



# Trenton Kids Count 2023

A City Profile of Child Well-Being



Giving Every Child A Chance®

# Trenton Kids Count 2023 A City Profile of Child Well-Being

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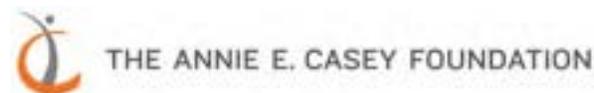
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We want to acknowledge the members of the Trenton Kids Count Committee and our funders for their assistance in developing the report. The photos and stories they contributed help bring the data to life, and paint a more complete picture of Trenton.



ACNJ acknowledges that the findings and conclusions presented in this report are those of the author(s) alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the funders.

For more information or to view other Kids Count data online, visit [www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org)



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*Advocates for Children of New Jersey is the trusted, independent voice putting children's needs first for more than 40 years. Our work results in better laws and policies, more effective funding and stronger services for children and families. And it means that more children are given the chance to grow up safe, healthy and educated.*



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# Introduction

## How to use the Trenton Data Book

Advocates for Children of New Jersey (ACNJ) is proud to be publishing our third Trenton Kids Count Data Book in over 20 years, a one-stop source for child well-being data on the state's capital city. Trenton Kids Count includes the latest statistics, along with data trends, in the following areas: demographics, family economic security, child health, child protection, child care, education, and teens.

*Trenton Kids Count 2023* looks a bit different compared to previous data books. In particular, due to data quality concerns, the U.S. Census Bureau did not release American Community Survey (ACS) 2020 one-year estimates. For this reason, tables using ACS one-year estimates do jump from 2019 to 2021.

**Policymakers**, including elected officials and government agencies, use the data to make informed decisions.

**Service providers** use the data to improve their response to emerging child-related issues in their communities and cities.

**Grant writers** use the data to write proposals and solicit support for programs that help children and families.

**Concerned residents** become better, more informed advocates using the data to identify and address problems facing children and families in their community.

## *A few things to remember:*

- **Moments and Trends.** ACNJ collects and displays data for multiple years, including the most recent year available. The most recent moment may tell us one fact (such as the number of births in a given year), while the trend line tells us something else (births to teens declined over the last five years).
- **Geographic Comparisons.** ACNJ compares Trenton data to Mercer County and New Jersey statewide data where available. These comparisons help tell whether trends are occurring equally in all places (such as the unemployment rate, p. 15) or whether trends are changing faster in one place (such as the number of births to foreign-born women, p. 8).
- **Calculations and Data Sources.** When using this book, please take into account that some percentages and numbers are based on estimates. Smaller geographies, like cities, counties, or school districts, sometimes result in suppressed data or significant margins of error. Additionally, certain indicators represent different points in time such as school years, fiscal years, or calendar years. Please review the data sources listed at the end of each section for further information on individual indicators.



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## A Letter from Advocates for Children of New Jersey



Mary Coogan  
*President & CEO*  
Advocates for Children  
of New Jersey



Charles Venti  
*Board President*  
Advocates for Children  
of New Jersey

The goal of Trenton Kids Count is to provide a statistical and meaningful profile of the children and youth living in Trenton, New Jersey. Building on the data in *Trenton Kids Count 2019*, we start to see trends across a wide range of indicators in certain areas of well-being. More importantly, this report shows the beginning impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and shutdown and how it affected our children and families.

While data do not tell the whole story, they offer a good starting point. To help develop a better picture on the state of children in Trenton, this report also includes information about programs helping the city's families and youth, working to move the community in a positive direction.

The *Trenton Kids Count 2023* report was made possible due to the generous support of The Burke Foundation, the Princeton Area

Community Foundation, and The Smith Family Foundation, as well as the contributions of members of the Trenton Kids Count Committee. These dedicated individuals provided the stories behind the numbers to make the data report even more valuable to policymakers, community leaders, and advocates.

ACNJ is looking forward to the upcoming community conversations with Trenton residents, diving deeper into the data and discussing ways we can all work together to continue to improve outcomes for the children and youth living in Trenton. We encourage Trenton residents and service providers to attend as many of the conversations as they can to share their thoughts and ideas. Please visit the ACNJ website at [www.acnj.org](http://www.acnj.org) for details regarding dates and locations of these meetings.

## A Letter from the Mayor of Trenton



Reed Gusciora  
Mayor, City of Trenton

We all know the undeniable truth, that it takes a village to raise a child. This African proverb has been echoed time and again, but is embodied in the spirit that is the City of Trenton. Through the information available in the *Trenton Kids Count 2023*, we are able to work together, driving the services and initiatives needed to help our children on a pathway to success. That is why it gives me great pleasure to be part of this release.

As Mayor of the City of Trenton, I am in the unique position to address a number of issues across the city — and we have been making progress. But in order to make informed policy decisions for the betterment of the well-being of children, we need reliable data, and this report covers much of the valuable information needed to help us progress. With this report, we can highlight what is working for our young residents and examine where we can make improvements.

During my first term as Mayor, I prioritized the improvement of the City's resources for our youth and the opportunities we provide. I oversaw the significant improvement of Trenton's parks, basketball courts, and pools. The city hired 250 individuals for seasonal summer work in 2022, some of who worked directly in my office. Additionally, Trenton Fire and Police Departments offered the Junior Public Safety Academy and the Trenton Police Summer Camp. Multiple community policing groups began Safe Passage programs, developing relationships and mediating conflicts between students walking to and from school. Moving into my second term, I cannot wait for the relaunch of the Trenton RISE afterschool program and to see what we can continue to do together for our city's youth for the next four years.

It is my hope that with the release of this report, readers will feel empowered to use the data to make a difference and move the needle forward for Trenton's children. I ask our residents to roll up their sleeves and join me as we work together to make sure Trenton's kids count!

## A Letter from the Princeton Area Community Foundation



Jeffrey M. Vega  
*President & CEO*  
Princeton Area  
Community Foundation

For more than 30 years, the Princeton Area Community Foundation has harnessed the power of philanthropy to make a difference in our region.

Since 1991, we have been collaborating with philanthropists, foundation partners, nonprofits, and community leaders to address our region's most critical needs.

Our discretionary grants support nonprofits in the Greater Mercer County region, including the City of Trenton. These discretionary grants represent a series of funds that include support for women and girls, the arts, education, workforce development, and nonprofit capacity-building needs.

All Kids Thrive, a strategic initiative of the Community Foundation, aims to reduce rates of chronic absenteeism in local schools. We also provide Community Impact Grants to nonprofit organizations working to address the needs of under-resourced and vulnerable individuals, families, and communities.

We are a local philanthropic expert, and we use our grantmaking as a powerful tool for change, supporting nonprofits as they respond to the needs of our residents.

In 2021, the Community Foundation awarded a total of more than \$19 million in grants to nonprofits, the bulk of which provided funding to organizations in the state: a total of more than \$14 million was awarded to organizations in New Jersey and some \$7 million of that funding supported nonprofits in Mercer County.

We know there are many terrific organizations in the City of Trenton working to improve the lives of its residents. That's why we are working with our funding partners to support the Trenton Kids Count report. We believe that thriving philanthropy leads to thriving communities, and we believe the data gleaned from this report can help inform our collective work, as we strive to ensure that all our communities thrive. For more information about our grants and programs, please visit our website at [pacf.org](http://pacf.org).

## A Letter from the Smith Family Foundation



Katherine Nunnally, MPA  
Executive Director, CEO,  
Smith Family Foundation

The transformative work that the Smith Family Foundation (SFFNJ) is implementing throughout Trenton is called “The Purple Ribbon”. SFFNJ is providing leadership as well as organizational development and funding to increase the impact of the nonprofit and religious sectors across the city. We are creating an environment where we work strategically and cooperatively with the community to promote Trenton as a healthy thriving urban hub!

Data is a driving force for the work that we do! The release of the *Trenton Kids Count 2023* data book helps us all to take a comprehensive look at Trenton’s children and identify trends to help move Trenton forward! It serves as a reminder of the strides we have made since the 2019 release and the hope we have in the future as we continue to work with other community stakeholders to improve our city.

With the release of this data, we have an extraordinary opportunity to identify real solutions to the most challenging areas affecting our children, while highlighting some of the amazing stories of resilience found all over our city — stories about people and organizations pulling together during the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing our community the opportunity to not only survive, but to thrive during uncertain times.

We would like to thank Advocates for Children of New Jersey for producing this report and the Trenton Kids Count Committee for their thoughtful input and planning. We would also like to thank the Burke Foundation and the Princeton Area Community Foundation for their partnership to bring this publication to fruition.

It is our hope that this information will empower our capital city to not only be informed but to use this powerful data to advocate for community-driven programs and policies that expand the systems of support for Trenton’s children and families.

Together, we are working to create a better state for Trenton’s children, because opportunity should be equal across zip codes.

## A Letter from The Burke Foundation



Atiya Weiss  
Executive Director  
The Burke Foundation

Much has changed since the *Trenton Kids Count 2019* report. One constant, though, is Trenton’s resilience. *Trenton Kids Count 2023* shares stories of organizations that support children and highlights data that show progress regarding the well-being of the children of the state’s capital city.

The Burke Foundation is proud to work with our partners on systems-level solutions that begin in the *First 1,000 Days* of life. We believe in the power of data and strategies to improve early childhood development and the health of babies, families, and communities. The data in this report will help the advocates working on behalf of the community to bring programs and policies that meet the needs of Trenton’s children and families.

We are grateful to Advocates for Children of New Jersey for producing the Kids Count report and taking up the cause of children across the state. We thank the Trenton Kids Count Committee, the Smith Family Foundation, and the Princeton Area Community Foundation for offering input.

Our work is inspired by:

- The nurse home visitor who helps identify a postpartum infection and facilitates intervention to save a mother’s life.
- The community doula who holds a mother’s hand in labor and guides her through a complex medical care system.
- The child development specialist who helps a family find transportation to doctor’s visits and makes sure they have food.

These, and so many more, are our heroes.

Partnerships and collaboration among community members, local leaders, policymakers, and local organizations are vital to help the people of Trenton live their best lives. Working together, we can build a future for Trenton kids and their families where no one’s prospects are limited by race, income, or zip code — a future where children and families have the opportunity to thrive.

# 1 Demographics

## Demographic Trends

Since 2016, the population of Trenton children under 18 has been relatively consistent, increasing slightly by 2% in 2021. More than a quarter of the city’s children were under the age of 5, according to 5-year estimates from the 2020 American Community Survey. The number of births to foreign-born women saw a slight jump between 2016 and 2020, increasing by 14%. Recent data also show the city’s rich diversity — in 2020, births to foreign-born women comprised 53% of the city’s total births and about 38% of Trenton’s population ages 5 and older spoke a language other than English in their own home.

### Total Population\*

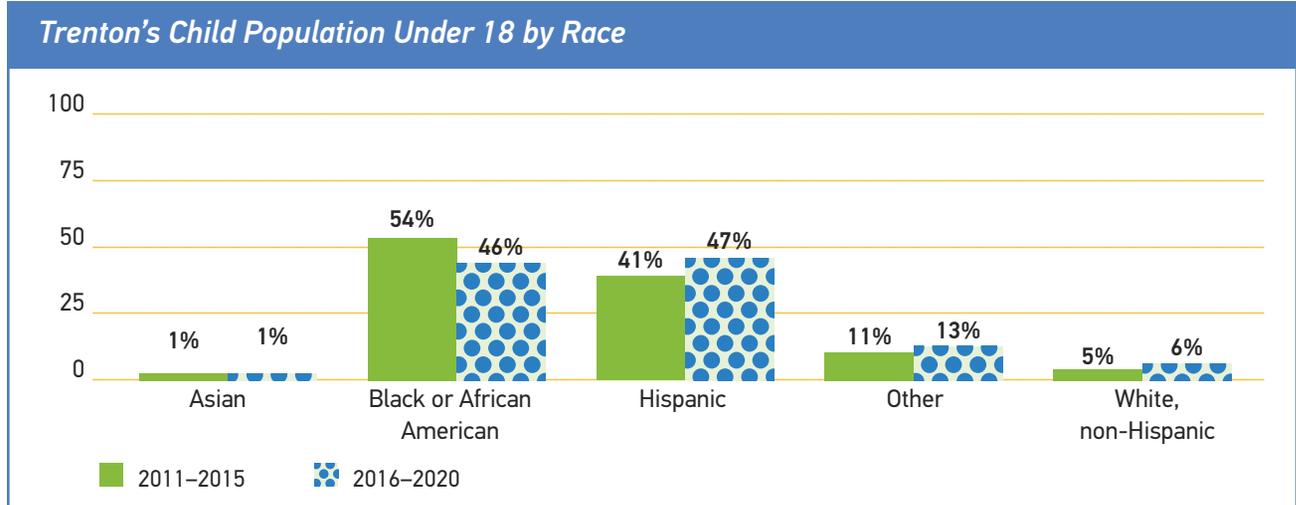
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	% Change 16-21
Trenton	84,065	84,971	83,973	83,211	90,458	8
Mercer	371,023	374,733	369,811	367,430	385,898	4
New Jersey	8,944,469	9,005,644	8,908,520	8,882,190	9,267,130	4
Trenton’s % of Mercer	23	23	23	23	23	
Trenton’s % of NJ	1	1	1	1	1	

*\*The U.S. Census Bureau did not release one-year estimates for the 2020 American Community Survey due to data quality concerns.*

### Child Population Under Age 18\*

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	% Change 16-21
Trenton	21,809	22,383	20,411	22,784	22,323	2
Mercer	79,617	79,885	78,695	78,062	81,925	3
New Jersey	1,984,439	1,978,796	1,951,005	1,938,024	2,020,876	2
Trenton’s % of Mercer	27	28	26	29	27	
Trenton’s % of NJ	1	1	1	1	1	

*\*The U.S. Census Bureau did not release one-year estimates for the 2020 American Community Survey due to data quality concerns.*



Note: Total percentages for each year may exceed 100% as Hispanics can be of any race.

### Foreign-Born Children

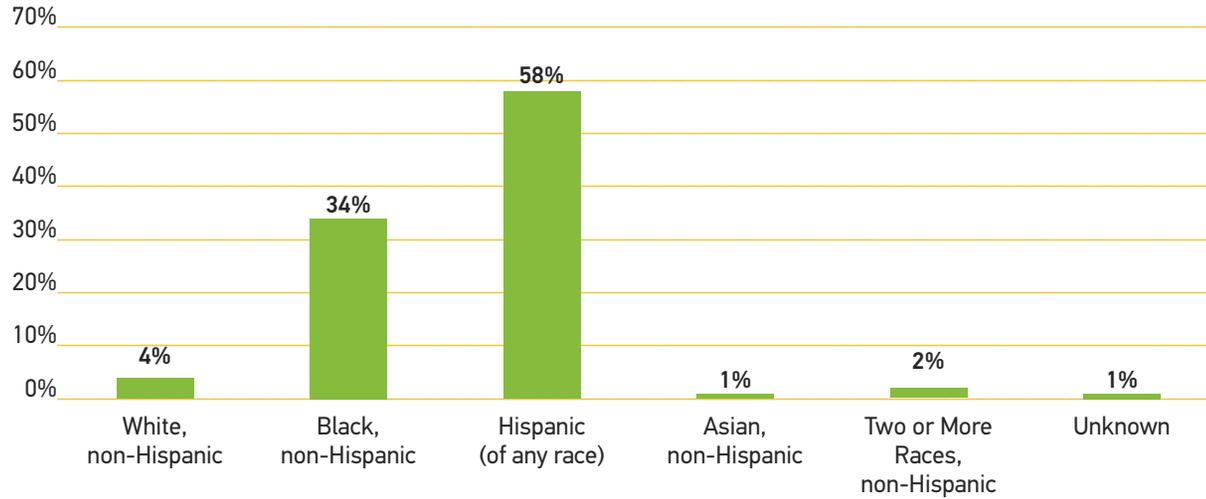
	2011-2015		2016-2020		% Change Number
	Number	%	Number	%	
Trenton	1,783	8	1,554	7	-13
Mercer	5,313	7	5,997	8	13
New Jersey	108,158	5	113,034	6	5

### Total Births

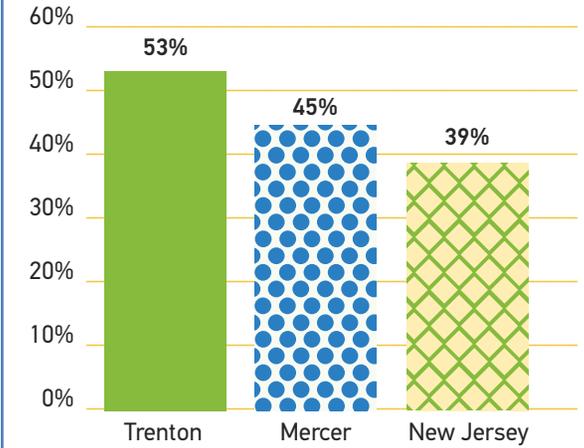
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change
Trenton	1,494	1,405	1,450	1,443	1,446	-3
Mercer	4,192	4,021	3,935	4,056	3,893	-7
New Jersey	102,473	101,159	101,172	99,305	97,146	-5

# 1 Demographics

Percentage of All Trenton Births by Race, 2020



Percentage of Total Births to Foreign-Born Women, 2020

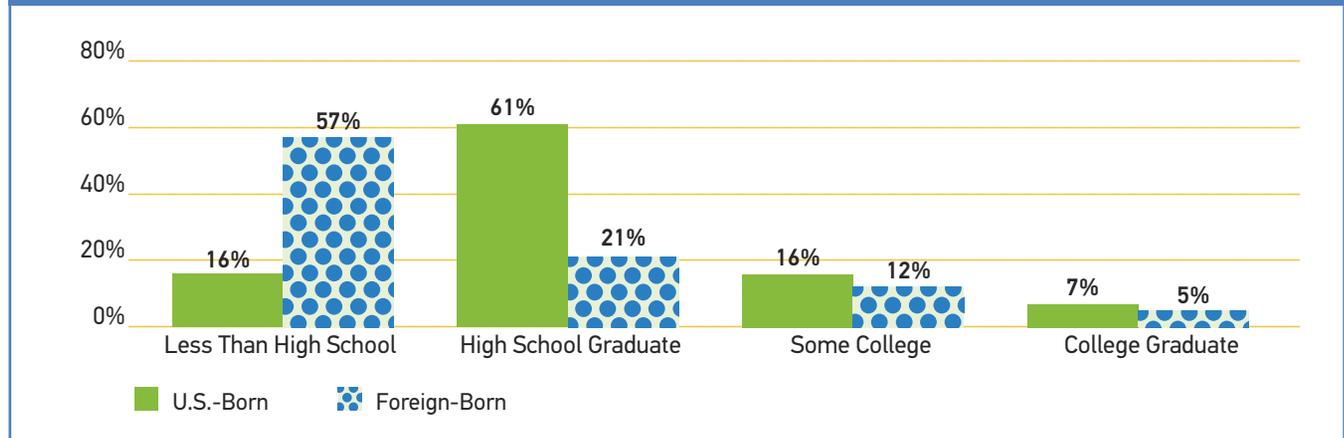


## Births to Foreign-Born Women

	Number	2016 %	Number	2017 %	Number	2018 %	Number	2019 %	Number	2020 %	% Change 16-20 Number
Trenton	671	45	619	44	692	48	712	49	765	53	14
Mercer	1,800	43	1,689	42	1,739	44	1,822	45	1,760	45	-2
New Jersey	41,443	40	41,150	41	40,744	40	39,691	40	37,530	39	-9



Percentage of Total Trenton Births by Mother's Nativity and Education, 2020



Number of Births by Marital Status

	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			% Change 16-20		
	Married	Not Married	Unknown	Married	Not Married	Unknown												
Trenton	382	1,095	17	374	1,014	17	384	1,052	14	350	1,077	16	382	1,052	12	0	-4	-29
Mercer	2,392	1,715	85	2,347	1,608	66	2,255	1,617	63	2,256	1,730	70	2,202	1,652	39	-8	-4	-54
New Jersey	64,979	32,617	4,877	64,712	31,511	4,936	64,651	31,307	5,214	63,460	30,594	5,251	62,186	30,383	4,577	-4	-7	-6

# 1 Demographics

## What is a Household?

Household is a specific term used by the U.S. Census Bureau in its surveys. The census definition, however, may conflict with the traditional idea of what a household might be. When looking at census data, a household is one person or multiple people occupying a single housing unit.<sup>1</sup> For example, two unrelated roommates, a multigenerational family, and a single individual are all considered households under the census definition.

## Languages Spoken in the Home, Trenton

	2011-2015	2016-2020
Percentage of population age 5 & over who only speak English in the home	61.9	61.6
Percentage of population age 5 & over who speak a language other than English in the home	38.1	38.4
<b>Percentage of those ages 5-17 who speak a language other than English by language spoken</b>		
Spanish	6.7	8.3
Other Indo-European languages	0.7	0.1
Asian & Pacific Islander languages	0.1	0.1
Other languages	0	0.4

## Households Headed by One Parent\*

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2021		% Change 16-21 Number
	Number	%									
Trenton	5,757	61	6,372	66	5,781	57	5,044	60	5,583	59	-3
Mercer	15,364	37	15,134	36	13,572	31	11,769	30	11,871	29	-23
New Jersey	322,303	31	318,643	30	303,097	30	305,494	30	323,543	30	0

\*The U.S. Census Bureau did not release one-year estimates for the 2020 American Community Survey due to data quality concerns.

## Multigenerational Households

Many children in New Jersey live with a grandparent. We report two different census measures of these trends. The first tracks grandparents who cared for their grandchildren at any point during the year. The second refers to children who live in the same home as the grandparent. Since 2015, Trenton has seen a 3% decrease in the number of grandchildren living with a grandparent. Sometimes, that grandparent is the child's legal guardian, and in other cases, the child simply shares a home with that grandparent.

### Number of Grandparents Caring for Their Grandchildren

	2011-2015	2016-2020	% Change
Trenton	881	512	-42
Mercer	1,866	1,571	-16
New Jersey	49,177	43,107	-12

### Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder

	2011-2015	2016-2020	% Change
Trenton	2,358	2,278	-3
Mercer	5,434	6,049	11
New Jersey	119,742	128,949	8

### References:

<sup>1</sup> McFalls, J.A. (2003). What's a Household? What's a Family? Population Reference Bureau. Accessed January 12, 2023 from <https://www.prb.org/resources/whats-a-household-whats-a-family/>.

### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Total Population, 2016-2021.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001 using 1-year estimates.

**Child Population Under Age 18, 2016-2021.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B01001 using 5-year estimates.

**Trenton's Child Population Under 18 by Race, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey charts B01001D, B01001B, B01001F, B01001H and B01001I using 5-year estimates. Black or African American and Other categories may include individuals who identified as Hispanic.

**Foreign-Born Children, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B05003 using 5-year estimates.

**Total Births, 2016-2020.** The total number of live births, as reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Percentage of All Trenton Births by Race, 2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Births to Foreign-Born Women, 2016-2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Percentage of Total Births to Foreign-Born Women, 2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Percentage of Total Trenton Births by Mother's Nativity and Education, 2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Number of Births by Marital Status, 2016-2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Languages Spoken in the Home, Trenton, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart S1601 using 5-year estimates. Data are for languages spoken in the home for population 5 years and above. Languages are specified for ages 5 to 17.

**Households Headed by One Parent, 2016-2021.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B11005. Includes family and non-family households. Data are for households with children under age 18 using 5-year estimates.

**Number of Grandparents Caring for Their Grandchildren, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10050 using 5-year estimates.

**Grandchildren Under 18 Living with a Grandparent Householder.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B10001 using 5-year estimates.

# 2 Family Economic Security

## How is Poverty Defined?

Since the late 1950s, the federal government has used the poverty threshold to determine the number of individuals living in poverty within the United States. The measure is based on the cost of a basic food diet and adjusted for inflation and family size. The same poverty threshold is used for the entire nation and does not account for the higher cost of living in certain states like New Jersey, where 200% of the poverty threshold, or an annual income of roughly \$55,000 for a family of four, is more reflective of the families struggling to make ends meet. While the poverty threshold is produced by the U.S. Census Bureau, federal poverty guidelines — used to determine eligibility for certain federal programs — are released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and are based on the U.S. Census Bureau’s thresholds.



### Total Population Living Below the Federal Poverty Level\*

	Number	2016 %	Number	2017 %	Number	2018 %	Number	2019 %	Number	2021 %	% Change 16-21 Number
Trenton	22,675	28	25,236	30	23,955	29	24,918	31	21,221	24	-6
Mercer	39,443	11	42,246	12	39,873	11	44,624	13	37,424	10	-5
New Jersey	915,913	10	882,673	10	832,133	10	798,262	9	930,602	10	2

\*The U.S. Census Bureau did not release one-year estimates for the 2020 American Community Survey due to data quality concerns.

### Number of Economically Disadvantaged Children, Under Age 18

<b>Trenton</b>	<b>2011-2015</b>	<b>2016-2020</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	4,620	3,508	-24
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	8,622	8,076	-6
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	14,757	14,762	0
<b>Mercer</b>			
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	6,347	5,539	-13
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	13,159	11,908	-10
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	25,761	24,871	-3
<b>New Jersey</b>			
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	144,236	110,113	-24
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	310,861	257,552	-17
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	633,639	564,337	-11

FPL = Federal Poverty Level

### Percentage of Economically Disadvantaged Children, Under Age 18

<b>Trenton</b>	<b>2011-2015</b>	<b>2016-2020</b>
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	22	16
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	41	37
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	71	67
<b>Mercer</b>		
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	8	7
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	16	15
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	32	32
<b>New Jersey</b>		
Extreme Poverty (Below 50% of FPL)	7	6
Poverty (Below 100% of FPL)	16	13
Low-Income (Below 200% of FPL)	32	29

## 2 Family Economic Security

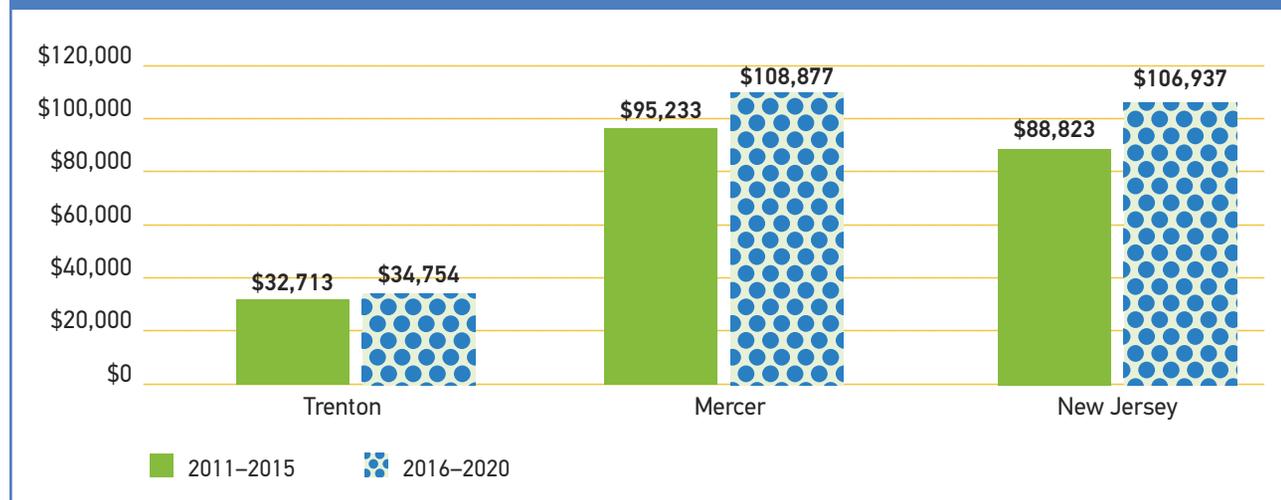
### Families with Children Living Below the Federal Poverty Level

	2011-2015		2016-2020		% Change Number
	Number	%	Number	%	
Trenton	3,534	34	3,092	47	-13
Mercer	5,562	13	4,887	14	-12
New Jersey	136,591	13	112,414	11	-18

### Median Income of Families with Children

	2011-2015	2016-2020	% Change
Trenton	\$32,713	\$34,754	6
Mercer	\$95,233	\$108,877	14
New Jersey	\$88,823	\$106,937	20

### Median Income of Families with Children



### 2020 Federal Poverty Thresholds for a Family of Four:

50%	\$13,123
100%	\$26,246
200%	\$52,492

### 2021 Federal Poverty Thresholds for a Family of Four:

50%	\$13,740
100%	\$27,479
200%	\$54,958

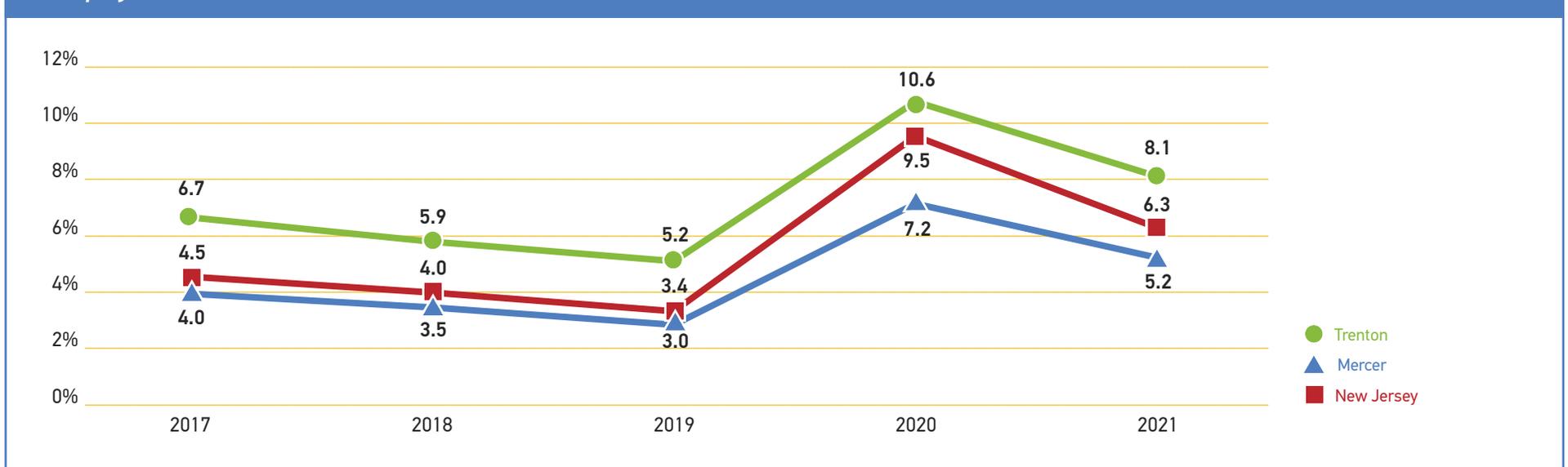
### Unemployment Rate

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Trenton	6.7	5.9	5.2	10.6	8.1	21
Mercer	4.0	3.5	3.0	7.2	5.2	30
New Jersey	4.5	4.0	3.4	9.5	6.3	40

### Number Unemployed

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Trenton	2,680	2,398	2,135	4,408	3,372	26
Mercer	8,155	7,192	6,355	15,284	10,997	35
New Jersey	208,802	183,156	158,533	439,667	295,690	42

### Unemployment Rate



### The New Jersey Earned Income Tax Credit

Tax credits are a vital economic support for many low-income working families and an advantage to New Jersey businesses, as many of these dollars are spent in the communities where these families live. The New Jersey State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) rewards work and increases take-home pay for families by lowering the amount of taxes owed and, in

some instances, providing a refund. New Jersey’s EITC increased from 20% of the Federal EITC in 2014 to 30% in 2015 and 35% in 2016, giving the state’s working poor a financial boost. In 2020, the average credit amount received among Trenton families with at least one dependent under age 19 was \$1,211.

#### Federal Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC)

	Number of Claims	2015 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2016 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2017 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2018 Avg. Claim Amt.	Number of Claims	2019 Avg. Claim Amt.	% Change 15-19	
											Number of Claims	Avg. Claim Amt.
Trenton	17,960	\$2,492	17,590	\$2,485	17,750	\$2,514	17,610	\$2,561	17,730	\$2,571	-1	3
Mercer	25,660	\$2,295	25,310	\$2,297	25,460	\$2,316	25,120	\$2,354	25,230	\$2,378	-2	4
New Jersey	630,960	\$2,303	618,500	\$2,296	613,480	\$2,313	599,490	\$2,338	602,850	\$2,320	-4	1

#### NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, All Recipients

	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			% Change 16-20		
	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.
Trenton	12,600	\$10,740,551	\$852	12,389	\$10,714,713	\$865	12,537	\$11,640,502	\$928	12,816	\$12,591,876	\$983	12,700	\$11,495,759	\$905	1	7	6
Mercer	22,137	\$16,957,016	\$766	22,351	\$17,289,244	\$774	23,268	\$19,184,050	\$824	23,343	\$20,396,498	\$874	24,004	\$18,790,107	\$783	8	11	2
New Jersey	533,493	\$404,766,950	\$759	527,918	\$401,994,016	\$761	535,604	\$437,879,738	\$818	533,696	\$458,061,028	\$858	552,559	\$420,844,796	\$762	4	4	0

#### NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, Recipients with at Least One Dependent Under Age 19

	2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			% Change 16-20		
	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.	# Credits Issued	Total Amt. of Credits Issued	Avg. Credit Amt.
Trenton	9,221	\$9,998,328	\$1,084	9,072	\$9,963,766	\$1,098	9,210	\$10,811,240	\$1,174	9,228	\$11,627,735	\$1,260	8,719	\$10,555,066	\$1,211	-5	6	12
Mercer	14,891	\$15,437,295	\$1,037	14,985	\$15,711,364	\$1,048	15,324	\$17,040,743	\$1,112	15,061	\$18,027,152	\$1,197	14,382	\$16,620,301	\$1,156	-3	8	11
New Jersey	340,535	\$361,614,068	\$1,062	335,848	\$358,780,285	\$1,068	345,869	\$391,301,464	\$1,131	334,737	\$407,595,791	\$1,218	317,886	\$367,807,942	\$1,157	-7	2	9

### Children in Families Receiving TANF (Welfare)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	1,046	880	1,058	898	1,104	6
Mercer	1,366	1,107	1,344	1,069	1,297	-5
New Jersey	23,582	19,113	22,079	17,301	19,465	-17

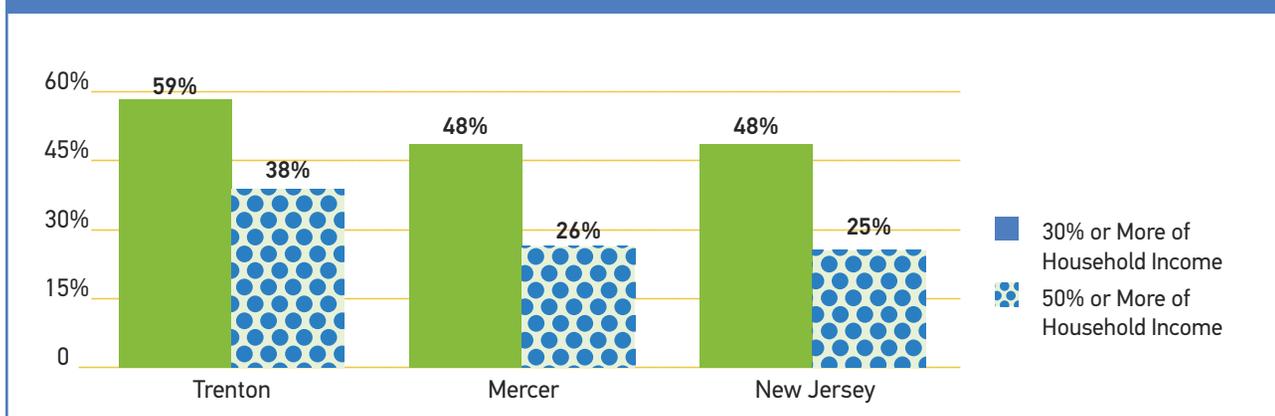
### Median Rent

	2011-2015	2016-2020	% Change
Trenton	\$956	\$1,085	13
Mercer	\$1,132	\$1,311	16
New Jersey	\$1,192	\$1,368	15

### Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Housing Costs

	2011-2015	2016-2020
Trenton	43	33
Mercer	37	29
New Jersey	42	34

### Percentage of Households Spending Too Much on Rent, 2016-2020



### What is TANF?

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, more commonly referred to as welfare, provides cash assistance to needy families through a federally funded block grant given to individual states. The State of New Jersey operates the welfare reform program known as WorkFirst NJ using TANF funds. WorkFirst NJ participants are eligible for the program for a maximum of five years. For more information on WorkFirst NJ, visit [https://www.state.nj.us/human\\_services/dfd/programs/workfirstnj/](https://www.state.nj.us/human_services/dfd/programs/workfirstnj/).

### Percentage of Occupied Housing Units that are Owner-Occupied

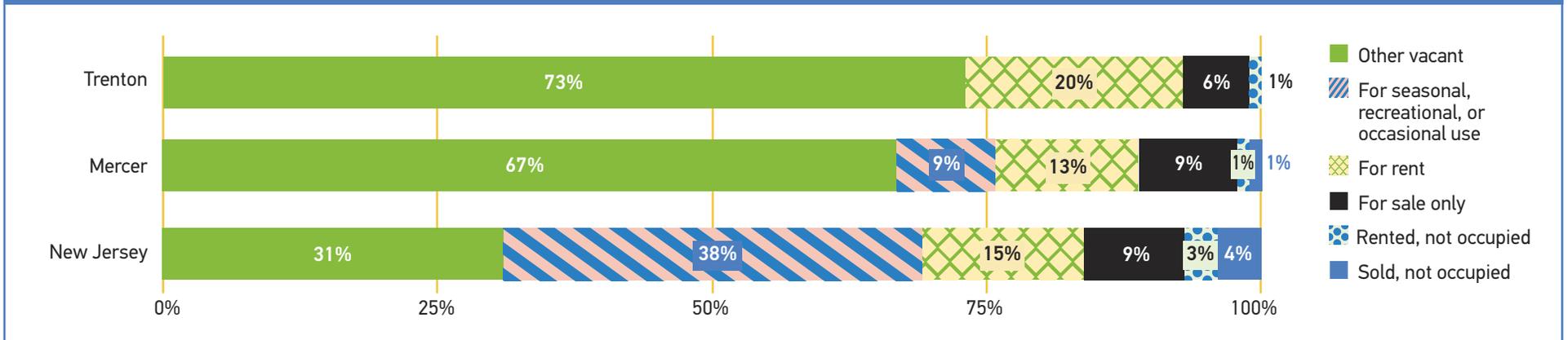
	2011-2015	2016-2020
Trenton	38	38
Mercer	64	64
New Jersey	65	64

### Percentage of Households Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Rent

	2011-2015	2016-2020
Trenton	58	59
Mercer	50	48
New Jersey	51	48

## 2 Family Economic Security

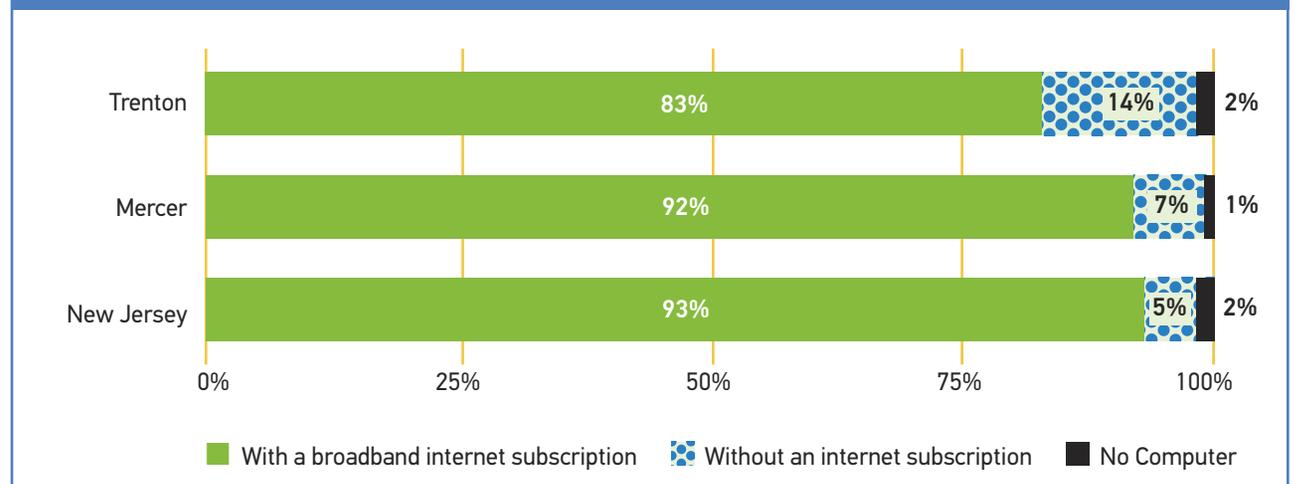
Vacancy Housing Status, 2016–2020



### What is the Vacancy Status Indicator?

The vacancy status indicator refers to all vacant housing units in Trenton. There are various reasons as to why a housing unit would be considered vacant as shown in the graph. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, a housing unit would be classified as “other” vacant if it does not fit into the description of any year-round vacant categories.<sup>1</sup> There are numerous reasons as to why a housing unit would be classified as “other” vacant, such as the owner does not wish to rent or sell the home, the home was being repaired or renovated at the time of the survey, or the home was in foreclosure.

Internet Access, Children Under Age 18, 2016–2020



**Individuals Enrolled in WIC**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Trenton	5,748	5,048	5,102	5,315	4,967	-14
Mercer	7,990	7,453	7,471	7,739	7,397	-7
New Jersey	163,305	155,822	161,234	152,981	159,310	-2

**Reported WIC Participants**

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		% Change 17-21 Number
	Number	%									
Trenton	5,072	88	4,389	87	4,268	84	4,284	81	4,018	81	-21
Mercer	7,100	89	6,486	87	6,259	84	6,192	80	6,039	82	-15
New Jersey	146,416	90	139,777	90	135,452	84	127,774	84	142,414	89	-3

**What are SNAP and WIC?**

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is the largest food safety net program in the United States, providing low-income families with nutritious food. Eligible New Jersey applicants have an income of no more than 185% of the federal poverty guidelines or roughly \$51,338 for a family of four in 2022.

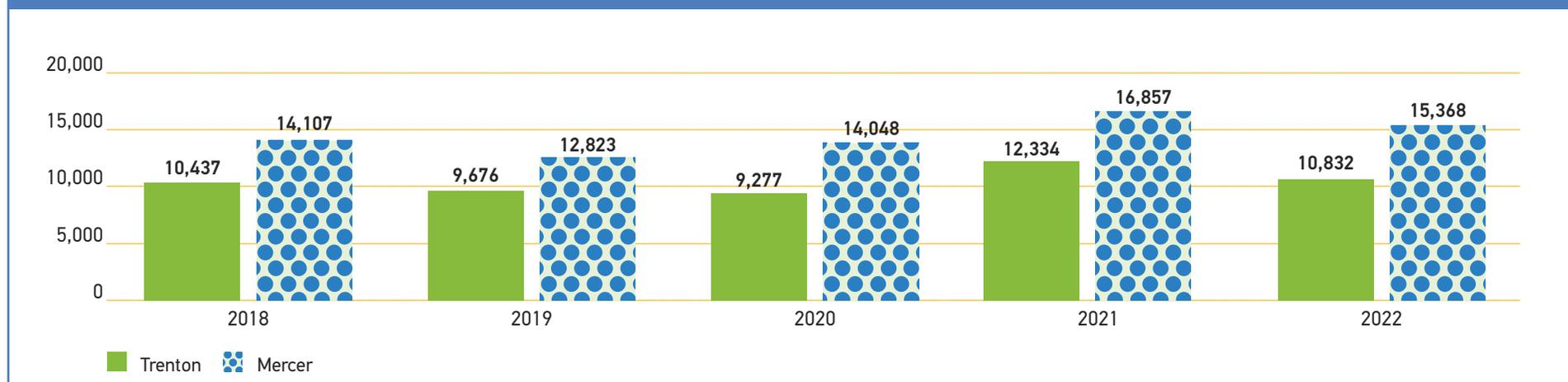
The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) provides supplemental nutritious food to pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children up to the age of five. WIC is available to New Jersey households with incomes up to 185% of the federal poverty guidelines. In 2021, 81% of Trenton enrollees in WIC received benefits through the program, a decline from 88% of enrollees in 2017. For more information on SNAP and WIC, visit <http://fns.usda.gov>.

## 2 Family Economic Security

### Children Receiving NJ SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	10,437	9,676	9,277	12,334	10,832	4
Mercer	14,107	12,823	14,048	16,857	15,368	9
New Jersey	353,883	317,566	326,357	393,310	351,378	-1

### Children Receiving NJ SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)



**References:**

<sup>1</sup> Melissa Kresin (2013). "Other" Vacant Housing Units. Retrieved January 10, 2023 from chrome- <https://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/files/qtr113/PAA-poster.pdf>.



**Data Sources and Technical Notes:**

**Total Population Living Below the Poverty Level, 2016-2021.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17001 using 1-year estimates.

**Number of Economically Disadvantaged Children, Under Age 18, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17024 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Children Economically Disadvantaged, Under Age 18, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17024 using 5-year estimates.

**2020 Federal Poverty Thresholds for a Family of Four.** Threshold for a family of four, with two adults and two children living in poverty. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.

**2021 Federal Poverty Thresholds for a Family of Four.** Threshold for a family of four, with two adults and two children living in poverty. As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau.

**Families with Children Living Below the Poverty Level, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B17010 using 5-year estimates.

**Median Income of Families with Children, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B19125 using 5-year estimates.

**Unemployment Rate, 2017-2021.** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. Rates are not seasonally adjusted and are annual averages.

**Number Unemployed, 2017-2021.** U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics. The Bureau of Labor Statistics defines an unemployed person as someone who does not have a job, has actively looked for work in the prior 4 weeks, and is currently available for work. Numbers are not seasonally adjusted and are annual averages.

**Federal Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC), 2015-2019.** Number of New Jersey taxpayers claiming a federal EITC and average claim, as reported by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

**NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, All Recipients, 2016-2020.** Number of New Jersey taxpayers receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and average credit amount, as reported by the NJ Department of Treasury.

**NJ Earned Income Tax Credits, Recipients with at Least One Dependent Under Age 19, 2016-2020.** Number of New Jersey tax-payers with at least one dependent under age 19 receiving a state EITC credit, total amount of EITC credits issued and average credit amount, as reported by the NJ Department of Treasury.

**Children in Families Receiving TANF (Welfare), 2018-2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

**Median Rent, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25064 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Mortgage Owners Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Housing Costs, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Households Spending Too Much on Rent, 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25070 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Occupied Housing Units That Are Owner-Occupied, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart DP04: Selected Housing Characteristics using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Households Spending 30% or More of Their Income on Rent, 2011-2015 and 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25070 using 5-year estimates.

**Percentage of Households Spending Too Much on Rent, 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25070 using 5-year estimates.

**Vacant Housing Status, 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B25004 using 5-year estimates.

**Internet Access, Children Under Age 18, 2016-2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B28005 using 5-year estimates.

**Individuals Enrolled in WIC, 2017-2021.** Number of women, infants, and children enrolled in the Women, Infants, and Children program, which includes healthcare referrals, immunizations screenings, nutrition counseling, and a monthly food stipend. As reported by the NJ Department of Health for the quarter ending June 30th of each year.

**Reported WIC Participants, 2017-2021.** The number and percentage of women, infants, and children receiving nutritional benefits through the Women, Infants, and Children program. As reported by the NJ Department of Health for the quarter ending June 30th of each year.

**Children Receiving NJ SNAP (formerly Food Stamps), 2018-2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development. Data are from June of each year.

# 3 Child Health

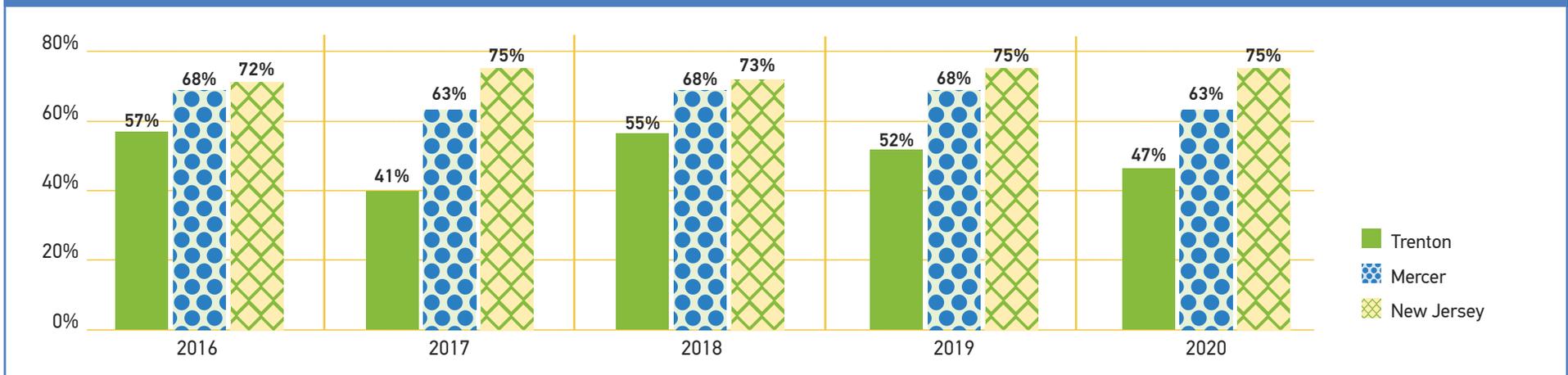
## The Importance of Prenatal Care

Healthy starts for Trenton infants begin with quality prenatal care early in a mother’s pregnancy. Women who receive late prenatal care — or who do not receive prenatal care at all — expose their babies to a greater chance of health problems later in life. In 2020, 47% of expectant Trenton moms received prenatal care beginning in their first trimester.

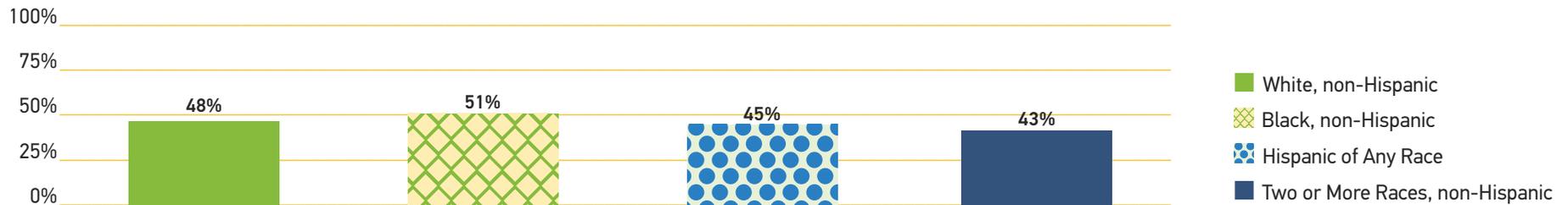
Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Trenton	846	576	797	750	684	-19
Mercer	2,844	2,534	2,671	2,664	2,471	-13
New Jersey	73,862	75,582	74,082	74,047	73,312	-1

Percentage of Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care



Percentage of Trenton Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care by Race, 2020

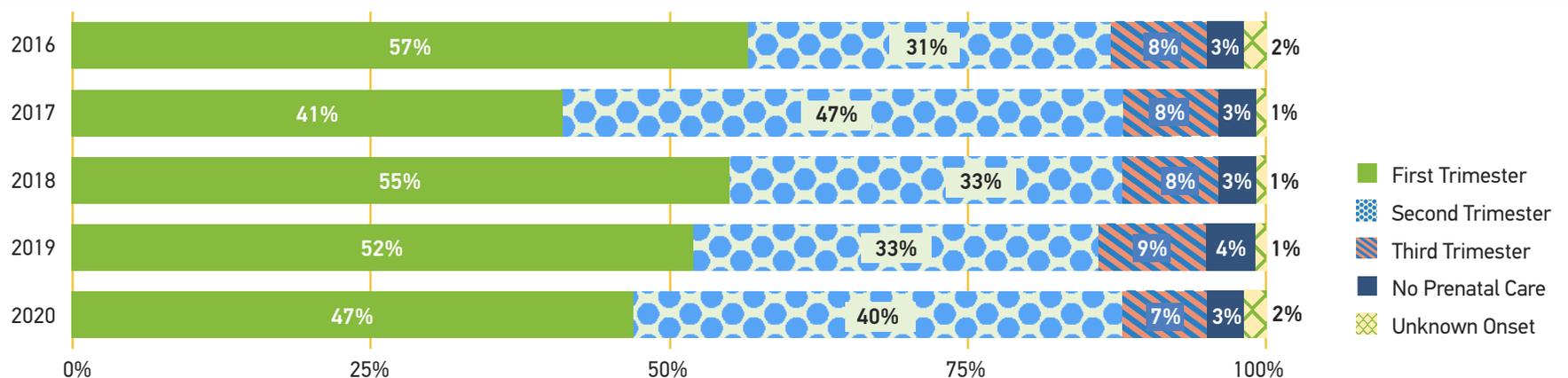


\*Note: Some racial groups saw few births resulting in suppressed data and are excluded from the graph above.

Number of Trenton Births by Prenatal Care Onset

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
First Trimester	846	576	797	750	684	-19
Second Trimester	462	656	474	482	585	27
Third Trimester	120	119	115	133	98	-18
No Prenatal Care	40	46	49	57	43	8
Unknown Onset	26	8	15	21	36	38

Prenatal Care Onset Based on All Live Births in Trenton



### 3 Child Health

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#### Percentage of Births That Were Preterm

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Trenton	11.4	10.2	11.1	9.7	10.8
Mercer	9.4	9.4	10.0	9.2	9.4
New Jersey	9.9	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.3

#### Percentage of Trenton Births That Were Preterm by Race

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Black, Non-Hispanic	15.3	11.5	16.9	10.8	15.9
Hispanic of any race	7.7	8.1	8.1	8.4	7.7
White, Non-Hispanic	12.5	20.5	**	12.7	14.8

*Note: Some racial groups saw few births resulting in suppressed data and are excluded from the table above.*

*\*\*Indicates that data are suppressed.*



### What is a Low Birthweight?

A low birthweight baby is any infant born weighing less than 2,500 grams, or roughly 5.5 pounds. Low birthweight babies may be more likely to develop certain health problems, such as respiratory distress syndrome, than infants born with normal birthweights. Long term, low birthweight babies may be at greater risk of developing chronic conditions such as diabetes.<sup>1</sup> In 2020, 8.4% of Trenton babies were born with low birthweights, compared to 7.7% of babies born statewide.

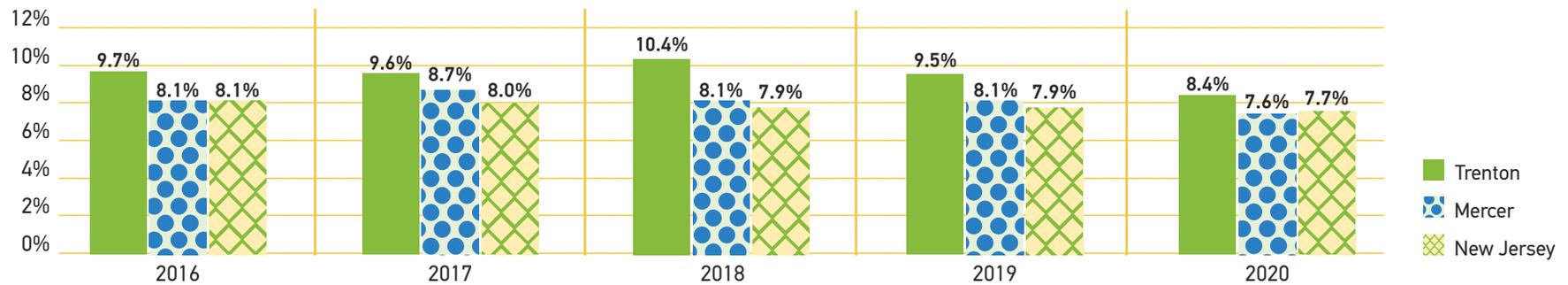
### Babies Born with Low Birthweights

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Trenton	145	135	151	137	122	-16
Mercer	338	350	318	327	295	-13
New Jersey	8,257	8,054	8,000	7,816	7,464	-10

### Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birthweights

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Trenton	9.7	9.6	10.4	9.5	8.4
Mercer	8.1	8.7	8.1	8.1	7.6
New Jersey	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.7

### Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birthweights



### 3 Child Health

#### Birth by Method of Delivery

	Trenton					Mercer					New Jersey				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Vaginal	977	901	939	946	962	2,701	2,514	2,512	2,615	2,524	63,250	62,673	63,517	63,157	62,368
Vaginal Birth After C-Section	44	43	42	36	55	94	96	106	87	109	2,056	2,093	2,294	2,443	2,483
Primary C-Section	258	235	226	249	200	841	787	745	790	667	21,940	20,597	19,456	18,249	17,651
Repeat C-Section	215	226	243	211	229	555	622	570	558	593	15,171	15,750	15,862	15,288	14,597
Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	1	2	2	6	N/A	56	46	43	168	47

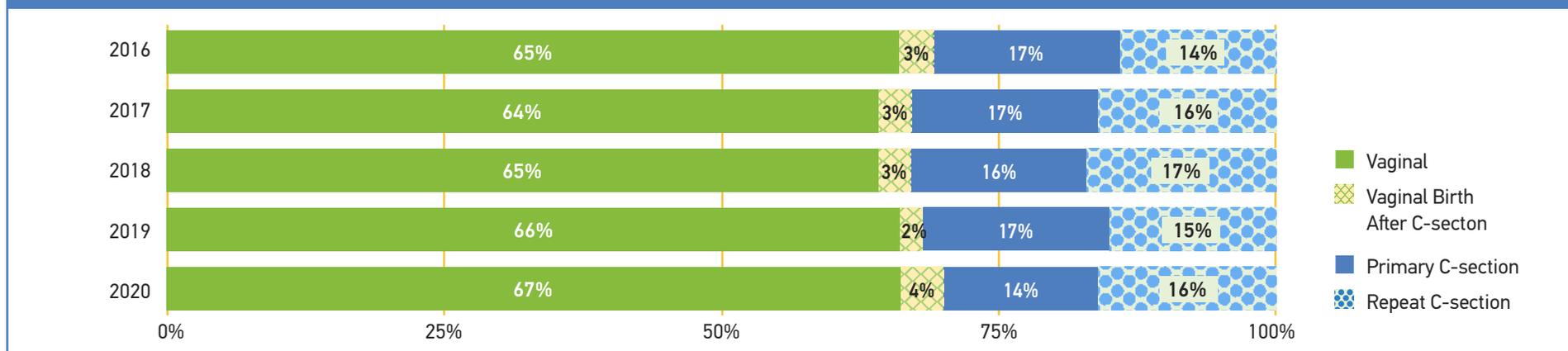
#### Reducing Low-Risk Cesareans in New Jersey

Efforts to reduce low-risk cesareans have been underway in New Jersey for several years. A recommendation of the Nurture NJ Strategic Plan includes provisions for birthing hospitals to attain C-section rates below national rates. In order to accomplish this, the Strategic Plan emphasizes greater education efforts on the risks associated with C-sections, so that those giving birth understand the potential downsides to receiving the

surgical procedure when not medically necessary. Conversely, vaginal births tend to result in shorter hospital stays and recovery time, as well as other benefits. For more information and data relating to maternal health, visit: <https://nj.gov/health/maternal/>.

Since 2016, more than 60% of babies born to Trenton mothers were delivered vaginally.

#### Trenton Births by Method of Delivery



### Births by Type of Birth Attendant

	Trenton					Mercer					New Jersey				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Medical Doctor	729	748	729	730	686	2,678	2,677	2,549	2,651	2,284	82,706	80,523	79,612	77,666	75,811
Doctor of Osteopathy	16	33	38	43	36	146	180	196	210	189	11,198	11,703	12,075	11,854	11,470
Certified Nurse Midwife	681	562	668	667	714	1,246	1,037	1,130	1,181	1,400	7,580	7,924	8,529	8,902	9,034
Other Midwife	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	1	1	2	1	N/A	3	113	82	115	133	178
Other	68	62	12	2	9	121	125	57	13	17	856	900	809	725	625
Unknown	N/A	N/A	2	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	1	N/A	20	27	32	25	28

### Family Connects Mercer County: Addressing Maternal Infant Health

Family Connects Mercer County offers a free home visit to families in Mercer County who deliver a child at Capital Health Medical Center. A registered nurse visits the caregivers and baby three weeks post-delivery to support the needs of the family and, if needed, revisits up to two more times after birth.

One mom shared, “My nurse helped me sort out the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, medical insurance, and pediatrician information. After just having given birth and having a baby in the NICU, I didn’t feel strong. My nurse helped me feel much better.”

In a joint statement, participating nurses shared, “What we love most about the Family Connects program is that it services all birthing people, children, and families — regardless of race, class, socioeconomic situation, or religion — and that the Family Connects nurses and staff provide compassionate care and helpful resources for families that meet their individual needs and positively changes the lives of families in the Mercer County Community.”

From January to September 2022, nurses visited 333 families, most of whom are Hispanic, lack health insurance, or do not speak English. Since many are recent immigrants, Family Connects functions as the entry point to healthcare and social service systems. To date, they have made 519 referrals to community resources, with 99.3% of participants reporting the program to be helpful, and 97.2% of mothers attending their six-week postpartum doctor’s visit.

Building on the national Family Connects model, Gov. Phil Murphy signed legislation in 2021 establishing a statewide universal newborn home visiting program, making New Jersey the second state in the nation to establish such a program. The first phase is to begin in 2023.

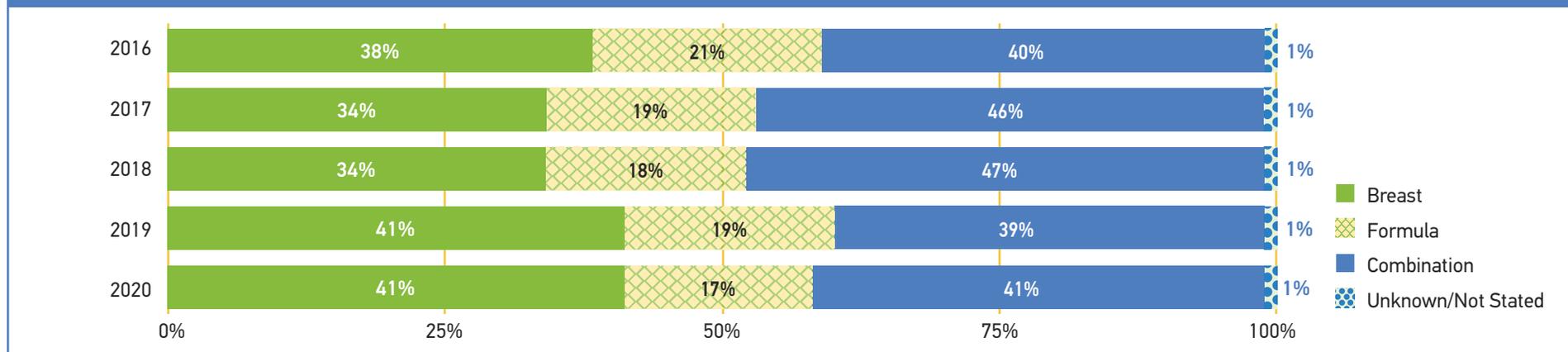
The Mercer County program is supported by the Central Jersey Family Health Consortium and Trenton Health Team, and co-funded by the Burke Foundation and the New Jersey Department of Children and Families. To learn more about Family Connects Mercer County, visit [trentonhealthteam.org/projects/family-connects](https://trentonhealthteam.org/projects/family-connects).

### 3 Child Health

#### Infant Feeding Type at Time of Hospital Discharge

	Trenton					Mercer					New Jersey				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Breast	565	473	497	588	589	2,002	1,769	1,658	1,985	1,863	36,046	33,146	32,001	33,033	31,616
Formula	320	260	255	267	247	616	497	544	579	589	18,039	18,295	18,359	19,057	20,290
Combination	592	653	682	569	592	1,487	1,685	1,660	1,409	1,392	43,165	44,431	45,285	41,575	39,943
Unknown/Not Stated	17	19	16	19	18	87	70	73	83	49	5,223	5,287	5,527	5,640	5,297

#### Trenton Infant Feeding Type at Time of Hospital Discharge



#### Importance of Breastfeeding

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends exclusive breastfeeding of infants up to six months in age and later, with the introduction of appropriate foods until the infant’s first birthday. Breastfeeding boasts a number of health benefits for both infants and mothers according to the AAP, including a reduced chance that infants

will contract certain infectious diseases and a lowered risk of mothers developing certain types of cancer. Breastfeeding also encourages bonding between infants and their parents. However, barriers to breastfeeding do exist — many women who return to work after giving birth have difficulty fitting breastfeeding or expressing milk into their schedule.

## Community Doulas Offer a Bridge to Better Care

Community doulas play an integral role in combatting the maternal and infant health crisis, especially in communities of color. Doulas are trusted, nonclinical professionals who provide physical, emotional, and educational support during the prenatal, birthing, and postpartum periods.

With support from the Burke Foundation, the AMAR Community-based Doula Program at the Children's Home Society of New Jersey provides Spanish-speaking families in Trenton with culturally-congruent perinatal support. AMAR doulas have contributed to reductions of 77.4% in preterm births, 52.9% in c-sections, and 83% in low birth-weight births. Using the evidence-informed HealthConnect One model, AMAR has served 137 families and trained 23 bilingual community doulas since 2019. The promising results of the program has led to its expansion in Paterson and Newark. To learn more about AMAR, visit [chsofnj.org/amar-doula](http://chsofnj.org/amar-doula).

Another Trenton-based nonprofit, TruDoulas of New Jersey, is working to put an end to maternal and infant mortality through education, advocacy, and delivering the best care for mom and baby. By establishing close communication with moms during their pregnancy, offering encouragement, promoting a healthy lifestyle and diet, and assisting in managing stress, mothers are supported during the pregnancy to



postpartum. TruDoulas also assists families with baby essentials through their baby-parent pantry, Stork's Closet. The pantry offers gently used baby items and gear. With these combined efforts and services, TruDoulas has assisted over 300 families within Trenton and neighboring towns. Learn more at [www.facebook.com/TruDoulasofNJ](https://www.facebook.com/TruDoulasofNJ) or [www.TruDoulasnj.com](http://www.TruDoulasnj.com).

## Trenton Infant Mortality Rate by Race

	2005-2009	2010-2014	2015-2019
<b>Trenton Average</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>9.9</b>
Asian, non-Hispanic	N/A	**	N/A
Black, non-Hispanic	16.2	17.0	13.8
Hispanic (of any race)	8.9	**	6.8
White, non-Hispanic	**	**	**
Other Race, non-Hispanic	N/A	**	**

\*\*Indicates that data are suppressed.

## Infant Mortality Rate\*

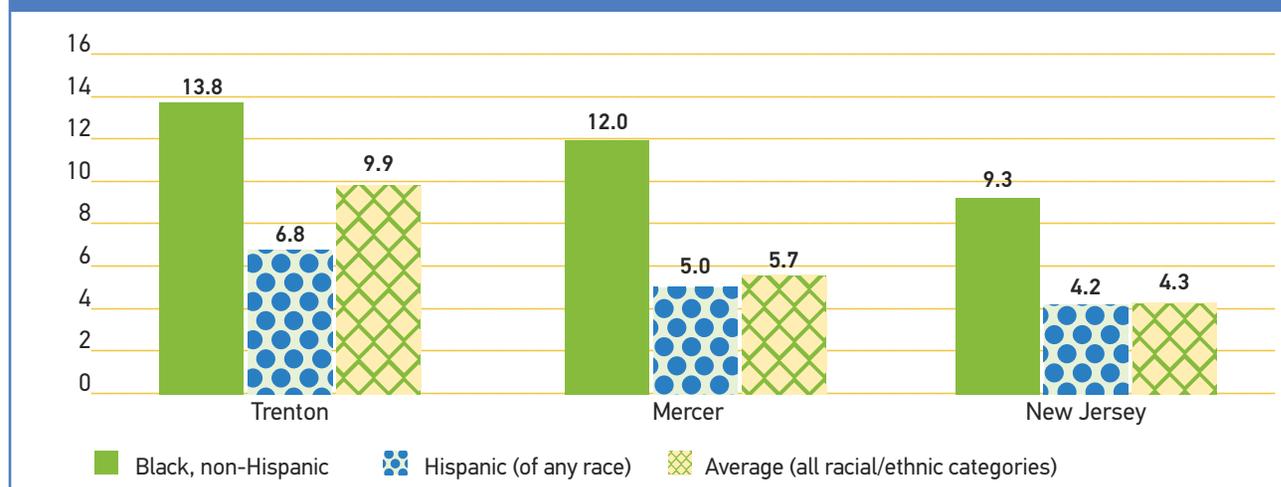
	2005-2009	2010-2014	2015-2019
Trenton	12.8	11.2	9.9
Mercer	8.4	7.2	5.7
New Jersey	5.2	4.6	4.3

\*Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births.

## What is New Jersey's Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board?

The New Jersey Child Fatality and Near Fatality Review Board (CFNFRB) consists of six different teams, each with their own sets of responsibilities and areas of focus. Team members come from a variety of backgrounds, including law enforcement, medicine, education, and the nonprofit sector. The board conducts in-depth reviews of select child death cases, such as when the cause of death may be a result of abuse or neglect or if the cause is undetermined. For more information on the CFNFRB and to review their annual reports, visit <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/providers/boards/fatality/>.

## Infant Mortality Rate for Select Racial Groups, 2015-2019\*



\*Note: Some racial groups saw few births resulting in suppressed data and are excluded from the graph above.

## Child Deaths (Ages 1-14)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Trenton	2	5	3	3	7
Mercer	6	6	8	10	12
New Jersey	185	158	194	169	138

## Asthma-Related Admissions to the Hospital vs. Emergency Room Visits: How Do They Differ?

Asthma is a chronic health condition affecting many children in the city of Trenton. Medication and preventive care can effectively manage asthma, but severe symptoms may require care at a hospital — by visiting the emergency room, or in serious cases, being admitted for in-patient care. Asthma-related emergency room visit data do not reflect child patients who were later admitted to the same hospital for in-patient care.

### Asthma Admissions to the Hospital (Ages 0-17)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Trenton	63	37	45	66	28	-56
Mercer County	103	64	91	99	41	-60
New Jersey	2,590	2,143	2,402	1,809	732	-72

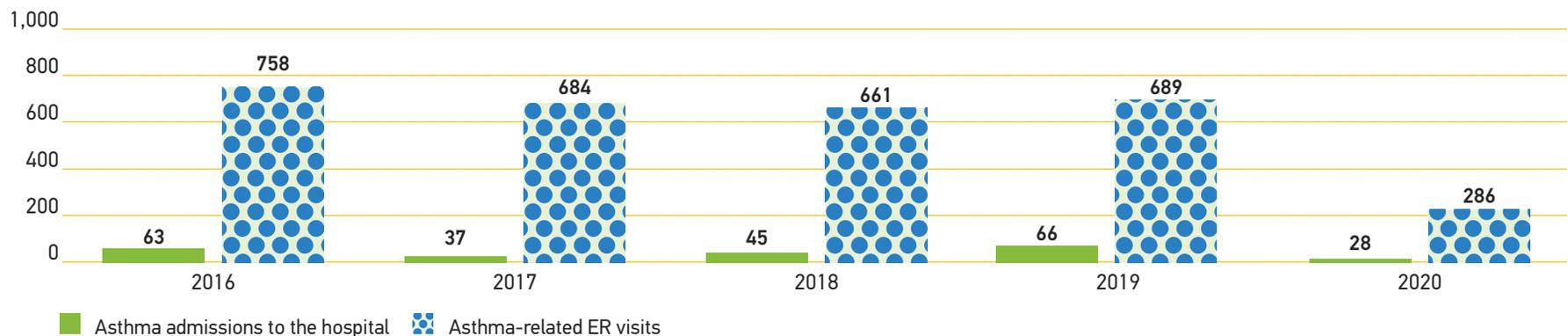
*\*Data from 2016 and later may not be comparable to pre-2016 data due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM.*

### Asthma-Related Emergency Room Visits (Ages 0-17)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Trenton	758	684	661	689	286	-62
Mercer County	1,008	932	903	903	374	-63
New Jersey	16,918	15,493	15,635	13,837	5,312	-69

*\*Data from 2016 and later may not be comparable to pre-2016 data due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM.*

### Trenton Asthma-Related Hospital Visits (Ages 0-17)



### 3 Child Health

#### Children 6-26 Months Tested for Lead

	2016		2017*		2018		2019		2020		% Change 16-20	
	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL
Trenton	1,743	6.6	1,332	8.9	1,228	5.9	1,232	6.7	1,119	7.0	-36	6
Mercer	3,494	3.9	3,445	4.6	3,458	3.0	3,245	3.4	3,164	3.0	-9	-22
New Jersey	94,909	2.4	87,652	2.7	84,211	2.3	77,845	2.1	78,847	1.8	-17	-25

\*Data reflect revised figures issued by the NJ Department of Health in October 2019.

#### Children <6 Years of Age Tested for Lead

	2016		2017*		2018		2019		2020		% Change 16-20	
	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL	# Tested	% Levels ≥ 5 µg/dL
Trenton	3,525	6.2	2,859	7.7	2,634	6.4	2,751	5.9	2,396	6.3	-32	1
Mercer	6,127	4.3	6,130	4.6	5,968	3.9	5,857	3.6	5,390	3.6	-12	-16
New Jersey	175,002	2.8	165,863	2.8	161,790	2.5	150,952	2.3	139,596	2.1	-20	-23

\*Data reflect revised figures issued by the NJ Department of Health in October 2019.

#### Trenton Environmental Case Activity Status

	Cases Referred	Investigation Required	Investigation Completed	Abatement Required	Abatement Completed	% Abatement Completed
2016	23	11	10	9	2	22%
2017*	35	29	23	15	15	100%
2018	50	34	30	23	23	100%
2019	87	69	30	31	30	97%
2020	51	29	26	15	10	67%

\*Data reflect revised figures issued by the NJ Department of Health in October 2019.

## Lead Paint in Housing

In 1978, the United States banned the use of lead paint. Before then, lead paint and varnish were regularly used in homes and businesses. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, lead-based paint is not problematic unless it is decaying, i.e. chipping, peeling, etc. Children are often exposed to lead poisoning as a result of the dust found in these homes, or chewing on surfaces coated with lead-based paint or the paint chips themselves.

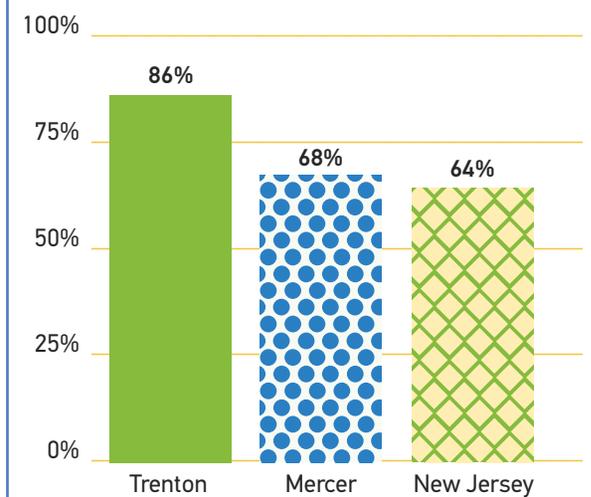
American Community Survey data indicate that 86% of Trenton’s housing was constructed prior to 1980, compared to 68% of Mercer County and 64% of New Jersey. Though not a perfect match to when lead paint was banned, these data provide some insight as to the presence of lead in homes.

### Trenton Water Testing for Lead, 2021

	Total # of Samples Tested	# of Samples > 15 ppb*	% of Sample > 15 ppb
January-June	113	3	2.7
July-December	100	4	4.0

\*Parts per billion

Percentage of Housing Structures Built Before 1980, 2021



## Children Under Age 19 Receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	11,786	11,268	11,520	13,125	13,771	17
Mercer	34,385	33,288	34,234	37,825	39,296	14
New Jersey	805,080	782,866	776,976	851,417	885,881	10

## Children Under 19 Without Health Insurance

	2016-2020	
	Number	%
Trenton	1,353	5.9
Mercer	2,640	3.1
New Jersey	81,278	3.9

## What is NJ FamilyCare?

NJ FamilyCare is New Jersey’s publicly funded health insurance program, supported by federal Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) dollars and state funding, for children in families with a household income up to 355% of the federal poverty level. As of July 1, 2021, premiums are no longer required for NJ FamilyCare coverage. Qualified state residents of any age may be eligible for free or low-cost health insurance, which covers doctor visits, prescriptions, vision, dental care, mental health and substance use services, and hospitalization. For more information, visit <http://www.njfamilycare.org>.

### *Re-determination Process for Medicaid Eligibility to Begin April 1<sup>st</sup>*

NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid recipients have been able to maintain health insurance coverage since March 2020 without traditional redetermination periods thanks to the provisions specified under the nationwide public health emergency (PHE) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the end of 2022, President Biden signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act, an omnibus package that requires states to begin re-determining eligibility for Medicaid enrollees starting April 1, 2023. This means that all members enrolled in an NJ FamilyCare program will be reviewed to see if they still qualify for coverage.

It is important that NJ FamilyCare recipients confirm that their most current address and contact information is on file in order to ensure they receive any correspondence regarding their healthcare coverage. **Families on NJ FamilyCare can confirm or update their contact information by calling NJ FamilyCare at 1-800-701-0710.** If a family receives mail from NJ FamilyCare/ Medicaid, they should respond promptly.

Organizations, healthcare providers, and individuals who work closely with families can help spread the word about this process by sharing materials from NJ FamilyCare’s [Stay Covered Toolkit](#). Find the most up-to-date information concerning the re-determining process from the New Jersey Department of Human Services will work on updating materials on their [StayCoveredNJ website](#).

## NJ FamilyCare Covers Oral Health

Untreated cavities can cause pain and infections that may lead to problems with eating, speaking, playing, and learning. Children who have poor oral health often miss more school and receive lower grades.

The KinderSmile Foundation's Community Oral Health Center Trenton provides quality comprehensive dental care to adults and children regardless of whether the individual has insurance. The Center partners with 50 local organizations and ten funders to provide oral healthcare and education to thousands of children since its opening in November 2020. Services include education for children and families, including special support for pregnant and new mothers, intervention services, and prevention. In order to reach more people, the Center provides services in both English and Spanish, and offers night and weekend appointments.



Learn more at <https://www.kindersmile.org/trenton/>. To view a timetable of when children are recommended to visit their dentist, visit [https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/periodicity\\_of\\_dental\\_services.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/periodicity_of_dental_services.pdf).

### *Improving Vision in Trenton*

One of Henry J. Austin Health Center's (HJAHC) primary mission-based outreach strategies is to bring access to integrative healthcare services to members of the community who otherwise experience barriers and disparities in access. Through locations in neighborhoods where family members of all ages live, learn, work, and play, HJAHC has created trusted and reliable prevention, treatment, and wellness hubs.

HJAHC has partnered with Vision To Learn, a nonprofit organization that brings eye care to the community. Vision To Learn is a complete program designed to help students from Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade gain corrective eye care services that will help them succeed in school and life over three appointments. The project provides glasses free of charge for children who require vision correction.

According to Vision To Learn, one in four students in public schools lacks the glasses they need to see the board, read a book, or participate in class; in under-served communities, 95% of children who need glasses do not have them. Students with uncorrected vision problems often avoid reading, suffer headaches, and have trouble focusing in class, as 80% of learning is visual during a child's first 12 years. Students with uncorrected vision problems are more likely to fail at least one grade, less likely to read at grade level by third grade — a milestone critical to preventing dropout — and more likely to engage in antisocial and delinquent behavior. Up to 70% of juvenile offenders have uncorrected vision issues. In collaboration with Vision To Learn, HJAHC travels to where students are to ameliorate obstacles, such as transportation, fees, and wait times.



**In under-served communities like Trenton,  
95% of children who need glasses  
do not have them.**

Through donated funding, HJAHC wants to ensure that every child in Trenton has the eyecare resources, including corrective glasses, needed to succeed in school and in life. For more information, visit <https://henryjaustin.org/>.

## References:

<sup>1</sup> **March of Dimes. (2014).** Low Birthweight. Accessed January 12, 2023, from <https://www.marchofdimes.org/find-support/topics/birth/low-birthweight>.

## Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care, 2016–2020.** Live births for which the mother received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Percentage of Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care, 2020.** Live births for which the mother received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Percentage of Trenton Women Receiving Early Prenatal Care by Race, 2020.** Percentage of live births for which the mother received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Number of Trenton Births by Prenatal Care Onset, 2016–2020.** The number of total births in Trenton by trimester of prenatal care onset. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Prenatal Care Onset Based on All Live Births in Trenton, 2016–2020.** The percentage of total births by trimester of prenatal care onset. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Percentage of Births That Were Preterm, 2016–2020.** Percentage of total births that were considered preterm. A preterm birth is defined as less than 37 weeks. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Percentage of Trenton Births That Were Preterm by Race, 2016–2020.** Percentage of total births that were considered preterm. A preterm birth is defined as less than 37 weeks. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Babies Born with Low Birthweights, 2016–2020.** The number of babies born weighing less than 2,500-grams as reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Percentage of Babies Born with Low Birthweight, 2016–2020.** The percentage of babies born weighing less than 2,500-grams out of the total number of live births. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Births by Method of Delivery, 2016–2020.** The count of all live births based on method of delivery. New Jersey Birth Certificate Database, Office of Vital Statistics and Registry, New Jersey Department of Health. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Trenton Births by Method of Delivery, 2016–2020.** The percentage of all live births based on method of delivery. New Jersey Birth Certificate Database, Office of Vital Statistics and Registry, New Jersey Department of Health. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Births by Type of Birth Attendant, 2016–2020.** The count of all live births based on type of birth attendant. New Jersey Birth Certificate Database, Office of Vital Statistics and Registry, New Jersey Department of Health. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Infant Feeding Type at Time of Hospital Discharge, 2016–2020.** The type of feedings given to an infant in the 24 hours prior to discharge from the hospital. New Jersey Birth Certificate Database, Office of Vital Statistics and Registry, New Jersey Department of Health. Data accessed as of August 10, 2022.

**Trenton Infant Feeding Type at Time of Hospital Discharge, 2016–2020.** The type of feedings given to an infant in the 24 hours prior to discharge from the hospital. Percentages based on total live births within Trenton. New Jersey Birth Certificate Database, Office of Vital Statistics and Registry, New Jersey Department of Health. Data accessed as of August 10, 2022.

**Infant Mortality Rate, 2005–2009, 2010–2014 and 2015–2019.** The number of infants under one year who died during that year. Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death and Birth Certificate Databases. Data accessed as of July 13, 2022.

**Trenton Infant Mortality Rate by Race, 2005–2009, 2010–2014 and 2015–2019.** The number of infants under one year who died during that year. Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 births. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 13, 2022.

**Infant Mortality Rate for Select Racial Groups, 2015–2019.** The number of infants under one year who died during that year. Rate is the number of infant deaths per 1,000 births. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 13, 2022.

**Child Deaths (Ages 1–14), 2016–2020.** The number of children between ages one and 14 who died during that year, as reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 8, 2022.

**Asthma Admissions to the Hospital, (Ages 0–17), 2016–2020.** Number of New Jersey inpatient hospital discharges with a primary asthma diagnosis for residents 0–17 years of age. Counts do not include out of state hospitalizations for New Jersey residents. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. Data from 2016 and later may not be comparable to pre-2016 data

due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM. Data accessed as of July 8, 2022.

**Asthma-Related Emergency Room Visits (Ages 0–17), 2016–2020.** Number of New Jersey emergency department discharges with a primary asthma diagnosis for residents 0–17 years of age. Counts do not include out of state hospitalizations for New Jersey residents. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. Data from 2016 and later may not be comparable to pre-2016 data due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM. Data accessed as of July 13, 2022.

**Trenton Asthma-Related Hospital Visits (Ages 0–17), 2016–2020.** Number of Trenton inpatient hospital discharges and emergency department discharges for residents 0–17 years of age. As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Discharge Data Collection System. Data from 2016 and later may not be comparable to pre-2016 data due to a change in diagnosis coding from ICD-9-CM to ICD-10-CM. Data accessed as of July 13, 2022.

**Children 6–26 Months Tested for Lead, 2016–2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of October 27, 2022.

**Children <6 Years of Age Tested for Lead, 2016–2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of October 27, 2022.

**Trenton Environmental Case Activity Status, 2016–2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, Public Health Services Branch, Division of Family Health Services. Data accessed as of October 27, 2022.

**Percentage of Housing Structures Built Before 1980, 2021.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey B25034 using 1-year estimates.

**Trenton Water Testing for Lead, 2021.** The number of Trenton-based samples tested and the number of samples with lead levels greater than 15 parts per billion (EPA action level). As reported by the N.J. Department of Environmental Protection, Drinking Water Watch report. Lead results for the January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021 and July 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021. Data accessed October 12, 2022.

**Children Under Age 19 Receiving NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid, 2018–2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Human Services. Data are from March of each year and are point in time snapshots that do not reflect any retroactivity. Includes children under age 18 enrolled in Medicaid, which is available to children living in families earning below 133% of the federal poverty level and children enrolled in the CHIP portion of NJ FamilyCare, which is available to children living in families earning up to 355% of the federal poverty level. Data for state and Mercer county retrieved on July 14, 2022; data for Trenton retrieved on April 25, 2022.

**Children Under 19 Without Health Insurance, 2016–2020.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B27001 using 5-year estimates. Data are not comparable to previous years' estimates for children without health insurance, due to a change in the included ages.

# 4 Child Protection

## What is CP&P?

The Division of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P), formerly the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), operates within the New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) as the state's child welfare and protection agency. CP&P is responsible for investigating reports of child abuse and neglect and, if necessary, arranging for the child's protection and services for the family. When children cannot remain at home due to safety concerns, CP&P may ask the family court to place the child into foster care and to seek another permanent home for children who cannot be safely reunified with their parent(s) within the timeframes provided by law.

### Children Under Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) Supervision

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	879	895	561	643	598	-32
Mercer	1,816	1,818	1,218	1,433	1,324	-27
New Jersey	48,256	47,151	29,282	33,790	31,830	-34

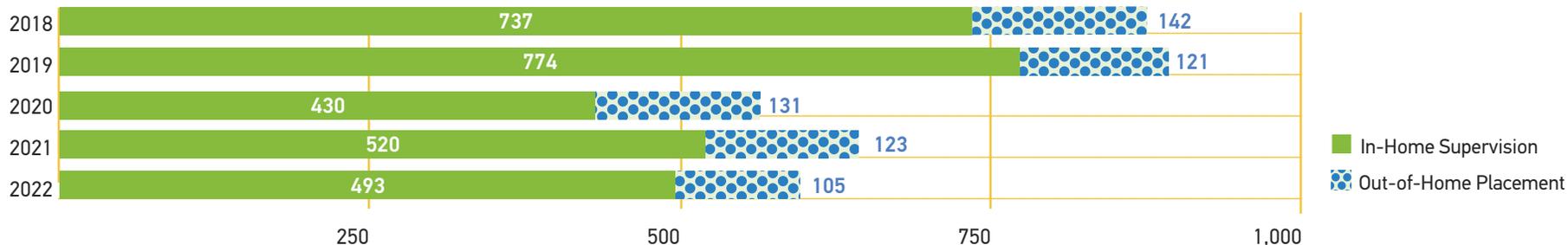
### Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	737	774	430	520	493	-33
Mercer	1,467	1,508	919	1,189	1,103	-25
New Jersey	42,202	42,036	25,074	30,185	28,676	-32

### Children in Out-of-Home CP&P Placement

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	142	121	131	123	105	-26
Mercer	349	310	299	244	221	-37
New Jersey	6,054	5,115	4,208	3,605	3,154	-48

### Trenton Children Under CP&P Supervision



## Federal Court Oversight of NJ Department of Children and Families is Ending

The federal court oversight of New Jersey’s child welfare system is finally ending after 20 years. The final exit will occur no later than June 2023 according to an Agreement presented to the Honorable Stanley R. Chesler in federal court on March 22, 2022. DCF is in the process of redesigning many of its quality improvement processes to integrate a Solution Based Casework (SBC) approach with its Case Practice Model. To read the monitoring reports, visit <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/about/welfare/federal/>. To read more about the SBC approach, visit <https://acnj.org/solution-based-casework-model-to-be-implemented-for-dcpp-involved-families/>.

DCF is working with the Judiciary and other stakeholders to address racial disparities that persist despite the overall reduction of children and families involved with CP&P. Other priorities of DCF’s Commissioner Christine Norbut Beyer include primary prevention of maltreatment, staff health and wellness, and efforts to increase placement with relatives and kin should a child require placement due to safety concerns. To read more about the reforms underway, visit the DCF website at <https://www.nj.gov/dcf/>. To read more about the increased placement with kin, visit <https://acnj.org/blog-kinship-care-and-new-jerseys-revised-kinship-legal-guardianship-act/>.

### Number of Children Reported for Abuse/Neglect

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Trenton	2,331	2,477	2,386	1,747	1,976	-15
Mercer	4,020	4,296	4,457	3,304	3,718	-8
New Jersey	91,585	94,161	96,060	73,726	84,162	-8

### Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Trenton	116	77	112	49	42	-64
Mercer	212	152	204	101	83	-61
New Jersey	6,463	5,923	4,897	3,134	3,232	-50

### Percentage of Reported Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
Trenton	5.0	3.1	4.7	2.8	2.1	-57
Mercer	5.3	3.5	4.6	3.1	2.2	-58
New Jersey	7.1	6.3	5.1	4.3	3.8	-46

### The New Jersey Youth Resource Spot

The New Jersey Youth Resource Spot (<http://www.njyrs.org/>) is a website created by members of the DCF Youth Council, specially geared for young people in New Jersey that have been involved with DCF and those who work with them.

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#### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Children Under Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) Supervision, 2018-2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

**Children Receiving In-Home CP&P Services, 2018-2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

**Children in Out-of-Home CP&P Placement, 2018-2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

**Trenton Children Under CP&P Supervision, 2018-2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June 30 for each year.

**Number of Children Reported for Abuse/Neglect, 2017-2021.** Number of children who were reported for child abuse/neglect. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families for each calendar year. Data are as of December 31 for each year.

**Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2017-2021.** The number of children found to be victims of child abuse/neglect. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families for each calendar year. Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was "substantiated" or "unfounded". Data are as of December 31 of each year.

**Percentage of Reported Children with Substantiated/Established Findings of Abuse/Neglect, 2017-2021.** Based on the number of children found to be substantiated or established victims of child abuse/neglect out of the number of children reported for abuse or neglect. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Previously, investigators could only determine whether reported abuse/neglect was "substantiated" or "unfounded". Data are as of December 31 of each year.



# 5 Child Care

## Licensed Child Care Centers and Registered Family Child Care Providers: How Do They Differ?

Licensed child care centers and registered family child care providers both offer child care to children under the age of 13. However, there are key differences in the number of children they are permitted to serve and the locations in which they operate. Licensed child care centers serve a minimum of six children and must adhere to state licensing requirements. Registered family child care providers care for a maximum of five children at a time in their own homes. Family child care providers who register voluntarily through New Jersey's Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies are required to meet state regulations primarily related to health and safety concerns. Due to the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic, in an effort to flatten the curve of COVID-19 cases, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 110 on March 25, 2020, requiring licensed child care centers to close on April 1, 2020 unless approved to serve the children of those classified as essential personnel. On May 29, 2020, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order No. 149 allowing licensed child care centers to resume normal operations beginning on or after June 15, 2020

subject to their compliance with specific COVID-19 health and safety standards. This order also rescinded the emergency child care program under Executive Order No. 110.

The impact of the executive orders can be seen in both the supply and capacity of child care across the state.

### Licensed Child Care Centers

	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	51	52	15	23	47	-8
Mercer	205	210	87	148	190	-7
New Jersey	4,141	4,171	2,018	3,371	3,976	-4

*\*See note regarding Executive Orders 110 and 149.*

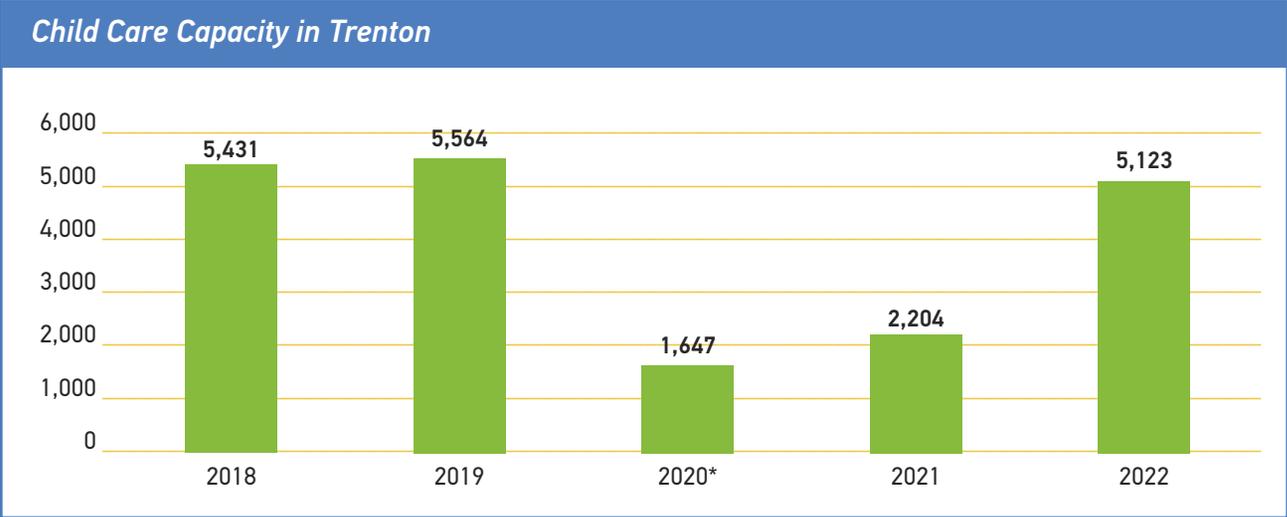
### Child Care Center Capacity

	2018	2019	2020*	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	5,431	5,564	1,647	2,204	5,123	-6
Mercer	20,067	20,108	9,090	13,979	18,384	-8
New Jersey	382,734	387,092	196,338	321,967	383,595	0

*\*See note regarding Executive Orders 110 and 149.*

### Registered Family Child Care Providers

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	16	18	16	16	17	6
Mercer	31	32	28	25	24	-23
New Jersey	1,639	1,478	1,430	1,275	1,199	-27



\*See note regarding Executive Orders 110 and 149.



### New Jersey's State-Funded Home Visitation Programs

Home visitation is defined as families receiving regularly scheduled visits by either a trained home visitor or a nurse. The state's home visitation programs are designed to help mothers and fathers build healthy environments for their infants and young children by promoting infant and child health, nurturing positive parent-child relationships,

and linking parents to resources and support. This is typically provided to families facing poverty and other risk factors, with visits starting before or immediately after birth. In 2022, the number of Trenton families participating in home visitation programs decreased by 37% since 2018.

#### Families Receiving State-Funded Home Visitation Programs\*

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 18-22
Trenton	316	311	278	247	200	-37
Mercer	331	334	308	278	242	-27
New Jersey	6,997	6,666	6,246	5,534	4,925	-30

\*Data are for June of each year.

### New Jersey's Universally Offered Home Visitation Program

In July 2021, New Jersey became the second state in the country to offer a voluntary home visiting program for all parents of newborns. The program will be housed within the NJ Department of Children and Families. New Jersey's universally offered home visiting program will allow all new parents the opportunity to access individualized advice, expertise and support to ensure both parent and child get off to the

right start. This strength-based approach to supporting all families will address the period-of-time between the birth of the newborn and the mother's first visit to the obstetrician at six weeks. Such a proactive approach to supporting new families will reduce potential maternal and infant issues that may arise during this extended period.

**Data Sources and Technical Notes:**

**Licensed Child Care Centers, 2018-2022.** The number of state-licensed child care centers. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year.

**Child Care Center Capacity, 2018-2022.** The capacity of state-licensed child care centers. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year.

**Registered Family Child Care Providers, 2018-2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year. Family child care providers comply with state requirements, but operate as independent small businesses.

**Child Care Capacity in Trenton, 2018-2022.** The capacity of state-licensed child care centers in Trenton. As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year.

**Families Receiving State-Funded Home Visitation Programs, 2018-2022.** As reported by the NJ Department of Children and Families. Data are as of June for each year.



# 6 Education

## The Impact of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic moved all students to remote learning for more than one school year, and the data are beginning to reflect the impact of the shutdown. Start Strong Assessments were administered statewide in the fall of 2021 in place of state exams. Trenton saw a decrease in preschool enrollment between the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years with 876 fewer students enrolling but saw an increase in 2021-22.

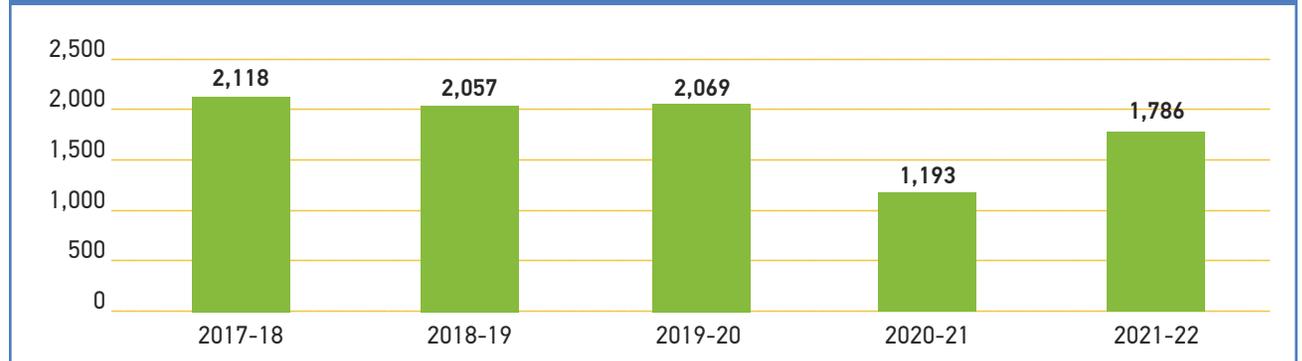


### State-Funded Preschool Enrollment

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% Change 18-22
Trenton	2,118	2,057	2,069	1,193	1,786	-16
Mercer	2,193	2,134	2,187	1,284	1,937	-12
New Jersey	51,580	53,177	56,279	46,898	53,258	3

*\*Data reflect preschools fully-funded by the state.*

### Trenton State-Funded Preschool Enrollment



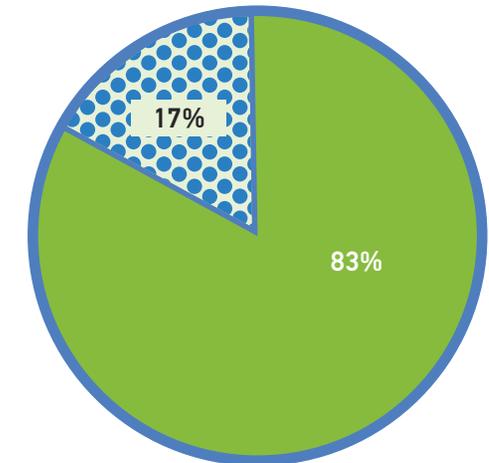
### Trenton Preschool: A Model for New Jersey

The Trenton School District's preschool is a model for New Jersey and the nation. Since the first year of the Abbott v. Burke decision, the school district has contracted with community-based providers to provide its court-mandated, high-quality preschool. The District currently serves 100 percent of its preschool children through 32 contracts with community-based centers, allowing all children to be served in a learning environment that is focused solely on young children while supporting the economic infrastructure of the community.

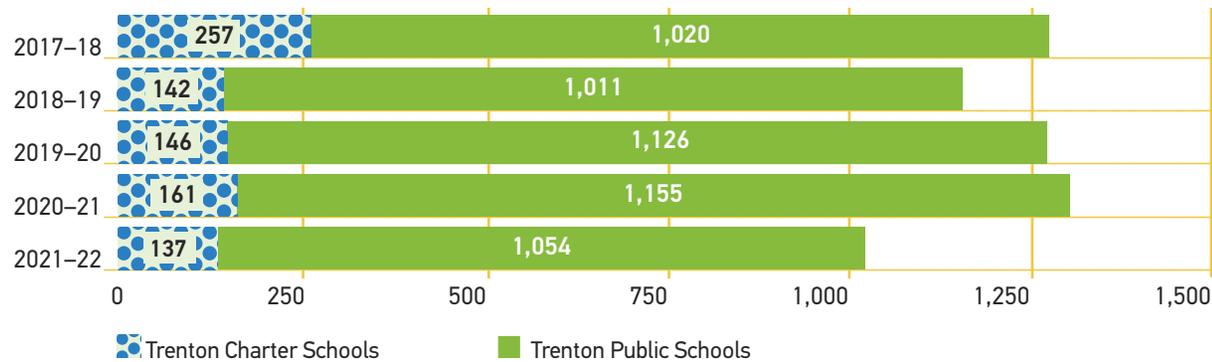
### Kindergarten Enrollment

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% Change 18-22
Trenton Public Schools	1,020	1,011	1,126	1,155	1,054	3
Trenton Charter Schools	257	142	146	161	137	-47
<b>Trenton Total</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>1,153</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,191</b>	<b>-7</b>
Mercer	4,059	3,929	4,108	3,823	3,869	-5
New Jersey	90,828	89,294	90,818	82,604	86,202	-5

*Percentage of Trenton Students Enrolled in School by School Type, 2021-22*



### Kindergarten Enrollment



### Pre-K-12 Total Enrollment

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% Change 18-22
Trenton Public Schools	11,119	11,923	12,653	14,119	14,470	30
Trenton Charter Schools	2,952	2,539	2,685	2,817	2,904	-2
<b>Trenton Total</b>	<b>14,071</b>	<b>14,462</b>	<b>15,338</b>	<b>16,936</b>	<b>17,374</b>	<b>23</b>

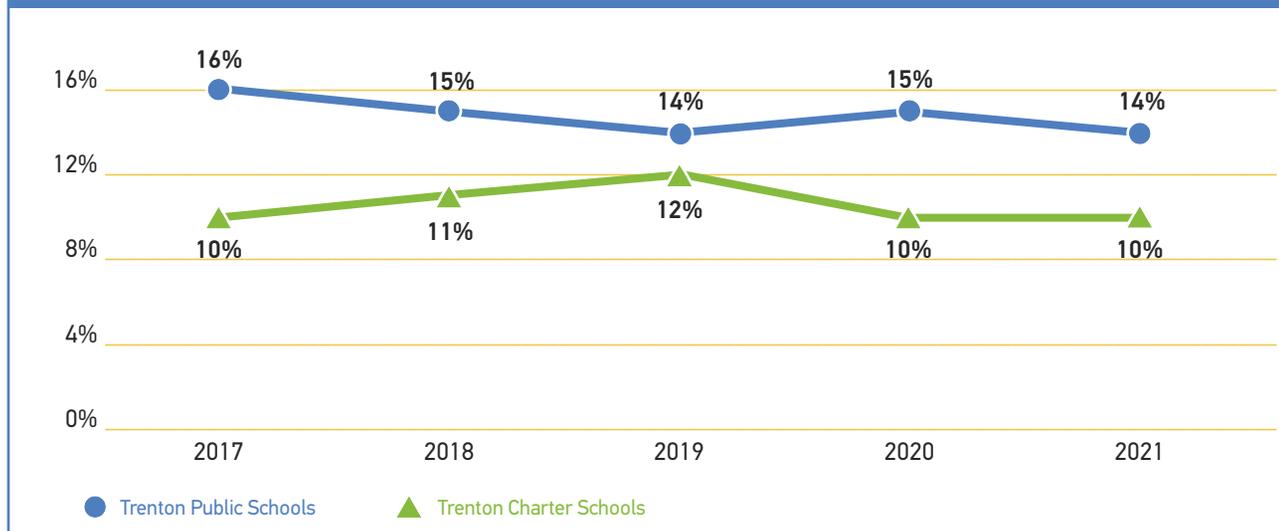
# 6 Education

## Special Education Enrollment, Ages 3-21

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	% Change 18-22
Trenton Public Schools	2,182	2,182	2,224	2,112	2,123	-3
Trenton Charter Schools*	293	280	312	275	291	-1
<b>Trenton Total</b>	<b>2,475</b>	<b>2,462</b>	<b>2,536</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>2,414</b>	<b>-2</b>

Note: Includes public and non-public students.  
Data for some charter schools are suppressed.

## Special Education Enrollment, as a Percentage of Total Enrollment



## Trenton Public Schools Special Education Students by Disability, 2021-22

	Autism	Deaf-Blindness	Emotional Disturbance	Hearing Impairment	Multiple Disabilities	Intellectual Disability	Other Health Impairment	Orthopedic Impairment	Specific Learning Disability	Speech or Language Impairment	Traumatic Brain Injury	Visual Impairment	Developmental Delay
Ages 3-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	47
Ages 6-21	246	0	117	19	250	175	197	*	847	215	*	*	0

Note: Does not include charter school data.

\*Counts of fewer than 10 students have been suppressed to protect confidentiality.

**Percentage of Homeless Students Out of Total Enrollment**

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Trenton Public Schools	0.3	0.5	1.7	1.9	1.8

***What is a Homeless Student?***

A homeless student is defined as any youth lacking a regular and adequate nighttime residence. Included in this definition is a broad set of living arrangements — children living in hotels or motels, public places, or sharing housing with other families due to a lack of suitable housing or financial stability. This definition was provided by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and amended through the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2016. Under the ESSA amendment, children awaiting foster care placement are no longer defined as homeless.

Legally, the state is required to provide a number of services to homeless children, including the appointment of a homeless student liaison who helps students and parents with enrollment, transportation, arrangements, and accessing services. For more information on homeless students, visit <https://nche.ed.gov/>. For more information on homeless students at the state level, visit <https://www.nj.gov/education/homeless/index.shtml>.

## English Language Learner Enrollment as a Percentage of Total Enrollment

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Trenton Public Schools</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>27.0</b>
Achievers Early College Prep Charter School	0	0	4.8
Clara Parker Elementary School	N/A	40.2	46.0
Columbus Elementary School	21.1	17.7	22.5
Daylight/Twilight High School	41.3	64.5	35.6
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School	46.8	43.2	48.0
Dunn Middle School	34.7	34.9	32.6
Foundation Academy Charter School	8.8	8.6	10.2
Franklin Elementary School	31.0	28.2	30.5
Grant Elementary School	40.2	45.7	46.9
Gregory Elementary School	0.8	0.8	0
Harrison Elementary School	36.2	27.3	24.7
Hedgepeth Williams Middle School	24.8	25.3	30.4
International Charter School	0	0	0
Joyce Kilmer School	1.0	0.9	0.5
Luis Muñoz-Rivera Middle School	16.2	15.1	14.2
Monument Elementary School	N/A	19.7	38.6
Mott Elementary School	41.1	40.5	51.2
P.J. Hill Elementary	32.0	33.1	38.9
Parker Elementary	39.4	N/A	N/A
Paul Robeson Charter School For the Humanities	22.8	20.5	12.0
Robbins Elementary School	62.2	62.3	65.4
The Village Charter School	0	0	0
Trenton Central High School – Main Campus	16.7	13.4	17.3
Trenton Central High School – 9th Grade Academy	13.9	10.0	22.4
Trenton Stem-to-Civics Charter School	1.0	2.4	3.1
Washington Elementary School	33.0	27.9	30.7
Wilson Elementary School	57.2	60.3	63.5
<b>New Jersey</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>7.4</b>

### *When is a Student Considered an English Language Learner?*

The NJ Department of Education uses the term English Language Learner (ELL) to describe students whose first language is other than English or who have difficulty reading, writing, and understanding English. The State of New Jersey administers an annual survey to assess the languages spoken in students' homes in an effort to identify ELL students. An English Language Learner's proficiency may require additional services to allow them to be successful in the district's academic program.

English Language Arts Start Strong Assessment Results, 2020–21

	# of Valid Scores	Level 1: Strong Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 2: Some Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 3: Less Support May Be Needed (%)
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	1,010	79	13	<10
New Jersey	88,247	41	22	37
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	940	67	19	14
New Jersey	90,392	27	25	48
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	870	71	19	11
New Jersey	90,923	33	26	41
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	766	59	22	19
New Jersey	94,599	28	25	48
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	672	67	16	17
New Jersey	96,482	30	20	50
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	619	66	11	23
New Jersey	94,807	31	15	54
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	647	56	19	25
New Jersey	92,830	26	20	54

## Math Start Strong Assessment Results, 2020-21

	# of Valid Scores	Level 1: Strong Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 2: Some Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 3: Less Support May Be Needed (%)
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	1,006	92	<10	<10
New Jersey	88,593	49	23	29
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	942	94	<10	<10
New Jersey	90,528	54	21	24
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	836	92	<10	<10
New Jersey	91,036	53	25	23
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	762	83	14	<10
New Jersey	90,129	42	33	25
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	622	83	15	<10
New Jersey	68,932	46	35	18

**Algebra Start Strong Assessment Results, 2020-21**

	# of Valid Scores	Level 1: Strong Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 2: Some Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 3: Less Support May Be Needed (%)
<b>Algebra I</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	685	92	<10	<10
New Jersey	97,652	60	24	16
<b>Algebra II</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	551	80	18	<10
New Jersey	76,947	31	29	40

**Geometry Start Strong Assessment Results, 2020-21**

	# of Valid Scores	Level 1: Strong Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 2: Some Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 3: Less Support May Be Needed (%)
<b>Geometry</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	571	83	13	<10
New Jersey	88,810	47	24	29

# 6 Education

## Science Start Strong Assessment Results, 2020-21

	# of Valid Scores	Level 1: Strong Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 2: Some Support May Be Needed (%)	Level 3: Less Support May Be Needed (%)
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	846	81	16	<10
New Jersey	90,627	43	34	24
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	627	77	20	<10
New Jersey	94,490	42	42	16
<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>				
Trenton Public Schools	524	82	14	<10
New Jersey	87,481	49	24	27





**Trenton Public Schools,  
Participation in World Language Courses, 2020-21**

	Spanish	French	Chinese
Grade 6	377	0	0
Grade 7	263	0	0
Grade 8	228	0	0
Grade 9	43	0	0
Grade 10	362	111	33
Grade 11	95	55	29
Grade 12	76	23	10
Districtwide	1,444	189	72
Enrolled in Level 3 or Higher*	6	0	0

\*Such as Spanish III or IV

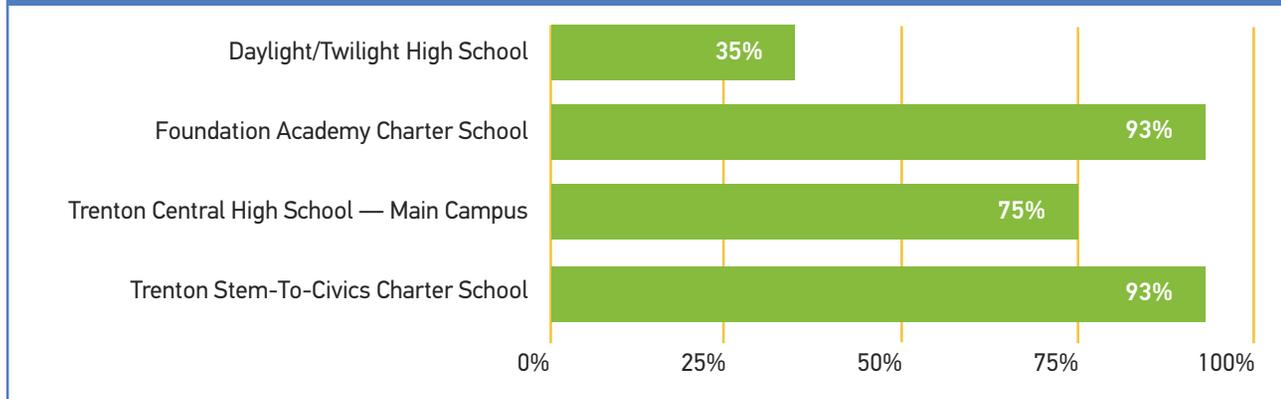
**Participation in Visual and Performing Arts, 2020-21**

	Grades 6-8		Grades 9-12	
	Trenton Public Schools	New Jersey	Trenton Public Schools	New Jersey
<b>Students enrolled in one or more visual and performing arts classes</b>	<b>72.2</b>	<b>87.5</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>49.9</b>
<b>Enrollment in one or more classes by discipline</b>				
Music	40.2	60.7	12.4	16.1
Dance	16.8	3.2	1.7	2.3
Drama	7.5	6.7	1.2	3.4
Visual Arts	26.0	68.6	29.2	33.2

## High School Graduation Rates

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	% Change 17-21
Trenton Public Schools	70	68	64	64	62	-11
New Jersey	91	91	91	91	91	0

## Graduation Rates by High School, 2020-21



## Graduation Rates by Demographic Group, Trenton Public Schools, 2021

Demographic Group	Rate
<b>Districtwide</b>	<b>62</b>
American Indian or Alaska Native	N
Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander	*
Black or African American	67
Hispanic	60
Two or More Races	*
White	30
Male	55
Female	71
Economically Disadvantaged	64
Students with Disabilities	54
English Learners	50
Homeless Students	50
Students in Foster Care	27



David Kelly Crow, Photographer

## What is HomeWorks?

HomeWorks is a free, community-based, after-school residential program for high school girls from marginalized communities, started in Trenton in 2016. Scholars live in the HomeWorks dorm from Sunday to Friday and are transported to and from their public schools. They engage in activities focused on academics and identity-driven leadership, such as finance and investment, poetry writing, discussions on colorism, immigration, and desirability politics, college tours, and watching a Broadway show in New York. They then eat a family-style meal, engage in daily study hall and tutoring, and stay overnight in the dorm with two full-time staff members. Since its inception, HomeWorks has

worked with over 30 scholars. Each year, the organization provides approximately 180 dinners, 360 trips to and from school, 220 hours of tutoring sessions, 400 hours of programming and activities, and a dorm to live in five nights a week, to each scholar. In 2021-2022, the average daily school attendance rate of girls enrolled in the program was 92% compared to 86% of the total student population enrolled in Trenton schools. Their first HomeWorks graduate was accepted into nine universities and is currently attending Montclair State University on a full-ride scholarship in partnership with HomeWorks and the Give Back Foundation. By providing a safe academic and residential space, HomeWorks scholars will gain the tools to achieve their full potential, and collectively break down social injustices in their home communities and beyond through ground-up, people-driven systemic change. Learn more at [www.homeworkstrenton.org](http://www.homeworkstrenton.org).

### Average SAT Score by High School

	2016-17			2017-18			2018-19			2019-20			2020-21		
	Math	Reading and Writing	Percentage Participation	Math	Reading and Writing	Percentage Participation	Math	Reading and Writing	Percentage Participation	Math	Reading and Writing	Percentage Participation	Math	Reading and Writing	Percentage Participation
<b>Trenton Public Schools</b>	429	446	60	404	423	84	397	417	85	393	408	87	394	406	78
Daylight/Twilight High School	*	*	*	383	393	28	350	374	34	361	389	28	*	*	6
Trenton Central High School — Main Campus	427	443	71	410	431	99	401	421	93	395	409	100	394	406	90
Foundation Academy Charter School	480	512	100	510	488	100	516	503	100	483	489	100	524	502	58
Trenton Stem-To-Civics Charter School	N	N	N	421	438	100	430	434	81	418	424	75	423	407	51
<b>New Jersey Average</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>45</b>

An “\*” indicates that data are not displayed to protect student privacy; “N” indicates that no data are available to display. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the national administrations of the SAT were cancelled from Spring 2020 through Fall 2021. Use caution when comparing results for 2019-20 and 2020-2021 to prior or future years.

### Percentage of Students Enrolled in a Post-Secondary Institution

	2016-17			2017-18			2018-19			2019-20			2020-21		
	% School-Wide	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Students with Disabilities	% School-Wide	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Students with Disabilities	% School-Wide	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Students with Disabilities	% School-Wide	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Students with Disabilities	% School-Wide	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Students with Disabilities
<b>Trenton Public Schools</b>	41	40	26	40	41	32	15	14	16	31	30	20	27	25	16
Daylight/Twilight High School	9	10	5	12	15	*	12	14	32	5	4	0	9	11	0
Trenton Central High School — Main Campus	40	38	28	46	47	34	18	13	7	34	33	22	31	29	20
Foundation Academy Charter School	86	85	*	75	73	*	75	72	*	76	76	*	81	80	*
Trenton Stem-to-Civics Charter School	N/A	N/A	N/A	56	57	*	56	55	21	47	44	*	47	49	33
<b>New Jersey Average</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>43</b>

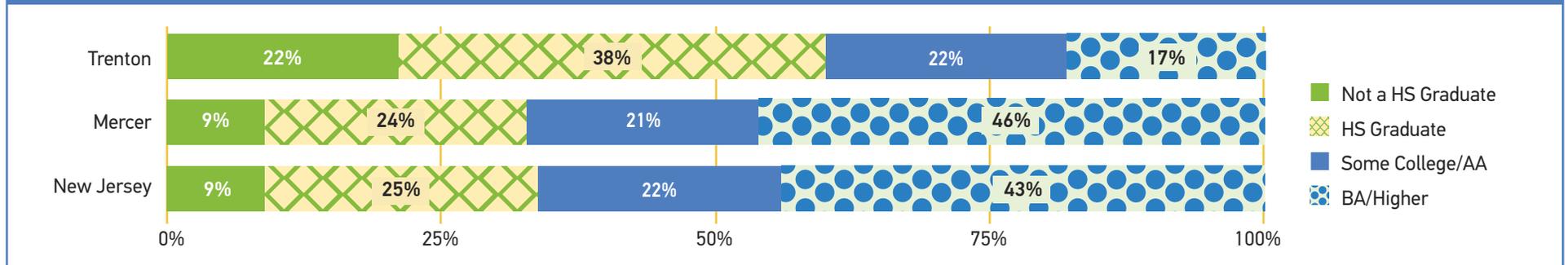
An “\*” indicates that data is not displayed to protect student privacy. Due to a graduation date error during submission, the postsecondary enrollment rates for the Class of 2019 reflect only a portion of the graduation class and not the full graduation class.

## Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Course Participation and Performance

	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	Trenton Public Schools	New Jersey								
Students enrolled in one or more AP or IB course	11	42	10	35	12	35	7	36	5	36
Students taking one or more AP or IB exam	13	35	12	28	12	29	8	29	7	27
Students with one or more exams with a score of at least 3 on AP exams or 4 on IB exams	4	24	2	21	2	21	*	23	*	18

Note: \* indicates data are not displayed to protect student privacy.

## Highest Education Levels for People Ages 25+, Trenton vs. Mercer vs. New Jersey, 2021



## Staff-to-Student Ratios

The ratio of staff to students within a school has long been considered a marker of educational and instructional quality. During the 2020-21 school year, Trenton Public Schools reported a ratio of 14 students for every one teacher, just above the state ratio of 12 to 1. The ratio of guidance counselors to students is also of importance, given the critical role counselors play in preparing students for college and career. The American School Counselor Association recommends a ratio of 250 students for every one counselor. Both Trenton Public Schools and the state of New Jersey exceeded this recommendation, with ratios of 419:1 and 339:1, respectively, during the 2020-21 school year. To read more about the importance of student to school counselor ratios, visit <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/About-School-Counseling/School-Counselor-Roles-Ratios>.

## Staff-to-Student Ratio, 2020-21

	Trenton Public Schools	New Jersey
Students to Teachers	14:1	12:1
Students to Administrators	197:1	143:1
Students to Librarians/ Media Specialists	1,256:1	1,128:1
Students to Nurses	512:1	513:1
Students to Counselors	419:1	339:1
Students to Child Study Team Members	47:1	41:1

## The Foundation for Educational Administration: Meeting Student Mental Health Needs

With the COVID-19 pandemic causing unprecedented levels of trauma and adversity, the Foundation for Educational Administration (FEA) launched the Healing-Centered Engagement training pilot in 2020.

Supported by the New Jersey Education Association and the Mental Health Association of New Jersey, FEA conducts interactive training and tailored coaching on adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), trauma-informed care, healing-centered engagement, and Youth Mental Health First Aid to teachers, administrators, school staff, and families. Since its creation, the program has trained 3,500 school staff across New Jersey.

In the 2021-2022 school year, FEA expanded the pilot to 60 schools, including nearly all in Trenton. “Our kids coming back from the pandemic have experienced loss, potential food insecurity, shelter insecurity, as well as violence in the community or violence in the homes,” said

Assistant Trenton Public School District Superintendent Dr. Channing Conway. “So we wanted to make sure we were equipped for dealing with those types of issues after being in isolation for 18 months.”

Zebbie Belton, principal of Carroll Robbins Elementary School, shared, “Before the ACEs training, our staff didn’t realize how many layers a lot of children and adults walk around with — as well as how that can affect how we interact with one another. Lots of eyes were opened, and I would say even hearts were opened. Now we can begin to understand why a child is behaving a certain way.”

The program is funded with more than \$1 million pooled from the Burke Foundation, Princeton Area Community Foundation, New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and New Jersey Health Initiatives.

## Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**State-Funded Preschool Enrollment, 2017-18 through 2021-22.** Number of three- and four-year-old students enrolled in half- and full-day New Jersey Department of Education-approved preschools, operated both in-district and in community centers, as reported by the NJ Department of Education. Excludes children enrolled in Head Start or other federally-funded programs that do not receive any state aid.

**Trenton State-Funded Preschool Enrollment, 2017-18 through 2021-22.** Number of three- and four-year-old students enrolled in half- and full-day New Jersey Department of Education-approved preschools, operated both in-district and in community centers, as reported by the NJ Department of Education. Excludes children enrolled in Head Start or other federally-funded programs that do not receive any state aid.

**Kindergarten Enrollment, 2017-18 through 2021-22.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include students enrolled in full and half-day programs in both traditional district and charter schools.

**Pre-K-12 Total Enrollment, 2017-18 through 2021-22.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include both traditional district and charter schools. Please note that total enrollment figures do not include students enrolled in public preschool programs operating within community-based providers.

**Percentage of Trenton Students Enrolled in School by School Type, 2021-22.** The percentage of students enrolled in Trenton Public Schools and Trenton charter schools. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October Enrollment Data. Data include both public district and charter schools.

**Special Education Enrollment, Ages 3-21, 2017-18 through 2021-22.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education. Number of students who are classified, ages 3-21. Data include both traditional district schools and charter schools and public and non-public students. Charter totals may be higher due to suppression of districts with fewer than 10 students.

**Special Education Enrollment, as a Percentage of Total Enrollment, 2017-18 through 2021-22.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education. Percentage of total enrollment of students who are classified, ages 3-21. Special education counts include both traditional district schools and charter schools and public and non-public students. Charter figures may differ due to suppression of districts with fewer than 10 students. Total enrollment based on October general education enrollment data for each school year.

**Trenton Public Schools Special Education Students by Disability, 2021-22.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education. Percentage of total enrollment of students who are classified, ages 3-5 and 6-21. Data do not include charter schools. Counts of fewer than 10 students have been suppressed to protect confidentiality.

**Percentage of Homeless Students Out of Total Enrollment, 2016-17 through 2020-21.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. Data are as of June for each school year listed and do not include charter schools. Represents any student identified as homeless during the given school year.

**Trenton English Language Learner Enrollment as a Percentage of Total Enrollment, 2019-20 through 2021-22.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, October enrollment counts.

**Start Strong Assessment Results, 2020-21.** The Start Strong assessments in English Language Arts, Math, and Science were administered in fall 2021 to meet federal assessment administration requirements for the 2020-21 school year. The grade levels shown in the report represent students' fall 2021 grade level enrollment.

**Trenton Public Schools, Participation in World Language Courses, 2020-21.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data. Data do not include charter schools. Level 3 or higher indicates participation in the third level of a world language course or above (such as Spanish III or Spanish IV).

**Students Enrolled in One or More Visual and Performing Arts Classes, 2020-21.** As reported by the N.J. Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data. Data do not include charter schools.

**High School Graduation Rates, 2016-17 through 2020-21.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate Data. In 2011, the Department of Education changed the way that graduation rates are calculated to the 4-year adjusted cohort graduation rate. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate data.

**Graduation Rates by High School, 2020-21.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate data. Data include both traditional district schools as well as charter schools.

**Graduation Rates by Demographic Group, Trenton Public Schools, 2021.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, 4-year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate data.

**Average SAT Score by High School, 2016-17 through 2020-21.** The percentage of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students participating in the SAT for the given school year or for prior years. The score range for the SAT is from 400 to 1600 for a total score. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

**Percentage of Students Enrolled in a Post-Secondary Institution, 2016-17 through 2020-21.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, NJ School Performance Report data. These data reflect the percentage of 2021 high school graduates that were enrolled in post-secondary institutions the fall after high school graduation. The data are pulled from the National Student Clearinghouse. Students who enroll in post-secondary institutions outside of the United States are not included. Data for some categories are unavailable.

**Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Course Participation and Performance.** Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate participation and performance amongst 11th and 12th grade students. As reported by the NJ Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance Report data.

**Highest Education Level for People Ages 25+, Trenton vs. Mercer vs. New Jersey, 2021.** As reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey chart B15002 using 1-year estimates.

**Staff-to-Student Ratio, 2020-21.** As reported by the NJ Department of Education, New Jersey School Performance report.





# 7 Teens

## Data Trends for Teens

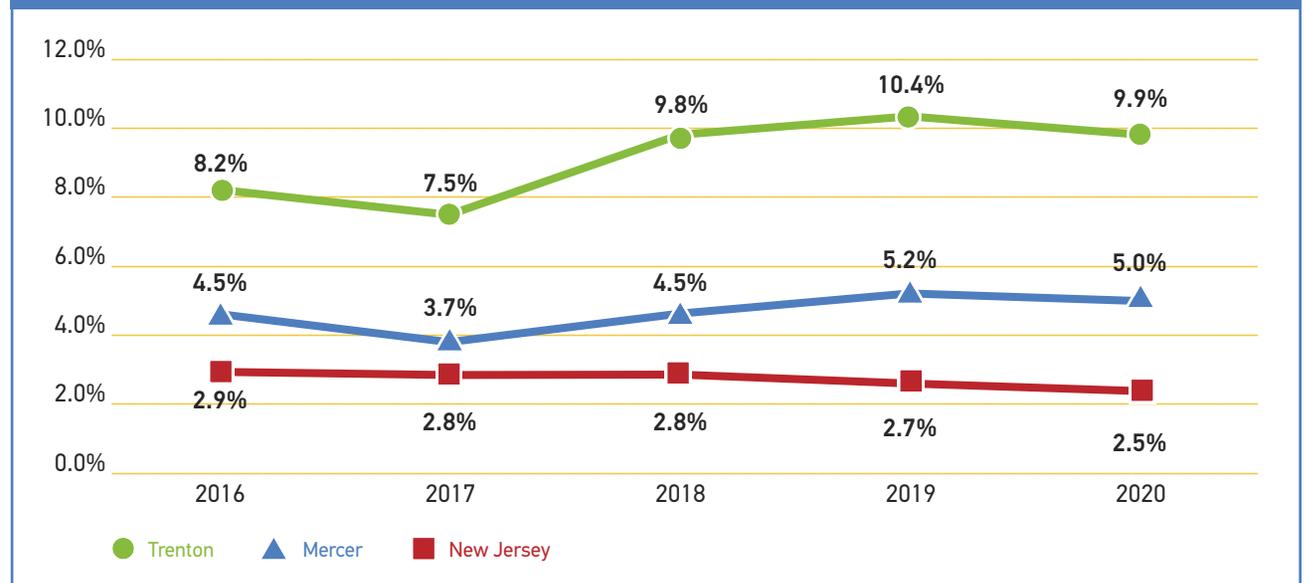
Teen births have decreased across the state for the last several years; however, Trenton and Mercer County saw an uptick in the percentage of births beginning in 2018. In 2020, 9.9% of all Trenton births were to teens ages 15-19, compared to 5.0% and 2.5% of Mercer County and New Jersey, respectively.



### Births to Teens (Ages 15-19)

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 16-20
Trenton	122	105	142	150	143	17
Mercer	189	147	176	212	193	2
New Jersey	2,952	2,818	2,805	2,682	2,434	-18

### Birth to Teens (Ages 15-19) as a Percentage of Total Births



### Teen Deaths (Ages 15-19)

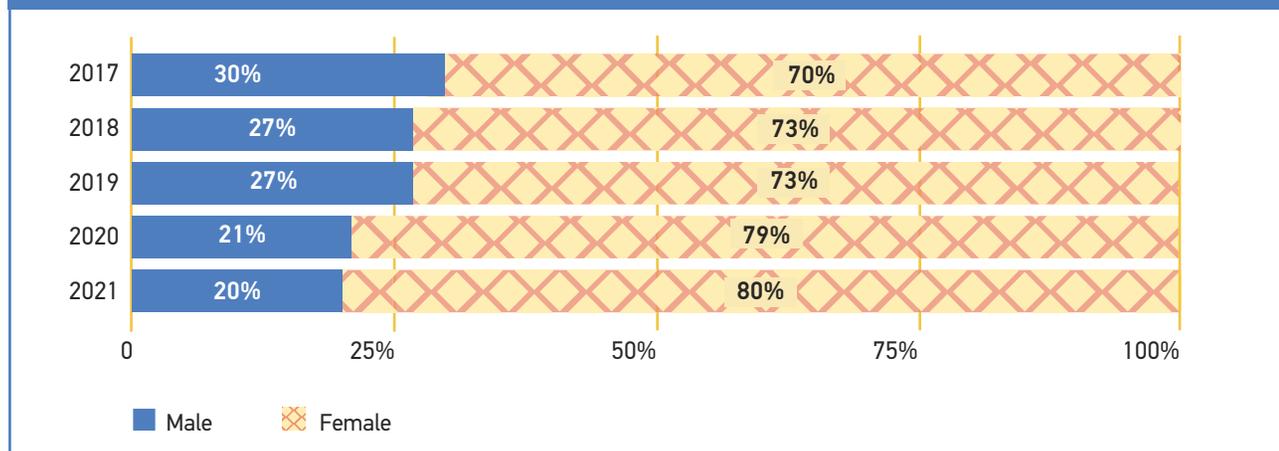
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Trenton	8	3	4	5	9
Mercer	14	9	7	10	16
New Jersey	194	184	153	178	189

### Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually Transmitted Infection, By Gender

	2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		% Change 17-21	
	Male	Female	Male	Female								
Trenton	96	222	94	260	100	265	69	258	60	234	-38	5
Mercer	167	432	162	472	169	461	111	404	107	377	-36	-13
New Jersey	2,803	7,930	2,759	8,202	3,124	8,689	2,473	6,939	2,396	6,734	-15	-15

Note: Does not include youth of unknown gender.

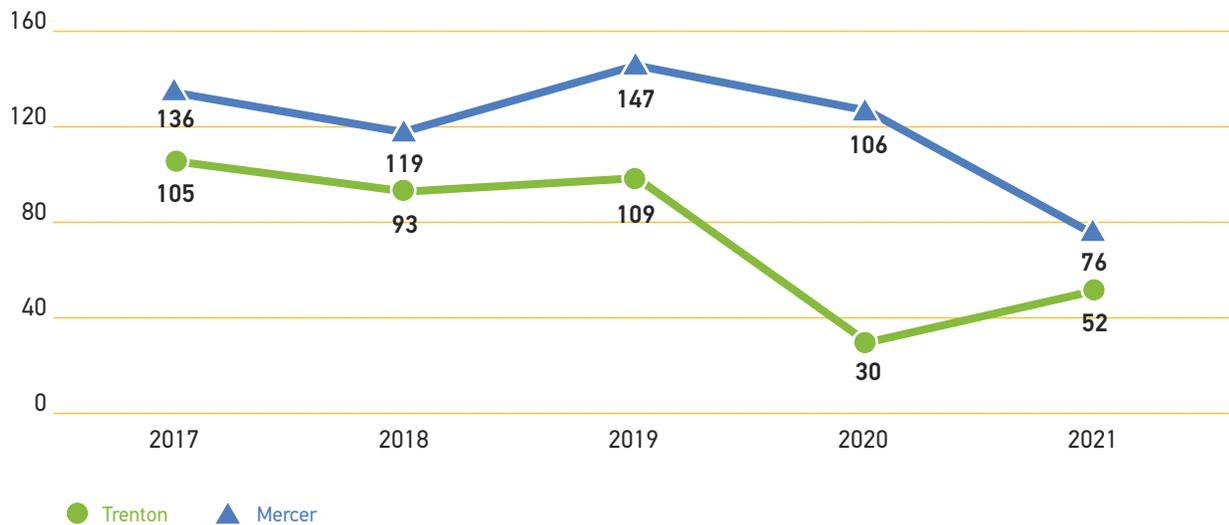
### Trenton Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually Transmitted Infection



## Trenton Annual Admissions to Detention

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change 17-21
<b>Total Admissions:</b>	105	93	109	30	52	-50
<b>By Gender:</b>						
Male	100	84	97	28	45	-55
Female	5	9	12	2	7	40
<b>By Race:</b>						
African American	86	75	89	24	46	-47
Caucasian	1	1	1	0	0	-100
Hispanic	10	12	19	6	6	-40
Other	8	5	0	0	0	-100

## Trenton and Mercer Admissions to Detention



## What is the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative?

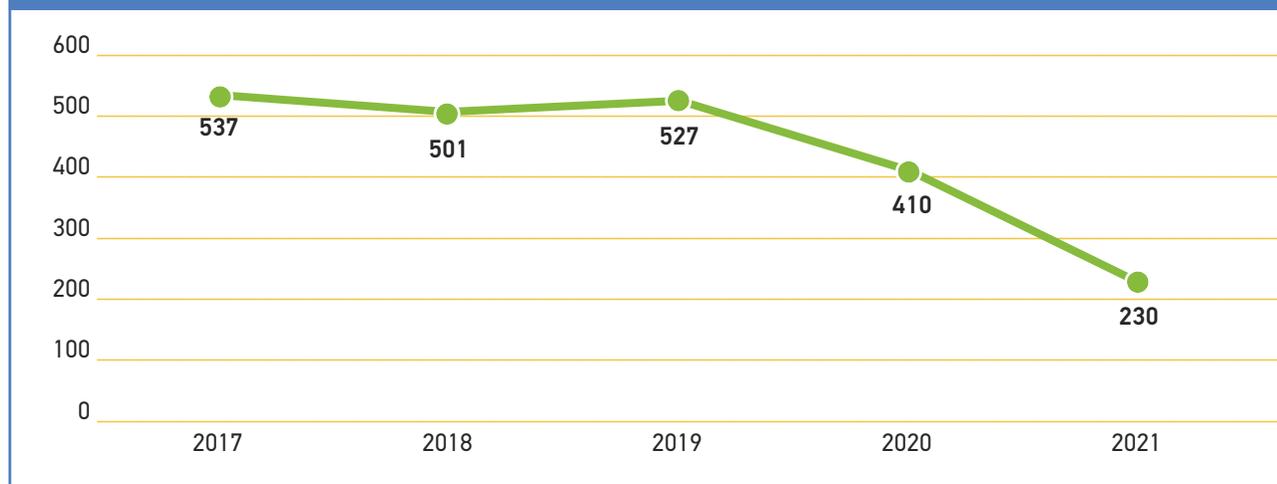
New Jersey's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) was formed in 2004 with the support and leadership of the Annie E. Casey Foundation and is managed by the state's Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC). Since the program's inception, JDAI has resulted in a dramatic decrease in detention populations throughout New Jersey without risk to public safety. JDAI fosters a fundamental shift in the way law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and public defenders handle juvenile crime cases by moving the focus from locking kids up to returning them to their communities and addressing the issues that led to criminal behavior. Detention centers are reserved only for more serious youth offenders. JDAI has helped reduce costs considerably, due to the reduction in the daily population in detention and subsequent closure of many county detention centers. In 2018, the Annie E. Casey Foundation recognized New Jersey as the first state to implement JDAI resulting in a decrease in the average daily detention center population by nearly 70% between 2003 (pre-JDAI) and 2017. Learn more about New Jersey's successes with the program at <https://www.aecf.org/blog/new-jersey-becomes-first-state-to-implement-jdai-statewide/>.

### Juvenile Arrests

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*	% Change 17-21
Trenton	537	501	527	410	230	-57
Mercer	1,240	1,113	1,001	735	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	18,292	14,541	14,716	9,207	N/A	N/A

\*2021 juvenile arrests data not available for Mercer and New Jersey.

#### Trenton Juvenile Arrests



### Pilot Program Assisting Justice-Involved Youth

Mercer County and the City of Trenton will join three other pilot cities around New Jersey to implement a restorative and transformative justice HUB for youth and families. This project, undertaken as a collaborative with the Juvenile Justice Commission (JJC), will use restorative justice practices such as peace circles, community conferencing, and conflict resolution to allow the community to resolve those issues that often devolve into violence. The HUB will provide needed wrap-around services to young people and their families to support and uplift them as they move toward healing. The Mercer County Youth Services Commission has engaged in a year-long community conversation with grass-roots organizations, faith-based and local leaders, youth, families, and both large and small Trenton-based nonprofits to hear their ideas and hopes for this program. The HUB is expected to be operational in the late spring of 2023.

## Trenton Community Street Teams (TCST)

Trenton Community Street Teams (TCST), a collaboration between Building A Better Way for Trenton and Isles Inc., is a community-based violence intervention and prevention initiative designed to eliminate the cycle of violence in Trenton by treating the issue as a public health crisis. Their staff includes mental health professionals, high-risk interventionists, outreach workers, and safe passage providers, staff who ensure students' safety both in and around schools. TCST's relationship-based approach focuses on building support for community members to resolve disputes, supporting individuals and families in healing from trauma, and inspiring others to take responsibility for the well-being of their community.

All staff members are community members who are professionally trained to provide a robust menu of services with the goal of increasing the peace in New Jersey's capital city. Many have been personally

impacted by the violence they seek to eliminate. In addition to direct outreach conducted after a violent act, TCST also offers resources and referrals to the community to promote healing, public safety roundtables to involve members of the public in this important work and develop prevention strategies and responses, and conducts community walks with key decision-makers and community members to address block-by-block issues.

Using a community-based network of individuals, families, and service providers, TCST plans to put the community at the center of violence prevention. While they have an initial focus on the city's North Ward, services are available for the entire city of Trenton. Their 24-hour hotline is (609) 964-4493. Learn more at <https://isles.org/our-approach/revitalize-communities/trenton-community-street-teams>

### Data Sources and Technical Notes:

**Births to Teens, Ages 15-19, 2016-2020.** The number of live births to teenagers as reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Births to Teens (Ages 15-19) as a Percentage of Total Births, 2016-2020.** As reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Birth Certificate Database. Data accessed as of July 7, 2022.

**Teen Deaths, Ages 15-19, 2016-2020.** The number of teenagers who died in that year, as reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Death Certificate Database. Data accessed as of September 23, 2022.

**Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection, by Gender, 2017-2021.** Youth ages 15-19 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea, or syphilis, as reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS). Does not include youth whose gender was unknown or unreported. Data from prior reports are not comparable due to a change in age designation. Data accessed as of September 22, 2022.

**Trenton Youth Ages 15-19 Diagnosed with a Sexually-Transmitted Infection, 2017-2021.** Youth ages 15-19 diagnosed with chlamydia, gonorrhea, or syphilis, as reported by the NJ Department of Health, New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, New Jersey Communicable Disease Reporting and Surveillance System (CDRSS). Does not include youth whose gender was unknown or unreported. Data from prior reports are not comparable due to a change in age designation. Data accessed as of September 22, 2022.

**Trenton Annual Admissions to Detention, 2017-2021.** The number of youth admitted to detention. As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

**Trenton and Mercer County Admissions to Detention, 2017-2021.** As reported by the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission.

**Juvenile Arrests, 2017-2021.** Trenton data as reported by the Trenton Police Department. Mercer and New Jersey data as reported by the NJ Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Report.

**Trenton Juvenile Arrests, 2017-2021.** Trenton data as reported by the Trenton Police Department.

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