

Resident seating



Photo: Kwalu

Snapshot

Highest priced unit:	\$1,011
Average priced unit:	\$690
Lowest priced unit:	\$350

Pricing Trends

2008-2009:	+3%
2009-2010:	+3% to +5%
2010-2011:	+3% to +5%

Typical delivery time: 5 to 6 weeks

Typical delivery charges: Varies by location

Average life span of product: 9 years

Standard warranty: 8 years

Extended warranty: Not available

Average maintenance cost per year:
Routine cleaning

(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)

Source: Direct Supply, Fairfield Chair, Invacare Continuing Care Group, RLPS Architects

FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"A good seat for a resident would have armrests that they could reach back for and help guide them into the seat. It should not be too low. Remember, it is hard for residents to get in and out of low chairs. We are seeing more bariatric residents so the seats need to be wide to accommodate heavier residents. We will soon be getting some more lift recliners. Many residents are asking for recliners because they like to sleep in them for comfort, or for their breathing."

Barbara Ries, RN, Director of Nursing
The Holmstad of Batavia, Batavia, IL

Buyer Notes

- Seating should be able to help with positioning or postural support that can increase stability, sitting tolerance, functionality and overall good outcomes for the resident. Contoured surfaces also help provide positioning for the lower extremities and increase surface area for pressure distribution.
- Fabric should be water-resistant and nonporous, and the chair itself needs to be durable, stable and functional.
- Recliners and rockers are increasingly popular. The rocking motion can be soothing for residents, especially those with memory care issues.
- Increasingly, providers are letting residents bring chairs from home. However, a personal chair should be returned to the family or disposed of following a resident's death.

**For a list of vendors go to the:
FURNISHINGS & FURNITURE section, pages 94-96**