



Giving Every Child A Chance®

## A City Profile of Child Well-Being



# PATERSON

## Kids Count 2026



# PATERSON Kids Count 2026 A City Profile of Child Well-Being

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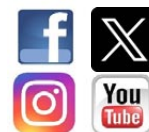


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ACNJ acknowledges that the findings and conclusions presented in this report are those of the author(s) alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the funders.



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*Advocates for Children of New Jersey is the trusted, independent voice putting children's needs first for more than 45 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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# INTRODUCTION

## How to use the Paterson Data Book

Beginning in 2011, Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) started publishing the Paterson Kids Count Data Book, a one-stop source for child well-being on the state's third largest city. Paterson Kids Count includes the latest statistics, along with five-year trend data, in the following areas: demographics, family economic security, child health, child protection, early learning, education and teens.

The Data Book is designed to support informed decision-making and community action. It can be used by:

**Policymakers** to guide policy development and resource allocation.

**Service providers** to identify emerging needs and strengthen programs for children and families.

**Grant writers and nonprofit leaders** to support funding proposals with reliable local data.

**Community members and advocates** to better understand local issues and champion solutions that improve outcomes for children and families.

## Keep in Mind:

- **Current Data and Trends.** The most recent data provide a snapshot of current conditions, while trend data show how indicators have changed over time. Looking at both offers a more complete understanding of child well-being in Paterson.
- **Comparisons.** Whenever possible, Paterson data are presented alongside Passaic County and New Jersey statewide data. These comparisons provide context and help illustrate whether trends are unique to Paterson or reflect broader regional or statewide patterns.
- **Data Sources and Methodology.** Some figures, particularly for smaller geographic areas, are based on estimates and may have margins of error or be suppressed due to small sample sizes. Indicators may also represent different reporting periods, such as calendar years, school years, or fiscal years. Please refer to the data sources listed at the end of each section for additional information about individual indicators and methodologies.



## How to Help New Jersey's Children Grow Up Safe, Healthy, and Educated:

**Donate to ACNJ today at [www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org).**

*As a non-partisan organization, we accept no state funding for advocacy, ensuring the freedom to speak out for children who have no voice and no vote. Our sole mission is to put the needs of New Jersey's children first.*

For more information about how you can help support our work, please contact Richard Santangelo, Fundraising Manager, at [rsantangelo@acnj.org](mailto:rsantangelo@acnj.org) or (973) 643-3876, ext. 213.

# LETTERS FROM...

## A Letter from Advocates for Children of New Jersey



**Mary Coogan**  
President & CEO  
Advocates for Children  
of New Jersey



**Susan E. Flynn**  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Advocates for Children  
of New Jersey

Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) is thrilled to release *Paterson Kids Count 2026* in partnership with the Paterson Alliance. Featuring nearly 100 data indicators spanning demographics, family economic security, child health, child protection, early learning, education, and teens, this report provides a comprehensive snapshot of child well-being in Paterson, Passaic County, and New Jersey as a whole.

The goal of every Kids Count report is to engage residents and policymakers in honest conversations about whether these trends are moving in the best direction for children and youth. Paterson residents can then work alongside community organizations and city, county, and state officials to assess what is working, identify areas for improvement or additional funding, and determine where new programming is needed.

This year, due to major changes to federal safety-net programs already affecting communities like Paterson, we have included what is known so families, providers, and community partners can be proactive. New SNAP work requirements and NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid changes are being implemented, including eligibility restrictions starting this October and work requirements for many low-income adults beginning in January 2027. Research shows loss of benefits often comes from confusion and paperwork, not from families losing eligibility. Awareness can help Paterson residents protect the coverage they still qualify for.

At a glance, *Paterson Kids Count 2026* reveals a fast-growing, diverse community: the child population grew by 11% over the past five years, 17% of children are now foreign-born, and children under age 5 make up nearly 30% of the city's child population. Median income is also rising faster in Paterson (38%) than in Passaic County (33%) or New Jersey (25%), and third graders are making real academic gains, with the percentage reading at or above grade level climbing from 15% to 22%, and math proficiency rising from 14% to 23%, between the 2021–22 and 2024–25 school years.

At the same time, other indicators point to families under growing strain. The number of Paterson children receiving NJ SNAP has decreased by 24% between 2021 and 2025. The percentage of children without health insurance rose from 7% to 9%, even as the statewide rate held steady at 4%, and the percentage of women beginning prenatal care in the first trimester has dropped 23% since 2020. Chronic absenteeism also remains a pressing concern, with students experiencing homelessness being chronically absent at nearly twice the districtwide rate of 34%.

The data in *Paterson Kids Count 2026* provides crucial information to better understand — and respond to — the issues affecting children and families in the Silk City. We look forward to the upcoming community conversations, through which the Paterson Alliance will develop its agenda for action. Together, we can put this data to work for every child in Paterson.

This report is made possible by The Henry & Marilyn Taub Foundation. We are deeply grateful for their generous and longstanding support in publishing Paterson Kids Count.



### A Letter from Paterson Alliance



**Shanikwa Lemon-Watson**  
Executive Director  
Paterson Alliance



**Rosie Grant**  
President, Board of Trustees  
Paterson Alliance



We are proud to welcome you to *Paterson Kids Count 2026: A City Profile of Child Well-Being*.

For more than a decade, Paterson Kids Count has helped our community better understand the experiences of Paterson's children and families. In partnership with Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ), this report gives us reliable local data to recognize where progress is being made, identify where challenges remain, and guide the conversations and partnerships needed to move our community forward.

This year's profile reminds us that the numbers are only the beginning. Behind every statistic is a child, a family, a neighborhood, and a story. That is why we are especially proud that the 2026 report brings together data with the voices and work of organizations serving Paterson every day.

Throughout the development of this report, Paterson Alliance members and community partners have helped review the data, provide context, identify important indicators, and share stories from across the city. That collaborative process reflects what Paterson Alliance believes at its core: lasting change happens when we bring people together around shared information, shared priorities, and shared action.

We have already seen how Paterson Kids Count data can lead to meaningful partnerships and action.

Previous reports have helped strengthen our work with Paterson Public Schools around early childhood and preschool enrollment, supported community conversations about the needs of children and families, and informed efforts addressing issues such as lead exposure and healthy homes.

As you explore the 2026 profile, we encourage you to think beyond what the numbers tell us today and consider what we can do together tomorrow. Use this report to strengthen programs, support grant applications, inform advocacy, guide investments, and start conversations within your organizations and communities.

Most importantly, we do not want the work to end with the release of this report. Paterson Alliance will continue bringing partners together to identify the areas where collective action can make the greatest difference and use the findings to help guide our working groups, affinity groups, advocacy, and partnerships.

Our hope is that Paterson Kids Count becomes more than a report we release. We envision it as Paterson's ongoing State of Our Children, giving our community an opportunity to measure progress, confront challenges, celebrate what is working, and recommit ourselves to ensuring that every child in Paterson has the opportunity to thrive.

We thank ACNJ, our funders, Paterson Alliance members, community partners, and everyone who contributed their knowledge, stories, and time to this year's report.

Every number has a story. Every child counts. Now, it is up to all of us to turn what we learn into action.

### A Letter from the 35th Legislative District



**Benjie Wimberly**  
Senator  
State of New Jersey



**Kenyatta Stewart ESQ.**  
Assemblyman  
State of New Jersey



**Al Abdelaziz**  
Assemblyman  
State of New Jersey

Our children and families are the most important investments we can make in the future of Paterson, the 35th Legislative District, and the State of New Jersey.

Using the *Paterson Kids Count 2026: A City Profile of Child Well-Being*, developed in partnership with Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ), we can better understand the conditions shaping lives throughout our community. The data across demographics, family economic security, housing, maternal and child health, early childhood, education, and youth well-being provides both a measure of where we stand and a roadmap for where we must go.

Recognizing the connection among these indicators is essential. Economic insecurity can contribute to housing instability; housing instability can affect health and educational outcomes; and barriers experienced during early childhood can have consequences that extend into adolescence and adulthood. These are not isolated challenges, and they cannot be addressed through isolated solutions.



Acting with urgency allows us to respond to the needs of children and families today, while building sustainable solutions ensures that our progress continues tomorrow. Connecting local data with community priorities and state-level action is especially important. The experiences of Paterson families should help inform our legislative priorities, budget decisions, and advocacy in Trenton. When we understand where disparities persist and where investments are producing results, we can better direct resources toward the communities and families who need them most.

Listening to parents, young people, educators, service providers, advocates, and community organizations must remain central to this work. We must continue returning to these indicators, evaluating our investments, and holding ourselves accountable for whether the lives of children and families are improving.

Above all, remembering that every data point represents a child should guide our work. Every child deserves a safe home, access to quality health care and education, economic stability within their family, and the opportunity to reach their fullest potential.

Together, we can transform data into priorities, priorities into action, and action into lasting progress. I am deeply committed to building a healthier, safer, and more prosperous future for Paterson and communities throughout the 35th Legislative District.

### A Letter from the Mayor



**Andre Sayegh**  
*Mayor*  
City of Paterson  
New Jersey



The Paterson Kids Count report is a valuable resource for our city. By providing data on the needs, strengths, and challenges facing our children and families, it helps us better understand where we are making progress and where we must continue to focus our efforts. As Mayor, I believe this information is essential to guiding thoughtful conversations, strengthening partnerships, and making informed decisions that improve outcomes for Paterson's children.

I extend my special thanks to Shanikwa Lemon-Watson, Executive Director of the Paterson Alliance, for her leadership and for working closely with Alena Siddiqui, Data Analyst at Advocates for Children of New Jersey, throughout this project.

I also sincerely thank the Henry & Marilyn Taub Foundation for its generous support and longstanding commitment to Paterson Kids Count. The Foundation has helped ensure that our community continues to have access to the data needed to understand our children's needs and strengthen the services and opportunities available to them.

I encourage our community to use the findings of Paterson Kids Count as a catalyst for continued dialogue, collaboration, and action. Together, we can use this information to build on our progress and create a stronger future for every child and family in Paterson.

Sincerely,  
**Andre Sayegh**  
Mayor

### A Letter from Paterson Public Schools



**Laurie W. Newell, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools  
Paterson, New Jersey



The release of the *Paterson Kids Count 2026: A City Profile of Child Well-Being* provides an important opportunity to reflect on the experiences of Paterson's children and families, recognize our progress, and identify where our collective efforts must continue. For Paterson Public Schools, this work reinforces a fundamental belief: every child deserves the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

As Superintendent of Schools, I am honored to serve a community so deeply committed to its young people. Our district's new slogan, "Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow," reflects both our responsibility and our promise to Paterson's students. Preparing our children for tomorrow begins with ensuring they are present, engaged, and supported today. That is why student attendance and meaningful family engagement remain important priorities for our district.

Through our districtwide "Get Your 180" attendance campaign, we are reinforcing a simple but powerful message: every school day matters. We have established Attendance Review Committees to identify and address barriers to attendance, expanded positive attendance incentives, and provided intensive support to a cohort of 10 schools. Our John F. Kennedy High School media students also helped bring the campaign to life by producing English- and Spanish-language videos, incorporating student voice while strengthening communication with our multilingual families.

Our work recognizes that improving attendance requires strong partnerships with families. The district conducted four parent and attendance workshops, exceeding our established goal, with participating families reporting that the sessions were useful and actionable. We have also strengthened systems for tracking family participation and student progress, giving us better tools to evaluate our efforts and provide support where it is needed most. These accomplishments reflect what is possible when students, families, educators, and community partners work toward a shared goal.

*Paterson Kids Count 2026* gives educators, families, policymakers, service providers, and community partners a shared understanding of where our children are today and where we must go next. I thank the Paterson Alliance, Advocates for Children of New Jersey, and all those who continue to invest in the well-being and future of Paterson's children.

Sincerely,

**Laurie W. Newell**  
Superintendent of Schools

## Paterson's Changing Child and Family Demographics

Paterson, often known as the “Silk City,” is home to a diverse and vibrant population that shapes the city's unique character. According to American Community Survey estimates, Paterson's child population grew by approximately 11% between 2015–2019 and 2020–2024. Children under age 5 account for nearly 30% of the city's total child population, reflecting a relatively young population.

The majority of children in Paterson identify as Hispanic or Latino. Approximately 40% identify as another race, and 25% identify as multiracial, highlighting the city's racial and ethnic diversity. Paterson is also home to a large immigrant population. Foreign-born children make up 17% of the city's child population, an increase from 14% in 2015–2019. In addition, 70% of children have at least one foreign-born parent, and 68% of births in 2024 were to foreign-born mothers. Together, these demographic trends underscore the important role immigrant families play in Paterson's child population and future growth.

### Total Population

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 | % Change |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Paterson       | 145,710   | 158,735   | 9%       |
| Passaic County | 503,637   | 521,012   | 3%       |
| New Jersey     | 8,878,503 | 9,343,809 | 5%       |

### Child Population Under Age 18

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 | % Change |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Paterson       | 39,726    | 43,898    | 11%      |
| Passaic County | 120,481   | 123,141   | 2%       |
| New Jersey     | 1,961,521 | 2,037,645 | 4%       |

### Child Population Under Age 5

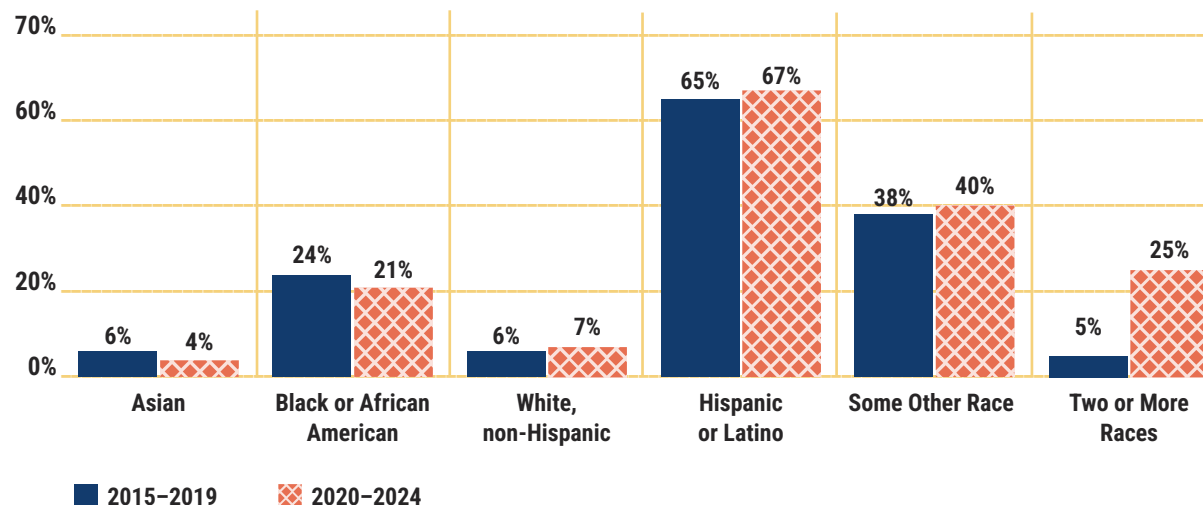
|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 | % Change |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Paterson       | 11,498    | 12,627    | 10%      |
| Passaic County | 34,223    | 32,856    | -4%      |
| New Jersey     | 519,524   | 527,188   | 1%       |

# 1 Demographics

Almost **7** out of **10** children living in Paterson are Hispanic or Latino according to 2024 5-year estimates.



Paterson's Child Population Under Age 18 by Race/Ethnicity



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

Beginning in 2020, any comparisons to prior estimates by race and ethnicity should be made with caution. Differences may be the result of demographic changes and/or differences in question wording, race reporting, or coding updates. For more information, visit the [www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/user-notes/2021-03.html](https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/technical-documentation/user-notes/2021-03.html).

## Foreign-Born Children Under Age 18

|                | 2015-2019 |     | 2020-2024 |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | Number    | %   | Number    | %   |
| Paterson       | 5,367     | 14% | 7,417     | 17% |
| Passaic County | 9,561     | 8%  | 12,063    | 10% |
| New Jersey     | 111,292   | 6%  | 138,997   | 7%  |

## Children Under Age 18 With at Least One Parent Who is Foreign-Born

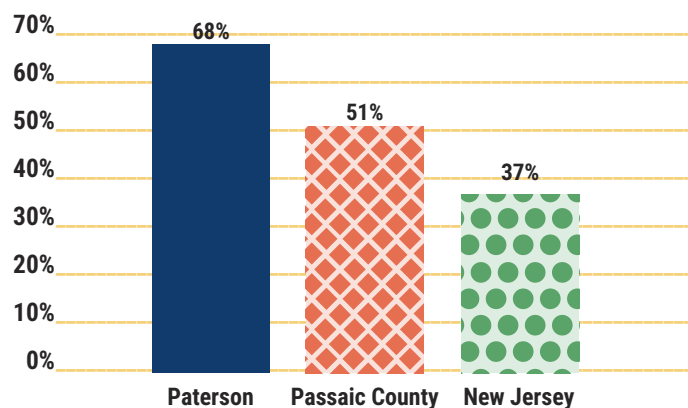
|                | 2015-2019 |     | 2020-2024 |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | Number    | %   | Number    | %   |
| Paterson       | 24,167    | 64% | 29,381    | 70% |
| Passaic County | 62,392    | 53% | 69,163    | 58% |
| New Jersey     | 743,212   | 39% | 812,026   | 41% |

# 1 Demographics

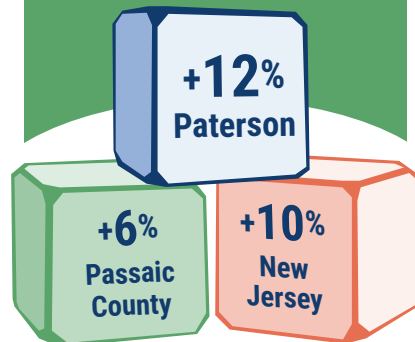
## Total Births

|                | 2020   | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | % Change |
|----------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Paterson       | 2,398  | 2,327   | 2,468   | 2,367   | 2,288   | -5%      |
| Passaic County | 6,242  | 6,249   | 6,414   | 6,271   | 6,147   | -2%      |
| New Jersey     | 97,145 | 101,330 | 102,896 | 101,014 | 101,364 | 4%       |

## Percentage of Births to Foreign-Born Women, 2024



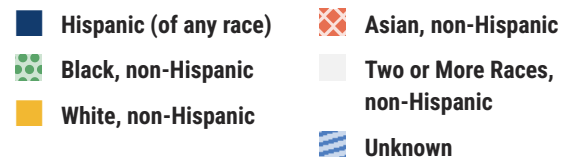
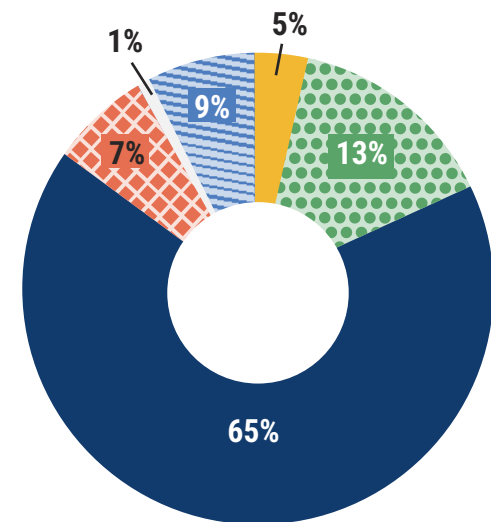
Paterson saw the fastest growth in births to foreign-born women, increasing 12% since 2020.



## Births to Foreign-Born Women

|                | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | % Change |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| Paterson       | 1,392  | 1,364  | 1,532  | 1,533  | 1,553  | 12%      |
| Passaic County | 2,944  | 2,826  | 3,124  | 3,091  | 3,110  | 6%       |
| New Jersey     | 34,429 | 34,562 | 36,940 | 36,820 | 37,829 | 10%      |

## Percentage of Total Births by Race/Ethnicity in Paterson, 2024



In 2024, **70%** of Paterson births to foreign-born women were to women of Hispanic descent, followed by **10%** to women of Asian, non-Hispanic descent.

# 1 Demographics

## Nonmarital Births

|                | 2020   |     | 2021   |     | 2022   |     | 2023   |     | 2024   |     |
|----------------|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|
|                | #      | %   | #      | %   | #      | %   | #      | %   | #      | %   |
| Paterson       | 1,417  | 60% | 1,340  | 58% | 1,512  | 62% | 1,467  | 62% | 1,396  | 61% |
| Passaic County | 2,550  | 42% | 2,525  | 41% | 2,696  | 42% | 2,739  | 44% | 2,649  | 43% |
| New Jersey     | 30,382 | 33% | 31,583 | 32% | 33,867 | 33% | 33,337 | 33% | 32,820 | 33% |

## Saint Joseph's Health Expands Support for Healthier Pregnancies and Births

Saint Joseph's Health is reimagining maternal and infant care in Paterson with innovative programs that improve outcomes, strengthen families, and ensure every birthing person feels supported and heard.

One of the hospital's cornerstone initiatives is CenteringPregnancy, a group prenatal care model that brings together expectant parents with similar due dates for extended sessions focused on education, peer support, and shared experiences. The program has achieved strong results. While Saint Joseph's overall cesarean section rate is about 28%, participants in the 2025 CenteringPregnancy cohorts had a 14% cesarean rate, as well as lower rates of preterm birth and low birth weight.

The hospital has expanded its community-based doula program, offering culturally responsive support before, during, and after birth. Staff doulas reflect the diversity of the community and speak Spanish, Bengali, Arabic, and American Sign Language. Families who receive prenatal doula care are more likely to return for postpartum visits and experience better birth outcomes.



Saint Joseph's has also implemented TeamBirth, a shared decision-making model that brings patients, nurses, physicians, midwives, and doulas together throughout labor and delivery. This approach helps patients feel informed, respected, and actively involved in their care.

Together, these programs demonstrate Saint Joseph's commitment to serving Paterson's families, especially those who are underserved, with compassionate, evidence-based care that supports healthier pregnancies, safer births, and stronger communities.



*Thank you to Debby Katz, Manager of Nurse Midwifery & Doula Services at Saint Joseph's, for providing this information.*

*For more information on CenteringPregnancy at Saint Joseph's Health, please visit <https://stjosephshealth.org/health-services/womens-health/centering-pregnancy>.*

# 1 Demographics

## Languages Spoken in the Home, Paterson

|                                                                                           | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Percentage of population age 5 & over who only speak English in the home                  | 36%       | 33%       |
| Percentage of population age 5 & over who speak a language other than English in the home | 64%       | 67%       |
| Of those ages 5-17, who speak a language other than English, by percentage                |           |           |
| Spanish                                                                                   | 11%       | 12%       |
| Asian & Pacific Islander Languages                                                        | <1%       | <1%       |
| Other Indo-European Languages                                                             | 1%        | 1%        |
| Other Languages                                                                           | 1%        | 1%        |

## Households Headed by One Parent

|                | 2015–2019 |     | 2020–2024 |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | Number    | %   | Number    | %   |
| Paterson       | 10,830    | 57% | 12,595    | 57% |
| Passaic County | 22,778    | 38% | 25,741    | 41% |
| New Jersey     | 315,942   | 30% | 336,700   | 31% |

## Households Headed by Female Parent

|                | 2015–2019 |     | 2020–2024 |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | Number    | %   | Number    | %   |
| Paterson       | 8,843     | 82% | 10,345    | 82% |
| Passaic County | 17,717    | 78% | 21,161    | 82% |
| New Jersey     | 236,317   | 75% | 248,764   | 74% |

## Number of Grandparents Caring for Their Grandchildren

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Paterson       | 1,137     | 1,056     |
| Passaic County | 2,739     | 2,822     |
| New Jersey     | 45,237    | 40,539    |

## Grandchildren Under Age 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Paterson       | 5,277     | 4,907     |
| Passaic County | 11,609    | 9,849     |
| New Jersey     | 126,036   | 127,673   |

## Circle of Care: Supporting Paterson Youth and Families

Circle of Care helps Paterson youth and families navigate behavioral health challenges and connect with the supports they need to remain safely at home and in their communities. Each month, the nonprofit serves approximately 1,000 young people across Passaic County, including an average of about 350 youth from Paterson. Circle of Care primarily works with children and teens experiencing moderate to significant mental health, behavioral, and developmental needs.

Circle of Care uses a wraparound care model to help young people remain in their homes and communities instead of institutional settings. The organization connects families with care managers, mental health services, developmental disability support, and a broad network of community resources. It also collaborates with caregivers, schools, coaches, and other trusted adults to strengthen each child's support system.

“Our main goal is to ensure that youth stay in the community. We do not want youth to be institutionalized when we know that there are programs [and] services that can truly support a youth staying within their home, within their community,” said Executive Director Jose L. Posos.

As of August 26, 2026, Circle of Care was serving 348 Paterson youth, ranging in age from 3 to 20, with an average age of 12. All 348 were living in their homes or communities rather than in an out-of-home placement. Nearly one in four — 81 youth — were identified as having a high level of need through the Strengths and Needs

“  
*Our main goal is to ensure that youth stay in the community. We do not want youth to be institutionalized when we know that there are programs [and] services that can truly support a youth staying within their home, within their community.*

— Jose L. Posos  
Executive Director



Assessment, which looks at a young person's strengths as well as behavioral, emotional, family, and other needs to help determine the level of support required. Forty-four Paterson youth are also eligible for developmental-disability services and supports. Of the 348 youth, 325 currently have Medicaid coverage, while Circle of Care is working with the remaining 23 families to help secure coverage.

Circle of Care addresses broader challenges affecting youth well-being, such as food insecurity, transportation barriers, Medicaid access, and immigration concerns. Circle of Care is also changing how it connects with families in Paterson and throughout Passaic County. Rather than operating from one fixed community location, the organization has adopted a mobile outreach

approach and is partnering with community organizations to bring information, resources, workshops, and connections directly into neighborhoods. Through a growing community “roadshow,” Circle of Care aims to reach more families where they already live, gather, and seek support.

By integrating mental health care with practical family support, Circle of Care is strengthening the safety net for Paterson youth. The organization recognizes that children thrive when their families and community receive support.

*Thank you to Executive Director Jose L. Posos for this information. To learn more about Circle of Care, please visit <https://circleofcarecmo.org/>.*

# 1 Demographics

## Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Total Population, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001 using 5-year estimates.

**Child Population Under Age 18, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001 using 5-year estimates.

**Child Population Under Age 5, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001 using 5-year estimates.

**Paterson's Child Population Under Age 18 by Race/Ethnicity, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey charts B01001B, B01001D, B01001F, B01001G, B01001H, and B01001I using 5-year estimates. Black or African American, Other, and Two or More Races categories may include individuals who identified as Hispanic.

**Foreign-Born Children Under Age 18, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B05003 using 5-year estimates.

**Children Under Age 18 with at Least One Parent who is Foreign-Born, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B05009 using 5-year estimates. Data include children where one parent is native, the other foreign-born, both parents being foreign-born, and single foreign-born parent.

**Total Births, 2020-2024.** As reported per year by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of May 26, 2026.

**Percentage of Births by Race/Ethnicity in Paterson, 2024.** 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 26, 2026.

**Percentage of Births to Foreign-Born Women, 2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of May 26, 2026.

**Births to Foreign-Born Women, 2020-2024.** As reported per year by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of May 26, 2026.

**Nonmarital Births, 2020-2024.** As reported per year by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of May 26, 2026.

**Languages Spoken in the Home, Paterson, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart S1601 using 5-year estimates. Data are for languages spoken in the home for population 5 years and above. Languages are specified for ages 5 to 17.

**Households Headed by One Parent, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** 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 using 5-year estimates.

**Households Headed by Female Parent, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** 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 using 5-year estimates.

**Number of Grandparents Caring for Their Grandchildren, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10050 using 5-year estimates.

**Grandchildren Under Age 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10001 using 5-year estimates.

## How is Poverty Defined?

The federal government uses the poverty threshold to estimate how many people in the United States are living in poverty. This measure is based on the cost of a basic food diet and is adjusted for inflation and family size. Because it is the same nationwide, it does not reflect differences in cost of living, including in high-cost states like New Jersey. As a result, 200% of the poverty threshold, or \$63,624 for a family of four, is often a more realistic measure of financial hardship in New Jersey. The U.S. Census Bureau produces the poverty threshold used for data reporting, while the federal poverty guidelines used to determine eligibility for certain programs are issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

### 2024 Federal Poverty Thresholds for a Family of Four

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| 50%  | \$15,906 |
| 100% | \$31,812 |
| 200% | \$63,624 |

### Total Population Living Below Poverty Level

|                | 2015–2019 |     | 2020–2024 |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | Number    | %   | Number    | %   |
| Paterson       | 38,423    | 27% | 33,503    | 21% |
| Passaic County | 77,841    | 16% | 66,692    | 13% |
| New Jersey     | 869,081   | 10% | 891,891   | 10% |

### Economically Disadvantaged Children Under Age 18

|                                    | 2015–2019 |     | 2020–2024 |     |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                                    | Number    | %   | Number    | %   |
| <b>Paterson</b>                    |           |     |           |     |
| Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL) | 5,929     | 15% | 6,117     | 14% |
| Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)        | 14,787    | 38% | 12,803    | 29% |
| Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)     | 26,139    | 66% | 26,315    | 60% |
| <b>Passaic County</b>              |           |     |           |     |
| Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL) | 12,777    | 11% | 11,035    | 9%  |
| Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)        | 29,449    | 25% | 23,598    | 19% |
| Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)     | 54,681    | 46% | 48,762    | 40% |
| <b>New Jersey</b>                  |           |     |           |     |
| Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL) | 117,499   | 6%  | 118,573   | 6%  |
| Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)        | 272,194   | 14% | 261,439   | 13% |
| Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)     | 583,899   | 30% | 573,351   | 28% |

FPL = Federal Poverty Level

## 2 Family Economic Security

### Families with Children Living Below the Poverty Level

|                | 2015–2019 |     | 2020–2024 |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | Number    | %   | Number    | %   |
| Paterson       | 6,272     | 33% | 5,477     | 25% |
| Passaic County | 11,706    | 20% | 10,020    | 16% |
| New Jersey     | 116,919   | 11% | 114,665   | 11% |

### Families with Children Under Age 5 Living Below the Poverty Level

|                | 2015–2019 |     | 2020–2024 |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | Number    | %   | Number    | %   |
| Paterson       | 989       | 36% | 961       | 31% |
| Passaic County | 1,671     | 17% | 1,596     | 16% |
| New Jersey     | 18,338    | 10% | 15,898    | 8%  |

### Poverty is Declining in Paterson

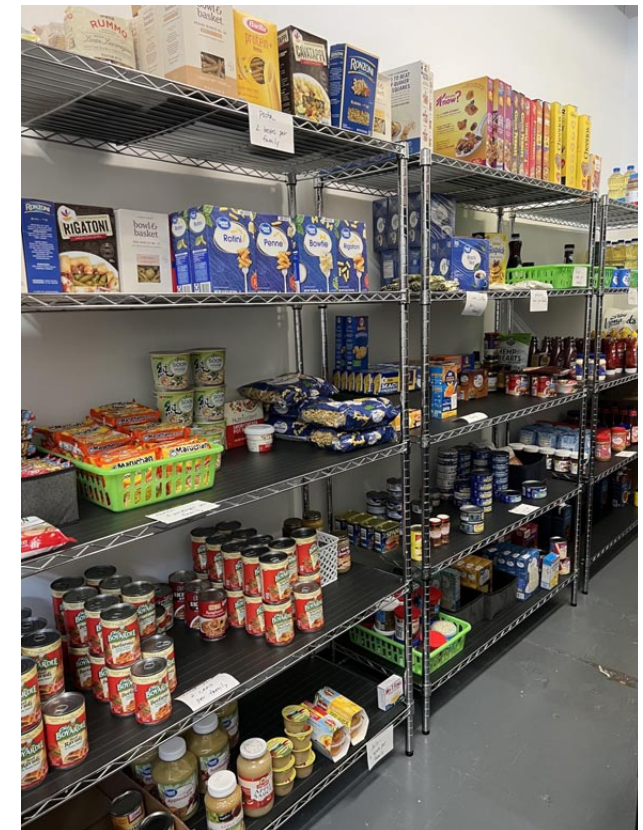
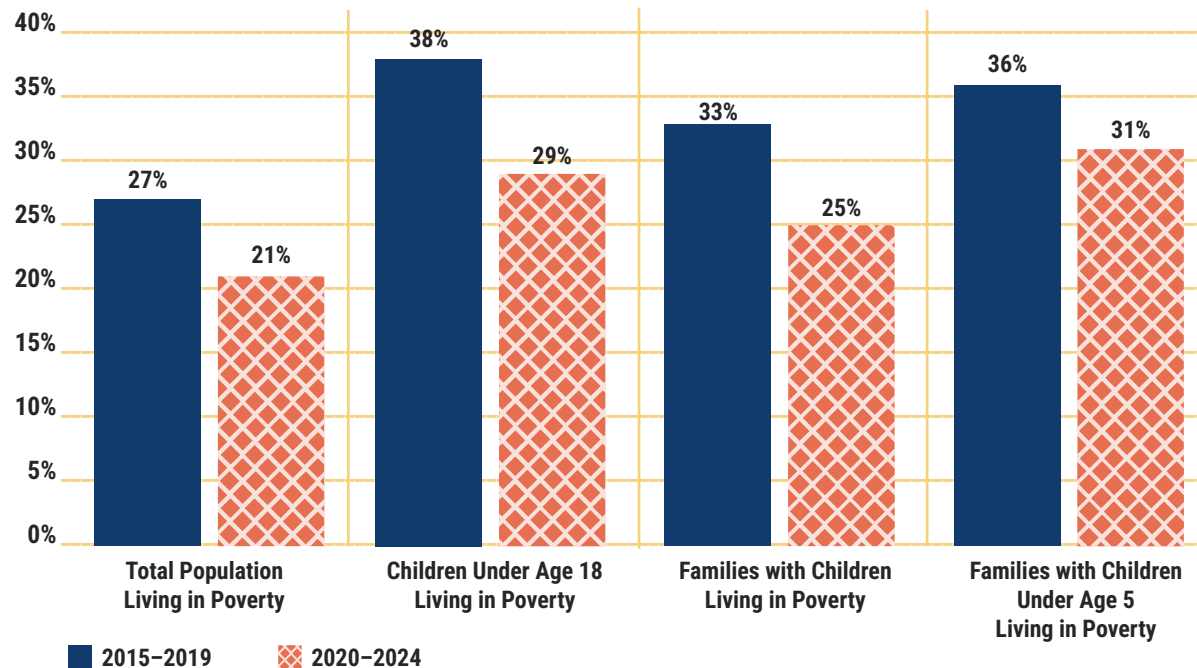


Photo from Families for Families

## 2 Family Economic Security

### Transforming Lives: How Families for Families Helps Paterson Families Find Stability

Families for Families transforms lives in Paterson by helping families move from homelessness to stability through practical support and community connection. Its flagship Furnishing Great Starts program provides families transitioning into permanent housing with donated furniture and household essentials at no cost, turning empty apartments into welcoming homes.

Families for Families offers more than furnishings. Its wraparound services include case management, support groups, community dinners, special events, and a food pantry. These programs help families achieve long-term stability and reach goals in employment, education, and well-being.



The impact is significant. In 2025, Families for Families helped 176 families move into new apartments, and an average of four new families each week received furnishings. The organization's food pantry recorded 13,119 visits during the year. As Executive Director Cristyn Madley said, "the goal isn't just helping families move in, it's helping them stay housed and thrive."



Families for Families reports a 4% return-to-homelessness rate among families engaged in its programs, significantly lower than the national average of approximately 21% for families experiencing homelessness.

Later this year, the organization will be expanding their location, which will allow them to grow their services and food pantry to serve even more of the Paterson community.

With compassion, collaboration, and comprehensive support, Families for Families helps families build not only homes but also stronger futures.

For more about Families for Families, please visit <https://www.families4families.com/>.

*Thank you to Executive Director Cristyn Madley for providing this information.*

## 2 Family Economic Security

### Median Income of Families with Children

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Paterson       | \$37,514  | \$51,841  |
| Passaic County | \$70,520  | \$93,877  |
| New Jersey     | \$104,319 | \$130,331 |

**Stronger growth, persistent gap:**  
Paterson's median family income increased by **38%**, more rapidly than Passaic County (33%) and New Jersey (25%), but it remains below both county and state levels.



### Number Unemployed

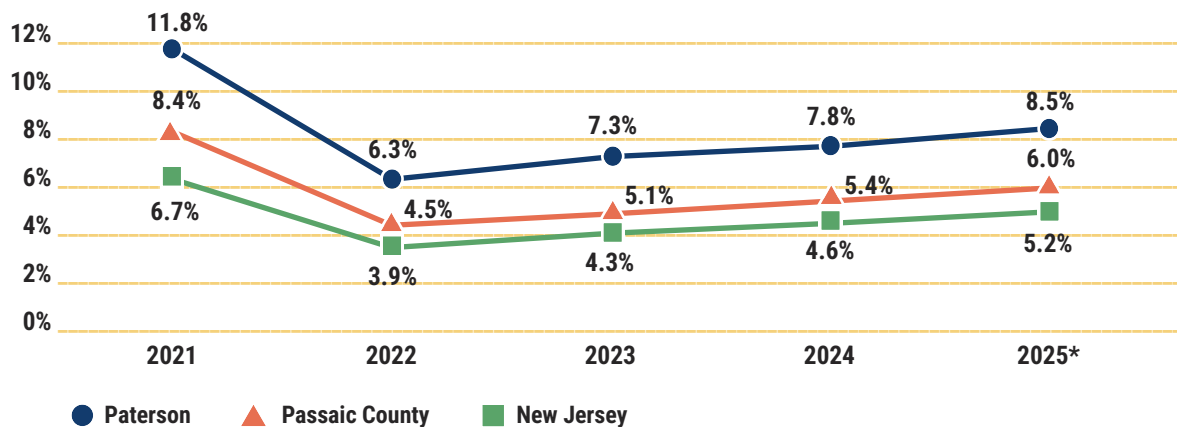
|                | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025*   | % Change 21–25 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 8,566   | 4,580   | 5,471   | 5,959   | 6,471   | -24%           |
| Passaic County | 21,935  | 12,106  | 13,917  | 14,983  | 16,697  | -24%           |
| New Jersey     | 313,371 | 185,106 | 210,989 | 227,295 | 257,134 | -18%           |

\*Annual estimates for 2025 are 11-month averages that exclude October. Data for October 2025 were not collected due to federal government shutdown.

### Children Under Age 18 with All Available Parents in the Labor Force

|                | 2015–2019 |     | 2020–2024 |     |
|----------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
|                | #         | %   | #         | %   |
| Paterson       | 24,632    | 65% | 29,272    | 69% |
| Passaic County | 77,871    | 67% | 87,244    | 73% |
| New Jersey     | 1,355,582 | 72% | 1,457,012 | 74% |

### Unemployment Rate



\*Annual estimates for 2025 are 11-month averages that exclude October. Data for October 2025 were not collected due to federal government shutdown.

### Parental workforce participation remains strong:

For all three geographies, more children have all available parents in the labor force.



## 2 Family Economic Security

### The New Jersey Earned Income Tax Credit

Tax credits are a vital economic support for many low-income working families and also strengthen New Jersey's local economy, as many of these dollars are spent in the communities where families live and work. Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC) reward work and help increase take-home pay by lowering the amount of taxes owed and, in some cases, providing a refund.

#### Federal Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC)

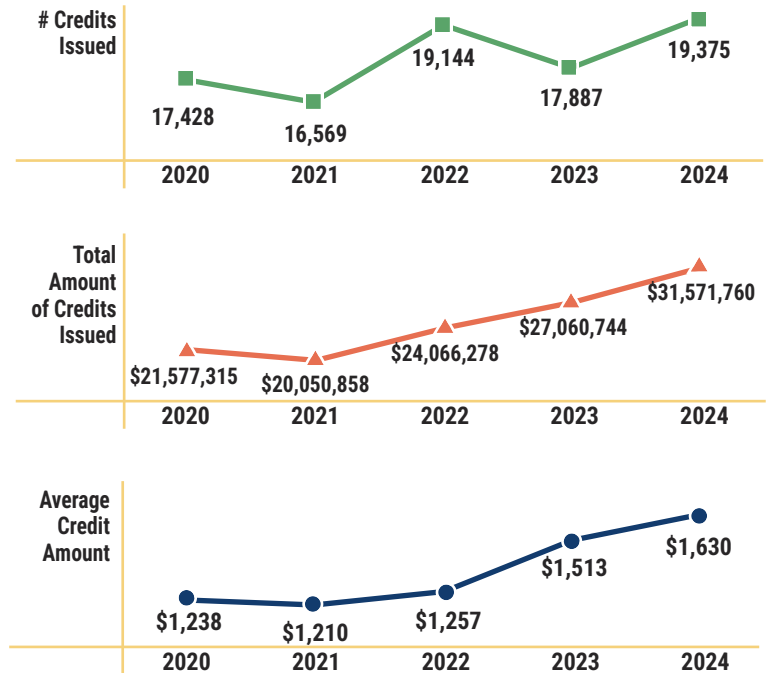
|                | 2018             |                   | 2022             |                   | % Change 18-22   |                   |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                | Number of Claims | Avg. Claim Amount | Number of Claims | Avg. Claim Amount | Number of Claims | Avg. Claim Amount |
| Paterson       | 28,370           | \$2,738           | 26,320           | \$2,833           | -7%              | 3%                |
| Passaic County | 54,100           | \$2,581           | 49,970           | \$2,661           | -8%              | 3%                |
| New Jersey     | 599,490          | \$2,338           | 545,790          | \$2,386           | -9%              | 2%                |

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

|                | # Credits Issued | Total Amt. of Credits Issued | 2020               | # Credits Issued | Total Amt. of Credits Issued | 2024               | % Change 20-24   |                              |                    |
|----------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
|                |                  |                              | Avg. Credit Amount |                  |                              | Avg. Credit Amount | # Credits Issued | Total Amt. of Credits Issued | Avg. Credit Amount |
| Paterson       | 17,428           | \$21,577,315                 | \$1,238            | 19,375           | \$31,571,760                 | \$1,630            | 11%              | 46%                          | 32%                |
| Passaic County | 31,705           | \$38,704,867                 | \$1,221            | 34,387           | \$54,528,331                 | \$1,586            | 8%               | 41%                          | 30%                |
| New Jersey     | 317,886          | \$367,807,942                | \$1,157            | 344,785          | \$514,690,792                | \$1,493            | 8%               | 40%                          | 29%                |

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

##### A Closer Look at Paterson



## 2 Family Economic Security

### Children in Families Receiving TANF (Welfare)

|                | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   | % Change 21–25 |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 1,342  | 1,538  | 1,130  | 1,067  | 1,030  | -23%           |
| Passaic County | 1,961  | 2,204  | 1,799  | 1,622  | 1,565  | -20%           |
| New Jersey     | 17,301 | 19,465 | 19,784 | 20,466 | 17,552 | 1%             |

### Median Rent

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 | % Change |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Paterson       | \$1,193   | \$1,548   | 30%      |
| Passaic County | \$1,293   | \$1,621   | 25%      |
| New Jersey     | \$1,334   | \$1,720   | 29%      |

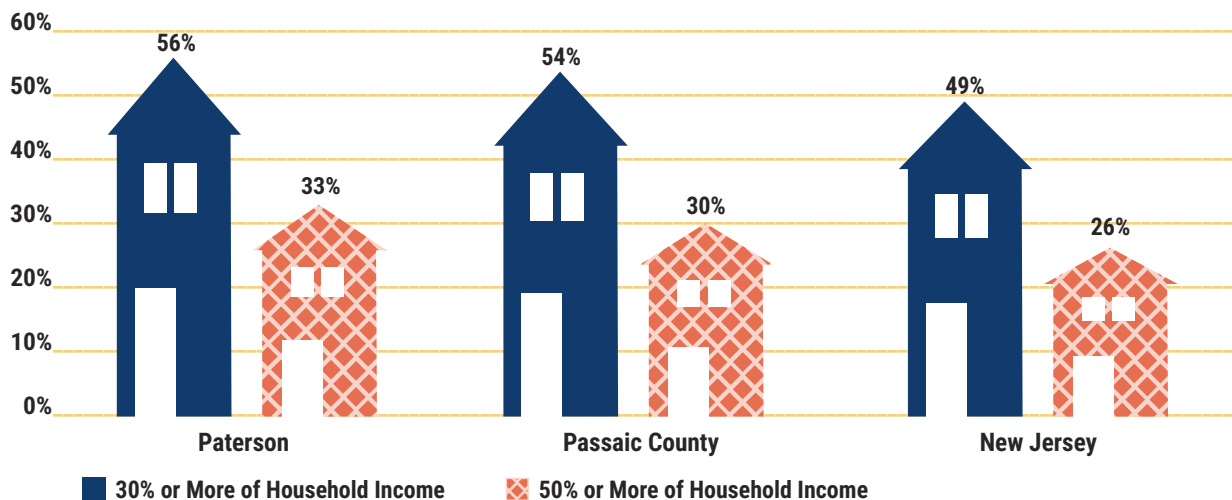
### Percentage of Households Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Rent

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Paterson       | 55%       | 56%       |
| Passaic County | 52%       | 54%       |
| New Jersey     | 49%       | 49%       |

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

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Paterson       | 58%       | 53%       |
| Passaic County | 43%       | 41%       |
| New Jersey     | 35%       | 32%       |

### Percentage of Households Spending Too Much on Rent, 2020–2024



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

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Paterson       | 26%       | 27%       |
| Passaic County | 53%       | 53%       |
| New Jersey     | 64%       | 64%       |

## 2 Family Economic Security

### Percentage of Households with No Internet Access

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Paterson       | 29%       | 9%        |
| Passaic County | 17%       | 6%        |
| New Jersey     | 12%       | 5%        |

### Percentage of Households with No Computer

|                | 2015–2019 | 2020–2024 |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Paterson       | 19%       | 7%        |
| Passaic County | 12%       | 5%        |
| New Jersey     | 9%        | 4%        |

Data from the Census Bureau indicates that households with no internet access lack any subscriptions, including cellular data, broadband, or satellite.

The decline in such households may be linked to the rise of smartphones, which are counted as computing devices; currently, 22% of households report smartphones as their only computing device.



## 2 Family Economic Security

### Oasis Expands Opportunities for Women and Children in Paterson

For over thirty years, Oasis has supported women and children facing poverty in Paterson by offering education, support services, and opportunities for long-term success. As a comprehensive anti-poverty organization, Oasis works to remove barriers that hinder families from achieving educational and economic stability.

Oasis currently serves about 300 women through adult education programs such as English as a Second Language (ESL), GED preparation, computer technology training, and workplace readiness programming. For children and youth, Oasis provides after-school programs, teen leadership opportunities, and summer camps to support academic achievement and personal growth.

To meet families' broader needs, Oasis employs four licensed social workers, a college and career counselor, and a workforce development specialist and collaborates with local organizations, like Eva's Village and Habitat for Humanity, to connect families with essential resources and services.

The organization also offers free childcare for mothers attending classes, as well as access to hot breakfast and lunch, clothing, hygiene products, and a community food pantry.

"The idea is really to address the basic needs of the women and families so that they can focus on their education," says Jennifer Brady, Executive Director of Oasis.

Oasis measures its success by its long-term impact on young people. "That's where we've had some really great success stories," says Brady, who shared the story of a former participant who advanced from Oasis after-school programs to college, earned a graduate degree, and now works as a school counselor.



"She came back a few months ago and told me that after spending her entire life living with her two sisters and her mother in a one-bedroom apartment, she and her mother were able to pool their resources and purchase a four-bedroom home with a yard. She was able to harness [the program] here and came into a very successful academic career."

Through education, support, and opportunity, Oasis is helping women and children in Paterson build brighter, more stable futures.

*Thank you to Jennifer Brady, Executive Director of Oasis, for providing this information. To read more about Oasis, please visit <https://oasisnj.org/>.*

## 2 Family Economic Security

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*The idea is really to address the basic needs of the women and families so that they can focus on their education.*

— Jennifer Brady  
Executive Director



*Oasis: Expanding Opportunities for Women*



## 2 Family Economic Security

### Reported WIC Participants

|                | 2021    |     | 2022    |     | 2023    |     | 2024    |     | 2025    |     |
|----------------|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|
|                | #       | %   | #       | %   | #       | %   | #       | %   | #       | %   |
| Paterson       | 8,595   | 91% | 8,891   | 88% | 8,532   | 85% | 7,618   | 84% | 8,002   | 86% |
| Passaic County | 14,303  | 91% | 14,993  | 89% | 15,305  | 88% | 13,681  | 85% | 14,053  | 87% |
| New Jersey     | 142,468 | 89% | 149,771 | 89% | 168,841 | 92% | 166,841 | 90% | 164,550 | 89% |

## What are SNAP and WIC?

**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 households have a monthly income of no more than 185% of the federal poverty guidelines or roughly 4,957 for a family of four based on 2025-2026 figures. For more information on SNAP eligibility, visit [www.nj.gov/human-services/njsnap/apply/eligibility/](http://www.nj.gov/human-services/njsnap/apply/eligibility/). As a result of a new Federal law, several major changes to NJ SNAP have taken effect in 2025 and early 2026 with different rules of applying depending on the date of application or recertification. Changes include new eligibility rules and work requirements for Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents (ABAWD). For the most updated information, visit [www.nj.gov/human-services/njsnap/apply/eligibility/](http://www.nj.gov/human-services/njsnap/apply/eligibility/).

**The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)** provides supplemental nutritious food to pregnant, breastfeeding, and post-partum women, infants, and children up to the age of five. WIC is available to New Jersey households with incomes up to 185% of the federal poverty guidelines. In 2025, 86% of Paterson enrollees in WIC received benefits through the program. For more information on SNAP and WIC, visit <https://fns.usda.gov>.

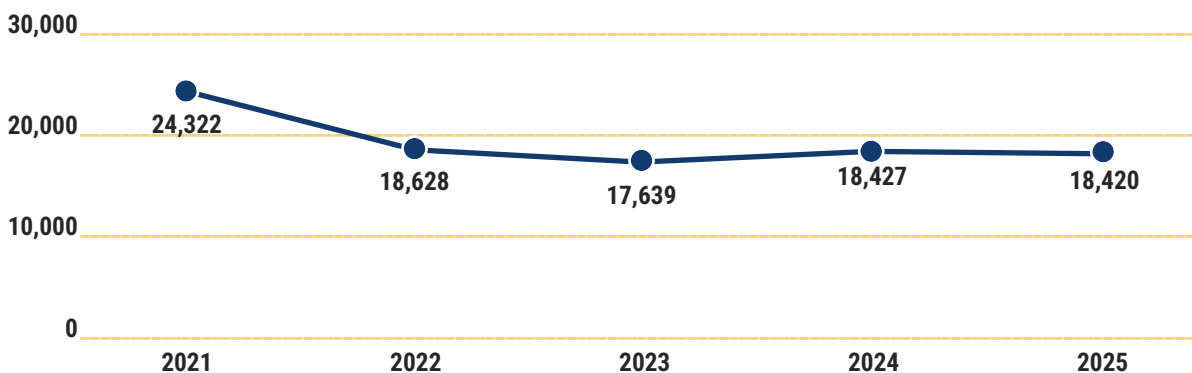
### Individuals Enrolled in WIC

|                | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    | % Change 21-25 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 9,471   | 10,121  | 10,060  | 9,037   | 9,309   | -2%            |
| Passaic County | 15,656  | 16,829  | 17,438  | 16,023  | 16,139  | 3%             |
| New Jersey     | 159,623 | 168,488 | 184,183 | 185,839 | 184,267 | 15%            |

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

|                | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    | % Change 21-25 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 24,322  | 18,628  | 17,639  | 18,427  | 18,420  | -24%           |
| Passaic County | 46,155  | 39,137  | 34,213  | 35,512  | 34,019  | -26%           |
| New Jersey     | 393,310 | 351,378 | 343,009 | 359,806 | 340,031 | -14%           |

### Children in Paterson Receiving NJ SNAP



## 2 Family Economic Security

### A Better Market: Fresh Food for Paterson

When it comes to nutritious groceries, Paterson is a food desert. Recognizing the lack of fresh, healthy food options available to her community and all of the negative impacts that this loss has on health and wellness, Shana Manradge took it upon herself to open A Better Market, a grocery store that offers fresh produce, healthy proteins, whole grains, and other nutritious items sourced from local farms and community gardens. Although Paterson has many bodegas and small markets, Manradge says residents often encounter overpriced, low-quality food and few healthy options. A Better Market aims to change this by providing fresh produce, staple foods, and

products from Black-owned businesses, as well as workshops and programs based around nutrition and sustainability in a welcoming neighborhood store that prioritizes both quality and affordability. One such program hosted by the market is a CDC Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program, called A Better Path.

The market is also working to make healthy food more affordable. As Passaic County's first retailer in the Good Food Bucks program, A Better Market offers SNAP recipients a 50% discount on fresh produce, sourcing fruits and vegetables from a community garden across the street and farms

throughout New Jersey. Manradge is seeking funding to extend these discounts to working families who do not qualify for assistance but still struggle to afford healthy food. By expanding access to nutritious groceries and building local partnerships, A Better Market offers a practical, community-driven solution to one of Paterson's most urgent needs: ensuring every family can access fresh, healthy food close to home.

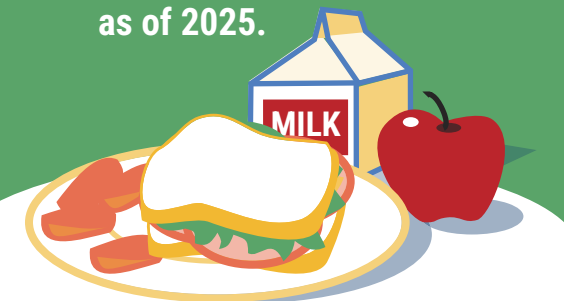
*Thank you to Shana Manradge, CEO of A Better Market, for providing this information.*



### School Breakfast and Lunch Participation in Paterson, 2025

| School District                                    | # Receiving Free or Reduced-Price Breakfast | # Receiving Free or Reduced-Price Lunch | Free and Reduced-Price Eligible Student                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                    |                                             |                                         | Participation in Breakfast per 100 Participating in Lunch |
| Paterson Board of Education                        | 11,588                                      | 14,252                                  | 81%                                                       |
| College Achieve Paterson Charter School            | 673                                         | 1,181                                   | 57%                                                       |
| Community Charter School of Paterson               | 386                                         | 756                                     | 51%                                                       |
| John P. Holland Charter School                     | 409                                         | 547                                     | 75%                                                       |
| Paterson Arts and Science Charter School           | 594                                         | 1,088                                   | 55%                                                       |
| Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology | 950                                         | 1,269                                   | 75%                                                       |
| Philip's Academy Charter School of Paterson        | 521                                         | 660                                     | 79%                                                       |

Students whose families have an annual income of up to **224%** of the federal poverty level are eligible for free school meals. This equates to **\$72,016** for a family of four as of 2025.



## 2 Family Economic Security

### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Total Population Living Below the Poverty Level, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17001 using 5-year estimates.

**2024 Federal Poverty Thresholds for a Family of Four.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau. Threshold for a family of four, with two adults and two children, living in poverty.

**Economically Disadvantaged Children Under Age 18, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17024 using 5-year estimates.

**Families with Children Living Below the Poverty Level, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17010 using 5-year estimates.

**Families with Children Under Age 5 Living Below the Poverty Level, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17010 using 5-year estimates.

**Median Income of Families with Children, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B19125 using 5-year estimates.

**Number Unemployed, 2021-2025.** As reported by the 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.

**Unemployment Rate, 2021-2025.** As reported by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Rates are not seasonally adjusted and are annual averages.

**Children Under Age 18 with All Available Parents in the Labor Force, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B23008 using 5-year estimates.

**Federal Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC), 2018 and 2022.** As reported by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. Number of New Jersey taxpayers claiming a federal EITC and average claim.

**NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, Recipients with at Least One Dependent Under Age 19, 2020 and 2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Treasury. Number of New Jersey tax-payers with at least one dependent under age 19 receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and average credit amount.

**NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, Recipients with at Least One Dependent Under Age 19: A Closer Look at Paterson, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Treasury. Number of New Jersey tax-payers living in Paterson with at least one dependent under age 19 receiving state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and average credit amount.

**Children in Families Receiving TANF (Welfare), 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

**Median Rent, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25064 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Households Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Rent, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25070 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Households Spending Too Much on Rent, 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25070 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Housing Costs, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25070 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Occupied Housing Units That Are Owner-Occupied, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart DP04 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Households with No Internet Access, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B28002 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Households with No Computer, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B28001 using 5-year estimates.

**Reported WIC Participants, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health. The number and percentage of women, infants, and children receiving nutritional benefits through the Women, Infants, and Children program. Data are from the quarter ending June 30 of each year.

**Individuals Enrolled in WIC, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health. Number of women, infants, and children enrolled in the Women, Infants, and Children program, which includes healthcare referrals, immunizations screenings, nutrition counseling, and a monthly food stipend. Data are from the quarter ending June 30 of each year.

**Children Receiving NJ SNAP, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

**Children in Paterson Receiving NJ SNAP, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

**School Breakfast and Lunch Participation in Paterson, 2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Agriculture for October of the year indicated. Data represent children attending public schools, including charter schools. Rates represent the total number of students receiving a free or reduced-price breakfast per every 100 participating in free or reduced-price lunch.

## The Importance of Prenatal Care

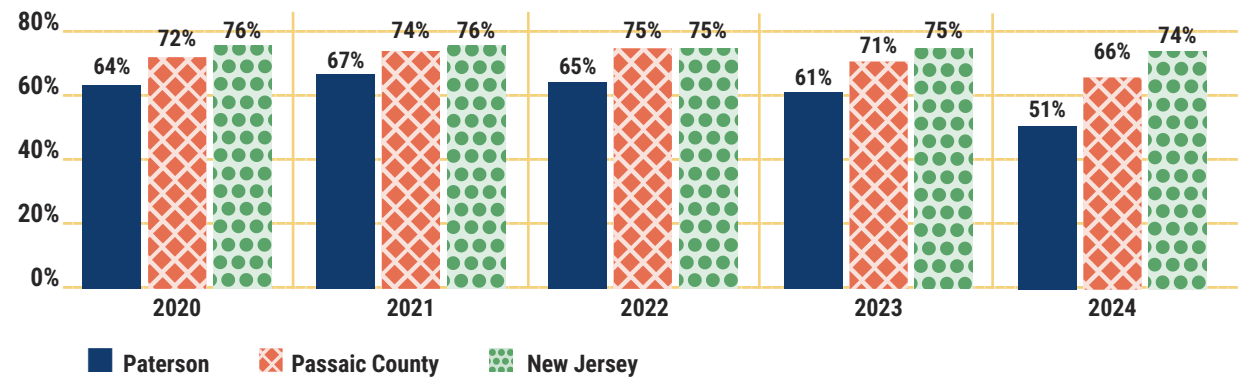
Healthy starts for New Jersey's infants begin with quality prenatal care early in a mother's pregnancy. Women who receive late prenatal care — or who do not receive prenatal care at all — expose their babies to a greater chance of health problems later in life. Early prenatal care refers to care that begins in the first trimester of the mother's pregnancy.

The city of Paterson has seen a **23%** drop in the number of women receiving early prenatal care since 2020.

### Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care

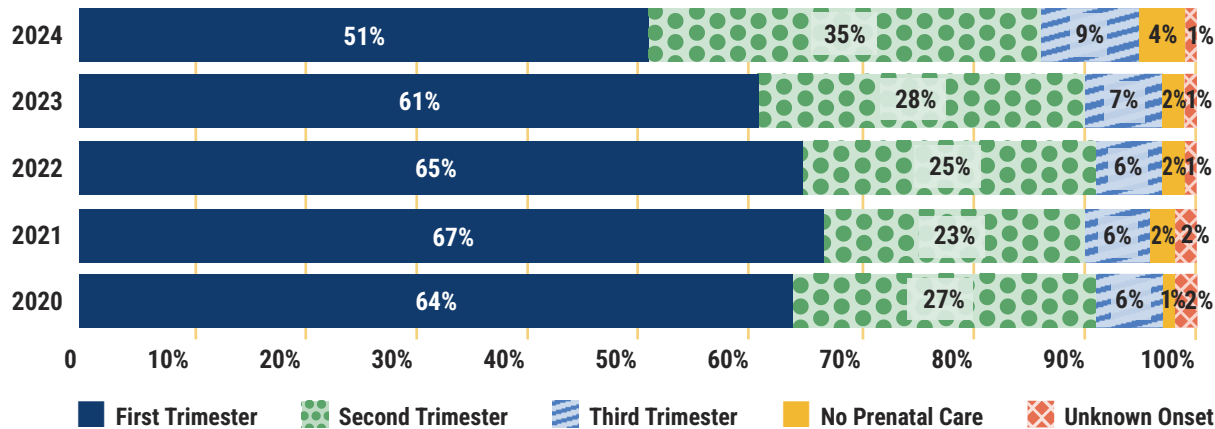
|                | 2020   | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | % Change 20–24 |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 1,527  | 1,549  | 1,613  | 1,439  | 1,175  | -23%           |
| Passaic County | 4,522  | 4,609  | 4,778  | 4,470  | 4,040  | -11%           |
| New Jersey     | 73,691 | 77,169 | 77,035 | 75,927 | 75,131 | 2%             |

### Percentage of Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care



### 3 Child Health

#### Percentage of Paterson Births by Prenatal Care Onset



#### Percentage of Births That Were Preterm

|                | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Paterson       | 13.8% | 12.6% | 14.6% | 14.9% | 14.9% |
| Passaic County | 11.6% | 11.1% | 11.7% | 11.7% | 12.2% |
| New Jersey     | 9.3%  | 9.2%  | 9.3%  | 9.3%  | 9.4%  |

### What is a Preterm Birth?

A preterm birth is a birth that occurs **before 37 weeks** of gestation. Most pregnancies last around 40 weeks. Preterm, sometimes called premature, births can have many lifelong risks such as chronic illnesses and developmental disabilities.

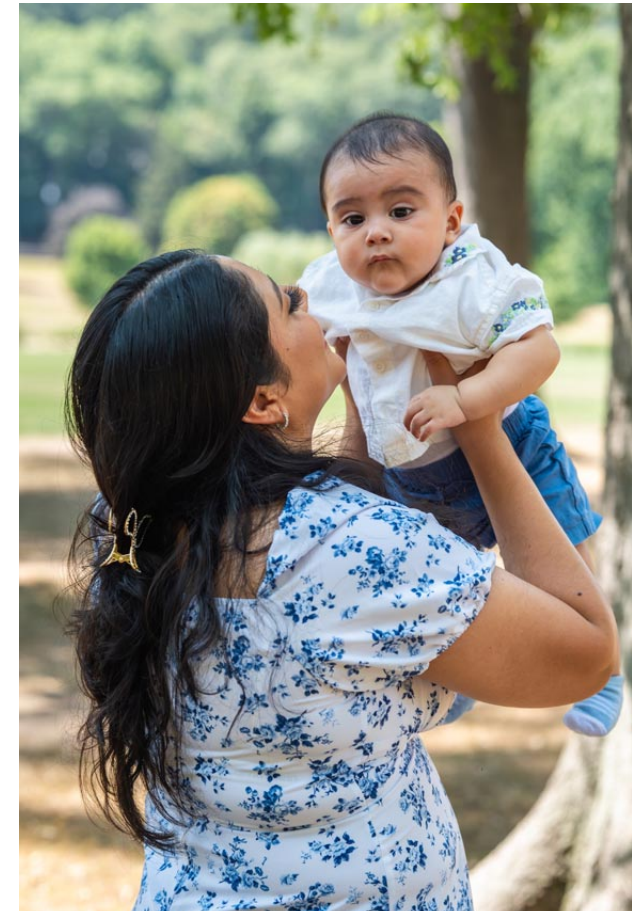
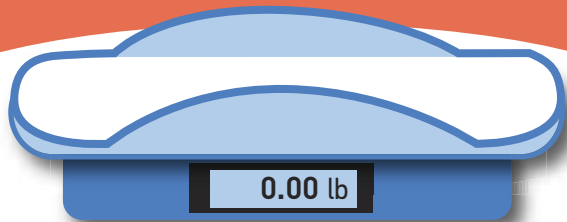


Photo by Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center

### 3 Child Health

## What is a Low Birthweight Baby?

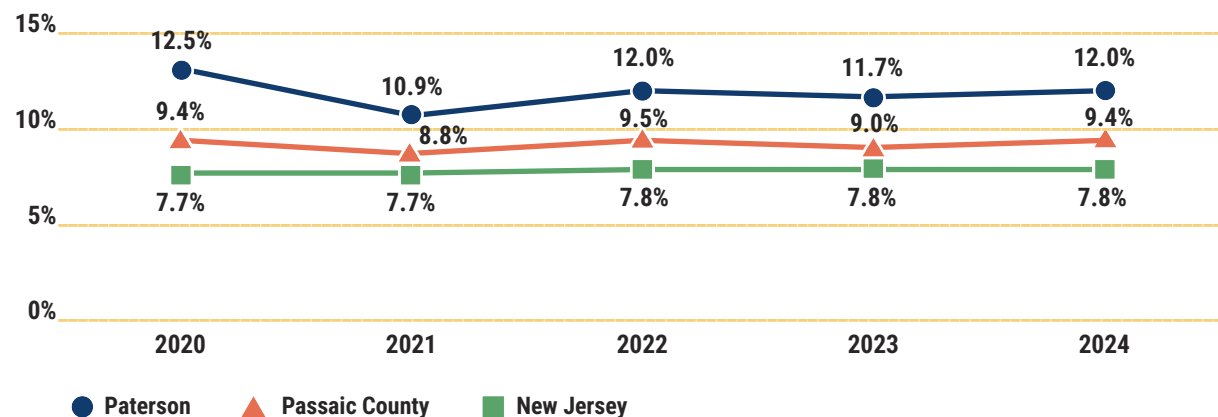
A low birthweight baby is any infant born weighing less than 2,500 grams, or roughly 5.5 pounds. Low birthweight babies may be more likely than those born with normal birthweights to develop certain health problems, such as respiratory distress syndrome. In the long term, they may also be at greater risk of developing chronic conditions such as diabetes.



### Babies Born with Low Birthweights

|                | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | % Change 20-24 |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 300   | 253   | 295   | 278   | 275   | -8%            |
| Passaic County | 587   | 547   | 607   | 562   | 580   | -1%            |
| New Jersey     | 7,464 | 7,842 | 7,999 | 7,889 | 7,946 | 6%             |

### Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birthweights



### 3 Child Health

#### Birth by Method of Delivery

|                | 2020    |           | 2021    |           | 2022    |           | 2023    |           | 2024    |           |
|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
|                | Vaginal | C-Section | Vaginal | C-Section | Vaginal | C-Section | Vaginal | C-Section | Vaginal | C-Section |
| Paterson       | 54%     | 45%       | 57%     | 43%       | 56%     | 55%       | 59%     | 41%       | 57%     | 43%       |
| Passaic County | 59%     | 40%       | 60%     | 40%       | 60%     | 40%       | 62%     | 38%       | 61%     | 39%       |
| New Jersey     | 67%     | 33%       | 68%     | 32%       | 67%     | 33%       | 67%     | 33%       | 67%     | 33%       |

Note: Vaginal includes primary vaginal births and vaginal births after a previous C-section. C-section includes primary C-section (first birth) and repeat C-section. Unknown values make up <1% for most years.

#### Birth by Type of Attendant

|                               | Paterson |      |      |      |      | Passaic County |      |      |      |      | New Jersey |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------|----------|------|------|------|------|----------------|------|------|------|------|------------|------|------|------|------|
|                               | 2020     | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2020           | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2020       | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Physician (MD, DO)            | 88%      | 89%  | 89%  | 89%  | 89%  | 91%            | 92%  | 91%  | 92%  | 92%  | 90%        | 89%  | 87%  | 87%  | 86%  |
| Midwife (CNM, CPM, CM, APRN)  | 11%      | 10%  | 11%  | 11%  | 11%  | 8%             | 8%   | 8%   | 8%   | 8%   | 9%         | 10%  | 11%  | 11%  | 12%  |
| Other, Unknown, or Not stated | <1%      | <1%  | 1%   | <1%  | <1%  | <1%            | <1%  | 1%   | <1%  | <1%  | 1%         | 1%   | 2%   | 2%   | 2%   |

## Reducing Low-Risk Cesareans in New Jersey

A low-risk C-section is a cesarean delivery when the baby is the mother's first birth, full-term, one fetus, and cephalic (head first). Efforts to reduce low-risk cesareans have been underway in New Jersey for several years. A recommendation of the Nurture NJ Strategic Plan includes provisions for birthing hospitals to attain C-section rates below national rates. In order to accomplish this, the Strategic Plan emphasizes greater education efforts on

the risks associated with C-sections, so that those giving birth understand the potential downsides to receiving the surgical procedure when not medically necessary. Conversely, vaginal births tend to result in shorter hospital stays and recovery time, as well as other benefits. For more information and data relating to maternal health, visit: <https://nj.gov/health/maternal/>. Since 2020, more than 50% of babies born to Paterson mothers were delivered vaginally.

### Healthy Steps Gives Families a Stronger Start

The earliest years of a child's life are critical. Healthy Steps supports Paterson families during this time by integrating into pediatric primary care. The program connects parents with a dedicated specialist who offers guidance, developmental support, and access to community resources during routine well-child visits.

Supported by a New Jersey Seedlings grant from the Burke Foundation, this evidence-based program enhances pediatric care by addressing not only a child's physical health but also the social and emotional needs of the entire family.

"It's really a full circle of providing both primary care and attending to the social needs of that family, all within the well-child visit," says Carmen Mallamaci, Medical Director at the Department of Community Medicine at St. Joseph's University Medical Center and Children's Hospital.

Healthy Steps specialists collaborate with pediatricians to conduct developmental screenings, connect families to early intervention services, support mothers experiencing postpartum depression, and help families overcome barriers to accessing resources.

The program has shown strong results. Healthy Steps reports developmental screening rates above 95%. Nearly all participating families stay current with well-child visits, and every parent who screens positive for postpartum depression receives personalized follow-up and support.

A key success of the program is establishing a "closed loop" with early intervention services. This approach ensures providers know whether families received services and can offer additional support if needed.

***"It's really a full circle of providing both primary care and attending to the social needs of that family, all within the well-child visit."***

***— Carmen Mallamaci  
Medical Director***

"Having that second layer and that warm handoff enables the Healthy Steps specialist to go to the next level... connecting families to community resources and following up to see if they were able to access them," says Therese E. Floyd, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital.

By empowering parents, strengthening connections to care, and supporting children from birth through early developmental milestones, Healthy Steps helps give Paterson's youngest residents the healthiest possible start.

*Thank you to Carmen Mallamaci, Medical Director at the Department of Community Medicine at St. Joseph's University Medical Center and Children's Hospital, and*

*Therese E. Floyd, MSN, APN, CPNP, Advanced Practice Nurse-Pediatrics, Child Protection & Safety Center at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital, for providing this information.*

### New Jersey's Evidence-Based Home Visitation System

New Jersey's Home Visiting System supports families during pregnancy, after birth, and in the early years of a child's life. Home visiting is a free, voluntary service where a trained nurse or home visitor provides guidance, supports parent and child well-being, and connects families to helpful resources.

#### Two Types of Support

**Universal Home Visiting (Family Connects NJ)** offers families with a newborn a free nurse visit in the first weeks after birth. Nurses check on the health of both baby and parents, answer questions about feeding and sleep, and connect families to community resources. The program is available to all families, including birth, adoptive, and resource families.

Family Connects NJ continues to roll out statewide in phases:

- **2024:** Essex, Middlesex, Mercer, Cumberland, Gloucester
- **2025:** Somerset, Sussex, Passaic, Hudson, Bergen, Ocean
- **2026:** Camden, Salem, Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May, Monmouth
- **2027:** Union, Hunterdon, Morris, Warren (statewide completion)

Learn more at [www.FamilyConnectsNJ.org](http://www.FamilyConnectsNJ.org).

**Intensive Home Visiting (Multiple Programs)** provides ongoing support during pregnancy and early childhood. Available in all 21 counties, these programs are intended for families who may benefit from additional support, including those facing poverty and other risk factors. Services focus on healthy child development, strong parent-child relationships, early learning, and connections to health care, housing, and other supports.

Programs include Healthy Families, Nurse-Family Partnership, Parents as Teachers, and Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) in some communities.

#### Getting Connected

Families can get connected to home visiting programs through Connecting NJ, learn more at [www.nj.gov/connectingnj/](http://www.nj.gov/connectingnj/). Together, these programs ensure families in New Jersey don't have to navigate pregnancy, newborn care, and early childhood alone.

#### Families Receiving State-Funded Intensive Home Visitation Services

|                | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Paterson       | 269   | 261   | 215   | 235   | 238   |
| Passaic County | 442   | 406   | 321   | 350   | 366   |
| New Jersey     | 5,534 | 4,925 | 4,314 | 4,730 | 4,962 |

## 3 Child Health

### What is Infant Mortality?

Infant mortality refers to the number of babies who die before their first birthday, measured per 1,000 live births. In New Jersey, the infant mortality rate is 3.5 deaths per 1,000 live births, while for the city of Paterson, that rate is 5.9.

New Jersey has launched several statewide efforts to improve maternal and infant health outcomes, including Nurture NJ, an initiative focused on reducing racial disparities and ensuring women have access to quality care before, during, and after pregnancy. As part of this work, New Jersey established the Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center, a statewide hub based in Trenton that coordinates health care, social services, research, and workforce development to drive better outcomes for mothers and babies. To learn more about Nurture NJ and the Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center, visit [www.nj.gov/njmihia/](http://www.nj.gov/njmihia/).

Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) works alongside public and private partners to advance policies that support the health and well-being of mothers, infants, and families across the state. For more information, visit [www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org).

### What is New Jersey's Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board?

The New Jersey Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board (CFNFRB) consists of six different teams, each with their own sets of responsibilities and areas of focus. Team members come from a variety of backgrounds, including law enforcement, medicine, education, and the nonprofit sector. The board conducts in-depth reviews of select child death cases, such as when the cause of death may be a result of abuse or neglect or if the cause is undetermined. For more information on the CFNFRB and to review their annual reports, visit [www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/boards/fatality](http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/boards/fatality).

#### Infant Mortality Rates

|                | 2018–2020<br>Rate* | 2021–2023<br>Rate* |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Paterson       | 4.6                | 5.9                |
| Passaic County | 4.0                | 3.7                |
| New Jersey     | 4.1                | 3.5                |

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

#### Child Deaths, Ages 1–14

|                | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Paterson       | <10  | <10  | <10  | <10  | <10  |
| Passaic County | <10  | 11   | 11   | <10  | <10  |
| New Jersey     | 138  | 178  | 156  | 185  | 181  |

## 3 Child Health

### Asthma-Related Admissions to the Hospital vs. Emergency Room Visits: How Do They Differ?

Medication and preventive care can effectively manage asthma, but severe symptoms may require care at a hospital — by visiting the emergency room, or in serious cases, being admitted for in-patient care. Asthma-related emergency room visit data do not reflect child patients who were later admitted to the same hospital for in-patient care. According to the New Jersey Department of Health, the 2020 drop in both asthma admissions to the hospital and asthma related emergency room visits is due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### Asthma-Related Admissions to the Hospital, Ages 0–17

|                | 2019  | 2020 | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | % Change 19–24 |
|----------------|-------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Passaic County | 166   | 64   | 119   | 136   | 149   | 152   | -8%            |
| New Jersey     | 1,809 | 732  | 1,396 | 2,057 | 1,979 | 1,910 | 6%             |

#### Asthma-Related Emergency Room Visits, Ages 0–17

|                | 2019   | 2020  | 2021  | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | % Change 19–24 |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|
| Passaic County | 879    | 371   | 619   | 932    | 966    | 1,075  | 22%            |
| New Jersey     | 13,837 | 5,312 | 8,547 | 12,929 | 12,848 | 13,418 | -3%            |

#### Asthma-Related Hospital Visits by Race/Ethnicity, Ages 0–17, 2024

|                                 | Emergency Room Visits |                | Admissions to the Hospital |                |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
|                                 | New Jersey            | Passaic County | New Jersey                 | Passaic County |
| Asian, non-Hispanic             | 3%                    | 2%             | 4%                         | N/A            |
| Black, non-Hispanic             | 32%                   | 21%            | 29%                        | 19%            |
| Hispanic (of any race)          | 35%                   | 55%            | 34%                        | 68%            |
| White, non-Hispanic             | 21%                   | 13%            | 22%                        | 7%             |
| Multiracial, non-Hispanic       | 1%                    | 1%             | 1%                         | N/A            |
| Other Single Race, non-Hispanic | 6%                    | 4%             | 6%                         | 5%             |
| Unknown                         | 3%                    | 2%             | 3%                         | N/A            |

N/A indicates data are not available.

## 3 Child Health

### Why is Lead Testing Important?

Exposure to lead can seriously harm a child's health, including damage to the brain and nervous system, slowed growth and development, learning and behavior problems, and complications with hearing and speech. It is important and required that children be tested. Children should be tested at age 1 and 2. If those tests are missed, the child should be tested before the age of 6. Children should also be tested if they may have been exposed to known or

expected source of lead. In New Jersey, blood lead testing is covered by insurance, including Medicaid, for children 17 years and younger. If a child does not have health insurance, free testing from the local health department is available. To learn more visit [www.nj.gov/health/childhood-lead/testing](http://www.nj.gov/health/childhood-lead/testing).

Fortunately, more children ages 6 to 26 months and those younger than 6 years are getting tested throughout all three geographies.

#### Children 6–26 Months Tested for Lead

|                | 2020     |                    | 2021     |                    | 2022     |                    | 2023     |                    | 2024     |                    |
|----------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|                | # 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 |
| Paterson       | 2,319    | 4.1%               | 2,427    | 4.2%               | 2,233    | 3.9%               | 2,740    | 1.8%               | 2,986    | 1.3%               |
| Passaic County | 5,822    | 2.9%               | 6,223    | 2.9%               | 5,663    | 2.4%               | 6,553    | 1.6%               | 7,441    | 1.1%               |
| New Jersey     | 78,847   | 1.8%               | 86,737   | 1.8%               | 83,463   | 1.6%               | 93,879   | 1.2%               | 106,034  | 1.2%               |

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

|                | 2020     |                    | 2021     |                    | 2022     |                    | 2023     |                    | 2024     |                    |
|----------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|
|                | # 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 |
| Paterson       | 5,304    | 4.1%               | 5,613    | 3.6%               | 5,559    | 3.5%               | 6,501    | 2.2%               | 6,363    | 2.0%               |
| Passaic County | 12,139   | 2.9%               | 13,447   | 2.6%               | 12,520   | 2.5%               | 14,218   | 1.8%               | 14,520   | 1.5%               |
| New Jersey     | 139,596  | 2.1%               | 155,481  | 1.9%               | 150,805  | 1.9%               | 167,807  | 1.4%               | 183,062  | 1.4%               |

#### Paterson Environmental Case Activity Status

|      | Cases Referred | Investigation Required | Investigation Completed | Abatement Required | Abatement Completed |
|------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 2022 | 62             | 56                     | 56                      | 18                 | 23                  |
| 2023 | 54             | 51                     | 48                      | 36                 | 39                  |
| 2024 | 51             | 49                     | 48                      | 13                 | 31                  |

Note: Beginning in 2022, Abatements Completed is cumulative. Completed abatements may have been initiated in prior fiscal years and are not directly comparable to the number of abatements ordered in the same fiscal year.

### Safeguarding Families: Green & Healthy Homes' Fight Against Lead Exposure

Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) works to protect Paterson children and families by addressing one of the city's most persistent health threats: lead exposure. Founded in 1986 as a grassroots group, GHHI has spent more than three decades eradicating childhood lead poisoning and building safe, energy-efficient housing. Its national framework impacts over 60 partner cities through interventions, advocacy, and education while maintaining deep efforts in Paterson.

Lead Poisoning is preventable, but remains a critical public health crisis in Paterson, where aging housing infrastructure and low screening rates directly threaten the city's most vulnerable residents. To combat this, GHHI delivers proactive interventions, technical assistance, and comprehensive education to families, community professional partners, and healthcare providers. These efforts highlight the devastating, lifelong neurological damage caused by lead accumulation. Children six and younger face the highest risk, absorbing toxins from prevalent environmental hazards including pre-1978 housing paint, pre-1986 plumbing fixtures, contaminated soil, and everyday household items. The organization advocates for improved screening, so children are tested early and regularly during critical years of brain development.

In the past five years, GHHI has distributed over 5,000 educational materials in Paterson and partnered with organizations such as Saint Joseph's, local churches, schools, and Early Head Start programs to raise awareness and connect families with resources. Notably, GHHI championed community-based dialogues on maternal-fetal lead exposure ahead of Governor Murphy's landmark January 2026 maternal lead screening legislation.

GHHI's work also includes asthma trigger reduction, safe home initiatives, and education on New Jersey's new maternal lead screening law.

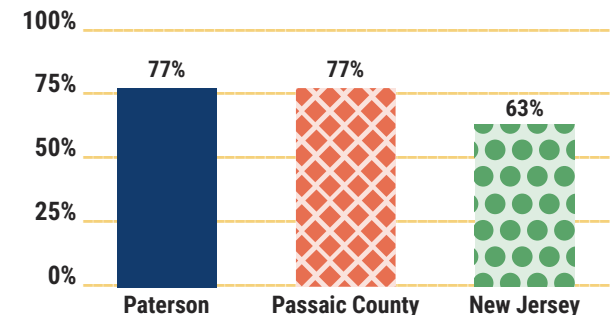
At the intersection of education and community partnerships, GHHI empowers Paterson families to transform houses into safer homes, paving the way for healthier futures through dedicated collaboration and strategic commitment.

*Thank you to Khari Muhammad, Technical Assistance Specialist at Green & Healthy Homes, for this information. To learn more about Green & Healthy Homes Initiative and their lead exposure prevention work, please visit <https://www.greenandhealthyhomes.org/>.*

### Lead Paint in Housing

In 1978, the United States banned the use of lead paint. Before then, lead paint and varnish were regularly used in homes and businesses. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, lead-based paint is not problematic unless it is decaying, i.e. chipping, peeling, etc. Children are often exposed to lead poisoning as a result of the dust found in these homes, or chewing on surfaces coated with lead-based paint or the paint chips themselves. American Community Survey data indicate that 77% of Paterson's housing was constructed prior to 1980, compared to 77% of Passaic County and 63% of New Jersey. Though not a perfect match to when lead paint was banned, these data provide some insight as to the presence of lead in homes.

**Percentage of Housing Structures Built Before 1980, 2020–2024**



### Importance of School Water Testing

Researchers at the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences have been conducting a study evaluating lead levels in drinking water in New Jersey public schools based on publicly available data. By law, schools are required to contract with labs to test their water every 3 years. The law also requires that any outlet exceeding 15 ppb (parts per billion) be remediated or removed immediately. There is no safe threshold of lead in blood, and exposure can potentially result in cognitive and physical impairments. Elevated lead levels can occur due to aging water infrastructure, including lead pipes, brass fixtures, and solder. Drinking water outlets in schools can be a significant source of exposure for children, making routine water testing in schools essential. For access to Paterson Public Schools water testing reports, visit [www.paterson.k12.nj.us/departments/facilities/2024-2025-water-testing](http://www.paterson.k12.nj.us/departments/facilities/2024-2025-water-testing).

In 2024–25, 300 drinking water outlets across 41 schools or school-related buildings in Paterson tested above 1 part per billion (ppb), the [American Academy of Pediatrics action limit](#). Additionally, 28 drinking water outlets exceeded 10 ppb and 15 drinking water outlets exceeded 15 ppb.

- In 2021–22, there were 366 outlets over 1 ppb in 44 schools, 55 schools exceeded 10 ppb, and 26 exceeded 15 ppb.

It is important to note that while a child may attend a school with a lead-contaminated outlet, this does not mean the child has lead poisoning. Rather, water serves as an exposure pathway, particularly for children, but it is not the primary source of lead exposure. Even at the levels observed in the Paterson school district, disability resulting from lead poisoning would be unlikely. This data is intended for educational and advocacy purposes and is focused on supporting the removal and remediation of contaminated outlets.

*Thank you to Primary Researcher and Ph.D. student Eve Butterworth of Dr. Siddhartha Roy's Lab at Rutgers University for the data and information.*



### Schools with Most Outlets Exceeding 1 ppb, 2024–25

|                             | # of Outlets |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Eastside High School        | 13           |
| John F. Kennedy High School | 15           |
| Joseph A. Taub School       | 34           |
| New Roberto Clemente School | 16           |
| Public School #2            | 13           |
| Public School #16           | 35           |
| Public School #21           | 12           |
| Public School #28           | 17           |
| Public School #39           | 29           |
| Roberto Clemente            | 13           |

### Schools with Outlets Exceeding State Limit of 15 ppb, 2024–25

|                             | # of Outlets |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Dale Ave                    | 1            |
| International High School   | 1            |
| John F. Kennedy High School | 1            |
| Roberto Clemente            | 1            |
| Public School #1            | 1            |
| Public School #6            | 1            |
| Public School #16           | 1            |
| Public School #25           | 1            |
| Public School #27           | 1            |
| Public School #28           | 5            |
| Public School #39           | 1            |

## 3 Child Health

### What is NJ FamilyCare?

NJ FamilyCare provides healthcare coverage to eligible New Jersey residents. Children under 19 may apply regardless of immigration status, though all other program requirements remain in effect. For more information, visit [www.nj.gov/CoverAllKids](http://www.nj.gov/CoverAllKids). Nearly 20% of New Jersey residents, including over 830,000 children, receive care through NJ FamilyCare. Additionally, almost 550,000 low-income working-age adults are enrolled through the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid expansion, which will be affected by new federal requirements starting in October 2026. Federal law now requires adults ages 19 to 64 in the Medicaid expansion group to work or participate in approved activities, such as education or volunteering, for at least 80 hours per month. Exemptions apply to individuals who are pregnant or recently gave birth, former foster youth up to age 26, parents with children age 13 or

younger, and those determined to be "medically frail." Individuals who lose NJ FamilyCare coverage for not meeting work requirements are also ineligible for subsidized Marketplace coverage. Beginning December 31, 2026, most adults in the Medicaid expansion group will have their eligibility reviewed every six months and must demonstrate compliance with work or community engagement rules twice a year. For more information or to determine if these rules apply to you, visit [www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/obbba/medicaid-federal-changes.shtml](http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/obbba/medicaid-federal-changes.shtml). To confirm or update your contact information, call NJ FamilyCare at 1-800-701-0710. For updates on how the federal One Big Beautiful Bill Act impacts New Jersey's Medicaid program, visit the NJ Medicaid Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC) website at [www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/public-advisory/medical-assistance](http://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/public-advisory/medical-assistance).

### Children Under Age 19 Without Health Insurance

|                | 2015–2019 |    | 2020–2024 |    |
|----------------|-----------|----|-----------|----|
|                | Number    | %  | Number    | %  |
| Paterson       | 2,966     | 7% | 4,133     | 9% |
| Passaic County | 7,075     | 6% | 7,487     | 6% |
| New Jersey     | 78,782    | 4% | 92,857    | 4% |

### Children Under Age 19 Receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid

|                | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    | % Change 21–25 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 37,822  | 38,565  | 39,120  | 34,755  | 33,992  | -10%           |
| Passaic County | 77,249  | 79,100  | 81,882  | 72,837  | 71,074  | -8%            |
| New Jersey     | 851,417 | 885,881 | 934,905 | 859,972 | 834,531 | -2%            |

## 3 Child Health

### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Live births for which the mother received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Percentage of Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Live births for which the mother received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Percentage of Paterson Births by Prenatal Care Onset, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. The percentage of total births by trimester of prenatal care onset. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Percentage of Births That Were Preterm, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Percentage of total births that were considered preterm. A preterm birth is defined as less than 37 weeks. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Babies Born with Low Birthweights, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. The number of babies born weighing less than 2,500-grams. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birthweights, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. The percentage of babies born weighing less than 2,500-grams out of the total number of live births. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Birth by Method of Delivery, 2020-2024.** As reported by the New Jersey Birth Certificate Database, Office of Vital Statistics and Registry, New Jersey Department of Health. The percentage of all live births based on method of delivery. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Birth by Type of Attendant, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. The percentage of births by type of birth attendant. Data accessed as of July 7, 2026.

**Families Receiving Intensive Home Visitation Services, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

**Infant Mortality Rates, 2018-2020 and 2021-2023.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death and Birth Certificate Databases. The number of infants under one year who died during the two 3-year periods. Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Child Deaths, Ages 1-14, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. The number of children between ages one and 14 who died during that year. Data accessed as of June 26, 2026.

**Asthma-Related Admissions to the Hospital, Ages 0-17, 2019-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. Number of New Jersey inpatient hospital 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. Data accessed as of June 2, 2026.

**Asthma-Related Emergency Room Visits, Ages 0-17, 2019-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. 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. Data accessed as of June 2, 2026.

**Asthma-Related Hospital Visits by Race/Ethnicity, Ages 0-17, 2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. Percentage of inpatient hospital discharges and emergency department discharges for residents 0-17 years of age. Counts do not include out-of-state hospitalizations for New Jersey residents. Data accessed as of June 2, 2026.

**Children 6-26 Months Tested for Lead, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of March 2026.

**Children <6 Years of Age Tested for Lead, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of March 2026.

**Paterson Environmental Case Activity Status, 2022-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of March 2026.

**Percentage of Housing Structures Built Before 1980, 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey B25034 using 5-year estimates.

**Schools with Most Outlets Exceeding 1 ppb, 2024-25.** As reported by Eve Butterworth retrieved from Paterson Public School District website.

**Schools with Outlets Exceeding State Limit of 15 ppb, 2024-25.** As reported by Eve Butterworth retrieved from Paterson Public School District website.

**Children Under Age 19 Without Health Insurance, 2015-2019 and 2020-2024.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B27001 using 5-year estimates. Data are not comparable to previous years' estimates for children without health insurance due to a change in the included ages.

**Children Under Age 19 Receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ 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 19 enrolled in Medicaid, which is available to children living in families earning below 133% of the federal poverty level, and to children enrolled in the CHIP portion of NJ FamilyCare, which is available to children living in families earning up to 355% of the federal poverty level. Data for state and Passaic County retrieved on November 7, 2025.

## 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 New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) 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 them into foster care and to seek another permanent home for those children who cannot be reunified with their parent(s) within the timeframes provided by law.

### Children Reported for Abuse/Neglect

|                       | 2021          | 2022          | 2023          | 2024          | 2025          | % Change 21-25 |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Passaic County</b> | <b>5,674</b>  | <b>6,115</b>  | <b>6,809</b>  | <b>6,330</b>  | <b>5,834</b>  | <b>3%</b>      |
| <b>New Jersey</b>     | <b>84,162</b> | <b>90,950</b> | <b>98,655</b> | <b>94,844</b> | <b>88,762</b> | <b>5%</b>      |

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

|                       | 2021         | 2022         | 2023         | 2024         | 2025         | % Change 21-25 |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>Passaic County</b> | <b>227</b>   | <b>156</b>   | <b>175</b>   | <b>107</b>   | <b>93</b>    | <b>-59%</b>    |
| <b>New Jersey</b>     | <b>3,232</b> | <b>3,186</b> | <b>2,833</b> | <b>2,270</b> | <b>2,027</b> | <b>-37%</b>    |

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

|                       | 2021      | 2022      | 2023      | 2024      | 2025      |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Passaic County</b> | <b>4%</b> | <b>3%</b> | <b>3%</b> | <b>2%</b> | <b>2%</b> |
| <b>New Jersey</b>     | <b>4%</b> | <b>4%</b> | <b>3%</b> | <b>2%</b> | <b>2%</b> |

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

|                                  | 2021       |                | 2022       |                | 2023       |                | 2024       |                | 2025       |                |
|----------------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
|                                  | New Jersey | Passaic County | New Jersey | Passaic County | New Jersey | Passaic County | New Jersey | Passaic County | New Jersey | Passaic County |
| <b>Black or African American</b> | <b>4%</b>  | <b>4%</b>      | <b>3%</b>  | <b>2%</b>      | <b>3%</b>  | <b>1%</b>      | <b>3%</b>  | <b>2%</b>      | <b>2%</b>  | <b>2%</b>      |
| <b>Hispanic</b>                  | <b>4%</b>  | <b>4%</b>      | <b>4%</b>  | <b>3%</b>      | <b>3%</b>  | <b>3%</b>      | <b>2%</b>  | <b>2%</b>      | <b>2%</b>  | <b>1%</b>      |
| <b>White</b>                     | <b>4%</b>  | <b>4%</b>      | <b>4%</b>  | <b>2%</b>      | <b>3%</b>  | <b>2%</b>      | <b>3%</b>  | <b>2%</b>      | <b>2%</b>  | <b>2%</b>      |
| <b>Another Race</b>              | <b>4%</b>  | <b>7%</b>      | <b>3%</b>  | <b>n/a</b>     | <b>3%</b>  | <b>6%</b>      | <b>2%</b>  | <b>n/a</b>     | <b>2%</b>  | <b>n/a</b>     |
| <b>Missing or Undetermined</b>   | <b>2%</b>  | <b>n/a</b>     | <b>2%</b>  | <b>n/a</b>     | <b>2%</b>  | <b>n/a</b>     | <b>1%</b>  | <b>n/a</b>     | <b>1%</b>  | <b>n/a</b>     |

## 4 Child Protection

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

|                | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   | % Change 21–25 |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|
| Passaic County | 2,021  | 1,922  | 2,040  | 1,971  | 1,928  | -5%            |
| New Jersey     | 32,138 | 30,996 | 32,407 | 31,203 | 31,148 | -3%            |

### Percentage of Children Under Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) Supervision by Race/Ethnicity, 2025

|                           | New Jersey | Passaic County |
|---------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Black or African American | 34%        | 24%            |
| Hispanic                  | 34%        | 56%            |
| White                     | 24%        | 13%            |
| Another Race              | 4%         | 2%             |
| Missing or Undetermined   | 4%         | 4%             |

## From Federal Oversight to State-Led Accountability

Federal court oversight of New Jersey's child welfare system ended in 2023, concluding nearly 20 years of public monitoring that drove significant investment and transformational reform. As part of the exit plan, legislation was enacted to require an annual performance review of CP&P by a diverse group of stakeholders. In December 2022, the law establishing the Staffing and Oversight Review Subcommittee (SORS), a subcommittee of the NJ Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect, was amended to broaden and rotate its membership and expand its oversight role. DCF committed funding for SORS to hire an independent contractor to collect the data needed to fulfill these legal requirements.

## Poverty, Neglect, and Reform

The NJ Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect (NJTFCAN) established the Subcommittee on Poverty, Neglect, and Community Outcomes in 2024 to address the intersection of poverty and neglect in child protective services and reduce racial disparities. Many neglect reports are driven by poverty rather than abuse and are ultimately determined to be unfounded, resulting in unnecessary investigations and trauma for families. The Task Force recently approved recommendations to improve mandated reporter training and revise reporting requirements to ensure reports are appropriate while reducing unnecessary investigations. Read the full report at [www.njcainc.org/nj-mandated-reporting-reform-final-report-2026](http://www.njcainc.org/nj-mandated-reporting-reform-final-report-2026). Task Force meetings are open to the public. Reports and minutes are available at [www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/boards/njtfcanc/](http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/boards/njtfcanc/).

## 4 Child Protection

### Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services

|                | 2021   | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025   | % Change 21–25 |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------|
| Passaic County | 1,816  | 1,753  | 1,874  | 1,763  | 1,717  | -5%            |
| New Jersey     | 28,925 | 28,050 | 29,468 | 28,266 | 28,129 | -3%            |

### Children Receiving Out-of-Home CP&P Services

|                | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  | % Change 21–25 |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Passaic County | 205   | 169   | 166   | 208   | 211   | 3%             |
| New Jersey     | 3,213 | 2,946 | 2,939 | 2,937 | 3,019 | -6%            |

### Percentage of Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services by Race/Ethnicity, 2025

|                           | New Jersey | Passaic County |
|---------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Black or African American | 33%        | 22%            |
| Hispanic                  | 35%        | 58%            |
| White                     | 23%        | 13%            |
| Another Race              | 4%         | 2%             |
| Missing or Undetermined   | 4%         | 5%             |

### Percentage of Children Receiving Out-of-Home CP&P Services by Race/Ethnicity, 2025

|                           | New Jersey | Passaic County |
|---------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Black or African American | 43%        | 40%            |
| Hispanic                  | 26%        | 43%            |
| White                     | 24%        | 11%            |
| Another Race              | 6%         | 6%             |
| Missing or Undetermined   | 1%         | <1%            |

## 4 Child Protection

### The New Jersey Youth Resource Spot

The New Jersey Youth Resource Spot ([www.njyrs.org/](http://www.njyrs.org/)) is a website created by members of the DCF Youth Council, specially geared for young people in New Jersey who have been involved with DCF and those who work with them.

### Safe Babies Court Team — Prioritizing Family Reunification

Passaic County is one of three counties to pilot the Safe Babies Court Team approach aimed at connecting children ages 0-3 involved with CP&P and their families to the community services and supports they need. To learn more, visit [www.njsafebabies.com](http://www.njsafebabies.com).

#### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

*Note: If comparing to prior releases, you may notice that some numbers have been changed. This is due to data being updated by the Department of Children and Families after the release of the previous publication.*

**Children Reported for Abuse/Neglect, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families for each calendar year. Number of children who were reported for child abuse/neglect. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families for each calendar year. The number of children found to be victims of child abuse/neglect. Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was "substantiated" or "unfounded". Data are as of December 31 of each year.

**Percentage of Reported Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. 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. Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was "substantiated" or "unfounded". Data are as of December 31 of each year.

**Percentage of Reported Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect by Race/Ethnicity, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. 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. Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was "substantiated" or "unfounded". Data are as of December 31 of each year.

**Children Under CP&P Supervision, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Percentage of Children Under CP&P Supervision by Race/Ethnicity, 2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for 2025.

**Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Children Receiving Out-of-Home CP&P Services, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Percentage of Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services by Race/Ethnicity, 2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for 2025.

**Percentage of Children Receiving Out-of-Home CP&P Services by Race/Ethnicity, 2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31 for 2025.

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

As of 2025, 76 licensed child care centers occupied the city of Paterson with a combined licensed capacity of 9,499 children and there were 195 registered family child care providers. Licensed child care centers may serve children from birth through age 13, depending on the ages they are licensed and choose to serve, and must meet state licensing requirements. Family child care providers operate in their homes and may be either registered or unregistered. Regardless of registration status, family child care providers may care for up to five children at one time. Registered providers must meet state registration requirements and, under limited circumstances, may be approved to care for up to eight children. For more information, refer to the Family Child Care Manual at [www.nj.gov/dcf/documents/providers/licensing/laws/FCCmanual.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dcf/documents/providers/licensing/laws/FCCmanual.pdf).

**30% of licensed child care centers in Passaic County are located in Paterson.**

### Start Strong NJ: A Blueprint for Affordable Child Care

- **Make high-quality child care affordable and accessible for families:**  
Child care must be affordable and accessible for every family that needs it.
- **Compensate and support early childhood educators as professionals:**  
Early childhood educators must be compensated and supported as the professionals they are.
- **Recognize child care as essential economic infrastructure:**  
Child care must be recognized as essential economic infrastructure and funded accordingly.

To learn more about the Start Strong NJ Campaign, visit [www.startstrongnj.org](http://www.startstrongnj.org).

### Licensed Child Care Centers

|                | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  | % Change 21–25 |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 73    | 70    | 71    | 76    | 76    | 4%             |
| Passaic County | 244   | 244   | 248   | 248   | 253   | 4%             |
| New Jersey     | 4,135 | 4,058 | 4,063 | 4,093 | 4,107 | -1%            |

### Child Care Center Capacity

|                | 2021    | 2022    | 2023    | 2024    | 2025    | % Change 21–25 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 9,348   | 9,305   | 9,222   | 9,300   | 9,499   | 2%             |
| Passaic County | 26,147  | 26,327  | 26,179  | 25,869  | 26,348  | 1%             |
| New Jersey     | 398,725 | 395,922 | 397,817 | 400,460 | 407,383 | 2%             |

### Investing in Early Childhood Success

Through its Early Childhood program, The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation funds advocacy, and community partnerships to help achieve its vision for all young children in Passaic and Bergen Counties to receive skilled, loving, and effective education and support that will enable them to read at grade level by the 3rd grade, and to thrive and contribute throughout their lives.

The Foundation's four Early Childhood priorities are improving birth outcomes, expanding access to high-quality childcare, strengthening preschool through third-grade education, and building coordinated systems to support children and families. Helping to fund Kids Count Paterson, is one important element in achieving this vision.

*Thank you, Melissa Litwin, Early Childhood Program Director at The Taub Foundation, for this information. To learn more about The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation, please visit <https://taubfoundation.org/>.*



## 5 Early Learning

### Licensed Capacity vs. Actual Availability

Licensed capacity is the maximum number of children a program is permitted to serve under state licensing requirements. Actual availability is the number of openings a program has at any given time, which is often lower than its licensed capacity. Although a program may have sufficient classroom space, it may be unable to enroll additional children because of staffing shortages, required staff-to-child ratios, age-specific group size requirements, or class size requirements for publicly funded preschool, Early Head Start, and Head Start programs.

### Licensed Child Care Centers by Age Group in Paterson

| Age Group in Years | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 0-6                | 4    | 4    | 4    | 3    | 3    |
| 0-13               | 27   | 26   | 25   | 28   | 28   |
| 2.5-6              | 9    | 8    | 8    | 7    | 7    |
| 2.5-13             | 15   | 14   | 15   | 19   | 17   |
| 6-13               | 18   | 18   | 19   | 20   | 21   |

### Registered Family Child Care Providers

|                | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | 2025  | % Change 21-25 |
|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 192   | 168   | 196   | 196   | 195   | 2%             |
| Passaic County | 238   | 253   | 255   | 276   | 263   | 11%            |
| New Jersey     | 1,190 | 1,225 | 1,317 | 1,362 | 1,310 | 10%            |



Photo from the Taub Foundation

## 5 Early Learning

### Paterson's Universal Preschool Program

Paterson's 3- and 4-year-olds have long benefited from access to free, full-day, high-quality preschool. ACNJ was at the forefront of advocating for this strong start, arguing as a “friend of the court” (*amicus curiae*) in the landmark New Jersey Supreme Court case *Abbott v. Burke*, proposing quality standards that the Court ultimately embraced. The decision mandated public preschool in 31 of the state's poorest districts including Paterson.

Since its implementation in 1999, tens of thousands of the city's children have received this early start. With qualified early learning teachers, small class sizes and a strong, research-based curriculum, New Jersey's public preschool model — now recognized nationally — has been shown to help children build the skills they need to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

To meet the needs of local families, Paterson uses a “mixed-delivery system,” allowing children to attend preschool through Paterson Public Schools, federal Head Start classrooms, or qualified private child care centers in their neighborhoods.

This model has since become the template for New Jersey's broader pre-school expansion efforts, building on the quality standards Paterson families have relied on for decades. Beginning in 2017, the New Jersey Department of Education made significant investments to extend preschool access to additional districts statewide. Today, state-funded, high-quality, full-day preschool programs exist in 293 New Jersey school districts, cementing New Jersey's position as a national leader in early childhood education.

#### State-Funded Preschool Enrollment

|                | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | % Change 21-25 |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson       | 2,784   | 2,827   | 2,930   | 2,762   | 2,760   | -1%            |
| Passaic County | 4,391   | 4,708   | 5,063   | 4,985   | 5,100   | 16%            |
| New Jersey     | 46,898  | 53,258  | 58,387  | 60,365  | 66,419  | 42%            |

## 5 Early Learning

### Paterson Children Enrolled in Head Start

|                                                                                                                           | 2020-21    | 2021-22   | 2022-23    | 2023-24    | 2024-25    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|
| Number of children enrolled                                                                                               | 328        | 299       | 284        | 286        | 270        |
| Number of children with health insurance at end of enrollment year                                                        | 324 (99%)  | 292 (98%) | 279 (98%)  | 286 (100%) | 268 (99%)  |
| Number of children with up-to-date immunizations, all possible immunizations to date, or exempt at end of enrollment year | 328 (100%) | 297 (99%) | 284 (100%) | 286 (100%) | 270 (100%) |

### Paterson Children Enrolled in Early Head Start

|                                                                                                                           | 2020-21   | 2021-22  | 2022-23    | 2023-24    | 2024-25    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|------------|------------|------------|
| Number of children enrolled                                                                                               | 90        | 100      | 122        | 124        | 123        |
| Number of children with health insurance at end of enrollment year                                                        | 90 (100%) | 82 (82%) | 122 (100%) | 124 (100%) | 109 (87%)  |
| Number of children with up-to-date immunizations, all possible immunizations to date, or exempt at end of enrollment year | 90 (100%) | 97 (97%) | 122 (100%) | 124 (100%) | 123 (100%) |

### Paterson Head Start and Early Head Start Children with IEP/IFSP\*

|                                     | 2020-21 |        | 2021-22 |        | 2022-23 |        | 2023-24 |        | 2024-25 |        |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
|                                     | Number  | %      | Number  | %      | Number  | %      | Number  | %      | Number  | %      |
| Head Start Children with IEP        | 35      | 10.67% | 34      | 11.37% | 50      | 17.60% | 41      | 14.34% | 48      | 17.78% |
| Early Head Start Children with IFSP | 12      | 13.33% | 12      | 12.00% | 20      | 16.39% | 30      | 24.19% | 34      | 27.64% |

\*IEP is Individualized Education Program and IFSP is Individualized Family Service Plan.

### Additional information:

Licensed Child Care Centers: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/documents/providers/licensing/laws/CCCmanual.pdf>

Family Child Care Providers: <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/documents/providers/licensing/laws/FCCmanual.pdf>

### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Licensed Child Care Centers, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. The number of state-licensed child care centers. Data are as of December for each year.

**Child Care Center Capacity, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. The capacity of state-licensed child care centers. Data are as of December for each year.

**Licensed Child Care Centers in Paterson by Age Group, 2021-2025.** The breakdown by licensed child care centers in Paterson by age group child care centers are licensed to serve. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Registered Family Child Care Providers, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ 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.

**State-Funded Preschool Enrollment, 2020-21 through 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education. 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. Excludes children enrolled in Head Start or other federally-funded programs that do not receive any state aid.

**Paterson Children Enrolled in Head Start, 2020-21 through 2024-25.** As reported by the Greater Bergen Community Action.

**Paterson Children Enrolled in Early Head Start, 2020-21 through 2024-25.** As reported by the Greater Bergen Community Action.

**Paterson Head Start and Early Head Start Children with IEP/IFSP, 2020-21 through 2024-25.** As reported by the Greater Bergen Community Action. These plans detail the special services young children need to address developmental delays.

## A Snapshot of Paterson's Education Landscape

From the earliest grades through high school, Paterson's schools are helping students build the knowledge and skills they need to succeed while creating opportunities for every child to thrive. During the 2025–26 school year, nearly 30,000 students were enrolled in public and charter schools across the city.

Paterson is home to 14 full-service community schools, serving more than 10,000 students. These schools go beyond the classroom by bringing together families, educators, and community partners to provide students with access to health care, social services, enrichment programs, and other resources that support their academic success and overall well-being.

As one of New Jersey's most diverse communities, Paterson's schools continue to welcome a growing number of multilingual learners. Enrollment of multilingual learners in Paterson Public

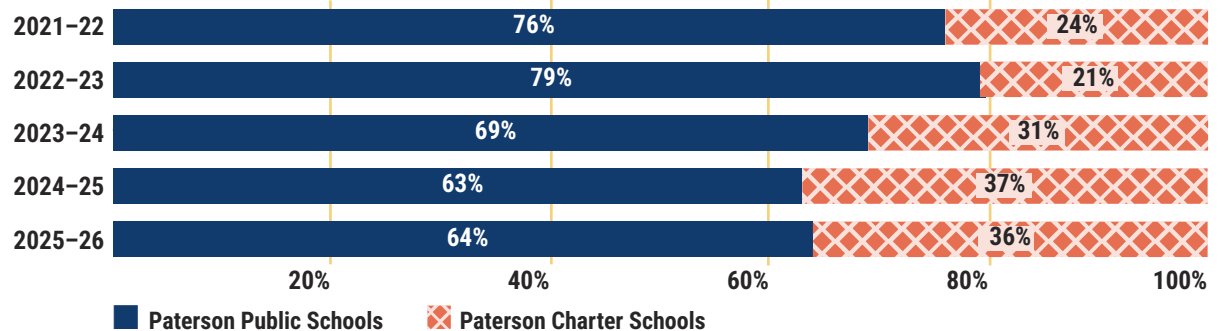
Schools increased from 27% in the 2023–24 school year to 41% in 2025–26, reflecting the city's rich cultural and linguistic diversity. Students are also making meaningful academic gains. The percentage of Paterson Public Schools third-grade students who met or exceeded

expectations on the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) increased from 15% in 2021–22 to 22% in 2024–25, demonstrating steady progress and the ongoing commitment of students, families, educators, and community partners to improving educational outcomes.

### Kindergarten Enrollment

|                          | 2021–22 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2024–25 | 2025–26 | % Change 21–26 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson Public Schools  | 1,594   | 1,782   | 1,544   | 1,393   | 1,375   | -14%           |
| Paterson Charter Schools | 495     | 477     | 681     | 817     | 774     | 56%            |
| Paterson Total           | 2,089   | 2,259   | 2,225   | 2,210   | 2,149   | 3%             |
| Passaic County           | 5,347   | 5,556   | 5,650   | 5,645   | 5,398   | 1%             |
| New Jersey               | 86,202  | 85,873  | 90,783  | 89,428  | 86,554  | 0%             |

### Kindergarten Enrollment by School Type



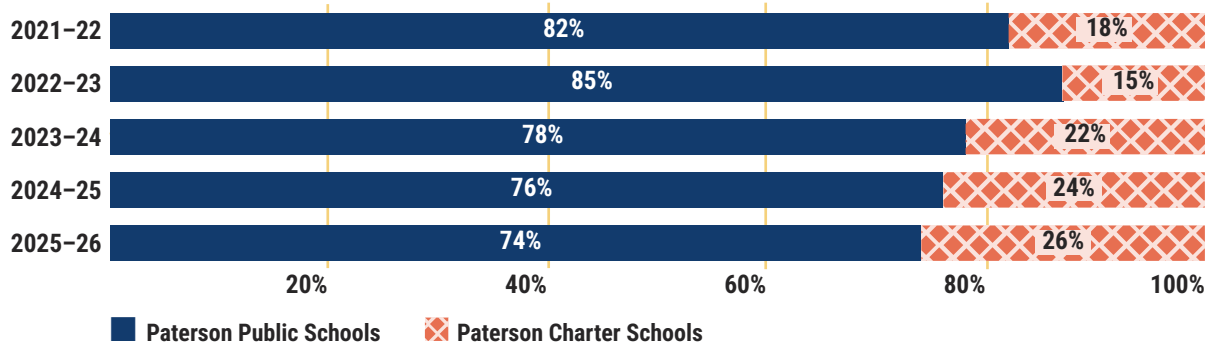
**Note:** When referring to Paterson Public Schools, we include only data for the Paterson Public School District and do not include charter school data. Charter schools are public schools that operate under a charter granted by the State Commissioner of Education. They are independent of the local school district, each is managed by its own Board of Trustees, and is treated as its own district.

## 6 Education

### Pre-K-12 Total Enrollment in Paterson

|                          | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | % Change 22-26 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson Public Schools  | 24,495  | 26,067  | 24,090  | 23,609  | 21,849  | -11%           |
| Paterson Charter Schools | 5,477   | 4,544   | 6,603   | 7,454   | 7,850   | 43%            |
| Paterson Total           | 29,972  | 30,611  | 30,693  | 31,063  | 29,699  | -1%            |

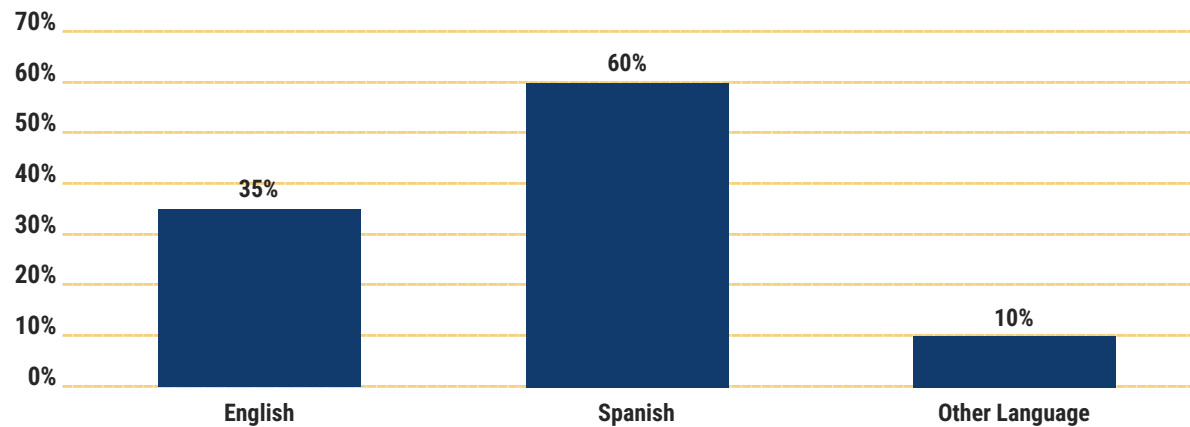
### Percentage of Paterson School Enrollment by School Type



### Percentage of Pre-K-12 Paterson Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, 2025-26

|                           | Paterson Public Schools | Paterson Charter Schools |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Asian                     | 7%                      | 1%                       |
| Black or African American | 16%                     | 22%                      |
| Hawaiian Native           | <1%                     | <1%                      |
| Hispanic                  | 73%                     | 73%                      |
| Native American           | <1%                     | 1%                       |
| White                     | 4%                      | 3%                       |
| Two or More Races         | <1%                     | 1%                       |

### Paterson Public Schools: Enrollment by Home Language, 2024-25



Within Paterson Public Schools,  
**38 languages** were reported  
 to be spoken by students.

The top 5 are:

- 1 English
- 2 Spanish
- 3 Bengla
- 4 Arabic
- 5 Turkish

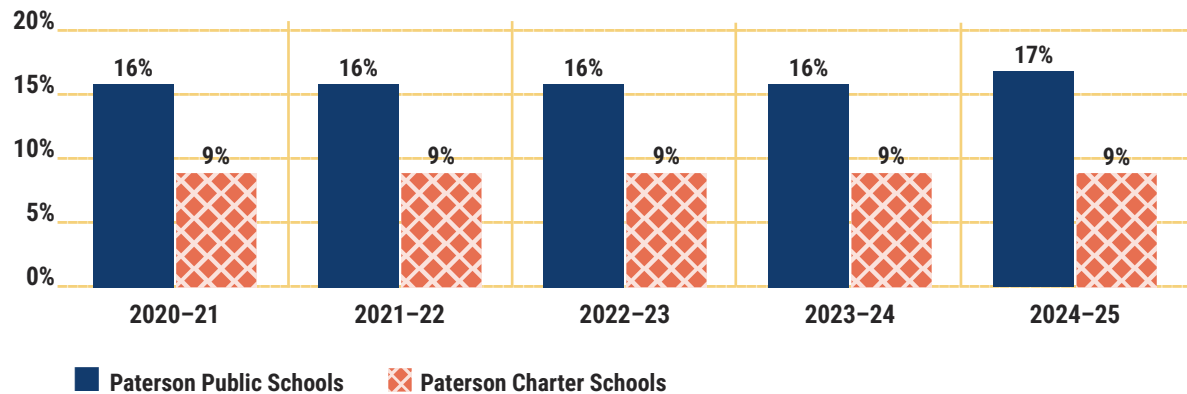
## 6 Education

### Special Education Enrollment, Ages 3–21

|                          | 2020–21 | 2021–22 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2024–25 | % Change 21–25 |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|
| Paterson Public Schools  | 4,048   | 3,869   | 3,893   | 4,040   | 4,212   | 4%             |
| Paterson Charter Schools | 471     | 381     | 563     | 618     | 642     | 36%            |
| Paterson Total           | 4,519   | 4,250   | 4,456   | 4,658   | 4,854   | 7%             |

Note: Includes public and non-public students; some schools are suppressed.

### Special Education Classification Rate, Ages 3–21



### Percentage of Students Experiencing Homelessness

|                         | 2020–21 | 2021–22 | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2024–25 |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Paterson Public Schools | 0.8%    | 0.8%    | 1.7%    | 3.0%    | 1.5%    |
| New Jersey              | 0.60%   | 0.60%   | 0.90%   | 1.10%   | 1.00%   |

Note: Does not include charter schools. Percentage is based out of total enrollment.

### School Violence Incidents, 2024–25

|                         | Violence | Weapons | Vandalism | Substances | Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB) | Total Unique Incidents | Incidents Per 100 Students Enrolled |
|-------------------------|----------|---------|-----------|------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Paterson Public Schools | 300      | 21      | 25        | 280        | 177                                      | 789                    | 3.32                                |
| New Jersey              | 12,730   | 902     | 1,793     | 7,198      | 7,456                                    | 29,826                 | 2.13                                |

## What is 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 Students experiencing Homelessness, visit <https://nche.ed.gov>. For more information on Students experiencing Homelessness at the state level, visit [www.nj.gov/education/homeless/index.shtml](http://www.nj.gov/education/homeless/index.shtml).

### Paterson Music Project Uses Music to Build Skills, Confidence, and Community

Serving approximately 350 students across four Paterson public schools, the Paterson Music Project (PMP) has been transforming lives over the last 13 seasons by providing tuition-free instrumental music education while helping young people develop leadership skills, confidence, and a strong sense of community.

Director of Education and Founding Teaching Artist Shanna Lin states that the organization's main goal is to teach both music and life skills, while amplifying youth voices through music education.

PMP offers programs from early elementary through high school to address gaps in arts education. The organization provides access to instrumental instruction, instruments, and small-group learning opportunities that many schools cannot offer due to cost and staffing limitations.

Students participate in concerts, community events, and music festivals, gaining experiences beyond the classroom.

In addition to music education, PMP is dedicated to developing future leaders. The Youth Leader Program enables older students to mentor younger musicians, assist in classes, gain workforce skills, and contribute to their community through volunteer service. Some alumni have returned as college students to teach in the program.

PMP collaborates with Paterson Public Schools and local organizations citywide. Through food drives, volunteer projects, and annual community performances supporting local causes, PMP demonstrates how music fosters social connection, civic engagement, and opportunity for Paterson's youth.

*... music fosters social connection, civic engagement, and opportunity for Paterson's youth.*



Photo by Rob Davidson

*Thank you to Director and Founding Teaching Artist Shanna Lin for providing this information.*



Photos by Susan Peterson



## 6 Education

### Paterson Multilingual Learner Enrollment

|                                                  | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 |                                                   | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Paterson Public Schools                          | 27%     | 35%     | 41%     | School 1                                          | 17%     | 24%     | 25%     |
| Alexander Hamilton Academy                       | 7%      | 14%     | 19%     | School 2                                          | 27%     | 31%     | 24%     |
| Alonzo "Tambua" Moody Academy                    | 1%      | 4%      | 4%      | School 3                                          | 30%     | 29%     | N/A     |
| Anna Iandoli Early Learning Center               | 0%      | 19%     | 73%     | School 5                                          | 45%     | 48%     | 47%     |
| Brilla New Jersey Charter School                 | N/A     | 35%     | N/A     | School 7                                          | 34%     | 38%     | 36%     |
| Charles J. Riley School 9                        | 30%     | 31%     | 43%     | School 8                                          | 46%     | 55%     | 50%     |
| College Achieve Paterson Charter School          | 8%      | 9%      | 11%     | School 10                                         | 39%     | 46%     | 53%     |
| Community Charter School Of Paterson             | 5%      | 7%      | 11%     | School 12                                         | 33%     | 36%     | 41%     |
| Dale Avenue                                      | 19%     | 34%     | 35%     | School 13                                         | 39%     | 46%     | 44%     |
| Dr. Hani Awadallah School                        | 32%     | 38%     | N/A     | School 15                                         | 41%     | 48%     | 56%     |
| Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Educational Complex   | 20%     | 29%     | 32%     | School 16                                         | 42%     | 45%     | 49%     |
| Eastside High School                             | 44%     | 51%     | 53%     | School 18                                         | 31%     | 39%     | 42%     |
| Edward W. Kilpatrick                             | 28%     | 36%     | 46%     | School 19                                         | 26%     | 30%     | 27%     |
| International High School                        | 7%      | 10%     | 8%      | School 20                                         | 23%     | 26%     | 22%     |
| John F. Kennedy High School                      | 29%     | 37%     | 39%     | School 21                                         | 45%     | 48%     | 50%     |
| John P. Holland Charter School                   | 12%     | 15%     | 10%     | School 24                                         | 36%     | 43%     | N/A     |
| Joseph A. Taub School                            | 23%     | 25%     | 26%     | School 25                                         | 23%     | 30%     | 31%     |
| New Roberto Clemente                             | 52%     | 53%     | 52%     | School 26                                         | 28%     | 34%     | 41%     |
| Newcomers High School                            | 100%    | 97%     | 98%     | School 27                                         | 19%     | 23%     | 29%     |
| Norman S. Weir                                   | 5%      | 7%      | 6%      | School 28                                         | 13%     | 19%     | 29%     |
| Paterson P-Tech High School                      | 12%     | 14%     | 18%     | Senator Frank Lautenberg School                   | 29%     | 33%     | 34%     |
| Paterson Steam High School                       | 8%      | 13%     | 12%     | Students Transitioning And Achieving Real Success | 4%      | 7%      | 5%      |
| Paterson Arts And Science Charter School         | 12%     | 18%     | 20%     | Young Men's Academy                               | 3%      | 0%      | 0%      |
| Paterson Charter School For Science/Technology   | 6%      | 7%      | 8%      | New Jersey                                        | 10%     | 11%     | 11%     |
| Philip's Academy Charter School Of Paterson      | 7%      | 11%     | 10%     |                                                   |         |         |         |
| Paterson Preparatory Charter School              | N/A     | N/A     | 41%     |                                                   |         |         |         |
| Rev. Dr. Frank Napier Jr. School                 | 26%     | 36%     | 39%     |                                                   |         |         |         |
| Roberto Clemente                                 | 44%     | 51%     | 54%     |                                                   |         |         |         |
| Rosa L. Parks School Of Fine And Performing Arts | 7%      | 12%     | 15%     |                                                   |         |         |         |

Note: Multilingual learner enrollment are a percentage of total enrollment. N/A indicates data not available.

**In 2025-26, 2 in 5  
Paterson Public School students  
were multilingual learners.**



### When is a Student Considered a Multilingual Learner?

Schools are required to provide Multilingual Learners (MLs), formerly known as English Language Learners (ELL), access to equity and excellence in education. An ML is a student whose primary language is other than English and is identified as a student who does not have English language proficiency in listening, speaking and writing. Once identified, he or she will be provided with English language services to be successful in the district's academic program. MLs are to be assessed annually to measure progress toward English language proficiency and to determine readiness for exiting the program. In Paterson Public School District, 41% of students are multilingual learners compared to 11% statewide.

### Changes to State Testing in 2026

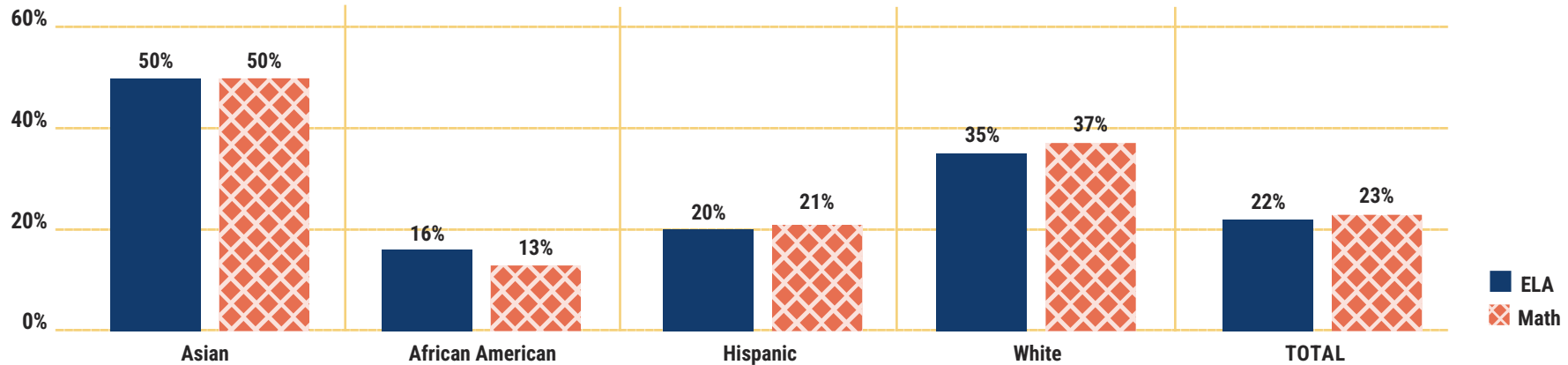
In the Spring of 2026, through a partnership with Cambium Assessment, the New Jersey Department of Education launched the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments-Adaptive (NJSLA-A). The new statewide assessment uses a student's responses to determine subsequent questions for them, creating a personalized test for each student. The computerized NJSLA-A was designed to not only reduce testing anxiety but encourage confidence in students as well. While students may not see the same questions, the content and standards remain the same and only grade-level items count towards the students scores. While English Language Arts and Mathematics have shifted to the NJSLA-A format, the state continues testing science in a fixed form assessment called New Jersey Student Learning Assessments-Science (NJSLA-S). For more information, visit [www.nj.gov/education/assessment/adaptive/faq.shtml](http://www.nj.gov/education/assessment/adaptive/faq.shtml).

#### Percentage of Paterson Public School Students who Met or Exceeded Expectations on the NJSLA

| English Language Arts | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 3rd Grade             | 15%     | 14%     | 17%     | 22%     |
| 8th Grade             | 31%     | 32%     | 29%     | 34%     |
| Math                  |         |         |         |         |
| 3rd Grade             | 14%     | 15%     | 20%     | 23%     |
| 8th Grade             | 4%      | 6%      | 6%      | 8%      |

## 6 Education

### Percentage of 3rd Grade Paterson Public School Students Who Met or Exceeded Expectations on the NJSLA English Language Arts and Math by Race/Ethnicity 2024–25



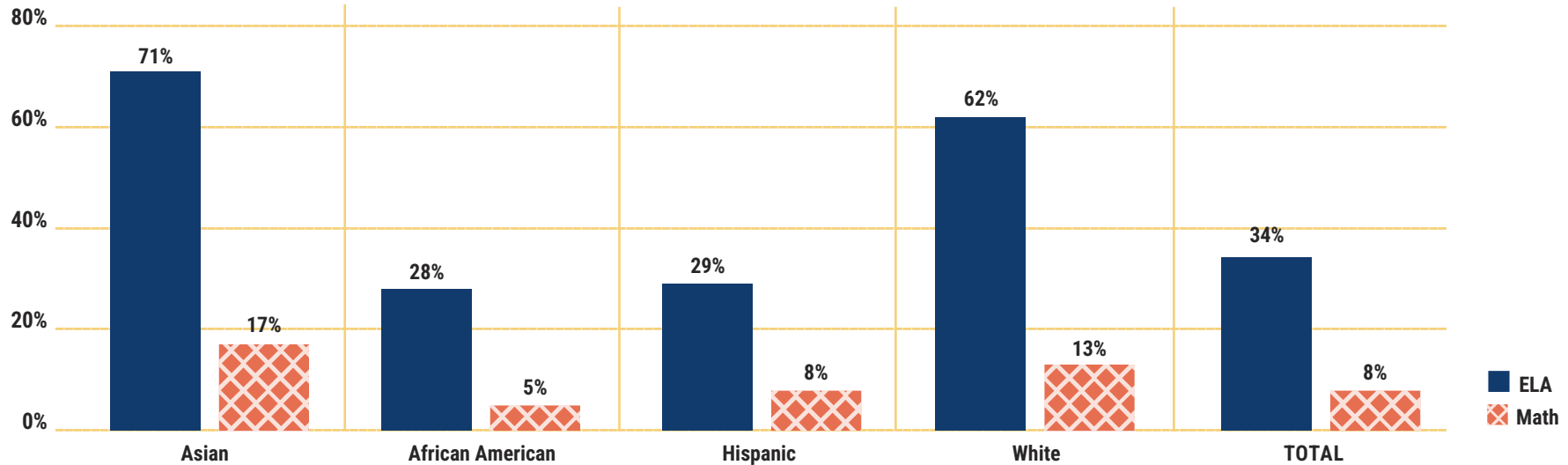
### Percentage of 3rd Grade Paterson Students who Met or Exceeded Expectations on the NJSLA English Language Arts and Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2024–25

|                                                    | African American |      | Hispanic |      | White |      | TOTAL |      |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|------|----------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
|                                                    | ELA              | Math | ELA      | Math | ELA   | Math | ELA   | Math |
| Paterson Public Schools                            | 16%              | 13%  | 20%      | 21%  | 35%   | 37%  | 22%   | 23%  |
| College Achieve Paterson Charter School            | 86%              | 51%  | 75%      | 64%  | N/A   | N/A  | 79%   | 60%  |
| Community Charter School of Paterson               | 38%              | 66%  | 29%      | 56%  | N/A   | N/A  | 32%   | 59%  |
| John P Holland Charter School                      | N/A              | N/A  | 59%      | 54%  | N/A   | N/A  | 58%   | 53%  |
| Paterson Arts and Science Charter School           | 32%              | 26%  | 25%      | 31%  | N/A   | N/A  | 26%   | 30%  |
| Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology | 25%              | 19%  | 42%      | 34%  | 27%   | 53%  | 38%   | 33%  |
| Philip's Academy Charter School of Paterson        | 27%              | 27%  | 42%      | 51%  | N/A   | N/A  | 39%   | 46%  |

N/A indicates data not available. Some racial/ethnic groups are omitted due to data suppression or non-availability.

## 6 Education

### Percentage of 8th Grade Paterson Public School Students Who Met or Exceeded Expectations on the NJSLA English Language Arts and Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2024–25



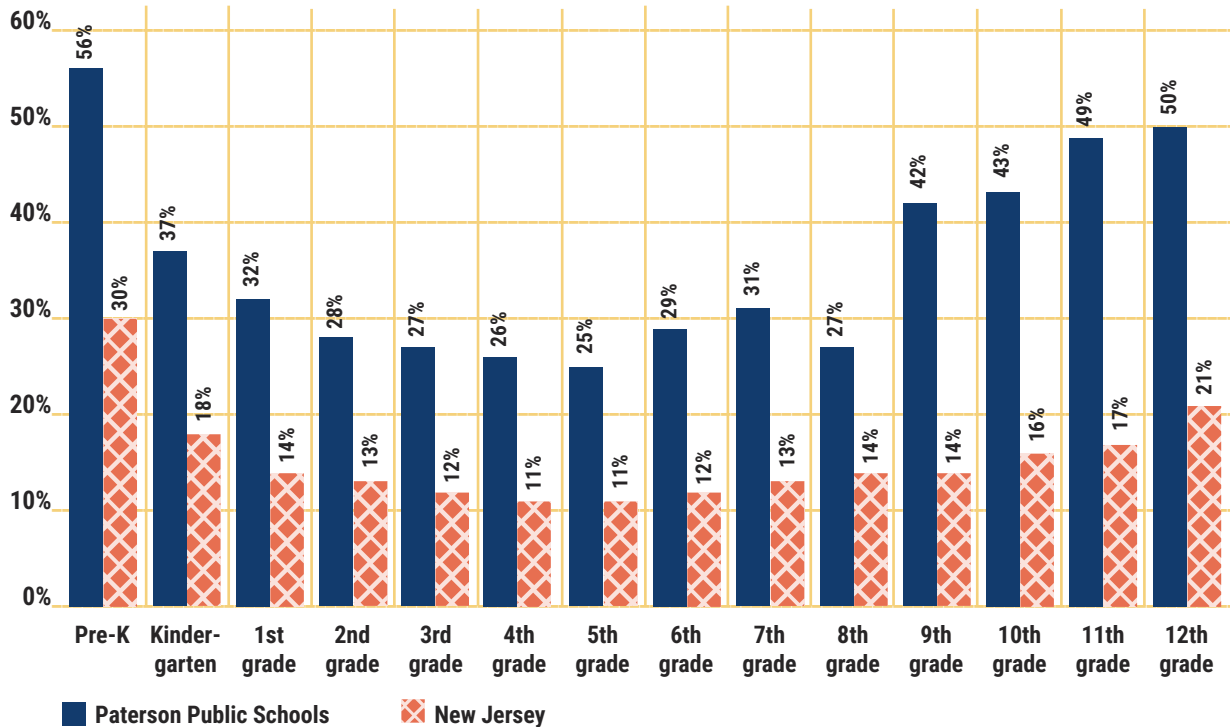
### Percentage of 8th Grade Paterson Students who Met or Exceeded Expectations on the NJSLA English Language Arts and Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2024–25

|                                                    | African American |      | Hispanic |      | TOTAL |      |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|------|----------|------|-------|------|
|                                                    | ELA              | Math | ELA      | Math | ELA   | Math |
| Paterson Public Schools                            | 28%              | 5%   | 29%      | 8%   | 34%   | 8%   |
| College Achieve Paterson Charter School            | 66%              | 34%  | 86%      | 52%  | 81%   | 47%  |
| Community Charter School of Paterson               | 26%              | 4%   | 48%      | 19%  | 44%   | 17%  |
| John P Holland Charter School                      | N/A              | N/A  | 53%      | 20%  | 50%   | 20%  |
| Paterson Arts and Science Charter School           | 22%              | 6%   | 38%      | 16%  | 34%   | 14%  |
| Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology | 19%              | 0%   | 45%      | 9%   | 37%   | 6%   |
| Philip's Academy Charter School of Paterson        | 39%              | 33%  | 65%      | 23%  | 57%   | 26%  |

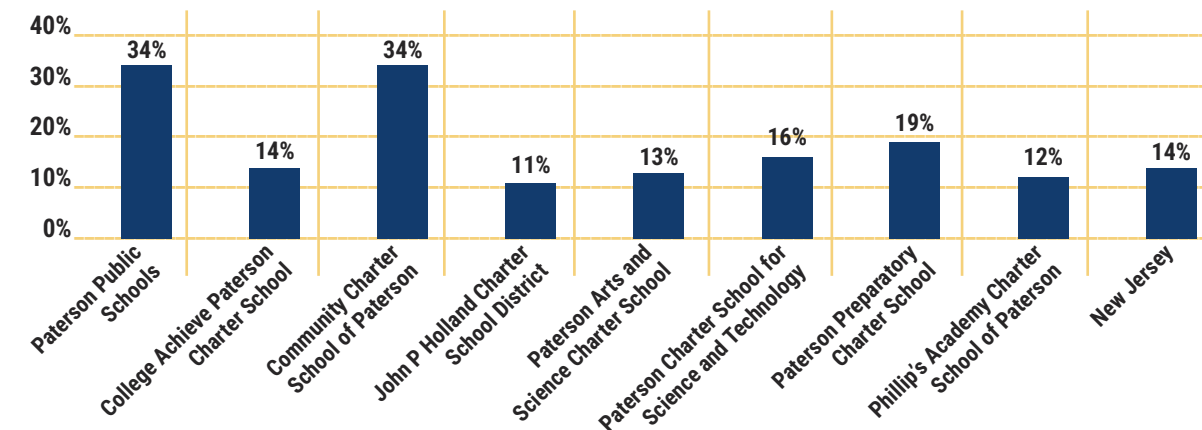
N/A indicates data not available. Some racial/ethnic groups are omitted due to data suppression or non-availability.

## 6 Education

Chronic Absenteeism by Grade, 2024–25



Chronic Absenteeism in Paterson, 2024–25



## What is Chronic Absenteeism?

A student is considered chronically absent when he or she has missed more than 10% of total school days. While the number of school days varies by school district, the minimum number of required days by the state is 180 days. A chronically absent student is at risk of failing and repeating the grade. Schools are required to track chronic absenteeism to address any schoolwide trends that can be impacting students' ability to attend school.

### Paterson Public Schools Chronic Absenteeism Demographics, 2024–25

| Demographic Group                           | %   |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| Districtwide                                | 34% |
| American Indian or Alaska Native            | *   |
| Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander | 23% |
| Black or African American                   | 44% |
| Hispanic/Latino                             | 33% |
| White                                       | 27% |
| Multiracial                                 | 38% |
| Female                                      | 34% |
| Male                                        | 34% |
| Students Experiencing Homelessness          | 66% |
| Multilingual Learners                       | 29% |
| Students in Foster Care                     | 49% |
| Students with Disabilities                  | 38% |

An \* indicates that data is not displayed in order to protect student privacy.

## 6 Education

### Afterschool Opportunities: Supporting Success Beyond the School Day

Afterschool programs are an important part of Paterson's education landscape. While this report does not include data on the availability, enrollment, or participation in afterschool programs, these programs help fill a critical need for children and families during the hours between the end of the school day and when many parents and caregivers return home from work.

The hours between 3 and 6 p.m. are especially important. Quality afterschool programs provide children and youth with safe, supervised, and

supportive places to spend this time, surrounded by caring adults and engaged in positive activities. Beyond keeping young people safe, programs can extend learning through homework help, literacy, STEM, arts, sports, leadership, and other enrichment opportunities. These experiences can strengthen students' sense of belonging and connection to their schools and communities.

Given Paterson's challenges related to academic achievement, attendance, and student well-being, access to safe, high-quality afterschool

opportunities should be viewed as an important component of a broader strategy for student success. Understanding where programs are located, who they serve, how many students participate, and where gaps in access exist is an important next step for Paterson. Better information can help schools, community organizations, funders, and families work together to ensure that children have safe places to go and meaningful opportunities to learn and grow after the school day ends.

#### Average SAT Score, by High School

|                                                    | 2022-23 |                     |                          | 2023-24 |                     |                          | 2024-25 |                     |                          |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------------------|--------------------------|
|                                                    | Math    | Reading and Writing | Percentage Participation | Math    | Reading and Writing | Percentage Participation | Math    | Reading and Writing | Percentage Participation |
| Paterson Public School District                    | 382     | 404                 | 86%                      | 390     | 408                 | 100%                     | 368     | 384                 | 94%                      |
| College Achieve Charter School                     | N       | N                   | N/A                      | 397     | 418                 | 100%                     | 413     | 425                 | 100%                     |
| Eastside High School                               | N       | N                   | 0%                       | 374     | 390                 | 100%                     | 346     | 362                 | 98%                      |
| International High School                          | 416     | 429                 | 81%                      | 428     | 442                 | 100%                     | 404     | 419                 | 94%                      |
| John F. Kennedy High School                        | 377     | 403                 | 92%                      | 390     | 411                 | 100%                     | 365     | 388                 | 95%                      |
| Paterson Arts and Science Charter School           | 429     | 448                 | 59%                      | 426     | 454                 | 71%                      | 429     | 446                 | 82%                      |
| Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology | 440     | 451                 | 61%                      | 413     | 423                 | 100%                     | 431     | 452                 | 100%                     |
| Paterson P-TECH High School                        | 400     | 411                 | 98%                      | 421     | 448                 | 100%                     | 437     | 431                 | 100%                     |
| Paterson STEAM High School                         | 407     | 437                 | 98%                      | 400     | 422                 | 100%                     | 382     | 409                 | 94%                      |
| Rosa L. Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts   | 402     | 423                 | 83%                      | 383     | 406                 | 100%                     | 412     | 412                 | 100%                     |
| New Jersey Average                                 | 525     | 533                 | 62%                      | 519     | 530                 | 63%                      | 519     | 533                 | 60%                      |

"N" indicates that there's no data to display.

**ABOUT SATs:** The SAT is an entrance exam that measures a student's readiness for college, testing math and evidence-based reading and writing skills. Most colleges and universities require it as part of their admissions application. Higher scores on the exam provide students with more options for attending and paying for college.

## 6 Education

### Advanced Course Participation and Performance, 2024–25

|                                                    | Students enrolled in one or more AP or IB course | Students taking one or more AP or IB exam | Students with one or more exams with a score of at least a 3 on AP exams or 4 on IB exams | Dual Enrollment Coursework |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Paterson Public Schools                            | 23%                                              | 16%                                       | <10%                                                                                      | 18%                        |
| College Achieve Paterson Charter School            | 82%                                              | 63%                                       | 29%                                                                                       | 41%                        |
| Eastside High School                               | 10%                                              | 8%                                        | <10%                                                                                      | 16%                        |
| International High School                          | 82%                                              | 32%                                       | 13%                                                                                       | 18%                        |
| John F. Kennedy High School                        | 15%                                              | 11%                                       | <10%                                                                                      | 20%                        |
| Newcomers High School                              | 0%                                               | 0%                                        | <10%                                                                                      | 0%                         |
| Paterson Arts and Science Charter School           | 21%                                              | 15%                                       | <10%                                                                                      | 11%                        |
| Paterson Charter School for Science and Technology | 32%                                              | 26%                                       | <10%                                                                                      | 23%                        |
| Paterson P-TECH High School                        | 42%                                              | 47%                                       | <10%                                                                                      | 14%                        |
| Paterson STEAM High School                         | 43%                                              | 41%                                       | <10%                                                                                      | 31%                        |
| Rosa L. Parks School of Fine and Performing Arts   | 45%                                              | 32%                                       | <10%                                                                                      | 49%                        |
| New Jersey                                         | 38%                                              | 32%                                       | 26%                                                                                       | 30%                        |

**ABOUT ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES:** Advanced Placement (AP) courses provide students with rigorous courses that prepare them for success in college. Students that score at least a 3 on AP exams or a 4 on International Baccalaureate (IB) exams can get credits at many colleges and institutions. The number of students enrolled in AP or IB courses and number actually taking the exams in the Paterson Public Schools falls short of the state rate.

### Paterson Public Schools Advanced Course Participation by Race/Ethnicity, 2024–25

| Demographic Group                           | Students enrolled in one or more AP or IB course | Students enrolled in one or more Dual Enrollment course |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Districtwide                                | 23%                                              | 18%                                                     |
| Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander | 48%                                              | 29%                                                     |
| Black or African American                   | 21%                                              | 18%                                                     |
| Hispanic/Latino                             | 22%                                              | 17%                                                     |
| White                                       | 22%                                              | 19%                                                     |
| Female                                      | 28%                                              | 21%                                                     |
| Male                                        | 18%                                              | 15%                                                     |
| Economically Disadvantaged                  | 26%                                              | 19%                                                     |
| Multilingual Learners                       | 10%                                              | 10%                                                     |
| Students Experiencing Homelessness          | 14%                                              | 7%                                                      |
| Students with Disabilities                  | 5%                                               | 7%                                                      |

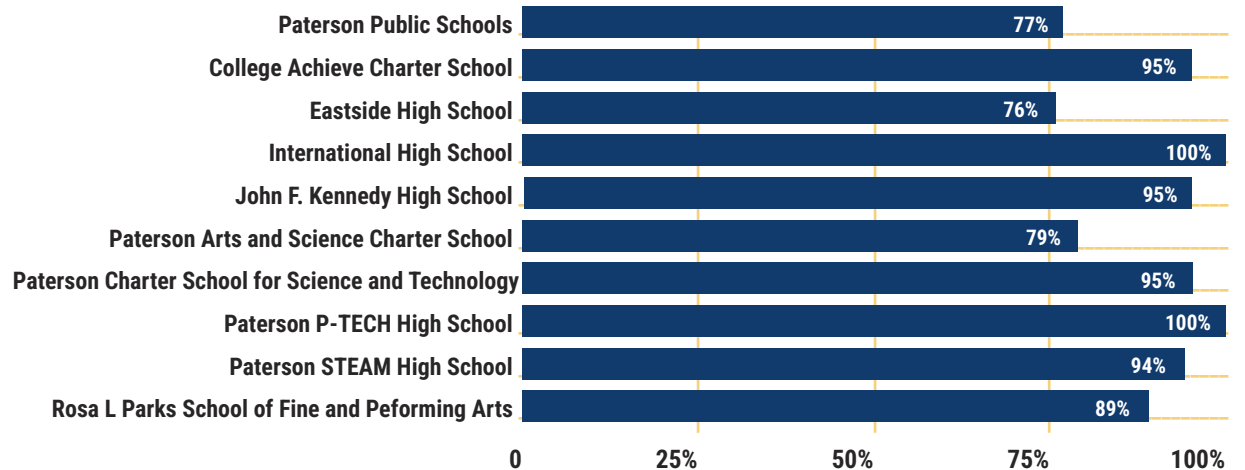
## 6 Education

### Graduation Rates by Demographic Group, Paterson Public Schools, 2024–25

| Demographic Group                          | %          |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Districtwide</b>                        | <b>77%</b> |
| American Indian or Alaska Native           | N          |
| Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | 83%        |
| Black or African American                  | 74%        |
| Hispanic                                   | 77%        |
| Two or More Races                          | *          |
| White                                      | 82%        |
| Male                                       | 74%        |
| Female                                     | 80%        |
| Economically Disadvantaged                 | 78%        |
| Students with Disabilities                 | 65%        |
| Multilingual Learners                      | 81%        |
| Homeless Students                          | 68%        |
| Students in Foster Care                    | *          |

An \* indicates that data is not displayed in order to protect student privacy. An N indicates that no data is available.

### Graduation Rates by Paterson High Schools, 2024–25



### High School Graduation Rates

|                                | 2020–21    | 2021–22    | 2022–23    | 2023–24    | 2024–25    |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Paterson Public Schools</b> | <b>79%</b> | <b>84%</b> | <b>82%</b> | <b>75%</b> | <b>77%</b> |
| <b>New Jersey</b>              | <b>91%</b> | <b>91%</b> | <b>91%</b> | <b>91%</b> | <b>92%</b> |

## 6 Education

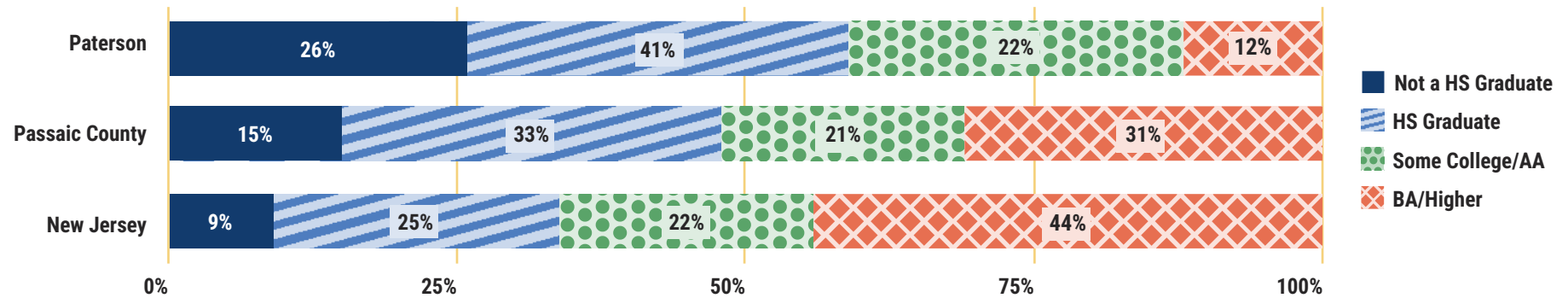
### Student-to-Staff Ratio, 2024–25

|                                             | Paterson<br>Public Schools | New Jersey |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Students to Teachers                        | 14:1                       | 12:1       |
| Students to Administrators                  | 118:1                      | 137:1      |
| Students to Librarians/Media Specialists    | 2,974:1                    | 1,245:1    |
| Students to Nurses                          | 541:1                      | 460:1      |
| Students to Counselors                      | 283:1                      | 296:1      |
| Students to Child Study Team Members        | 35:1                       | 26:1       |
| Students to School Psychologists            | 1,190:1                    | 627:1      |
| Students to School Social Workers           | 449:1                      | 492:1      |
| Students to Student Assistance Coordinators | 2,163:1                    | 3,514:1    |
| Students to School Safety Specialists       | 23,793:1                   | 1,816:1    |

### Student-to-Staff Ratios

The ratio of student-to-staff within a school has long been considered a marker of educational and instructional quality. During the 2024–25 school year, Paterson Public Schools reported a ratio of 14 students for every one teacher, just above the state ratio of 12:1. The ratio of guidance counselors to students is also of importance, given the critical role counselors play in preparing students for college and careers. The American School Counselor Association recommends a ratio of 250 students for every one counselor. Both Paterson Public Schools and the state of New Jersey exceeded this recommendation, with ratios of 283:1 and 296:1, respectively, during the 2024–25 school year. To read more about the importance of student-to-school counselor ratios, visit [www.schoolcounselor.org/About-School-Counseling/School-Counselor-Roles-Ratios/](http://www.schoolcounselor.org/About-School-Counseling/School-Counselor-Roles-Ratios/).

### Highest Educational Attainment for People Ages 25+, 2020–24



### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Kindergarten Enrollment, 2021-22 through 2025-26.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include students enrolled in half and full-day programs in both traditional district and charter schools.

**Kindergarten Enrollment by School Type, 2021-22 through 2025-26.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include students enrolled in half- and full-day programs in both traditional district and charter schools.

**Pre-K-12 Paterson Total Enrollment, 2021-22 through 2025-26.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools. Please note that total enrollment figures do not include students enrolled in public preschool programs operating within community-based providers.

**Percentage of Paterson School Enrollment by School Type, 2021-22 through 2025-26.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. The percentage of students enrolled in Paterson Public Schools and Paterson charter schools. Data include both public district and charter schools.

**Percentage of Pre-K-12 Paterson Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, 2025-26.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools.

**Paterson Public Schools: Enrollment by Home Language, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. Data show percentage of students enrolled by home language.

**Special Education Enrollment, Ages 3-21, 2020-21 through 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Special Education Enrollment, 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 Classification Rate, Ages 3-21, 2020-21 through 2024-25.** 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.

**Percentage of Students Experiencing Homelessness Out of Total Enrollment, 2020-21 through 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. Data are as of June for each school year listed and do not include charter schools. Represents any student identified as homeless during the given school year.

**School Violence Incidents, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report Data. A single incident may be counted under multiple incident types; the total unique incidents row provides an unduplicated count of incidents.

**Paterson Multilingual Learner Enrollment as a Percentage of Total Enrollment, 2023-24 through 2025-26.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data.

**Percentage of Paterson Public School Students who Met or Exceeded Expectations on NJSLA, 2021-22 through 2024-25.** As reported by the Department of Education. The NJSLA in English Language Arts, Math, and Science were administered in Spring 2025. The grade levels shown in the report represent students' Spring 2025 grade-level enrollment. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect students' confidentiality.

**Percentage of 3rd Grade Paterson Public School Students who Met or Exceeded Expectations on the NJSLA English Language Arts and Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education. Graph shows data for both 3rd and 8th graders. The NJSLA in English Language Arts, Math, and Science were administered in Spring 2025. The grade levels shown in the report represent students' Spring 2025 grade-level enrollment. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect students' confidentiality.

**Percentage of 3rd Grade Paterson Students who Met or Exceeded on the NJSLA English Language Arts and Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education. The NJSLA in English Language Arts, Math, and Science were administered in Spring 2025. The grade levels shown in the report represent students' Spring 2025 grade-level enrollment. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect students' confidentiality.

**Percentage of 8th Grade Paterson Public School Students who Met or Exceeded Expectations on the NJSLA English Language Arts and Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education. The NJSLA in English Language Arts, Math, and Science were administered in Spring 2025. The grade levels shown in the report represent students' Spring 2025 grade-level enrollment. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect students' confidentiality.

**Percentage of 8th Grade Paterson Students who Met or Exceeded Expectations on the NJSLA English Language Arts and Math by Race/Ethnicity, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education. The NJSLA in English Language Arts, Math, and Science were administered in Spring 2025. The grade levels shown in the report represent students' Spring 2025 grade-level enrollment. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5. Data suppressed in some instances to protect students' confidentiality.

**Chronic Absenteeism by Grade, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. Chronic absenteeism refers to being absent for 10% or more of the days enrolled during the school year.

**Paterson Public Schools Chronic Absenteeism Demographics, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. Chronic absenteeism refers to being absent for 10% or more of the days enrolled during the school year.

**Chronic Absenteeism in Paterson, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. Chronic absenteeism refers to being absent for 10% or more of the days enrolled during the school year.

**Average SAT Score by High School, 2022-23 through 2024-25.** The percentage of 12th grade students participating in the SAT for the given school year. The score range for the SAT is from 400 to 1600 for a total score. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

**Advanced Course Participation and Performance, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate participation and performance and dual enrollment coursework participation amongst 11th and 12th grade students.

**Paterson Public Schools Advanced Course Participation by Race/Ethnicity, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate participation and dual enrollment coursework participation amongst 11th and 12th grader students.

**Graduation Rates by Demographic Group, Paterson Public Schools, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate data.

**Graduation Rates by Paterson High Schools, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate data. Data include both traditional district schools as well as charter schools.

**High School Graduation Rates, 2020-21 through 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate data.

**Student-to-Staff Ratio, 2024-25.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report.

**Highest Educational Attainment for People Ages 25+, 2020-24.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B15002 using 5-year estimates.

## Data Trends for Teens

Recent data show several encouraging trends in child and youth wellbeing in Paterson. The share of births to teenagers has declined from 6.4% in 2020 to 4.2% in 2024, representing meaningful progress. However, Paterson's rate remains approximately twice the statewide rate, indicating an ongoing area of concern.

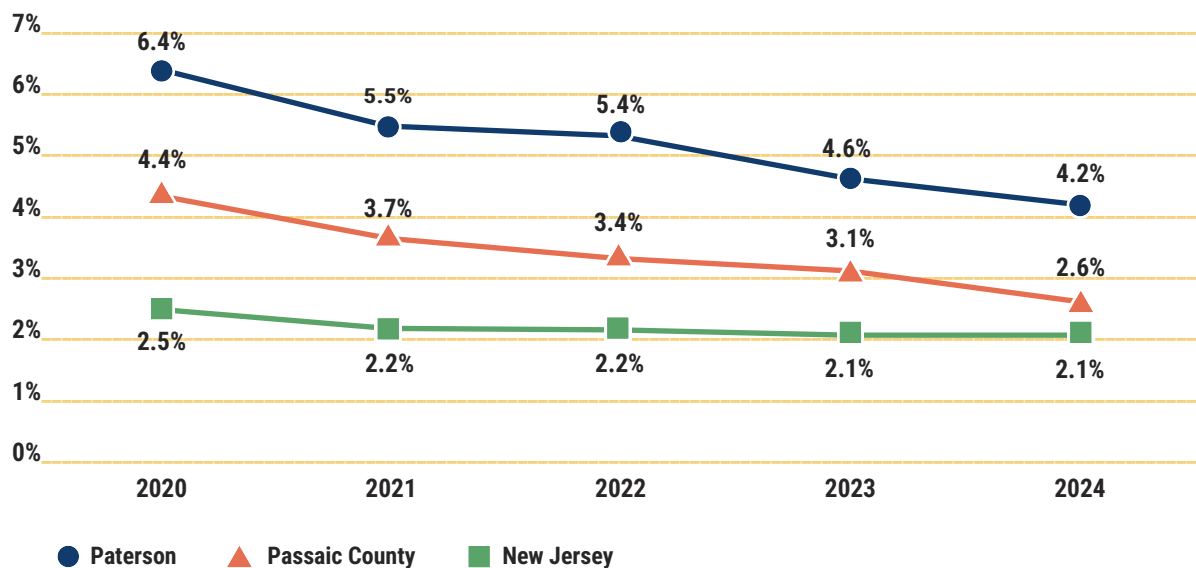
Youth STI diagnoses have also declined, with diagnoses among female youth decreasing by 32% and among male youth by 9% between 2021 and 2025.

Youth detention admissions, however, show a more mixed pattern. Annual admissions increased from 45 in 2021 to 75 in 2024, before declining to 63 in 2025. While the recent decrease is encouraging, admissions remain above the 2021 level, highlighting the continued need for prevention and supportive interventions for youth.

### Births to Teens, Ages 15–19

|                       | 2020  | 2021  | 2022  | 2023  | 2024  | % Change 20–24 |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|
| <b>Paterson</b>       | 154   | 128   | 133   | 108   | 95    | -38%           |
| <b>Passaic County</b> | 272   | 229   | 218   | 194   | 161   | -41%           |
| <b>New Jersey</b>     | 2,434 | 2,250 | 2,287 | 2,153 | 2,114 | -13%           |

### Percentage of Births to Teens, Ages 15–19



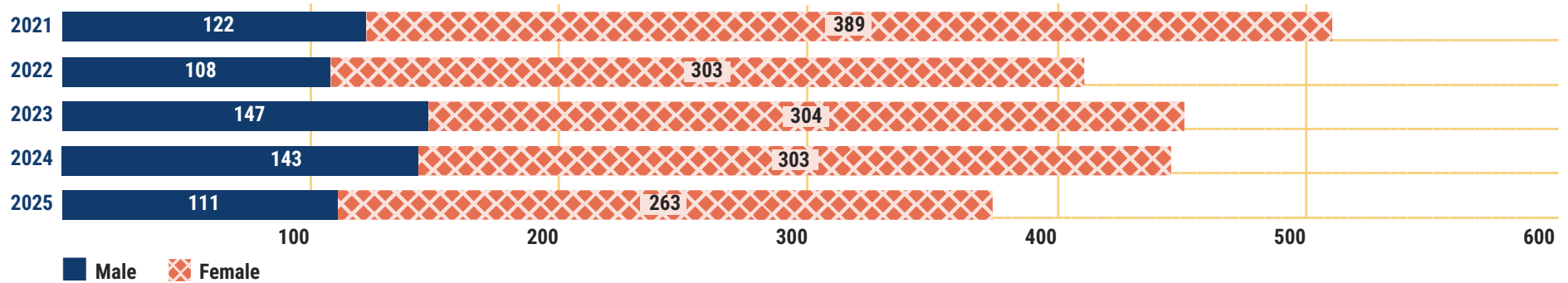
*Data are presented as a percentage of total births.*

## 7 Teens

### Youth Ages 15–19 Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection, by Gender

|                | 2021  |        | 2022  |        | 2023  |        | 2024  |        | 2025  |        | % Change 21–25 |        |
|----------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|----------------|--------|
|                | Male  | Female | Male  | Female | Male  | Female | Male  | Female | Male  | Female | Male           | Female |
| Paterson       | 122   | 389    | 108   | 303    | 147   | 304    | 143   | 303    | 111   | 263    | -9%            | -32%   |
| Passaic County | 191   | 615    | 175   | 489    | 219   | 521    | 202   | 456    | 197   | 431    | 3%             | -30%   |
| New Jersey     | 2,394 | 6,737  | 2,604 | 6,552  | 3,094 | 7,092  | 2,967 | 6,388  | 2,638 | 5,919  | 10%            | -12%   |

### Paterson Youth Ages 15–19 Diagnosed with a Sexually Transmitted Infection



### Teen Deaths, Ages 15–19

|                | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Paterson       | <10  | <10  | <10  | 11   | <10  |
| Passaic County | 12   | 14   | 18   | 21   | <10  |
| New Jersey     | 189  | 192  | 204  | 207  | 169  |

## Paterson Healing Collective Combines Prevention, Intervention, and Healing to Build Safer Communities

The Paterson Healing Collective approaches violence as a public health issue, not just a criminal justice matter. Through prevention, intervention, mental health support, and community engagement, the organization aims to reduce violence and help residents heal from its effects.

“Our mission is to end violence in the City of Paterson, but more holistically, we are looking at violence from a public health standpoint and getting to the root causes of why these issues are happening,” says Executive Director Dr. Liza Chowdhury.

The organization’s work begins where traditional systems often end. Its hospital-based violence intervention program connects staff with victims of gun violence, domestic violence, sexual violence, and other traumatic incidents immediately after injury. Participants receive individualized support, including crisis intervention, counseling referrals, emergency housing, safety planning, transportation, financial assistance, and ongoing case management to reduce retaliation risk and promote long-term stability.

Beyond crisis response, the Paterson Healing Collective prioritizes prevention in neighborhoods most affected by violence. Its Community-Based Violence Prevention Program serves adults at high risk, including those returning from incarceration. Participants receive leadership development, financial literacy training, mentorship, mental health services, and connections to resources that support positive decision-making and personal growth.

The organization also invests in youth. After-school programs serve young people from neighborhoods with high rates of violence, offering academic support, meals, life-skills education, and adult mentorship. In the summer, participants engage in community service, social justice workshops, recreational activities, and leadership development to encourage civic engagement and conflict resolution.

“

***We don’t want to wait until someone gets shot. We want to make sure resources and support reach those who are most vulnerable before violence happens.***

— Dr. Liza Chowdhury  
Executive Director

“We don’t want to wait until someone gets shot. We want to make sure resources and support reach those who are most vulnerable before violence happens,” says Dr. Chowdhury.

Additional initiatives include trauma recovery groups, peer support for mothers who have lost loved ones to violence, mental health counseling, and neighborhood “healing spaces”

that bring families together through events, recreation, and wellness activities. By combining immediate support with long-term prevention, the Paterson Healing Collective helps residents reclaim hope, strengthen community connections, and build safer futures for Paterson’s children and families.

*We thank Executive Director Dr. Liza Chowdhury for providing this information. To learn more about The Paterson Learning Collective, please visit <https://patersonhealingcollective.org/>.*



Photos from Paterson Healing Collective

# Prevention Intervention Healing

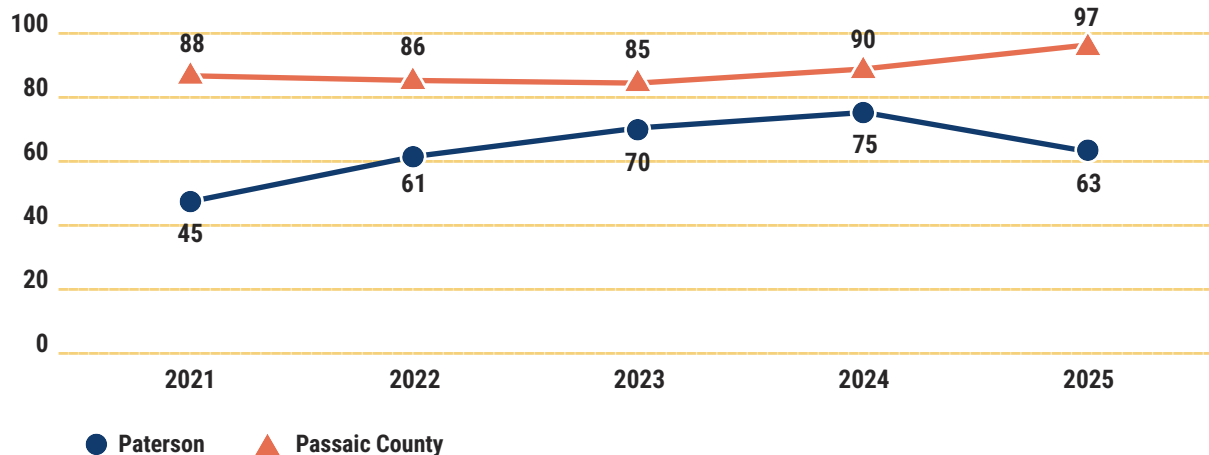


## 7 Teens

### Paterson Annual Admissions to Detention

|                          | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | % Change 21-25 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|----------------|
| <b>Total Admissions:</b> | 45   | 61   | 70   | 75   | 63   | 40%            |
| <b>By Gender:</b>        |      |      |      |      |      |                |
| Male                     | 42   | 58   | 60   | 67   | 58   | 38%            |
| Female                   | <10  | <10  | 10   | <10  | <10  | N/A            |
| <b>By Race:</b>          |      |      |      |      |      |                |
| African American         | 31   | 40   | 47   | 49   | 37   | 19%            |
| Caucasian                | <10  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A            |
| Hispanic                 | 13   | 21   | 23   | 26   | 26   | 100%           |

### Paterson and Passaic County Admissions to Detention



## What is the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative?

New Jersey's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) was formed in 2004 with the support and leadership of the Annie E. Casey Foundation and is managed by the state's Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC). Since the program's inception, JDAI has resulted in a dramatic decrease in detention populations throughout New Jersey without risk to public safety. JDAI fosters a fundamental shift in the way law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and public defenders handle juvenile crime cases by moving the focus from locking kids up to returning them to their communities and addressing the issues that led to criminal behavior. Detention centers are reserved only for more serious youth offenders. JDAI has helped reduce costs considerably, due to the reduction in the daily population in detention and subsequent closure of many county detention centers. In 2018, the Annie E. Casey Foundation recognized New Jersey as the first state to implement JDAI resulting in a decrease in the average daily detention center population by nearly 70% between 2003 (pre-JDAI) and 2017. Find other data and learn more about NJ's Juvenile Justice System at [www.njoag.gov/about/divisions-and-offices/youth-justice-commission-home/](http://www.njoag.gov/about/divisions-and-offices/youth-justice-commission-home/).

## Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Births to Teens, Ages 15-19, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. The number of live births to teenagers. Data accessed as of July 28, 2026.

**Births to Teens, Ages 15-19 as a Percentage of Total Births, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 28, 2026.

**Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection, by Gender, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS). Youth ages 15-19 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea, or syphilis. 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 July 28, 2026.

**Paterson Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection, 2021-2025.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS). Youth ages 15-19 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea, or syphilis. 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 July 28, 2026.

**Teen Deaths, Ages 15-19, 2020-2024.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. The number of teenagers who died in that year. Data accessed as of July 28, 2026.

**Paterson Annual Admissions to Detention, 2021-2025.** As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission. The number of youth admitted to detention.

**Paterson and Passaic County Admissions to Detention, 2021-2025.** As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

## About ACNJ

Investments in our children reap results — not for just one child, but for thousands across New Jersey. ACNJ works daily to be a voice for New Jersey's Children.

ACNJ's roots grew out of some of the earliest efforts to protect abused and abandoned children in New Jersey. ACNJ is part of an evolution that began in 1847 when the Newark Orphan Asylum was established. Over the years, other child-related organizations were created to care for orphans, children living in foster care, and children in troubled families. In 1978, the remaining direct services provider, the Child Service Association, and the Citizens Committee for Children of New Jersey, a grassroots advocacy group of volunteers, merged to form what was then called the Association for Children of New Jersey. ACNJ officially changed its name in July 2010.

ACNJ's mission is to advance and strengthen policies and programs that promote equitable opportunities for all New Jersey children and youth. Toward this end, we identify needs from parents and community partners, data, research, and policy analysis and address them through education, engagement, and collaboration with policy-makers, advocates, and the public. The strength of ACNJ lies in its diverse and influential Board of Trustees, partners, funders, Parent Leadership Council, and professional staff, representing a broad spectrum of individuals and organizations deeply committed to an equitable and inclusive state that empowers all children to reach their fullest potential.

## How to Stay Informed

ACNJ invites you to learn more about our work. Here are a few ways you can stay informed:

Visit [acnj.org](http://acnj.org) to explore our issue areas, learn about our policy agenda, sign up for eNews, and join our Lunch & Learn webinars.



Subscribe to our Let's Talk Kids vodcast on YouTube or listen and follow on Spotify or Apple Podcasts.

ACNJ staff are available to deliver presentations on our key issue areas, tailored to the needs of specific audiences. Please submit your requests to [advocates@acnj.org](mailto:advocates@acnj.org).





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@ACNJForKids



Giving Every Child A Chance®