

MPSS - Verifying Desired Capacity

Key Terms:

- **Licensed Capacity** is the **total number** of children the program is **licensed or legally allowed** to serve at one time.
- **Desired Capacity** is the **total number** of children the program **chooses** to serve at one time.

Overview

The More Details table in FCCO collects a program's **licensed and desired capacity** for each age group. For the Market Price and Supply Study, it is important to understand how to report desired capacity.

Many programs choose to **serve fewer** children at any time than allowed by licensing because of *physical space, staffing, and family needs*. However, the **Desired Capacity must never exceed the licensed capacity**. The amount of children a program chooses to serve at any given time must be reported under Desired Capacity.

+ More Details:		
Age Group	Licensed Capacity	Desired Capacity
Infant (6wks-24mos)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Toddler (24mos-36mos)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Preschool (3-5yrs)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
School Age	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Example Scenarios

- A center is **licensed for 40** preschool-age children, but program decides to **serve only up to 20** preschool-age children at any time. The center's licensed capacity for preschoolers is 40, and the **desired capacity is 20**.
- A part-day program **serves 10 toddlers** in the **morning** and **10 different toddlers** in the **afternoon**. The **desired capacity would be 10** children because is **number** of children **served at one point in time**.

Desired Capacity that changes over time.

- **Programs that have different desired capacities at different times of day:** Report desired capacity at the time when the **largest number** of children could be **in attendance**.
- **i.e.,** "think about the point of your day that you would have the most children in the program. How many children do you have at that point in time?"
- **Programs that have different desired capacities at different times of year:** Report the **current** desired capacity as of this month.
- **Programs that have different desired capacities depending on the age mix of the children attending the program:** Report the **ideal number** by each age group they **would prefer to serve**
- **i.e.,** if you were to have a golden ratio, how many children would you serve by age group?. If unsure, report the **number currently served** by age group as of today.