

Essex County Quick Facts: Children, Families, & Child Care

October 2022



Children in Essex County

30,376	Children Under Age 3
53,675	Children Under Age 5
44,514	Children Age 5 - 8 Years
33,224	Children Age 9 - 11 Years
49,436	Children under age 6 with Working Parents
66,276	School-age children (6-12) with Working Parents

Families in Essex County

110,403	Families with Children Under Age 18
61,327	Married Couples with Children Under 18
4,750	Dads Raising Children Under 18
26,947	Moms Raising Children Under 18
4,420	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Under 18

Low Income Working Families in Essex County

24.5%	% of Children under Age 5 Living in Poverty
18%	% of Children Age 5-17 Living in Poverty
17.9%	% of Families with Children Under 5 in Poverty
17.2%	% of Families with Children Under 18 in Poverty
33.9%	% of Families with Children Under 5 Living with a Single Mom in Poverty
79,943	Children Living Below 200% of Poverty
40.1%	% of Children Living Below 200% of Poverty
293,803	Children under 18/Food Insecurity in NJ
22.1%	% of Children under 18/Food Insecurity Essex County

Education Related Stats for Essex County & NJ

9,498		Children enrolled in full-day Preschool
12,429		Children in Head Start (includes 3,423 in Early Head Start) NJ Statewide
2019	2022	NAEP 4 th Grade Reading Results
16%	24%	% of White 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade Level/NJ Statewide
42%	46%	% of Hispanic 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade/NJ Statewide
46%	50%	% of Black 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade/NJ Statewide
45%	53%	% of Low-Income 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade/NJ Statewide
74,744		Children 6-17 Who Repeated a Grade (2018-2019)/NJ Statewide
6%		% of Children 6-17 Who Repeated a Grade/NJ Statewide

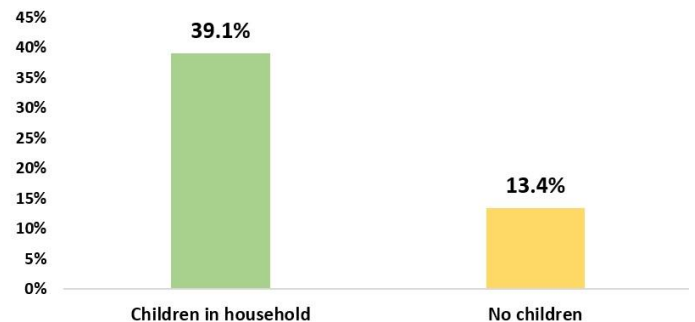
COVID-19 Impact on Families with Children

957,270

New Jersey families with children who have struggled to pay household expenses in the past week

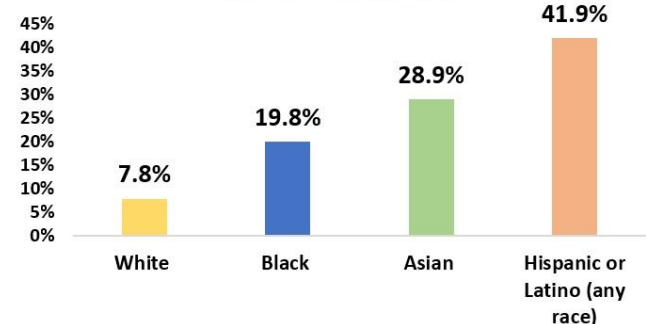
Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, July 27 – August 8, 2022

New Jersey Households Behind on Rent by Presence of Children



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, July 27 - August 8, 2022

New Jersey Households Behind on Rent by Race & Ethnicity



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey, July 27 – August 8, 2022

Essex County High School Graduation

91.5%	High School on Time Graduate Rate (2019)
86.2%	High School Graduate Rate, Economically Disadvantaged (2019)

Child Care Subsidies in Essex County (FY2021)

7,397	Average Monthly Number of Children with Subsidy
4,412	Average Monthly Number of Families with Subsidy
6,831	Children in Licensed Care with Subsidy
97.9%	% of Children with Subsidy in Licensed Care
146	Children in Unlicensed Care with Subsidy
2.1%	% of Children with Subsidy in Unlicensed Care
Some	Provider Payment Rates at 75 th Percentile of Market Rate as Recommended by U.S. HHS

2021 Market Rates at 75th Percentile in Essex County (Annual Fees for Families)

\$14,400	Center-based Infant Care Annual Fees
\$15,900	Center-based Preschool-age Annual Fees
\$9,360	Family Child Care Home Infant Annual Fees
\$8,760	Family Child Care Home Preschool Annual Fees
\$14,963	NJ Annual Cost of 4-Year Public College Tuition & Related Fees for In-State Residents (2022)

Source: [2021 Child Care Market Rate Survey](#), Rutgers University, for NJ Dept. of Human Services, Division of Family Development (July 5, 2022).

The Division of Family Development (DFD) is temporarily paying a \$300 per child per month differential for providers caring for children whose care is paid for with a subsidy to support access to child care for low income families and to help stabilize the child care market. With COVID-19 rates up and down, this is critical support for both families and child care businesses.

Child Age Group	Center Providers					Family Child Care Providers				
	75th Percentile Market Rate (Monthly Fees)	State Assistance Monthly Rate with differential payment (\$300 per child)	State Assistance Percentile of Market	75th Percentile Market Rate Annualized	State Assistance Annualized	75th Percentile Market Rate (Monthly Fees)	State Assistance Monthly Rate with differential payment (\$300 per child)	State Assistance Percentile of Market	75th Percentile Market Rate Annualized	State Assistance Annualized
Infant	\$1,455	\$1,524	81st	\$17,460	\$18,288	\$900	\$1,170	93rd	\$10,800	\$14,040
Toddler	\$1,400	\$1,351	69th	\$16,800	\$16,212	\$800	\$1,170	93rd	\$9,600	\$14,040
Preschooler	\$1,260	\$1,207	69th	\$15,120	\$14,484	\$800	\$1,027	91st	\$9,600	\$12,324
School-age	\$575	\$1,150	94th	\$6,900	\$13,800	\$764	\$1,027	93rd	\$9,168	\$12,324

Source: [2021 Child Care Market Rate Survey](#), Prepared by the School of Social Work, Rutgers University, for New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development (July 5, 2022).

Sources:

U.S. Census Bureau, [Table B09001 Population Under 18 Years of Age](#), 2021 American Community Survey, 1 Year Estimates

U.S. Census Bureau, [Table B23008, Age of Own Children Under 18 in Families by Living Arrangement & Employment Status](#), 2021 American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates.

U.S. Census Bureau, [School-age Children with Working Parents](#), 2021 American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates, Public Use Microdata

U.S. Census Bureau, [Table DP03 Selected Economic Characteristics](#), 2021 American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates

U.S. Census Bureau, [Table DP02 Selected Social Characteristics](#), 2021 American Community Survey 1 Year Estimates

U.S. Census Bureau, [Table B17024 Age by Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months](#), 2021 American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates

National Center for Education Statistics, [2019 Reading Grades 4 and 8 Assessment Report Cards: Summary Data Tables for National and State Average Scores and NAEP Achievement Level Results](#). 2022 NAEP 4th Grade Reading Results, NJ. <https://www.nationsreportcard.gov/reading/states/achievement/?grade=4>

NJ Department of Education, Full-day preschool enrollment, [NJ School Performance Report 2020-2021](#); High School Graduation Rates (2018-2019), [NJ School Performance Report 2018-2019](#).

Annie E. Casey, Kids Count Data Center, New Jersey Profile: [Children Age 6-17 Who Repeated One or More Years of School](#).

U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, [Table 2. Food Sufficiency for Households with Children, in the Last 7 Days, by Select Characteristics](#). July 27 - August 8, 2022. [Food Insecurity in New Jersey by County](#), Feeding America 2022.

Programs for Parents, FY2021 subsidy data for Essex County

[2021 Child Care Market Rate Survey](#), Prepared by the School of Social Work, Rutgers University, for New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development, July 5, 2022.

U.S. College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges, [Public 4-Year Universities, Average 2021-22 Tuition and Fees at Public Four-Year Institutions by State](#)

U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, [July 27 – August 8, 2022](#).

Programs for Parents
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