

Newark Kids Count 2022 A City Profile of Child Well-Being

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Alena Siddiqui, Kids Count Coordinator Alana Vega, Health Policy Analyst Catherine Felegi, Communications

Eloisa Hernandez-Ramos. **Communications** Sheldon Presser, Senior Policy Analyst Kelly Monahan, Legal Intern

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35 Halsey Street Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 643-3876 (973) 643-9153 (fax)

advocates@acnj.org

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ACNJ acknowledges that the findings and conclusions presented in this report are those of the author(s) alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the funders.

For more information or to view other Kids Count data online, visit www.acnj.org







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Advocates for Children of New Jersey is the trusted, independent voice putting children's needs first for more than 40 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.

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Introduction

How to use the Newark Data Book

For 25 years, Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) has published the Newark Kids Count Data Book, a one-stop source for child well-being data on the state's largest city. Newark Kids Count includes the latest statistics, along with five-year trend data, in the following areas: demographics, family economic security, child health, child protection, child care, education and teens.

Policymakers, including elected officials and government agencies, use the data to make informed decisions.

Service providers use the data to improve their response to emerging child-related issues in their communities or cities.

Grant writers use the data to write proposals and solicit support for programs that help children and families.

Concerned residents become better, more informed advocates using the data to identify and address problems facing children and families in their community.

A few things to remember:

- Moments and Trends.
 - ACNJ collects and displays data for multiple years, including the most recent year available. The most recent moment may tell us one fact
 - (such as the number of births in a given year), while the trend line tells us something else (births to teens declined over the last five years).
- Newark vs. Essex vs. New Jersey Data. ACNJ compares
 Newark data to Essex County and New Jersey statewide data
 where available. These comparisons help tell whether trends are
 occurring equally in all places (such as the unemployment rate,
 p. 15) or whether trends are changing faster in one place (such as
 the number of foreign-born children, p. 8).
- Calculations and Data Sources. When using this book, please take into account that some percentages and numbers are based on estimates. Smaller geographies, like cities, counties or school districts, sometimes result in suppressed data or significant margins of error. Additionally, certain indicators represent different points in time such as school years, fiscal years or calendar years. Please review the data sources listed at the end of each section for further information on individual indicators.



Letters from...



A Letter from Advocates for Children of New Jersey

The COVID-19 pandemic was devastating, particularly impacting low-income families and communities. It will be a long time before we can determine the true effect the virus had on the physical and mental health, educational opportunities and overall stability of children, youth and families. In Kids Count, we typically start with the current data and compare child well-being indicators to prior years to see whether the numbers show improvement or regression. But because of COVID-19, some data are not available, or are not comparable to prior years. The

pandemic required licensed child care centers to close April 1, 2020 unless catering to essential personnel, creating a marked dip in enrollment numbers until May 2020, when centers were allowed to resume operations with strict limitations in place. Since students attended school virtually for over a year, chronic absenteeism and participation in school meals data are skewed. Springtime standardized tests were postponed across New Jersey during the state shut down. Though testing resumed in fall of 2021, comparisons cannot be made. And lastly, data quality concerns associated with 2020 American Community Survey data, brought on by challenges surveying households during the pandemic, mean that 2019 data are the most recent we have for measures of child poverty, median income and uninsured rates.

Fortunately, New Jersey is opening back up, allowing us to get a glimpse of what is in store for the future of cities like Newark. I am very happy that we are able to share a Newark Kids Count 2022 with you. While there are indicators from prior reports that are not included this year, there is plenty of data for us to begin to get a sense of how the children and youth of Newark are doing compared to their peers in the rest of Essex County and the state.

The Kids Count Newark data reports are possible due to the generous support of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Prudential Foundation and the Victoria Foundation. We look forward to the positive changes that 2022 has already promised to bring. However, we also must acknowledge the bittersweet as well. After 20 years of leading the Victoria Foundation,

Irene Cooper-Basch is retiring. Her love of Newark is evident in her commitment to so many Newark-based organizations, moving the home of the Victoria Foundation to Newark, and her support for Newark Kids Count, understanding that data should drive decisionmaking. Irene's vision for how Kids Count could be



Irene Cooper-Basch, a long-time funder and champion of Newark Kids Count, announced her retirement as Executive Officer of the Victoria Foundation.

even more effective by including a deeper look at specific issues made the data report even more valuable for policymakers, community leaders and advocates. On behalf of the ACNJ staff and Board of Trustees, I applaud her exemplary leadership within the Newark community and at the Victoria Foundation, and extend best wishes to Craig Drinkard as he moves from co-Executive Officer into the Executive Officer role.

We hope that you find the information enclosed to be both informative and inspirational for the largest city in New Jersey.

Cecilia Zalkind, President & CEO, ACNJ

A Letter from Senator M. Teresa Ruiz

ACNJ's Newark Kids Count Report is an invaluable resource. Each year it provides meaningful data and insight into the greatest challenges facing our city's children and functions to both drive policy discussions and reflect on the impact of established initiatives.

As we continue to fully capture the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on our children and families, this year's report will certainly help to identify where the greatest needs remain. This school year we have seen so many of our students struggling, it is critical we implement programs to continue to chip away at learning loss, while addressing the social, emotional and economic strains placed on our families.

Our next generation is our greatest asset and I firmly believe our children represent the best of what New Jersey has to offer. While it has taken an immense toll on our state, the pandemic has presented a unique opportunity to address underlying inequities and strengthen our infrastructure across the board, from healthcare to education. I am hopeful this year's Newark Kids Count Report can help to drive the policy discussions in that direction as we continue efforts to mitigate longstanding disparities.

My sincerest thanks to ACNJ for putting together this report and continuing to be a tireless advocate for the children and families of New Jersey.

Senator M. Teresa Ruiz Senate Majority Leader New Jersey State Legislature – District 29



1 Demographics

Demographic Trends

The city of Newark saw a slight increase in its child population from 2015 to 2019, growing from more than 68,000 children to just under 70,000. Between 2016 and 2020, births decreased by 10% in Newark, mirroring similar trends across the state and Essex County. In 2020, 50% of all births in Newark were to foreign-born mothers.

Total Population

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	281,913	281,770	285,156	282,102	281,999	0
Essex	797,434	796,914	808,285	799,767	798,975	0
New Jersey	8,958,013	8,944,469	9,005,644	8,908,520	8,882,190	-1
Newark's % of Essex	35	35	35	35	35	
Newark's % of NJ	3	3	3	3	3	

Child Population Under Age 18

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	68,415	65,706	70,129	69,941	69,322	1
Essex	191,267	189,492	190,780	188,978	189,378	-1
New Jersey	1,998,865	1,984,439	1,978,796	1,951,005	1,938,024	-3
Newark's % of Essex	36	35	37	37	37	
Newark's % of NJ	3	3	4	4	4	

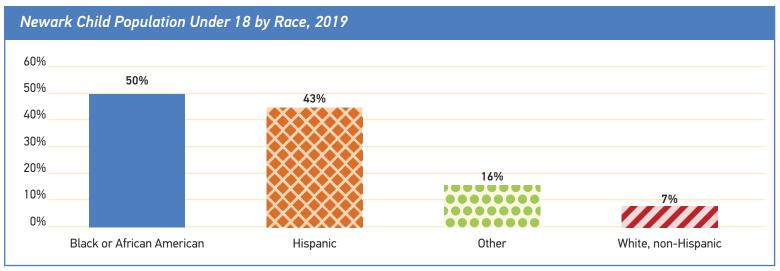
Child Population Under Age 18 as a Percentage of Total Population

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Newark	24	23	25	25	25
Essex	24	24	24	24	24
New Jersey	22	22	22	22	22

Newark's Child Population Under 18 by Race

		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	% Change 15-19
	Number	%	Number								
Black or African American	34,861	51	33,162	50	33,419	48	35,037	50	34,915	50	0
White, non-Hispanic	4,556	7	5,477	8	4,547	6	3,112	4	4,666	7	2
Hispanic	28,200	41	26,423	40	29,919	43	31,710	45	29,603	43	5
Other	13,189	19	11,866	18	16,483	24	15,586	22	11,216	16	-15

Note: Total percentages for each year exceed 100% as Hispanics could be of any race.



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1

Demographics

Foreign-Born Children

		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	% Change 15-19
	Number	%	Number								
Newark	6,301	9	5,378	8	6,610	9	6,895	10	9,766	14	55
Essex	13,199	7	11,686	6	17,937	9	14,522	8	16,948	9	28
New Jersey	108,649	5	108,663	5	121,525	6	115,455	6	119,079	6	10

Total Births

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	% Change 16-20
Newark	4,277	4,179	4,302	3,950	3,860	-10
Essex	10,422	10,277	10,399	9,890	9,618	-8
New Jersey	102,473	101,159	101,171	99,305	97,143	-5

^{*}Indicates preliminary data.

Births to Foreign-Born Women

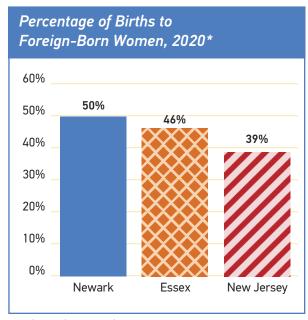
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	% Change 16-20
Newark	1,920	2,007	2,041	1,930	1,930	1
Essex	4,564	4,677	4,785	4,524	4,430	-3
New Jersey	41,443	41,150	40,743	39,691	37,528	-9

^{*}Indicates preliminary data.

Births to Unmarried Women

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	% Change 16-20
Newark	2,856	2,700	2,771	2,487	2,425	-15
Essex	4,999	4,669	4,797	4,453	4,342	-13
New Jersey	32,617	31,511	31,307	30,594	30,383	-7

^{*}Indicates preliminary data.



^{*}Indicates data are preliminary.

Households Headed by One Parent

		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	% Change 15-19
	Number	%	Number								
Newark	22,338	64	19,288	61	19,801	56	21,339	63	18,716	53	-16
Essex	43,960	45	41,360	44	39,391	39	43,153	44	40,628	40	-8
New Jersey	326,222	31	322,303	31	318,643	30	303,097	30	305,494	30	-6

What is a Household?

Household is a specific term used by the U.S. Census Bureau in its surveys. The census definition, however, may conflict with the traditional idea of what a household might be. When looking at census data, a household is one person or multiple people occupying a single housing unit. For example, two unrelated roommates, a multigenerational family and a single individual are all considered households under the census definition.

Multigenerational Households

Many children in New Jersey live with a grandparent. Sometimes, that grandparent is the child's legal guardian, and in other cases, the child simply shares a home with that grandparent. We report two different measures of these trends. The first tracks grandparents who cared for their grandchildren at any point during the year. The second refers to children who live in the same home as the grandparent.

Number of Grandparents Caring for Their Grandchildren

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	2,857	2,008	2,242	1,532	2,113	-26
Essex	6,106	4,463	5,341	3,431	4,944	-19
New Jersey	47,118	45,734	53,399	40,124	45,237	-4

Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	7,652	6,555	6,968	5,049	7,536	-2
Essex	14,388	15,894	15,210	12,234	16,089	12
New Jersey	123,318	128,874	136,243	133,185	134,838	9

References:

McFalls, J.A. (2003). What's a Household? What's a Family? Population Reference Bureau. Retrieved March 16, 2022 from https://www.prb.org/resources/whats-a-household-whats-a-family/

Data Sources and Technical Notes:

Total Population, 2015–2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001.

Child Population Under Age 18, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001.

Child Population Under Age 18, as a Percentage of Total Population, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001.

Newark's Child Population Under 18 by Race, 2015-2019. For children under age 18 as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey charts B01001B, B01001F, B01001H, and B01001I. Black or African American and Other categories may include individuals who identified as Hispanic.

Foreign-Born Children, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B05003.

Births to Foreign-Born Women, 2016-2020. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of February 18, 2022.

Total Births, 2016-2020. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of February 18, 2022.

Births to Unmarried Women, 2016-2020. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of February 18, 2022.

Percentage of Births to Foreign-Born Women, 2020. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of February 18, 2022.

Households Headed by One Parent, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B11005. Includes family and non-family households. Data are for households with children under age 18.

Number of Grandparents Caring for Their Grandchildren, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10050.

Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10001.



Family Economic Security

What Does Poverty Mean?

Since the late 1950s, the federal government has used the poverty threshold to determine the number of individuals living in poverty within the United States. The measure is based on the cost of a basic food diet and adjusted for inflation and family size. The same poverty threshold is used for the entire nation and does not account for the higher cost of living in certain states like New Jersey, where 200% of the poverty threshold, or an annual

income of \$51,852 for a family of four, is more reflective of the families struggling to make ends meet in our state. While the poverty threshold is produced by the U.S. Census Bureau, federal poverty guidelines—used to determine eligibility for certain federal programs—are released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and are based on the U.S. Census Bureau's thresholds.

Number of Economically Disadvantaged Children, Under Age 18

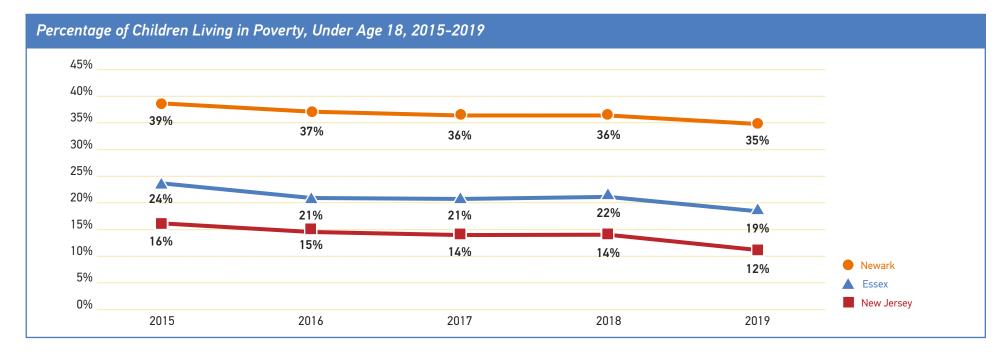
Newark	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL*)	11,141	12,445	13,687	10,590	12,323	11
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	26,801	23,802	24,799	24,661	23,731	-11
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	47,256	43,824	44,854	43,400	46,000	-3
Essex						
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	19,334	16,579	18,802	18,452	18,638	-4
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	45,258	39,423	39,770	40,393	34,918	-23
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	84,695	82,595	78,932	75,112	75,346	-11
New Jersey						
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	139,182	114,533	117,191	113,607	102,571	-26
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	308,238	285,479	272,251	264,253	235,470	-24
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	632,941	616,618	586,647	562,853	551,219	-13

^{*}Federal poverty level.

Percentage of Children Economically Disadvantaged, Under Age 18

Newark	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	16	19	20	15	18
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	39	37	36	36	35
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	70	68	65	63	67
Essex					
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	10	9	10	10	10
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	24	21	21	22	19
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	45	44	42	40	40
New Jersey					
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	7	6	6	6	5
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	16	15	14	14	12
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	32	31	30	29	29

2019 Federal Poverty Thresholds for a Family of Four: 50% \$12,963 100% \$25,926 200% \$51,852



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Family Economic Security

Total Population Living Below Poverty Level

		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	% Change 15-19
	Number	%									
Newark	78,569	29	76,005	28	76,159	28	66,255	25	67,923	25	-14
Essex	133,126	17	127,170	16	124,367	16	118,156	15	108,531	14	-18
New Jersey	946,114	11	915,913	10	882,673	10	832,133	10	798,262	9	-16

Families with Children Living Below the Poverty Level

		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	% Change 15-19
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	
Newark	12,994	37	9,715	31	11,322	32	10,164	30	10,604	30	-18
Essex	21,361	22	16,722	18	17,348	17	17,445	18	15,988	16	-25
New Jersey	135,485	13	121,653	12	116,491	11	111,523	11	97,580	10	-28



Unemp	ovmen	t Rate
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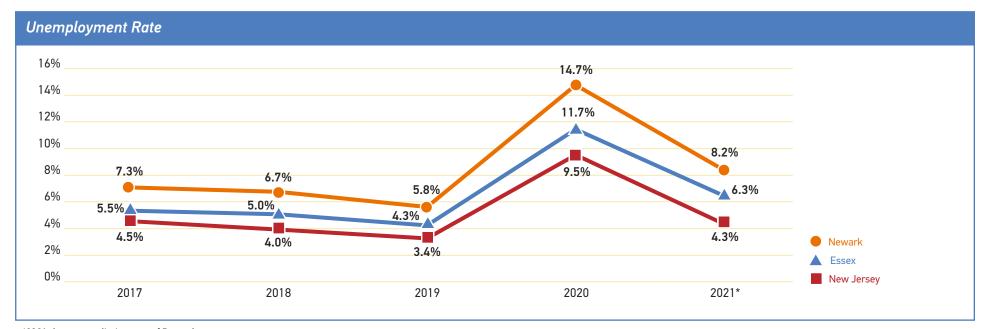
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	% Change 17-21
Newark	7.3	6.7	5.8	14.7	8.2	12
Essex	5.5	5.0	4.3	11.7	6.3	15
New Jersey	4.5	4.0	3.4	9.5	4.3	-4

^{*2021} data are preliminary as of December.

Number Unemployed

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	% Change 17-21
Newark	8,483	7,741	6,751	17,544	9,414	11
Essex	20,370	18,207	15,941	43,674	22,778	12
New Jersey	208,802	183,156	158,533	439,667	198,059	-5

^{*2021} data are preliminary as of December.



^{*2021} data are preliminary as of December.



NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, All Recipients

			2016			2017		2	018		20	19		20	20		% Change	16-20
	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Credit												
Newark	32,105	\$27,718,096	\$863	31,744	\$27,591,202	\$869	32,578	\$30,512,096	\$937	32,614	\$32,111,131	\$985	32,901	\$29,168,645	\$887	2	5	3
Essex	66,504	\$53,983,112	\$812	65,930	\$53,720,122	\$815	67,855	\$59,259,435	\$873	67,587	\$61,984,567	\$917	69,213	\$56,731,879	\$820	4	5	1
New Jersey	533,493	\$404,766,950	\$759	527,918	\$401,994,016	\$761	535,604	\$437,879,738	\$818	533,696	\$458,061,028	\$858	552,559	\$420,844,796	\$762	4	4	0

NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, Recipients with at Least One Dependent Under Age 19

			2016			2017		2	018		20	19		20	20		% Change	16-20
	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Credit												
Newark	22,909	\$25,457,127	\$1,111	22,564	\$25,293,721	\$1,121	23,574	\$28,019,301	\$1,189	22,891	\$29,370,211	\$1,283	21,793	\$26,411,822	\$1,212	-5	4	9
Essex	45,519	\$48,919,414	\$1,075	44,912	\$48,544,685	\$1,081	47,139	\$53,733,285	\$1,140	45,477	\$55,902,307	\$1,229	43,207	\$50,545,605	\$1,170	-5	3	9
New Jersey	340,535	\$361,614,068	\$1,062	335,848	\$358,780,285	\$1,068	345,869	\$391,301,464	\$1,131	334,737	\$407,595,791	\$1,218	317,886	\$367,807,942	\$1,157	-7	2	9

The New Jersey Earned Income Tax Credit

Tax credits are a vital economic support for many low-income working families and an advantage to New Jersey businesses, as many of these dollars are spent in the communities where these families live. The New Jersey State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) rewards work and increases take-home pay for families by lowering the amount of taxes owed and, in some instances, providing a refund. New Jersey's EITC

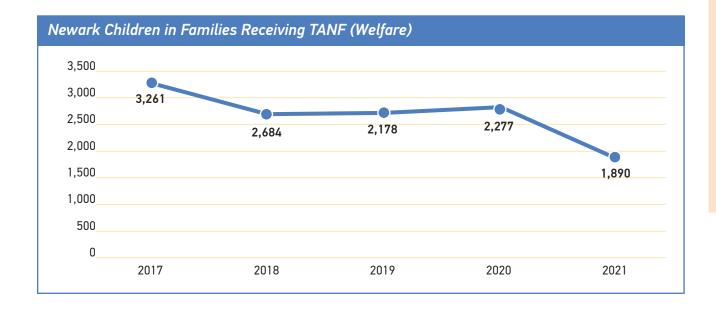
increased from 20% of the Federal EITC in 2014 to 30% in 2015 and 35% in 2016, giving the state's working poor a financial boost. Former Governor Chris Christie signed this increase into law in 2015, after cutting the state EITC from 25% to 20% of the federal EITC in 2010. In 2020, the average credit amount received among Newark families with at least one dependent under age 19 was \$1,212.

Federal Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC)

	Number of Claims	2015 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2016 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2017 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2018 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2019 Avg. Claim Amt.	% Chang Number of Claims	ye 15-19 Avg. Claim Amt.
Newark	41,800	\$2,727	41,370	\$2,703	41,350	\$2,713	40,570	\$2,752	40,610	\$2,715	-3	0
Essex	83,280	\$2,544	81,960	\$2,521	81,580	\$2,535	80,110	\$2,561	79,830	\$2,520	-4	-1
New Jersey	630,960	\$2,303	618,500	\$2,296	613,480	\$2,313	599,490	\$2,338	602,850	\$2,320	-4	1

Children in Families Receiving TANF (Welfare)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	3,261	2,684	2,178	2,277	1,890	-42
Essex	4,650	3,952	3,086	3,069	2,694	-42
New Jersey	28,458	23,582	19,113	22,079	17,301	-39



What is TANF?

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, more commonly referred to as welfare, provides cash assistance to needy families through a federally funded block grant given to individual states. The State of New Jersey operates the welfare reform program known as WorkFirst NJ using TANF funds. WorkFirst NJ participants are eligible for the program for a maximum of five years. For more information on WorkFirst NJ, visit https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dfd/programs/workfirstnj/.

2

Family Economic Security

Median Rent

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	\$978	\$1,013	\$1,063	\$1,093	\$1,129	15
Essex	\$1,075	\$1,093	\$1,143	\$1,187	\$1,233	15
New Jersey	\$1,214	\$1,244	\$1,284	\$1,336	\$1,376	13

Percentage of Households Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Rent

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	62	59	59	55	52	-16
Essex	56	54	53	52	48	-14
New Jersey	50	49	49	49	47	-6

Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending More Than 30% of Income on Housing Costs

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	62	56	54	55	58	-6
Essex	43	43	39	40	39	-9
New Jersey	39	37	34	34	33	-15

Percentage of Occupied Housing Units That Are Owner-Occupied

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change 15-19
Newark	21	21	25	22	24	14
Essex	42	43	45	45	45	7
New Jersey	63	63	64	64	63	0

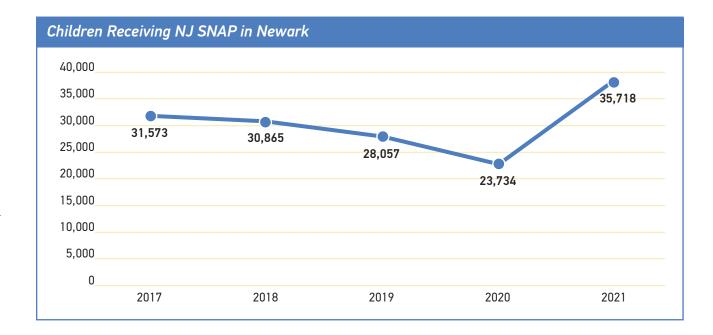
What are SNAP and WIC?

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the largest food safety net program in the United States, providing low-income families with nutritious food. Eligible New Jersey applicants have an income of no more than 185% of the federal poverty guidelines or roughly \$49,025 for a family of four in 2021.

The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) provides supplemental nutritious food to pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to the age of five. WIC is available to New Jersey households with incomes up to 185% of the federal poverty guidelines. WIC participation reached a five-year low point in 2020 for Newark, Essex County and the state as a whole. In 2021, we see the numbers on the rise again. For more information on SNAP and WIC, visit http://fns.usda.gov.

Children Receiving NJ SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	31,573	30,865	28,057	23,734	35,718	13
Essex	55,898	54,425	49,283	47,559	61,505	10
New Jersey	373,920	353,883	317,566	326,357	393,310	5





Family Economic Security

Individuals Enrolled in WIC

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	12,137	12,255	12,818	12,182	12,308	1
Essex	20,792	20,844	21,901	20,597	20,793	0
New Jersey	163,305	155,822	161,234	152,981	159,310	-2

WIC Reported Participants

		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021	% Change 17-21
	Number	%	Number								
Newark	10,707	88	11,166	91	10,546	82	9,592	79	10,814	88	1
Essex	18,311	88	18,788	90	17,930	82	16,364	79	18,148	87	-1
New Jersey	146,416	90	139,777	90	135,452	84	127,774	84	142,414	89	-3

Data Sources and Technical Notes:

Number of Economically Disadvantaged Children, Under Age 18, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17024.

Percentage of Economically Disadvantaged Children, Under Age 18, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17024.

Federal Poverty Threshold for a Family of Four, 2019. Threshold for a family of four, with two adults and two children living in poverty. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Percentage of Children Living in Poverty, Under Age 18, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17024.

Total Population Living Below the Poverty Level, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17001.

Families with Children Living Below the Poverty Level, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17010.

Median Income of Families with Children, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B19125.

Unemployment Rate, 2017-2021. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Rates are not seasonally adjusted and are annual averages for 2017-2020; 2021 data are preliminary as of December. Please note that data reported in previous Newark Kids Count reports have been updated to reflect revised inputs, re-estimation and new statewide controls, per the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Number Unemployed, 2017-2021. U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines an unemployed person as someone who does not have a job, has actively looked for work in the prior 4 weeks, and is currently available for work. Numbers are not seasonally adjusted and are annual averages for 2017-2020; 2021 data are preliminary as of December. Please note that data reported in previous Newark Kids Count reports have been updated to reflect revised inputs, re-estimation and new statewide controls, per the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, All Recipients, 2016-2020. Number of New Jersey Taxpayers receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and average credit amount, as reported by the N.J. Department of Treasury.

NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, Recipients with at Least One Dependent Under Age 19, 2016-2020. Number of New Jersey taxpayers with at least one dependent under age 19 receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and average credit amount, as reported by the N.J. Department of Treasury.

Federal Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC), 2015-2019. Number of New Jersey taxpayers claiming a federal EITC and average claim, as reported by the U.S Internal Revenue Service.

Children in Families Receiving TANF (Welfare), 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

Median Rent, 2015-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25064.

Percentage of Households Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Rent, 2015–2019. As reported by the U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25070.

Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending More Than 30% of Income on Housing Costs, 2015–2019. As reported by the U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics.

Percentage of Occupied Housing Units That Are Owner-Occupied, 2015–2019. As reported by the U.S Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics.

Children Receiving N.J. SNAP (formerly Food Stamps), 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

Individuals Enrolled in WIC, 2017-2021. Number of women, infants and children enrolled in the WIC program, which include healthcare referrals, immunizations screenings, nutrition counseling and a monthly food stipend. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health for the quarter ending June 30th of each year.

WIC Reported Participants, 2017–2021. The number and percentage of women, infants and children receiving nutritional benefits through WIC. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health for the quarter ending June $30^{\rm th}$ of each year.

3 Child Health

The Importance of Prenatal Care

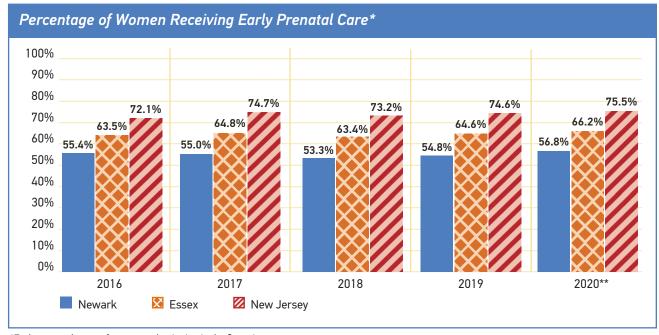
Healthy starts for Newark infants begin with quality prenatal care early in a mother's pregnancy. Women who receive late prenatal care—or who do not receive prenatal care entirely—expose their babies to a greater chance of health problems later in life. In 2020, 57% of expectant Newark moms received prenatal care beginning in their first trimester, compared to three-quarters of New Jersey moms.

Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care*

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020**	% Change 16-20
Newark	2,368	2,297	2,293	2,166	2,193	-7
Essex	6,618	6,657	6,593	6,389	6,370	-4
New Jersey	73,862	75,582	74,081	74,047	73,309	-1

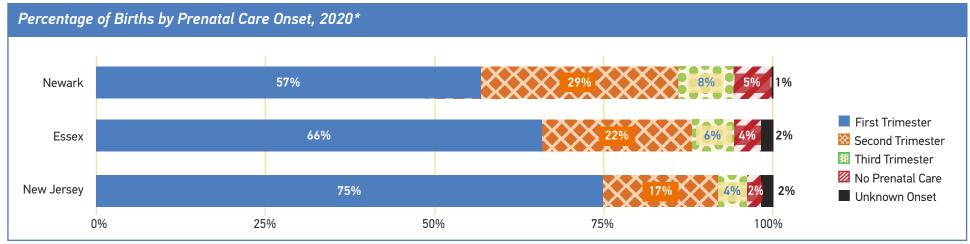
^{*}Early prenatal care refers to care beginning in the first trimester.

^{**} Indicates preliminary data.



^{*}Early prenatal care refers to care beginning in the first trimester.

^{**} Indicates preliminary data.



^{*}Indicates preliminary data.

What is a Low Birthweight?

A low birthweight baby is any infant born weighing less than 2,500 grams, or roughly 5.5 pounds. Low birthweight babies may be more likely to develop certain health problems, such as respiratory distress syndrome, than infants born with normal birthweights. Long term, low birthweight babies may be at greater risk of developing chronic conditions such as diabetes. In 2020, 11.3% of Newark babies were born with low birthweights, compared to 7.7% of babies born statewide.

Percentage of Births That Were Preterm

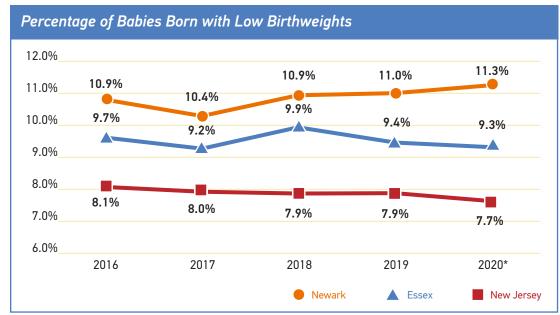
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*
Newark	13	12	12	13	12
Essex	11	11	11	11	11
New Jersey	10	10	10	10	9

^{*}Indicates preliminary data.

Babies Born with Low Birthweights

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	% Change 16-20
Newark	467	434	471	434	436	-7
Essex	1,006	946	1,033	932	894	-11
New Jersey	8,257	8,054	8,000	7,816	7,464	-10

^{*}Indicates preliminary data.



*Indicates preliminary data.

Child Deaths (Ages 1-14)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Newark	12	10	7	10	10	
Essex	25	23	11	25	20	
New Jersey	191	185	158	194	169	

What is New Jersey's Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board?

The New Jersey Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board (CFNFRB) was formed in 1997 through the New Jersey Comprehensive Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act in an effort to determine the causes of and ways to prevent child deaths and near deaths. The board consists of six different teams, each with their own sets of responsibilities and areas of focus. Team members come from a variety of backgrounds, including law enforcement, medicine, education and the non-profit sector. The board conducts in-depth reviews of select child death cases, such as when the cause of death may be a result of abuse or neglect or if the cause is undetermined. For more information on the CFNFRB and to review their annual reports, visit http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/boards/fatality/.

Infant Mortality

		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	% Change 15-19
	Number	Rate**	Number								
Newark	32	7.5	35	8.2	31	7.4	35	8.1	22	5.6	-31
Essex	64	6.2	59	5.7	62	6.0	54	5.2	55	5.6	-14
New Jersey	487	4.8	421	4.1	452	4.5	392	3.9	427	4.3	-12

^{**}Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

Asthma Admissions to the Hospital (Ages 0-17)*

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Newark	264	244	221	169	95	-64
Essex	458	406	412	307	148	-68
New Jersey	2,590	2,143	2,402	1,809	732	-72

^{*}Data prior to 2016 may not be comparable due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9 to ICD-10-CM.

Asthma-Related Emergency Room Visits (Ages 0-17)*

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Newark	1,489	1,523	1,659	1,517	539	-64
Essex	2,715	2,657	2,836	2,534	916	-66
New Jersey	16,918	15,493	15,635	13,837	5,312	-69

^{*}Data prior to 2016 may not be comparable due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9 to ICD-10-CM.

Asthma-Related Admissions to the Hospital vs. Emergency Room Visits: How Do They Differ?

Asthma is a chronic health condition affecting many children in the city of Newark. Medication and preventive care can effectively manage asthma, but severe symptoms may require care at a hospital—by visiting the emergency room, or in serious cases, being admitted for in-patient care.

Newark Update on Childhood Lead Exposure

Lead exposure continues to be a serious issue for children in Newark, but the most recent lead data show signs of improvement. A lower percentage of children 6-26 months have tested at elevated levels of lead in 2019 in comparison to 2018, a consistent decline over the years. However, this still accounts for roughly 4% of children who were screened.

In an unprecedented effort, the city of Newark replaced 23,000 lead service water lines across the city in three years. Thanks in part to a program funded by Essex County, the City provided the replacements free of charge. Large water systems in New Jersey are required by the EPA to sample water in six-month intervals. To see each result, go to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Water Watch page: https://www9.state.nj.us/DEP WaterWatch public/.

Children 6-26 Months Tested for Lead

		2015		2016		2017*		2018		2019
	#	% Levels ≥								
	Tested	5 μg/dL								
Newark	5,163	6.1	4,908	5.3	4,405	5.7	4,522	5.2	4,567	4.3
Essex	10,664	5.2	10,792	4.8	10,036	4.7	10,210	4.2	10,218	3.7
New Jersey	93,128	2.8	94,909	2.4	87,652	2.7	84,211	2.3	77,845	2.1

^{*}Data reflect revised figures issued by the N.J. Department of Health in October 2019.

Children <6 Years of Age Tested for Lead

		2015		2016		2017*		2018		2019
	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 μg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL						
Newark	14,257	5.5	14,190	4.7	12,977	5.1	13,223	4.4	13,190	3.9
Essex	26,095	5.2	26,527	4.7	25,395	4.8	25,612	4.1	25,592	4.0
New Jersey	172,859	3.1	175,002	2.8	165,863	2.8	161,790	2.5	150,952	2.3

^{*}Data reflect revised figures issued by the N.J. Department of Health in October 2019.

Newark Environmental Case Activity Status

	Cases Referred	Investigation Required	Investigation Completed	Abatement Required	Abatement Completed	% Abatement Completed
2015	71	38	7	1	1	100%
2016	86	38	6	14	0	0%
2017*	59	45	15	21	13	62%
2018	159	84	25	38	24	63%
2019	226	132	33	40	33	83%

^{*} Data reflect revised figures issued by the N.J. Department of Health in October 2019.

What is NJ FamilyCare?

NJ FamilyCare is New Jersey's publicly funded health insurance program, supported by federal Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) dollars, state funding and premiums paid for children in families with a household income up to 355% of the federal poverty level. As of July 1, 2021 premiums are no longer required for NJ FamilyCare coverage.

Qualified state residents of any age may be eligible for free or low-cost health insurance, which covers doctor visits, prescriptions, vision, dental care, mental health and substance use services and hospitalization. For more information, visit http://www.njfamilycare.org.

Children Under Age 19 Receiving NJ FamilyCare

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	59,250	60,760	59,685	56,138	58,690	-1
Essex	105,056	106,534	103,192	96,568	105,215	0
New Jersey	808,928	805,080	782,866	776,976	851,417	5

Note: Data for Newark may exceed reported totals due to data suppression at the zip code level utilized to protect confidentiality.

Children Under 19 Without Health Insurance

		2017		2018		2019
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Newark	5,751	7.7	5,338	7.2	8,920	12.1
Essex	11,144	5.5	13,884	6.9	11,523	5.8
New Jersey	78,200	3.7	79,761	3.9	88,121	4.3

^{*}Please note, the age range for this indicator has changed. Prior measures are not comparable.

References:

¹ March of Dimes. (2014). Low Birthweight. Retrieved March 16, 2022, from http://www.marchofdimes.org/baby/low-birthweight.aspx

Data Sources and Technical Notes:

Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care, 2016–2020. Live births for which the mother received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of January 26, 2022.

Percentage of Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care, 2016–2020. Live births for which the mother received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of January 26, 2022.

Percentage of Births by Prenatal Care Onset, 2020. The percentage of total births by trimester of prenatal care onset. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of December 2, 2021.

Percentage of Births That Were Preterm, 2016-2020. Percentage of total births that were considered preterm. A preterm birth is defined as less than 37 weeks. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of January 6, 2022.

Number of Babies Born with Low Birthweight, 2016-2020. The number of babies born weighing less than 2,500-grams as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of January 5, 2022.

Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birthweight, 2016–2020. The percentage of babies born weighing less than 2,500-grams out of the total number of live births. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of January 5, 2022.

Child Deaths (Ages 1-14), 2015-2019. The number of children between ages one and 14 who died during that year, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of November 10, 2021.

Infant Mortality, 2015-2019. The number of infants under one year who died during that year. Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death and Birth Certificate Databases. Data accessed as of November 10, 2021.

Asthma Admissions to the Hospital, (Ages 0-17), 2016-2020. Number of New Jersey inpatient hospital discharges with a primary asthma diagnosis for residents 0-17 years of age. Counts do not include out of state hospitalizations for New Jersey residents. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. Data from 2016 and later may not be comparable to pre-2016 data due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM. Data accessed as of December 3, 2021.

Asthma Related Emergency Room Visits (Ages 0-17), 2016-2020. Number of New Jersey emergency department discharges with a primary asthma diagnosis for residents 0-17 years of age. Counts do not include out of state hospitalizations for New Jersey residents. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. Data from 2016 and later may not be comparable to pre-2016 data due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM. Data accessed as of December 3, 2021.

Children 6-26 Months Tested for Lead, 2015-2019. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of December 1, 2021.

Children <6 Years of Age Tested for Lead, 2015-19. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of December 1, 2021.

Newark Environmental Activity Status, 2015-19. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of December 1, 2021.

Children Under Age 19 Receiving NJ FamilyCare, 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Human Services. Data are from March of each year and are point in time snapshots that do not reflect any retro-activity. Includes children under age 19 enrolled in Medicaid, which is available to children living in families earning below 133 percent of the federal poverty level and children enrolled in the CHIP portion of NJ FamilyCare, which is available to children living in families earning up to 355 percent of the federal poverty level. County and state data accessed as of December 1, 2021, retrieved from njfamilycare.org.

Children Under 19 Without Health Insurance, 2017-2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B27001. Data are not comparable to previous years' estimates for children without health insurance, due to a change in the included ages.



4 Child Protection

What is CP&P?

The Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P), formerly the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), operates within the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) as the state's child welfare and protection agency. CP&P is responsible for investigating reports of child abuse and neglect and, if necessary, arranging for the child's protection and services for the family. When children cannot remain at home due to safety concerns, CP&P may ask the family court to place the child into foster care and to seek another permanent home for children who cannot be safely reunified with their parent(s) within the timeframes provided by law.

Children Under Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P)* Supervision

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	3,960	4,018	3,769	1,933	1,739	-56
Essex	6,216	6,099	5,601	2,854	3,047	-51
New Jersey	47,762	48,256	47,151	29,282	33,790	-29

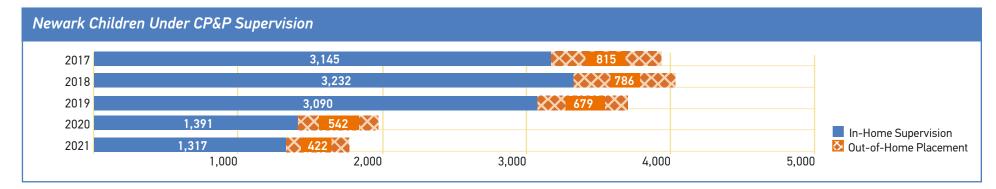
^{*}Formerly the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS).

Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	3,145	3,232	3,090	1,391	1,317	-58
Essex	5,079	5,053	4,696	2,157	2,493	-51
New Jersey	41,155	42,202	42,036	25,074	30,185	-27

Children in Out-of-Home CP&P Placement

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	815	786	679	542	422	-48
Essex	1,137	1,046	905	697	554	-51
New Jersey	6,607	6,054	5,115	4,208	3,605	-45



N.J. Department of Children and Families Making Progress

New Jersey's child protection system has been under a federal court settlement order for almost 20 years. The state has met 44 of the 48 performance measures required under the Sustainability and Exit Plan (SEP), which was approved by the court in 2015 and details the benchmarks the state must meet in order to end federal court oversight. It is likely that the state will meet the remaining measures soon. To meet the remaining quality measures of the SEP, DCF is in the process of redesigning many of its quality improvement processes to integrate a Solution Based Casework (SBC) approach with its Case Practice Model. To read the monitoring reports, visit https://www.nj.gov/dcf/about/welfare/federal/. To read more about the Solution Based Casework approach, visit https://acnj.org/solution-based-casework-model-to-be-implemented-for-dcpp-involved-families/.

DCF is working with the Judiciary and other stakeholders to address racial disparities that persist despite the overall reduction of children and families involved with CP&P. Other priorities of DCF's Commissioner Christine Norbut Beyer include primary prevention of maltreatment, staff health and wellness, and efforts to increase placement with relatives and kin, should a child require placement due to safety concerns. To read more about the reforms underway, visit the DCF website at https://www.nj.gov/dcf/. To read more about the increased placement with kin, visit https://acnj.org/blog-kinship-care-and-new-jerseys-revised-kinship-legal-guardianship-act/.

Number of Children Reported for Abuse/Neglect

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Newark	5,834	6,294	6,468	6,310	4,642	-20
Essex	10,148	10,646	10,985	10,982	7,703	-24
New Jersey	88,969	91,585	94,161	96,060	73,693	-17

Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Newark	632	615	431	383	220	-65
Essex	1,006	948	706	592	344	-66
New Jersey	8,256	6,463	5,923	4,897	3,000	-64

Percentage of Reported Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Newark	10.8	9.8	6.7	6.1	4.7
Essex	9.9	8.9	6.4	5.4	4.5
New Jersey	9.3	7.1	6.3	5.1	4.1

Safe Babies Court Team – Prioritizing Family Reunification

Essex County is one of three counties to pilot the Safe Babies Court Team approach aimed at connecting children ages o-3 involved with CP&P and their families to the community services and supports they need. The goal is for children to maintain healthy development and have lasting permanency, ideally family reunification, whenever safely possible. To learn more, visit https://www.njsafebabies.com/.

Data Sources and Technical Notes:

Children Under Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) Supervision, 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services, 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

Children in Out-of-Home CP&P Placement, 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

Newark Children Under CP&P Supervision, 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

Number of Children Reported for Abuse/Neglect, 2016-2020. Number of children who were reported for child abuse/neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families for each calendar year.

Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2016-2020. The number of children found to be victims of child abuse/neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families for each calendar year. In 2013, the N.J. Department of Children and Families added two possible findings of child abuse/neglect investigations—"established" and "not established". Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was "substantiated" or "unfounded".

Percentage of Reported Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2016-2020. Based on the number of children found to be substantiated or established victims of child abuse/neglect out of the number of children reported for abuse or neglect. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. In 2013, the N.J. Department of Children and families added two possible findings of child abuse/neglect investigations — "established" and "not established". Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was "substantiated" or "unfounded".



5 Child Care

Licensed Child Care Centers and Registered Family Child Care Providers: How Do They Differ?

Licensed child care centers and registered family child care providers both offer child care to children under the age of 13. However, there are key differences in the number of children they are permitted to serve and the locations in which they operate. Licensed child care centers serve a minimum of six children and must adhere to state licensing requirements. Registered family child care providers care for a maximum of five children at a time in their own homes. Family child care providers who register voluntarily through New Jersey's Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies are required to meet state regulations primarily related to health and safety concerns.

Due to the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic, in an effort to the flatten the curve of COVID-19 cases, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 110 on March 25, 2020, requiring licensed child care centers to close on April 1st unless approved to serve the children of those classified as essential personnel. On May 29, 2020, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 149 allowing licensed child care centers to resume normal operations beginning on or after June 15th subject to their

Licensed Child Care Centers

	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	139	143	147	60	105	-24
Essex	448	461	472	225	397	-11
New Jersey	3,803	4,141	4,171	2,018	3,371	-11

^{*}See note regarding Executive Orders 110 and 149.

Child Care Center Capacity

	2017	2018	2019	2020°	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	15,355	15,435	15,735	4,967	10,211	-34
Essex	41,395	42,915	43,525	19,254	36,300	-12
New Jersey	343,453	382,734	387,092	196,338	321,967	-6

^{*}See note regarding Executive Orders 110 and 149.

Registered Family Child Care Providers

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	137	83	43	92	88	-36
Essex	259	226	184	171	181	-30
New Jersey	1,794	1,639	1,478	1,430	1,275	-29

compliance with specific COVID-19 health and safety standards. This order also rescinded the emergency child care program under Executive Order No. 110. The impact of the executive orders can be seen in both the supply and capacity of child care across the state.

New Jersey's State-Funded Home Visitation Programs

The state's existing home visitation programs are designed to help mothers and fathers build healthy environments for their infants and young children by promoting infant and child health, nurturing positive parent-child relationships and linking parents to resources and supports. These visits are provided by either a trained home visitor or a nurse and

are typically provided to families facing poverty and other risk factors, with visits starting before or immediately after birth. The number of Newark families participating in home visitation programs decreased by 14% between 2017 and 2021.

Families Receiving State-Funded Home Visitation Programs*

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Newark	347	344	386	333	298	-14
Essex	711	736	744	648	590	-17
New Jersey	7,041	6,997	6,666	6,246	5,534	-21

^{*}The state funds three home visitation programs in Newark and Essex County: Nurse Family Partnership, Healthy Families-TIP Program and Parents and Teachers. These data include families from all three programs.

New Jersey's Universally Offered Home Visitation Program

In July 2021, New Jersey became the second state in the country to offer a voluntary home visiting program for all parents of newborns. The program will be housed within the NJ Department of Children and Families.

New Jersey's universally offered home visiting program will allow all new parents the opportunity to access individualized advice, expertise and support to ensure both parent and child get off to the right start. During such visits, home visitors can assess the health of both the newborn and parent and identify potential health concerns and connect them to appropriate services, provide valuable parenting information and link families with available community services. This strength-based approach to supporting all families will address the period-of-time between the birth of the newborn and the mother's first visit to the obstetrician at six weeks. Such a proactive approach to supporting new families will reduce potential maternal and infant issues that may arise during this extended period.

Data Sources and Technical Notes:

Licensed Child Care Centers, 2017–2021. The number of state-licensed child care centers. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year.

Child Care Center Capacity, 2017-2021. The capacity of state-licensed child care centers. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year.

Registered Family Child Care Providers, 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year. Family child care providers comply with state requirements, but operate as independent small businesses.

Families Receiving State-Funded Home Visitation Programs, 2017-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year and include data for three home visitation programs: Nurse Family Partnership, Healthy Families-TIP Program and Parents and Teachers. This includes only evidence-based programs funded through the N.J. Department of Children and Families. Home visitation is defined as families receiving regularly scheduled visits by either a trained home visitor or a nurse with a bachelor's of science degree in nursing (BSN).

The Impact of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic moved all students to remote learning for more than one school year, and the data are beginning to reflect the impact of the shutdown. "Start strong assessments" were administered statewide in the fall of 2021 in place of state exams. Overall, the majority of Newark students who have returned to in-person instruction are in need of "strong support," according to the assessment results.¹ Newark saw a decrease in preschool between the 2019-2020 and the 2020-21 school years with 1,200 fewer students enrolling. Kindergarten enrollment also decreased, although not to the same extent. Conversely, the number of students determined to be eligible for special education services increased across the city since 2016-2017.

State-Funded Preschool Enrollment

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019–20	2020-21	% Change 17-21
Newark	7,024	6,318	6,759	6,858	5,642	-20
Essex	10,484	9,676	10,046	10,303	8,314	-21
New Jersey	51,371	51,580	53,177	56,279	46,898	-9

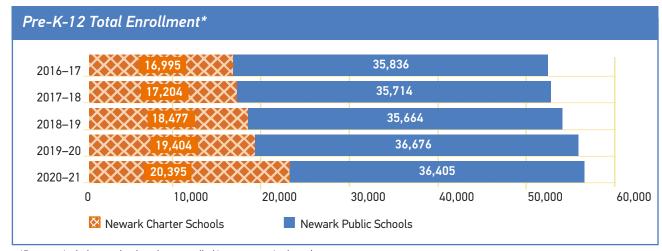
Kindergarten Enrollment

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019–20	2020–21	% Change 17-21
Newark Public Schools	2,423	2,450	2,287	2,338	2,240	-8
Newark Charter Schools	1,744	1,826	1,787	1,909	1,813	4
Newark Total	4,167	4,276	4,074	4,247	4,053	-3
Essex	9,995	9,959	9,816	9,939	9,154	-8
New Jersey	90,740	90,831	89,294	90,818	82,604	-9

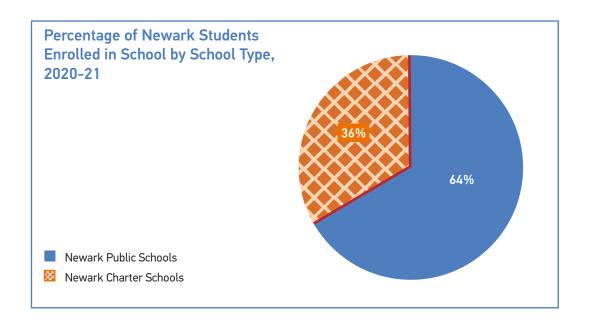
Pre-K-12 Total Enrollment*

Newark Total	52,831	52,918	54,141	56,080	56,800	8
Newark Charter Schools	16,995	17,204	18,477	19,404	20,395	20
Newark Public Schools	35,836	35,714	35,664	36,676	36,405	2
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019–20	2020–21	% Change 17-21

^{*}Does not include preschool students enrolled in a community-based program.



^{*}Does not include preschool students enrolled in a community-based program.



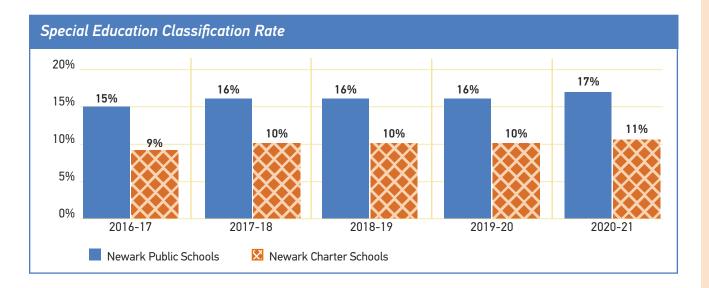
Percentage of Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Newark Public Schools, 2020-21

American Indian or Alaska Native	0.2
Asian	0.9
Black or African American	38.8
Hispanic	52.3
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.2
Two or More Races	0.0
White	7.5

Special Education Enrollment, Ages 3-21

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019–20	2020-21	% Change 17-21
Newark Public Schools	5,812	6,419	6,557	6,487	6,679	15
Newark Charter Schools	1,561	1,219	1,840	1,955	2,181	40
Newark Total	7,373	7,638	8,397	8,442	8,860	20

Note: Includes public and non-public students.



Percentage of Homeless	Students	Out of Total	Enrollmen	t*
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019–20
Newark Public Schools	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.7

^{*}Data not available prior to 2016-17.

What is a Homeless Student?

A homeless student is defined as any youth lacking a regular and adequate nighttime residence. Included in this definition is a broad set of living arrangements—children living in hotels or motels, public places or sharing housing with other families due to a lack of suitable housing or financial stability. This definition was provided by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and amended through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2016. Under the ESSA amendment, children awaiting foster care placement are no longer defined as homeless. Legally, the state is required to provide a number of services to homeless children, including the appointment of a homeless student liaison who helps students and parents with enrollment, transportation arrangements and accessing services. For more information on homeless students, visit http://nche.ed.gov/. For more information on homeless students at the state level, visit https://nj.gov/education/ homeless/index.html.

Newark English Language Learner Enrollment as Percent of Total Enrollment

	2019–20 %	2020–21 %
Newark Public Schools	16.8	17.6
Achieve Community Charter School	0	0
Discovery Charter School	0	0
Gray Charter School	0	0
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	2.9	2.1
LEAD Charter School	0	0
Link Community Charter School	0	0
Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School	16.9	15.7
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	0.8	0
New Horizons Community Charter School	0	0
Newark Educators Community Charter School	0.8	3.5
North Star Academy Charter School	1.2	1.6
People's Preparatory Charter School	5.4	5.2
Philip's Academy Charter School	0	0
Robert Treat Academy Charter School	0.9	0.7
Roseville Community Charter School	27.3	19.1
Team Academy Charter School	1.6	1.7
University Heights Charter School	5.0	6.4
NJ State Average	6.9	6.9

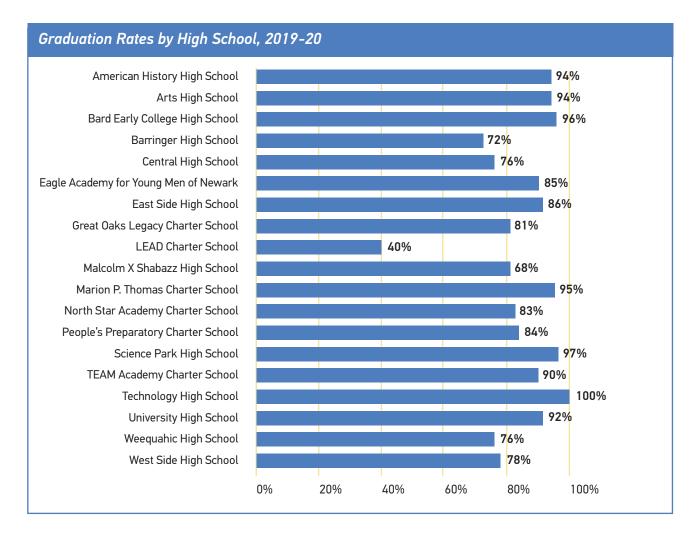
When is a Student Considered an English Language Learner?

The N.J. Department of Education uses the term English Language Learner (ELL) to describe students whose first language is other than English or who have difficulty reading, writing and understanding English. The State of New Jersey administers an annual survey to assess the languages spoken in students' homes in an effort to identify ELL students. An English Language Learner's proficiency may require additional services to allow them to be successful in the district's academic program. In September 2021, the United States Department of Justice reached a settlement agreement with Newark Public Schools to resolve the department's multi-year investigation into the school district's programs for its English learner students. For more information visit https://www.justice. gov/opa/pr/justice-department-settlesnewark-public-schools-protect-englishlearner-students.

School Violence Incidents, 2019-20

School violence incluents, 2017-20	Violence	Weapons	Vandalism	Substances	Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB)	Total Unique Incidents	Incidents Per 100 Students Enrolled
Newark Public Schools	594	26	61	44	180	864	2.06
Achieve Community Charter School	19	0	7	0	0	22	7.26
Discovery Charter School	0	1	0	0	0	1	0.91
Gray Charter School	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	0	1	0	2	0	3	0.18
LEAD Charter School	2	0	1	0	0	3	1.19
Link Community Charter School	14	1	2	1	1	19	6.21
Maria L. Varisco-Rogers Charter School	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	19	0	8	1	3	31	2.13
New Horizons Community Charter School	8	0	0	0	0	8	1.5
Newark Educators Community Charter School	14	0	1	0	0	15	5.86
North Star Academy Charter School	226	8	49	3	0	281	4.76
People's Preparatory Charter School	42	7	4	14	0	67	17.63
Philip's Academy Charter School	0	1	0	0	0	1	0.19
Robert Treat Academy Charter School	6	0	0	0	0	6	0.87
Roseville Community Charter School	6	0	1	0	0	7	2.59
Team Academy Charter School	138	5	19	3	1	166	3.5
University Heights Charter School	11	0	2	0	5	18	2.09
New Jersey	8,541	535	1,273	3,832	4,625	18,576	1.30

Note: N indicates that no data are available.



Graduation Rates by Demographic Group, Newark Public Schools, 2019-20**	
Demographic Group	Rate
Districtwide	81
American Indian or Alaska Native	N
Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	90
Black or African American	78
Hispanic	82
Two or More Races	*
White	86
Male	77
Female	85
Economically Disadvantaged	81
Students with Disabilities	66
English Language Learners	84
Homeless	88
Students in Foster Care	*

Note: An "N" indicates that there are no data to display, and an "*" indicates that data are not displayed in order to protect student privacy.

**Does not include charter schools.

High School Graduation Rates

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018–19	2019-20	% Change 16-20
Newark Public Schools	73	78	76	76	81	10
New Jersey	90	91	91	91	91	1

Average SAT Score by High School, 2019–20**

	Math	Reading and Writing	Percentage Participation
American History High School	432	452	93
Arts High School	449	463	100
Bard Early College High School	460	460	100
Barringer High School	371	386	99
Central High School	379	388	92
Eagle Academy for Young Men of Newark	399	415	100
East Side High School	406	409	100
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	549	541	15
LEAD Charter School	*	*	4
Malcolm X Shabazz High School	389	402	92
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	407	413	100
North Star Academy Charter School	556	524	100
People's Preparatory Charter School	496	516	25
Science Park High School	593	568	100
TEAM Academy Charter School	477	474	10
Technology High School	516	483	100
University High School	416	438	100
Weequahic High School	392	410	100
West Side High School	401	412	92
New Jersey Average	536	536	71

^{*}Data are not displayed to protect student privacy.

Advance Placement/International Baccalaureate Course Participation and Performance, 2019-20								
	Newark Public Schools (%)*	New Jersey Average (%)						
Students enrolled in one or more AP or IB course	20.2	35.7						
Students taking one or more AP or IB exam	16.8	28.9						
Students with one or more exams with a score of at least a 3 on AP exams or 4 on IB exams	**	22.8						

^{*}Does not include charter data.

^{**}Due to COVID-19 pandemic, national administrations of the SAT were cancelled in the spring and summer of 2020. Use caution in comparing results for 2019-20 to prior or future years.

^{**}Data is not displayed in order to protect student privacy.

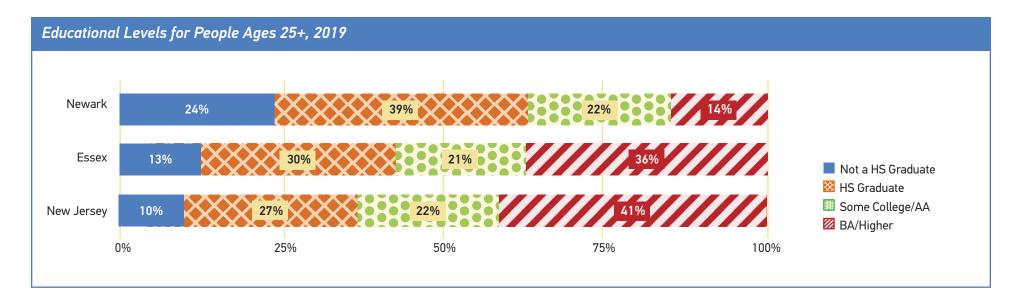
Percentage of Graduates Enrolled in a Post-Secondary Institution, 2019-20**

School	% Schoolwide	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Students with Disabilities
Newark Public Schools	42.7	43.3	20.9
American History High School	52.6	50.0	*
Arts High School	63.4	58.5	25.0
Bard Early College High School	69.1	71.2	*
Barringer High School	24.5	22.8	15.4
Central High School	26.4	23.6	13.6
Eagle Academy for Young Men of Newark	40.0	45.0	*
East Side High School	37.2	37.9	30.1
Great Oaks Legacy Charter School	56.5	54.4	*
LEAD Charter School	13.8	13.0	0
Malcom X Shabazz High School	30.7	29.0	16.0
Marion P. Thomas Charter School	39.8	34.1	38.1
North Star Academy Charter School	84.4	81.9	70.0
People's Preparatory Charter School	45.8	47.1	28.6
Science Park High School	78.4	77.1	45.5
TEAM Academy Charter School	63.1	62.9	37.5
Technology High School	69.2	69.3	28.6
University High School	56.5	56.8	38.9
Weequahic High School	31.6	31.3	13.3
West Side High School	36.8	39.0	11.1
New Jersey Average	67.3	51.9	42.3

Note: Post-secondary institutions include 2-year or 4-year institutions. An "*" indicates that data are not displayed in order to protect student privacy.

**The National Student Clearinghouse has reported that undergraduate enrollment declined in 2019-20 in comparison to prior school year.

Use caution when comparing 2019-20 data to prior or future years.



Newark Public Schools: Staff-to-Student Ratio

Ratio	2019-20
Students to Teachers	14:1
Students to Administrators	99:1
Students to Librarians/Media Specialists	3,000:1
Students to Nurses	420:1
Students to Counselors	538:1
Students to Child Study Team Members	166:1

New Jersey Public Schools: Staff-to-Student Ratio

Ratio	2019-20
Students to Teachers	12:1
Students to Administrators	148:1
Students to Librarians/Media Specialists	1,113:1
Students to Nurses	519:1
Students to Counselors	351:1
Students to Child Study Team Members	240:1

Staff-to-Student Ratios

The ratio of staff to students within a school has long been considered a marker of educational and instructional quality. During the 2019-20 school year, Newark Public Schools reported a ratio of 14 students for every one teacher, just above the state ratio of 12 to 1. The ratio of guidance counselors to students is also of importance, given the critical role counselors play in preparing students for college and career. The American School Counselor Association recommends a ratio of 250 students for every one counselor. Both Newark Public Schools and the state of New Jersey exceeded this recommendation, with ratios of 538:1 and 351:1, respectively, during the 2019-20 school year. To read more about the importance of student to school counselor ratios, visit https://www.schoolcounselor.org/About-School-Counseling/School-Counselor-Roles-Ratios.

Teacher & Administrators One-Year Retention Rate (District Level)

	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20	
	NPS*	State	NPS*	State	NPS*	State	NPS*	State
Teachers	83.0	89.0	81.9	90.2	87.6	90.5	84.6	90.7
Administrators	80.0	88.0	79.8	86.2	83.7	87.9	76.4	87.8

^{*}Newark Public Schools

References:

Carerra, C. (2021). Chalkbeat Newark. "'Concerning' test results in Newark give insight into pandemic learning loss". Retrieved March 16, 2022 from https://newark.chalkbeat.org/2021/12/10/22828196/newark-test-start-strong-results-pandemic-learning-loss.

Data Sources and Technical Notes:

State-Funded Preschool Enrollments, 2016-17 through 2020-21. Number of three- and four-year-old students enrolled in half- and full-day New Jersey Department of Education-approved preschools, operated both in-district and in community centers, as reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Excludes children enrolled in Head Start or other federally-funded programs that do not receive any state aid.

Kindergarten Enrollment, 2016-17 through 2020-21. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include students enrolled in full and half-day programs in both traditional district and charter schools.

Pre-K—12 Total Enrollment, 2016-17 through 2020-21. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools. Please note that total enrollment figures do not include students enrolled in public preschool programs operating within community based providers.

Percentage of Newark Students Enrolled in School by School Type, 2020-21. The percentage of students enrolled in Newark Public Schools and Newark charter schools. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools.

Percentage of Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Newark Public Schools 2020-2021. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, October Enrollment Data.

Special Education Enrollment, Ages 3-21, 2016-17 through 2020-21. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Number of students who are classified, ages 3-21. Data include both traditional district schools and charter schools and public and non-public students. Charter totals may be higher due to suppression of districts with fewer than 10 students.

Special Education Classification Rate, 2016-17 through 2020-21. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Percentage of total enrollment of students who are classified, ages 3-21. Special education counts include both traditional district schools and charter schools and public and non-public students. Charter figures may differ due to suppression of districts with fewer than 10 students. Total enrollment based on October general education enrollment data for each school year.

Percentage of Homeless Students Out of Total Enrollment, 2016-17 through 2019-20. As reported by Newark Public Schools. Data are as of June for each school year listed and do not include charter schools. Represents any student identified as homeless during the given school year.

Newark English Language Learner Enrollment as Percent of Total Enrollment, 2019-20 through 2020-21. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, October enrollment counts.

School Violence Incidents, 2019-20. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, N.J. School Performance Report Data. The N.J. Department of Education migrated to a new reporting system; data for 2017-18 should not be compared to data for prior years. A single incident may be counted under multiple incident types; the total unique incidents row provides an unduplicated count of incidents.

Graduation Rates by High School, 2019-2020. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data include both traditional districts as well as charter schools.

Graduation Rates by Demographic Group, Newark Public Schools, 2019–20. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. Data do not include charter schools.

High School Graduation Rates, 2015-16 through 2019-20. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. In 2011, the Department of Education changed the way that graduation rates are calculated to the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate. Data do not include charter schools.

Average SAT Score by High School, 2019-20. The percentage of 12th grade students participating in the SAT for the given school year or for prior years. Average scores reflect the highest scoring test by subject area. The score range for the SAT is from 400 to 1600 for a total score. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

AP/IB Course Participation and Performance, 2019-20. Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate participation and performance amongst 11th and 12th grade students. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

Percentage of Graduates Enrolled in a Post-Secondary Institution, 2019-20. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, N.J. School Performance Report Data. These data reflect the percentage of the 2020 high school graduates that were enrolled in post-secondary institutions the fall after high school graduation. The data are pulled from the National Student Clearinghouse. Students who enroll in post-secondary institutions outside of the United States are not included. Data for some categories are unavailable.

Education Levels for People Ages 25+, Newark, Essex, N.J., 2019. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B15002.

Newark Public Schools and New Jersey Staff-to-Student Ratio, 2019-20. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

Teacher & Administrators One-Year Retention (District Level), 2016-17 to 2019-20. As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.



Teens

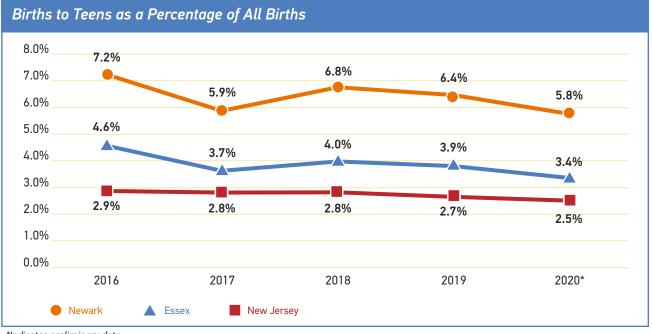
Data Trends for Teens

Consistent with trends from previous years, the most recent data show a decline in the number of teen births and juvenile arrests. Juvenile admissions to county detention continue to decrease, with 2020 admissions in Newark dropping by 24% from 2016 figures. In 2020, Newark admissions comprised 55% of Essex County's annual juvenile detention admissions.

Births to Teens (Ages 15-19)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020*	% Change 16-20
Newark	306	245	291	254	224	-27
Essex	478	385	420	385	330	-31
New Jersey	2,952	2,818	2,805	2,682	2,434	-18

^{*}Indicates preliminary data.



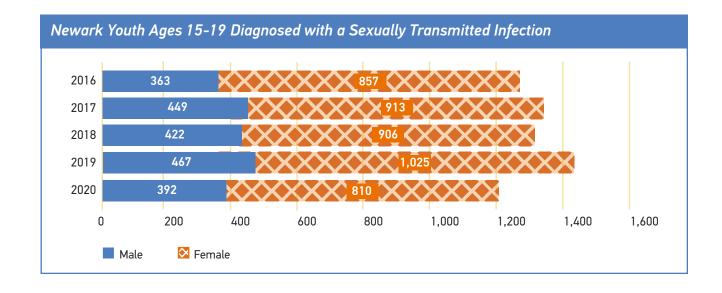
^{*}Indicates preliminary data.

Teen Deaths (Ages 15-19)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Newark	12	15	7	7	12	
Essex	19	29	19	19	22	
New Jersey	184	194	184	153	178	

Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually Transmitted Infection, By Gender

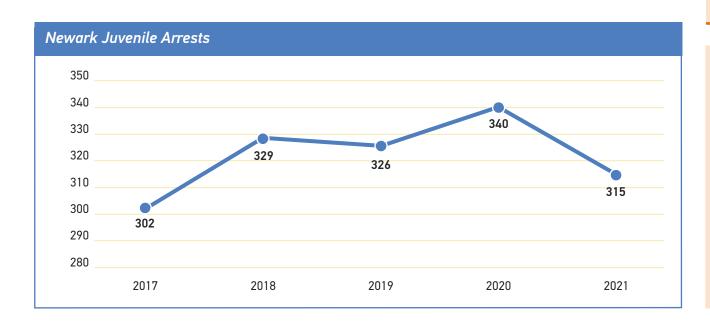
		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	% Cha	nge 16-20
	Male	Female										
Newark	363	857	449	913	422	906	467	1,025	392	810	8	-5
Essex	601	1,500	719	1,523	680	1,539	745	1,709	614	1,271	2	-15
New Jersey	2,560	7,915	2,803	7,930	2,759	8,202	3,124	8,689	2,473	6,939	-3	-12



Juvenile Arrests

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	% Change 17-21
Newark	302	329	326	340	315	4
Essex	1,572	1,364	1,421	929	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	18,297	14,541	14,716	9,480	N/A	N/A
Newark's % of Essex	19	24	23	37		
Newark's % of NJ	2	2	2	4		

^{*}Please note that 2021 data only reported for Newark.



Newark Arrests by Subgroup, 2021

Subgroup	# of Arrests	% of Total
Male	265	84
Female	50	16
Total	315	100
Black	290	92
White	3	1
Hispanic	22	7

Pilot Program Assisting Justice-Involved Youth

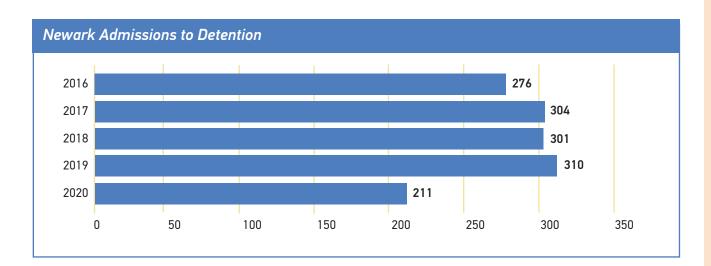
Newark is one of four cities involved in a grant-funded pilot program to establish restorative justice hubs and community-based wraparound services for at-risk youth as a new approach to juvenile justice in New Jersey. For details, visit https://www.njoag.gov/about/divisions-and-offices/juvenile-justice-commission-home/.

Newark Annual Admissions to Detention

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
276	304	301	310	211	-24
248	268	271	280	190	-23
28	36	30	30	21	-25
250	277	261	277	178	-29
1	3	0	1	1	0
25	24	40	32	32	28
52	61	61	70	55	
	276 248 28 250 1 25	276 304 248 268 28 36 250 277 1 3 25 24	276 304 301 248 268 271 28 36 30 250 277 261 1 3 0 25 24 40	276 304 301 310 248 268 271 280 28 36 30 30 250 277 261 277 1 3 0 1 25 24 40 32	276 304 301 310 211 248 268 271 280 190 28 36 30 30 21 250 277 261 277 178 1 3 0 1 1 25 24 40 32 32

Essex County Annual Admissions to Detention

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
529	498	493	443	387	-27



What is the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative?

New Jersey's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) was formed in 2004 with the support and leadership of the Annie E. Casey Foundation and is managed by the state's Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC). Since the program's inception, JDAI has resulted in a dramatic decrease in detention populations throughout New Jersey without risk to public safety. JDAI fosters a fundamental shift in the way law enforcement, prosecutors, judges and public defenders handle juvenile crime cases by moving the focus from locking kids up to returning them to their communities and addressing the issues that led to criminal behavior. Detention centers are reserved only for more serious youth offenders.

In 2018, the Annie E. Casey Foundation recognized New Jersey as the first state to implement JDAI resulting in a decrease in the average daily detention center population by nearly 70% between 2003 (pre-JDAI) and 2017. Learn more about New Jersey's successes with the program at https://www.aecf.org/blog/new-jersey-becomes-first-state-to-implement-jdai-statewide/.

7 Teens

Data Sources and Technical Notes:

Births to Teens, Ages 15-19, 2016-2020. The number of births to teenagers as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of January 20, 2022.

Births to Teens as a Percentage of All Births, 2016-2020. As reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of January 20, 2022.

Teen Deaths, Ages 15-19, 2015-2019. The number of teenagers who died in that year, as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of January 20,2022.

Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection, by Gender, 2016-2020, (Chart and Table). Youth under age 20 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea or syphilis as reported by the N.J. Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS). Does not include youth whose gender was unknown or unreported. Data from prior reports are not comparable due to a change in age designation. Data accessed as of January 20,2022.

Juvenile Arrests, 2017-2021. Newark data as reported by the Newark Police Department. Essex and New Jersey data as reported by the N.J. Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Report. Annual 2021 data for Essex and New Jersey were not available.

Newark Arrests by Sub-Group, 2021. As reported by the Newark Police Department.

Newark Annual Admissions to Detention, 2016-2020. The number of youth admitted to detention. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

Essex County Annual Admissions to Detention, 2016-2020. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

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- A cornerstone of ACNJ's success is our independence. We are strictly non-partisan and accept no government funding for our advocacy, freeing us to focus on our sole mission helping children.
- Your tax-deductible donation gives ACNJ the resources we need to advance positive change for all of New Jersey's children.
- Together, we can fight for better laws and policies, more effective funding and stronger services, ensuring that all children have the chance to grow up safe, healthy and educated.

For more information about how you can help support our work, please contact Prudence Walters, Operations Manager, at (973) 643-3876 or at pwalters@acnj.org.



35 Halsey Street Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 643-3876 (973) 643-9153 (fax)

advocates@acnj.org

www.acnj.org





