



Report of Supply and Demand of Child Care in Niagara County

July 2016

AS OF JULY 1, 2016 IN NIAGARA COUNTY, NY THERE ARE:

NUMBER OF PROGRAMS AND LICENSED CAPACITY BY MODALITY
(from CCFS Summary Capacity Report)

TYPE OF New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) REGULATED PROGRAM	# OF PROGRAMS	TOTAL SLOTS
LICENSED DAY CARE CENTERS	29	1,646
• HEAD START	4	255
• UNIVERSAL PRE-K	9	283
• PRE-K WRAP AROUND	1	16
REGISTERED FAMILY DAY CARE	42	336
LICENSED GROUP FAMILY DAY CARE	21	328
REGISTERED SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE	32	1,554

LICENSED CAPACITY BY AGE GROUP
(from CCFS Detail Capacity Report)

AGE GROUP	LICENSED CAPACITY
INFANT 6 WKS-18 MONTHS (DAY CARE CENTERS ONLY)	314
TODDLER 18-36 MONTHS (DAY CARE CENTERS ONLY)	449
PRESCHOOL 36 MONTHS-SCHOOL AGE (DAY CARE CENTERS ONLY)	1,366
6 WKS TO 12 YRS (FAMILY CHILD CARE AND GROUP FAMILY CHILD CARE ONLY)	502
SCHOOL-AGE 5 TO 12 YEARS (DAY CARE CENTERS, FAMILY CHILD CARE AND GROUP FAMILY CHILD CARE)	535
SCHOOL-AGE 5 TO 12 YEARS (REGISTERED SCHOOL-AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS)	1,554

NUMBER OF UNREGULATED PROGRAMS
(from NYSED report and NACCRAA database)

TYPE OF UNREGULATED CARE	# OF PROGRAMS	TOTAL SLOTS
DISTRICT RUN UNIV PRE-K (no wrap-around)	14	294
SUMMER CAMPS	11	742
LEGALLY EXEMPT	102	204 (unrelated only)

In Niagara County there are an estimated 5,804 children under 5 years of age and 6,350 children 5-12 years of age*. According to Bureau of Labor statistics for Niagara County, approximately 60% of these children will have both parents in the workforce. Therefore, the projected need for child care slots will be 3,482 for children under 5 years and 3,810 for school-age children.

*Based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau Reports on American Communities 2015.

Conclusions:

There are 2,631 potential regulated slots available for children under 5 years of age. Potential regulated slots mean all family child care and group family child care programs will use all available slots to serve children under 5 years of age. Of all the children who are under five years of age, whose parents are both in the workforce require childcare, 851 of these children will be underserved. For the estimated 1,200 children under two years, with both parents working, the availability is limited to 461 slots, therefore leaving up to 739 or 62% of these children without regulated care.

There are 2,089 specified school-age child care slots available. According to the Niagara County Registrar's Office 1,459 of the registered school-age child care program slots are not available during school holidays and breaks leaving only a total of 630 slots available during these times. Although family child care and group family child care may accept more than the allotted two school-age children in their programs, this number is not significant enough to change the outcome of reliable openings. If all of the estimated 3,810 school-age children with both parents in the workforce required only before and/or after school care while school is in session, there would still be 1,721 or 45% of these children not being served in regulated care.

During the summer months, summer day camps permitted by the Niagara County Department of Health, are available for up to 742 school-age children and 805 school-age slots are available through other modalities of care, leaving nearly 2,263 or 59% of children without regulated care available for the summer.

Overall regulated child care availability in Niagara County is in critical condition. Parents who are fortunate enough to find quality care for their child are often paying up to ½ of their monthly income* towards that care and are limited to care provided within traditional work hours. Traditional hours are defined as between 6:00 A.M. and 7:00 P. M. Monday through Friday. The availability of non-traditional child care is on the decline and subsidy eligibility has been reduced to 120% of the poverty level for Niagara County residents. In addition, many providers are no longer accepting subsidy payment due to the lack of timely reimbursement by the local Department of Social Services.

*Based on information from familyinamerica.org, Kid Counts 2015 and the NACCRRRA report on the State of Child Care in America.

The Community Child Care Clearinghouse of Niagara, Niagara County's child care resource and referral program will continue to attempt to increase the number of quality child care slots in

Niagara County by soliciting child care programs, assisting potential child care providers and programs with the application process and informing parents of what to look for when choosing child care.