

## Section 6

# 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

	2015*	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	156	144	139	143	147	-6
Essex	483	479	448	461	472	-2
New Jersey	3,949	3,936	3,803	4,141	4,171	6

\*Newark figures for Licensed Child Care Centers and Capacity of Licensed Child Care Centers are as of 11/16/15.

#### Child Care Center Capacity

	2015*	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	17,103	15,357	15,355	15,435	15,735	-8
Essex	44,253	45,089	41,395	42,915	43,525	-2
New Jersey	347,861	350,982	343,453	382,734	387,092	11

\*Newark figures for Licensed Child Care Centers and Capacity of Licensed Child Care Centers are as of 11/16/15.

#### Registered Family Child Care Providers

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	163	146	137	83	43	-74
Essex	291	268	259	226	184	-37
New Jersey	2,020	1,922	1,794	1,639	1,478	-27

## New Jersey's Home Visitation Programs

Home visitation is defined as families receiving regularly scheduled visits by either a trained home visitor or a nurse. 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. This is typically provided

to families facing poverty and other risk factors, with visits starting before or immediately after birth. Between 2015 and 2019, Newark families participating in home visitation programs grew by 33 percent. A review of home visitation programs has found them to be effective in improving child health and development.<sup>1</sup>

### Families Receiving State-Funded Home Visitation Programs

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	291	356	347	344	386	33
Essex	659	796	711	736	744	13
New Jersey	6,857	7,096	7,041	6,997	6,666	-3

#### ● References:

<sup>1</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 January 3, 2020 from [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/opre/homvee\\_executive\\_summary\\_03162017\\_508.pdf](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/opre/homvee_executive_summary_03162017_508.pdf).

#### ● Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Licensed Child Care Centers, 2015-2019.** The number of state-licensed child care centers. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year. Newark figures for 2015 are as of November.

**Child Care Center Capacity, 2015-2019.** The capacity of state-licensed child care centers. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year. Newark figures for 2015 are as of November.

**Registered Family Child Care Providers, 2015-2019.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year. Family child care providers comply with state requirements, but operate as independent small businesses.

**Families Receiving State-Funded Home Visitation Programs, 2015-2019.** 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).