



Overview of Early Childhood Services in Connecticut Office of Early Childhood & Other Early Childhood Partners - 2018

Young Children in Connecticut

33,725	Births in Connecticut in 2016.
39,770	Children entered kindergarten in Connecticut in the fall of 2016.
14.1%	Of children are in households with income below poverty level.
35.9%	Of students in public schools are eligible for Free/Reduced-priced meals.
13.9%	Of students in public schools are in Special Education.
74,743	Three- and four- year olds in the state, 2012 + 2013 births.
228,999	Children in Connecticut under 6 years in age

Early Care and Education

- **School Readiness** – **12,263** school readiness spaces – 7,866 Full-day, 1,821 School-day, 2,086 Part-day and 490 extended-day spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children at 325 sites in 67 communities, 2015-16.
- **Child Day Care Centers** – **4,176** spaces – **1,306** Infant and Toddler spaces; **2,424** pre-school spaces for 3- and 4-year-old children, and **233** school-age spaces contracted at 102 community based sites in 53 towns, 2016-17.
- **Smart Start** – **665** 3- and 4-year-old children in high-quality preschool in 17 School Districts
- **Preschool Development Grant**, Federal - **439** high-quality Expansion and 301 Improved preschool spaces for 4-year-olds in 55 classrooms in 13 communities. Family income must be below 200% FPL.
- **Connecticut Even Start Family Literacy Program** - **45** children (43 families) in 2017, birth to 5 years old & their parents -comprehensive family-centered education services for two generational academic & economic success.
- **Child Care Subsidies - Care 4 Kids** – 30,076 children were served by 7,073 providers in FY17. 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 and Licensed Family, and Family, Friends, and Neighbors.

Head Start and Public School Early Care and Education

- **Head Start**, Federal Funding direct to programs – **5,914** children ages 3 to 5 years enrolled.
- **Early Head Start**, Federal Funding direct to programs – **1,449** children, birth to 3 years enrolled in 2014. In 2015, Early Head Start Child Care Partnership grants awarded to 3 sites (approx. 200 families).
- **Public School Preschool**, Local Education Agency (LEA) funded – **18,762** children 3- and 4-years-old attended preschool in public school districts.

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 **10,069** children with developmental delays or disabilities, 2016.

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

- **Preschool Special Education (IDEA Part B, 619)** – and related services through local education organizations for **5,565** children three- and four- years old.

Information and Referral (Most recent numbers fro UW)

- **Help Me Grow / Child Development Info Line - 3,285** Help Me Grow referrals; 21,524 CDI calls; 2,300 new Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) enrollments: 7,146 total ASQ enrollment in 2017.
- **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.

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 & 320 – federal MIECHV).
- **Early Head Start** – 61 children (54 families) served by MIECHV in FY 2017.
- **Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV)** – 781 families enrolled.
- **Nurse Family Partnership (MIECHV)** - 84 children (113 families) served.
- **Nurturing Families Network (NFN)/Parents As Teachers (PAT)** - 2,407 parents participated, 2016.
- **Parents as Teachers (MIECHV)** – 509 children served, 2017. (FRCs) 1,132 children served, 2014.

Program Standards

Child Care and Youth Camp Licensing

- **Licensed Child Care programs - 3,419** Licensed Child Care facilities - include 1,384 Child Day Care Centers + 2,010 Family Child Care Homes + 25 Group Child Care Homes. 515 Licensed Youth Camps.

Accreditation

- **National Association Education of Young Children (NAEYC) - 514** accredited sites. CT has the highest number in the country of NAEYC Accredited programs per capita. About 90 receive technical assistance for program improvement & NAEYC Accreditation.
- **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) –13** accredited programs.

Workforce

Early Care and Education Workforce Development

- **Workforce Registry - 25,251** early childhood teachers, directors, trainers, and consultants registered.
- **Scholarships to improve Workforce qualifications - 787** Scholarships were awarded to individuals and **57** scholarships to licensed child care program group-based professional development.
- Connecticut's **Early Childhood Teacher Credential (ECTC)** – 424 Credentials Awarded 238 at the Associate Degree Level & 194 at the Bachelor Degree Level.
- **Accreditation Facilitation Project (AFP)** provided targeted technical assistance to 125 programs and over 1000 staff through individualized onsite support, group activities, and professional development.