 1-888-211-6884
- Feedback from providers and families will continue to inform updates to training materials, messaging, and system improvements. Send to: childcarepass@doe.virginia.gov.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR PROVIDERS & STAKEHOLDERS

Date/Schedule	Event/Activity
October 27, 2025	Tablets start shipping to providers
November 3, 2025	Providers & families can create accounts (KinderConnect, KinderSign, KinderSmart)
November 3, 2025, and ongoing through end of December	Provider Training Webinars <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2x weekly KinderSmart/Sign sessions (~2.5 hours each).• 1x weekly KinderBridge session (~1.5 hours each).• 1x weekly office hour(s).
December 1, 2025	Child Care PASS goes live! All attendance is recorded in PASS going forward.
Dates and training information will be continuously updated on: https://vapass.info/	

Section 6:

Closing Reflections



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QUESTIONS?

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1. Scan Code
2. Submit your question(s)!

Appendix