



# Newark Kids Count 2016



## A City Profile of Child Well-Being

Advocates for Children of New Jersey

35 Halsey Street

Newark, NJ 07102

973.643.3876

[www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org)

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**Prudential  
Foundation**

# Newark's Child Population

Black: 51%

Hispanic: 41%

Other: 25%

6% White

In 2014,  
**72,000**  
children called  
Newark home.



*Note: Total percentages for each year exceed 100% as survey participants could indicate more than one choice.*

# Family Structure

- The majority of households were headed by a single parent in 2014.
  - **60%** of Newark households
    - Compared to **43%** of Essex households and **31%** of NJ households overall.
- The number of children being cared for by their grandparents decreased since 2010 by **6%**.
  - Yet, more children under 18 resided with a grandparent householder, down **24%** since 2010.

# Economics and Poverty

- In 2014, fewer Newark children lived in poverty than in 2010.
  - 2010: 30,571 children
  - 2014: 28,572 children
- Roughly 40% of Newark's children lived at FPL in 2014 and 69% lived below 200% of FPL
  - 2014 FPL for a family of four:
    - 50% = \$11,926
    - 100% = \$23,850
    - 200% = \$47,700

# Economics and Poverty

- For Newark's families with children...
  - Median income increased by 16 percent from 2010-2014.
    - 2014 median income = \$31,329
      - However, NJ's median family income was \$89,020
- Unemployment continues to decline
  - Number of unemployed in Newark dropped to 8,199 in 2015, a 49% decrease from 2011.
    - Yet, this number does not include those who are not actively looking for work.

# Housing



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**57%**  
of Newark  
households  
spent too  
much on rent.

In 2014, the median rent  
was \$981/ month.

# Infant Health

- Fewer low-birthweight babies
  - 2008: 531
  - 2012: 428
    - A 19% decrease!
- Fewer infant deaths
  - Infant mortality rates (infant deaths per 1,000 live births)
    - 2008: 11.6
    - 2012: 4.6

# Lead Testing

- The most recent data from the NJ Dept. of Health (2015) shows the following:
  - Fewer Newark children 6-26 months and under age 6 with blood lead levels higher than  $5\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  in 2015 than in 2012.
- The Newark Dept. of Health and Community Wellness
  - Reported **200** abatements in 2015.
    - Compared to **5** in 2011.
- Although the CDC uses  $5\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  as a reference for lead testing, they maintain that there is **no** safe blood lead level for children.



# Lead Testing



**5%**

**drop in children  
6 - 26 months  
tested for lead**  
(between 2012 and 2015).

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# Health Insurance

- Continued drop in the number of children without health insurance.
  - In 2014, only 7% of Newark children lived without health insurance, compared to 5% of children in Essex County and NJ overall.
- For Newark, children receiving NJ FamilyCare grew by 30% from 2011 to 2015.

# Child Protection

- As of 2015, **4,125** children in Newark were under DCP&P supervision, a 5<sup>0</sup>% decrease since 2011.
  - **836** were in out-of-home placements.
- **821** Newark victims of substantiated or established abuse/neglect in 2014.
  - **63%** of Essex County's substantiated/established findings and **7%** of NJ's.
    - (Newark's child population is only **38%** of Essex County's and **4%** of NJ's.)

# Educational Enrollment

- Slight increase in preschool enrollments:
  - 2010-11: 6,134
  - 2014-15: 6,180
- Total Enrollment
  - Increasing shift toward charter school enrollments.
    - 2010-11 charter enrollment: **6,400**
    - 2014-15 charter enrollment: **13,810**
  - Majority of students still enrolled in traditional district schools, over **32,000** enrolled in 2014-15 school year.

# Test Scores

- 2014-15 was the first year of PARCC testing.
- Student participation:
  - Newark district → participation decreased as students' grade increased.
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade English Language Arts: 7% of students untested
    - 11<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts: 47% of students untested.
  - Newark charters → aggregate charter data unavailable. Participation data posed student privacy concerns.

# Test Scores

- Newark district performed below state averages.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade ELA:

- Newark: 17%
- NJ: 44%

- 9<sup>th</sup> Grade ELA:

- Newark: 23%
- NJ: 40%

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math:

- Newark: 32%
- NJ: 41%

- Algebra II:

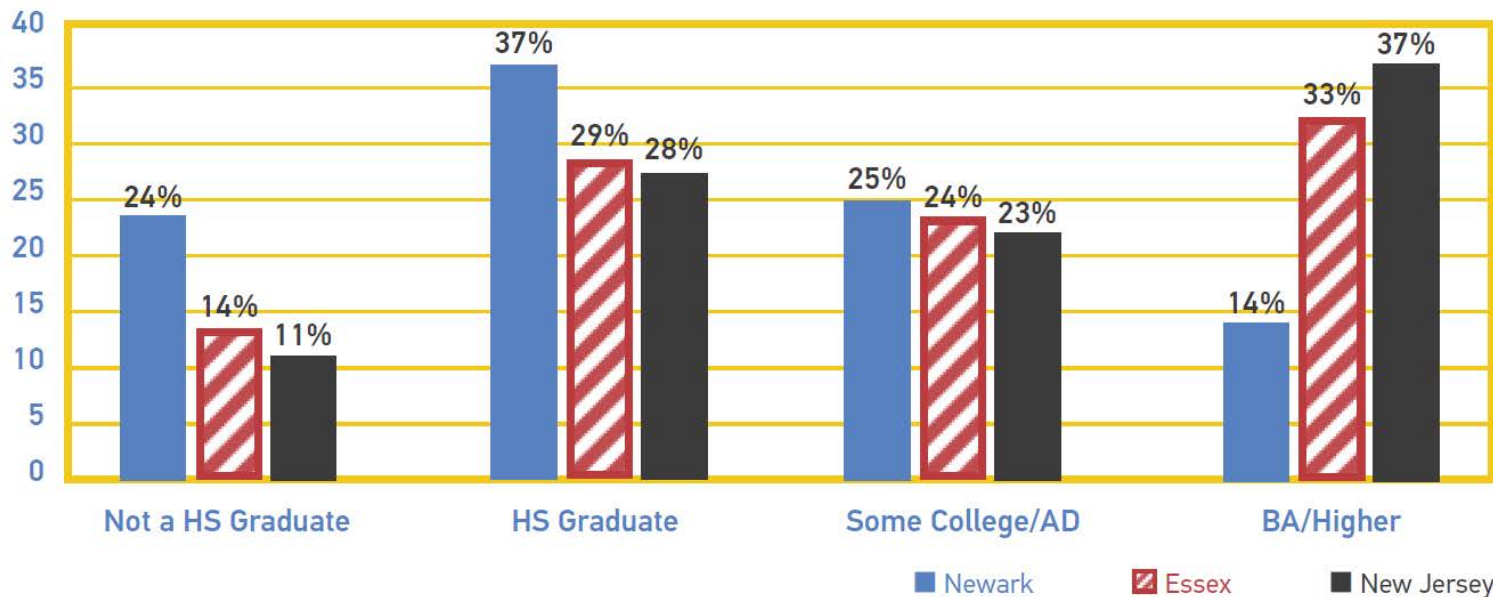
- Newark: 6%
- NJ: 24%

# Graduation Rates

- Newark district continued to improve its graduation rates.
  - 2012: 69%
  - 2015: 70%
  - However, the district still lags behind the state, whose 2015 graduation rate was 90%.

# Highest Education Level, 2014

Highest Education Level for People Ages 25+, Newark vs. Essex vs. NJ, 2014



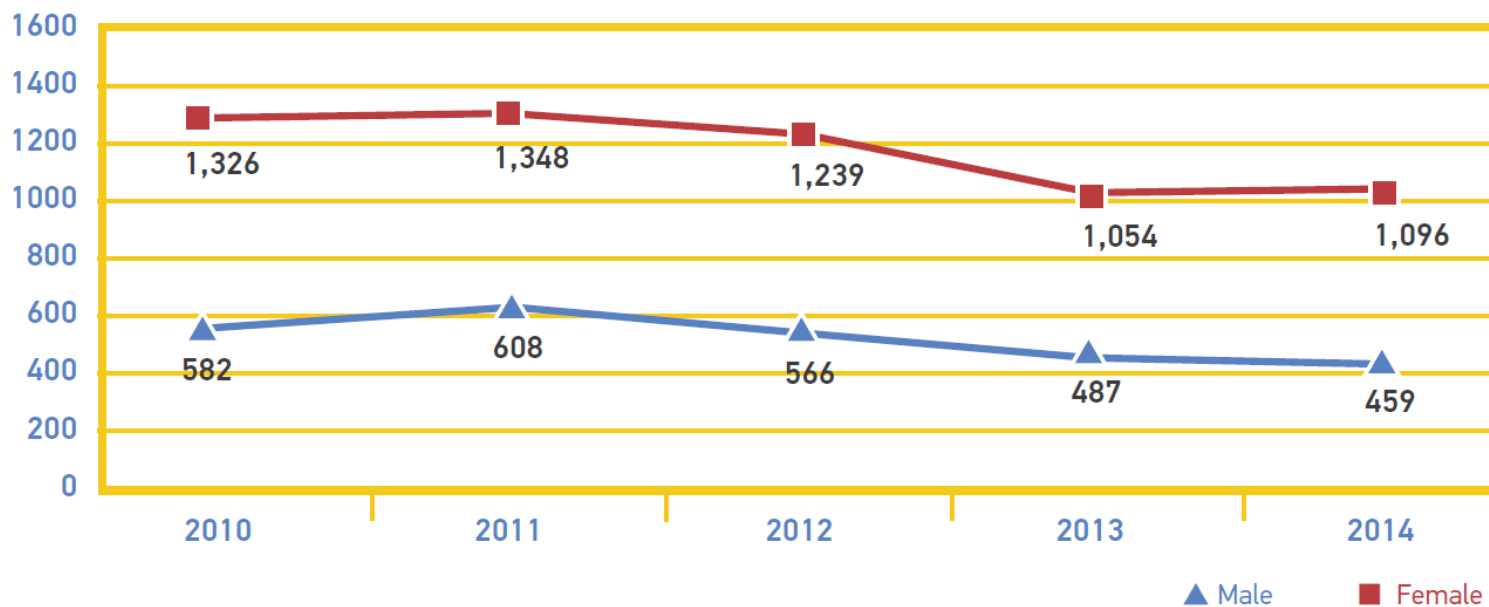


# Teen Health

- Births to Newark teens (ages 15-19) continued to drop.
  - 2008: 633
  - 2012: 446
    - A 30% decrease.
- 10% of all Newark births were to teens, compared to 7% of Essex County births, and 5% of NJ births.

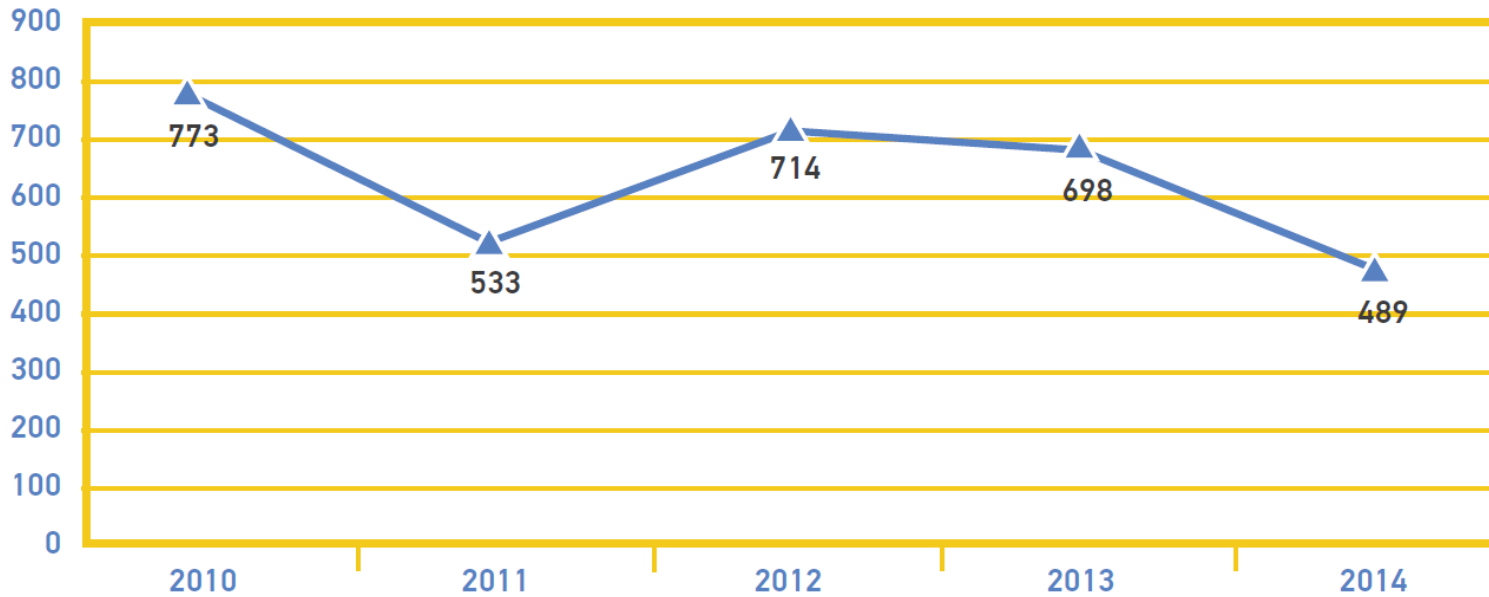
# Teen Health

Newark Youth, Ages 16-20, Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection



# Juvenile Justice

Newark Juvenile Arrests



# Juvenile Justice

- Admissions to Detention:
  - 39% decrease in Newark's annual admissions to detention from 2010 to 2014.
  
- However, of Newark's 429 admissions in 2014:
  - 381 were to African American youth...
  - and 377 were males.

**For more information, visit our  
website.**



***Giving Every Child A Chance***

**[www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org)**

# Questions?

