



# TRENTON Kids Count 2019

A City Profile of  
Child Well-Being



Giving Every Child A Chance®

# 2019 TRENTON Kids Count A City Profile of Child Well-Being

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ACNJ acknowledges that the findings and conclusions presented in this report are those of the author(s) alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the funders.

For more information or to view other Kids Count data online, visit [www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org)

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Advocates for Children of New Jersey is the trusted, independent voice putting children's needs first for more than 40 years. Our work results in better laws and policies, more effective funding and stronger services for children and families. And it means that more children are given the chance to grow up safe, healthy and educated.

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## Trenton Kids Count 2019 Committee Members

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# Letters from...



## Trenton Mayor Reed Gusciora

As Mahatma Gandhi once said, “The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members.” That is why it gives me great pleasure to be a part of the release of the first Trenton Kids Count report in nearly 20 years. The information from this report will help drive the services and initiatives that affect children in the City of Trenton.

In my first year as the Mayor of the City of Trenton, I have had the opportunity to address a number of issues across the city—and we are making progress. Communities need reliable data in order to inform our policy decisions, and this report covers data of immense value: data relating to the well-being of our City’s children. With this report, we have an opportunity to highlight what is working for our young residents and to examine where we can make improvements.

As an Assemblyman, I helped secure funding for Trenton’s new state-of-the-art high school, which opens this fall. As Mayor, I have championed a full service health clinic in each of our public schools that will meet the dental, mental and general health needs of all of our students with a pilot program launching soon. While we are making great progress, the work continues.

It is my hope that with the release of this report, readers will feel empowered to use the data to make a difference and move the needle forward for Trenton’s children. I ask our residents to roll up their sleeves and join me as we work together to make sure Trenton’s kids count!

Sincerely,

Reed Gusciora  
Mayor, City of Trenton



## Smith Family Foundation and The Burke Foundation

We are delighted to share this Trenton Kids Count 2019 data book with you. This comprehensive look at the state of Trenton's children serves as a reminder of the strides we have made and the challenges we have yet to tackle. This report provides an extraordinary opportunity for us to use Trenton Kids Count data to address and find real solutions to the most challenging areas affecting our children in order to ensure they grow up healthy, strong and ready to learn.

We would like to thank Advocates for Children of New Jersey for producing this report and the Trenton Kids Count Committee for their thoughtful input and planning. It is our hope that this information will empower this community not only to be informed but to advocate. Data are powerful, and this report allows us to use data to advocate for community-driven programs and policies that expand the systems of support for Trenton's children and families.

We will be hosting community forums throughout the summer in an effort to continue the conversation surrounding the data. Please join us as we create goals for our city and improve the lives of the children within it.

Together, we are working to create a better state for Trenton's children, because opportunity should be equal across zip codes.

Katherine N. Nunnally  
CEO and Executive Director,  
Smith Family Foundation

Atiya Weiss  
Executive Director,  
The Burke Foundation



## ACNJ President and CEO, Cecilia Zalkind

When ACNJ was approached by the Smith Family Foundation and

The Burke Foundation to produce Trenton Kids Count, we were thrilled. ACNJ has not released a Trenton Kids Count report in nearly two decades, so we were excited by the prospect of highlighting the needs and opportunities for children in the capital city. Moreover, the availability of data has come a long way since then. To prepare this report, we worked with local stakeholders who provided us with context, feedback and direction to ensure that Trenton Kids Count addressed the needs of the community. We know data only tell part of the story, which is why we made an effort to include stories focused on community groups advancing change for kids.

I encourage readers to rally around this report, digest the data and generate ways to improve the lives of Trenton's children. This point is critical. Though Trenton has made strides in some areas, its children still face significant challenges, including pervasive poverty and low test scores.

The good news is this report is just the first step. ACNJ will be joining with our funders, as well as members of the community, throughout the summer to discuss the data and organize around particular issue areas in order to promote positive growth and change. We hope to see you then.

Cecilia Zalkind,  
President and CEO,  
ACNJ



# Demographics

## Demographic Trends

The city of Trenton saw an 11 percent increase in its child population from 2013 to 2017, while the total city population remained consistent over the same time period. Black and Hispanic children comprised the majority of the city's child population at 54 percent and 42 percent, respectively. Births to foreign-born mothers living within the city increased from 38 percent of total births in 2013 to 44 percent of total births in 2017. For the same time period, births to unmarried women declined by 11 percent, in line with a statewide decline.

### Total Population

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	84,344	84,047	84,231	84,065	84,971	1
Mercer	370,414	371,537	371,398	371,023	374,733	1
New Jersey	8,899,339	8,938,175	8,958,013	8,944,469	9,005,644	1
Trenton's % of Mercer	23	23	23	23	23	
Trenton's % of NJ	1	1	1	1	1	

### Child Population Under Age 18

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	20,080	21,217	21,410	21,809	22,383	11
Mercer	81,252	81,320	80,760	79,617	79,885	-2
New Jersey	2,021,897	2,012,197	1,998,865	1,984,439	1,978,796	-2
Trenton's % of Mercer	25	26	27	27	28	
Trenton's % of NJ	1	1	1	1	1	

### Child Population Under Age 18 as a Percentage of Total Population

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Trenton	24	25	25	26	26
Mercer	22	22	22	21	21
New Jersey	23	23	22	22	22

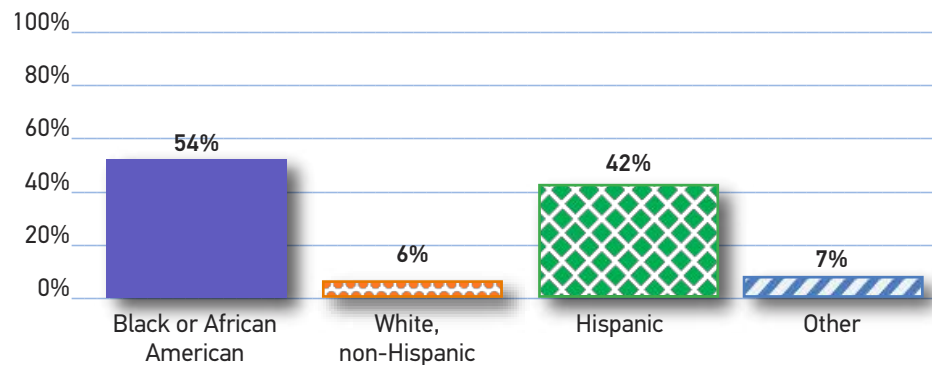


### Trenton Child Population Under 18 by Race

	2008-2012		2013-2017		% Change Number
	Number	%	Number	%	
Black or African American	11,921	55	11,472	54	-4
White, non-Hispanic	1,328	6	1,236	6	-7
Hispanic	8,587	39	8,881	42	3
Other	2,640	12	1,549	7	-41

Note: Total percentages for each year may exceed 100 percent as Hispanics could be of any race.

### Trenton Child Population Under 18 by Race, 2013-2017



Note: Total percentages for each year may exceed 100 percent as Hispanics could be of any race.

### Children Under Age 18 with At Least One Foreign-Born Parent, 2017\*

	Number	%
Trenton	8,412	40
Mercer	33,187	44
New Jersey	766,808	40

\*Includes children living in single-parent led households in which that parent is foreign-born.

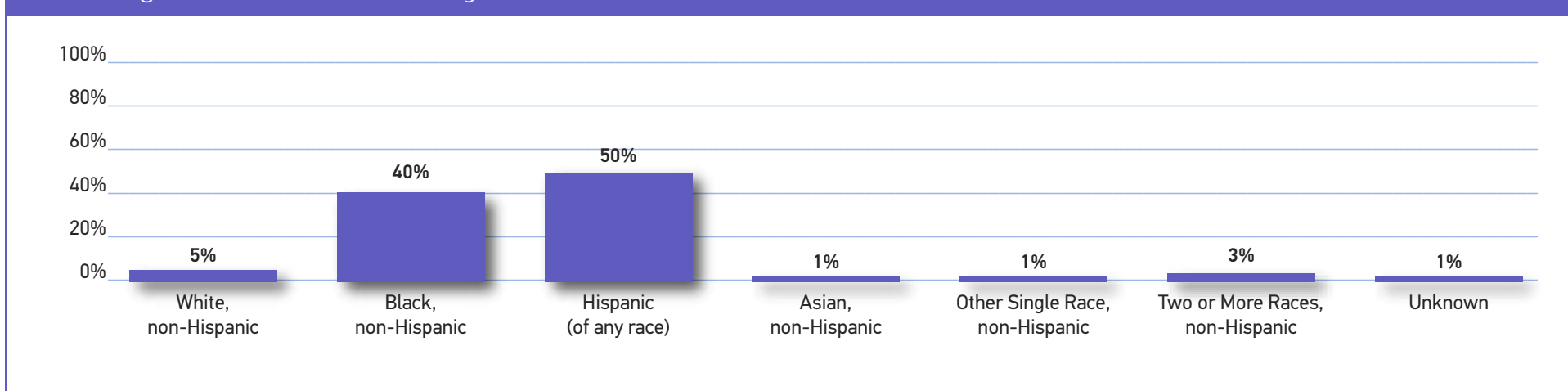
### Foreign-Born Children

	Number	2013	Number	2014	Number	2015	Number	2016	Number	2017
		%		%		%		%		%
Trenton	1,926	10	1,120	5	1,753	8	1,037	5	866	4
Mercer	5,615	7	3,927	5	5,438	7	4,156	5	6,161	8
New Jersey	112,675	6	103,338	5	108,649	5	108,663	5	121,525	6

Total Births

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	1,487	1,433	1,506	1,494	1,405	-6
Mercer	4,107	4,184	4,030	4,192	4,021	-2
New Jersey	102,326	102,813	102,200	102,473	101,159	-1

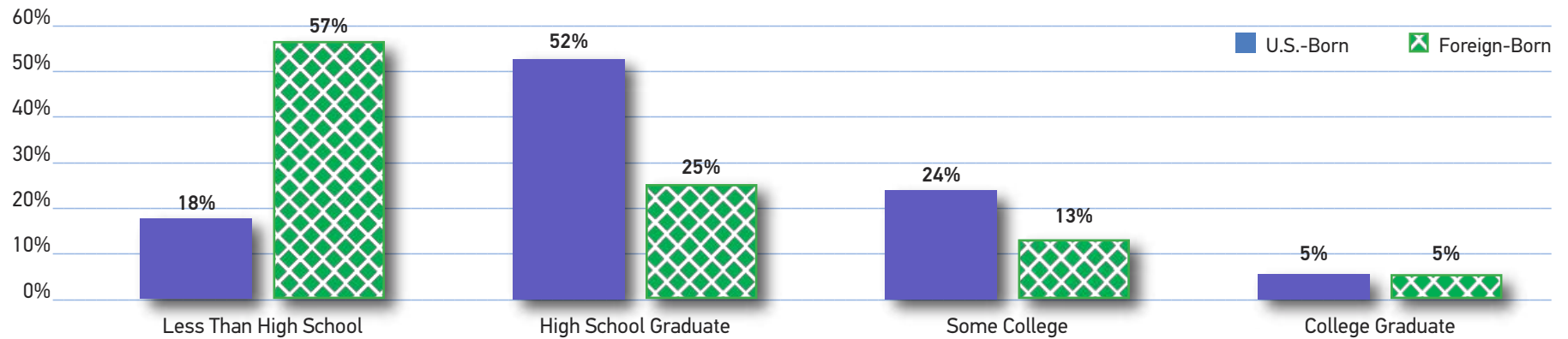
Percentage of all Trenton Births by Race, 2017



Births to Foreign-Born Mothers

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		% Change 13-17
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number
Trenton	571	38	510	36	616	41	671	45	619	44	8
Mercer	1,536	37	1,487	36	1,541	38	1,800	43	1,689	42	10
New Jersey	35,513	35	34,396	33	36,337	36	41,443	40	41,150	41	16

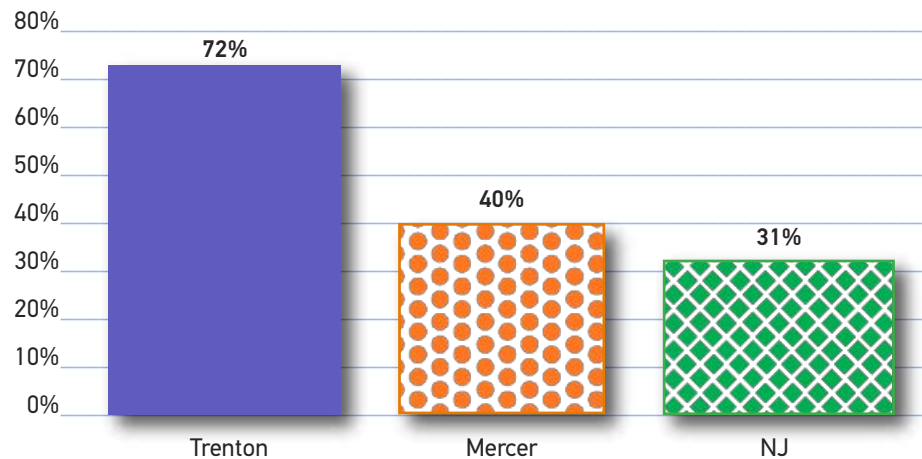
Percentage of Trenton Births by Nativity and Education, 2017



Births to Unmarried Women

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	1,139	1,061	1,097	1,095	1,014	-11
Mercer	1,757	1,700	1,686	1,715	1,608	-8
New Jersey	35,577	35,583	33,831	32,617	31,511	-11

Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women in Trenton vs. Mercer vs. NJ, 2017



### Households Headed by One Parent

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		% Change 13-17 Number
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Trenton	6,153	56	6,056	57	5,571	59	5,757	61	6,372	66	4
Mercer	13,292	29	13,572	31	12,612	30	15,364	37	15,134	36	14
New Jersey	341,570	32	341,498	32	326,222	31	322,303	31	318,643	30	-7

### What is a Household?

Household is a specific term used by the U.S. Census Bureau in its surveys. The census definition, however, may conflict with the traditional idea of what a household might be. When looking at census data, a household is one person or multiple people occupying a single housing unit.<sup>1</sup> For example, two unrelated roommates, a multigenerational family and a single individual are all considered households under the census definition.

### Households Headed by Married Couples

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		% Change 13-17 Number
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Trenton	4,773	44	4,572	43	3,808	41	3,717	39	3,233	34	-32
Mercer	31,848	71	29,827	69	28,812	70	26,643	63	27,047	64	-15
New Jersey	742,674	68	728,458	68	733,498	69	720,678	69	736,692	70	-1



## Multigenerational Households

Many children in New Jersey live with a grandparent. Sometimes, that grandparent is the child's legal guardian, and in other cases, the child simply shares a home with that grandparent. We report two different census measures of these trends. The first tracks grandparents who cared for their grandchildren at any point during the year. The second refers to children who live in the same home as the grandparent.

### Number of Grandparents Caring for Their Grandchildren

	2008-2012	2013-2017	% Change
Trenton	844	879	4
Mercer	2,181	2,101	-4
New Jersey	49,342	49,236	0

### Number of Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder

	2008-2012	2013-2017	% Change
Trenton	2,232	2,647	19
Mercer	5,273	6,356	21
New Jersey	111,952	126,543	13

### References:

<sup>1</sup> McFalls, J.A. (2003). What's a Household? What's a Family? Population Reference Bureau. Retrieved January 7, 2019 from <http://www.prb.org/Publications/Articles/2003/WhatsaHouseholdWhatsaFamily.aspx>.

### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Total Population, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001.

**Child Population Under Age 18, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001.

**Child Population Under Age 18, as a Percentage of Total Population, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001.

**Trenton Child Population Under 18 by Race, 2008-2012 and 2013-2017.** For children under age 18 as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey charts B01001B, B01001F, B01001H, and B01001I, 5-year estimates. Black or African American and Other categories may include individuals who identified as Hispanic. Percentages calculated using American Community Survey chart B01001, 5-year estimates for 2008-2012 and 2013-2017.

**Children Under Age 18 with At Least One Foreign-Born Parent, 2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B05009. Data include; children living in single-parent led households in which that parent is foreign-born.

**Foreign-Born Children, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B05003.

**Total Births, 2013-2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Percentage of All Trenton Births by Race, 2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Births to Foreign-Born Mothers, 2013-2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Percentage of Trenton Births by Nativity and Education, 2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Births to Unmarried Women, 2013-2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Percentage of Births to Unmarried Women in Trenton vs. Mercer vs. NJ, 2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Households Headed by One Parent, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B11005. Includes family and non-family households. Data are for households with children under age 18.

**Households Headed by Married Couples, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B11005. Includes family and non-family households. Data are for households with children under age 18.

**Number of Grandparents Caring for their Grandchildren, 2008-2012 and 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10050, 5-year estimates.

**Number of Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder, 2008-2012 and 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10001, 5-year estimates.

# Family Economic Security

## What Does Poverty Mean?

Since the late 1950s, the federal government has used the poverty threshold to determine the number of individuals living in poverty within the United States. The measure is based on the cost of a basic food diet and adjusted for inflation and family size. The same poverty threshold is used for the entire nation and does not account for the higher cost of living in certain states like New Jersey, where 200 percent of the poverty threshold, or an annual income of \$49,716 for a family of four, is more reflective of the families struggling to make ends meet.

While the poverty threshold is produced by the U.S. Census Bureau, federal poverty guidelines—used to determine eligibility for certain federal programs—are released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and are based on the census's thresholds. Individuals or families living below 100 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) are considered to be living in poverty. In 2017, this figure equated to an annual income of \$24,858 for a family of four.

### Number of Economically Disadvantaged Children, Under Age 18

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
<b>Trenton</b>						
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	3,337	4,354	3,795	3,608	4,366	31
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	6,815	9,456	7,484	8,044	8,942	31
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	12,917	15,383	13,772	14,362	15,473	20
<b>Mercer</b>						
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	5,235	5,962	5,712	5,660	7,393	41
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	12,632	13,547	12,434	11,805	13,129	4
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	26,019	27,348	27,472	26,322	26,888	3
<b>New Jersey</b>						
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	151,706	139,456	139,182	114,533	117,191	-23
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	333,375	315,563	308,238	285,479	272,251	-18
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	654,284	640,897	632,941	616,618	586,647	-10

Percentage of Children Economically Disadvantaged, Under Age 18

Trenton	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	17	21	18	17	20
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	35	45	36	37	40
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	66	73	65	66	70
Mercer					
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	7	7	7	7	9
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	16	17	16	15	17
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	32	34	34	34	34
New Jersey					
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	8	7	7	6	6
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	17	16	16	15	14
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	33	32	32	31	30

2017 Federal Poverty Thresholds  
for a Family of Four:

50% \$12,429

100% \$24,858

200% \$49,716

## 2 Family Economic Security

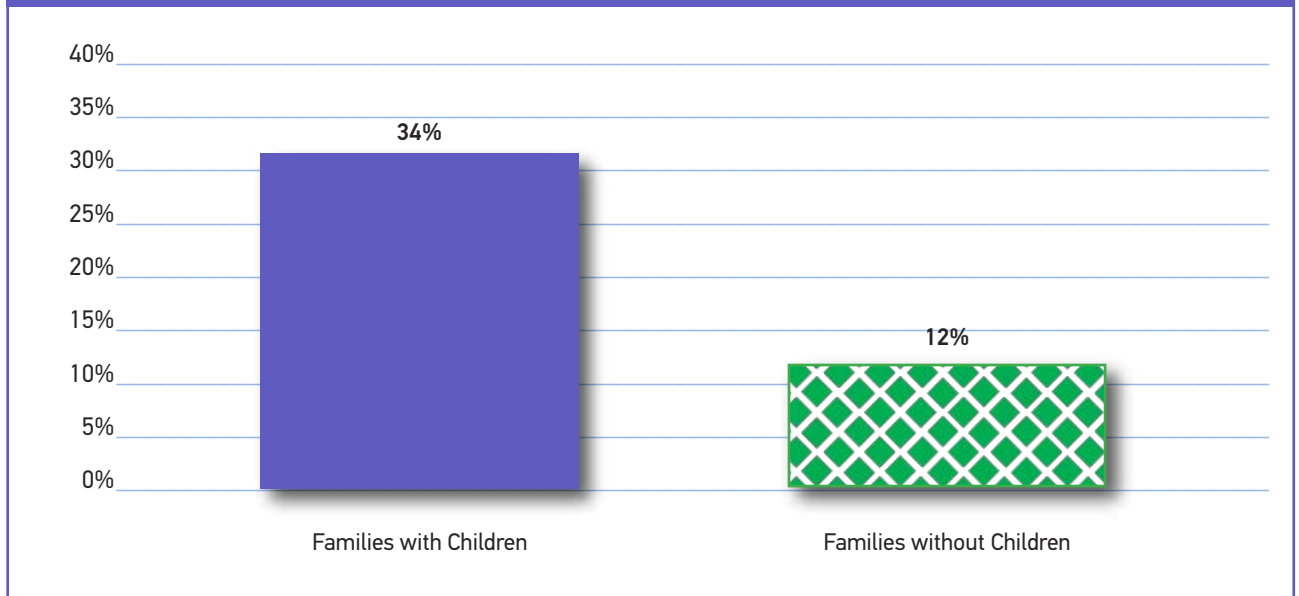
### Total Population Living Below Poverty Level

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		% Change 13-17 Number
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Trenton	18,251	23	24,776	31	21,545	27	22,675	28	25,236	30	38
Mercer	41,667	12	42,267	12	39,683	11	39,443	11	42,246	12	1
New Jersey	998,549	11	972,903	11	946,114	11	915,913	10	882,673	10	-12

### Families with Children Living Below the Poverty Level

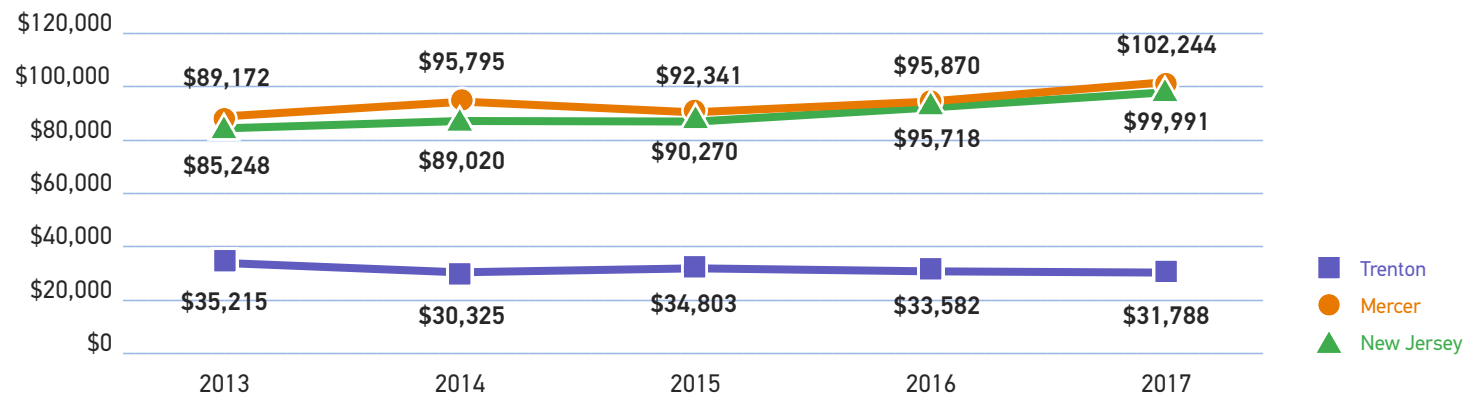
	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		% Change 13-17 Number
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Trenton	3,112	29	3,930	37	2,723	29	2,981	32	3,245	34	4
Mercer	5,745	13	6,168	14	4,840	12	5,204	13	5,222	13	-9
New Jersey	145,619	14	134,517	13	135,485	13	121,653	12	116,491	11	-20

### Percentage of Trenton Families Living Below the Poverty Level, 2017





### Median Income of Families with Children



### Number Unemployed

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*	% Change 14-18
Trenton	3,658	3,261	2,830	2,680	2,136	-42
Mercer	11,512	9,942	8,692	8,163	6,295	-45
New Jersey	303,497	259,843	222,627	205,990	158,306	-48

\*2018 figures preliminary as of December.

### Unemployment Rate

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*	% Change 14-18
Trenton	9.5	8.3	7.2	6.9	5.4	-43
Mercer	5.9	5.0	4.4	4.1	3.1	-47
New Jersey	6.8	5.8	5.0	4.6	3.6	-47

\*2018 figures preliminary as of December.

## 2 Family Economic Security

### Federal Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC)

	Number of Claims	2012 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2013 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2014 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2015 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2016 Avg. Claim Amt.	% Change 12-16	
											Number of Claims	Avg. Claim Amt.
Trenton	16,710	\$2,324	18,060	\$2,456	17,730	\$2,437	17,960	\$2,492	17,590	\$2,485	5	7
Mercer	22,714	\$4,114	23,986	\$2,293	23,939	\$2,295	24,199	\$2,352	25,310	\$2,297	11	-44
New Jersey	563,291	\$3,195	589,026	\$2,283	594,723	\$2,318	592,377	\$2,353	618,600	\$2,296	10	-28

### The New Jersey Earned Income Tax Credit

Tax credits are a vital economic support for many low-income working families and an advantage to New Jersey businesses, as many of these dollars are spent in the communities where these families live. The New Jersey State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) rewards work and increases take-home pay for families by lowering the amount of taxes owed and in, some instances, providing a refund. New Jersey's EITC

increased from 20 percent of the federal EITC in 2014 to 30 percent in 2015 and 35 percent in 2016, giving the state's working poor a financial boost. Former Governor Chris Christie signed this increase into law in 2015, after cutting the state EITC from 25 to 20 percent of the federal EITC in 2010. In 2017, the average credit amount received among Trenton families with at least one dependent under age 19 was \$1,098.

### NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, All Recipients

	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	2014 Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	2015 Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	2016 Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	2017 Avg. Credit Amt.	% Change 14-17		
													# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.
Trenton	12,412	\$5,928,672	\$478	12,867	\$9,450,259	\$734	12,600	\$10,740,551	\$852	12,389	\$10,714,713	\$865	0	81	81
Mercer	21,231	\$9,098,329	\$429	22,166	\$14,572,187	\$657	22,137	\$16,957,016	\$766	22,351	\$17,289,244	\$774	5	90	81
New Jersey	522,732	\$222,577,939	\$426	539,138	\$350,515,051	\$650	533,493	\$404,766,950	\$759	527,918	\$401,994,016	\$761	1	81	79

### NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, Recipients with at Least 1 Dependent Under Age 19

	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	2014 Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	2015 Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	2016 Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	2017 Avg. Credit Amt.	% Change 14-17		
													# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.
Trenton	9,173	\$5,500,729	\$600	9,453	\$8,793,679	\$930	9,221	\$9,998,328	\$1,084	9,072	\$9,963,766	\$1,098	-1	81	83
Mercer	14,456	\$8,283,192	\$573	14,948	\$13,277,909	\$888	14,891	\$15,437,295	\$1,037	14,985	\$15,711,364	\$1,048	4	90	83
New Jersey	337,388	\$198,982,307	\$590	345,042	\$312,920,154	\$907	340,535	\$361,614,068	\$1,062	335,848	\$358,780,285	\$1,068	0	80	81

## Children in Families Receiving TANF (Welfare)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change 14-18
Trenton	3,026	2,480	1,696	1,327	1,046	-65
Mercer	3,543	2,907	2,098	1,667	1,366	-61
New Jersey	58,948	48,899	36,218	28,458	23,582	-60

## What is TANF?

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, more commonly referred to as welfare, provides cash assistance to needy families through a federally funded block grant given to individual states. The State of New Jersey operates the welfare reform program known as WorkFirst NJ using TANF funds. WorkFirst NJ participants are eligible for the program for a maximum of 60 months. For more information on WorkFirst NJ, visit <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dfd/programs/workfirstnj/>.

## School Breakfast Participation, 2018-19

School District	# of Children Receiving Free or Reduced-Price School Breakfast	# of Children Receiving Free or Reduced-Price Lunch	Free and Reduced-Price Student Participation in Breakfast per 100 Participating in Lunch
Trenton Public Schools	5,167	7,191	72
Achievers Early College Prep Charter School	47	64	73
Foundation Academy Charter School	321	651	49
International Charter School	30	71	42
Paul Robeson Charter School	109	274	40
Trenton Stem-to-Civics Charter School	27	115	23
Village Charter School	92	232	40
<b>Mercer</b>	<b>8,609</b>	<b>16,871</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>224,416</b>	<b>392,143</b>	<b>57</b>

## 2 Family Economic Security

### Children Receiving NJ SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change 14-18
Trenton	11,372	11,463	11,183	10,567	10,437	-8
Mercer	15,754	15,547	15,166	15,013	14,107	-10
New Jersey	417,044	415,927	406,259	413,436	353,883	-15

### Individuals Enrolled in WIC

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change 14-18
Trenton	5,781	6,245	6,043	5,748	5,048	-1
Mercer	8,080	8,655	8,349	7,990	7,453	-1
New Jersey	180,154	178,852	171,530	163,305	155,822	-9

### What is SNAP?

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the largest food safety net program in the United States, providing low-income families with nutritious food. Eligible New Jersey applicants have an income of no more than 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, or roughly \$46,000 for a family of four in 2018. During that same year, more than 30,000 Trenton children lived in families receiving SNAP benefits.

### What is WIC?

The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides supplemental nutritious food to pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to the age of five. WIC is available to New Jersey households with incomes up to 185 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. As of 2018, 13 percent of Trenton residents eligible for WIC did not receive these benefits. For more information on SNAP and WIC, visit <https://www.fns.usda.gov>.

### WIC Reported Participants\*

	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		% Change 14-18 Number
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Trenton	5,363	93	5,672	91	5,400	89	5,072	88	4,389	87	-18
Mercer	7,862	97	7,618	88	7,525	90	7,100	89	6,486	87	-18
New Jersey	166,945	93	161,558	90	154,612	90	146,416	90	139,777	90	-16

\*Data represent the number of individuals enrolled in WIC who received benefits.



## Trenton Housing Authority: Creating Healthy Communities

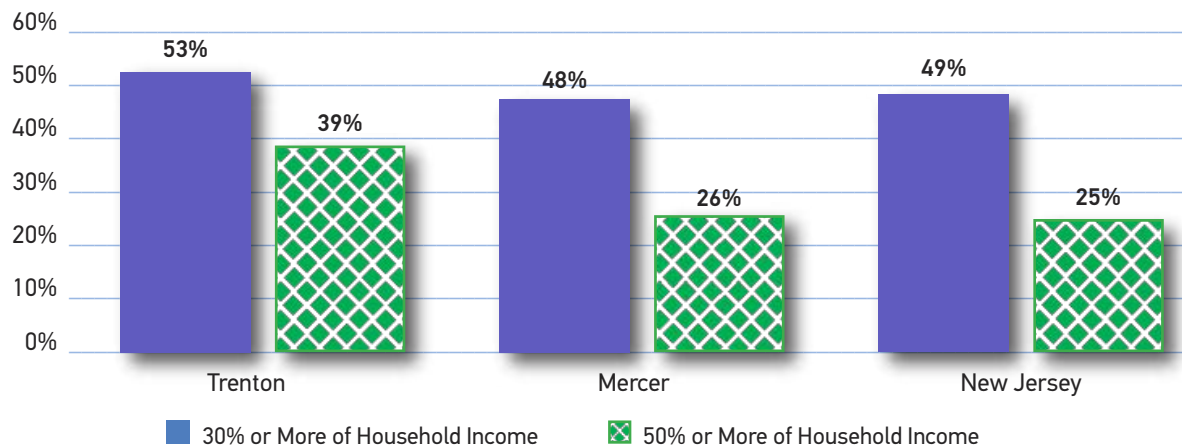
The Trenton Housing Authority (THA) recently received a \$20,000 grant in order to boost healthy community practices in the city of Trenton. The Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (HEPA) Grant provides funds for staff to oversee THA’s after-school program, where school-aged children receive healthy, hot meals. These daily meals are made available to youth attending THA’s after-school program as well as their summer camp through a partnership with the Capital Area YMCA. Both programs are open to THA residents as well as children from the larger community.

The HEPA grant also provides funding to support THA’s Healthy Lifestyle Management Workshops, a mandate of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998. These workshops provide THA resident families with the opportunity to attend informative and participatory learning sessions covering a number of different components, such as healthy cooking methods, tips on making healthy choices while grocery shopping, free exercise courses and more. To learn more about THA, visit <https://www.tha-nj.org/>.

### Median Rent

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	\$950	\$981	\$888	\$978	\$1,086	14
Mercer	\$1,096	\$1,142	\$1,154	\$1,159	\$1,271	16
New Jersey	\$1,171	\$1,202	\$1,214	\$1,244	\$1,284	10

### Percentage of Households Spending Too Much on Rent, 2017



### When are Housing Costs Too High?

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a family paying more than 30 percent of their earnings on housing costs is spending too much on their rent or mortgage.<sup>1</sup> When a family spends too much money on housing, they have less to spend on other necessities, such as food or transportation. This standard has been in use since the 1930s.

In 2017, 53 percent of Trenton families spent a significant portion of their income on rent—higher than the statewide figure of 49 percent. The 2017 median monthly rent for Trenton residents was \$1,086, just \$198 less than the statewide median rent. With a median income of less than \$32,000, Trenton families with children face disproportionately high housing costs.

## 2 Family Economic Security

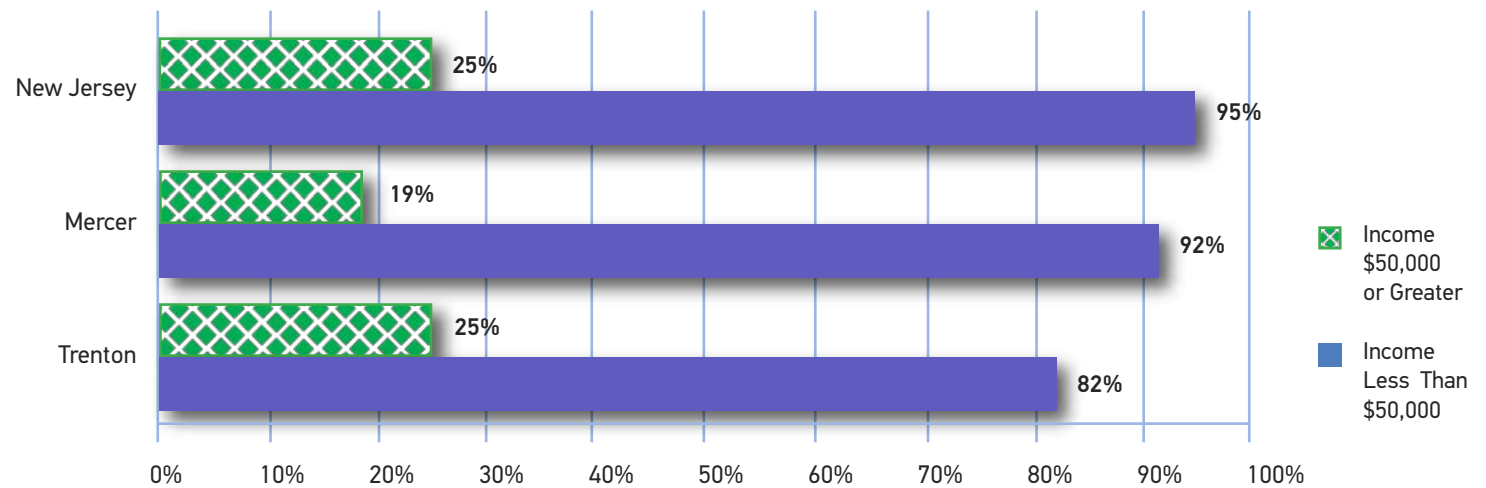
### Percentage of Occupied Housing Units That Are Owner-Occupied

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	40	34	38	35	37	-8
Mercer	64	64	63	63	64	0
New Jersey	64	63	63	63	64	0

### Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending More Than 30% of Income on Housing Costs

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	42	44	38	37	48	14
Mercer	37	39	34	30	31	-16
New Jersey	41	40	39	37	34	-17

### Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending More than 30% of Income on Housing, by Income, 2017



## ■ References:

<sup>1</sup> Schwartz, M., Wilson, E. Who Can Afford to Live in a Home?: A look at data from the 2006 American Community Survey. Retrieved January 14, 2019 from <https://www.census.gov/housing/census/publications/who-can-afford.pdf>.

## ■ Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Number of Economically Disadvantaged Children, Under Age 18, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17024.

**Percentage of Children Economically Disadvantaged, Under Age 18, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17024.

**2017 Federal Poverty Threshold for a Family of Four.** Threshold for a family of four, with two adults and two children living in poverty. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.

**Total Population Living Below the Poverty Level, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17001.

**Families with Children Living Below the Poverty Level, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17010.

**Percentage of Trenton Families Living Below the Poverty Level, 2017.** The percentage of Trenton families with and without children living below the poverty level. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart, B17010.

**Median Income of Families with Children, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B19125.

**Number Unemployed, 2014-2018.** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines an unemployed person as someone who does not have a job, has actively looked for work in the prior 4 weeks, and is currently available for work. Numbers are not seasonally adjusted and are annual averages for 2014-2017; 2018 data are preliminary as of December. Please note that data reported in previous reports have been updated to reflect revised inputs, re-estimation and new statewide controls, per the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Unemployment Rate, 2014-2018.** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Rates are not seasonally adjusted and are annual averages for 2014-2017; 2018 data are preliminary as of December. Please note that data reported in previous reports have been updated to reflect revised inputs, re-estimation and new statewide controls, per the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Federal Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC), 2012-2016.** Number of New Jersey Taxpayers claiming a federal EITC and average claim, as reported by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

**N.J. Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC), All Recipients, 2014-2017.** Number of New Jersey Taxpayers receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and average credit amount, as reported by the N.J. Department of Treasury.

**N.J. Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC), Recipients with at Least 1 Dependent Under Age 19, 2014-2017.** Number of New Jersey taxpayers with at least one dependent under age 19 receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and average credit amount, as reported by the N.J. Department of Treasury.

**Children in Families Receiving TANF (Welfare), 2014-2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

**School Breakfast Participation, 2018-19.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Agriculture for October of the school year listed. Percentages represent the total number of students receiving a free or reduced-price breakfast out of the total number of students receiving a free or reduced-price lunch. Please note, participation rates cannot be compared with prior publications due to a new methodology of calculating breakfast participation consistent with national methods.

**Children Receiving N.J. SNAP (formerly Food Stamps), 2014-2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

**Individuals Enrolled in WIC, 2014-2018.** Number of women, infants and children enrolled in the WIC program, which include healthcare referrals, immunizations screenings, nutrition counseling and a monthly food stipend. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health for the quarter ending in June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

**WIC Reported Participants, 2014-2018.** The number and percentage of women, infants and children receiving nutritional benefits through WIC. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health for the quarter ending in June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

**Median Rent, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25064.

**Percentage of Households Spending Too Much on Rent, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart, B25070.

**Percentage of Occupied Housing Units that are Owner-Occupied, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart DP-04: Selected Housing Characteristics.

**Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending More than 30 Percent of Income on Housing Costs, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart DP-04: Selected Housing Characteristics.

**Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending More than 30 Percent of Income on Housing, by Income, 2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25101.

# Child Health

## Addressing Infant and Maternal Health in Trenton

Data from 2017 show that 58 percent of expectant Trenton mothers received late or no prenatal care, compared to 23 percent of New Jersey women. The city's five-year infant mortality rate for 2012-2016 was 11.5, nearly triple the state rate of 4.4. For infants born to black women, the numbers are even more troubling; statewide, black infants had an infant mortality rate of 9.5, while in Trenton, the rate was 17.3. According to the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey has the second largest black-white infant mortality rate disparity in the nation, with a black infant mortality rate three times larger than for white infants.

In 2018, First Lady Tammy Murphy announced a \$4.3-million-dollar grant—Healthy Women, Healthy Families—tasked with addressing the healthcare inequities in high-risk communities, like Trenton, that impact maternal and infant health. Reducing racial disparities in the infant mortality rate is one of the central goals of this grant. Both the Central Jersey Family Health Consortium and Children's Futures received funds to support this work within the City of Trenton through their doula programs. Apart from the Healthy Women, Healthy Families grantees, the Children's Home Society of New Jersey also offers a community doula program aimed at Latina mothers.

### Children's Futures

Created in 2001 by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Children's Futures (CF) is a Trenton-based non-profit that works to ensure Mercer County children and families get off to a healthy start in life. The organization collaborates with various agencies such as schools, social services, healthcare providers, faith institutions and others to promote school readiness, as well as to address children's immediate and long-term health needs and development. CF works to lay a foundation for a more coherent system of culturally and linguistically competent care, services and family supports. CF has been the city's axis for interagency collaboration around improving maternal and child health outcomes in the city of Trenton.

Through grants from the Health Resource Service Administration, the N.J. Department of Children and Families, the N.J. Department of Health and corporate donations, CF has been able to address perinatal health disparities through various services. These services include case management, parenting education and breastfeeding support groups, mental health counseling, home visiting (primarily using the evidence-based Nurse Family Partnership program) and the doula program, which supports mothers from pregnancy through the postpartum period. To learn more about the many services CF provides, visit their website: [www.childrensutures.org](http://www.childrensutures.org).



### Central Jersey Family Health Consortium

Established in 1992, the Central Jersey Family Health Consortium (CJFHC) works to improve the health of infants, children and women of childbearing age. CJFHC, in partnership with collaborating agencies, provides services and supplies such as diapers, clothing and food to families with infants in order to improve infant health outcomes.

As a Healthy Women, Healthy Families grantee, CJFHC aims to reduce racial disparities in infant mortality, and in particular for black women living in Trenton. Community Health Workers (CHW) trained in culturally sensitive practices provide targeted support for black mothers, connecting them to service providers. In addition, CJFHC has a Black Infant Mortality (BIM) associate who provides training to community, health and social service providers. These trainings offer instruction on cultural competency when delivering services, implicit bias in and outside of the health field, and the detrimental impacts of racism, poverty and stress on health. CJFHC also works with community partners to strengthen relationships and identify strategies to improve the coordination of services. CJFHC will be working with Henry J. Austin Health Center to implement CenteringParenting—a group care setting that encourages parents to come together to discuss health goals as well as parenting practices, while also giving children the opportunity to receive wellness visits—and with Capitol Health Regional Medical Center to offer CenteringPregnancy—a form of group prenatal care that combines healthcare, education and emotional support in order to improve birth outcomes.

### The Children's Home Society of New Jersey

The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSofNJ) began in 1894 with a mission to help at-risk children find safe homes and to create and sustain healthy families. With funding from The Burke Foundation, CHSofNJ offers a community doula program called AMAR (Apoyando Madres/Armando Redes), or "Supporting Mothers, Creating Networks" in Spanish. AMAR is the first Spanish-language community doula program in the country to use the evidence-based HealthConnect One model. The program was born in 2019 out of the need for more prenatal, labor, postpartum and culturally competent support services for pregnant Hispanic women and their families living in Trenton. Each year, AMAR trains a group of women from the Trenton community to become doulas and support other local Hispanic women. As trained community health workers, doulas provide women with continuous social and educational support during pregnancy, birth and postpartum and complement traditional health services by bridging the gap between women and their medical providers. To learn more about AMAR, visit <https://www.chsofnj.org/>.

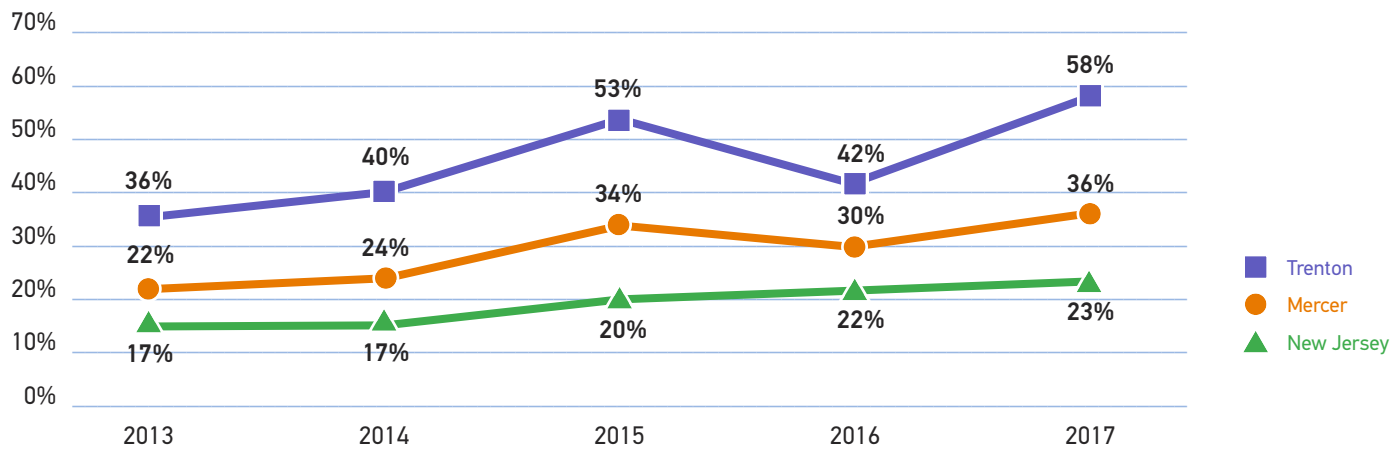
### 3 Child Health

#### Women Receiving Late\* or No Prenatal Care

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	530	576	794	622	821	55
Mercer	895	1,019	1,361	1,272	1,457	63
New Jersey	17,079	17,117	20,506	23,043	23,588	38

\*Late prenatal care is defined as prenatal care beginning in the second trimester or later.

#### Percentage of Women Receiving Late\* or No Prenatal Care



\*Late prenatal care is defined as prenatal care beginning in the second trimester or later.

### Percentage of Births That Were Preterm

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	10.2	12.2	10.9	11.4	10.2	0
Mercer	9.4	10.5	9.3	9.4	9.4	0
New Jersey	9.5	9.4	9.6	9.9	9.5	0

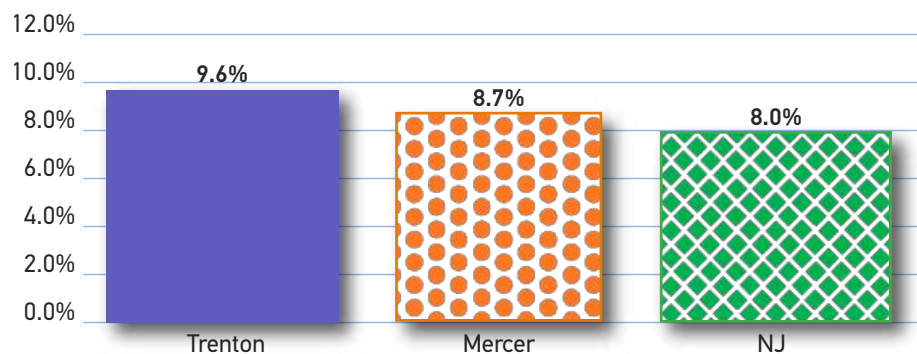
### Babies Born with Low Birthweights

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	154	152	157	145	135	-12
Mercer	371	387	337	338	350	-6
New Jersey	8,445	8,249	8,241	8,257	8,054	-5

### What is a Low Birthweight?

A low birthweight baby is an infant born weighing less than 2,500 grams, or roughly 5.5 pounds. Low birthweight babies may be more likely to develop certain health problems, such as respiratory distress syndrome, than infants born with normal birthweights. Long term, low birthweight babies may be at greater risk of developing chronic conditions such as diabetes.<sup>1</sup> In 2017, 9.6 percent of Trenton babies were born with low birthweights, compared to 8 percent of babies born statewide.

Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birthweights, 2017

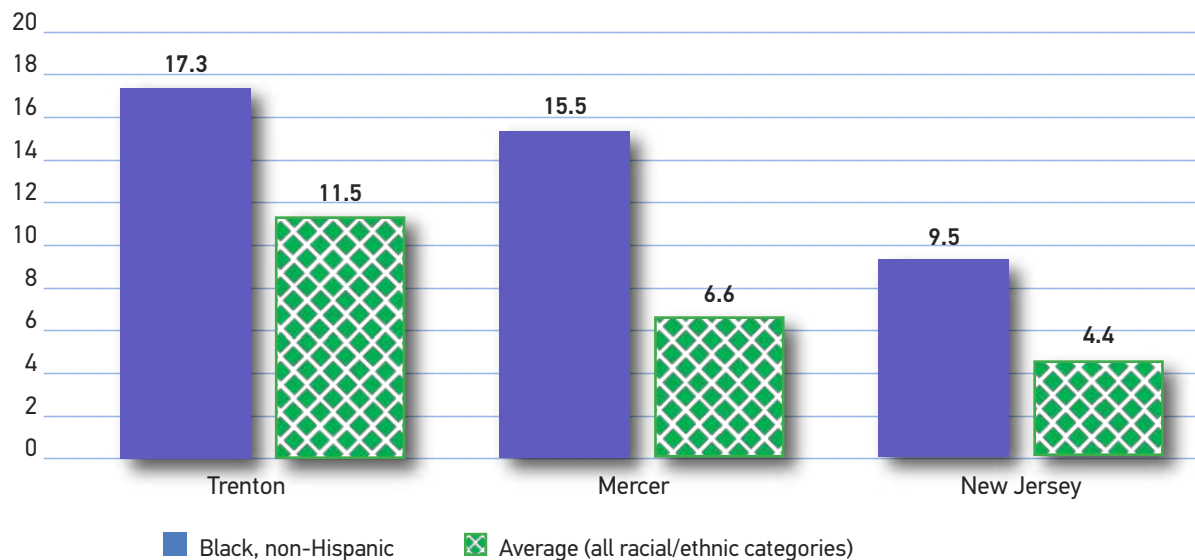


Infant Mortality Rates\*

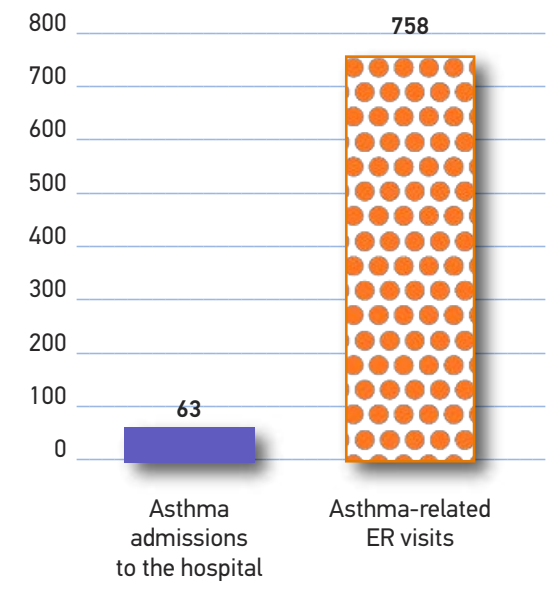
	2002-2006	2007-2011	2012-2016
Trenton	12.2	12.6	11.5
Mercer	7.8	8.4	6.6
New Jersey	5.5	5.1	4.4

\*Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

Infant Mortality Rate, Babies Born to Black, non-Hispanic Mothers, 2012-2016



Trenton Asthma-Related Hospital Visits (Ages 0-17), 2016



Child Deaths (Ages 1-14)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*
Trenton	6	2	2	2	5
Mercer	12	6	6	6	6
New Jersey	182	202	191	184	158

\*Data from 2017 are preliminary.

### Children 6-26 Months Tested for Lead

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017*		% Change 13-17	
	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL
Trenton	1,524	7.9	1,576	7.9	1,736	6.6	1,743	6.6	1,706	7.3	12	-8
Mercer	3,193	4.6	3,158	4.7	3,535	3.9	3,494	3.9	3,631	4.3	14	-7
New Jersey	92,572	3.0	90,683	2.9	93,128	2.8	94,909	2.4	92,075	2.5	-1	-17

\*As of 2017, New Jersey began using 5 micrograms/deciliter as the blood lead reference level at which local health departments must investigate or take action.

### Children <6 Years of Age Tested for Lead

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017*		% Change 13-17	
	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL
Trenton	3,477	6.4	3,421	6.3	3,536	5.8	3,525	6.2	3,481	6.4	0	-1
Mercer	6,073	4.5	5,817	2.9	6,167	4.0	6,127	4.3	6,217	4.3	2	-5
New Jersey	176,520	3.4	171,271	3.2	172,859	3.1	175,002	2.8	169,301	2.8	-4	-17

\*As of 2017, New Jersey began using 5 micrograms/deciliter as the blood lead reference level at which local health departments must investigate or take action.

### Trenton Environmental Case Activity Status

	Cases Referred	Investigation Required	Investigation Completed	Abatement Required	Abatement Completed	% Abatement Completed
2013	21	19	19	14	9	64%
2014	7	6	**	**	**	N/A
2015	27	23	23	18	13	72%
2016	23	11	10	9	2	22%
2017	31	19	19	15	5	33%

\*\*Indicates that data were not reported.



### Trenton Water Testing for Lead, 2018

	Total # of Samples Tested	# of Samples ≥ 15 ppb*	% of Sample ≥ 15 ppb
January-June	102	12	12
July-December	106	12	11

\*Parts per billion

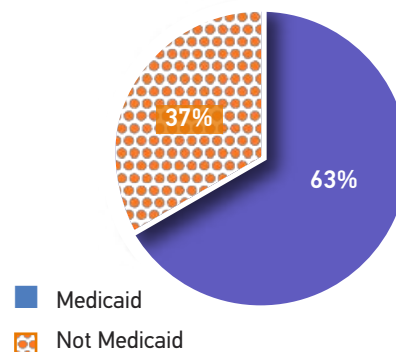
## Preventing Childhood Lead Exposure

In 2017, 6.4 percent of Trenton’s children under age 6 tested for elevated levels of lead (defined as 5 micrograms per deciliter or higher) in their blood. The effects of lead can have lifelong health impacts, even at very low levels. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there is no safe blood lead level for children.

In an effort to prevent childhood lead poisoning, Isles, a Trenton-based non-profit established in 1981, creates and employs a comprehensive menu of lead prevention services such as providing training, policy advice, technical support, research and lead hazard control work throughout the state. Since 2016, as part of the N.J. Department of Community Affairs Lead Pilot Program, Isles has provided lead prevention services to more than 120 Trenton homes, including completing more than 18 abatements.

In order to achieve a lead-safe Trenton by 2023, Isles is pursuing an integrated approach that includes training more contractors and organizations, retrofitting homes using funding from private sources, advocating for policy and regulation changes and educating the public. To learn more about Isles, visit <https://isles.org/>.

### Trenton Births by Medicaid Status, 2017



### Children Receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid

2018

Trenton	11,226
Mercer	33,010
New Jersey	768,592

## What is NJ FamilyCare?

NJ FamilyCare is New Jersey’s publicly funded health insurance program, supported by federal Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) dollars, state funding and premiums paid for children in families with a household income up to 355 percent of the federal poverty level. Qualified state residents of any age may be eligible for free or low-cost health insurance that covers doctor visits, prescriptions, vision, dental care, mental health and substance use services and hospitalization. For more information, visit <http://www.njfamilycare.org>.

### Children Under 19 Without Health Insurance, 2013–17

	Number	%
Trenton	866	4
Mercer	2,332	3
New Jersey	57,415	3

## ■ References:

- <sup>1</sup> March of Dimes. (2014). Low Birthweight. Retrieved January 15, 2019, from <http://www.marchofdimes.org/baby/low-birthweight.aspx>.

## ■ Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Women Receiving Late or No Prenatal Care, 2013-2017.** Live births for which the mother received late prenatal care (onset in second or third trimester) and no prenatal care, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Percentage of Women Receiving Late or No Prenatal Care, 2013-2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Percentage of Births That Were Preterm, 2013-2017.** Percentage of total births that were considered preterm. A preterm birth is defined as less than 37 weeks. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Babies Born with Low Birthweights, 2013-2017.** The number of babies born weighing less than 2,500-grams as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as April 4, 2019.

**Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birthweights, 2017.** The percentage of babies born weighing less than 2,500-grams out of the total number of live births. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Infant Mortality Rates, 2002-2006, 2007-2011, 2012-2016.** The number of infants under one year who died during that 5-year period. Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death and Birth Certificate Databases. Data accessed as of February 11, 2019.

**Infant Mortality Rate, Babies Born to Black, non-Hispanic Mothers, 2012-2016.** The number of infants under one year who died during that 5-year period. Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death and Birth Certificate Databases. Data accessed as of February 14, 2019.

**Child Deaths (Ages 1-14), 2013-2017.** The number of children between ages one and 14 who died during that year, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of February 22, 2019.

**Trenton Asthma-Related Hospital Visits (Ages 0-17), 2016.** The number of New Jersey inpatient hospital discharges and the number of New Jersey emergency department discharges with a primary asthma diagnosis for residents 0-17 years of age. Counts do not include out of state hospitalizations for New Jersey residents. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. Data from 2016 and later may not be comparable to pre-2016 data due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM. Data accessed as of February 11, 2019.

**Children 6-26 Months Tested for Lead, 2013-2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services.

**Children <6 Years of Age Tested for Lead, 2013-17.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services.

**Trenton Environmental Case Activity Status, 2013-17.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services.

**Trenton Water Testing for Lead, 2018.** The number of Trenton-based samples tested and the number of samples with lead levels greater than 15 parts per billion (EPA action level). As reported by the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection, Drinking Water Watch report. Lead results for the January 1, 2018-June 30, 2018 and July 1, 2018-December 31-2018 monitoring periods. Data accessed as of April 2, 2019.

**Trenton Births by Medicaid Status, 2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of May 15, 2019.

**Children Receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, 2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services. Data are from March of each year and are point in time snapshots that do not reflect any retroactivity. Includes children under age 18 enrolled in Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) portion of NJ FamilyCare, which is available to children living in families earning up to 355 percent of the federal poverty level.

**Children Under 19 Without Health Insurance, 2013-2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B27001, 5-year estimates. Data are not comparable to previous years' estimates for children without health insurance, due to a change in the included ages.

# Child Protection

## What is CP&P?

The Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P), formerly the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), operates within the N.J. Department of Children and Families as the state's child welfare and protection agency. CP&P is responsible for investigating reports of child abuse and neglect and, if necessary, arranging for the child's protection and services for the family. When children cannot remain at home due to safety concerns, CP&P may ask the family court to place the child into foster care and to seek another permanent home for children who cannot be safely reunified with their parent(s) within the timeframes provided by law. In 2018, 864 Trenton children were under CP&P supervision, with 740 receiving services in their own homes and 124 children in out-of-home placements.

## Children Under Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P)\* Supervision

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change 14-18
Trenton	1,267	1,216	928	892	864	-32
Mercer	2,240	2,160	1,855	1,848	1,866	-17
New Jersey	51,508	48,667	48,049	48,371	48,536	-6

*\*Formerly the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS).*

## Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change 14-18
Trenton	1,113	1,051	747	754	740	-34
Mercer	1,873	1,793	1,473	1,505	1,535	-18
New Jersey	44,186	41,712	41,386	42,180	42,950	-3

## PEI Kids: A Resource for Trenton and Mercer Families

Established in 1985, PEI Kids works to ensure a safe environment for children living in Trenton and throughout Mercer County—with programs addressing bullying, anger management, delinquency and child sexual abuse prevention and counseling. PEI Kids' support services include visitation programs and transportation, which allow children living in foster care to maintain contact with their families. PEI Kids' vigilance around creating a safe community for Trenton's children has created the framework for many successes among the city's youth who have gone on to realize great personal and professional achievement. PEI Kids continues in the tradition of cultivating an environment that promotes opportunity and achievement for youth by equipping them for life's challenges, developing their sense of resilience and providing community structure and resources that serve as a springboard for fulfilling a life of promise. For more information about PEI Kids, visit <http://www.peikids.org/>.

## Children in Out-of-Home CP&amp;P Placement

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change 14-18
Trenton	154	165	181	138	124	-19
Mercer	367	367	382	343	331	-10
New Jersey	7,322	6,955	6,663	6,191	5,586	-24

## Number of Children Reported for Abuse/Neglect

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	2,276	2,504	2,370	2,314	2,331	2
Mercer	4,002	4,155	3,963	3,914	4,020	0
New Jersey	94,486	90,135	89,441	88,969	91,585	-3

## Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	396	366	239	184	116	-71
Mercer	614	571	385	279	212	-65
New Jersey	11,972	11,556	9,397	8,256	6,463	-46

## Percentage of Reported Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Trenton	17.4	14.6	10.1	8.0	5.0
Mercer	15.3	13.7	9.7	7.1	5.3
New Jersey	12.7	12.8	10.5	9.3	7.1

## Child Welfare Monitor

New Jersey's child protection system is currently under court supervision, as part of a 2004 agreement under the federal class action lawsuit *Charlie and Nadine H. v. Christie*. The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) (<http://www.cssp.org>) currently serves as the Federal Monitor. As Monitor, CSSP is charged with evaluating how well New Jersey is meeting the performance measures established by the court settlement. The Monitor issues data reports, typically covering six-month periods. The Monitor's reports, which contain more child protection data, can be viewed on the Department of Children and Families' website, <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/about/welfare/federal/>. The most recent monitor's report was released on February 5, 2019.

**■ Data Sources and Technical Notes:**

**Children Under CP&P Supervision, 2014-2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services, 2014-2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Children in Out-of-Home CP&P Placement, 2014-2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Number of Children Reported for Abuse/Neglect, 2013-2017.** Number of children who were reported for child abuse/neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families for each calendar year.

**Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2013-2017.** The number of children found to be victims of child abuse/neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families for each calendar year. In 2013, the N.J. Department of Children and Families added two possible findings of child abuse/neglect investigations—“established” and “not established”. Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was “substantiated” or “unfounded”.

**Percentage of Reported Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2013-2017.** Based on the number of children found to be substantiated or established victims of child abuse/neglect out of the number of children reported for abuse or neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. In 2013, the N.J. Department of Children and Families added two possible findings of child abuse/neglect investigations—“established” and “not established”. Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was “substantiated” or “unfounded”.





## Section 5

# Child Care

### Licensed Child Care Centers and Registered Family Child Care Providers: How Do They Differ?

Licensed child care centers and registered family child care providers both offer child care to children under the age of 13. However, there are key differences in the number of children they are permitted to serve and the locations in which they operate. Licensed child care centers serve a minimum of six children and must adhere to state licensing requirements. Registered family child care providers care for a maximum of five children at a time in their own homes. Family child care providers who register voluntarily through New Jersey's Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies are required to meet state regulations primarily related to health and safety concerns. In 2017, an additional requirement was signed into law requiring these providers to undergo fingerprinting and a criminal history background check.

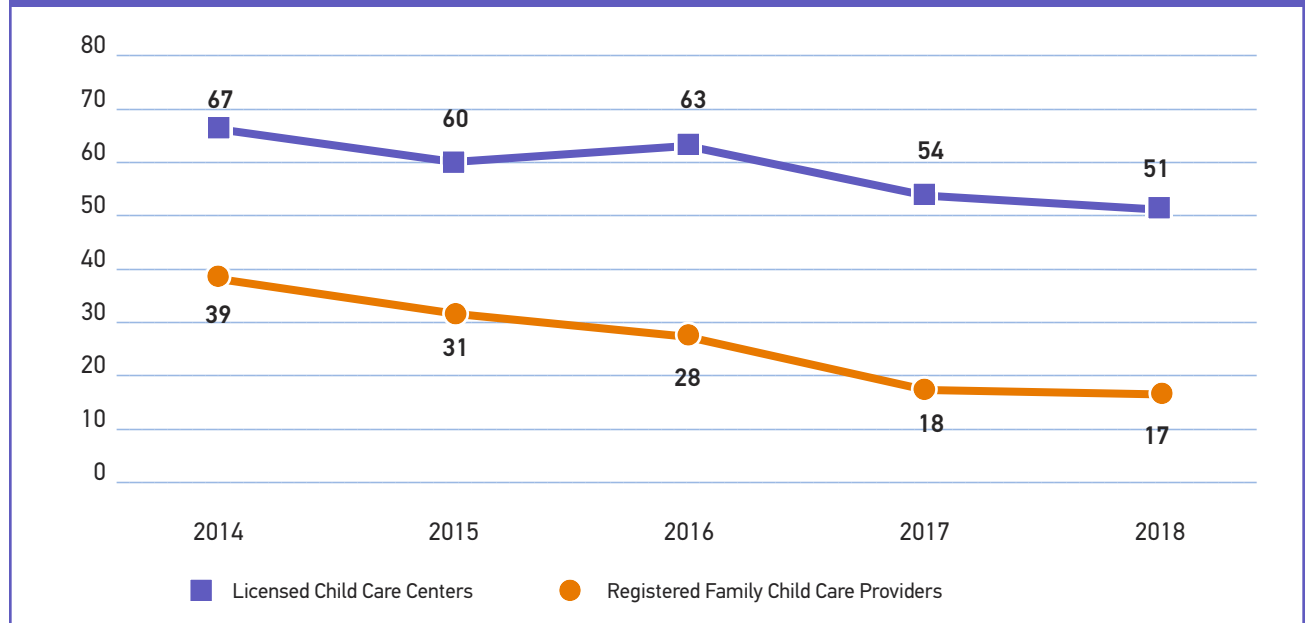
#### Licensed Child Care Centers

	2018
Trenton	51
Mercer	206
New Jersey	4,169

#### Child Care Center Capacity

	2018
Trenton	5,074
Mercer	20,034
New Jersey	386,738

#### Number of Trenton Licensed and Registered Child Care Providers





### Children Receiving Child Care Subsidies

	2016	2017	2018	% Change 16-18
Trenton	2,959	2,689	2,710	-8
Mercer	9,645	8,364	6,482	-33

*Note: Data are as of October for each year.*

### Children Receiving Mercer County Voucher Program (MCVP) Child Care Subsidies

	2016	2017	2018	% Change 16-18
Trenton	36	26	28	-22
Mercer	89	58	62	-30

## What is a Child Care Subsidy?

Families earning up to double the federal poverty level can qualify for a subsidy to pay for child care to help parents work. In 2018, 2,710 Trenton children benefited from child care subsidies.

Child care costs can be significant. According to the 2017 New Jersey Child Care Market Price Study, the median monthly cost of full-time care in Mercer County for an infant was more than \$1,300; for a pre-school-aged child, the cost was \$1,000.<sup>1</sup> In Mercer County, families

earning more than the traditional state subsidy income requirements are eligible for county-based assistance through the Mercer County Child Care Voucher Program. This program provides children in moderate-income families with the opportunity to attend licensed child care centers and family child care providers who have registered through the state. In 2018, 28 children in Trenton benefitted from this program. For more information on the Mercer County Child Care Voucher Program, visit [http://ccc-nj.org/mercer\\_voucher.cfm](http://ccc-nj.org/mercer_voucher.cfm).

## Families Receiving State-Funded Home Visitation Programs\*

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	% Change 14-18
Trenton	310	317	324	338	316	2
Mercer	320	332	341	356	331	3
New Jersey	6,489	6,857	7,096	7,041	6,997	8

*\*The state funds three home visitation programs in Mercer County: Nurse Family Partnership, Parents as Teachers and Healthy Families-TIP Program. These data include families from these programs.*

## New Jersey's Home Visitation Programs

The state's home visitation programs are designed to help mothers and fathers build healthy environments for their infants and young children by promoting infant and child health, nurturing positive parent-child relationships and linking parents to resources and supports. These trained home visitors or nurses typically provide services to families facing poverty and other risk factors, with visits starting before or immediately after birth. In 2018, 316 families in Trenton received these supports through one of the state-funded home visitation programs. A review of home visitation programs has found them to be effective in improving health and development.<sup>2</sup>

## ■ References:

- <sup>1</sup> Joo, M., Kim, J. (2018). 2017 New Jersey Child Care Market Price Study. Retrieved April 5, 2019 from <http://www.childcarenj.gov/Resources/Reports>.
- <sup>2</sup> Sama-Miller, E., Kaers, L., Mraz-Esposito, A., Zukiewicz, M., Avellar, S., Paulsell, D., Del Grosso, P. (2017). Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness Review: Executive Summary. Retrieved April 5, 2019 from [https://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/homvee\\_executive\\_summary\\_august\\_2017\\_final\\_508\\_compliant.pdf](https://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/homvee_executive_summary_august_2017_final_508_compliant.pdf).

## ■ Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Licensed Child Care Centers, 2018.** The number of state licensed child care centers. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31.

**Child Care Center Capacity, 2018.** The capacity of state licensed child care centers. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31.

**Number of Trenton Licensed and Registered Child Care Providers, 2014–2018.** Data are from the N.J. Department of Children and Families and are as of December 31. Family child care providers comply with state requirements, but operate as independent small businesses.

**Children Receiving Child Care Subsidies, 2016–2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data include children receiving subsidies through New Jersey Cares for Kids (NJCK), TANF, Post-TANF, NJ Department of Children and Families Division of Child Protection and Permanency, Kinship, WRAP, Early Employment Initiative and Post-Adoption Child Care.

**Children Receiving Mercer County Voucher Program (MCVP) Child Care Subsidies, 2016–2018.** As reported by Child Care Connection, which is designated by the N.J. Department of Human Services Division of Family Development as the Mercer County Child Care Resource and Referral Agency.

**Families Receiving State-Funded Home Visitation Programs, 2014–2018.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year and include data for three home visitation programs: Nurse Family Partnership, Healthy Families-TIP Program and Parents and Teachers. This includes only evidence-based programs funded through the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Home visitation is defined as families receiving regularly scheduled visits by either a trained home visitor or a nurse with a bachelor's of science degree in nursing (BSN).

# Education

## Trenton's Mixed Delivery Pre-K

As a result of the 1998 New Jersey Supreme Court education funding case, *Abbott v. Burke*, Trenton and other school districts with high concentrations of low-income students are required to provide high quality preschool to all three- and four-year-olds. Trenton meets this requirement by collaborating with local child care and Head Start programs. As of 2019, Trenton Public Schools works with 31 child care centers, all of which are required to meet high standards, including small class sizes, the implementation of a research-based curriculum and teachers with bachelor's degrees and specialized training in early childhood education.

Besides ensuring that more young children enter kindergarten ready to learn, providers collaborating with the district receive a steady source of revenue, which helps sustain their other child care programs (such as care for infants/toddlers and before- and after-school care) and promotes stronger citywide economic development. During the 2017-18 school year, more than 2,100 students benefited from Trenton's preschool program, an 11 percent increase in enrollment since the 2013-14 school year.

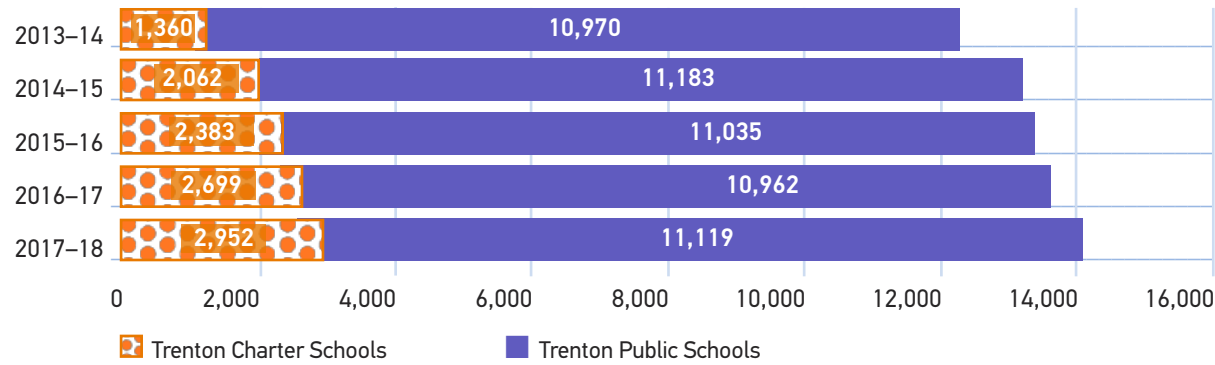
### State-Funded Preschool Enrollment

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	% Change 14-18
Trenton	1,913	2,004	2,001	1,942	2,118	11
Mercer	1,997	2,082	2,069	2,024	2,193	10
New Jersey	51,924	51,232	51,952	51,371	51,580	-1

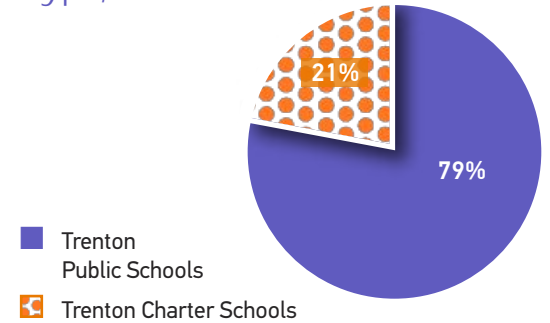
### Kindergarten Enrollment

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	% Change 14-18
Trenton Public Schools	677	1,074	1,025	996	1,020	51
Trenton Charter Schools	58	244	237	253	257	343
<b>Trenton Total</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>1,318</b>	<b>1,262</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>74</b>
Mercer	3,747	4,171	4,135	4,135	4,059	8
New Jersey	92,322	91,570	91,703	90,740	90,831	-2

### Pre-K-12 Total Enrollment, Trenton



### Percentage of Trenton Students Enrolled in School by School Type, 2017-18

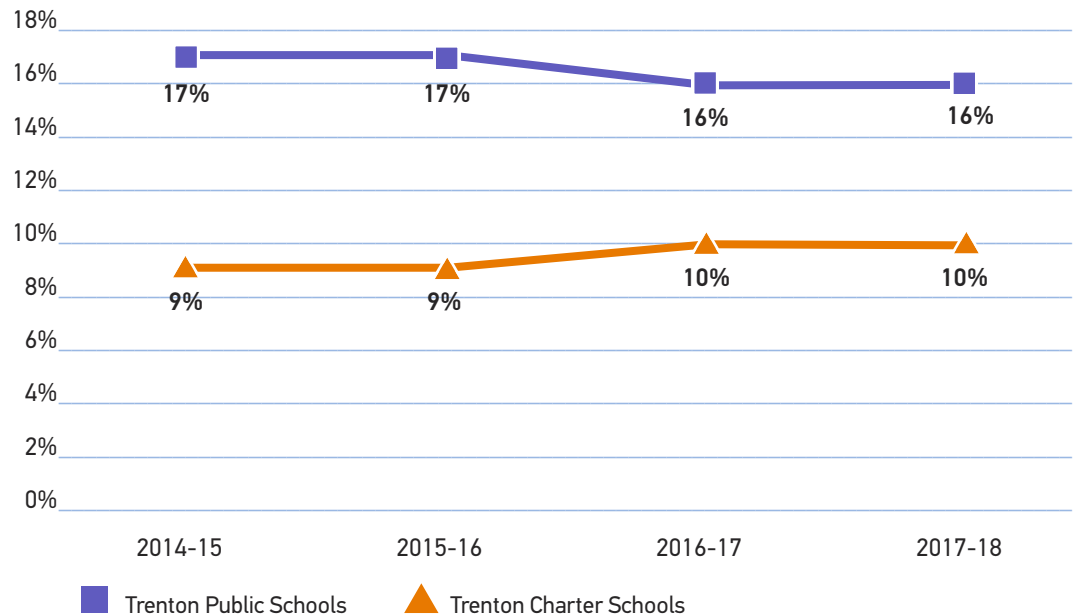


### Special Education Enrollment, Ages 3-21

	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Trenton Public Schools	2,322	2,312	2,171	2,182
Trenton Charter Schools*	182	213	264	293
<b>Trenton Total</b>	<b>2,504</b>	<b>2,525</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>2,475</b>

Note: Includes public and non-public students.  
 \*Data for the years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 for International Charter School were suppressed and are not reflected in the totals.

### Special Education Enrollment, as a Percentage of Total Enrollment



Trenton Public Schools Special Education by Disability, 2017-18

	Autism	Deaf-Blindness	Pre-School Disabled	Emotional Disturbance	Hearing Impairment	Multiple Disabilities	Intellectual Disability	Other Health Impairment	Orthopedic Impairment	Specific Learning Disability	Speech or Language Impairment	Traumatic Brain Injury	Visual Impairment
Ages 3-5	22	0	72	0	0	*	*	*	0	*	10	0	0
Ages 6-21	161	*	N/A	131	13	424	135	157	*	896	134	*	*

Note: Does not include charter school data.

\*Counts of fewer than 10 students have been suppressed to protect confidentiality.

Number of Homeless Students

2017-18

Trenton Public Schools 80

Trenton Charter Schools <10

\*Data are cumulative as of June.

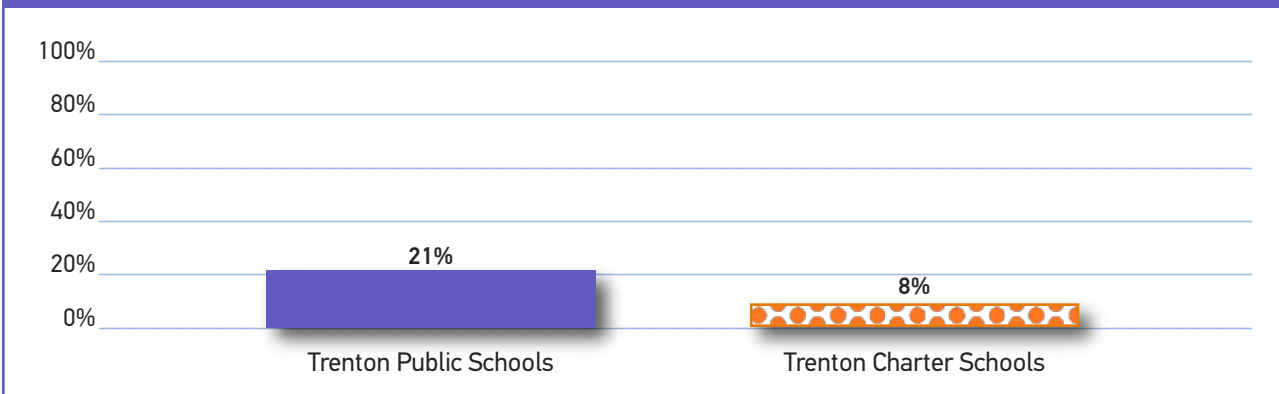
How Do We Define a Homeless Student?

A homeless student is defined as any youth lacking a regular and adequate nighttime residence. Included in this definition is a broad set of living arrangements—children living in hotels or motels, public places or sharing housing with other families due to a lack of suitable housing or financial stability. This definition was provided by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and amended through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2016. Under the ESSA amendment, children awaiting foster care placement are no longer defined as homeless. Legally, the state is required to provide a number of services to homeless children, including the appointment of a homeless student liaison who helps students and parents with enrollment, transportation arrangements and accessing services. For more information on homeless students, visit <http://nche.ed.gov/> or for more information on homeless students at the state level, visit <https://nj.gov/education/homeless/index.html>.

### Students with Limited English Proficiency

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	% Change 14-18
Trenton Public Schools	1,253	1,715	1,805	2,054	2,354	88
Trenton Charter Schools	6	26	55	70	227	3,683
<b>Trenton Total</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>1,741</b>	<b>1,860</b>	<b>2,124</b>	<b>2,581</b>	<b>105</b>

Percentage of Enrolled Trenton Students Who Are Limited English Proficient, 2017-18

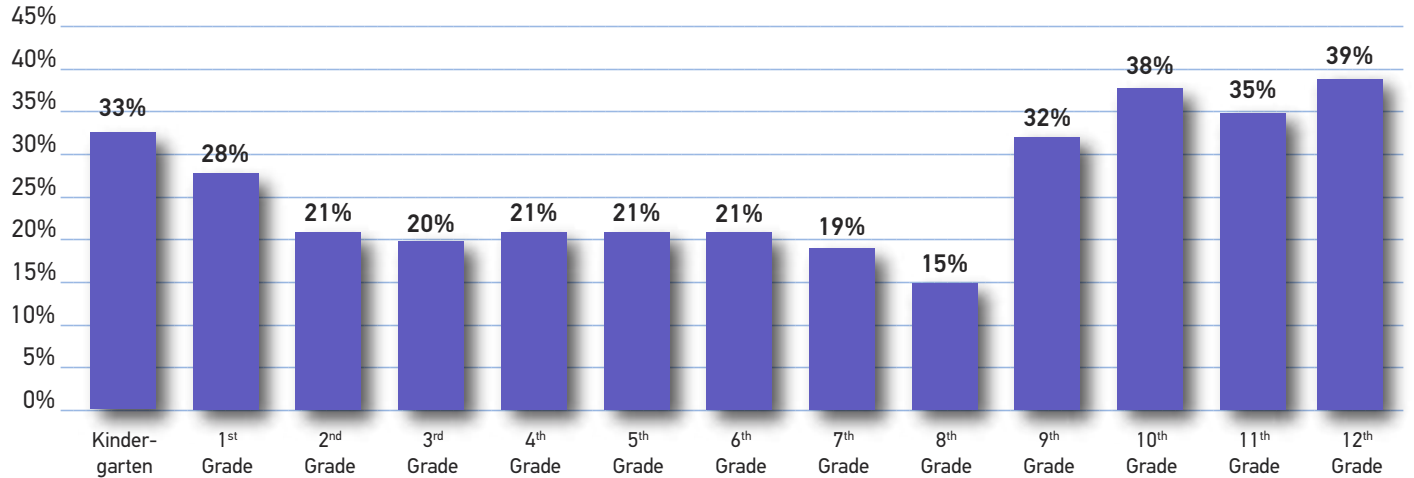


### When is a Student “Limited English Proficient?”

The N.J. Department of Education uses the term limited English proficient (LEP) to describe students whose first language is other than English or who have difficulty reading, writing and understanding English. The State of New Jersey administers an annual survey to assess the languages spoken in students’ homes in an effort to identify LEP students. Children with limited English proficiency may require additional services to allow them to be successful in the district’s academic program. For the 2017-18 school year, 2,354 LEP students attended Trenton Public Schools, compared to 227 LEP students in the city’s charter schools. Both Trenton Public Schools and Trenton’s charter schools saw a dramatic increase in the number of LEP students enrolled since the 2013-14 school year.

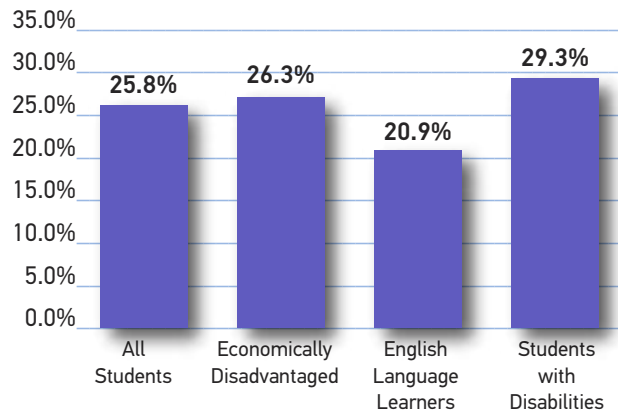


Percentage of Trenton Public School Students Chronically Absent by Grade, 2017-18\*



\*Data do not include charter schools.

K-12 Trenton Public School Students Chronically Absent by Sub-group, 2017-18\*



\*Data do not include charter schools.

## All Kids Thrive: A Community Strategy to Address Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic absenteeism (when 10 percent or more of enrolled school days are missed) affects a student’s ability to learn. This impacts test scores, reading proficiency and graduation rates. Though students may miss school for a variety of reasons, absenteeism can be addressed through intervention methods, school climate and culture shifts, and a regular review of attendance at the school, classroom and student level. In 2018, New Jersey law mandated that schools with high rates of chronic absenteeism develop action plans to reduce the number of students missing class.

Trenton Public Schools responded to chronic absenteeism within their district through initiatives such as their “Every Day Matters” campaign, funded by the five-year-long Princeton Area Community Foundation’s All Kids Thrive grant. To kick off the campaign, the school held a “Rainbow Drive” event, where families enjoyed free food, musical entertainment, face painting and more. Various community partners also provided families with information on youth programs, on-the-spot wellness checks, immunizations, flu shots, lead testing, toiletry kits, bus tickets and rain gear, meant to address the reasons that a student may miss school. As part of its grant, Trenton Public Schools will work to update its attendance policy and procedures, and teachers and support staff will receive annual professional development courses aimed at increasing awareness on the issues surrounding chronic absenteeism.

## School Violence Incidents

	2012-13					2016-17				
	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substances	HIB*	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	Substances	HIB*
Trenton Public Schools	153	21	41	9	42	171	22	16	10	9
Trenton Charter Schools	40	4	3	3	20	86	4	6	2	29
<b>Trenton Total</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>38</b>
Mercer	438	74	70	173	332	597	67	70	159	354
New Jersey	7,895	1,751	1,047	3,358	7,740	8,245	1,348	1,093	3,157	6,419

\*Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying incidents.

## Trenton Public Schools English Language Arts PARCC Results, 2017–18

	% Met/Exceeded Expectations	# Registered	# Tested	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	18	1,039	1,006	33	3
New Jersey	52	100,311	98,304	2,007	2
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	25	938	893	45	5
New Jersey	58	101,659	99,417	2,242	2
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	21	847	800	47	6
New Jersey	63	101,406	98,258	3,148	3
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	18	403	315	88	22
New Jersey	51	96,391	92,434	3,957	4
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	22	321	238	83	26
New Jersey	39	87,530	67,079	20,451	23

## Trenton Public Schools Math PARCC Results, 2017–18

	% Met/Exceeded Expectations	# Registered	# Tested	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	14	1,059	1,026	33	3
New Jersey	53	101,278	99,250	2,028	2
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	16	958	909	49	5
New Jersey	49	102,560	100,336	2,224	2
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	7	866	825	41	5
New Jersey	43	97,947	94,796	3,151	3
<b>Algebra I</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	11	921	712	209	23
New Jersey	46	114,684	110,912	3,772	3
<b>Geometry</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	2	552	392	160	29
New Jersey	30	94,972	90,093	4,879	5
<b>Algebra II</b>					
Trenton Public Schools	0	333	205	128	38
New Jersey	29	94,336	78,429	15,907	17

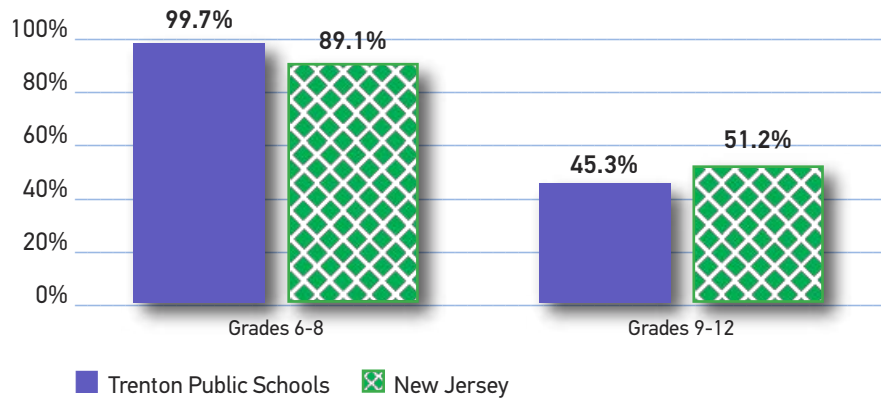
Trenton Charter English Language Arts PARCC Results, 2017–18

	% Met/Exceeded Expectations	# Tested
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>		
Trenton Charter	33	241
New Jersey	52	98,304
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Trenton Charter	29	281
New Jersey	58	99,417
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Trenton Charter	62	197
New Jersey	63	98,258
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Trenton Charter	30	177
New Jersey	51	92,434
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Trenton Charter	41	154
New Jersey	39	67,079

Trenton Charter Math PARCC Results, 2017–18

	% Met/Exceeded Expectations	# Tested
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>		
Trenton Charter	41	241
New Jersey	53	99,250
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Trenton Charter	23	283
New Jersey	49	100,336
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		
Trenton Charter	34	197
New Jersey	43	94,796
<b>Algebra I</b>		
Trenton Charter	29	187
New Jersey	46	110,912
<b>Geometry</b>		
Trenton Charter	13	205
New Jersey	30	90,093
<b>Algebra II</b>		
Trenton Charter	11	138
New Jersey	29	78,429

### Students Enrolled in One or More Visual and Performing Arts Classes, 2017-18



Note: Data do not include charter schools.

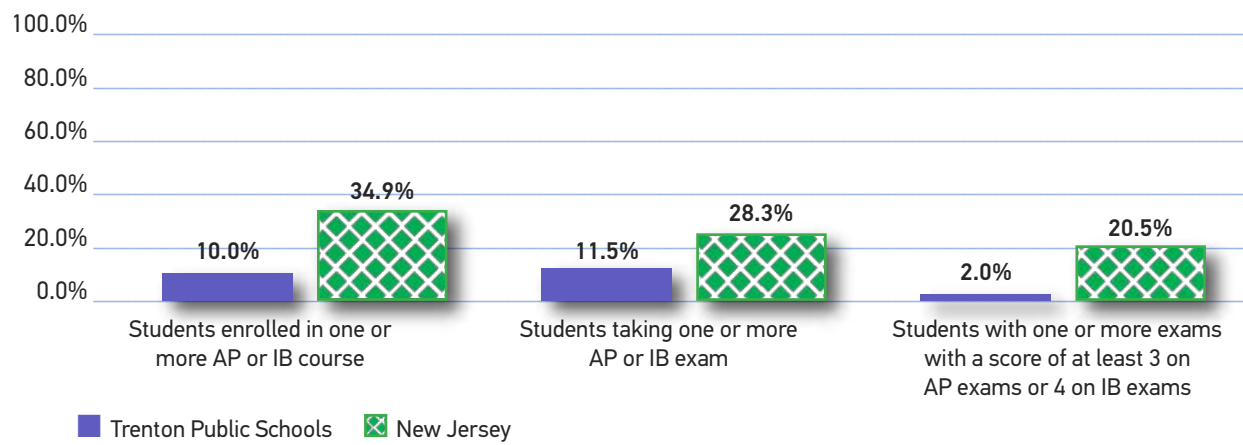
### Participation in World Language Courses, 2017-18

Grade	Spanish	French	Chinese
6	732	0	0
7	775	0	0
8	684	0	0
9	177	7	19
10	403	130	19
11	173	64	6
12	140	54	15
<b>Districtwide</b>	<b>3,084</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>59</b>
Enrolled in Level 3 or Higher*	0	0	0

Note: Data do not include charter schools.

\*Such as Spanish III or Spanish IV.

### Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Course Participation and Performance, 2017-18



Note: Data do not include charter schools.

## Trenton's New Central High School

In October 2014, the Trenton Board of Education voted to demolish Trenton's Central High School in order to erect a more modern facility after the old high school fell into disrepair.<sup>1</sup> The original building was erected in 1932 with plans to accommodate 3,000 students. The building closed its doors in 2014, and the four high school academies have since been housed in different buildings throughout the area until the building is complete.

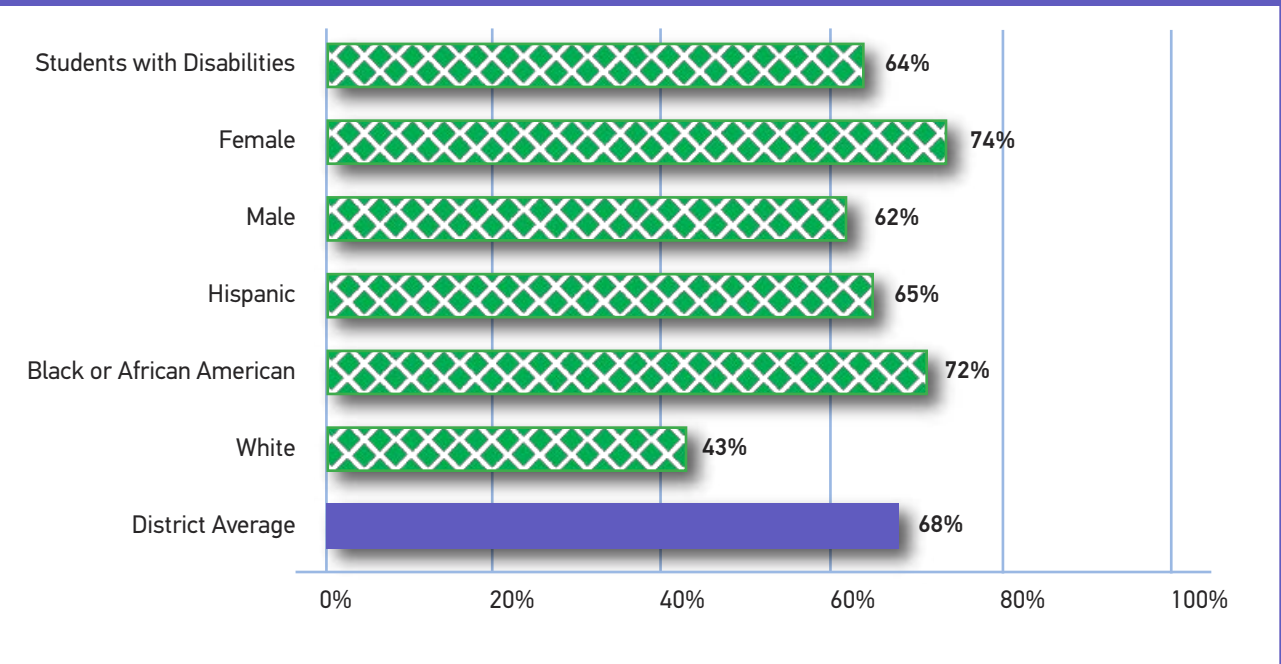
The new building, set to open September 2019, will incorporate elements from the original high school, including columns, marble panels and mosaics, but will also add new elements, such as a swimming pool, a 1,000-seat auditorium, a television production studio, an outdoor amphitheater, a dance studio and a weight room.

### High School Graduation Rates

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	% Change 14-18
Trenton Public Schools	53	69	67	70	68	28
New Jersey	89	90	90	91	91	3

*Note: Data do not include charter schools.*

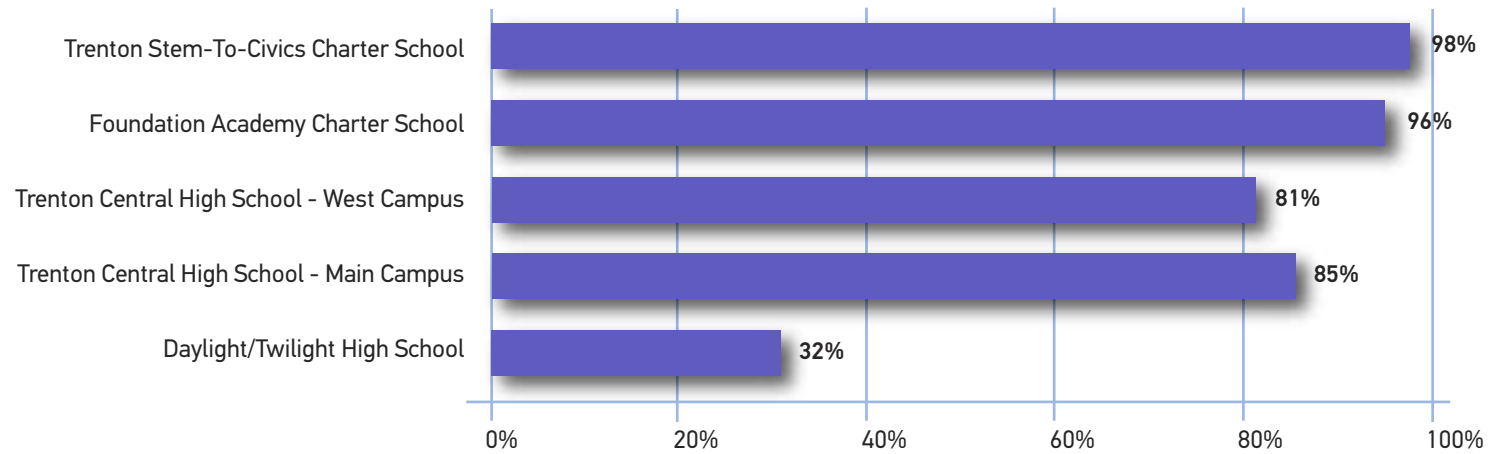
### Trenton Public Schools Graduation Rates by Demographic Subgroup, 2017-18



*Note: Data do not include charter schools.*



Graduation Rates by High School, 2017-18



Average SAT Score, by High School

	2016-17			2017-18		
	Math	Reading and Writing	Percentage Participation	Math	Reading and Writing	Percentage Participation
Trenton Public Schools Average	429	446	60	404	423	84
Daylight/Twilight High School	*	*	*	383	393	28
Trenton Central High School - Main Campus	427	443	71	410	431	99
Trenton Central High School - West Campus	437	452	79	390	407	98
Foundation Academy Charter School	480	512	100	510	488	100
Trenton Stem-To-Civics Charter School	N	N	N	421	438	100
<b>New Jersey Average</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>72</b>

Note: An "\*" indicates that data are not displayed to protect student privacy; "N" indicates that no data are available to display.

Average ACT Score, 2017-18

	Reading	English	Math	Science	Percentage Participation
Trenton Public Schools Average*	20	18	19	19	6
<b>New Jersey Average</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>

\*Does not include charter schools.

## Higher Education As the Normal Next Step

According to 2017 data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, 25 percent of Trenton residents ages 25 or older had some college education or an associate degree and 11 percent had at least a bachelor's degree. A number of organizations within the city of Trenton recognize the importance of higher education for Trenton youth. These groups offer a wide variety of programming and services to strengthen the skills of Trenton students in order to help them prepare for college.

### TRIO Upward Bound — MCCC Chapter

In order to help students to succeed beyond their high school years, Mercer County Community College (MCCC) hosts a chapter of TRIO Upward Bound. This national program, funded by the federal Department of Education since 1964, has maintained a chapter on the MCCC campus for over 50 years. Their main goal is to help first generation and low-income students enroll and graduate from higher learning institutions.

In order to be eligible for the program, students must demonstrate academic potential, present recommendations from school officials, live in Trenton and attend Trenton Central High School. Through the MCCC chapter, students have access to after-school tutors, counseling services, SAT and ACT preparation, college application assistance, financial aid instruction and opportunities to visit different colleges. TRIO Upward Bound continues to track students up to six years after they enroll in higher education, offering support as they work towards a higher degree. For more information, visit <http://www.mccc.edu/upwardbound/>.

### LALDEF — FUTURO

The Latin American Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. (LALDEF) is a non-profit dedicated to the civil rights of the Latin American community. Their FUTURO program, supported by Latino student groups from local

colleges and universities, engages undergraduate students to act as mentors and role models to Latino high school students.

Each year, FUTURO enrolls 30 new students who are either foreign-born or children of first-generation immigrants and the first in their families to pursue a higher degree. Mentors provide one-on-one tutoring for all high school subjects, as well as SAT preparation and college preparation. Additionally, students attend weekly after-school sessions, and monthly workshops and social gatherings to facilitate personal development and networking. The program boasts a 100 percent high school graduation rate, and a 92 percent matriculation rate into college for the fall directly following high school graduation. To learn more, visit <https://laldef.org/>.

### Young Scholars' Institute

In 1990, Jerri Morrison founded the Young Scholars' Institute (YSI), an after-school non-profit organization aimed at helping Trenton-area youth improve their skills in order to lead productive lives after high school. YSI offers a college resource library and a wide array of programming to students from preschool to 12<sup>th</sup> grade, such as tutoring, summer academic programs, SAT prep, essay-writing and college admissions workshops, a Chinese language course, college tours, public speaking classes and more. YSI also provides a free preschool for Trenton children ages three to four, which is funded by the Trenton Board of Education.

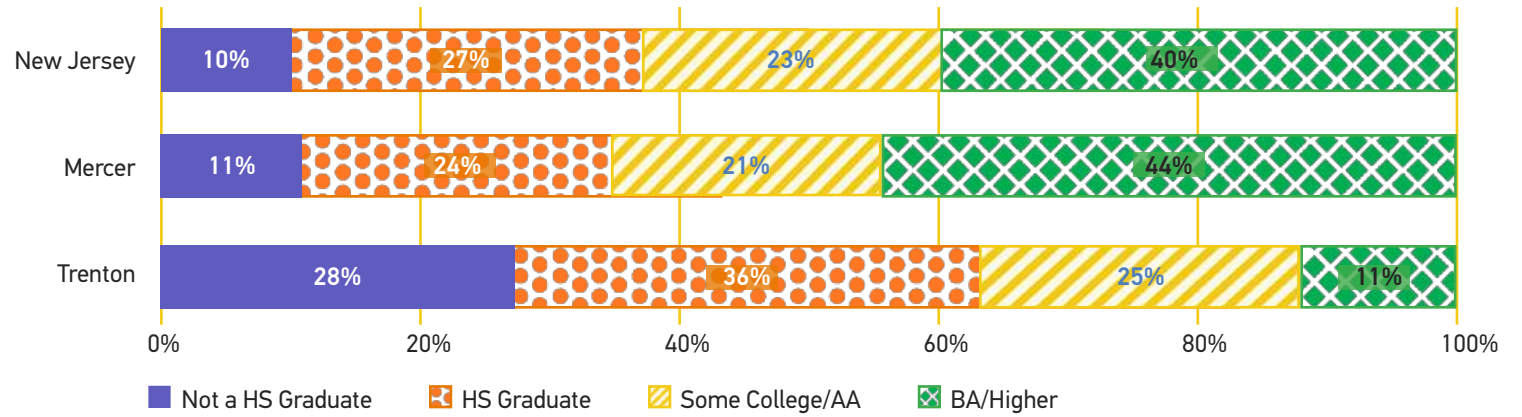
The non-profit provides programming for approximately 600 students each year. Most of the programs are free and scholarships are available. To learn more, visit [youngscholarsoftrenton.org](http://youngscholarsoftrenton.org), or call their offices at (609) 393-3220.

Percentage of Graduates Enrolled in a Post-Secondary Institution, 2017-18

School	% Schoolwide	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Students with Disabilities
<b>Trenton Public Schools</b>	40	41	32
Daylight/Twilight High School	12	15	*
Trenton Central High School - Main Campus	46	47	34
Trenton Central High School - West Campus	42	38	33
<b>Foundation Academy Charter School</b>	75	73	*
<b>Trenton Stem-To-Civics Charter School</b>	56	57	*

\*Data are not displayed in order to protect student privacy.

Highest Education Levels for People Ages 25+, Trenton vs. Mercer vs. NJ, 2017



## References:

- <sup>1</sup> Mancuso, M. (January 27, 2019). "Trenton's New \$155M High School opens later this year. Here's another peak inside." NJ.com. Retrieved April 15, 2019 from <http://s.nj.com/0iU0qrJ>.

## Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**State-Funded Preschool Enrollment, 2013-14 through 2017-18.** Number of three- and four-year-old students enrolled in half- and full-day New Jersey Department of Education-approved preschools, operated both in-district and in community centers, as reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Excludes children enrolled in Head Start or other federally-funded programs that do not receive any state aid.

**Kindergarten Enrollment, 2013-14 through 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools as well as both full and half-day programs.

**Pre-K—12 Total Enrollment, 2013-14 through 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools.

**Percentage of Trenton Students Enrolled in School by School Type, 2017-18.** Percentage of students enrolled in Trenton district and Trenton charter schools. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools.

**Special Education Enrollment, Ages 3-21, 2014-15 through 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Number of students who are classified, ages 3-21. Data include both traditional district schools and charter schools and public and non-public students. Charter totals may be higher due to suppression of districts with fewer than 10 students.

**Special Education Enrollment, as a Percentage of Total Enrollment, 2014-15 through 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Percentage of total enrollment of students who are classified, ages 3-21. Special education counts include both traditional district schools and charter schools and public and non-public students. Charter figures may differ due to suppression of districts with fewer than 10 students. Total enrollment based on October general education enrollment data for each school year.

**Trenton Public Schools Special Education by Disability, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Percentage of total enrollment of students who are classified, ages 3-5 and 6-21. Data do not include charter schools. Counts of fewer than 10 students have been suppressed to protect confidentiality.

**Number of Homeless Students, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Data are as of June for the school year listed. Represents any student identified as homeless during the given school year.

**Students with Limited English Proficiency, 2013-14 through 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, October enrollment counts.

**Percentage of Enrolled Trenton Students Who Are Limited English Proficient, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, October enrollment counts.

**Percentage of Trenton Public School Students Chronically Absent by Grade, 2017-18.** Data for grades K-12. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data. Data do not include charter schools. Chronic absenteeism is defined as being absent for 10 percent or more of enrolled school days for a given school year.

**K-12 Trenton Public School Students Chronically Absent by Sub-group, 2017-18.** Data for grades K-12. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data. Data do not include charter schools. Chronic absenteeism is defined as being absent for 10 percent or more of enrolled school days for a given school year.

**School Violence Incidents, 2012-13, 2016-17.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Commissioner of Education's Report on Violence, Vandalism and Substance Abuse in New Jersey Public Schools. More than one type of offense may be reported for a single incident.

**Trenton English Language Arts and Math PARCC Results, Grades 3, 4, 7, 10, 11, and Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II Math Exams, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey Statewide Assessment Reports for each year. Includes general education students, special education students, and foreign-language students. Data include both traditional district as well as charter schools. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect students' confidentiality. The number of untested students refers to all students who did not receive a valid score. Charter data are averages and/or totals from individual charter schools; charter data are weighted and calculated by ACNJ. Due to suppressed data in some charter schools, the percent not tested was not calculated.

**Students Enrolled in One or More Visual and Performing Arts Classes, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data. Data do not include charter schools.

**Participation in World Language Courses, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data. Data do not include charter schools. Level 3 or higher indicates participation the third level of a world language course or above (such as Spanish III or Spanish IV).

**AP/IB Course Participation and Performance, 2017-18.** Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate participation and performance amongst 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

**High School Graduation Rates, 2013-14 through 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data are not available prior to the 2010-11 school year. In 2011, the Department of Education changed the way that graduation rates are calculated to the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate. Data do not include charter schools.

**Trenton Public Schools Graduation Rates by Demographic Subgroup, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data do not include charter schools.

**Graduation Rates by High School, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data are not available prior to the 2010-11 school year. In 2011 the Department of Education changed the way that graduation rates are calculated to the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate. Data include both traditional district as well as charter schools.

**Average SAT Score, by High School, 2016-17 and 2017-18.** The percentage of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students participating in the SAT for the given school year or for prior years. Average scores reflect the highest scoring test by subject area. The score range for the SAT is from 400 to 1600 for a total score. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

**Average ACT Score, 2017-18.** The percentage of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students participating in the ACT for the given school year or for prior years. Average scores reflect the highest scoring test by subject area. The score range for the ACT is from 1 to 36 for each subject. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

**Percentage of Graduates Enrolled in a Post-Secondary Institution, 2017-18.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, N.J. School Performance Report Data. These data reflect the percentage of the 2018 high school graduates that were enrolled in 2-year and 4-year post-secondary institutions the fall after high school graduation. The data are pulled from the National Student Clearinghouse. Students who enroll in post-secondary institutions outside of the United States are not included.

**Highest Education Level for People Ages 25+, Trenton vs. Mercer vs. N.J., 2017.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B15002.







## Section 7

# Teens and Young Adults

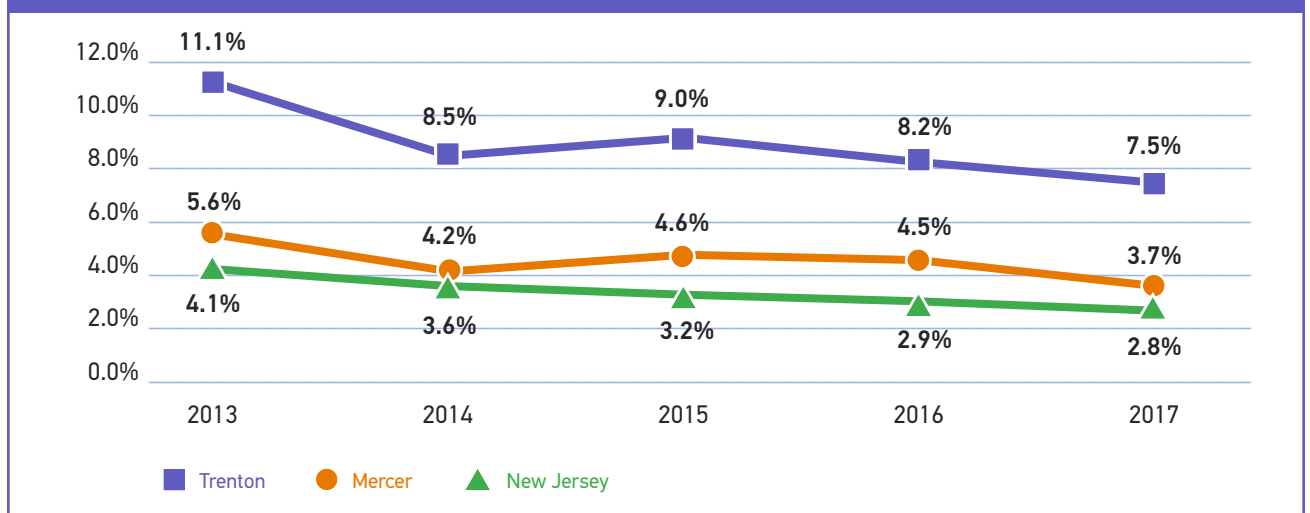
### Data Trends for Teens

Consistent with trends from prior years, the most recent data show a decline in the number of teen births. Juvenile arrests, however, increased, breaking with trends seen at the state level. Trenton admissions to detention continue to decrease, dropping by 28 percent between 2013 and 2017. Though the data show a decrease in admissions, Trenton youth admitted to Mercer County Detention are disproportionately African American. In 2017, 82 percent of Trenton youth admitted to Mercer County detention were African American, compared to 10 percent for Hispanics and 8 percent for youth of some other race. White youth from Trenton comprised 1 percent of annual admissions to detention.

Births to Teens (Ages 15-19)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 13-17
Trenton	165	122	135	122	105	-36
Mercer	230	175	187	189	147	-36
New Jersey	4,216	3,688	3,261	2,952	2,818	-33

Births to Teens (Ages 15-19) as a Percentage of All Births



Teen Deaths (Ages 15-19)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Trenton	8	3	4	8	3
Mercer	16	8	11	14	9
New Jersey	193	199	184	194	184

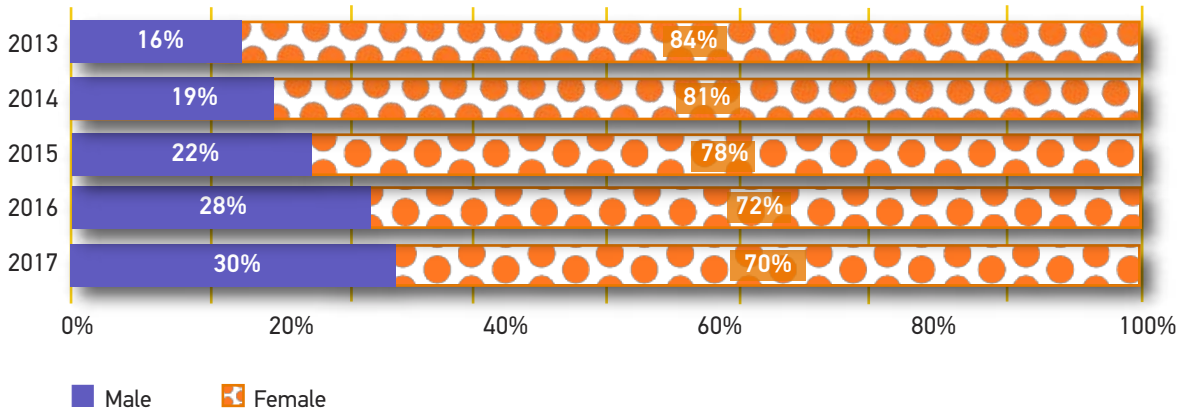
Data for 2017 are preliminary.

Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually Transmitted Infection, By Gender

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		% Change 13-17	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Trenton	52	270	58	241	53	187	84	214	96	222	85	-18
Mercer	85	440	102	433	105	364	160	388	167	432	96	-2
New Jersey	1,931	6,497	2,181	7,204	2,346	7,140	2,560	7,915	2,803	7,930	45	22

Note: Includes youth diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis.

Trenton Youth, Ages 15-19, Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection

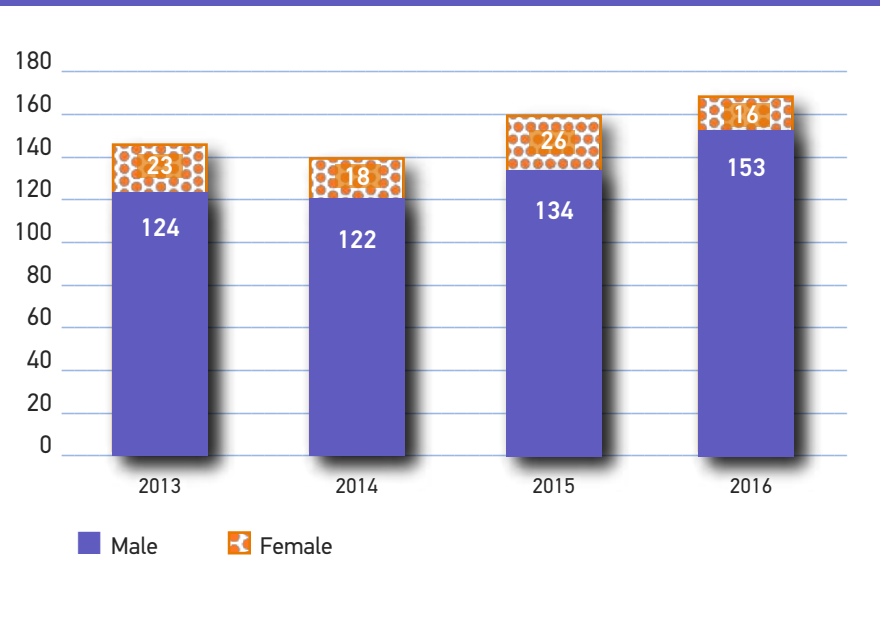




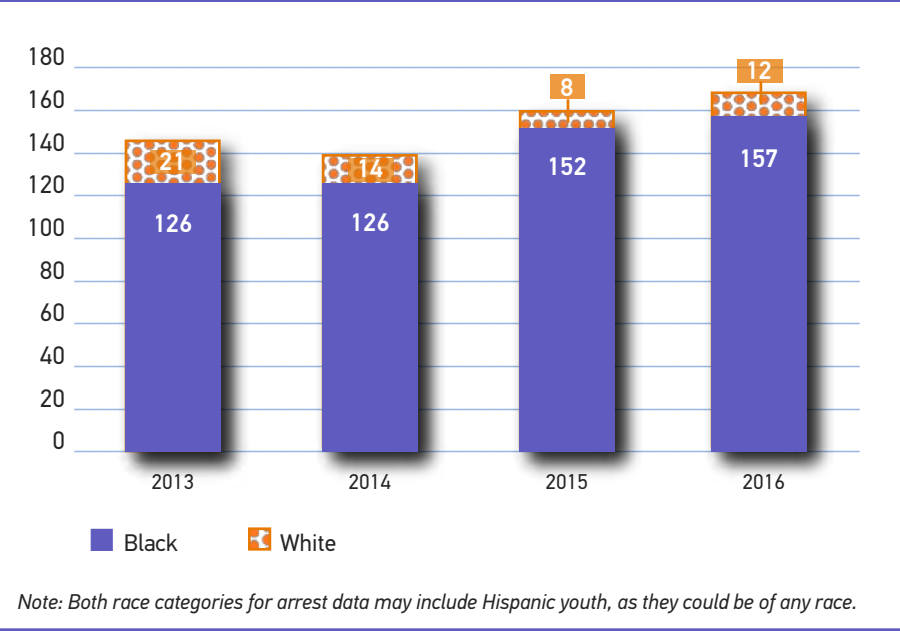
Juvenile Arrests

	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Change 13-16
Trenton	147	140	160	169	15
Mercer	1,621	1,241	1,090	1,172	-28
New Jersey	24,795	24,306	21,411	20,025	-19

Trenton Juvenile Arrests by Gender



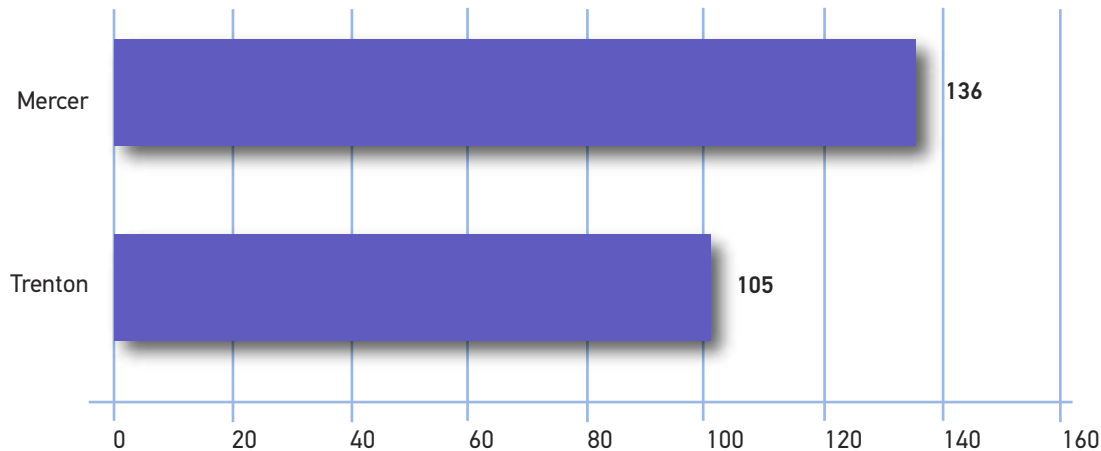
Trenton Juvenile Arrests by Race



Trenton Annual Admissions to Mercer County Detention

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*	% Change 13-17
Total Admissions	145	148	106	131	105	-28

Admissions to Detention, 2017

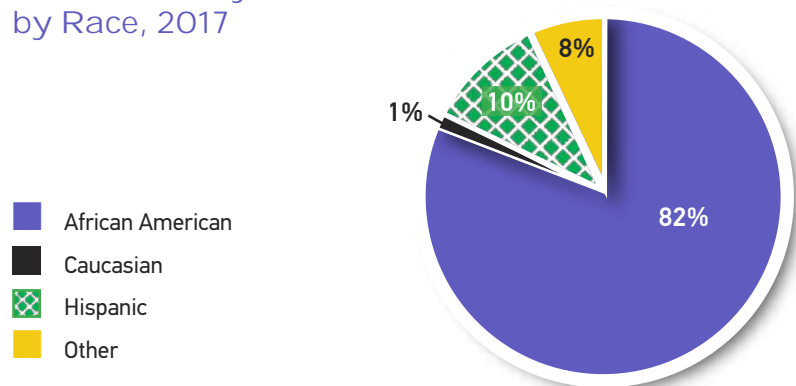


## Trenton Police Department's Youth Academy Summer Camp for Teens

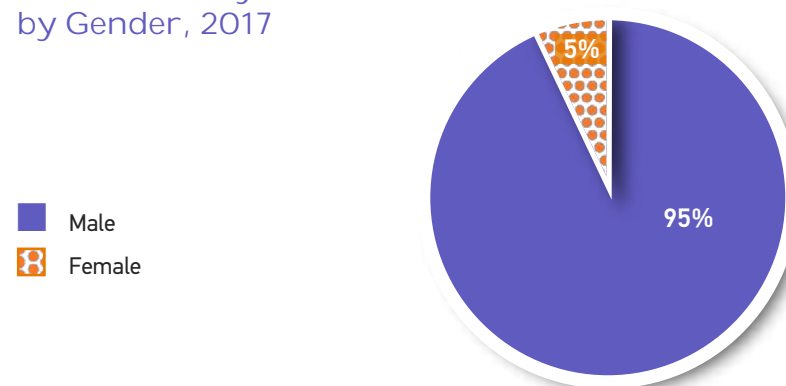
The Trenton Police Department runs a five-week summer camp program open to children in Trenton between the ages of 10 and 15. Summer camp attendees have the opportunity to participate in a number of activities, from education and training on different components of policing to museum field trips and horseback riding. The camp, now entering its fifth season, is completely free to families living in Trenton.

In addition to its Youth Academy Summer Camp, the Trenton Police Department maintains close ties with the youth living in the city. School Resource Officers work directly with school-aged children within the public schools, helping facilitate discussions on topics like bullying and women's empowerment. Officers also work to organize annual backpack drives and to provide a select group of young women with an all-expenses paid "ultimate prom experience." This includes a dress, shoes, makeover and a ride to the prom.

Percentage of Trenton Admissions to Mercer County Detention by Race, 2017



Percentage of Trenton Admissions to Mercer County Detention by Gender, 2017



**Data Sources and Technical Notes:**

**Births to Teens, Ages 15-19, 2013-2017.** The number of births to teenagers as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Births to Teens, Ages 15-19, as a Percentage of All Births, 2013-2017.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of April 4, 2019.

**Teen Deaths, Ages 15-19, 2013-2017.** The number of teenagers who died in that year, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of February 22, 2019. Data for 2017 are preliminary.

**Trenton Youth, Ages 15-19, Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection, by Gender, 2013-2017.** Youth ages 15-19 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS). Does not include youth whose gender was unknown or unreported. Data from prior reports are not comparable due to a change in age designation. Data accessed as of November 14, 2018.

**Juvenile Arrests, 2013-2016.** As reported by the Trenton Police Department. Mercer County and New Jersey data as reported by the N.J. Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Report.

**Trenton Juvenile Arrests by Gender, 2013-2016.** As reported by the Trenton Police Department.

**Trenton Juvenile Arrests by Race, 2013-2016.** As reported by the Trenton Police Department.

**Trenton Annual Admissions to Mercer County Detention, 2013-2017.** The number of youth admitted to detention. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

**Admissions to Detention, 2017.** The number of youth admitted to detention for Trenton and for Mercer County. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

**Percentage of Trenton Admissions to Mercer County Detention by Race, 2017.** The number of youth admitted to detention by race as a percentage of total youth admitted to detention. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

**Percentage of Trenton Admissions to Mercer County Detention by Gender, 2017.** The number of youth admitted to detention by gender as a percentage of total youth admitted to detention. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

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