

Meeting the Challenge of Child Care in New Jersey County Data



In New Jersey, about 412,000 children five and under live in families where all parents work. Not only do these children's parents need safe, nurturing care, employers need parents with reliable care so their employees can come to work. Child care is more than a family issue. It is also an economic issue.

The typical New Jersey family spends nearly a quarter of its annual salary on child care and has few ways to determine whether that care is good for their children. Low-income and single-parent households face an even tougher financial battle. The typical low-income family of two young children spends nearly half -- 44 percent -- of income on child care, while a single parent spends 73 percent, according to *Meeting the Child Care Challenge: A Kids Count Special Report* by Advocates for Children of New Jersey, a statewide child action and research organization. That is much higher than the recommended 10 percent of income.

Child care costs and quality vary widely across the state. The following charts provide county-level data in certain key areas, including the number of children living in working-parent households and how much care costs by county. To view the full report, visit www.acnj.org.

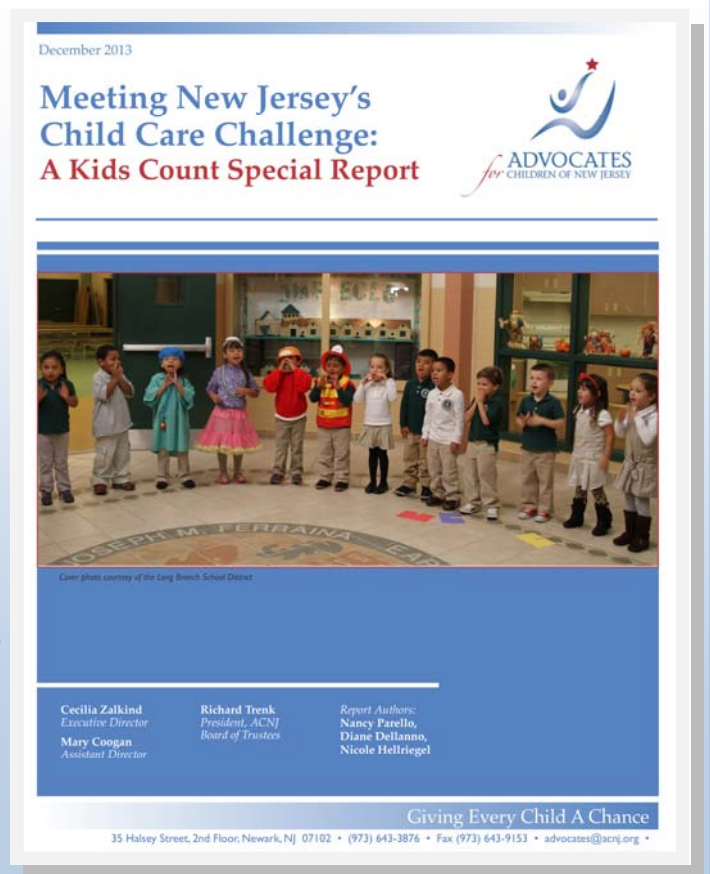
Right from the Start

This report is part of Advocates for Children of New Jersey's ongoing **Right from the Start Campaign**, aimed at improving the safety, health and well-being of New Jersey's youngest children.

This initiative examines issues and advances change to give children the strongest possible start. A coordinated early care and education system, starting at birth and continuing into a child's early elementary years, is the foundation to ensure that children are reading on target by 3rd grade. This early literacy is key to long-term school success. Child care is a critical piece of an effective early learning system, as is high-quality preschool and early intervention programs.

While New Jersey has some aspects of a strong early care and education system in place— quality preschools for some children and growing use of home visitation services — there is still much more to do before we can say that all children are getting off to the right start.

To learn more, visit www.acnj.org.



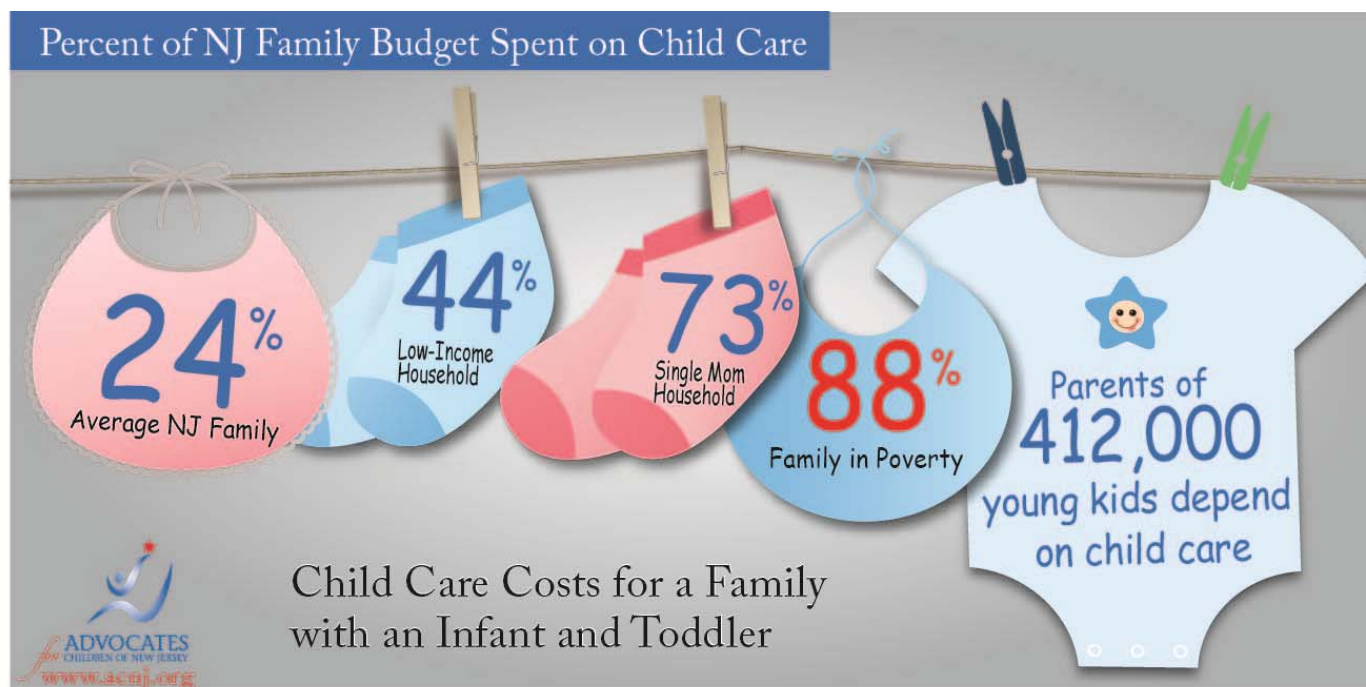
Giving Every Child A Chance

YOUNG CHILDREN WITH WORKING PARENTS - 2012

| County | # Children 0 - 5 with All Parents Working | % of Children 0 - 5 with All Parents Working |
|------------|---|--|
| Atlantic | 13,909 | 70 |
| Bergen | 34,367 | 60 |
| Burlington | 20,761 | 73 |
| Camden | 27,577 | 72 |
| Cape May | 3,146 | 66 |
| Cumberland | 8,759 | 74 |
| Essex | 45,373 | 74 |
| Gloucester | 14,165 | 69 |
| Hudson | 32,987 | 66 |
| Hunterdon | N/A | N/A |
| Mercer | 17,765 | 69 |
| Middlesex | 36,846 | 63 |
| Monmouth | 26,102 | 66 |
| Morris | 20,811 | 64 |
| Ocean | 24,039 | 52 |
| Passaic | 23,814 | 62 |
| Salem | 3,071 | 71 |
| Somerset | 15,837 | 71 |
| Sussex | 5,557 | 68 |
| Union | 28,421 | 72 |
| Warren | 4,220 | 71 |
| New Jersey | 412,293 | 66 |

Includes children in families where both parents work and children in single parent households where that parent works. Data not available for Hunterdon County due to small sample size.

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, chart b23008.



Median income and single mother income data are as reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year Estimates, charts b19125 and b19126. Low-income and poverty guideline data are as reported by the US Department of Health & Human Services,

Licensed Child Care Centers - 2013

| County | Number of Centers that Offer Care for Children Ages 0 - 5 | Capacity of Centers that Offer Care to Children Ages 0 - 5 | Total Number of Licensed Child Care Centers | Total Capacity of all Child Care Centers |
|-------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Atlantic | 86 | 5,233 | 92 | 5,583 |
| Bergen | 326 | 29,327 | 422 | 37,919 |
| Burlington | 122 | 10,874 | 148 | 12,747 |
| Camden | 174 | 15,993 | 221 | 19,838 |
| Cape May | 26 | 1,301 | 27 | 1,376 |
| Cumberland | 48 | 5,178 | 61 | 6,506 |
| Essex | 387 | 31,749 | 517 | 45,173 |
| Gloucester | 91 | 7,239 | 127 | 9,184 |
| Hudson | 286 | 19,686 | 303 | 21,610 |
| Hunterdon | 46 | 4,083 | 78 | 6,971 |
| Mercer | 160 | 14,422 | 213 | 19,499 |
| Middlesex | 229 | 21,234 | 309 | 28,199 |
| Monmouth | 213 | 19,265 | 285 | 23,999 |
| Morris | 194 | 16,824 | 253 | 21,026 |
| Ocean | 121 | 9,483 | 141 | 10,911 |
| Passaic | 169 | 14,902 | 228 | 21,063 |
| Salem | 19 | 1,125 | 22 | 1,455 |
| Somerset | 130 | 14,855 | 174 | 19,860 |
| Sussex | 51 | 3,149 | 72 | 4,142 |
| Union | 190 | 17,736 | 275 | 23,181 |
| Warren | 40 | 2,391 | 47 | 2,704 |
| New Jersey | 3,108 | 266,049 | 4,015 | 342,946 |

Source: NJ Department of Children and Families, Office of Licensing. Capacity data include Head Start and Early Head Start enrollment.



REGISTERED FAMILY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS - 2012

| County | Number of Registered Family Child Care Providers | Estimated Capacity |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|
| Atlantic | 59 | 295 |
| Bergen | 89 | 445 |
| Burlington | 120 | 600 |
| Camden | 124 | 620 |
| Cape May | 15 | 75 |
| Cumberland | 70 | 350 |
| Essex | 384 | 1,920 |
| Gloucester | 63 | 315 |
| Hudson | 366 | 1,830 |
| Hunterdon | 22 | 110 |
| Mercer | 69 | 345 |
| Middlesex | 124 | 620 |
| Monmouth | 106 | 530 |
| Morris | 69 | 345 |
| Ocean | 58 | 290 |
| Passaic | 253 | 1,265 |
| Salem | 40 | 200 |
| Somerset | 31 | 155 |
| Sussex | 33 | 165 |
| Union | 135 | 675 |
| Warren | 36 | 180 |
| New Jersey | 2,266 | 11,330 |

Source: As reported by the NJ Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NJACCRRRA), *The State of Child Care in New Jersey: A Profile of Key Child Care Indicators 2012*. Estimated capacity is based on each provider caring for a maximum of five children.



CHILD CARE COSTS - 2012

| County | Average Annual Cost of Full-Time, Licensed Center- Based Care for Infants Age 1 and Under | Infant Child Care as a % of Median Income | Average Annual Cost of Full-Time, Licensed Center- Based Child Care for Preschoolers | Preschool Child Care as a % of Median Income |
|-------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Atlantic | \$9,388 | 17 | \$8,054 | 15 |
| Bergen | \$13,214 | 12 | \$10,960 | 10 |
| Burlington | \$9,980 | 11 | \$8,473 | 9 |
| Camden | \$10,342 | 14 | \$8,570 | 12 |
| Cape May | \$8,372 | 14 | \$7,176 | 12 |
| Cumberland | \$8,640 | 17 | \$7,205 | 14 |
| Essex | \$10,411 | 18 | \$9,038 | 15 |
| Gloucester | \$10,095 | 11 | \$8,736 | 9 |
| Hudson | \$8,424 | 16 | \$7,176 | 14 |
| Hunterdon | \$13,052 | 10 | \$11,700 | 9 |
| Mercer | \$13,351 | 13 | \$10,598 | 11 |
| Middlesex | \$10,397 | 11 | \$10,335 | 11 |
| Monmouth | \$12,087 | 12 | \$9,512 | 9 |
| Morris | \$14,214 | 12 | \$10,975 | 9 |
| Ocean | \$10,972 | 14 | \$9,048 | 11 |
| Passaic | \$10,663 | 18 | \$8,651 | 15 |
| Salem | \$9,813 | 13 | \$7,749 | 10 |
| Somerset | \$14,450 | 13 | \$12,445 | 11 |
| Sussex | \$10,920 | 11 | \$9,256 | 9 |
| Union | \$12,220 | 17 | \$9,534 | 13 |
| Warren | \$8,944 | 10 | \$7,384 | 8 |
| New Jersey | \$10,949 | 13 | \$9,170 | 11 |

Median income data are as reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, chart b19125.

Source: As reported by the NJ Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NJACCRRA), *The State of Child Care in New Jersey: A Profile of Key Child Care Indicators 2012*.



REGISTERED FAMILY CHILD CARE COSTS - 2012

| County | Average Annual Cost of Full-Time Registered Family Child Care for Infants Age 1 and Under | Registered Family Child Care for Infants as a % of Median Income | Average Annual Cost of Full-Time Registered Family Child Care for Preschoolers | Registered Family Child Care for Preschoolers as a % of Median Income |
|------------|---|--|--|---|
| Atlantic | \$7,549 | 14 | \$6,604 | 12 |
| Bergen | \$9,423 | 9 | \$7,283 | 7 |
| Burlington | \$8,041 | 9 | \$7,072 | 8 |
| Camden | \$7,488 | 10 | \$6,279 | 9 |
| Cape May | \$7,904 | 13 | \$7,020 | 11 |
| Cumberland | \$7,912 | 15 | \$6,727 | 13 |
| Essex | \$7,472 | 13 | \$6,894 | 12 |
| Gloucester | \$8,528 | 9 | \$7,696 | 8 |
| Hudson | \$5,374 | 10 | \$5,951 | 11 |
| Hunterdon | \$11,492 | 9 | \$11,336 | 9 |
| Mercer | \$8,103 | 8 | \$6,218 | 6 |
| Middlesex | \$8,879 | 10 | \$8,041 | 9 |
| Monmouth | \$8,335 | 8 | \$7,051 | 7 |
| Morris | \$10,167 | 9 | \$9,478 | 8 |
| Ocean | \$9,932 | 13 | \$8,528 | 11 |
| Passaic | \$8,666 | 15 | \$7,969 | 14 |
| Salem | \$7,367 | 10 | \$6,053 | 8 |
| Somerset | \$10,743 | 10 | \$9,904 | 9 |
| Sussex | \$9,568 | 9 | \$9,360 | 8 |
| Union | \$7,864 | 11 | \$6,426 | 9 |
| Warren | \$8,112 | 9 | \$6,916 | 8 |
| New Jersey | \$8,520 | 10 | \$7,562 | 9 |

Median income data are as reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, chart b19125.

Source: As reported by the NJ Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NJACCRRRA), *The State of Child Care in New Jersey: A Profile of Key Child Care Indicators 2012*.

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