



2016 New Jersey Kids Count

A Statewide Profile of Child Well-Being



Giving Every Child A Chance

2016 New Jersey Kids Count

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Advocates for Children of New Jersey is the trusted, independent voice putting children's needs first for more than 35 years. Our work results in better laws and policies, more effective funding and stronger services for children and families. And it means that more children are given the chance to grow up safe, healthy, and educated.

Design by Beatrice Bork

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Introduction Kids Count 2016

The State of Children and Families

Roughly 2 million children call New Jersey home; they are a diverse group, with a growing number of Asian and Hispanic children. Providing for the well-being of these children is imperative. Each year, Advocates for Children of New Jersey produces a *New Jersey Kids Count* report, providing an in-depth examination of the critical factors impacting the lives of children. This year's report, as in previous years, shows both progress and room for improvement.

The State of Family Economics

The economic stability of New Jersey's families is a critical component in improving and maintaining the well-being of the state's children. In 2014, the state's median income rose to \$89,000, an increase over the previous year's figure, and roughly equivalent to the state's median income during pre-recession years. Yet, New Jersey continues to post troubling statistics regarding children living in poverty, with greater numbers of children living in extreme poverty or low-income households (\$12,000/year and \$47,700/year for a family of four, respectively) than before. These economic hardships are especially felt by the state's Black and Hispanic children, who are far more likely than their non-Hispanic White and Asian counterparts to live below the poverty line.

Housing costs within the state continue to occupy a significant portion of the average family's budget. As of 2014, 81 percent of children living in low-income households spent more than 30 percent of their income on housing-related expenses. While this number decreased over previous years, it was still significantly higher than the national average of 63 percent of children in low-income families. Black and Latino children, of all income levels, are significantly more likely to live in households with a high housing cost burden than members of other racial subgroups.

Yet, the state did witness some progress. Births were more likely to occur to mothers with a college degree or higher than to mothers without a high school diploma. Children were less likely to live in families where neither parent had full-time, year round employment. Lastly, a greater proportion of eligible children lived in families receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance.

The State of Early Care and Education

New Jersey maintained its reputation as a provider of high-quality preschool, particularly for economically disadvantaged communities. Though public preschool enrollments remained consistent, there was a shift in students from half-day preschool programs to full-day programs. Half-day preschool programs lost roughly 500 students, while enrollment in full-day preschool grew by approximately the same number of students. Full- and half-day kindergarten programs across the state witnessed a similar occurrence, with a shift of students away from half-day programs toward full-day programs.

Introduction Kids Count 2016

Meanwhile, quality child care options for New Jersey's youngest residents and their parents continued to erode. The number of licensed child care centers within the state declined by 6 percent from 2011 to 2015, and the number of registered family child care providers dropped by a striking 17 percent. With fewer quality child care options, working parents may increasingly rely on inadequate forms of child care.

For elementary, middle, and high school students, the spring of 2015 marked their first year sitting for the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) exams. Results from the PARCCs demonstrate potential for improvement. In both English Language Arts and Math, few grade-level test averages exceeded 50 percent of students meeting or exceeding expectations. Disparities existed for economically disadvantaged students and English Language Learners, who tended to fall far below the state average for students meeting or exceeding standards. Performance by race varied, although statewide trends demonstrated that, in general, Black and Latino students posted the smallest number of students meeting or exceeding expectations.

Showing promise, graduation rates improved over previous years—90 percent for 2015 compared to 88 percent for the class of 2013. Once again, these rates differed amongst racial and ethnic groups. While both Black and Latino students' graduation rates improved, they still fared far worse than their non-Hispanic White and Asian peers.

The State of Child Health

Recent data show that New Jersey continued to reduce the number of children living without health insurance throughout the state. The number of uninsured children decreased by 25 percent from 2010 to 2014. This phenomenon held true across different racial groups and amongst low-income children. As of 2014, only 8 percent of low-income children lived without health insurance. Following these trends, the number of children who received benefits through NJ FamilyCare or Medicaid increased by 14 percent from 2011 to 2015.

New Jersey's infants and mothers also experienced improvements in health. The number of low-birthweight babies declined by 11 percent, and a greater percentage of mothers received early prenatal care across all racial subgroups. Infant mortality also dropped by a promising 17 percent. Though these gains showed a great deal of promise, a closer examination of the numbers revealed some stark realities. The highest percentage of low-birthweight babies in 2012 were to African-American mothers, and Hispanic and African-American mothers were also the least likely to receive early prenatal care out of all racial and ethnic subgroups. This indicates that, throughout the state, disparities in access to prenatal care may still exist.

Currently, discussions of lead exposure dominate the media—particularly regarding the exposure of young children. Since 2012, the CDC updated their standards for reporting blood lead levels, using 5 micrograms per deciliter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$) or higher as the new reference blood lead level for young children. The previous "level of concern" had been 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$. The most recent data indicates that, the number of children tested for lead under age 6 decreased from 2012 to 2015. The percentage of tested children with blood lead levels of 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or higher also decreased during this time. Yet, New Jersey's aging infrastructure and housing stock indicate that the state will need to reevaluate its approach to reducing children's exposure to lead.

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The State of Child Protection

Though fewer children were the subject of child abuse or neglect investigations, a greater number of children were found to be victims of substantiated abuse or neglect. Children under state supervision increased slightly from 2011 to 2015, with the majority of children in foster care being Black or African-American.

New Jersey made some progress in reducing the number of children who reenter foster care by 14 percent from 2009 to 2013. Yet, the number of children who suffered from abuse or neglect after being reunified with their families increased by 31 percent during the same period.

The State of Teens and Young Adults

In contrast with previous years, teens and young adults showed a number of promising results. In 2014, the percentage of 18- to 24-year-olds living in poverty decreased by 6 percent from 2010. Additionally, fewer young adults and teens were idle (not working or attending school), dropping by 10 percent for 18- to 24-year-olds and 25 percent for 16- to 19-year-olds from 2010 to 2014.

Following trends witnessed amongst younger children, fewer young adults lived without health insurance in 2014 than did in 2010. Births to teens also fell, although the majority of births to teens occurred to Black and Hispanic mothers.

Juvenile justice also experienced a number of positive trends. In 2013, the number of arrests decreased by nearly 50 percent from 2009 figures. Similarly, commitments to juvenile detention facilities continued to dwindle, dropping by more than 40 percent from 2010 to 2014. Fewer youth of color resided in New Jersey's detention facilities in 2014 than did in 2010; however, African-American males continued to be overrepresented in the juvenile justice system.

The State of Immigrant Families

The number of children living in New Jersey born outside of the United States continued to decline in 2014, but the number of children in immigrant families living below the federal poverty level increased by 27 percent.

Children living in immigrant families showed some concerning trends. These children of foreign-born parents were more likely to live in households earning less than \$25,000 a year, to live in poverty, to rent rather than own their home, and to reside in a household without a car than their New Jersey peers with native parents.

1 The State of Children and Families



From 2010 to 2014, New Jersey experienced only a slight increase in the total population, while the number of children within the state continues to slowly decline. Though the actual number of children has decreased, children under 18 consistently comprise roughly a quarter of the state's population.

The number of births to women has decreased since 2008 by roughly 7 percent, while the percentage of births to unmarried women increased slightly — by 3 percent. As of 2012, 37 percent of all births were to unmarried women. The number of households headed by one parent is also on the rise, increasing by 4 percent from 2010; currently, 31 percent of New Jersey households are headed by one person. The number of children being cared for by their grandparents saw a 3 percent decrease during the same time period.

Meanwhile, the racial and ethnic composition of the state is shifting. While the percentage of non-Hispanic White children still hovers around 50 percent, the percentage of Hispanic and Asian children increased by 12 percent and 11 percent respectively. The percentage of children of "other races" also saw an increase, while the percentage of Black children within the state remains relatively steady.

1 The State of Children and Families

Demographics

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Child Population Under 5 - #	540,742	532,634	532,519	-2
% of Total Child Population Under 5	26	26	26	1
Child Population Under 18 - #	2,062,235	2,022,236	2,012,081	-2
% of Total Population Under 18	23	23	23	-4
Total Population	8,803,580	8,911,502	8,938,175	2

Births

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Total Births	106,940	100,516	98,933	-7
# of Births to Unmarried Women	38,357	36,886	36,445	-4
% of Births to Unmarried Women	36	37	37	3

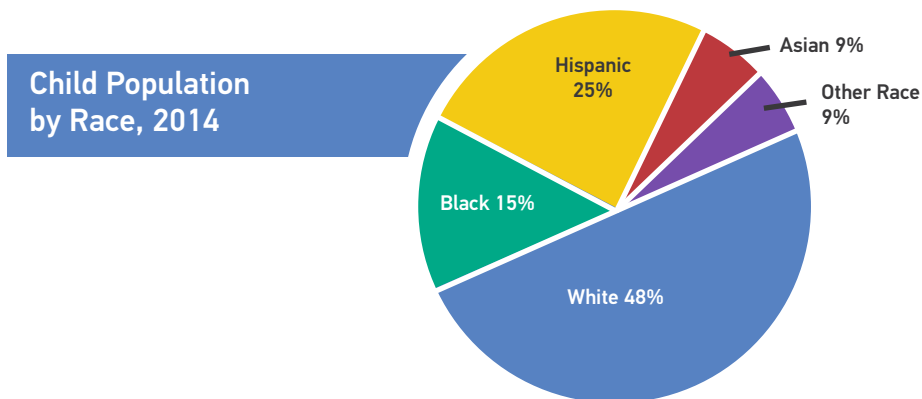
Family Structure

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Households Headed by One Parent	329,184	333,412	334,596	2
Percentage of Families Headed by One Parent	30	31	31	4
Children Being Cared for by Their Grandparents	51,189	53,032	49,690	-3
Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder	121,938	131,546	127,307	4

Child Population by Race (%)*

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
White (non-Hispanic)	51	49	48	-6
Black	15	15	15	-1
Hispanic	22	24	25	12
Asian	8	9	9	11
Other Race	8	8	9	13

*Percentages may exceed 100%, as some survey participants reported multiple race categories.



1 The State of Children and Families

Child Population by Race and Age Group — New Jersey

	2013			2014			% Change 13-14		
	0 to 4	5 to 11	12 to 17	0 to 4	5 to 11	12 to 17	0 to 4	5 to 11	12 to 17
Non-Hispanic White alone									
#	236,325	386,612	375,543	231,634	377,011	368,501	-2	-2	-2
%	44	49	53	43	48	53	-2	-2	0
Non-Hispanic Black alone									
#	73,567	105,107	101,324	73,316	104,175	99,905	0	-1	-1
%	14	13	14	14	13	14	0	0	0
Non-Hispanic American Indian and Alaskan Native									
#	824	1,401	1,150	679	1,491	1,131	-18	6	-2
%	<.5	<.5	<.5	<.5	<.5	<.5			
Non-Hispanic Asian alone									
#	52,507	75,364	58,913	53,247	76,088	59,827	1	1	2
%	10	10	8	10	10	9	0	0	12.5
Non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone									
#	225	206	180	269	238	138	20	16	-23
%	<.5	<.5	<.5	<.5	<.5	<.5			
Non-Hispanic Two or More Race Groups									
#	18,665	23,607	16,710	18,585	24,303	17,222	0	3	3
%	4	3	2	3	3	2	-25	0	0
Hispanic or Latino									
#	151,122	191,080	151,685	154,789	194,950	154,537	2	2	2
%	28	24	22	29	25	22	4	4	0

Total Births by Race — New Jersey

	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Hispanic	29,004	26	27,611	26	27,251	27	-6	4
Non-Hispanic Black	17,135	16	16,183	16	15,570	15	-9	-6
Non-Hispanic White	52,163	47	47,944	46	48,018	47	-8	0
Other	12,029	11	12,492	12	11,736	11	-2	0

2 The State of Family Economics



New Jersey's families saw the state median income increase from \$83,000 in 2010 to \$89,000 in 2014. Despite this, the number and percentage of children living below the federal poverty threshold over this same four year period increased significantly. The growth in the percentage of children living in extreme poverty (50 percent of the federal poverty line) is particularly staggering, given that this figure corresponds to yearly earnings of \$12,000 a year or less for a family of four. Equally troubling, the percentage of children living below 200 percent of the federal poverty line, or low-income children, increased by 7 percent. In 2014, 32 percent of New Jersey's children were considered low-income. For children of color, the realities of poverty were even starker. More than 50 percent of New Jersey's Latino and African-American children were low-income (\$47,700 a year for a family of four), compared to less than 20 percent of Asian or Non-Hispanic White children.

Yet, some figures demonstrate promising news. The percentage of single parents living in poverty along with the percentage of children in families where parents lack full-time, year-round employment decreased from 2010 to 2014 by 3 percent and 4 percent respectively. Births to mothers with less than a high school diploma are also on the decline, dropping by 25 percent from 2008 to 2012.

The cost of housing in New Jersey continues to represent one of the most significant expenses for families. Promisingly, children living in low-income families spending more than 30 percent of their income on housing decreased from 2013 to 2014. However, since 2010, more than 80 percent of New Jersey's low-income families have consistently lived with a high housing

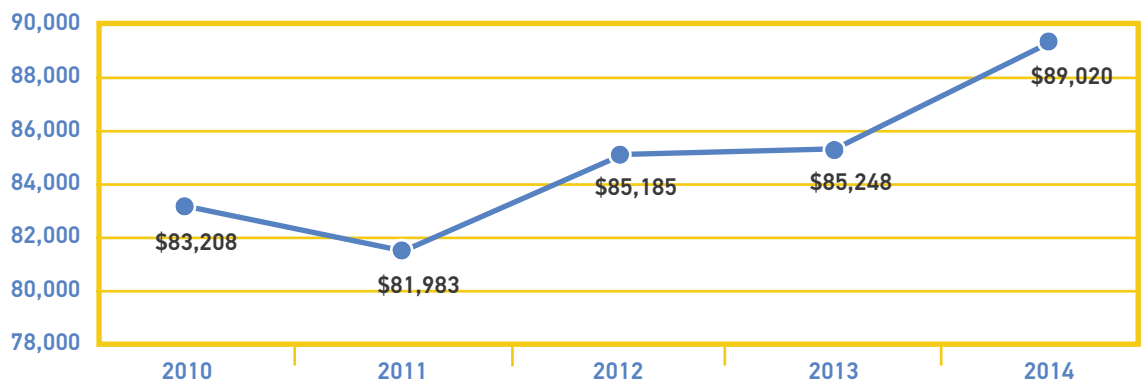
2 The State of Family Economics

cost burden. In 2014, Hispanic and African-American children were more likely to live in housing-burdened families than their peers. When families spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing-related expenses, their ability to pay for other necessities such as food or clothing is significantly compromised.

Despite an increase in children living in poverty, the number of children living in families receiving Temporary Aid for Needy Families or TANF (also known as welfare) continues to decrease, down 31 percent from 2011. Women, infants, and children (also known as WIC participants) receiving nutritional supports declined by 4 percent, following a steady trend of waning WIC participation rates. Conversely, the number of children in New Jersey receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP benefits (formerly food stamps) increased by 13 percent from 2011 to 2015.

Student participation in school breakfast programs posts several positive trends. Eligibility for free and reduced price meals grew by 8 percent from 2012 to 2015—with a far greater number of participants qualifying for free school meals than for reduced-price meals. Current trends indicate that a greater number of schools responded to the challenge of providing eligible children with breakfast. School breakfast participation rates demonstrated growing success throughout the state, increasing by 43 percent since 2012.

Median Income of Families with Children



2 The State of Family Economics

Children in Families that are Poor or Low-Income

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Children below 50% of the poverty level	131,000	152,000	139,000	6
Percentage of children below 50% of the poverty level	6	8	7	17
Children below 100% of the poverty level	295,000	333,000	316,000	7
Percentage of children below 100% of the poverty level	14	17	16	14
Children below 150% of the poverty level	459,000	494,000	491,000	7
Percentage of children below 150% of the poverty level	23	25	25	9
Children below 200% of the poverty level, the level defined as low-income	619,000	654,000	641,000	4
Percentage of children below 200% of the poverty level	30	33	32	7
Children below 300% of the poverty level	903,212	936,506	909,524	1
Percentage of children below 300% of the poverty level	44	47	46	5
Children below 400% of the poverty level	1,156,403	1,170,795	1,135,449	-2
Percentage of children below 400% of the poverty level	57	59	57	0

Note: For a family of four in 2014, 50% of the federal poverty level was \$11,925, 100% was \$23,850 and 200% was \$47,700.

Family Economics (%), NJ vs US, 2014

	NJ	US
Children in families below 200% of the poverty level	32	44
Children in families below 100% of the poverty level	16	22
Single-parent families below 100% of the poverty level	29	36
Female-headed households receiving child support, 2013	27	29

Family Poverty

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Single parents below poverty level	97,000	105,000	96,000	-1
Percentage of single parents below poverty level	30	32	29	-3
Children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	567,000	559,000	531,000	-6
Percentage of children in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment	27	28	26	-4

2 The State of Family Economics

New Jersey Births by Mother's Education Level

	2008		2011		2012		% Change 08-12	
	#	%*	#	%*	#	%*	#	%*
Less than High School	14,857	14	11,886	11	11,109	11	-25	-19
High School Graduate	28,945	27	26,848	25	26,616	27	-8	-1
Some College	21,331	20	20,361	19	19,791	20	-7	0
College Graduate or More	41,313	39	40,991	39	40,995	41	-1	7

*Please note that percentages may not equal 100 due to a small number of births where the education level of the mother is undetermined.

Housing Costs for Low-Income Families, NJ vs. US, 2010-2014

	2010		2013		2014		% Change 10-14	
	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US
Children in low-income families where housing costs exceed 30% of income	517,000	21,440,000	535,000	20,476,000	518,000	20,109,000	0	-6
Percentage of children living in low-income families where housing costs exceed 30% of income	84	67	82	63	81	63	-4	-6
Children living in crowded housing	248,000	10,566,000	228,000	10,539,000	219,000	10,690,000	-12	1
Percentage of children living in crowded housing	12	14	11	14	11	15	-8	7

Temporary Aid for Needy Families

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
Children living in families receiving welfare (TANF)	70,831	58,948	48,899	-31

Percentage of Households Without Enough Food, NJ vs. US

	2008-10	2009-11	2010-2012	2011-2013	2012-2014	% Change 08-10 to 12-14
NJ	12	12.3	12.1	11.4	11.7	-3
US	15	14.7	14.7	14.6	14.3	-5

Food for Needy Families

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
Children receiving Food Stamps (SNAP)	368,173	417,044	415,927	13
Women, infants and children receiving nutritional supports (WIC)	186,247	180,154	178,852	-4

2 The State of Family Economics

Average Monthly Food Stamps Benefit per Recipient

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
	\$125.06	\$138.03	\$133.26	\$133.26	\$134.97	7

Participation Rate of Eligible NJ Residents in SNAP/Food Stamps

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Participation Rate of SNAP-Eligible Persons in NJ	54%	59%	60%	67%	77%	43
New Jersey SNAP Participation, State Rank	47	49	49	47	39	N/A

School Meals

	2011-2012	2013-2014	2014-2015*	% Change 12-15
Children eligible for reduced-price school meals	78,845	75,804	74,579	-5
Children eligible for free school meals	398,259	448,685	441,620	11
Total children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals	477,104	524,488	516,199	8
	2011-2012	2014-15	2015-2016*	% Change 12-16
Children receiving reduced-price breakfast	13,824	15,707	14,753	7
Children receiving free breakfast	134,022	199,897	213,922	60
Total children receiving free or reduced-price school breakfast	147,846	215,604	228,675	55
% Eligible children receiving school breakfast	31	41	44	43
Children receiving reduced-price lunch	53,193	47,225	41,330	-22
Children receiving free lunch	327,295	359,771	361,614	10
Total children receiving free or reduced-price school lunch	380,488	406,996	402,944	6
% Eligible children receiving school lunch	80	78	78	-2

*Please note that the 2015-16 percentage data are preliminary and based upon the most recent data, which include school meal eligibility data as of 2014-15 school year and receiving data as of October 2015.

NJ Earned Income Tax Credits

	2013			2014			% Change 13-14		
	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amount	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.
Recipients with at Least 1 Dependent Under Age 19	333,726	\$190,801,900	\$572	337,388	\$198,982,307	\$590	1	4	3
All Recipients	506,712	\$212,611,235	\$420	522,732	\$222,577,939	\$426	3	5	1

2 The State of Family Economics

Federal Earned Income Tax Credits

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Federal Earned Income Tax Credit Claims	561,644	589,026	594,723	6
Average Federal EITC Claim	\$2,127	\$2,283	\$2,318	9

Child Support

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Total open cases	384,709	377,783	363,803	-5
Percentage of cases with support orders	81	N/A	81	0
Child support collection rates	65	N/A	N/A	N/A
Cost effectiveness of collections	\$4.37	\$4.28	\$4.25	-2

Economic Indicators by Race — New Jersey

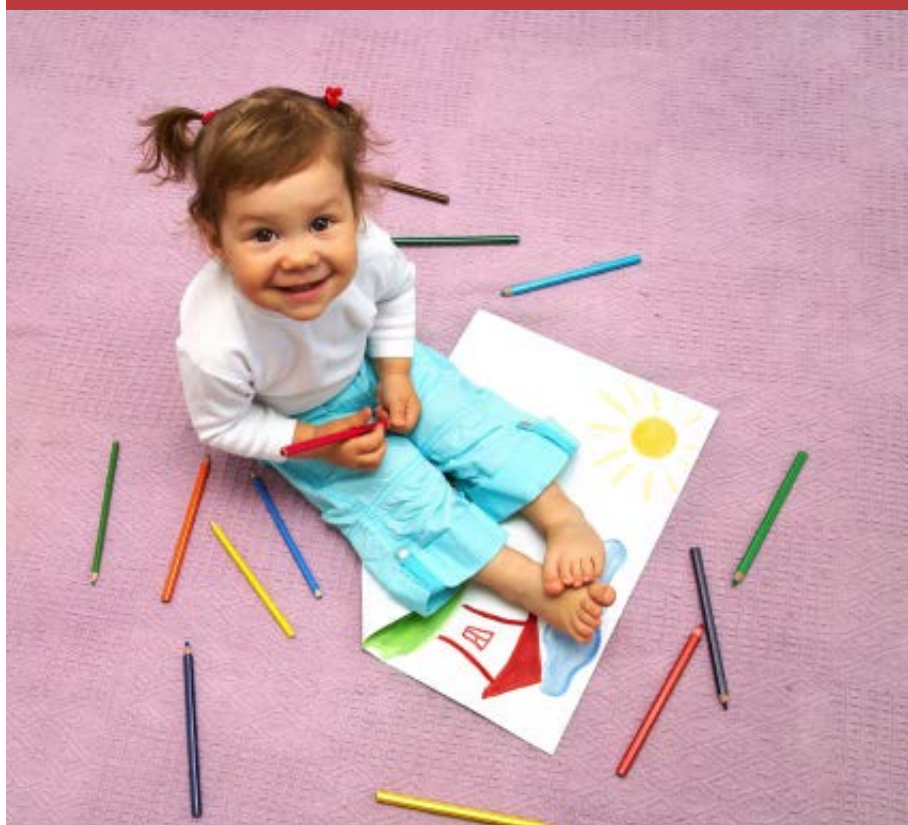
	2010		2013		2014		% Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Children in Poverty (below 100% of federal poverty level)								
Asian and Pacific Islander	12,000	7	12,000	6	11,000	6	-8	-14
Black or African American	84,000	28	97,000	33	81,000	28	-4	0
Hispanic or Latino	121,000	27	143,000	29	147,000	30	21	11
Non-Hispanic White	73,000	7	81,000	8	73,000	8	0	14
Two or More Races	18,000	19	20,000	20	14,000	15	-22	-21
Total	295,000	14	333,000	17	316,000	16	7	14
Children in Low-Income Families (below 200% of federal poverty level)								
Asian and Pacific Islander	29,000	17	30,000	16	31,000	17	7	0
Black or African American	151,000	49	166,000	56	149,000	51	-1	4
Hispanic or Latino	240,000	52	270,000	55	281,000	57	17	10
Non-Hispanic White	184,000	17	184,000	19	172,000	18	-7	6
Two or More Races	N/A	N/A	34,000	35	29,000	31	N/A	N/A
Total	619,000	30	654,000	33	641,000	32	4	7
Children Living in Households Spending Too Much on Housing Costs								
Asian and Pacific Islander	72,000	41	60,000	32	61,000	32	-15	-22
Black or African American	173,000	56	173,000	57	157,000	52	-9	-7
Hispanic or Latino	284,000	61	285,000	58	290,000	58	2	-5
Non-Hispanic White	440,000	41	358,000	36	325,000	33	-26	-20
Two or More Races	49,000	51	41,000	42	39,000	42	-20	-18
Total	994,000	48	891,000	44	852,000	42	-14	-13

2 The State of Family Economics

Economic Indicators by Race — New Jersey *(continued)*

	2010		2013		2014		% Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Children Living in Families Where No Parent Has Full-Time, Year-Round Employment								
Asian and Pacific Islander	24,000	14	27,000	15	27,000	14	13	0
Black or African American	137,000	44	140,000	46	128,000	43	-7	-2
Hispanic or Latino	175,000	38	181,000	37	176,000	35	1	-8
Non-Hispanic White	219,000	21	200,000	20	191,000	20	-13	-5
Two or More Races	31,000	32	33,000	34	28,000	30	-10	-6
Total	567,000	27	559,000	28	531,000	26	-6	-4
Children in Families Where the Household Head Lacks a High School Diploma								
Asian and Pacific Islander	8,000	5	9,000	5	8,000	4	0	-20
Black or African American	39,000	13	36,000	12	29,000	10	-26	-23
Hispanic or Latino	121,000	26	125,000	25	134,000	27	11	4
Non-Hispanic White	33,000	3	31,000	3	30,000	3	-9	0
Two or More Races	12,000	13	10,000	10	7,000	8	-42	-38
Total	204,000	10	203,000	10	204,000	10	0	0
Children Living in Single-Parent Families								
Asian and Pacific Islander	13,000	7	15,000	8	15,000	8	15	14
Black or African American	174,000	61	178,000	64	175,000	64	1	5
Hispanic or Latino	204,000	46	227,000	48	238,000	49	17	7
Non-Hispanic White	173,000	17	177,000	18	176,000	19	2	12
Two or More Races	35,000	38	36,000	39	33,000	36	-6	-5
Total	579,000	29	602,000	31	612,000	32	6	10

3 The State of Early Care and Education



The most recent data indicate that New Jersey is sustaining its reputation as a leader in early childhood education. Enrollment in state-funded full-day preschool remains consistent; half-day preschool enrollments, however, decreased by 11 percent from 2011 to 2015. Yet, New Jersey continues to outperform the national average in terms of enrollment in early education for 3- to 5- year-olds. In 2014, 40 percent of US 3- to 5-year-olds did not attend nursery school, preschool, or kindergarten, compared to only 26 percent of New Jersey's 3- to 5-year-olds. The number of children enrolled in Head Start in 2014 saw a modest increase of 2 percent since 2010. Yet, the number of Head Start enrollments decreased by nearly 1,000 students over a one year period, from 2013 to 2014.

Full-day kindergarten enrollment continued to increase, growing by about 10,000 students from the 2010–2011 school year to 2014–2015. Enrollment in half-day kindergarten declined, down 38 percent (or approximately 9,000 students) over the same four year period. Overall kindergarten enrollment, however, remained consistent, indicating a shift in students from half-day programs to full-day programs.

While public preschool and kindergarten indicate improvement in enrollment, the number of registered or licensed child care options available to parents continues to dwindle. Since 2011, the quantity of licensed child care centers operating within the state has dropped by 6 percent, with overall capacity falling by 3 percent. Registered family child care providers also saw significant declines, dropping in number by 17 percent since 2011. As of 2015, just over 2,000 providers are registered with the state to care for children in their own homes, compared to 2,431 in 2011.

Total enrollment in public education remains steady, while enrollment in special education programs for both 3- to 5-year-olds and 6- to 21-year-olds increased by 7 percent and 8 percent respectively. The number of homeless students enrolled in New Jersey schools during the 2014–2015 school year declined from the previous year, indicating potential progress in addressing the state's homeless child population. Nevertheless, the state's homeless student population during the 2014–2015 school year was nearly double that of the 2010–2011 year.

SAT results for New Jersey students saw modest gains. The percentage of students taking SAT tests increased during the 2013–2014 school year, while average math and verbal scores also increased marginally.

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Reported incidences of school violence, vandalism, and substance abuse saw substantial declines within New Jersey during the 2014–2015 school year. Incidences of vandalism experienced the most significant decrease, dropping 29 percent, followed by substance abuse at 14 percent, violent incidents at 12 percent and possession of weapons at 8 percent.

High school graduation rates crept upward, rising from 88 percent during the 2012–2013 school year to 90 percent in the 2014–2015 school year. Graduation rates amongst minority groups and select student subgroups show marked progress. Black and Hispanic students experienced increases in the rate of graduation by 7 percent and 5 percent respectively. Students with limited English proficiency, economically disadvantaged students, and students with disabilities also witnessed improved graduation rates, although differences in achievement amongst these groups persist. Graduation rates for Black and Hispanic students, economically disadvantaged students, students with limited proficiency in English, and students with disabilities still trail the state average.

2014–2015 PARCC Assessment Results

The spring of 2015 marked the first year of statewide usage of the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment. Students in grades 3–11 sat for assessments in English Language Arts, Math, and at the middle and high school levels, in Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry. The PARCC results indicated room for improvement; grade scores ranged from a high of 52 percent, to a low of 37 percent of students meeting or exceeding expectations in English Language Arts.

Students taking math assessments scored similarly, varying from a high of 45 percent of 3rd-graders meeting or exceeding expectations to only 23 percent of those students sitting for the geometry exam. Although 72 percent of 8th grade Algebra I test takers met or exceeded expectations, these results are atypical. Many students do not enroll in Algebra I courses until 9th grade or later; thus, those students taking part in Algebra I assessments while completing 8th grade are typically the advanced students for their grade level. Likewise, the percentage of 8th grade students meeting or exceeding expectations (24 percent) is not representative of 8th grade performance overall, given the significant number of 8th-graders registered for the Algebra I PARCCs.

Though the results from PARCC assessments indicate that roughly 50 percent or fewer of NJ's students met or exceeded expectations across all grade levels and for both assessments, a sizeable number of students did not sit for the 2014–15 PARCC assessments. While the percentage of elementary students who did not participate generally remains below 10 percent, this increased to 21 percent for 9th-graders, 27 percent in 10th-graders and 35 percent of 11th-graders in English Language Arts. Similar figures were present amongst the math assessments, with 20 percent, 30 percent, and 25 percent of students not being tested in Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry respectively.

The PARCC results by race for English Language Arts and Mathematics vary by grade level; however, general themes emerge. Asian students presented the highest percentages of students meeting or exceeding standards, often surpassing the state average by more than 15 percentage points. Black and Hispanic students, conversely, consistently fell below the state average. Non-participation rates in PARCC assessments did not dramatically differ between racial or ethnic groups. Asian students demonstrated some of the lowest

3 The State of Early Care and Education

percentages of untested students, but untested Black and non-Hispanic white students occurred at similar rates. For 8th grade English Language Arts, 17 percent of non-Hispanic white students did not take the PARCC compared to 15 percent of Black students. For 11th grade English Language Arts, 39 percent of white students and 35 percent of Black students did not sit for exams, and for Algebra II 35 percent and 32 percent of white and Black students, respectively, remained untested. The achievement gap, or the difference in performance between economically disadvantaged students and their peers (34 percent), also demonstrated room for improvement.

The New Jersey Department of Education, reports the number of students registered to take the PARCC assessments, the number of valid scores (or the number of students who completed the PARCC assessments), and the number of students who did not take the PARCC exams. While the “opt-out” phenomenon received a great deal of press prior to the administration of the PARCCs, the Department of Education’s definition of “students not tested” extends beyond those students who refused to take the exams. Those untested students also include absent students, students with medical emergencies, voided test results, and those who were given alternative tests geared toward English Language Learners and students with significant learning disabilities. Students of select graduating classes may also utilize results from other tests (if scoring above a certain threshold) in lieu of PARCC assessments (see sidebar for details).

A Note on PARCC Testing for the Classes of 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

High school students will have greater test-taking options in the future. The NJ Department of Education (NJDOE) will allow students graduating in the years 2016–2019 to substitute results from select tests for PARCC assessments. Some of these tests include the: SATs, ACTs, PSATs, ACT Aspire, and the ASVAB-AFQT (or the Armed Forces Qualification Test). Students in grades 9–11 must score above a certain threshold in order to use their alternative test results. For example, a student who scores 400 or greater on their SAT Reading test may use this score instead of sitting for the English Language Arts (ELA) Grade 11 PARCC. Similarly, a score of 400 or greater on the SAT Math Test would potentially exempt a student from taking the PARCC Algebra I, Algebra II, or Geometry assessments. Students who do not meet the requirements for these assessments may alternatively opt for the NJ Portfolio Appeals Process. This process requires that students submit several assignments (written essays, multiple choice tests, open-ended assignments, etc.) in place of test scores. As of March 2016, NJDOE announced a phase-in of PARCC testing as a requirement for graduation for the classes of 2020 and 2021.

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Public Preschool Enrollments

	2010-2011	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change 11-15
Preschool enrollments (total)	51,333	51,924	51,232	0
Half-day preschool enrollments	5,425	4,965	4,851	-11
Full-day preschool enrollments	45,908	46,959	46,381	1

Early Education

	2010		2013		2014		% Change 10-14	
	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US
Percent of children not enrolled in nursery school, preschool or kindergarten, ages 3 - 5	29	40	29	41	26	40	-9	1

Head Start

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Children enrolled in Head Start	14,848	16,060	15,074	2

Child Care

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
Licensed child care centers	4,213	3,964	3,949	-6
Capacity of licensed child care centers	356,900	347,952	347,861	-3

Registered Family Child Care Providers

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
	2,431	2,120	2,020	-17

Demographics of Children with Working Parents, NJ

	2013	2014	% Change 13-14
Child Population 0 -5	642,853	620,823	-3
# Children 0 - 5 with All Parents Working	415,143	412,031	-1
% Children 0 - 5 with All Parents Working	66	66	1
# Children 0 - 5 in Single-Parent Households	146,076	147,516	4
% Children 0 - 5 Single-Parent Households	30	24	-5

3 The State of Early Care and Education

Average Annual Costs of Child Care, 2013

	2012	2013	% Change 12-13
Child Care Center			
Infants Age 1 and Under	\$10,949	\$11,534	5
Preschooler	\$9,170	\$9,546	4
Registered Family Child Care			
Infants Age 1 and Under	\$8,520	\$8,699	2
Preschooler	\$7,562	\$7,790	3

Public Kindergarten Enrollments

	2010-2011	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change 11-15
Kindergarten enrollments (total)	90,663	92,322	91,570	1
Half-day kindergarten enrollments	24,334	17,777	14,979	-38
Full-day kindergarten enrollments	66,329	74,545	76,591	15

Percent of Kindergarten Students Held Back, or Retained (by Race) — New Jersey

	2011-12
All Students	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	6
Asian	1
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	3
Black/African American	5
Hispanic/Latino of any race	4
Two or More Races	5
White	2

Public School Enrollment

	2010-2011	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change 11-15
Total enrollment (PK-12)	1,357,382	1,371,399	1,369,379	1

Public School Special Education Enrollment

	2010-2011	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change 11-15
Total enrollment, PK - 12	1,357,382	1,371,399	1,369,379	1
Special education enrollment, ages 3 -5	17,073	17,529	18,222	7
Special Education enrollment, ages 6 - 21	199,205	202,724	214,304	8
Percent special education students, ages 6 - 21	15	15	16	7

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Homeless Students

	2010-2011	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change 11-15
Number of homeless students	4,459	10,303	8,412	89

Chronically Absent Students 2013-2014 (PK-12)

Demographic	Total Enrolled	Enrollment %	Students Chronically Absent	% of Demographic Chronically Absent	% of State's Absenteeism Rate	Median # of School Days Missed
Asian/Pacific Islander	131,800	9.5	6,554	5.0	4.7	23
Black	226,006	16.2	33,523	14.8	24.0	24
Hispanic	346,473	24.9	41,990	12.1	30.1	23
Multiracial	16,263	1.2	1,543	9.5	1.1	22
White	670,799	48.2	55,658	8.3	39.9	22
Economically Disadvantaged	528,040	37.9	77,295	14.6	55.4	23
Limited English Proficiency	73,491	5.3	7,545	10.3	5.4	24
Homeless	8,005	0.6	2,219	27.7	1.6	24
Immigrant	28,297	2.0	2,705	9.6	1.9	21
Migrant	841	0.1	84	10.0	0.1	21
Special Education	216,290	15.5	33,281	15.4	23.9	24
Female	677,498	48.6	67,895	10.0	48.7	23
Male	715,621	51.4	71,740	10.0	51.4	23
State Total	1,393,120	-	139,534	10.0	-	23

PARCC Results

PARCC English Language Arts Results (2014-2015)

Grade	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
3	44	101,146	5,919	6
Economically Disadvantaged	24	41,463	2,013	5
English Language Learners	17	9,465	250	3
Current ELL	11	6,767	213	3
Former ELL	32	2,698	37	1
4	51	100,203	6,434	6
Economically Disadvantaged	30	39,508	2,066	5
English Language Learners	20	7,676	245	3
Current ELL	13	3,925	205	5
Former ELL	27	3,751	40	1

3 The State of Early Care and Education

PARCC English Language Arts Results (2014-2015) *continued*

Grade	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
5	52	102,054	7,455	7
Economically Disadvantaged	30	38,926	2,489	6
English Language Learners	18	5,730	191	3
Current ELL	14	2,646	154	6
Former ELL	21	3,084	37	1
6	49	102,078	9,500	9
Economically Disadvantaged	29	38,192	3,097	8
English Language Learners	14	4,093	211	5
Current ELL	10	2,330	163	7
Former ELL	20	1,763	48	3
7	52	101,333	11,106	11
Economically Disadvantaged	32	37,215	3,777	10
English Language Learners	14	3,301	235	7
Current ELL	10	2,292	201	9
Former ELL	25	1,009	34	3
8	52	102,814	14,393	14
Economically Disadvantaged	33	36,503	4,766	13
English Language Learners	13	3,114	299	10
Current ELL	9	2,336	255	11
Former ELL	25	778	44	6
9	40	102,696	21,122	21
Economically Disadvantaged	23	34,592	7,038	20
English Language Learners	6	4,250	567	13
Current ELL	4	3,607	490	14
Former ELL	16	643	77	12
10	37	97,621	25,962	27
Economically Disadvantaged	22	31,013	7,396	24
English Language Learners	6	3,494	487	14
Current ELL	4	2,761	382	14
Former ELL	16	733	105	14
11	41	94,625	32,857	35
Economically Disadvantaged	29	28,280	7,780	28
English Language Learners	9	2,962	444	15
Current ELL	6	2,199	328	15
Former ELL	17	763	116	15

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PARCC Math Results (2014–2015)

Grade/Subject	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
3	45	101,833	5,901	6
Economically Disadvantaged	25	41,841	1,997	5
English Language Learners	23	9,911	190	2
Current ELL	17	7,214	154	2
Former ELL	41	2,697	36	1
4	41	100,938	6,454	6
Economically Disadvantaged	22	39,887	2,073	5
English Language Learners	19	8,112	198	2
Current ELL	14	4,356	154	4
Former ELL	24	3,756	44	1
5	41	102,741	7,448	7
Economically Disadvantaged	23	39,316	2,472	6
English Language Learners	18	6,186	125	2
Current ELL	16	3,101	90	3
Former ELL	21	3,085	35	1
6	41	102,636	9,508	9
Economically Disadvantaged	22	38,584	3,100	8
English Language Learners	15	4,496	151	3
Current ELL	13	2,737	106	4
Former ELL	19	1,759	45	3
7	37	98,261	10,961	11
Economically Disadvantaged	20	37,331	3,798	10
English Language Learners	13	3,696	202	5
Current ELL	10	2,704	163	6
Former ELL	20	992	39	4
8	24	69,091	11,013	16
Economically Disadvantaged	17	30,131	4,289	14
English Language Learners	11	3,069	208	7
Current ELL	9	2,487	175	7
Former ELL	18	582	33	6

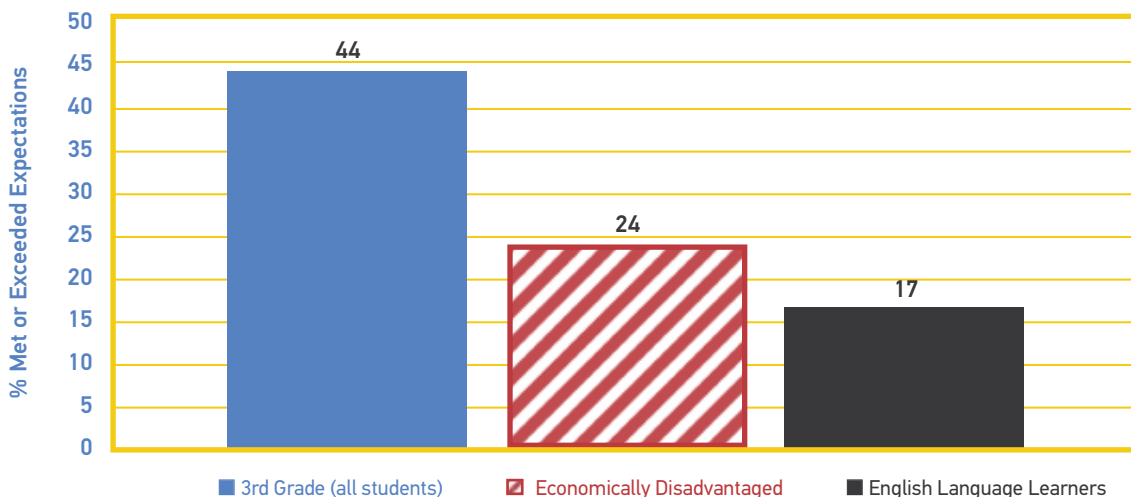
3 The State of Early Care and Education

PARCC Math Results (2014–2015) *continued*

Grade/Subject	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
Algebra I (8th Grade)	72	30,826	3,328	11
Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Language Learners	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Current ELL	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Former ELL	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Algebra I (ALL GRADES)	36	114,867	23,127	20
Economically Disadvantaged	19	40,024	8,462	21
English Language Learners	10	5,194	780	15
Current ELL	8	4,375	687	16
Former ELL	24	819	93	11
Algebra II (ALL GRADES)	24	83,256	25,230	30
Economically Disadvantaged	9	23,991	6,226	26
English Language Learners	9	2,253	311	14
Current ELL	7	1,589	219	14
Former ELL	14	664	92	14
Geometry (ALL GRADES)	23	95,414	24,277	25
Economically Disadvantaged	8	30,918	7,707	25
English Language Learners	7	3,337	461	14
Current ELL	6	2,603	355	14
Former ELL	11	734	106	14

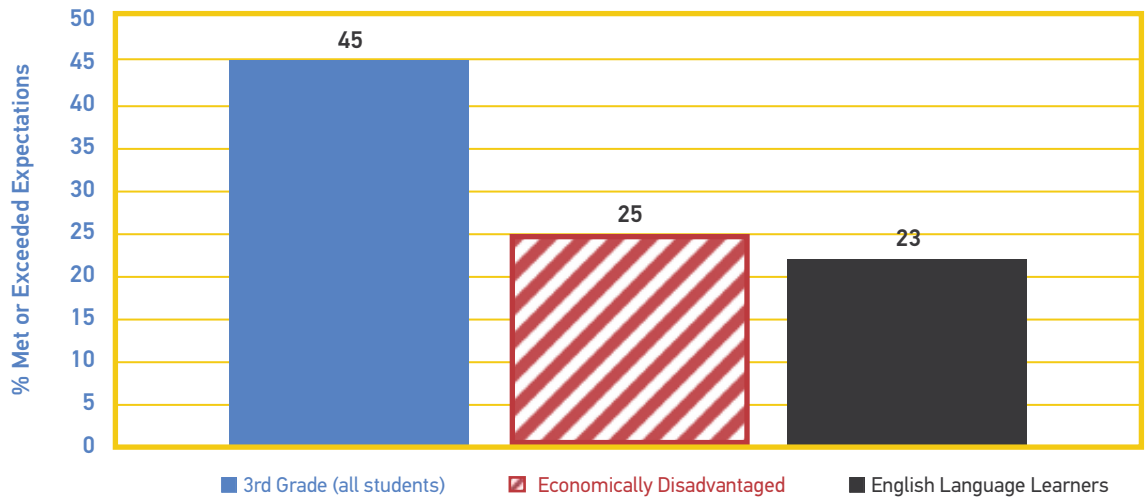
X signifies instances in which data was suppressed to protect student confidentiality.

Economically Disadvantaged & English Language Learner Vs. State Average Performance on 3rd Grade English Language Arts Tests, 2014–15



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Economically Disadvantaged & English Language Learner Vs. State Average Performance on 3rd Grade Math Tests, 2014–15



PARCC English Language Arts Results by Race (2014–2015)

Grade	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
3	44	101,146	5,919	6
White (non-Hispanic)	54	45,851	3,405	7
Black or African-American	25	15,634	972	6
Asian	70	9,879	195	2
American Indian/Alaska Native	40	X	X	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	26	27,382	1,183	4
Pacific Islander	54	X	X	N/A
Other Races	53	2,033	146	7
4	51	100,203	6,434	6
White (non-Hispanic)	62	46,748	3,857	8
Black or African-American	29	15,229	1,037	7
Asian	78	9,803	191	2
American Indian/Alaska Native	48	127	12	9
Hispanic or Latino	33	26,303	1,176	4
Pacific Islander	65	X	X	N/A
Other Races	61	1,757	158	9

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PARCC English Language Arts Results by Race (2014-2015) *continued*

Grade	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
5	52	102,054	7,455	7
White (non-Hispanic)	62	49,193	4,673	9
Black or African-American	30	15,502	1,163	8
Asian	78	10,180	194	2
American Indian/Alaska Native	46	X	X	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	34	25,282	1,263	5
Pacific Islander	61	X	X	N/A
Other Races	60	1,558	146	9
6	49	102,078	9,500	9
White (non-Hispanic)	58	49,832	5,984	12
Black or African-American	27	16,093	1,480	9
Asian	77	10,073	264	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	41	X	X	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	32	24,431	1,586	6
Pacific Islander	62	X	X	N/A
Other Races	56	1,323	173	13
7	52	101,333	11,106	11
White (non-Hispanic)	61	50,280	6,805	14
Black or African-American	30	16,066	1,840	11
Asian	80	9,571	329	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	47	99	11	11
Hispanic or Latino	35	23,918	1,916	8
Pacific Islander	73	235	20	9
Other Races	56	1,164	185	16
8	52	102,814	14,393	14
White (non-Hispanic)	60	51,772	8,655	17
Black or African-American	30	16,701	2,490	15
Asian	80	9,600	425	4
American Indian/Alaska Native	48	100	22	22
Hispanic or Latino	36	23,329	2,573	11
Pacific Islander	68	201	16	8
Other Races	54	1,111	212	19

3 The State of Early Care and Education

PARCC English Language Arts Results by Race (2014–2015) *continued*

Grade	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
9	40	102,696	21,122	21
White (non-Hispanic)	47	49,912	11,244	23
Black or African-American	22	16,600	4,270	26
Asian	67	9,444	899	10
American Indian/Alaska Native	32	115	18	16
Hispanic or Latino	26	25,041	4,321	17
Pacific Islander	55	202	19	9
Other Races	38	1,382	351	25
10	37	97,621	25,962	27
White (non-Hispanic)	42	50,158	14,801	30
Black or African-American	21	15,363	4,691	31
Asian	61	8,978	1,524	17
American Indian/Alaska Native	27	125	32	26
Hispanic or Latino	24	21,683	4,564	21
Pacific Islander	50	193	34	18
Other Races	35	1,121	316	28
11	41	94,625	32,857	35
White (non-Hispanic)	46	50,346	19,707	39
Black or African-American	26	14,372	4,977	35
Asian	64	8,885	2,831	32
American Indian/Alaska Native	37	122	44	36
Hispanic or Latino	31	19,617	4,886	25
Pacific Islander	61	209	50	24
Other Races	37	1,074	362	34

PARCC Math by Race (2014–2015)

Grade/Subject	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# not Tested	% not Tested
3	45	101,833	5,901	6
White (non-Hispanic)	55	45,965	3,446	7
Black or African-American	24	15,658	965	6
Asian	77	9,996	196	2
American Indian/Alaska Native	40	X	X	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	28	27,810	1,137	4
Pacific Islander	60	X	X	N/A
Other Races	53	2,033	140	7

3 The State of Early Care and Education

PARCC Math by Race (2014–2015) *continued*

Grade/Subject	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
4	41	100,938	6,454	6
White (non-Hispanic)	49	46,869	3,870	8
Black or African-American	19	15,268	1,041	7
Asian	75	9,944	209	2
American Indian/Alaska Native	37	127	12	9
Hispanic or Latino	24	26,729	1,160	4
Pacific Islander	55	X	X	N/A
Other Races	51	1,764	160	9
5	41	102,741	7,448	7
White (non-Hispanic)	49	49,294	4,705	10
Black or African-American	20	15,526	1,167	8
Asian	75	10,301	194	2
American Indian/Alaska Native	47	X	X	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	25	25,717	1,221	5
Pacific Islander	58	X	X	N/A
Other Races	48	1,559	144	9
6	41	102,636	9,508	9
White (non-Hispanic)	50	49,887	6,045	12
Black or African-American	18	16,109	1,479	9
Asian	75	10,102	260	3
American Indian/Alaska Native	34	X	X	N/A
Hispanic or Latino	24	24,886	1,537	6
Pacific Islander	57	X	X	N/A
Other Races	43	1,325	174	13
7	37	98,261	10,961	11
White (non-Hispanic)	45	48,459	6,706	14
Black or African-American	17	15,998	1,869	12
Asian	69	8,174	297	4
American Indian/Alaska Native	33	98	12	12
Hispanic or Latino	22	24,175	1,897	8
Pacific Islander	55	228	18	8
Other Races	41	1,129	162	14

3 The State of Early Care and Education

PARCC Math by Race (2014–2015) *continued*

Grade/Subject	% Met or Exceeded Standards	# Registered	# Not Tested	% Not Tested
8	24	69,091	11,013	16
White (non-Hispanic)	29	31,868	6,210	19
Black or African-American	13	13,870	2,253	16
Asian	46	3,321	209	6
American Indian/Alaska Native	14	78	21	27
Hispanic or Latino	18	19,096	2,181	11
Pacific Islander	36	117	11	9
Other Races	23	741	128	17
Algebra I (all grades)	36	114,867	23,127	20
White (non-Hispanic)	43	55,027	11,795	21
Black or African-American	17	19,623	5,207	27
Asian	70	10,140	679	7
American Indian/Alaska Native	29	132	24	18
Hispanic or Latino	20	28,176	4,991	18
Pacific Islander	50	219	23	11
Other Races	33	1,550	408	26
Algebra II (all grades)	24	83,256	25,230	30
White (non-Hispanic)	28	44,524	15,362	35
Black or African-American	8	12,221	3,927	32
Asian	55	8,564	1,621	19
American Indian/Alaska Native	25	96	27	28
Hispanic or Latino	10	16,775	3,987	24
Pacific Islander	30	185	34	18
Other Races	22	891	272	31
Geometry (all grades)	23	95,414	24,277	25
White (non-Hispanic)	27	48,144	13,441	28
Black or African-American	6	14,995	4,668	31
Asian	56	8,803	1,070	12
American Indian/Alaska Native	14	118	26	22
Hispanic or Latino	9	21,917	4,696	21
Pacific Islander	29	201	29	14
Other Races	22	1,236	347	28

X signifies instances in which data was suppressed to protect student confidentiality.

Achievement Gap

2014–15 34%

3 The State of Early Care and Education

School Violence Incidents

Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	2011-12	Violence	Vandalism	Weapons	2014-15	Violence	Vandalism	% Change 2012-15	
			Substances				Substances			Weapons	Substances
8,252	1,924	1,125	3,482	7,262	1,359	1,037	2,982	-12	-29	-8	-14

Students Taking SATs

	2009-2010	2012-2013	2013-2014	% Change 10-14
Percentage of students taking the SAT	76	78	79	4
Average SAT math score	514	522	523	2
Average SAT verbal score	495	499	501	1

Public Education: NJ vs. US

	NJ	US
Average graduation rate, 2012-2013	89	82
Percentage of students taking the SAT, 2013-14	79	50
Average SAT verbal score, 2013-2014	501	497
Average SAT math score, 2013-2014	523	513

High School Graduation Rates, by Race

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	% Change 13-15
Statewide Total	88	89	90	2
White	93	93	94	1
Black	76	79	82	7
Hispanic	79	81	83	5
Asian	96	96	97	1
American Indian	76	86	89	17
Native Hawaiian	92	89	88	-4
Two or More Races	89	91	89	0
Limited English Proficiency	70	71	74	6
Economically Disadvantaged	77	80	82	6
Students with Disability	76	77	78	3

4 The State of Child Health



Overall, New Jersey's health outcomes vary; yet, several indicators demonstrate improvement over previous years. The number of children without health insurance saw a 25 percent reduction over the 2010–2014 period. This translates to approximately 4.6 percent of NJ's children currently living without insurance. The results for low-income children show even greater improvement. In 2010, 16 percent of low-income children were also uninsured; as of 2014, merely 8 percent of low-income children remain without insurance. Furthermore, the number of children receiving Medicaid or NJ Family-Care benefits continues to rise, up 14 percent from 2011.

These trends hold true across all racial and ethnic groups; Asian/Pacific Islander and non-Hispanic White children saw a 25 percent reduction in the percentage of children without health insurance, while Hispanic and Black children saw a 30 percent and 33 percent reduction, respectively.

Prenatal care and maternal health also witnessed important advances as the number of low-birthweight babies born to New Jersey mothers decreased from 2008 to 2012. The percent of mothers receiving early prenatal care (care occurring in the first trimester) increased by 4 percent for all mothers.

Looking more closely at the breakdown of early prenatal care amongst different racial and ethnic groups, non-Hispanic White, non-Hispanic Black, Asian and Hispanic mothers all saw an increase in the percentage receiving early prenatal care. Hispanic mothers experienced the most significant gains, growing by 8 percent from 2008 to 2012. These improvements, unfortunately, do not extend to all areas of child health. While the infant mortality rate decreased by 17 percent, the child death rate (children ages 1–14) increased by 6 percent.

Lead exposure continues to dominate public discussions of child health and well-being within the state of New Jersey and throughout the United States. In 2012, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) released new lead exposure guidelines for children advising the use of a new reference blood lead level. The CDC recommends parents and health officials now take action at blood lead levels of 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or higher. Although the state of New Jersey currently requires public health action or investigation at reported levels of 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or higher, Governor Christie announced on May 2, 2016 that state regulations are being revised to reflect the CDC 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ level.

4 The State of Child Health

For both children aged 6–26-months and children under 6 years of age, those tested with blood lead levels above 5 µg/dL declined over the 2012–2015 period. Continuing with this positive trend, as of 2014, nearly all (97 percent) of the state’s 6-year-olds had at least one blood test during their lifetime—meeting the state requirements for lead testing. In fact, since 2010, the percentage of 6-year-olds in compliance with the mandate has slowly increased for the state as a whole. The CDC asserts that no amount of exposure to lead is safe—particularly for very young children; thus, roughly unchanging numbers of 6- to 26-month-olds tested for lead indicate the vulnerability of New Jersey’s youngest residents’ to lead exposure.

According to the most recent health statistics, fewer children were admitted to hospitals for asthma, congruent with decreasing numbers of children living with asthma within the state. The number of children immunized by age 2 increased from 2013 to 2014, inching up from 76 percent to 80 percent.

Recent data show that New Jersey’s Division of Children’s System of Care served a greater number of children being treated for mental or behavioral issues. Since 2010, 34 percent more children received treatment, increasing the total number of children served in 2015 to 11,780.

Proper oral hygiene and access to dental care constitutes a fundamental part of any child’s health. From 2010 to 2014, the number of children under 18 receiving preventive dental services through NJ FamilyCare or Medicaid increased by 39 percent, while the number of eligible children receiving dental treatment services increased by 21 percent during the same period.

Uninsured Children

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Children without health insurance	123,000	112,117	91,842	-25
Percent of children without health insurance	6	5.6	4.6	-23

Children without Health Insurance, by Race

	2010		2013		2014		% Change 10-14	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
American Indian	*	*	<500	7	<500	1	N/A	N/A
Asian and Pacific Islander	14,000	8	12,000	6	12,000	6	-14	-25
Black or African American	20,000	6	17,000	6	13,000	4	-35	-33
Hispanic or Latino	48,000	10	48,000	10	35,000	7	-27	-30
Non-Hispanic White	38,000	4	35,000	4	30,000	3	-21	-25
Two or More Races	6,000	6	4,000	4	3,000	3	-50	-50
Total	123,000	6	112,000	6	92,000	5	-25	-17

* indicates unavailable data due to small sample size.

4 The State of Child Health

Low-Income Uninsured Children

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Number	104,000	70,000	51,000	-51
Percentage of low-income children without health insurance	16	10	8	-52

NJ vs. US Uninsured Children, 2014 (%)

	NJ	US
All Children	5	6
By Income		
0-99% of the poverty level	7	7
100-149% of the poverty level	9	9
150-199% of the poverty level	7	9
200-299% of the poverty level	6	7

Health Insurance

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
Children Receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid	690,055	745,990	788,480	14

Healthy Starts

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Total births	106,940	100,516	98,933	-7
Low-birthweight babies	8,867	8,375	7,918	-11
Percentage of low-birthweight babies	8	8	8	-3
Women receiving early prenatal care	83,934	81,696	80,733	-4
Percentage of women receiving early prenatal care	78	79	82	4
Births to unmarried mothers	38,357	36,886	36,445	-5
Percentage of births to unmarried mothers	36	35	37	3

Percentage of Mothers Receiving 1st Trimester Prenatal Care, by Race

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
White, non-Hispanic	87	89	89	2
Black, non-Hispanic	64	67	68	6
Hispanic	69	74	74	8
Asian	87	89	89	3

4 The State of Child Health

Percentage of Low-Birthweight Babies by Race/Ethnicity of Mother

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
White	7.1	7.3	6.9	-3
Black	12.9	12.2	12.3	-5
Hispanic	7.5	7.6	7.0	-7
Asian	8.3	8.8	8.6	3
Other	10.0	11.6	9.7	-3

Infant and Child Deaths

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Infant mortality	591	528	454	-23
Infant mortality rate/1,000 live births	5.5	5.3	4.6	-17
Child deaths, ages 1- 14	187	196	195	4
Child death rate/100,000 children	11.8	12.4	12.4	6

Infant Mortality by Race

	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	Rate per 1,000	#	Rate per 1,000	#	Rate per 1,000	#	Rate per 1,000
Infant Mortality								
Asian and Pacific Islander	39	3	34	3	25	2	-36	-33
Black or African American	221	11	153	8	177	9	-20	-16
Hispanic or Latino	130	5	119	4	117	4	-10	-4
Non-Hispanic White	186	4	161	3	152	3	-18	-11
Total	566	5	459	4	460	5	-19	-12

Child Deaths by Race

	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	Rate per 100,000	#	Rate per 100,000	#	Rate per 100,000	#	Rate per 100,000
Child Deaths								
Asian and Pacific Islander	13	*	10	*	*	*	N/A	N/A
Black or African American	55	20	55	20	52	19	-5	-5
Hispanic or Latino	45	13	49	13	30	8	-33	-38
Non-Hispanic White	75	9	82	10	94	12	25	33
Total	185	12	196	13	181	12	-2	0

* Indicates reporting standards not met.

4 The State of Child Health

Preventing Childhood Illness

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Percentage of children immunized by age 2	68	76	80	17

Lead Testing and Abatements

	2012	2013	2014	2015**	% Change 12-15
Children tested for lead (under 6 years of age)	183,617	176,520	171,271	172,859	-6
Children with lead levels of 5 µg/dl or higher*	6,971	5,930	5,411	5,288	-24
% of children with levels of lead at 5 µg/dl or higher	3.80	3.36	3.16	3.06	-19
	2012 ^A	2013	2014	2015**	% Change 12-15
Children tested for lead (ages 6-26 months)	103,380	92,572	90,683	93,128	-10
Children with lead levels of 5 µg/dl or higher*	3,719	2,806	2,623	2,568	-31
% of children with levels of lead at 5 µg/dl or higher	3.60	3.03	2.89	2.76	-23

*Previous Kids Count Reports featured the now antiquated 10 µg/dl or higher blood lead "level of concern". As per most recent CDC guidelines, this designation has been substituted with a designation of 5 µg/dl or higher.

**Indicates provisional data.

^AIn 2012, the NJ Dept. of Health reported blood lead levels for children 6-29 months. From 2013 onward, the age reported was 6-26 months.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
% of children who turned 6 yrs. old during FY 2014 and had at least one blood test in their lifetime	92.4	97.4	98.6	99	97	5

Environmental Case Activity

	2012	2013	2014
Cases Referred	874	498	424
Abatement Required	203	188	128
Abatement Completed	81	116	61
% Abatement Completed	40	62	48

Children Living with HIV/AIDS

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
	790	795	792	0

4 The State of Child Health

Children Admitted to the Hospital for Asthma (ages 0-18)

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Asthma admissions to the hospital	4,175	3,401	3,747	-10

Children Living with Asthma, NJ

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
	163,127	156,537	154,363	-5

Percentage of Children and Teens (ages 10 to 17) Overweight or Obese—NJ vs. US

	2007			2011/2012			% Change 07-12		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
NJ	36	25	31	29	20	25	-19	-20	-19
US	35	27	32	35	28	31	0	4	-3

Mental Health Care

	2008		2012		% Change 08-12	
	NJ	US	NJ	US	NJ	US
Percentage of children ages 2 - 17 with problems requiring counseling who received mental health care	55	60	58	61	4	2

Children who have one or more emotional, behavioral, or developmental conditions

	2007	2012	% Change 07-12
Number	264,000	277,000	5
Percentage	14	15	7

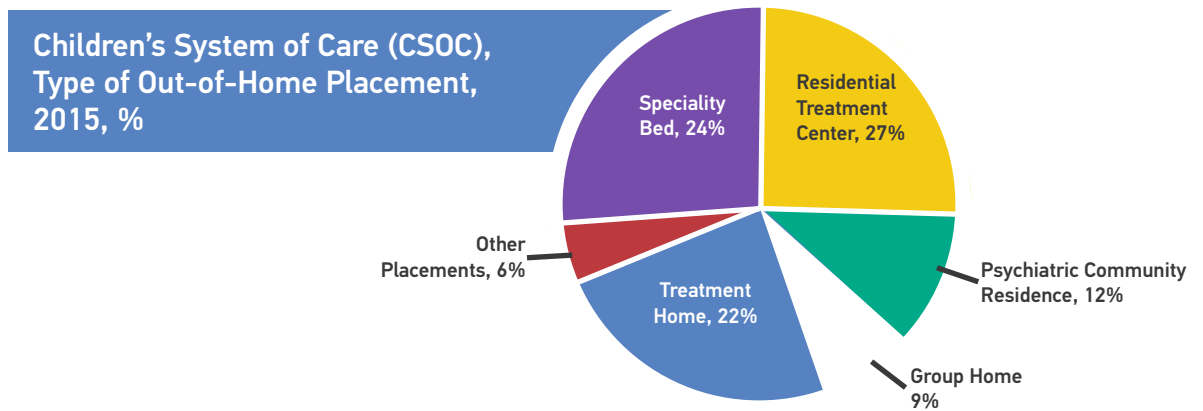
Division of Children's System of Care Enrollment

	2010	2014	2015	% Change 10-15
Children receiving managed mental/behavioral health services	8,819	10,248	11,780	34

4 The State of Child Health

Children's System of Care (CSOC), Out-of-Home Placement, 2012-2015

	2012	2013	2014	2015	% Change 12-15
Percentage Receiving Care in a Residential Treatment Center	32	32	28	27	-16
Percentage Receiving Care in a Group Home	10	10	9	9	-10
Percentage Receiving Care in a Treatment Home	30	30	28	22	-27



Children Who Lack Access to Fluoridated Water, 2012

Number	1,763,131
Percentage	87

Children Who Have Received Preventive Dental Care in the Previous Year

	2007	2011-2012	% Change 07-12
Number	1,517,000	1,521,000	0
Percentage	79	80	

4 The State of Child Health

Dental Treatment for Children Enrolled in NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Eligible Children Receiving Any Dental Services				
Under Age 1	576	191	222	-61
Ages 1 - 2	15,367	18,396	19,367	26
Ages 3 - 5	57,316	72,533	71,811	25
Ages 6 - 9	76,696	101,236	105,216	37
Ages 10 - 14	73,653	94,788	99,623	35
Ages 15 - 18	46,059	53,876	56,906	24
Total Ages 18 and Under	269,667	341,020	353,145	3
Eligible Children Receiving Preventive Dental Services				
Under Age 1	144	110	138	-4
Ages 1 - 2	12,885	17,567	18,450	43
Ages 3 - 5	53,231	69,828	69,092	30
Ages 6 - 9	70,988	96,704	100,230	41
Ages 10 - 14	65,301	89,193	93,202	43
Ages 15 - 18	35,534	46,943	49,235	39
Total Ages 18 and Under	238,083	320,345	330,347	39
Eligible Children Receiving Dental Treatment Services				
Under Age 1	29	15	38	31
Ages 1 - 2	2,852	3,111	2,818	-1
Ages 3 - 5	23,296	29,400	27,393	18
Ages 6 - 9	43,194	55,995	56,314	30
Ages 10 - 14	43,044	49,956	53,406	24
Ages 15 - 18	29,581	31,124	32,072	8
Total Ages 18 and Under	141,996	169,601	172,041	21

Dental Care for Children in Out-of-Home Placement

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Percentage of children ages 3 and older who were in care 6 months or more and who received semi-annual dental exams	85	85	84	-1

5 The State of Child Protection



The number of investigations for child abuse or neglect decreased by 6 percent from 2010 to 2014. Fewer children were under state supervision by the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P). The majority of children entering foster care in 2013 were Black, at 39 percent, followed by non-Hispanic White children, at 30 percent, and Hispanic children at 21 percent.

The number of children exiting foster care decreased by 8 percent. Decreasing numbers of children in out-of-home placements were placed in group and residential homes, dropping by 32 percent from 2010 to 2015. Placements in kinship foster homes increased by 14 percent over the same period of time.

From 2009 to 2013, the percentage of children abused or neglected within 12 months of a previously unsubstantiated report of abuse or neglect increased by 38 percent. Of concern are the rising rates at which children are repeat victims of abuse or neglect. In 2013, for those children with a previously substantiated report of abuse or neglect, 7.9 percent were found to be victims of abuse or neglect within 12 months; this translates to a 41 percent increase since 2009. For those children abused within 6 months of a substantiated report, the percentage increased by 24 percent from 2009 to 2013. Similarly, the number of foster children suffering from abuse or neglect after being reunited with their families continues to increase, up 31 percent from 2009.

Lastly, the number of state-finalized adoptions increased slightly from the previous year, but decreased by 10 percent from 2010 to 2014. Of those children in foster care awaiting adoption in 2013, 42 percent were Black, representing the largest share of children within this group.

5 The State of Child Protection

Children Under State Supervision

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
All children under state supervision*	52,885	51,508	48,667	-8
Children in out-of-home placement	7,018	7,332	6,955	-1
Children receiving in-home services	45,867	44,186	41,712	-9

*Includes children being supervised in their own homes, as well as those in out-of-home placement. Data as of December 31.

Race/Ethnicity of Children Involved with the NJ Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P)

	2014	2015	% Change 14-15
Children Receiving In-Home DCP&P Services	%	%	%
Black or African American	32	33	3
White	27	28	4
Hispanic	23	28	22
Other	3	3	0
Missing or Undetermined	15	8	-47
Children in DCP&P Out-of-Home Placement	%	%	% Change 14-15
Black or African American	42	42	0
White	30	29	-3
Hispanic	20	22	10
Other	4	5	25
Missing or Undetermined	4	2	-50

Children Entering and Exiting Out-of-Home Care

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Entering Care	4,926	5,482	5,074	3
Exiting Care	5,600	5,667	5,146	-8

Referrals and Investigations

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Referrals for child abuse/neglect investigation	60,402	59,972	57,079	-6
Referrals for child welfare services	12,729	16,011	17,332	36

Child Abuse/Neglect Substantiations

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Number of children where abuse/neglect has been substantiated/established	9,326	11,972	11,556	24
Percentage of children where abuse/neglect has been substantiated/established	10.0	12.7	12.8	28

5 The State of Child Protection

Children Found to be Abused or Neglected After Prior Report of Abuse or Neglect

	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
After previous unsubstantiated report, w/in 6 months	1,356	2.0	1,547	2.2	1,968	2.9	45	45
After previous unsubstantiated report, w/in 12 months	2,293	3.4	2,805	4.1	3,178	4.7	39	38
After previous substantiated report, w/in 6 months	209	4.2	258	4.5	365	5.2	75	24
After previous substantiated report, w/in 12 months	278	5.6	430	7.6	556	7.9	100	41

Children Who are Confirmed as Victims of Maltreatment (by Race)

Children Who are Confirmed by CPS as Victims of Maltreatment	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Non-Hispanic White	2,735	31	2,126	24	2,281	24	-17	-23
Non-Hispanic Black	2,554	29	2,072	23	2,292	24	-10	-17
Non-Hispanic Asian/Native Hawaiian	114	N/A	69	1	65	<1	-43	N/A
Non-Hispanic American Indian	2	1	3	N/A	8	<1	300	N/A
Non-Hispanic Multiple Race Groups	120	1	123	1	149	2	24	100
Hispanic or Latino	1,488	17	2,071	23	2,011	21	35	24
Race Unknown	1,682	19	2,510	28	2,634	28	57	47

N/A indicates data not available.

Repeat Child Abuse/Neglect

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Percentage of children who were not victims of repeat child abuse/neglect	94.3	94.2	94.8	1

Children in Out-of-Home Care, by Type of Placement

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
Group and residential homes	725	523	495	-32
Kinship foster homes	2,379	2,899	2,710	14
Resource families (non-kin)	3,770	3,790	3,634	-4
Independent Living	144	110	116	-19
Total	7,018	7,322	6,955	-1

*Data are as of December 31.

5 The State of Child Protection

Children Abused/Neglected After Reunification with Family

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Abuse/Neglect within 12 months of reunification	245	295	321	31
Percentage of children abused/neglected within 12 months of reunification	7.1	8.5	8.3	17

Foster Care Re-Entry

Exit Year	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Percentage of children who exit foster care and re-enter within 12 months	14	13	12	-14

Children Entering Foster Care (by Race)

	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Non-Hispanic White	1,329	28	1,583	30	1,591	30	20	7
Non-Hispanic Black	1,916	40	1,853	35	2,085	39	9	-3
Non-Hispanic Asian/Native Hawaiian	36	1	41	1	41	1	14	0
Non-Hispanic American Indian	3	<0	1	N/A	2	<0.5	-33	N/A
Non-Hispanic Multiple Race Groups	106	2	132	3	151	3	42	50
Hispanic or Latino	857	18	1,137	22	1,114	21	30	17
Race Unknown	541	11	506	10	377	7	-30	-36

N/A indicates data not available

Children Exiting Foster Care (by Race)

	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Non-Hispanic White	1,509	28	1,353	28	1,410	27	-7	-4
Non-Hispanic Black	2,386	44	1,836	39	2,045	40	-14	-9
Non-Hispanic Asian/Native Hawaiian	30	1	33	1	44	1	47	0
Non-Hispanic American Indian	3	<0.5	N/A	N/A	2	<0.5	N	N/A
Non-Hispanic Multiple Race Groups	167	3	157	3	152	3	N	0
Hispanic or Latino	891	16	1,059	22	1,188	23	33	44
Race Unknown	427	8	329	7	295	6	-31	-25

N/A indicates data not available

5 The State of Child Protection

Adoptions

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
State-finalized adoptions	1,171	1,021	1,057	-10

Children in Foster Care Waiting for Adoption (by Race)

	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Non-Hispanic White	626	23	566	25	685	28	9	22
Non-Hispanic Black	1,446	54	1,024	46	1,022	42	-29	-22
Non-Hispanic Asian/Native Hawaiian	8	0	2	N/A	5	<0.5	-38	N/A
Non-Hispanic American Indian	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	2	<0.5	N/A	N/A
Non-Hispanic Multiple Race Groups	81	3	119	5	120	5	48	67
Hispanic or Latino	383	14	429	19	482	20	26	43
Race Unknown	142	5	86	4	127	5	-11	0

N/A indicates data not available

Children in Legal Limbo Awaiting a Permanent Home

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
Children legally free but not adopted	1,037	1,104	984	-5

Amount of Time to Family Reunification for Children (%)

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Less than 12 months	70	77	75	7
12 to 23 months	19	15	19	0
24 to 35 months	6	5	4	-33
35 to 47 months	2	2	1	-50
48 or more months	2	1	1	-50

Amount of Time to Adoption for Children (%)

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Less than 12 months	4	4	2	-50
12 to 23 months	23	21	23	0
24 to 35 months	34	37	35	3
35 to 47 months	22	21	21	-5
48 or more months	16	17	18	13

5 The State of Child Protection

Children Living in Permanent Homes with Relatives (Kinship Legal Guardianship)

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
Subsidized Kinship Legal Guardianship	2,420	2,081	2,049	-15

Older Youth Under DCP&P Supervision*

	2011	2014	2015	% Change 11-15
Youth 13 - 17 under state supervision	12,164	9,755	10,800	-11
Percentage of youth under state supervision who are 13 - 17	23	21	22	-4
Youth 18 - 21 under state supervision	2,115	1,708	2,015	-5
Percentage of youth under state supervision who are 18 - 21	4	4	4	0

*Youth under state supervision may or may not be in out-of-home care.

6 The State of Teens and Young Adults



In 2014, approximately 111,000 of New Jersey's 18- to 24-year-olds lived in poverty, an increase over the previous year's number of 110,000. Despite this, New Jersey's teens and young adults demonstrate several positive gains. As of 2014, 14 percent of New Jersey's 18- to 24-year-olds received bachelor's degree or higher — outperforming the national average of 10 percent. The number and percentage of teens, ages 16-19, neither enrolled in school nor working decreased by 25 percent from 2010–2014. Roughly 11 percent of Black teens ages 16–19 are idle.

Advancing numbers of young adults acquired health insurance, reducing the number of uninsured youth by 35 percent from 2010 to 2014. Nevertheless, approximately 18 percent of New Jersey's 19- to 24-year-olds still live without insurance. Teen births continue to decline across the state, with New Jersey's birth rate of 17 per 1,000 girls for 15- to 19-year-olds falling far below the national average of 29. Teen birth rates vary greatly amongst different racial and ethnic groups. Blacks/African-Americans and Hispanics/Latinas had the highest teen birth rates in the state at 30 per 1,000 and 29 per 1,000 respectively. In 2014, girls experienced a decrease in diagnoses of chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis. However, it is important to note that while sexually transmitted diagnoses for girls declined from 2010 to 2014, they continue to receive a higher number of diagnoses than do their male peers.

Juvenile-justice-related statistics demonstrate marked progress. The juvenile arrest rate for the state decreased by an astounding 50 percent from 2009–2013, and the number of commitments and admissions to state and county juvenile facilities decreased by about 40 percent during the 2010–2014 period. Furthermore, Black youth saw a 14 percent decrease in the number of arrests from 2012 to 2013, while Hispanics (of any race) saw a 12 percent decrease. Black youth continue to be overrepresented amongst the juvenile detention population. As of 2014, Black youth comprised 65 percent of New Jersey's juvenile detainees. The presence of Black youth in New Jersey's juvenile justice system is especially stark given that they constitute only 14 percent of the state's youth ages 12–17. Teen deaths decreased from 2008 to 2012, with the teen death rate decreasing by 12 percent.

6 The State of Teens and Young Adults

Young Adults in Poverty

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Young adults 18-24 in poverty	111,000	110,000	111,000	0
Percentage of young adults 18-24 in poverty	16	15	15	-6

Youth and Young Adults Who Are Idle

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Young adults 18-24 not working, not in school, and have no degree beyond high school	111,000	104,000	100,000	-10
Percentage of young adults 18-24 not working, not in school, and have no degree beyond high school	14	13	13	-7
Teens 16-19 not working and not attending school	36,000	30,000	27,000	-25
Percentage of teens 16-19 not working and not attending school	8	6	6	-25

Teens Ages 16 to 19 Not Working and Not in School

	2010		2013		2014		% Change 10-14	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Asian and Pacific Islander	1,000	3	1,000	2	1,000	2	0	-33
Black or African American	11,000	14	9,000	12	8,000	11	-27	-21
Hispanic or Latino	14,000	14	9,000	9	7,000	7	-50	-50
Non-Hispanic White	11,000	4	12,000	5	10,000	4	-9	0
Two or More Races	1,000	6	<500	2	1,000	8	0	33
Total	36,000*	8	30,000*	6	27,000*	6	-29	-25

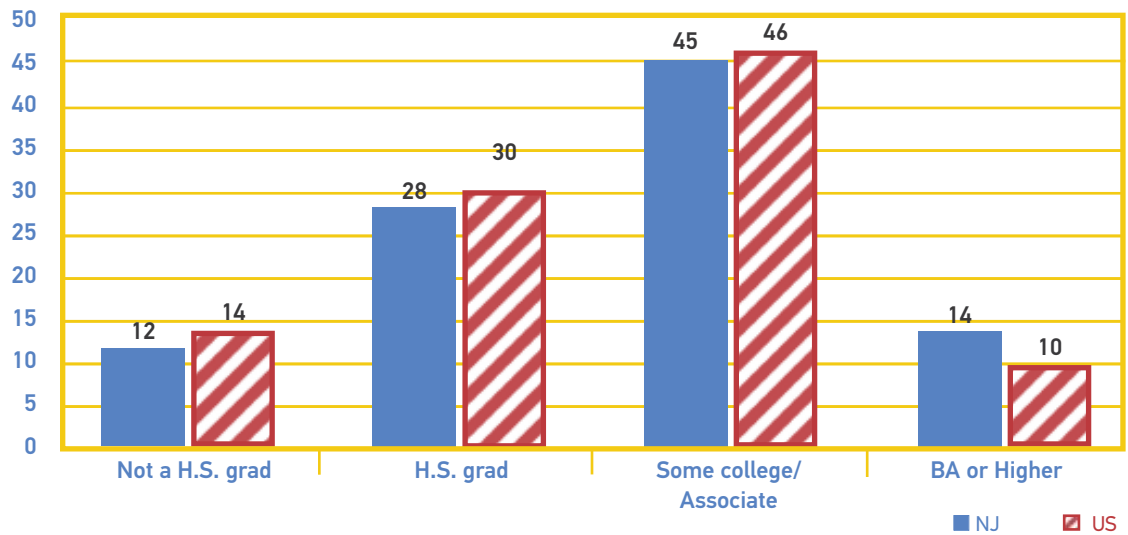
*Columns may not sum to totals due to those who report more than one category.

NJ vs. US — 2014

	NJ	US
Percentage of young adults 18-24 in poverty	15	25
Percentage of young adults 18-24 who are not working, not in school, and have no degree beyond high school	13	15

6 The State of Teens and Young Adults

Highest Level of Education Completed in 2014, 18–24 Year Olds, Percentage



Health Insurance

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Youth 19–24 who have no health insurance	190,184	156,346	123,904	-35
Percentage of youth 19–24 who have no health insurance	30	23	18	-38

NJ vs. US, Health Insurance, 2014

	NJ	US
Number of youth 19–24 who lack health insurance	123,904	5,285,944
Percentage of youth 19–24 who lack health insurance	18	20

Births to Teens

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Births to females 10–19	6,933	5,301	4,722	-32
Births to females 10–19 as a percentage of all births	6.5	5.3	4.8	-26
Births to females 15–19	6,865	5,245	4,651	-32
Births to females 15–19 as a percentage of all births	6.4	5.2	4.7	-27
Percentage of births to females through age 19 who were already mothers	18	16	16	-11

6 The State of Teens and Young Adults

Births to Teens, NJ vs. US, 2012

	NJ	US
Birth rate for 15- to 19-year-olds per 1,000 girls in this age group	17	29
Percentage of births to females through age 19 who are already mothers	16	17

Births to Teens by Race

Births to Teens Ages 15 through 19

	2010		2013		2014		% Change 10-14	
	#	Rate per 1,000	#	Rate per 1,000	#	Rate per 1,000	#	Rate per 1,000
American Indian	14	N/A	20	9	16	N/A	14	N/A
Asian and Pacific Islander	49	N/A	48	2	34	1	-31	N/A
Black or African American	2,301	41	1,626	31	1,543	30	-33	-27
Hispanic or Latino	2,579	43	2,055	33	1,832	29	-29	-33
Non-Hispanic White	1,186	N/A	774	5	671	5	-43	N/A
Total	5,793	20	4,188	15	3,678	13	-37	-35

Juvenile Justice—Arrests

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Juvenile arrests	48,923	29,723	24,795	-49
Juvenile arrest rate	24	15	12	-49

Juvenile Justice—Commitments and Detention

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Juvenile commitments	485	314	274	-44
Admissions to juvenile county detention	5,569	3,791	3,350	-40
Average daily population as a percentage of approved capacity	55	49	47	-15
Average length of stay in detention in days	30	34	24	-20

Teen Arrests (13 - 19) by Type of Offense as Percentage of All Arrests

	2009	2012	2013	% Change 09-13
Violent offenses	23	18	18	-22
Property crimes	36	25	21	-42
Drug offenses	25	24	21	-16
Weapons possession, carrying	37	28	27	-27

6 The State of Teens and Young Adults

Teen Arrests (13–19) by Type of Offense as Percentage of All Arrests, NJ vs. US, 2013

	NJ	US
Drug offenses	21	18
Weapons possession, carrying	27	23
Violent crimes	18	18
Property crimes	21	25

Juvenile Arrest Indicators by Race - New Jersey

	2012		2013		% Change 12-13	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total Juvenile Arrests	29,961		24,795		-17	
Total Juvenile Arrests by Race						
White	17,198	57	13,765	56	-20	-3
Black	12,348	41	10,671	43	-14	4
American Indian or Alaskan Native	53	0	28	0	-47	-36
Asian or Pacific Islander	362	1	331	1	-9	10
Total Juvenile Arrests by Ethnic Origin						
Hispanic	5,857	20	5,162	21	-12	6
Non-Hispanic	24,104	80	19,633	79	-19	-2

Juveniles in Detention Facilities by Race – New Jersey

	2010		2013		2014		% Change 10-14	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Juveniles in Detention Facilities								
White	840	15	513	14	417	12	-50	-19
Black	3,507	64	2,456	65	2,167	65	-38	1
Hispanic	1,085	20	765	20	697	20	-36	0
Other	57	1	57	2	69	1	21	-10

Police Disposition of Juveniles Taken into Custody, 2013

	Number	%
Handled within police department and released	7,858	32
Referred to juvenile court or probation department	16,005	65
Referred to child welfare agency	294	1
Referred to other police agency	175	1
Referred to criminal or adult court	222	1

6 The State of Teens and Young Adults

Sexually Transmitted Infections

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Males 16 - 20 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	2,793	2,943	2,921	5
Rate per 1,000 males diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	9	10	10	8
Females 16 - 20 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	10,267	9,340	8,990	-12
Rate per 1,000 females diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	28	33	32	15
All youth 16 - 20 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis (includes youth where sex is not known)	13,108	12,308	11,931	-9
Rate per 1,000 youth diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis	19	21	21	11

Teen Deaths (15-19)

	2008	2011	2012	% Change 08-12
Teen deaths	209	190	185	-11
Teen death rate per 100,000 teens	41	36	36	-12

	2008	2011	2013	% Change 08-13
Teen deaths by accident, homicide, suicide, rate per 100,000 teens	27	25	21	-22

Teen Deaths by Race

	2009		2012		2013		% Change 09-13	
	#	Rate per 100,000	#	Rate per 100,000	#	Rate per 100,000	#	Rate per 100,000
Non-Hispanic White	106	32	96	30	99	32	-7	0
Black or African American	65	61	69	64	54	51	-17	-16
Hispanic or Latino	41	38	44	35	31	24	-24	-37
Total	213	37	213	36	192	33	-10	-11

Teen Deaths, NJ vs. US, 2013

	NJ	US
Teen death rate per 100,000 teens	33	45

Teens Ages 12 to 17 Who Abused Alcohol or Drugs in the Past Year

	2009-2010	2012-2013	2013-2014	% Change 10-14
Number	42,000	36,000	36,000	-14
Percentage	6	5	5	-17

7 The State of Immigrant Families



In 2014, the number of foreign-born children living in New Jersey decreased from 2010 by 12 percent—yet, the number of children with citizenship status living in immigrant families continues to slowly increase, up 9 percent in 2014 from 2010.

Children in immigrant families living in poverty are on the rise, continually growing since 2010. Similarly, the number of children in immigrant families living below 200 percent of the federal poverty level grew by 20 percent from 2010 to 2014. Additionally, nearly a quarter of foreign born immigrant workers earned less than \$25,000, and 17 percent of immigrant households with children under 18 lived in poverty, indicating troubling economic circumstances for New Jersey's immigrant families.

Single-female-led immigrant households experienced alarming rates of poverty: 29 percent for all female-led immigrant households, and 42 percent for single mothers with children under 5 years of age. It is important to note, however, that a greater percentage of children in immigrant families live with married-couple parents than do children in US-born families.

7 The State of Immigrant Families

Foreign-born Children

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Foreign-born children	116,910	112,675	103,338	-12
Percentage foreign-born children	6	6	5	-15

Children in Immigrant Families in Poverty

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Number of children in immigrant families below 100% of the federal poverty level	108,000	136,000	137,000	27
Percentage of children in immigrant families below 100% of the federal poverty level	16	19	19	19
Number of children in immigrant families below 200% of the federal poverty level	245,000	288,000	295,000	20
Percentage of children in immigrant families below 200% of the federal poverty level	35	39	40	14

Children in Immigrant Families and Citizenship

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Children in immigrant families	696,000	730,000	733,000	5
Percentage of children in immigrant families	34	36	36	6
Children in immigrant families who are citizens	608,000	649,000	660,000	9
Percentage of children in immigrant families who are citizens	87	89	90	3
Children in immigrant families where parent has been in the country 5 years or less	20,000	20,000	21,000	5
Percentage of children in immigrant families where parent has been in the country 5 years or less	3	3	3	0

Immigrant Family Structure

	2010		2013		2014		% Change 10-14	
	Children in Immigrant Families	Children in US Born Families	Children in Immigrant Families	Children in US Born Families	Children in Immigrant Families	Children in US Born Families	Children in Immigrant Families	Children in US Born Families
Children with all available parents NOT in the labor force	39,000	88,000	40,000	90,000	40,000	78,000	3	-11
Percentage of children with all available parents NOT in the labor force	6	7	5	7	5	6	-17	-14
Children in married couple families	529,000	882,000	544,000	807,000	537,000	789,000	2	-11
Percentage of children in married couple families	77	68	75	66	74	65	-4	-4
Children in single-parent families	158,000	421,000	182,000	420,000	191,000	421,000	21	0
Percentage of children in single-parent families	23	32	25	34	26	35	13	9

7 The State of Immigrant Families

Children in Immigrant Families and Language

	2010	2013	2014	% Change 10-14
Children ages 5-17 who speak a language other than English at home*	423,000	419,000	421,000	0
% of children	28	28	28	0
Children ages 5-17 in immigrant families who have difficulty speaking English**	79,000	61,000	60,000	-24
% of all children in immigrant families	5	4	4	-20

Immigrant Workers and Their Families, 2014 (%)

	NJ US Born	NJ Foreign Born	US Foreign Born
Not a high school graduate	8	19	30
Earns less than \$25,000 /year	12	24	30
Median earnings for full-time, year round male workers	\$65,528	\$48,010	\$37,544
Median earnings for full-time, year round female workers	\$50,973	\$40,376	\$32,774
Poor families with children under 18	11	17	24
Single-mother householder in poverty	20	29	35
Single-mother householder in poverty with children under 5	35	42	43
Owned homes	68	49	51
Rented homes	32	51	49
No vehicle available	10	16	13
No phone	1	2	3

Section 1: The State of Children and Families

Total population, 2010 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, Population Division. Historical data have been changed to reflect updated population estimates from the US Census Bureau.

Child population under 18, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, Population Division. Historical data have been changed to reflect updated population estimates from the US Census Bureau.

Child population under 5, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, Population Division. Historical data have been changed to reflect updated population estimates from the US Census Bureau.

Total Births, 2008, 2011, 2012. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

Births to Unmarried Women, 2008, 2011, 2012. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

Families headed by one parent, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B11005.

Grandchildren Being Cared for by Their Grandparents, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10056.

Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10001.

Child population by race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey charts B01001B, B01001F, B01001H, B01001D and B01001G.

Child Population by Race and Age Group, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Section 2: The State of Family Economics

Median income of families with children, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B19125.

Children in Families that are Poor or Low-Income, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org> and the US Census Bureau, American Community survey chart B17024.

Family Economics, NJ vs. US, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Single parents below poverty level, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children living in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

New Jersey Births by Mother's Education Level, 2008, 2011, 2012. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

Housing for low-income families, 2010, 2013, 2014, NJ vs. US. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children living in families receiving welfare (TANF), 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. The number of children living in families receiving Temporary Aid for Needy Families. Data are from June of each year.

Households without enough food, 2008-2010, 2009-2011, 2010-2012, 2011-2013, 2012-2014, NJ vs. US. As reported by the Economic Research Service, US Department of Agriculture.

Children receiving NJ SNAP (Food Stamps) 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

Women, infants and children receiving nutritional support (WIC), 2011, 2014, 2015. Number of women, infants and children receiving WIC benefits, which include health care referrals, immunizations, screenings, nutritional counseling and a monthly food stipend. Reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Family Health Services Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) for the quarter ending June 30th of each year.

Average monthly Food Stamps benefit per recipient, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013. As reported by the Food Research and Action Center *State of the States* annual reports.

Participation Rate of Eligible NJ Residents in Food Stamp Program, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012. As reported by the Food Research and Action Center *State of the States* annual reports.

School Meals, 2011-12, 2014-15, 2015-16. Rates calculated using eligibility data from the NJ Department of Education and participation data from the NJ Department of Agriculture. Includes children attending traditional public schools and charter schools.

NJ earned income tax credits, 2013, 2014. Number of New Jersey taxpayers receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and the average credit amount, by all recipients and by recipients with dependents under the age of 19, as reported by the NJ Department of Treasury. Data prior to 2012 are not available.

Federal earned income tax credits, 2010, 2013, 2014. Number of New Jersey taxpayers claiming a federal EITC and average claim, as reported by the Internal Revenue Service.

Data Sources and Technical Notes

Total open child support cases, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, State Box Scores.

Percentage of cases with support orders, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Unaudited Performance Incentive Scores for each year.

Child support collection rates, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Unaudited Performance Incentive Scores for each year.

Cost effectiveness of collections, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Unaudited Performance Incentive Scores for each year.

Children in Poverty by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children in Low-income Families by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children Living in Households Spending Too Much on Housing by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children Living in Families Where No Parent has Full-time Employment by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children Living in Families Where the Household Head Lacks a High School Diploma by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children Living in Single Parent Families by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Section 3: The State of Early Care and Education

Public preschool enrollments, 2010-2011, 2013-2014, 2014-2015. Number of students enrolled in half- and full-day NJ Department of Education approved programs, operated both in-district and in community centers, as reported by the NJ Department of Education, October enrollment counts of each year. Excludes children enrolled in Head Start or other federally-funded programs that do not receive any state aid.

Percentage of children not enrolled in nursery school, preschool or kindergarten, ages 3 – 5, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children enrolled in Head Start, 2010, 2013, 2014. US Administration for Children and Families, Head Start Program Fact Sheets for each year.

Licensed child care centers and capacity, 2011, 2014, 2015. The number and capacity of state-licensed child care centers as reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

Registered family day care providers, 2011, 2014, 2015. The number of registered providers offering child care in their homes as reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

Child population 0 – 5, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of Centers for Disease Control, National Center for Health Statistics, Vintage 2012 postcensal estimates of the resident population of the United States. Data files prepared under a collaborative arrangement between CDC/NCHS and the US Census Bureau.

Number and percent children 0 – 5 with all parents working, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, chart b23008. Includes children in two parent households where both parents are working and children in single parent households where that parent is working.

Number and percent children 0 – 5 in single-parent households, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, chart b09002.

Average annual costs of child care, 2013. As reported by the NJ Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NJACCRRRA), *The State of Child Care in New Jersey: A Profile of Key Child Care Indicators 2013*. The average annual costs were compiled by local CCR&Rs through a survey that is reported annually to Child Care Aware of America. Figures only include those centers that report their fees to Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies. Data reused from 2015 Kids Count due to unavailability of more recent data.

Public kindergarten enrollments, 2010-2011, 2013-2014, 2014-2015. The number of students enrolled in half- and full-day public kindergarten, as reported by the NJ Department of Education, October enrollment counts of each year.

Percent of Kindergarten Students Held Back or Retained by Race, 2011-12. As reported by the US Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Civil Rights Data Collection, 2011-12; the NCES Common Core of Data, "Public Elementary/Secondary School Universe Survey," 2011-12. From the Civil Rights Data Collection Data Snapshot: Early Childhood Education, Issue Brief No. 2 (March 2014). ACNJ advised that 2013-14 data will be made public during summer 2016.

Public school enrollment, 2010-2011, 2013-2014, 2014-2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October enrollment counts.

Public school special education enrollment, 2010-2011, 2013-2014, 2014-2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Special Education Data.

Homeless Students, 2010-2011, 2013-2014, 2014-2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Education.

Chronically Absent Students, 2014. As reported by the New Jersey Department of Education. For more information, see ACNJ's: [Showing Up Matters: The State of Chronic Absenteeism in New Jersey](#). Data as of October 2014.

Data Sources and Technical Notes

PARCC English Language Arts Results, 2014-2015. As Reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Reports. Scores for tests are administered in the spring of each year. Scores for economically disadvantaged students are based on eligibility for free- and reduced-price lunch. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5.

PARCC Math Results, 2014-2015. As Reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Reports. Scores for tests are administered in the spring of each year. Scores for economically disadvantaged students are based on eligibility for free- and reduced-price lunch. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5.

PARCC English Language Arts Results by Race, 2014-2015. Reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Reports. Scores for tests are administered in the spring of each year. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5.

PARCC Math by Race, 2014-2015. Reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Reports. Scores for tests are administered in the spring of each year. Percentage meeting or exceeding standards are those students scoring Level 4 or Level 5.

PARCC Testing for Classes 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

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NJ Department of Education. (March 2016) High School Graduation Requirements. Retrieved from www.state.nj.us/education/assessment/parents/GradReq.pdf.

Achievement Gap, 2014-15. NJ Department of Education, NJ Statewide Assessment Data. The average gap, in percent, between economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantaged students passing tests in 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 11th grades for each year. Includes students passing standardized achievement tests in language arts and math. The average was weighted to take into account different numbers of students who take each test in each grade. 2014-2015 scores are not comparable to previous years due to differences in tests administered.

School violence, vandalism, weapons, and substance abuse incidents, 2011-2012, 2014-2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Commissioner of Education's Report on Violence, Vandalism and Substance Abuse in NJ Public Schools each year.

Students Taking SATs, 2009-2010, 2012-2013, 2013-2014. As reported by the US Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Digest of Education Statistics.

High School Graduation Rate, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data are not available prior to the 2010-11 school year. In 2011 the Department of Education changed the way that graduation rates are calculated to the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate.

High School Graduation Rate by Race, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data by race are not available prior to the 2011-12 school year. In 2011, the Department of Education changed the way that graduation rates are calculated to the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate.

Section 4: The State of Child Health

Children without health insurance, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census, American Community Survey table C27001 .

Children without Health Insurance by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, from the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau American Community Survey.

Low-income uninsured children, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census, Current Population Survey, table HI-10.

Uninsured children, NJ vs. US, 2014. Data on all children are from the US Census, Current Population Survey, table HI-05. Data on income levels via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services as of March of each year. Includes children enrolled in Medicaid, which is available to children living in families earning below 133% of the federal poverty level and children enrolled in the SCHIP portion of NJ FamilyCare, which is available to children living in families earning between 134% and 350% of the federal poverty level.

Low-birthweight babies, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012. The number of babies weighing less than 2,500 grams, as reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

Women receiving early prenatal care, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012. Live births for which the mother received early prenatal care (onset in first trimester), as reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

Percentage of mothers receiving first trimester prenatal care by race, 2008, 2011, 2012. Calculations based on data from the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

Data Sources and Technical Notes

Percentage of low-birthweight babies by race/ethnicity of mother, 2008, 2011, 2012. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

Infant mortality, number and rate, 2008, 2011, 2012. Counts infants who die within the first year of life. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data. 2010 data are preliminary.

Child deaths, number and rate, 2008, 2011, 2012. Counts children who died between the ages of 1 – 14. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data. 2010 data are preliminary.

Child Deaths by Race, 2009, 2012, 2013. Deaths to children between ages 1 and 14, rate is per 100,000 children in this age range. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Percentage of children immunized by age 2, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Centers for Disease Control, National Immunization Survey. The percent of children receiving the complete series of four or more doses of the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccines; three or more doses of poliovirus vaccine; and one or more doses of any measles-mumps-rubella vaccine by age two.

Children tested for lead (6-26 months and under 6 years of age), 2013, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Family Health Services, Maternal, Child and Community Health Services, Annual reports. Any child with a blood lead level equal to or greater than 5 µg/dL (micrograms of lead per deciliter of whole blood) falls within new CDC reference levels for childhood blood lead levels. Prior to 2012, 5-9 µg/dL designation was not included in the NJ Childhood Lead Poisoning in NJ report. Data from 2012 for children 6-29 months of age. Data for 2015 are provisional.

Centers for Disease Control Blood Lead Standards: Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2012). *Low Level Lead Exposure Harms Children: A Renewed Call for Primary Prevention*.

Children who Turned 6 Years of Age During FY 2014 and Had at Least One Blood Test in Their Lifetime, percentage, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Family Health Services, Maternal, Child and Community Health Services, Annual reports.

Environmental Case Activity, 2012, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Family Health Services, Maternal, Child and Community Health Services, Annual reports.

Children living with AIDS/HIV, 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of HIV/AIDS Services. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

Children admitted to the hospital for asthma, 2010, 2012, 2014. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Hospital Discharge Data.

Children living with asthma, NJ, 2009, 2012, 2013. As reported by the American Lung Association, State of the Air Report for each year.

Percentage of children and teens (ages 10 to 17) overweight or obese, NJ and US, 2007, 2012. As reported by the 2007 and 2011/2012 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative, Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health website. www.childhealthdata.org.

Percentage of children ages 2 – 17 with problems requiring counseling who received mental health care, NJ and US, 2008, 2012. As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Survey of Children's Health.

Children who have had one or more emotional, behavioral or developmental conditions, 2007, 2011-12. Children ages 2 to 17 with a parent who reports that a doctor has told them their child has autism, developmental delays, depression or anxiety, ADD/ADHD, or behavioral/conduct problems. As reported by the Child Trends analysis of data from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, National Survey of Children's Health, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>

Division of Children's System of Care (formerly Behavioral Health Services) enrollment, 2010, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, Division of Children's System of Care. Data are as of June 30 for 2010, 2014, and December for 2015. Includes children receiving care management through DCBHS via Care Management Organizations (CMOs), Youth Case Management programs (YCMs) and Unified Care Management (UCM).

Children's System of Care type of out-of-home placement, 2015, %. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, Division of Children's System of Care (formerly Child Behavioral Health Services). Children in Detention Alternatives, Emergency Diagnostic, and Intensive Residential Treatment Services categorized as "Other Placements." Data are as of December.

Dental treatment for children enrolled in NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Annual EPSDT Participation Report, Form CMS-416, US Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, for each year. The Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit provides comprehensive and preventive health care services for children under age 21 who are enrolled in Medicaid or SCHIP (NJ Family-Care). Under EPSDT, states are required to provide the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services with data to assess the effectiveness of EPSDT.

Data Sources and Technical Notes

Children who lack access to fluoridated water, 2012.

Children under 18 who are on water systems which do not provide fluoridated water; assumes private water systems do not have optimal fluoride levels. As reported by the PEW Children's Dental Campaign using 2012 Population Estimates, Census Bureau state-level population estimates, 2012 CDC Fluoridation Statistics and USGS estimated use of water in the United States, county-level data, 2005, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children who have received preventive dental care in the past year, 2007, 2011-12. Children under age 18 who have seen a dentist at least once for preventive dental, such as check-ups and dental cleanings, in the past year. As reported via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, Child Trends analysis of the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH).

Dental care for children in out-of-home placement, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, Progress of the New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Monitoring Reports. Data are as of June 30 for each year. Please note that many of the children in out-of-home placement are also eligible for Medicaid.

Section 5: The State of Child Protection

Children under state child protection supervision, 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ. Department of Children and Families.

Children in out-of-home placement, 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ. Department of Children and Families.

Children receiving in-home services, 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ. Department of Children and Families.

Race/Ethnicity of Children Involved with the NJ Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P), 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, Division of Child Protection & Permanency, Quarterly Demographic Summary Data are as of June 30, 2015.

Children entering and exiting out-of-home care through DCP&P, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families.

Investigations for child abuse/neglect, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31.

Referrals for family services, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Represents calls to the state child abuse hotline where a screener determines that child abuse/neglect has not occurred but a family wants state services or intervention to prevent abuse from occurring.

Child abuse/neglect substantiations, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data from 2013 and 2014 includes findings of both substantiated and established.

Children found to be abused or neglected after prior report of abuse or neglect, 2009, 2012, 2013. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, with analysis by Chapin Hall Center for Children. Please note that in the spring of 2011 Chapin Hall, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, updated the methodology for its maltreatment data. Previously, the investigation start date was used as the trigger date for recurrence data, however this has been changed to reflect the date of referral as the trigger date.

Children Confirmed as Victims of Maltreatment, by Race, 2009, 2012, 2013. Children found to be victims of at least one substantiated or indicated maltreatment report. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) Child File. N/A indicates data are not available.

Percentage of children who were not victims of repeat child abuse/neglect, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children & Families. Child Maltreatment reports. The percentage of child abuse/neglect victims who were not victims of another incident of abuse/neglect within a 6 month period.

Children in out-of-home placement, by type of placement, 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of December 31.

Children abused/neglected after reunification with family, 2009, 2012, 2013. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, with analysis by Chapin Hall Center for Children. Please note that in the spring of 2011 Chapin Hall, in consultation with the Department of Children and Families, updated the methodology for its maltreatment data. Previously, the investigation start date was used as the trigger date for recurrence data, however this has been changed to reflect the date of referral as the trigger date.

Foster care re-entry, 2009, 2012, 2013. As reported by the Center for the Study of Social Policy, Progress of the Department of Children and Families, Monitoring Reports. The percentage of all children who leave custody and that re-enter custody within one year of the date of exit.

Children Entering Foster Care by Race, 2009, 2012, 2013. The number and percent of children and youth up to age 20, entering the foster care system. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, from Child Trends analysis of data from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), made available through the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect. N/A indicates data are not available.

Children Exiting Foster Care, by Race, 2009, 2012, 2013. The number and percent of children and youth up to age 20, exiting the foster care system. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, from Child Trends analysis of data from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), made available through the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect. N/A indicates data are not available.

Data Sources and Technical Notes

State-finalized adoptions, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, Commissioner's Dashboard Monthly Report, December 2014. Represents the number of adoptions finalized through the Department.

Children in Foster Care Waiting for Adoption, by Race, 2009, 2012, 2013. Children and youth waiting for adoption from birth up to age 20. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, from Child Trends analysis of data from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), made available through the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect. N/A indicates data not available.

Children legally free but not adopted, 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families, Commissioner's Dashboard Monthly Report, January 2016. Children whose parents' legal rights have been terminated but who have not yet been adopted.

Amount of time to reunification for children (%), 2009, 2012, 2013. As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children & Families. Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data. Please note percentages may not equal 100 due to missing data. All data previously featured in 2015 NJ Kids Count Report.

Amount of time to adoption for children (%), 2009, 2012, 2012. As reported by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children & Families. Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data. Please note percentages may not equal 100 due to missing data. All data previously featured in 2015 NJ Kids Count Report.

Children living in permanent homes with relatives (Kinship Legal Guardianship), 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of the end of each fiscal year.

Older youth under state supervision, number and percentage, 2011, 2014, 2015. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Youth under state supervision may or may not be in out-of-home care.

Section 6: The State of Teens and Young Adults

Young adults in poverty, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Young adults 18-24 who are not working, not in school and have no degree beyond high school, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Teens 16-19 not working and not attending school, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Teens ages 16 to 19 not working and not in school by race, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

NJ vs. US, young adults in poverty, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Highest level of education completed 18-24 year olds, 2014, Percentage. As reported by US Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B15001.

Youth 19-24 who have no health insurance, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, with assistance from the Population Reference Bureau.

NJ vs. US, Health Insurance, 2014. As reported by the US Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, Annual Social and Economic Supplement, 2011, with assistance from the Population Reference Bureau.

Births to females ages 10-19, 15-19, number and percentage, 2008, 2011, 2012. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data.

Percentage of births to females through age 19 who were already mothers, 2008, 2011, 2012. Percentage of all teen births that were to teenagers who had already given birth. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Births to teens, NJ vs. US, 2012. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Births to Teens by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014. Births to teenagers age 15 through 19. Rate is per 1,000 females between ages 15 and 19. N/A indicates that data are not available due to small sample size/number of cases. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Juvenile arrests, number and rate, 2009, 2012, 2013. As reported by the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Reports for each year. Rate calculated using US Census population data.

Juvenile commitments, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission.

Admissions to juvenile county detention, 2008, 2011, 2012. As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission, JDAI Annual Report for each year.

Average daily population as percent of approved capacity, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission, JDAI Annual Report for each year.

Average length of stay in detention, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission, JDAI Annual Report for each year.

Teen arrests, 13-19, by offense as percentage of all arrests, 2009, 2012, 2013. NJ data are from the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Reports. US data are from the US Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Crime in the United States Reports.

Data Sources and Technical Notes

Total Juvenile Arrests by Race and Ethnic Origin, 2012, 2013.

As reported by the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Reports for each year.

Juveniles in Detention Facilities by Race, 2010, 2013, 2014.

As reported by the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission, Juvenile Detention Statistics, Table VII, for each year.

Police disposition of juveniles taken into custody, 2013.

As reported by the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Report.

Sexually Transmitted Infections, 2010, 2013, 2014. The number and rate of 16- to 20-year-olds who were diagnosed with Chlamydia, gonorrhea, or syphilis. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services. Rates were calculated using US Census Bureau population data.

Teen deaths, 2008, 2011, 2012. Counts teenagers 15-19. As reported by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Health Statistics. Teen death rate calculated using US Census population data.

Teen deaths by accident, homicide, suicide, rate per 100,000, 2008, 2011, 2013. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>. 2012 data unavailable.

Teen Deaths by Race, 2009, 2012, 2013. Deaths to teens between age 15 and 19; rate is per 100,000 teens in this age group. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>, from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics.

Teen Deaths, NJ vs. US, 2013. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Teens ages 10 to 17 who abused alcohol or drugs in the past year, 2008-2009, 2011-2012, 2012-2013. As reported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National Survey on Drug Abuse and Health, State Estimates of Substance Abuse Use. As reported via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Section 7: The State of Immigrant Families

Foreign-born children, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, chart B05003.

Children in immigrant families, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. Children living in families where at least one member is foreign-born. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children in immigrant families who are citizens, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, 2007 through 2012, American Community Survey Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) 1-year files. With assistance from the Population Reference Bureau (PRB).

Children in immigrant families where parent has been in the country 5 years or less, number and percentage, 2010, 2013, 2014. The share of children under age 18 either foreign-born or who have at least one foreign-born parent in which neither parent has been in the country more than five years. As reported by the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children in immigrant and US born families with all available parents not in the labor force, 2010, 2013, 2014. Includes children in two parent households with neither parent in labor force, or children in a single parent household with that parent not in the labor force. As reported by the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children in married and single parent families, in immigrant and US born families, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Datacenter, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children in immigrant families in poverty, 2010, 2013, 2014. As reported by the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>

Children ages 5-17 in immigrant families who speak a language other than English at home, 2010, 2013, 2014. Includes the share of children ages 5 - 17 who speak a language other than English at home. Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Children ages 5-17 in immigrant families who have difficulty speaking English, 2010, 2013, 2014. The share of children ages 5 to 17 that speak English less than "very well", by children in foreign-born families. Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, via the Kids Count Data Center, <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

Immigrant workers and their families, 2014. As reported by the US Census Bureau, Selected Characteristics of the Native and Foreign-Born Population, 2012 American Community Survey chart S0501.

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