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

In Maryland, 79% of children under age 12 – more than 772,000 children in 2019 – may require child care while their mothers are at work.

This publication provides a summary of the critical components of child care (demand, supply, and cost) from 2010 to 2019. The analysis is based on the data collected by LOCATE: Child Care of the Maryland Family Network and the Maryland Child Care Resource Network. The historical data collected from 2010 to the present is analyzed in the following summary and is used to project the data forecasts for 2015 through 2019 using Multiple Regression Analysis and Forecasting template. The results of the analysis are presented through a combination of graphs, charts, and text descriptions that summarize the data and interpret the trends.

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 6.3% from 2015 through 2019.
- The number of children in the 5-9 age group is projected to increase by about 4.9% from 2015 through 2019.
- The number of children in the 10-11 age group is projected to decrease by about 2.1% from 2015 through 2019.
- The total number of children under 12 in Maryland is projected to increase by about 4.3% from 2015 to 2019.
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 17% from 2015 to 2019. Over this same period, the number of center-based programs shows a projected growth of about 4%.

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 2.3% from 2015 to 2019. 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 7% into the year 2019.
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.

In 2014, LOCATE: Child Care’s Special Needs Service provided enhanced child care resource and referral services to the families of 1,167 children with special needs. The demand for these services was greatest for young children – from birth to age six.

A majority of the 1,167 children served (61%) were under the age of six. Only 8% of services related to children age twelve to twenty-one. Forty-six percent (46%) of children served by LOCATE’s Special Needs Service had a single disability while 54% 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 40% 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.

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.
What about non-traditional hours of care?

Approximately 25% of caregivers are licensed to offer evening or overnight care.

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

In fiscal year 2014, LOCATE: Child Care received requests for child care for 8,033 children. Of these requests, 4% (344) needed care during evening hours (6:00 p.m. to midnight), and 0.9% (71) 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 two years.
The cost of care has shown, and will continue to show, general growth.

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 2019 from about 8% to 29%, 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 – 29% for family child care and 9% 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, one of the three areas, Garrett County, is expected to meet the 10% goal by 2019.
What about the turnover rate among center-based child care staff?

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>Total Staff and Exiting Staff at Responding Child Care Centers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff Level</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Staff/Group Leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers Assistant/Aide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Staff</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.
What about the family child care provider turnover rate?

10.8% of Maryland’s licensed family child care providers left the profession last year.

This turnover rate is slightly less than the last two years but 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 2014, 84% of family child care providers sampled had been operating for more than three years with almost 54% 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 335 family child care providers in Maryland between July 2013 and June 2014.

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

In 2014, MCC surveyed 271 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>Reasons New Family Child Care Providers Entered the Child Care Profession in Maryland</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enjoy working with children</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stay at home with own children</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left prior work</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra income</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No quality child care for my children</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, July 2014.
Percentages do not equal 100% because this is not a complete listing of reasons.

In 2014, MCC also surveyed 365 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>Reasons Maryland Family Child Care Providers Leave the Child Care Profession</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moved</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement/Burnout</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not profitable</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New job</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty with parents</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: MFN/LOCATE: Child Care, July 2014.
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 $8.63 and $20.19 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 2019, all average salaries are projected to grow by 1% to 9% over the next five years.
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 2014 has been supplied for this report by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accredited Programs</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Providers</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Child Care Center Programs</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Pre-K</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head Start</td>
<td>59</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>996</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensed Child Care Center Staff</td>
<td>9,454</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maryland Child Care Resource Network

Anne Arundel:
Arundel Child Care Connections
44 Calvert Street, Rm# 140A
Annapolis, MD 21404
Phone: 410.222.1712
www.arundelccc.org

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

Baltimore County:
Child Care Links
1101 North Point Boulevard
Suite 112
Baltimore, MD 21224
Phone: 410.288.4900
www.childcarelinksinc.org

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

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

Harford/Cecil:
Child Care Links of Harford and Cecil Counties
Emmorton Crossroads
2105 Laurel Bush Road
Suite 105
Bel Air, MD 21015
Phone: 443.512.0461
www.hccchildcarelinksinc.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
Suite 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
THE FIRST FIVE YEARS LAST FOREVER.

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.