

Still No Room for Babies: Child Care Staffing Crisis Impacts Supply of Infant-Toddler Child Care

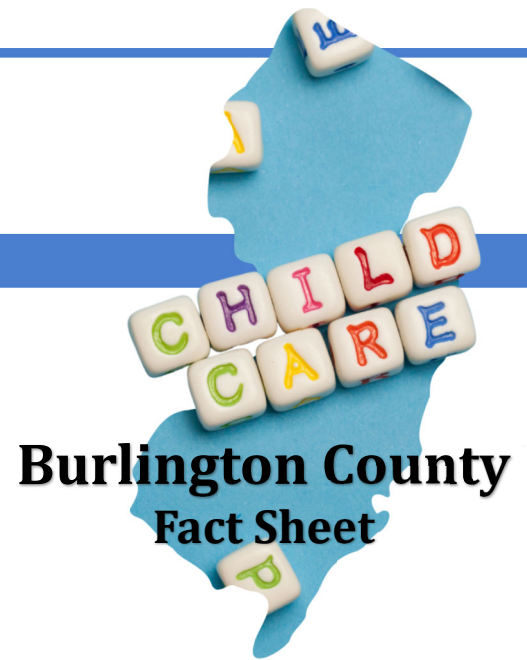
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Having access to a robust supply of high-quality licensed child care near their home or workplace is an essential support for working parents. Licensed child care programs not only offer parents a safe and reliable child care option while they work, but they can also be a valuable source of early education during the critically important first three years, laying the foundation for healthy development and success in school and life. Statewide, more than 207,000 children under age three live in families where both parents work, meaning they will be in need of some form of child care.¹

However, according to a recent survey conducted by Advocates for Children of New Jersey regarding the availability of infant-toddler care in New Jersey, licensed child care for babies is in short supply with only enough space to serve roughly a third of the children that need care because all parents in the household work. Furthermore, although centers report that they have the capacity to serve approximately 68,000 infants and toddlers, they typically serve closer to 55,000, leaving more than 150,000 very young children without the option of center-based care. The primary reason centers reported serving fewer children than they have the capacity to serve is that they cannot find enough staff to work in the infant-toddler room.²

1. 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

2. Help Wanted! Child Care Staffing Crisis Means Still No Room for Babies, ACNJ August 2022



Infant-Toddler Child Care Burlington County As of March 2022

Number of Licensed Centers that Provide Infant Toddler Child Care	68
Number of Children Under Age 3	12,963
Children Under Age 3 Likely to Need Child Care Because All Parents Work	9,294
Estimated Number of Slots Licensed Centers are Willing To Provide	2,961
Estimated Number of Slots Licensed Centers Typically Provide	2,482
Number of Centers Providing Infant-Toddler Child Care Participating in Grow NJ Kids	22
Number of Centers Providing Infant-Toddler Child Care Rated by Grow NJ Kids	7

Recommendations to address the shortage of high-quality infant-toddler child care

- **Develop creative policy and legislative options aimed at increasing compensation and benefits for child care staff.**
- **Ensure the successful implementation of Thriving by Three, a grant program signed into law in 2022 to incentivize the development of child care programs for infants and toddlers.**
- **Raise the infant-toddler child care subsidy reimbursement rate to enable child care programs to increase salaries that will help to attract and retain staff to work in the infant-toddler classroom.**
- **Consider new options to strengthen and expand New Jersey's family child care system.**

For more information, visit acnj.org to download a copy of Still No Room for Babies (March 2023) and County Profiles.

Giving Every Child A Chance To Grow Up Safe, Healthy and Educated

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Still No Room for Babies:

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Burlington County Infant-Toddler Child Care

Infant-Toddler Child Care by Municipality, As of March 2022

Municipality	Number of Children Under Age 3	Estimated Number of Infants-Toddlers in Need of Care	Number of Centers Serving Infants and Toddlers	Number of Infants-Toddlers Centers are Willing to Serve	Number of Infants-Toddlers Centers Typically Serve	Percent of Slots Typically Available for Infants and Toddlers
Bass River Twp.	41	29	0	0	0	0%
Beverly City	103	74	0	0	0	0%
Bordentown City and Twp.	410	294	4	164	139	47%
Burlington City and Twp.	1052	754	3	67	55	7%
Chesterfield Twp.	188	135	1	42	28	21%
Cinnaminson Twp.	463	332	2	100	60	18%
Delanco Twp.	237	170	0	0	0	0%
Delran Twp.	443	318	5	280	256	81%
Eastampton Twp.	192	138	0	0	0	0%
Edgewater Park Twp.	314	225	1	51	51	23%
Evesham Twp. & Marlton	1,274	913	7	300	247	27%
Fieldsboro Boro	25	18	0	0	0	0%
Florence Twp.	367	263	1	16	13	5%
Hainesport Twp	155	111	3	114	90	63%
Lumberton Twp.	325	233	4	147	119	51%
Mansfield Twp.& Columbus	156	112	1	37	31	28%
Maple Shade Twp.	750	538	2	43	35	7%
Medford Lakes Boro	68	49	0	0	0	0%
Medford Twp.	537	385	5	344	300	78%
Moorestown Twp.	422	303	3	160	140	46%
Mount Holly Twp.	323	232	2	22	19	8%
Mount Laurel Twp.	1,138	816	12	624	522	64%
New Hanover Twp.	111	80	0	0	0	0%
North Hanover Twp.	312	224	0	0	0	0%
Palmyra Boro	202	145	0	0	0	0%
Pemberton Boro and Twp. & Browns Mills	1,031	739	2	47	44	6%
Riverside Twp.	325	233	0	0	0	0%
Riverton Boro	69	49	1	57	53	108%
Shamong Twp.	126	90	1	24	24	27%
Southampton Twp.	170	122	1	32	32	26%
Springfield Twp.	97	70	0	0	0	0%
Tabernacle Twp.	173	124	0	0	0	0%
Washington Twp.	19	14	0	0	0	0%
Westampton Twp.	269	193	4	218	160	83%
Willingboro Twp.	1011	725	3	72	64	9%
Woodland Twp.	32	23	0	0	0	0%
Wrightstown Boro	33	24	0	0	0	0%
All Municipalities	12,963	9,294	68	2,961	2,482	27%

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