

## OVERVIEW OF EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD & OTHER EARLY CHILDHOOD PARTNERS, 2020

### CHILDREN IN CONNECTICUT

- 36,021** Births in Connecticut in 2016.<sup>1</sup> 35,711 Births in 2015 and 36,130 in 2014.<sup>2</sup>
- Children by Race & Ethnicity, 0-18 Years in age: 56.7% White; 12.3% Black; 4.5% Asian; 22.8% Hispanic; 7.0% Two or More Races; 6.8% Other, 2013-2017.<sup>3</sup>
- 35,837** Children enrolled in public school kindergarten, 2017-18.<sup>4</sup>
- 15.4%** of students in public schools are enrolled with Special Education Status.<sup>5</sup>
- 42.1%** of students in public schools are eligible for Free & Reduced-priced meals.<sup>6</sup>
- 13.5%** of children are in households with income below Federal Poverty Level.<sup>7</sup>
- 19.0%** of children in families that receive public assistance in Connecticut.<sup>8</sup>
- 71,732** Three- and four- year-olds in the state, 2015 + 2016 births.<sup>9</sup>
- 183,134** Children under 5 years in age<sup>10</sup>

### EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

- **School Readiness:** **11,920** school readiness spaces – 7,821 full-day, 2,152 school-day, 1,488 part-day and 459 extended-day spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children at 310 sites in 67 communities, SFY 2020.<sup>11</sup>
- **Child Day Care Centers:** **4,009** spaces - 1,506 Infant-Toddler spaces; 2,240 preschool spaces for 3- and 4-year-olds; and **263** school-age spaces; contracted at 100 community based sites in 47 towns, SFY 2020.<sup>12</sup>
- **Smart Start:** **665** spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children in 45 Classrooms in 24 School Districts, SFY 2020<sup>13</sup>
- **Preschool Development Grant:** **740** spaces – 439 high-quality Expansion and 301 Improved preschool spaces for 4-year-olds, in families with income below 200%, at 36 sites in 13 communities.<sup>14</sup>
- **Connecticut Even Start Family Literacy Program:** **46** children in 2020, 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.<sup>15</sup>
- **Child Care Subsidies - Care 4 Kids:** **25,697** children in **17,341**. Families were served by **5,082** providers in CY 2019.<sup>16</sup> The program provides vouchers to help low- and moderate-income families pay for child care. From June to December of 2019, a monthly average of over 17,000 Children (11,800 Families) chose their providers from Licensed and License-Exempt Centers, Licensed Group, Licensed Family, Unlicensed Family, and Licensed and License-Exempt Youth Camps.
- **Public School Preschool** Local Education Agency (LEA) funded – **18,973** children enrolled in public school district preschool in 2018-19.<sup>17</sup>

### HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START

- **Head Start (HS)**, federal funding direct to 21 programs for school readiness of children ages three to five from low-income families by supporting the development of the whole child including connecting families with medical, dental, and mental health services and family support to ensure children are receiving all the services they need. – **5,243** children ages 3 -5 years in HS enrollments.<sup>18</sup>
- **Early Head Start (EHS)**, federal funding direct to 17 programs for comprehensive services, **1,858** children, prenatal to age 2 and **92** pregnant women served in center-based, family child care, and home visiting.<sup>19</sup>
- **State Head Start Services** – 50 program sites, **228** new spaces that add capacity to federal Head Start & EHS funded programs in 14 communities. **911** Extended Day/Extended Year spaces in 23 communities.<sup>20</sup>
- **Early Head Start Child Care Partnership**, a partnership to expand Head Start standards and comprehensive services to children in child care - **222** children, birth to 3 years in center-based care, and birth to 4 years, in home-based care.<sup>21</sup>

*The above Early Care and Education spaces include duplicates across funding types. For example: Smart Start and School Readiness spaces that are located in public schools are also in the Public School Preschool counts.*

## 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 FY19 there were **10,810** referrals. 10,064 of those children were evaluated, and **6,845** of those (68%) were determined to be eligible.<sup>22</sup>  
Over the course of the FY, the system supported the families of **11,315** children under age 3 with an Individualized Service Plan (IFSPs) regardless of when they were determined to be eligible.<sup>23</sup>
- **Early Childhood Special Education** and related services, (CSDE): **Preschool Special Education (IDEA Part B, 619)** - and related services through local education organizations for **5,547** children in FY20.<sup>24</sup>

### INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

- **Help Me Grow / Child Development Info Line** - **2,633** Help Me Grow referrals; **21,508** CDI calls; **2,040** new Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) enrollments: **10,349** total ASQ enrollment in FY2019.<sup>25</sup>
- **211 Child Care** - fulfills the Child Care Resource and Referral mandate and handles child care referrals and requests. In SFY 2019 - **82,265** Service Request Referrals including and pertaining to: **28,497** Infant, **14,033** Toddler, **16,134** Preschool, **9,037** School Age Child Care; 7,403 Provider Training; 2,061 Child Care Subsidies; 1,105 Internet Information Resources; 1,047 Licensing/Certification/Accreditation requests; and 2,948 other service referrals.<sup>26</sup>

### HOME VISITING

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

- **Parents as Teachers (Nurturing Families Network)** - **2,199** parents and **1,994** children served in FFY 2019 (state-funded and federal MIECHV-funded combined).<sup>27</sup>
- **Child First** - **326** parents and **306** children served in Connecticut in FFY 2019 (federal MIECHV).<sup>28</sup>
- **Nurse Family Partnership** - **111** parents and **80** children served in FFY 2019 (federal MIECHV).<sup>29</sup>
- **Early Head Start** - **56** parents and **56** children served in FFY 2019 (federal MIECHV).<sup>30</sup>
- **Family Check-up** - **26** parents and **29** children served in FFY 2019 (federal MIECHV).<sup>31</sup>

### WORKFORCE

**Early Care and Education Workforce Development**

- **Workforce Registry SFY19:** **16,991** active accounts.<sup>32</sup>
- **Registry Processing SFY19:** **517** Head Teacher applications; **3,261** Scholarship applications; **26,074** Documents verified and uploaded; **67,682** verified Education and Training entries; **241** Early Childhood Teacher Credential (ECTC) applications; **1,130** administrative access requests.<sup>33</sup>
- **Scholarships** to improve Workforce qualifications SFY19: **\$608,000** awarded to **450** individuals.<sup>34</sup>
- **Connecticut's Early Childhood Teacher Credential (ECTC):** **578** Credentials awarded, 291 at the associate degree level and 287 at the bachelor degree level.<sup>35</sup>
- **Accreditation and Quality Improvement Support (AQIS) SFY19:** **15** NAEYC Accreditation overviews; **107** study groups; July-Dec. 2018 = **22** programs receiving group support and **30** programs receiving on-site support; Jan-June 2019 = **35** programs receiving on-site support. Sep-Dec 2019 provided on-site technical assistance to **43** programs serving almost **4,000** children.<sup>36</sup>

### PROGRAM STANDARDS & FACILITIES

**Child Care and Youth Camp Licensing**

- **Licensed Child Care programs** - **3,856** Licensed Child Care facilities - including 1,392 Child Day Care Centers; 1,891 Family Child Care Homes; 21 Group Child Care Homes; and **552** Youth Camps.<sup>37</sup>

**Accreditation**

- **National Association Education of Young Children (NAEYC) 2020:** **502** accredited program sites.<sup>38</sup>
- **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) 2020** - **45** accredited programs.<sup>39</sup>

**Background Check Information System:** Fingerprint completion average # of days at <20 from over 100.<sup>40</sup>

## ENDNOTES

- <sup>1</sup> Connecticut Department of Public Health, Annual Registration Reports, Birth Statistics, Residence Birth in Connecticut Table 3, 2016 <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Health-Information-Systems--Reporting/Hisrhome/Vital-Statistics-Registration-Reports>.
- <sup>2</sup> 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>.
- <sup>3</sup> The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Child Population by Race and Ethnicity, 2013-2017 <https://datacenter.kidscount.org>
- <sup>4</sup> Department of Education, Student Enrollment Counts, 2018-19, All Districts by Grade, <http://edsight.ct.gov> February 10, 2020.
- <sup>5</sup> Department of Education, Student Enrollment Counts, 2018-19, All Districts, Special Education Status, <http://edsight.ct.gov>.
- <sup>6</sup> Department of Education, Student Enrollment Counts, 2018-19, All Districts, Free/Reduced Price Meal Eligibility.
- <sup>7</sup> The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Children in Poverty, 2013-2017 <https://datacenter.kidscount.org>
- <sup>8</sup> The Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Data Center, Children in families that receive public assistance in Connecticut, 2013-2017 <https://datacenter.kidscount.org>
- <sup>9</sup> Connecticut Department of Public Health, Annual Registration Reports, Birth Statistics, Residence Birth in Connecticut Tables 2A & 3, <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Health-Information-Systems--Reporting/Hisrhome/Vital-Statistics-Registration-Reports>, 2015 & 2016.
- <sup>10</sup> <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/101-child-population-by-age-group>, Connecticut, Age Group 0 to 4, 2018. 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>.
- <sup>11</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, "School Readiness Space Capacity SFY 20," J. Bisi, February 6, 2020
- <sup>12</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, "CDC Summary List by Town SFY 2020," A. Carbone, January 7, 2020
- <sup>13</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, "Summary of SFY 2020 Smart Start Programming," A. Carbone, January 7, 2020
- <sup>14</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Preschool Development Grant, "Spaces and Locations," D. Watson, February 6, 2020.
- <sup>15</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Early Care and Education Division, A. Garcia email, March 2, 2020.
- <sup>16</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood J. Bisi Analysis of ImpaCT Ad Hoc Export by Deloitte, K. Settles 02/05/2020, Jan thru Dec 2019 Services Paid prior to 02/06/2020.
- <sup>17</sup> Department of Education, Student Enrollment Counts, 2018-19, All Districts by Grade, <http://edsight.ct.gov> February 10, 2020.
- <sup>18</sup> Office of Head Start - Program Information Report (PIR) Summary Report – 2019 -State Level Enrollment Statistics Report, Total Cumulative Enrollment, p. 3 and #Programs, p.1. email from E. Trueworthy, March 3, 2020.
- <sup>19</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>20</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, "State Head Start # by Town SFY2020," A. Garcia, February 6, 2020.
- <sup>21</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, A. Carbone email, February 6, 2020.
- <sup>22</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Connecticut Birth to Three, email frfm N. Cossette, February 7, 2020.
- <sup>23</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>24</sup> Department of Education, D. Murphy email February 21, 2020, Part B inclusion criteria osep\_age (3,4) in PK & P3, 2019-20.
- <sup>25</sup> United Way of Connecticut, K. DuPlessis email, February 5, 2020.
- <sup>26</sup> United Way of Connecticut, 211 Child Care Program Report FY19, S. Sutera email, February 5, 2020.
- <sup>27</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, MIECHV Home Visiting Program, C. Heye, Email February 6, 2019.
- <sup>28</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>29</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>30</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>31</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>32</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Early Childhood Professional Registry [www.ccacregistry.org](http://www.ccacregistry.org), M. Gustafson, February 7, 2020.
- <sup>33</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>34</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>35</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>36</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, M. Gustafson February 7, 2020 via selected program data from the RESC Alliance (AQIS contract report).
- <sup>37</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, Child Care E-License, D. Johnson email, February 10, 2020.
- <sup>38</sup> Email to M. Gustafson from M. Graves at NAEYC November 14, 2019.
- <sup>39</sup> National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), Alicia Pratt email, February 13, 2020, in Connecticut as of 02/13/2020.
- <sup>40</sup> Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, All Staff Meeting Power Point Presentation, Slide 4, June, 2019.