

Overview of Early Childhood Services in Connecticut Office of Early Childhood & Other Early Childhood Partners, 2019

Children in Connecticut

- 35,081** Births in Connecticut in 2016.¹ 35,711 Births in 2015 and 36,130 in 2014.²
----- Children by Race & Ethnicity: 57.5% White; 12.2% Black; 4.5% Asian; 22.2% Hispanic; 6.8% Two or More Races; 6.6% Other. 0-18 Years in age, 2012-2016.³
- 36,239** Children enrolled in public school kindergarten, 2017-18.⁴
- 14.8%** Of students in public schools are receiving special education and related services.⁵
- 36.7%** Of students in public schools are eligible for Free/Reduced-priced meals.⁶
- 13%** Of children are in households with income below poverty level.⁷
- 19%** Of children in families that receive public assistance.⁸
- 71,841** Three- and four- year olds in the state, 2015 + 2016 births.⁹
- 183,321** Children under 5 years in age¹⁰

Early Care and Education

- **School Readiness** – **11,966** school readiness spaces – 7,775 full-day, 2,098 school-day, 1,634 part-day and 459 extended-day spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children at 312 sites in 67 communities, 2018-19.¹¹
- **Child Day Care Centers** – **4,387** spaces - 1,306 Infant-Toddler full-time spaces; 178 Infant-Toddler wrap-around spaces; 2,044 pre-school full-time spaces; 626 wrap-around spaces; for 3- and 4-year-old children, and **233** school-age spaces contracted at 107 community based sites in 47 towns, 2018-19.¹²
- **Smart Start** – **665** spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children in 24 School Districts, 2018-19¹³
- **Preschool Development Grant, Federal** – **439** high-quality Expansion and **301** Improved preschool spaces for 4-year-olds at 37 sites in 13 communities. Family income must be below 200% FPL.¹⁴
- **Connecticut Even Start Family Literacy Program** – **46** children (44 families) in 2019, ages birth to 5 years old and the **46** parents, receive comprehensive family-centered education services for two generational academic & economic success, provided by 3 grantees.¹⁵
- **Child Care Subsidies - Care 4 Kids** – **24,914** children were served by **5,440** providers in FFY18. The program provides vouchers to help low- and moderate-income families pay for child care. Families choose their provider from Licensed and License-Exempt Centers, Licensed Group, Licensed Family, Unlicensed Family, and Licensed and License-Exempt Youth Camps.

Head Start and Public School Early Care and Education

- **Head Start**, Federal Funding direct to programs - **5,887** children enrolled.¹⁶
- **Early Head Start**, Federal Funding direct to programs - **1,842** children and 150 pregnant women enrolled.¹⁷
- **State Head Start Services** – **320** spaces to add capacity to federal Head Start & EHS funded programs.¹⁸
- **Early Head Start Child Care Partnership**, **222** children, birth to 4 years, in center & home-based care.¹⁹
- **Public School Preschool** Local Education Agency (LEA) funded – **18,737** children attended preschool in public school districts in 2017-18.

Services for Young Children and their Families

Early Intervention supports families with children under age 3 identified with developmental delays or disabilities.

- **Birth to Three (IDEA Part C)** - During FY18 there were 9,704 referrals. 9,566 of those children were evaluated, and 6,004 of those (62%) were determined to be eligible.²⁰ Over the course of the FY, the system supported the families of 10,464 children under age 3 with an Individualized Service Plan (IFSPs) regardless of when they were determined to be eligible.²¹
- **Early Childhood Special Education** and related services, (CSDE): **Preschool Special Education (IDEA Part B, 619)** – and related services through local education organizations for **5,379** children.²²

Information and Referral

- **Help Me Grow / Child Development Info Line** – **2,605** Help Me Grow referrals; 21,810 CDI calls; 2,220 new Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) enrollments: 8,123 total ASQ enrollment in FY 2018.²³
- **211 Child Care** – fulfills the Child Care Resource and Referral mandate and handles child care referral. In SFY 2018 – **80,163** Service Request Referrals included 27,695 Infant, 13,994 Toddler, 15,662 Preschool, 9,195 School Age child care and 6,284 Provider Training, plus other service referrals.²⁴

Home Visiting

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

- **Parents as Teachers (Nurturing Families Network)** - **3,003** parents and **2,565** children served in FFY 2018 (state-funded and federal MIECHV combined).²⁵
- **Child First** - **307** children served in Connecticut (federal MIECHV) in FFY 2018.²⁶
- **Nurse Family Partnership** - **79** children (113 families) served (federal MIECHV) in FFY 2018.²⁷
- **Early Head Start** – **56** children (57 families) served (federal MIECHV) in FFY 2018.²⁸

Program Standards

Child Care and Youth Camp Licensing

- **Licensed Child Care programs** - **3,844** Licensed Child Care facilities - include 1,382 Child Day Care Centers, 25 Group Child Care Homes, 1,916 Family Child Care Homes, and **521** Licensed Youth Camps.²⁹

Accreditation

- **National Association Education of Young Children (NAEYC)** - **537** accredited programs.³⁰
- **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)** – **22** accredited programs.³¹

Workforce

Early Care and Education Workforce Development

- **Workforce Registry** – of the 36,000 accounts, **17,700** have been through the new renewal process.³²
- **Registry Processing SFY18:** **565** Head Teacher applications; **3,079** Scholarship applications; **19,335** Documents verified and uploaded; **30,692** verified Education and Training entries; **184** ECTC applications; **911** administrative access requests.³³
- **Scholarships** to improve Workforce qualifications SFY18– **\$716,496** was awarded to **362** individuals.³⁴
- Connecticut's **Early Childhood Teacher Credential (ECTC)** – **494** Credentials awarded, 261 at the associate degree level and 233 at the bachelor degree level.³⁵
- **Accreditation and Quality Improvement Support (AQIS)** from July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018 provided on-site technical assistance to 30 programs serving 2,005 children in 148 classrooms with 395 staff; and provided 82 overview and study groups trainings.³⁶

Facilities

Early Childhood Bond Funds for Minor Capital Improvements

- **Grants-in-aid** to municipalities and organizations for facility improvements and minor capital repairs to state-funded and municipal programs serving children birth-5. Improvements and repairs to **8,888** state funded early care and education spaces, in **111** programs, at **156** program sites, in **69** communities, in 3 Cohorts.³⁷

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Connecticut Birth to Three System SFY 2017 “Annual Data Report,” page 18, 2016 Births, provisional data courtesy of Connecticut Department of Public Health.
- ² Connecticut Department of Public Health, Annual Registration Reports, Birth Statistics, Residence Birth in Connecticut Table 2A, 2014 & 2015 <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Health-Information-Systems--Reporting/Hisrhome/Vital-Statistics-Registration-Reports>.
- ³ The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Child Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2012-2016 <https://datacenter.kidscount.org>
- ⁴ Department of Education, Student Enrollment Counts, 2017-18, All Districts by Grade, <http://edsight.ct.gov>, February 6, 2019.
- ⁵ Department of Education, Student Enrollment Counts, 2017-18, All Districts, Special Education Status, <http://edsight.ct.gov>, February 6, 2019.
- ⁶ Department of Education, Student Enrollment Counts, 2017-18, All Districts, Free/Reduced Price Meal Eligibility.
- ⁷ The Annie E. Casey Foundation 2018 Kids Count Data Book, State trends in Child Well Being, p. 57
- ⁸ The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Child Population by Age Group, 2017 <https://datacenter.kidscount.org>
- ⁹ Connecticut Department of Public Health, Annual Registration Reports, Birth Statistics, Residence Birth in Connecticut Table 2A, <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Health-Information-Systems--Reporting/Hisrhome/Vital-Statistics-Registration-Reports>, 2014 & 2015.
- ¹⁰ <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/101-child-population-by-age-group>, Connecticut, Age Group 0 to 4. Note: the U.S. Census Bureau, 2017 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates, Under 5 years in Age 5.1% (or 182,997) of population 3,588,184 Population. <https://factfinder.census.gov>.
- ¹¹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, “Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Division of Early Care and Education Overview,” p. 4, H. Feldlaufer, February 6, 2019
- ¹² Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, “Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Division of Early Care and Education Overview,” p. 4, H. Feldlaufer, February 6, 2019
- ¹³ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, “Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Division of Early Care and Education Overview,” p. 5, H. Feldlaufer, February 6, 2019
- ¹⁴ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Preschool Development Grant, D. Watson, February 6, 2019.
- ¹⁵ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, “Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Division of Early Care and Education Overview,” p. 7, H. Feldlaufer, February 6, 2019.
- ¹⁶ Office of Head Start - Program Information Report (PIR) Enrollment Statistics Report - 2018 - State Level, Head Start.
- ¹⁷ Office of Head Start - Program Information Report (PIR) Enrollment Statistics Report - 2018 - State Level, Early Head Start.
- ¹⁸ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, “Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Division of Early Care and Education Overview,” p. 5, H. Feldlaufer, February 6, 2019.
- ¹⁹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, “Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Division of Early Care and Education Overview,” p. 7, H. Feldlaufer, February 6, 2019.
- ²⁰ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Connecticut Birth to Three, email from N. Cossette, February 6, 2019.
- ²¹ Ibid.
- ²² Department of Education, D. Murphy email February 13, 2019, Part B inclusion criteria osep_age (3,4) in PK & P3, 2018-19.
- ²³ United Way of Connecticut, K. DuPlessis email to S. Sutera, February 7, 2019.
- ²⁴ United Way of Connecticut, 211 Child Care Program Report FY18, email from S. Sutera, February 7, 2019.
- ²⁵ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, MIECHV Home Visiting Program, C. Heye, Email February 6, 2019.
- ²⁶ Ibid.
- ²⁷ Ibid.
- ²⁸ Ibid.
- ²⁹ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, D. Johnson, email February 06, 2019, Child Care E-License.
- ³⁰ NAEYC Website Data for Connecticut: http://families.naeyc.org/search_programs/results/0/CT/0/10/0/0/0/us/0, February 06, 2019.
- ³¹ NAFCC Website Data for Connecticut: <https://b3.caspio.com/dp/145d100073d1e1016cac4680b0f1> February 06, 2019.
- ³² Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Early Childhood Professional Registry www.ccacregistry.org, M. Gustafson, February 06, 2019.
- ³³ Ibid.
- ³⁴ Ibid.
- ³⁵ Ibid.
- ³⁶ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, M. Gustafson February 06, 2019 via data from United Way of Connecticut – Thrive.
- ³⁷ Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, “Connecticut Office of Early Childhood Division of Early Care and Education Overview,” p. 6, H. Feldlaufer, February 6, 2019.