

Still No Room for Babies:

Child Care Staffing Crisis Impacts Supply of Infant-Toddler Child Care

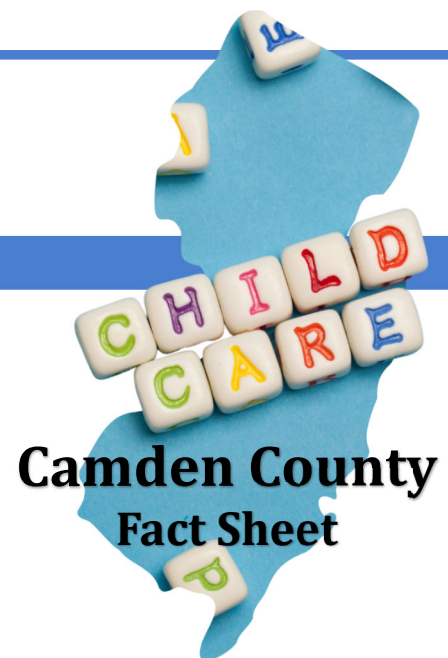
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Having access to a robust supply of high-quality licensed child care near their home or workplace is an essential support for working parents. Licensed child care programs not only offer parents a safe and reliable child care option while they work, 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 Camden County As of March 2022

Number of Licensed Centers that Provide Infant Toddler Child Care	100
Number of Children Under Age 3	20,037
Children Under Age 3 Likely to Need Child Care Because All Parents Work	15,048
Estimated Number of Slots Licensed Centers are Willing To Provide	4,236
Estimated Number of Slots Licensed Centers Typically Provide	3,458
Number of Centers Providing Infant-Toddler Child Care Participating in Grow NJ Kids	27
Number of Centers Providing Infant-Toddler Child Care Rated by Grow NJ Kids	8

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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Camden 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
Audubon Boro	282	212	1	24	26	12%
Audubon Park Boro	21	16	0	0	0	0%
Barrington Boro	238	179	2	51	43	24%
Bellmawr Boro	370	278	2	87	69	25%
Berlin Boro	200	150	3	73	46	31%
Berlin Twp. & West Berlin	185	139	2	61	55	40%
Brooklawn Boro	80	60	0	0	0	0%
Camden City	3,679	2,763	26	996	824	30%
Cherry Hill Twp.	2,196	1,649	16	925	760	46%
Chesilhurst Boro	281	211	0	0	0	0%
Clementon Boro	508	382	3	114	95	25%
Collingswood Boro	2156	1,619	0	0	0	0%
Gibbsboro Boro	65	49	1	22	19	39%
Gloucester City	393	295	1	7	7	2%
Gloucester Twp. & Blackwood, Erial, Glendora	2,023	1,519	5	235	193	13%
Haddon Heights Boro	243	182	1	31	38	21%
Haddon Twp. & Westmont	488	366	1	43	38	10%
Haddonfield Boro	332	249	2	90	81	33%
Hi-Nella Boro	47	35	0	0	0	0%
Laurel Springs Boro	63	47	1	44	37	79%
Lawnside Boro	91	68	0	0	0	0%
Lindenwold Boro	831	624	1	72	25	4%
Magnolia Boro	159	119	1	25	21	18%
Merchantville Boro	129	97	0	0	0	0%
Mount Ephraim Boro	140	105	0	0	0	0%
Oaklyn Boro	134	101	2	89	53	52%
Pennsauken Twp.	1,117	839	5	105	86	10%
Pine Hill Boro	447	336	0	0	0	0%
Pine Valley Boro	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Runnemede Boro	244	183	1	54	46	25%
Somerdale Boro	168	126	0	0	0	0%
Stratford Boro	219	164	2	84	51	31%
Tavistock Boro	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Voorhees Twp.	794	596	11	565	483	81%
Waterford Twp. & Atco	294	221	1	32	27	12%
Winslow Twp. & Sicklerville	1,284	964	9	407	335	35%
Woodlynne Boro	136	102	0	0	0	0%
County Total	20,037	15,048	100	4,236	3,458	23%

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