MARYLAND CHILD CARE RESOURCE NETWORK

CHILD CARE DEMOGRAPHICS • 2024

Harford County Report

The Maryland Child Care Resource Network and Maryland Family Network, Inc. are co-publishers of this Harford County Report for the Network's Maryland Child Care Demographics Report series. The series includes reports for the State, for each of Maryland's 23 counties and the City of Baltimore.



Harford County

Frequently Requested Child Care Information

Harford County is on Maryland's Northern border and is bordered by Baltimore and Cecil Counties. It is approximately 448 square miles in size. It has a population of approximately 259,000 people, making it 8th in county population count in the state.

Harford County's economy includes the technology and R&D industry. Of the approximately 136,000 civilian employees, the county employs approximately 92,000 people via 6,000 businesses. Approximately 78% are in the private sector, with the largest concentrations in trade, transportation, and utilities and professional and business services. The rest are in local government (9%), state government (1%) and federal government (12%).

Major employers include Aberdeen Proving Ground, University of maryland Upper Chesapeake Health, Harford Community College, ShopRite, Amazon, Sephora, Kohl's, Frito-Lay, Walmart, Rite Aid, Jones Junction Auto Group, CACI, Booz Allen Hamilton, and Target.

Approximately 39% of Harford County residents have a Bachelor's degree or higher. For public schools, Harford County has approximately 33 elementary schools, 10 middle schools, 9 high schools, and 1 career/tech school¹. Total public school enrollment is 38,000 students. The county is home to Harford Community College (twoyear)₂.

Child Population 2022

Age Group	Number in age group
0-2 years	7,736
3-4 years	6,525
5 years	3,221
6-8 years	9,716
9-11 years	9,666
Total Children in Households Aged 0)-11 36,864

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2022

Child Care Costs as Compared to Other Major Household Expenses

The estimated current median family income in Harford is \$125,929⁶. 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		\$26,554.84	21%
Infant ¹	\$11,639.16		
Preschooler ²	\$14,915.68		
Food ³		\$ 2,946.00	2%
Housing⁴		\$24,612.00	20%
Taxes⁵		\$31,079.00	25%
Total		\$85,191.84	68%

¹ Average cost of full-time care in a family child care home (LOCATE, 2023).
² Average cost of full-time care in a child care center (LOCATE, 2023). ³ Aviational average cost of food at home based on a moderate cost plan (Cost of Food at Home Estimated for Food Plans at Four Cost Level, July 2023), U.S. Average, United States Department of Agriculture). ⁴Based on U.S. Bureau of the Census 2020 median selected owner costs with a mortgage; included mortgage, taxes, insurance and utilities. ⁵State and local taxes per Comptroller of Maryland (2023), Medicare and FICA taxes per moneychimp.com (2023). Taxes do not refl^ect Earned Income Credit. 6Current income as shown in the Geolytics Report dated July 2023.

Average Weekly Cost of Full-time Child Care

Harford County		
-	Family Child Care Programs	Child Care Centers
0-23 Months	\$250.92	\$379.50
2-4 Years	\$216.58	\$293.38
5 years ¹	\$206.73	\$270.67
School Age Full ²	\$170.00	\$357.00
School Age B/A ³	\$117.86	\$147.50

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 6/23.

¹Average cost of full time care for a 5 year old. Defined as child being in full time child care or being in kindergarten and out-of-school child care, i.e., holidays, school closures and summers. ²Average cost of full time care for a 6+ school age child (out-of-school child care, i.e., holidays, school closures and summers). ³Average cost of before and after school child care.

¹ Maryland Public School Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity and Gender and Number of Schools, 2022-2023

² Brief Economic Facts, Maryland Department of Commerce, 2022

Harford County

Population Information

Child Population¹

		2011		2022
	Harford	Maryland	Harford	Maryland
0-2 years	8,023	215,677	7,736	205,809
3-4 years	7,024	149,276	6,525	152,669
5 years	3,166	73,189	3,221	72,489
6-8 years	9,380	216,607	9,716	224,287
9-11 years	11,249	224,348	9,666	231,904
Total	38,842	879,097	36,864	887,158

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Female Population (selected ages)

Age Group	2011	2022
Aged 20-24	6,761	7,368
Aged 25-29	7,208	7,625
Aged 30-34	7,071	8,279
Total Aged 20-34	21,040	23,272

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Work Force Information Total Population Ages 16+ in Work Force

	Harford	Maryland
2022		
Females	67,067	1,618,655
Males	75,197	1,713,303
2011		
Females	69,963	1,706,926
Males	76,737	1,772,418
Change		
Females	-4.1%	-5.2%
Males	-2.0%	-3.3%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022 * Does not include the population Not in the Labor Force

Females Aged 16+ with Children

A	2044	2022	Channe
Age Group	2011	2022	Change
Total Children Under 6 years old	17,795	17,027	-4.3%
Children Under 6 with all custodial parents			
working	12,178	12,450	2.2%
Total Children 6-17 years old	40,651	38,492	-5.3%
Children 6-17 with all custodial parents working	31,677	30,884	-2.5%

Total Population

	Harford	Maryland
2022	261,059	6,161,707
2021	259,162	6,148,545
2011	243,955	5,736,545
2000	218,590	5,296,486
1990	182,132	4,780,753
1980	145,930	4,216,975

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

Male Population (selected ages)

Age Group	2011	2022
Aged 20-24	7,268	7,877
Aged 25-29	7,022	7,855
Aged 30-34	6,715	8,199
Total Aged 20-34	21,005	23,931

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Households

	2011	2022
Total household population	241,805	259,540
Total number of households	89,260	98,822
Average household size	2.71	2.63

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Females Aged 16+ with Children Under 18

Age Group	2011	2022	Change
Females (16+) with children under 18	30,448	26,355	-13.4%
Females (16+) with children under 18, in the workforce	22,339	21,452	-4.0%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Harford County

Census Information

Families and Poverty

	2011	% in Poverty	2022	% in Poverty	% Change
All Families	65,726		70,890		7.9%
Families Below Poverty Level	3,172	4.8%	3,335	4.7%	5.1%
All Families with Children Under 5	11,733		11,791		0.5%
All Families w Children Under 5 Below Poverty Level	1,227	10.5%	903	7.7%	-26.4%
All Families w Children Under 18	32,893		31,180		-5.2%
All Families w Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level	2,579	7.8%	2,108	6.8%	-18.3%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Children and Poverty

	2011	% in Poverty	2022	% in Poverty	% Change
Total Related Children Under 18	60,140		57,634		-4.2%
Total Children Under 18 Below Poverty Level	5,530	9.2%	5,256	9.1%	-5.0%
Total Children Under 5 Below Poverty Level	1,791	12.0%	1,200	8.5%	-33.0%
Children 5-17 Below Poverty Level	3,739	8.3%	4,056	9.3%	8.5%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Educational Attainment for Adults over 25 Years

	Harford	% of Adults	Maryland	% of Adults
Total Adults Aged 25 or More	182,063		4,260,095	
High School Graduate or Higher	171,448	94.2%	3,876,178	91.0%
Bachelors Degree or Higher	70,590	38.8%	1,798,746	42.2%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

Families

Harford	2011	2022	% Change
Total Families	65,726	70,890	7.9%
Total # of All Families with Related Childrend Under Age 6*	11,987	12,097	0.9%
Total # of All Families with Related Childrend Under Age 18	30,448	28,503	-6.4%

Maryland	2011	2022	% Change
Total Families	1,428,101	1,525,066	6.8%
Total # of All Families with Related Childrend Under Age 6*	269,284	262,824	-2.4%
Total # of All Families with Related Childrend Under Age 18	656,740	643,101	-2.1%

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2011, 2022

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

Harford County

Income, Unemployment and Housing Information

Annual Wage Rate Information

Public School Teacher Salary	\$76,277
Average (Harford County)	
Public Teacher Salary Average MD ¹	\$79,420
Non Public School Teacher Salary Average	
(National) ²	\$67,201
Family Child Care Provider (County) ³	\$33,987
Child Care Center Director (County) ³	\$36,000
Center Senior Staff /Teacher(County) ³	\$24,500
Center Aide (Count) ³	\$15,000

Average Teacher Salary MSDE Sept 2023
 National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) 2022- 2023 Year
 MFN's 2022 Statewide Survey of Family Child Care Providers and Child Care

Centers.

Family Income

Median Family Income	
Harford	\$125,929
Maryland	\$120,081

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2022

Median Household Income ¹ :	
Harford	\$106,417
Maryland	\$98,461

Income Distribution	Percent Households	
	Harford	Maryland
Under \$25,000	9.6%	11.6%
\$25,000-\$49,999	12.6%	13.2%
\$50,000-\$74,999	12.4%	13.6%
\$75,000 +	65.5%	61.6%
Total Households	98,822	2,318,124

Source: ^{US} Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2022 NOTE: Percentages may not total 100% because of rounding

Housing Information

	Harford	%	Maryland	%
Owner-Occupied housing	79,011	80.0%	1,564,056	67.5%
Renter-Occupied housing	19,811	20.0%	754,068	32.5%
Mean Value of Owner-Occupied Housing	\$351,100		\$380,500	
Median Selected Monthly Owner Costs with a Mortgage	\$2,051		\$2,245	
Median Gross Residential Monthly Rent	\$1,475		\$1,598	

Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey 2022

Unemployment Rate

	Harford	Maryland
2001	3.5%	4.0%
2002	3.7%	3.9%
2003	4.1%	4.1%
2004	3.9%	3.9%
2005	3.5%	3.9%
2006	3.3%	3.7%
2007	3.5%	3.6%
2008	4.1%	4.5%
2009	7.1%	7.1%
2010	7.1%	7.3%
2011	7.1%	7.2%
2012	6.6%	6.5%
2013	6.1%	6.2%
2014	5.4%	5.6%
2015	4.9%	5.0%
2016	4.5%	4.5%
2017	4.0%	4.3%
2018	4.1%	4.5%
2019	3.7%	3.9%
2020	7.2%	8.3%
2021	5.7%	6.7%
2022	3.2%	3.7%
2023	1.5%	1.7%

MD Department of Labor Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) June 2023.

Harford County

Supply of Regulated Early Childhood Programs and Education

Children's Programs by Type with Capacity/ Enrollment

	# of	
	Programs	Capacity ¹
Family Child Care Providers	201	1,576
*OCC Licensed Group Programs	98	7,104
8-12 Hour Child Care Centers	59	5,216
Infant/Toddler	28	285
Part-Day	17	N/A
Before/after School (School & Center-Based)	68	5,088
Employer-Sponsored Centers	2	192
Nursery Schools	19	N/A
Public Kindergarten	20	N/A
**Head Start	3	134
***Early Head Start	1	60
***Public Pre-Kindergarten Sit	es 20	N/A
Total Infant/Toddler	196	419

¹Some providers may still be closed due to COVID 19 considerations.

*Note: Numbers do not total because facilities may have more than one type of program. Unless otherwise indicated, all programs are privately funded. ** Federally funded programs which include Head Start, Early Head Start and

Home-based Head Start.

***State funded.

Source: MFN/LOCATE Child Care, 6/23; Maryland State Department of Education; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Education

Public and Private Schools (Elementary and Middle)

	Public	Private*
Elementary Schools	33	1
Middle Schools	9	0
Combined	1	15

Elementary School Enrollment

	Public	Private*
Pre-Kindergarten	1,101	583
Kindergarten	2,739	257
Grades 1 - 6	16,762	1,201
Total	20,602	2,041

Source: MSDE, 2022-23 school year. Enrollment figures are for September 30, 2022. *Self reported data from Maryland Nonpublic Schools as reported to MSDE.*Self reported data from Maryland Nonpublic Schools as reported 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 Harford as of June 30, 2023.

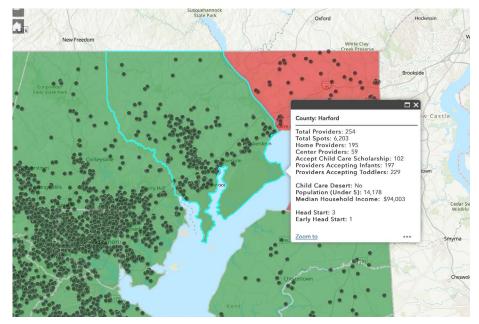
	Famil		8-12 H	
Zip Code	Provi	ders %	Cente	ers %
Aberdeen 21001	26	12.9%	4	6.8%
Abingdon 21009	37	18.4%	7	11.9%
Bel Air 21014	27	13.4%	12	20.3%
Bel Air 21015	22	10.9%	7	11.9%
Belcamp 21017	13	6.5%	1	1.7%
Churchville 21028	2	1.0%	3	5.1%
Darlington 21034	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
Edgewood 21040	27	13.4%	4	6.8%
Fallston 21047	7	3.5%	4	6.8%
Forest Hill 21050	12	6.0%	7	11.9%
Havre De Grace				
21078	7	3.5%	4	6.8%
Havre De Grace	0	0.00/	0	0.00/
21085	0	0.0%		0.0%
Jarrettsville 21084	-	2.5%		3.4%
Joppa 21085	12	6.0%	2	3.4%
Joppatowne 2108	51	0.5%	0	0.0%
Kingsville 21087	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
Pylesville 21132	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Street 21154	0	0.0%	1	1.7%
Whiteford 21160	1	0.5%	1	1.7%
Totals	201	100.0%	59	100.0%

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 6/23. NOTE: Percentages may not total 100% because of rounding.

Harford County

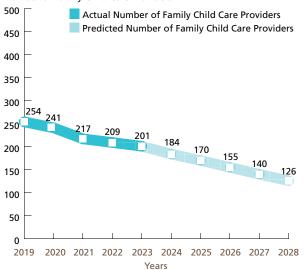
Supply of Regulated Early Childhood Programs and Education

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



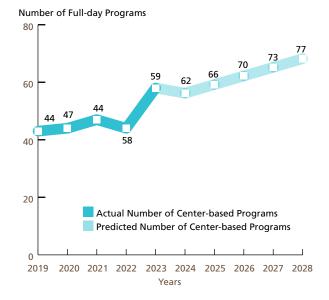
Past and Anticipated Growth Patterns for Family/Center Providers

Family Child Care Providers in Harford 2019-2028



Number of Family Child Care Providers

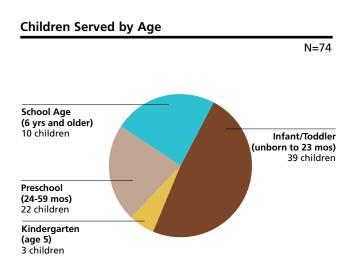
Center-based Programs in Harford 2019-2028 Full-day (8 to 12 hours)



These predictions were generated with the use of the Multiple Regression Analysis and Forecasting template. The predictions generated by the Model do not reflect the effects of current changes to social programs affecting child care. Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, 6/23.

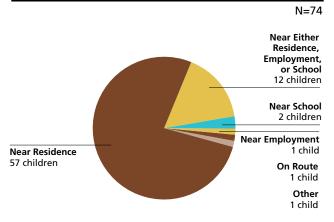
Harford County

Demand for Child Care

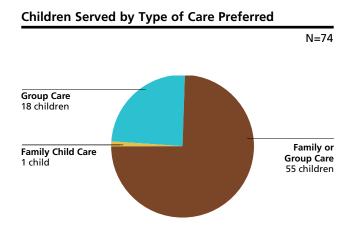


Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22-6/30/23).

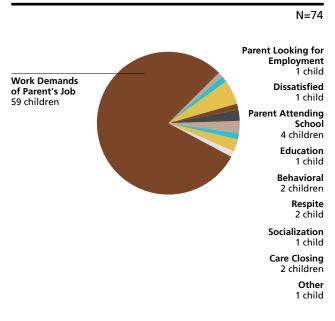
Children Served by Locational Preferences for Care



Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22-6/30/23).



Reason Child Care is Needed



Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22-6/30/23).

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22-6/30/23).

Demand for Child Care

Number of Children Served by LOCATE: Child Care 74 children (7/1/22-6/30/23)

Full-time or Part-time Care Needs of Children Served

Full-time:	59 children	

Part-time: 15 children

* Includes requests for sick, backup and temporary care. Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22-6/30/23).

Child Care Scholarship Program (CCS)*

LOCATE Calls received from parents with children eligible for Child Care Scholarship 27 (36% of all calls)

LOCATE Calls received from parents with children receiving Child Care Scholarship 29 (39% of all calls)

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22-6/30/23). * Formerly Child Care Subsidy Program

Major Reasons Parents Could Not Find Child Care in Harford County

Factor	Count
Other	1
Special Needs	1

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22-6/30/23).

Major Factors Important to Parents Who Found Child Care in Harford County

Factor	Count
Environment	7
Program	4
Hours	4
Cost	3
Caregiver	3
Transportation	1

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22-6/30/23).

Harford County

Supply of Child Care

Child Care Scholarship Program (CCS)*

Family Child Care Providers willing to care for CCS children in Harford County 74 (37% of total family child care providers)

Child Care Centers willing to care for CCS children in Harford County 36 (61% of total child care centers)

LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network Baltimore, June 2022.

* Formerly Child Care Subsidy Program

N=74

Harford County FY23 Allocation (estimated) \$4,459,040 = 557 full-time children enrolled

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

Special Needs Child Care

Family providers who serve/have served children with special needs¹

70 (35% of total family child care providers in Harford)

Centers who serve/have served children with special needs

30 (51% of total child care centers in Harford)

Source: LOCATE: Child Care at Maryland Family Network, Baltimore (7/1/22- 6/30/23).

¹In 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.

Harford County

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)

Harford County

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 prekindergarten 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 \$30,000 in 2022. (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Jan 2021)

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.

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