



Overview of Early Childhood Services in Connecticut Office of Early Childhood & Other Early Childhood Partners - 2016

Young Children in Connecticut

- 35,523** Births in Connecticut in 2014.¹
- 37,653** Children entered kindergarten in Connecticut in the fall of 2014.²
- 14.8%** Of children are in households with income below poverty level.³
- 37.7%** Of students in public schools are eligible for Free/Reduced-priced meals.⁴
- 12.7%** Of students in public schools are in Special Education.⁵
- 71,566** Three- and four- year olds in the state, 2012 + 2013 births.⁶
- 228,490** Children in Connecticut under 6 years in age ⁷

Early Care and Education

- **School Readiness** – **12,270** school readiness spaces - 7,862 Full-day, 1,800 School-day, 2,118 Part-day and 490 extended-day spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children at 320 sites in 67 communities, 72% of the spaces are in community based settings and 28% of the spaces are in local School Districts, 2015-16.⁸
- **Child Day Care Centers** – **4,150** spaces - **1,218** Infant and Toddler spaces plus 142 Infant-Toddler wrap-around spaces; **2,142** pre-school spaces plus 407 wrap-around spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children, and **241** school-age spaces contracted at 103 community based sites in 48 towns, 2015-16.⁹
- **Smart Start** – **386** 3- and 4-year-old children in high-quality preschool in 13 School Districts¹⁰
- **Preschool Development Grant**, Federal - **433** high-quality Expansion and 279 Improved preschool spaces for 4-year-olds at 37 sites in 13 communities. Family income must be below 200% FPL.¹¹
- **Connecticut Even Start Family Literacy Program** - **39** children, birth to 5 years old & their parents - comprehensive family-centered education services for two generational academic & economic success.¹²
- **Child Care Subsidies - Care 4 Kids** – On average, **20,034** children (in 13,525 families) receive care vouchers/subsidies monthly. In December of 2015 – 20,716 children were served including 7,305 Infants and Toddlers + 7,159 Preschool Age + 6,252 School-Age Children.¹³ The annual unduplicated number of children in Care 4 Kids equaled 35,233 in SFY 2015.¹⁴ Settings included Licensed and License-Exempt Centers; Licensed Group and Licensed Family; and Family, Friends, and Neighbors.

Head Start and Public School Early Care and Education

- **Head Start**, Federal Funding direct to programs – **7,736** children ages 3 to 5 years enrolled.¹⁵
- **Early Head Start**, Federal Funding direct to programs – **1,220** children, birth to 3 years enrolled in 2014.¹⁶ In 2015, Early Head Start Child Care Partnership grants awarded to 3 sites (approx. 200 families).
- **Public School Preschool** Local Education Agency (LEA) funded – **17,529** children 3- and 4-years-old attended preschool in public school districts (may include 4,836 children receiving special education, through IDEA Part B, Section 619; 3,433 children in School Readiness; and children in LEA Head Start).¹⁷

Services for Young Children and their Families

Early Intervention services for children under age 3 identified with developmental delays:

- **Birth to Three (IDEA Part C)** Served **10,153** children with developmental delays or disabilities, 2015.¹⁸

Early Childhood Special Education and related services, (CSDE):

- **Preschool Special Education (IDEA Part B, 619)** – and related services through local education organizations for **4,836** children three- and four- years old¹⁹

Information and Referral

- **Help Me Grow / Child Development Info Line** – **1,472** Help Me Grow referrals; 22,486 CDI calls; 2,314 new Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) enrollments: 4,410 total ASQ enrollment in 2015.²⁰
- **211 Child Care** – fulfills the Child Care Resource and Referral mandate and handles child care referral. In 2015 - **72,016** Service Request Referrals included 21,814 Infant, 10,945 Toddler, 14,689 Preschool, 9,125 School Age child care and 9,125 Provider Training, plus other service referrals.²¹

Home Visiting

Home Visiting services improve outcomes for families with young children at-risk /in high-risk communities:

- **Child First** - **927** children served in services in Connecticut (567 - State funded & 360 - MIECHV).²²
- **Early Head Start** – **58** children (60 families) served by MIECHV in FY 2015.²³
- **Family School Connections** - **99** families participated in FY 2015.²⁴
- **Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program** (MIECHV) - **764** families enrolled.²⁵
- **Nurse Family Partnership** (MIECHV) - **92** children (111 families) served.²⁶
- **Nurturing Families Network** (NFN)/Parents As Teachers (PAT)- **2,466** parents participated, 2015.²⁷
- **Parents as Teachers** (MIECHV)– **654** children served, 2015.²⁸ (FRCs) **1,132** children served, 2014.²⁹

Program Standards

Child Care and Youth Camp Licensing

- **Licensed Child Care programs** - **3,690** Licensed Child Care facilities - include 1,437 Child Day Care Centers + 2,222 Family Child Care Homes + 31 Group Child Care Homes.³⁰ **494** Licensed Youth Camps.³¹

Accreditation

- **National Association Education of Young Children (NAEYC)** - **493** accredited sites (447 programs) serving 29,098 children.³² CT has the highest number in the country of NAEYC Accredited programs per capita. About 100 receive technical assistance for program improvement & NAEYC Accreditation.
- **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)** – **1** accredited programs.³³
- **National After School Association (NAA)** - **1** accredited program.³⁴
- **Head Start and Early Head Start** – **114** approved programs. 72 in Licensed Centers (33 with NAEYC); 36 in License-Exempt facilities (13 with NAEYC); and 6 are Licensed Family Child Care Homes.³⁵

Workforce

Early Care and Education Workforce Development

- **Workforce Registry** – **19,409** early childhood teachers, directors, trainers, and consultants registered.³⁶
- **Scholarships to improve Workforce qualifications** – **787** Scholarships were awarded to individuals and **57** scholarships to licensed child care program group-based professional development.³⁷
- Connecticut's **Early Childhood Teacher Credential (ECTC)** – **271** Credentials Awarded 175 at the Associate Degree Level & 96 at the Bachelor Degree Level.³⁸
- **Accreditation Facilitation Project (AFP)** provided targeted technical assistance to 125 programs and over 1000 staff through individualized onsite support, group activities, and professional development.³⁹

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-5 and to additional EC programs serving children birth-5 in municipalities eligible for state early childhood funds Cohort 1 - **76 projects** at 57 program sites serving **4,984** children in 35 towns.⁴⁰ Cohort 2 – **43 projects** at 37 program sites

serving 3,208 children in 25 towns.⁴¹ In 2015, Cohort 3 – **102 projects** at 74 program sites serving 5,572 children in 40 towns and Cohort 3A – **2 projects** at 2 sites serving 108 children in 2 towns.⁴²

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Connecticut Birth to Three System SFY 2015 “Annual Data Report,” page 4.
- ² Department of Education, CSDE Reports & Research, Enrollment Data 2014-15, www.sde.ct.gov.
- ³ U.S. DHHS, ACF, Office of Child Care “State and Territory Profile –Connecticut” (U.S. Census, American Fact Finder, 2010)
- ⁴ Department of Education, CSDE Reports & Research, Enrollment Data 2014-15, www.sde.ct.gov. Family Income for Free-priced meal is <185% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) (2015, Family of 3 = \$37,167). Income for Reduced-priced <135% of FPL.
- ⁵ Department of Education, CSDE Reports & Research, Enrollment Data 2014-15, www.sde.ct.gov.
- ⁶ Connecticut Department of Public Health, Annual Registration Reports, Birth Statistics, 2012 and 2013, www.ct.gov/dph.
- ⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, 2014 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, S0901 Children Characteristics.
- ⁸ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, 2015-16 Priority & Competitive School Readiness Contracted Slot Grids, Dec., 2015.
- ⁹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, 2015-16, Child Day Care Contracts 2015-16 Contracted Slot Grid, 02/19/2016.
- ¹⁰ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, H. Feldlaufer, 02/19/16.
- ¹¹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Preschool Development Grant, Spaces & Locations document, 02/11/16.
- ¹² CT Even Start Family Literacy Final Report, Evaluation Results FY 2013, K. Mika, December 2013.
- ¹³ Care 4 Kids Monthly Average Paid Jul. 2015-Dec. 2015 and C4K Expenditure Report by Region, Setting and Age, Dec. 2015. FY 2015-16 Income eligibility by State Median Income (SMI) for a family of three: 50% SMI=\$44,601 to 75% SMI=\$66,902.
- ¹⁴ United Way of Connecticut, 211 Child Care Program Report FY15, email from S. Sutera, 2/4/16.
- ¹⁵ Head Start Enrollment Data for Connecticut, 2014. www.datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables, 02/14/2016.
- ¹⁶ Ibid.
- ¹⁷ Department of Education, CSDE Reports & Research, Public District Enrollment Data 2014-15, www.sde.ct.gov. Connecticut Department of Education, Data Source SEDAC 2015-16. Email S. O’Day 02/18/16. CT OEC School Readiness Slot Grids, December 2015.
- ¹⁸ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Connecticut Birth to Three System SFY 2015 “Annual Data Report,” page 25.
- ¹⁹ Department of Education, Special Education Data Application and Collection (SEDAC). Data for the number of children ages 3 and 4 in Pre-Kindergarten receiving special education and related services, 2015-16. Email S. O’Day 02/18/16.
- ²⁰ United Way of Connecticut, 2015 Annual Report. <http://www.ctunitedway.org/Media/AnnualReport>.
- ²¹ United Way of Connecticut, 211 Child Care Program Report FY15, email from S. Sutera, 12/29/15.
- ²² Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, C. Heye and L. Goodman, February 16, 2016.
- ²³ Ibid.
- ²⁴ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, L. Harris, February 16, 2016.
- ²⁵ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, C. Heye and L. Goodman, February 16, 2016. MIECHV Enrollment as of January 1, 2016.
- ²⁶ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, C. Heye and L. Goodman, February 16, 2016.
- ²⁷ Ibid.
- ²⁸ Ibid.
- ²⁹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, K. Foley-Schain, February 2015 & M. Adair, Home Visiting Information, March 2, 2015.
- ³⁰ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, <https://www.elicense.ct.gov/lookup>, February 14, 2016.
- ³¹ Ibid.
- ³² NAEYC Website Data for Connecticut: http://oldweb.naeyc.org/academy/summary/center_summary.asp and www.naeyc.org/academy/accreditation/search, February 15, 2016.
- ³³ United Way of Connecticut, 211 Child Care dataset, 2015.
- ³⁴ United Way of Connecticut, 211 Child Care dataset, 2015.
- ³⁵ <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/HeadStartOffices> and United Way of Connecticut, 211 Child Care dataset, 2015.
- ³⁶ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, M. Gustafson, November, 2015.
- ³⁷ Ibid.
- ³⁸ Ibid.
- ³⁹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, D. Flis, November, 2015.
- ⁴⁰ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, A. Garcia, February 25, 2014.
- ⁴¹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, A. Garcia, February 18, 2016.
- ⁴² Ibid.