MARYLAND CHILD CARE
RESOURCE NETWORK

CHILD CARE DEMOGRAPHICS • 2025

St Mary's County Report

MARYLAND
FAMILY
NETWORK

Frequently Requested Child Care Information

St. Mary's County has approximately 8,643 children from birth through age five, and 8.8 percent of them live in households below the poverty line. Meanwhile, the average weekly cost for full-time child care in St. Mary's County is $20,001 per year.

No one would suggest that public school teachers are paid what they deserve. However, child care providers, based on average gross income, earn far less than their public school counterparts, who earn $73,243 on average. Meanwhile, in the same location, a family child care providers makes just $39,539, and a child care center teacher earns only $25,568. Many educators who we entrust to teach and care for our children are forced to rely on public assistance to make ends meet.

The Maryland General Assembly expanded access to the Maryland Child Care Scholarship Program in recent years. Also, in 2024, the Moore Administration committed new State funds in the amounts of $218 million for FY 2024 and $270 million for FY 2025 for the Child Care Scholarship Program (CCSP). These have proven to be a significant step in removing barriers to families' access to child care.

We encourage you to reach out to your local Child Care Resource Center. MFN is the State Coordinating Entity of these enters which make up the Maryland Child Care Resource Network. Each center provides leadership, professional development, coaching, and other services to improve the quality, availability, and affordability of child care in communities across the state.

We hope the following demographic information is helpful as we continue to make improvements for Maryland's youngest children and those who care for them.

Child Population 2023

Age Group	Number in age group
0-2 years	4,045
3-4 years	2,952
5 years	1,646
6-8 years	5,063
9-11 years	4,352
Total Children in Households Aged 0-11	18,058

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Child Care Costs as Compared to Other Major Household Expenses

The estimated current median family income in St. Mary's is $133,566[6]. A family of four that included a couple and two children ages 0-23 months and 2-4 years can be expected to have the following yearly household expenses:

Expense		Cost	% of Income
Child Care		$20,001	15.0%
Infant[1]	$9,851		
Preschooler[2]	$10,150		
Food[3]		$12,851	9.6%
Housing[4]		$20,304	15.2%
Taxes[5]		$21,457	16.1%
Total		$74,613	55.9%

[1]Average annual cost of care for an infant in a family child care home as reported by chilf care providers to LOCATE: Child Care 2023-2024. [2]Average annual cost of care for a two year old in a child care center as reported by providers to LOCATE: Child Care. 2023-2024. [3]National Averge cost of food based on a monderate cost plan. (Moderate cost of food at home estimated for food family of four cost level. U.S. Department of Agriculture 20. [4]Home owner costs of a mortgage, American Community Survey, US Census. [5]smartasset.com: state and local taxes, federal taxes, Medicare and FICA. Does not reflect the earned income credit . [6]Current median income, ACS, US Census, 2023.

Average Weekly Cost of Full-time Child Care

St. Mary's County

	Family Child Care Programs	Child Care Centers
0-23 Months	$248.18	$322.50
2-4 Years	$197.31	$201.00
5 years[1]	$178.33	$252.00
School Age Full[2]	$161.82	$207.50
Before/After School Care[3]	$137.00	$157.00

Average weekly cost of Full-time care as reported by child care programs to MFN's LOCATE: Child Care. [1]Average weekly cost of care a 5 year old. Defined as child being infull timecchild care or being in kindergarten and out-of school child care i.e. holidays, school closures and summers. [2]Average weekly cost of care for a 6+ year old school age child, out of school child care. [3]Average weekly cost of before and after school care.

Child Care Demographics

St. Mary's County

Child Population[1]

	2013		2023	
	St. Mary's	**Maryland**	**St. Mary's**	**Maryland**
0-2 years	4,201	214,524	4,045	207,705
3-4 years	3,312	151,773	2,952	151,635
5 years	1,758	75,351	1,646	73,868
6-8 years	4,361	217,506	5,063	224,060
9-11 years	4,677	225,975	4,352	235,994
Total	18,309	885,129	18,058	893,262

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Age breakouts in the ACS are slightly different instead of ages 0-1; 2-4; 5-9; and 10-11 they are 0-2; 3-4; 5; 6-8; and 9-11

Female Population (selected ages)

Age Group	2013	2023
Aged 20-24	3,733	3,348
Aged 25-29	3,529	3,762
Aged 30-34	3,349	3,970
Total Aged 20-34	10,611	11,080

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Work Force Information
Total Population Ages 16+ in Work Force

	St. Mary's	Maryland
2023		
Females	27,678	1,622,793
Males	34,552	1,726,909
2013		
Females	26,052	1,581,677
Males	31,667	1,650,181
Change		
Females	6.2%	2.6%
Males	9.1%	4.6%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023
* Does not include the population Not in the Labor Force

Females Aged 16+ with Children

Age Group	2013	2023	Change
Total Children Under 6 years old	9,024	8,548	-5.3%
Children Under 6 with all custodial parents working	5,985	5,996	0.2%
Total Children 6-17 years old	17,578	18,127	3.1%
Children 6-17 with all custodial parents working	13,023	13,579	4.3%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Total Population

	St. Mary's	Maryland
2023	114,372	6,170,738
2022	113,814	6,161,707
2021	113,209	6,148,545
2013	107,079	5,834,299
2011	103,805	5,736,545
2000	86,211	5,296,486
1990	75,974	4,780,753
1980	59,895	4,216,975

Source: US Bureau of the Census, 1980, 1990, 2000; American Community Survey 2011, 2013, 2021, 2022, 2023

Male Population (selected ages)

Age Group	2013	2023
Aged 20-24	3,734	3,456
Aged 25-29	3,658	3,956
Aged 30-34	3,302	4,290
Total Aged 20-34	10,694	11,702

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Households

	2013	2023
Total household population	104,286	111,971
Total number of households	37,589	41,743
Average household size	2.77	2.68

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Females Aged 16+ with Children Under 18

Age Group	2013	2023	Change
Females (16+) with children under 18	12,568	12,402	-1.3%
Females (16+) with children under 18, in the workforce	8,675	9,306	7.3%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Census Information

Families and Poverty

	2013	% in Poverty	2023	% in Poverty	% Change
All Families	28,038		29,853		6.5%
Families Below Poverty Level	1,534	5.5%	1,684	5.6%	9.8%
All Families with Children Under 5	5,974		6,153		3.0%
All Families w Children Under 5 Below Poverty Level	778	13.0%	588	9.6%	-24.4%
All Families w Children Under 18	14,545		15,034		3.4%
All Families w Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level	1,224	8.4%	1,217	8.1%	-0.6%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Children and Poverty

	2013	% in Poverty	2023	% in Poverty	% Change
Total Related Children Under 18	27,344		27,279		-0.2%
Total Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level	2,614	9.6%	2,133	7.8%	-18.4%
Total Children Under 5 Below Poverty Level	1,050	14.0%	616	8.8%	-41.3%
Children 5-17 Below Poverty Level	1,564	7.9%	1,517	7.5%	-3.0%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

Educational Attainment for Adults over 25 Years

	St. Mary's	% of Adults	Maryland	% of Adults
Total Adults Aged 25 or More	76,783		3,922,827	
High School Graduate or Higher	70,924	92.4%	3,479,996	88.7%
Bachelors Degree or Higher	26,951	35.1%	1,443,918	36.8%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2023

Families

St. Mary's	2013	2023	% Change
Total Families	28,038	29,853	6.5%
Total # of All Families with Related Children Under Age 6*	5,954	6,224	4.5%
Total # of All Families with Related Children Under Age 18	13,442	13,582	1.0%

Maryland	2013	2023	% Change
Total Families	1,529,098	1,438,269	-5.9%
Total # of All Families with Related Children Under Age 6*	259,293	265,044	2.2%
Total # of All Families with Related Children Under Age 18	643,591	646,709	0.5%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2013, 2023

*Includes Families with children under 6 AND Families with children under 6 and aged 6-17

Income, Unemployment and Housing Information

Annual Wage Rate Information

Public School Teacher Average Salary (St Mary's County)[1]	$73,243
Public School Teacher Average Salary (Maryland)[1]	$79,420
Family Child Care Provider Gross Income (St Mary's County)[2]	$39,539
Child Care Center Director (St Mary's County)[3]	$41,396
Center Senior Staff/Teacher (St Mary's County)[3]	$25,568
Center Aide (St Mary's County)[3]	$17,402

[1]Average Teacher Salary, MSDE. [2]Gross pay based on average cost of care, as reported to LOCATE by child care providers. [3]Salary as reported to LOCATE: Child Care by center directors.

Family Income

Median Family Income

St. Mary's	$133,566
Maryland	$88,738

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2023

Median Household Income[1]:

St. Mary's	$114,580
Maryland	$73,538

Income Distribution	St. Mary's	Maryland
Under $25,000	9.2%	11.3%
$25,000-$49,999	9.6%	12.7%
$50,000-$74,999	11.6%	13.2%
$75,000 +	69.6%	62.9%
Total Households	41,743	2,339,510

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2023

Unemployment Rate

	St. Mary's	Maryland
2001	2.7%	4.0%
2002	2.7%	3.9%
2003	2.7%	4.1%
2004	2.5%	3.9%
2005	3.0%	3.9%
2006	3.1%	3.7%
2007	3.0%	3.6%
2008	3.7%	4.5%
2009	5.6%	7.1%
2010	6.0%	7.3%
2011	6.1%	7.2%
2012	5.6%	6.5%
2013	5.6%	6.2%
2014	5.1%	5.6%
2015	4.8%	5.0%
2016	4.7%	4.5%
2017	4.0%	4.3%
2018	4.4%	4.5%
2019	3.7%	3.9%
2020	5.9%	8.3%
2021	5.3%	6.7%
2022	3.3%	3.7%
2023	1.7%	1.7%
2024	3.2%	3.2%

MD Department of Labor Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) June 2024.

Housing Information

	St. Mary's	%	Maryland	%
Owner-Occupied housing	30,325	72.6%	1,578,702	67.5%
Renter-Occupied housing	11,418	27.4%	760,808	32.5%
Mean Value of Owner-Occupied Housing	$390,900		$397,700	
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs with a Mortgage	$2,256		$2,301	
Median Gross Residential Monthly Rent	$1,692		$1,662	

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2023

Supply of Regulated Early Childhood Programs and Education

Children's Programs by Type with Capacity

	# of Programs	Capacity
Registered Family Child Care Providers and Large Family Child Care Homes	109	845
Licensed and Letter of Compliance Child Care Centers	36	2,122
Public Pre-Kindergarten	15	N/A
Head Start	4	N/A
Early Head Start	0	0

Of the providers in the county**

- 11 are licensed to accept infants with 90 total infant capacity
- 1 is a Head Start program
- 0 are Early Head Start programs
- 11 are nursery schools
- 7 offer Part Day
- 23 offer before and/or after school care with a capacity of 1,589

*   State Funded

** The programs in this section do not total because a program may offer more than one of these options

*** Federally Funded. MSDE

Source Maryland Family Network, LOCATE Child Care and Maryland State Department of Education, and HHS Office of Head Start.

# of Programs: MFN LOCATE: Child Care 2024

Education

Public and Private Schools (Elementary and Middle)

	Public	Private*
Elementary Schools	18	1
Middle Schools	4	0
Combined Elementary and Middle	0	7

Elementary School Enrollment

	Public	Private*
Pre-kindergarten	517	213
Kindergarten	1,133	134
Grades 1-5	7,554	971
Total	9,204	1,318

Source: MSDE 2023-2024 school year. Enrollment figures are for September 2023.
* Self reported data from Maryland nonpublic schools to MSDE.

Density of Family Providers and Center Programs by Community/Zip Code

The following chart shows the number of registered family child care providers and licensed full-day child care centers in St. Mary's as of June 30, 2024.
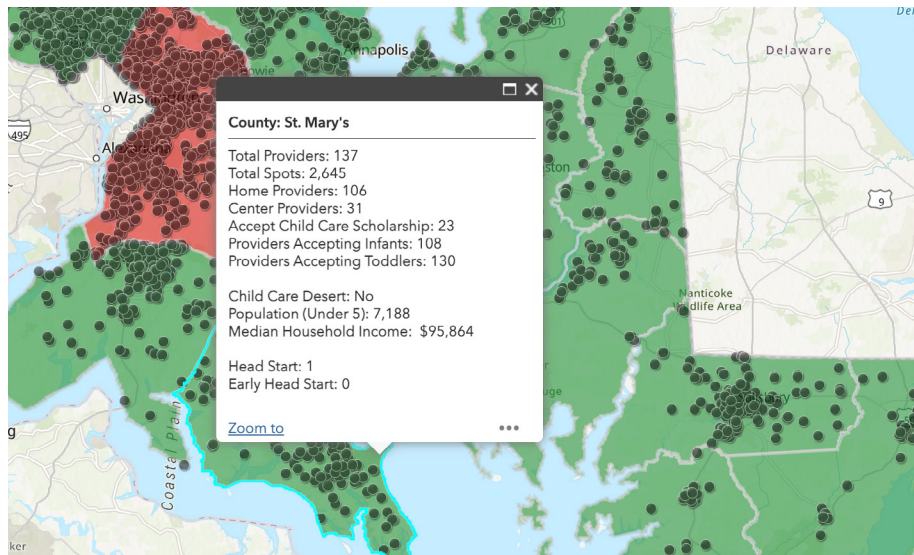
Community/ Zip Code	Family Providers	%	8-12 Hour Centers	%
Bushwood 20618	2	1.8%	0	0.0%
California 20619	15	13.8%	6	16.7%
Callaway 20620	0	0.0%	2	5.6%
Charlotte Hall 20622	2	1.8%	1	2.8%
Clements 20624	1	0.9%	0	0.0%
Great Mills 20634	11	10.1%	1	2.8%
Helen 20635	0	0.0%	1	2.8%
Hollywood 20636	16	14.7%	5	13.9%
La Plata 20646	0	0.0%	1	2.8%
Leonardtown 20650	13	11.9%	7	19.4%
Lexington Park 20653	16	14.7%	6	16.7%
Mechanicsville 20659	26	23.9%	5	13.9%
Park Hall 20667	1	0.9%	0	0.0%
Ridge 20680	1	0.9%	1	2.8%
Saint Inigoes 20684	1	0.9%	0	0.0%
Scotland 20687	1	0.9%	0	0.0%
Valley Lee 20692	3	2.8%	0	0.0%
Totals	109	100.0%	36	100.0%

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 6/24.

NOTE: Percentages may not total 100% because of rounding.

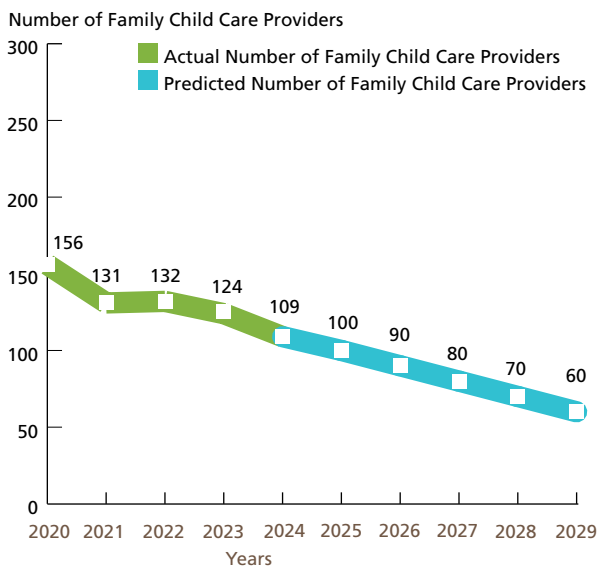## Supply of Regulated Early Childhood Programs and Education

Maryland Family Network and Upfront partnered to create a real-time map of Maryland's child care landscape to identify deserts by county, legislative, and congressional districts.
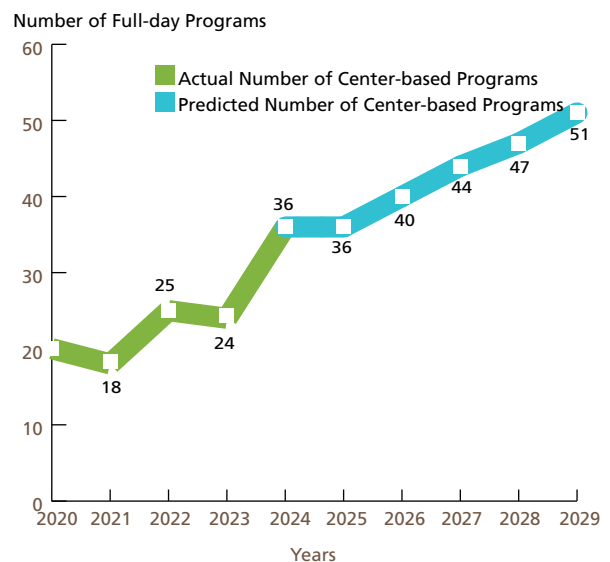

County: St. Mary's

Total Providers: 137
Total Spots: 2,645
Home Providers: 106
Center Providers: 31
Accept Child Care Scholarship: 23
Providers Accepting Infants: 108
Providers Accepting Toddlers: 130

Child Care Desert: No
Population (Under 5): 7,188
Median Household Income: $95,864

Head Start: 1
Early Head Start: 0

Zoom to

Past and Anticipated Growth Patterns for Family/Center Providers

Family Child Care Providers in St. Mary's 2020-2029

Number of Family Child Care Providers

■ Actual Number of Family Child Care Providers
■ Predicted Number of Family Child Care Providers

156, 131, 132, 124, 109, 100, 90, 80, 70, 60

Years

**Center-based Programs in St. Mary's 2020-2029
Full-day (8 to 12 hours)**

Number of Full-day Programs

■ Actual Number of Center-based Programs
■ Predicted Number of Center-based Programs

18, 25, 24, 36, 36, 40, 44, 47, 51

Years

Source: Maryland Family Network, LOCATE: Child Care (June 2024)

Demand for Child Care

Children Served by Age

N=26
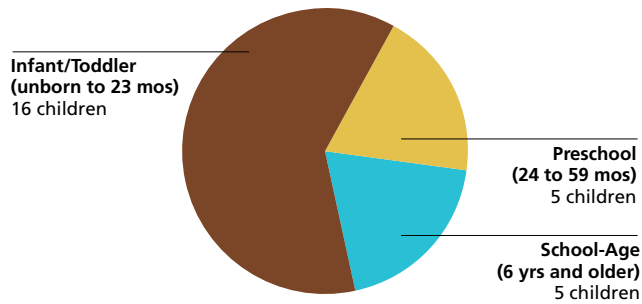
**Infant/Toddler
(unborn to 23 mos)**
16 children

**Preschool
(24 to 59 mos)**
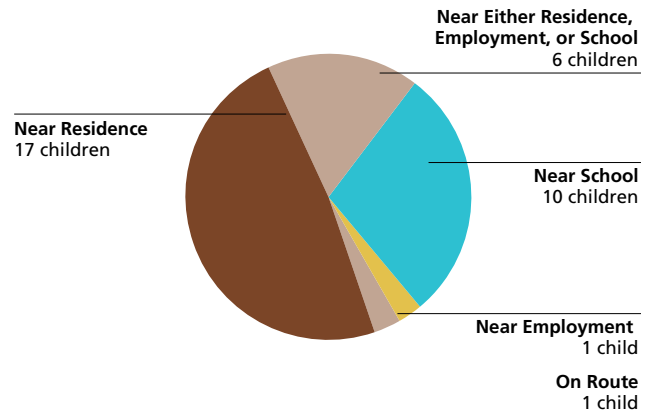5 children

**School-Age
(6 yrs and older)**
5 children

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/23-6/30/24).

Children Served by Locational Preferences for Care

N=26

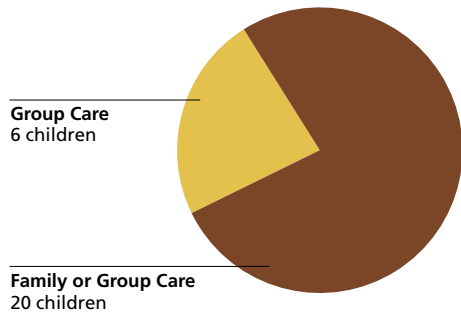

**Near Either Residence,
Employment, or School**
6 children

Near Residence
17 children

Near School
10 children

Near Employment
1 child

On Route
1 child

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/23-6/30/24).

Children Served by Type of Care Preferred

N=26

Group Care
6 children

Family or Group Care
20 children

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/23-6/30/24).

Reason Child Care is Needed

N=26
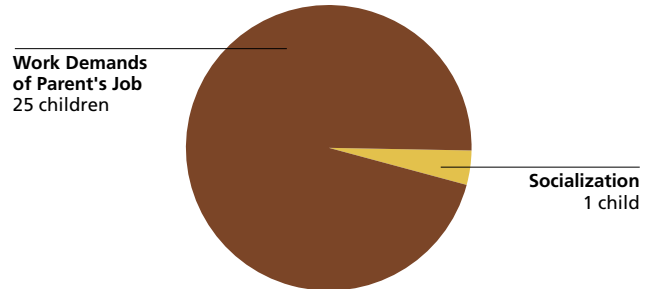
**Work Demands
of Parent's Job**
25 children

Socialization
1 child

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/23-6/30/24).

St. Mary's County

Demand for Child Care

Number of Children Served by LOCATE: Child Care
26 children (7/1/23-6/30/24)

Full-time or Part-time Care Needs of Children Served   N=26

Full-time: 22 children	
Part-time: 3 children	
Other*: 1 children	

* Includes requests for sick, backup and temporary care.
Note: Percentages do not total 100% because of rounding.
Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/23-6/30/24).

Child Care Scholarship Program (CCS)*

LOCATE Calls received from parents with children eligible for Child Care Scholarship
6 (23% of all calls)

LOCATE Calls received from parents with children receiving Child Care Scholarship
8 (31% of all calls)

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/23-6/30/24).
* Formerly Child Care Subsidy Program

Supply of Child Care

Child Care Scholarship Program (CCS)*

Family Child Care Providers willing to care for CCS children in St. Mary's County
16 (15% of all family providers in the county)

Child Care Centers willing to care for CCS children in St. Mary's County
8 (22% of all 8-12 hour centers in the county)

LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network Baltimore, June 2023.
* Formerly Child Care Subsidy Program

FY 24 CCS Expenditure
$2,890,494

CCS Children Served
566

Source: Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care.

Special Needs Child Care

Family providers who serve/have served children with special needs[1]
45 (41% of all family providers in the county)

Centers who serve/have served children with special needs
15 (42% of all 8-12 hour centers in the county)

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/23-6/30/24).

[1]In 2023, LOCATE: Child Care changed the method of tracking providers with Special Needs Experience. Providers now are able to indicate experience with individual special needs. In 2024 and future years , this number will increase as we identify those providers. This number cannot be compared to earlier Demographics.

Definitions

The American Community Survey (ACS): is an ongoing survey that provides vital information on a yearly basis about our nation and its people. Information from the survey generates data that help inform how trillions of dollars in federal funds are distributed each year. (Census.gov)

Before/After-School Care: School-Age child care offers care to children enrolled in Kindergarten or above. Care is provided before and/or after school and during school holidays/vacations. Programs are licensed by the Office of Child Care. Programs may operate from a school building or other licensed facility.

Census of Population and Housing: There are two versions of the Census questionnaire: a short form which asks a limited number of population and housing questions of all households, and a long form questionnaire which asks additional social and economic questions of a sample of all households. The user should note that data obtained from a sample are subject to sampling variability, and that there are limitations to many of these data.

Child Care: The care or supervision of a child when the child's parent has given the child's care over to another for some portion of a 24-hour-day as a supplement to the parent's primary care of the child. (OCC)

Child Care Center: Child care provided in a facility that, for part or all of the day, provides care to children in the absence of the parent. Centers are licensed by the Office of Child Care.

Child Care Scholarship Program (CCS)*: Provides financial assistance to eligible families in securing care for their children in registered family child care homes or licensed child care centers while parents/guardians are attending school, working, or in job training.

Children with Special Needs: Children who, because of a disability or other special educational, developmental, physical, emotional, behavioral, or medical condition, require additional care, or whose activities are restricted by a certain condition. (OCC)

Current Median Family Income: Current, median family income is from the American Community Survey 2022.

Current Population Estimates: Current Population Estimates are based on the American Community Survey 2022.

Educational Attainment: The highest level of school completed or the highest degree received. Educational attainment figures were used for persons over 25 years of age. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Employer-Sponsored Centers: A child care center located on-site or off-site which is sponsored by a corporation, business, or other employer. Employees are given priority for enrollment slots.

Family Child Care: The care given to a child younger than 13 years old or to a developmentally disabled person younger than 21 years old, in place of parental care for less than 24 hours a day, in a residence other than the child's residence and for which the provider is paid. Regulations allow a family child care provider to care for as many as eight children at any time. (OCC)

Family Household Income: Family includes a householder and one or more persons living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Head Start: Project Head Start provides comprehensive developmental services for children from low-income families. Head Start is comprised of four components including Education, Health, Parent Involvement, and Social Services. Head Start Centers serve children from age 3 to school entry age from income eligible families.

Infant/Toddler: In the State of Maryland, "infant"means a child under 18 months old. "Toddler" means a child 18 months old or older but younger than 2 years old. (OCC) MFN reports "infant" as a child birth through 23 months of age.

Kindergarten: An instructional program for children who are 5 years old by September 1st of each academic year. Programs may be operated by a private or public school. Kindergarten is the year of school which precedes entrance to first grade.

Nursery Schools: An instructional program approved or exempted by the Maryland State Department of Education for children who are two through four years old. The maximum length of the program is 6 hours per day, however most operate only a few hours per day and may meet only two or three times per week for a nine month period.

Owner Costs with Mortgage (Selected Monthly): The sum of payments for mortgages, deeds of trust, contracts to purchase, or similar debts on the property; real estate taxes; fire hazard, and flood insurance on the property; utilities; and fuels. It also includes, where appropriate, the monthly condominium fees or mobile home costs. A housing unit is owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Definitions

Part Day: A program regulated by OCC with an educational focus for children one or two years before entering kindergarten. These programs are usually 2-3 hrs/day, 2-3 days/week, nine months/year.

Pre-Kindergarten: These are publicly funded pre-kindergarten programs for eligible 4-year-old children administered by local boards of education or qualified vendors. The programs have the overall goal of providing learning experiences to help children develop and maintain school readiness skills necessary for successful school performance. Local school systems shall enroll all 4-year-old applicants from economically disadvantaged or homeless families.

Poverty Level: The poverty guideline for a family of four persons was $31,200 in 2023. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Jan 2022)

Renter Occupied Gross Monthly Rent: Monthly contract rent plus the estimated average monthly cost of utilities and fuels, if these are paid by the renter. All occupied housing units which are not owner-occupied, whether they are rented for cash rent or occupied without payment of cash rent, are classified as renter-occupied. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

Unemployment Rate: Civilians 16 years old and over are classified unemployed if they (1) were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work"during the reference week, and (2) were looking for work during the last four weeks, and (3) were available to accept a job. Also included were civilians who did not work at all during the reference week and were waiting to be called back to a job from which they had been laid off. (U.S. Bureau of the Census)

The Maryland Child Care Resource Network is a public/private partnership designed to expand and improve child care delivery in Maryland. Maryland Family Network manages the Network and operates as its Statewide Coordinating Entity. Funding for this publication was made available by Maryland Family Network, the Maryland State Department of Education, and Maryland's business community.

For more information regarding the Child Care Demographic Reports, contact:

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www.marylandfamilynetwork.org

For information regarding technical assistance and training for the child care community, contact:

The Promise Center
8395 Old Leonardtown Rd
Hughesville, MD 20637
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This publication was produced as a work for hire for the benefit of, and with funds from, the Maryland State Department of Education.

MARYLAND CHILD CARE
RESOURCE NETWORK

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Maryland
STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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MARYLAND
FAMILY
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