



# Connecticut Office of Early Childhood

## Overview of Early Childhood Services in Connecticut Office of Early Childhood & Other Early Childhood Partners - 2015

### Young Children in Connecticut

<b>35,463</b>	Births in Connecticut in 2013. <sup>1</sup>
<b>38,815</b>	Children entered kindergarten in Connecticut in the fall of 2013. <sup>2</sup>
<b>73,375</b>	3- and 4-year-olds in the state, 2011 + 2012 births. <sup>3</sup>
<b>14,853</b>	Children in kindergarten eligible to receive Free/Reduced-priced meals, family income below 185% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL). <sup>4</sup>
<b>37,962</b>	Children under age 6, below 100% of poverty. <sup>5</sup>
<b>197,395</b>	Children in Connecticut are between birth and five years in age. <sup>6</sup>

### These children live in every community in the state.

After children enter kindergarten many of the services they need are coordinated through the schools. Many services for children, birth to age 5, are now coordinated by the new Office of Early Childhood.

### Early Care and Education

- **School Readiness** – In 2014-15, there are **11,790** school readiness full-day (7,786), school-day (1,792), and part-day (2,212) spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children at 328 sites in 68 Priority and Competitive School Readiness communities.<sup>8</sup> An additional **490** extended-day school readiness spaces. In 2013-14 there were 10,830 full-, school- and part-day spaces and 543 extended-day spaces.<sup>9</sup>
- **Child Day Care Centers** - **2,104** pre-school spaces, for 3- and 4-year-old children, plus 540 pre-school wrap-around spaces contracted at 104 sites in over 52 communities. There are **1,107** infant/toddler spaces plus 190 infant-toddler wrap-around, and **242** school-age spaces contracted.<sup>10</sup>
- **Head Start** – **5,700** children ages 3 to 5 years & **Early Head Start** - **660** children, birth to 3 years.<sup>11</sup>
- **Smart Start** – **416** additional 3- and 4-year-old children will attend high-quality preschool Fall 2015.<sup>12</sup>
- **Connecticut Even Start Family Literacy Program** - **39** children, birth to 5 years old, and their parents - comprehensive family-centered education services for two generational academic and economic success.<sup>13</sup>
- **Public School Preschool** – **11,442** children ages 3- and 4-year-old attended preschool in Public, Charter, or Magnet schools (includes approximately 4,447 children receiving special education, through IDEA Part B, Section 619, but does not include 4,978 children also in School Readiness & Head Start).<sup>14</sup>

### Child Care Subsidies

- **Care 4 Kids** – On average, **19,819** child care vouchers/subsidies are issued monthly. In December of 2014, 18,613 children received C4K subsidy including 6,677 Infant/Toddlers + 6,612 Pre-School Age + 5,324 School-Age Children.<sup>15</sup> Care 4 Kids Vouchers may be used at Licensed, License Exempt, and Family, Friends and Neighbor (FFN) settings.<sup>16</sup>

### **Services for Young Children and their Families**

**Early Intervention** services for children under age 3 identified with developmental delays (Birth to Three):

- **Birth to Three (IDEA Part C, CT DDS)** - **9,686** Children with developmental delays or disabilities served in FY 2014.<sup>17</sup>

**Early Childhood Special Education** and related services, (CT SDE):

- **Preschool Special Education (IDEA Part B, 619)** – and related services in pre-kindergarten through local education organizations = **4,447** three- and four-year-old children.<sup>18</sup>

### **Information and Referral**

- **Child Care Infoline** – serves as the statewide Child Care Resource and Referral service and handles child care referral.
- **Help Me Grow / Child Development Info Line** – **2,108** Calls Received in FY 2014.<sup>19</sup>

### **Home Visiting**

**Home Visiting** services to improve outcomes for families with young children at risk or in high-risk communities<sup>20</sup>:

- **Child First** - **985** children served through services are available in Connecticut (state funding & MIECHV).
- **Early Head Start** – **660** children served and 100 families served by MIECHV in FFY 2014<sup>21</sup>
- **Family Resource Centers** – Parents As Teachers – **1,132** children served
- **Family School Connections** - **159** parents participated in FY 2014
- **Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program** (MIECHV) - **651** families enrolled<sup>22</sup>
- **Minding the Baby** – **36** children served
- **Nurse Family Partnership** (MIECHV) - **107** children served
- **Nurturing Families Network** - **2,336** parents participated in FY 2014
- **Parents as Teachers** (PAT - MIECHV) – **690** children served by NFN

### **DCF Home Visiting Programs for Young Children**<sup>23</sup>

- **Positive Parenting** – **1,558** children served
- **Caregivers Support** – **260** children served
- **Intensive Home-Based Services** – Family Based Recovery – **204** children served

### **Families and Employment**

In Connecticut, nearly three-quarters (70%) of young children have all parents in their home working or seeking employment.<sup>24</sup>

- Nearly all young children (93%) live in families with at least one parent employed or looking for work.<sup>25</sup>
- Over one-quarter (27%) young children live in a single mother household.<sup>26</sup>
- Over one-third (34%) young children live with only one parent.<sup>27</sup>

- In 2012, more than a quarter (27%) of Connecticut women who gave birth had a high school education or less.<sup>28</sup>

## Program Standards

### Child Care and Youth Camp Licensing

- **Licensed Child Care programs** - **3,837** Licensed Child Care facilities - include 1,453 Child Day Care Centers + 2,355 Family Day Care Homes + 29 Group Day Care Homes and **512** Youth Camps are licensed.<sup>29</sup>

### Accreditation

- **National Association Education of Young Children (NAEYC)** - **429** accredited programs - 28,719 kids served.<sup>30</sup>
- CT has the highest number in the country of NAEYC Accredited programs per capita. Annually, approximately 100 center-based programs receive technical assistance on program improvement & NAEYC Accreditation.
- National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) – **2** accredited programs
- National After School Association (NAA) - **1** accredited program
- Head Start and Early Head Start – compliance is deemed a high-quality standard.

## Workforce

### Early Care and Education Workforce Development

- **Workforce Registry** – **15,281** early childhood teachers, directors, trainers, and consultants are in the registry.<sup>31</sup>
- **Scholarships to improve workforce qualifications** – **787** individuals received scholarship assistance and **57** licensed child care programs received group-based professional development scholarships.<sup>32</sup>
- Connecticut's **Early Childhood Teacher Credential (ECTC)** earned by **73** Individuals in 2013.<sup>33</sup>
- UMass Donahue Center/CT Head Start Training & Technical Assistance Center-**1,822** staff supported 2014<sup>34</sup>

## Facilities

### Early Childhood Bond Funds for Minor Capital Improvements and Wiring for Technology:

Grants-in-aid to municipalities and organizations for facility improvements and minor capital repairs to state-funded programs serving children birth to age 5 and to additional early childhood programs serving children birth to age 6 in municipalities eligible for state early childhood funds Cohort 1 - 76 projects at 57 program sites serving 4,984 children in 35 towns.<sup>35</sup>

## ENDNOTES

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- <sup>1</sup> Department of Developmental Services, Connecticut Birth to Three System 2014 Report “Learning From Each Other” and CT Department of Public Health, birth statistics by town.
- <sup>2</sup> Department of Education, CT Education Data and Research (CEDaR), “Enrollment - Public School Enrollment PK-12 by Grade,” 2011-12
- <sup>3</sup> Connecticut Birth to Three System, Annual Reports 2011 & 2012 and CT Department of Public Health, birth statistics by town.
- <sup>4</sup> Estimate calculated based on Kindergarten Enrollment by School District multiplied by School District Strategic School Profile 2011-2012, Percent of “Students Eligible for Free/Reduced-Price Meals” 2011-12 multiplied by district level data for “Enrollment - Public School Enrollment PK-12 by Grade,” Kindergarten Enrollment, 2011-12 SDE, CT Education Data and Research (CEDaR) website Jan. 10, 2014 & Feb. 7, 2014. In FY 2013, Income eligibility for a family of 3 at 185% FPL=\$36,131 & 100% FPL for a family of 3 =\$19,530. Family of 4 at 185% FPL=\$43,568 & 100% FPL = \$23,550.
- <sup>5</sup> U.S. DHHS, ACF, Office of Child Care “State and Territory Profile –Connecticut” (source: U.S. Census, American Fact Finder, 2010)
- <sup>6</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 2009-2013 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.
- <sup>7</sup> U.S. DHHS, ACF, Office of Child Care “State and Territory Profile –Connecticut” (source: U.S. Census, American Fact Finder, 2010)
- <sup>8</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, 2014-15, Priority & Competitive School Readiness Contracted Slot Grids, February 2015
- <sup>9</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, 2013-14, Priority & Competitive School Readiness Contracted Slot Grids, February 2014
- <sup>10</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, 2014-15, Child Day Care Center 2014-15 Contracted Slot Grid, M. Levy, February 2015
- <sup>11</sup> 2013-2014 Head Start Program Information Report (PIR)
- <sup>12</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, D. Lejardi & Governor’s Press Release, March 2, 2015.
- <sup>13</sup> CT Even Start Family Literacy Final Report, Evaluation Results FY 2013, K. Mika, December 2013
- <sup>14</sup> Connecticut Department of Education, Data Source PSIS & PKIS 2011-12, & SEDAC 2013. Calculation by CT OEC, C. Schechter
- <sup>15</sup> C4K Monthly Average Paid July 2014-January 2015. Care 4 Kids Expenditure Report by Region Setting and Age for December 2014. FY 2014-15 Income eligibility by State Median Income (SMI) – Example - family of three: 50% SMI=\$43,770 to 75% SMI=\$65,656; Family of four: 50% SMI=\$52,107 to 75% SMI=\$78,161.
- <sup>16</sup> United Way of Connecticut, January 30, 2014 data report to CT OEC. Statewide there are 3,953 Licensed Child Care facilities; 585 License-Exempt Child Care including public school settings; and 3,584 Family, Friends, and Neighbor (FFN) settings. FFN shown if received subsidy.
- <sup>17</sup> “Learning From Each Other” Connecticut Birth to Three System 2014” report, page 22.
- <sup>18</sup> Data provided by the Department of Education, from the Special Education Data Application and Collection (SEDAC), October 1, 2012. The number children ages 3 and 4 in Pre-Kindergarten receiving special education and related services.
- <sup>19</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, M. Adair, Home Visiting Information, March 2, 2015
- <sup>20</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, K. Foley-Schain, February 2015 & M. Adair, Home Visiting Information, March 2, 2015
- <sup>21</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, G. Whitney, Director, CT Head Start State Collaboration Office, PIR FY 2013-14
- <sup>22</sup> Connecticut Department of Public Health, Family Health Section, 02/19/14. MIECHC Enrollment from March 31, 2013–February 19, 2014
- <sup>23</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, M. Adair, Home Visiting Information, March 2, 2015
- <sup>24</sup> Cyd Oppenheimer, J.D. , Tamara Kramer, J.D. & Edie Joseph, “Connecticut Early Connecticut Early Care & Education Progress Report, 2013,” Connecticut Voices for Children: 4, available at [www.ctvoices.org](http://www.ctvoices.org). Includes reference to U.S. Census Bureau. 2012 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.
- <sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>26</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>28</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, <https://www.elicense.ct.gov/lookup>, March 2, 2015
- <sup>29</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, <https://www.elicense.ct.gov/lookup>, March 2, 2015
- <sup>30</sup> NAEYC website: [http://oldweb.naeyc.org/academy/summary/center\\_summary.asp](http://oldweb.naeyc.org/academy/summary/center_summary.asp) Connecticut data March 2, 2015
- <sup>31</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, M. Gustafson, February 7, 2014
- <sup>32</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, M. Gustafson, December, 2013 for SFY 2013.
- <sup>33</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, M. Gustafson, January 30, 2014
- <sup>34</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, G. Whitney, Director, CT Head Start State Collaboration Office, February 11, 2014
- <sup>35</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, A. García, February 25, 2014