How many children in Maryland will need child care in the future?

In Maryland, 79% of children under age 12 – more than 890,000 children in 2020 – may require child care while their mothers are at work.

The chart above shows the total number of children in Maryland and groups them into the indicated age ranges. The chart indicates the data collected to date and projects the size of the population from which the future need for child care will come. It is estimated that 79% of the total population of children under the age of 12 have mothers in the work force and may require child care.

Analysis of the data* provides the following trends:

- The number of children in the 0-4 age group is projected to increase by about 16.3% from 2016 through 2020.
- The number of children in the 5-9 age group is projected to increase by about 10% from 2016 through 2020.
- The number of children in the 10-11 age group is projected to increase by about 3.7% from 2016 through 2020.
- The total number of children under 12 in Maryland is projected to increase by about 11.6% from 2016 to 2020.

*The model used to determine this information has been updated and the results cannot be compared to previous reports.
The graphs above depict the number of licensed child care providers in the state of Maryland, including both family providers and center-based programs. Separate graphs indicating the number of school-age programs and full-day infant care are also provided. The graphs indicate the actual numbers collected to date and show projections based on this information for the near future.

As shown in the first graph, the number of family child care providers in Maryland shows a projected decrease of about 19% from 2016 to 2020. Over this same period, the number of center-based programs shows a projected growth of about 2.9%.

The second pair of graphs depicts the growth of school-age programs and full-day infant centers in Maryland. The number of school-age programs is projected to decrease by 1% from 2016 to 2020. The number of full-day infant centers has grown at an extremely rapid rate from 2010 to the present and is expected to grow by over 1.3% into the year 2020.
Is there a need for child care that can serve children with social/emotional disorders?

The need for child care for children with special needs is substantial, and children with emotional and social disorders comprise a large segment of the population in need of these services.

Accommodations Needed by Children with Special Needs Served Through LOCATE: Child Care

1 Numbers include children with developmental delays as well as those with social/emotional disorders. Children with developmental delays often need social/emotional accommodations in the child care setting.
2 Includes such conditions as depression, obsessive compulsive and other emotional disturbances.

In 2015, LOCATE: Child Care’s Special Needs Service provided enhanced child care resource and referral services to the families of 1,110 children with special needs. The demand for these services was greatest for young children – from birth to age six.

A majority of the 1,110 children served (63%) were under the age of six. Only 7% of services related to children age twelve to twenty-one. Fifty-eight percent (58%) of children served by LOCATE’s Special Needs Service had a single disability while 42% had multiple disabilities.

Many children with a disability need some accommodation in child care settings. In earlier years, LOCATE had noticed a significant number of children needing social/emotional accommodations. Since 2006, the percentage of children needing social/emotional accommodations has leveled in the 36% to 41% range except for one year which showed an increase to 44%.

Of the children requiring social/emotional accommodations, most are affected by Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) or Autism. The percentage of children affected by Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) has remained steady in the 8%-10% range since 2007.
What about non-traditional hours of care?

Approximately 24% of caregivers are licensed to offer evening or overnight care.

*Percentages may not equal 100% because of rounding.

Of the caregivers that are licensed for evening or overnight care, about 70% actually offer non-traditional hours of care.

In fiscal year 2015, LOCATE: Child Care received requests for child care for 7,738 children. Of these requests, 3% (327) needed care during evening hours (6:00 p.m. to midnight), and 0.7% (52) needed care overnight (midnight to 6:00 a.m.). The percent of demands for evening care and overnight care remained basically the same as the last three years.
Will the cost of child care continue to grow?

The cost of care has shown, and will continue to show, general growth.

Average Cost of Care in Maryland Family Child Care Programs

Average Cost of Care in Maryland Center-Based Programs

The charts above show actual and projected weekly costs of regulated child care in Maryland, grouped according to child age.

The charts include both the actual cost data collected to date and the projected future costs based on the trends of these data. Analyzing the cost data shows that all child care costs are projected to increase through 2020 from about 8% to 23%, depending on age and type of care.

The cost of care for children age birth to two is the highest for any age group and shows a projected growth in both types of programs – 23% for family child care and 10% for center-based programs. The cost of care for children age birth to two in center-based programs is the highest cost of any age group in either type of program.
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends that parents should not spend more than 10% of their family income on child care.

The chart above shows the percentage of income that is spent on child care by a family using child care services and projects the spending requirements into the near future. There are three jurisdictions presented on the chart to represent three different population area types – an urban population (Baltimore City), a suburban population (Montgomery County), and a rural population (Garrett County).

The current expenditures are all above the recommended goal of 10%, and all jurisdictions show a projected decrease over the next five years. Based on these projections, none of the three jurisdictions are expected to meet the 10% goal by 2020.
What about the turnover rate among center-based child care staff?

33% of center-based staff left their positions during 2006.

Funding issues precluded a survey being accomplished this year to update these values.

In 2007, Maryland Committee for Children (MCC) conducted a survey of child care centers in the state to measure the extent of staff turnover. Responses were received from 372 of the centers. The workforce employed by the 372 responding centers numbered 4,116, as of January 1, 2006. In the ensuing year (January 1 through December 31, 2006), 1,357 members (33%) of this child care workforce left their positions.

The greatest turnover (42%) occurred in the teacher assistant/aide group. The director group had the least turnover.

Funding issues precluded a survey being accomplished this year to update these values.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Level</th>
<th>Number of employees at start of year</th>
<th>Number of employees that left during the year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>84 (19%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Staff/Group Leaders</td>
<td>1,977</td>
<td>555 (28%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers Assistant/Aide</td>
<td>1,689</td>
<td>718 (42%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Staff</td>
<td>4,116</td>
<td>1,357 (33%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Survey conducted by Maryland Committee for Children, September 2007

What factors contribute to the turnover rate among center-based child care staff?

Compensation is the major factor affecting staff turnover.

In the survey cited above, responses from 159 centers (54% of those centers who responded to this question) indicated that compensation was a significant factor in the decision of employees to leave their jobs. Respondents were asked to indicate which aspects of compensation played a role in turnover. Wages ranked highest in this regard, followed by other concerns:

• 157 centers cited wages as an issue in turnover;
• 83 centers cited health benefits;
• 28 centers cited paid leave; and
• 24 centers cited various other concerns.

Not all staff turnover was attributed to compensation. Surveys from 138 centers (46% of those centers who responded to this question) reported that compensation was not a factor in turnover. These centers cited various reasons for turnover including life cycle events such as marriage, pregnancy, employee’s desire to stay home with their own children, returning to school, getting a degree and seeking other employment, moving, retirement, etc.

1 Twenty percent (20%) of responding centers did not answer the question regarding the relationship of compensation to turnover.
9.8% of Maryland’s licensed family child care providers left the profession last year.

This turnover rate is slightly more than the last three years and continues to be a source of concern. One outcome of high turnover is inconsistent care for children who are forced to change from one caregiver to another. In addition, high turnover creates a less-experienced child care workforce. In the year ending in June 2015, 86% of family child care providers sampled had been operating for more than three years with almost 56% in operation for more than nine years. Four percent had been operating their business for less than one year, according to MFN data.

The provider turnover rate represents changes in the child care provider database due to providers being deleted (leaving the child care profession due to the provider’s personal/family issues, burn-out, or career change) and new providers being added. The turnover rate is calculated as the number of family child care providers deleted from the database during the year divided by the sum of family child care providers at the start of the year plus the number of providers added during the year. There was a net loss of 206 family child care providers in Maryland between July 2014 and June 2015.

What attracts people to a career in family child care? What causes them to leave?

In 2015, MFN surveyed 152 new family child care providers. As shown below, their primary reasons for entering the child care profession were that they enjoy working with children and that they want to stay home with their own children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enjoy working with children</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stay at home with own children</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left prior work</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra income</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No quality child care for my children</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, July 2015.
Percentages do not equal 100% because this is not a complete listing of reasons.

In 2015, MFN also surveyed 157 family child care providers who were leaving the child care profession. As shown below, they were leaving the child care profession because they moved; they experienced burnout or retired or got a new job; or they couldn’t attract enough children to make their child care business profitable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moved</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement/Burnout</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not profitable</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New job</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty with parents</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, July 2015.
Percentages do not equal 100% because this is not a complete listing of reasons.
What are the average salaries of child care workers in Maryland?

The salaries of child care workers are low, when compared to other occupations – ranging between $8.16 and $20.22 per hour.

The chart above summarizes the salary growth of four categories of child care workers. Actual data, collected to the present date, is indicated as well as future projections based on these data. As depicted in the graph, the salaries of all child care workers show a general increase to date with continued projected growth.

Based on current trends, by 2020, three salaries are projected to grow by 5% to 14% over the next five years, with the Aides group losing 2% of their salary.
How can the quality of child care be improved?

Over the past several years, programs, both at the state and national level, have been created to improve the quality of child care. These voluntary programs have been credited with developing criteria for improving both child care programs and the individuals working in the child care field. Participation in one of these programs provide recognition to those child care providers or programs that go beyond the requirements of state licensing and regulations.

Successfully meeting the established criteria for programs is recognized by awarding the program a status of “accredited”. Likewise, meeting the criteria for individuals working in child care programs is recognized by awarding a status of “credentialed”. Documentation of these efforts in Fiscal Year 2015 has been supplied for this report by the Maryland State Department of Education.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accredited Programs</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Providers</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Child Care Programs</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Pre-K</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Head Start</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants in MSDE Credential Program</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care Providers</td>
<td>1411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Child Care Center Staff</td>
<td>7,551</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maryland Child Care Resource Network

Anne Arundel:
Arundel Child Care Connections
P.O. Box 2700
Annapolis, MD 21404
Phone: 410.222.1712
www.arundelccc.org

Baltimore City: Baltimore City
Child Care Resource Center
1001 Eastern Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
Phone: 410.685.5150
www.bccrcr.org

Baltimore County:
Child Resource Center
Baltimore County
@Abilities Network/Project ACT
8503 LaSalle Road
Towson, MD 21286
Phone: 443.900.6458
www.abilitiesnetwork.org

Carroll:
Child Care Choices
255 Clifton Boulevard, Suite 319
Westminster, MD 21157
Phone: 410.751.2917
www.fcmha.org/
childcarechoices

Frederick: Child Care Choices
226 South Jefferson Street
Frederick, MD 21701
Phone: 410.662.4549
Toll free: 800.753.6841
www.fcmha.org/
childcarechoices

Harford/Cecil: Child Resource Center
Harford Cecil Counties
@Abilities Network/Project ACT
3103 Emmorton Road
Abingdon, MD 21009
Phone: 443.761.0206
www.abilitiesnetwork.org

Howard: Howard County Child Care Resource Center
3300 North Ridge Road
Suite 380
Ellicott City, MD 21043
Phone: 410.313.1940
www.howardcountymd.gov/
children

Lower Shore: Lower Shore Child Care Resource Center
Suit 500
East Campus Complex
Salisbury University
Power and Wayne Streets
Salisbury, MD 21804
Phone: 410.543.6650
www.applesforchildren.org

Montgomery: Montgomery County Child Care Resource and Referral Center
332 West Edmonston Drive
Rockville, MD 20852
Phone: 240.777.3110
www.montgomerycountymd.gov

Prince George’s:
Prince George’s Child Resource Center
9475 Lottsford Road, Suite 202
Largo, MD 20774
Phone: 301.772.8420
www.childresource.org

Southern Maryland:
The Promise Center
29958 Killpeck Creek Court
Charlotte Hall, MD 20622
Phone: 301.290.0040
Toll free: 866.290.0040
www.thrptomisecenter.org

Upper Shore: Chesapeake Child Care Resource Center
Chesapeake College
P.O. Box 8
1000 College Circle
Wye Mills, MD 21679
Phone: 410.822.5400 x346
www.ccrc.org

Western Maryland:
Apples for Children, Inc.
1825 Howell Road, Suite 3
Hagerstown, MD 21740
Phone: 301.733.0000
www.applesforchildren.org
Maryland Family Network services for families and young children:

**FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER NETWORK.** MFN’s Family Support Centers serve families that are raising infants and toddlers while facing poverty, limited education, and other challenges.

**LOCATE: CHILD CARE** provides phone counseling to help parents find child care that meets their family’s needs, including birth to age five, school-age child care, and summer programs. Additional services are offered to Spanish-speakers and families of children with special needs.

**CHILD CARE QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY.** MFN’s local Child Care Resource Centers provide training and technical assistance to child care providers to improve the quality and expand the supply of child care.

**ADVOCACY.** MFN is the leading public policy advocate in Maryland working to create a system of high quality supports that benefit all young children, their families, and neighborhoods.

Stay in touch with Maryland Family Network by signing up to receive regular updates at marylandfamilynetwork.org. Find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @MDFamilyNetwork.