

Sussex County Quick Facts: Children, Families, & Child Care

April 2026



Children in Sussex County

4,949	Children Under Age 3
7,325	Children Under Age 5
5,328	Children Age 5 - 8 Years
5,127	Children Age 9 - 11 Years
6,803	Children under age 6 with Working Parents
8,185	School-age children (6-12) with Working Parents

Families in Sussex County

15,502	Families with Children Under Age 18
10,298	Married Couples with Children Under 18
712	Dads Raising Children Under 18
1,438	Moms Raising Children Under 18
749	Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Under 18
34.1%	% of Families working hybrid or remote/NJ 2024

Low Income Working Families in Sussex County

6.2%	% of Children under Age 5 Living in Poverty
7.1%	% of Children Age 5-17 Living in Poverty
5.3%	% of Families with Children Under 5 in Poverty
6.2%	% of Families with Children Under 18 in Poverty
17.4%	% of Families with Children Under 5 Living with a Single Mom in Poverty
3,556	Children Living Below 200% of Poverty
12.5%	% of Children Living Below 200% of Poverty
2,270	Children under 18/Food Insecurity
8%	% of Children under 18/Food Insecurity

Education Related Stats for New Jersey

887	Full-day Preschool/County (2024-2025)
12,003	Enrolled in Head Start (includes 3,592 in Early Head Start) State-wide 2025
2019	2024
NJ NAEP 4th Grade Reading Results	
16%	20%
% of White 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade Level	
42%	51%
% of Hispanic 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade Level	
46%	47%
% of Black 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade Level	
45%	51%
% of Low-Income 4 th Graders Reading Below Grade Level	
83,846	NJ Children Age 6-17 Who Repeated a Grade (2022-2023)
6%	% of Age 6-17 Who Repeated a Grade/NJ

Family Economic Status

55%

NJ families who say it is very difficult or somewhat difficult to pay rent or mortgage

Source: Rutgers University – New Brunswick [Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling](#), July 2025

55%

NJ families who say it is very difficult or somewhat difficult to pay for groceries and other food

Source: Rutgers University – New Brunswick [Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling](#), July 2025

50%

NJ families who say it is very difficult or somewhat difficult to pay utility bills such as electricity or water

Source: Rutgers University – New Brunswick [Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling](#), July 2025

County Early Intervention/Special Education	
278	Part C, Infants & Toddlers with an IFSP
264	Section 619, Ages 3-5 with an IEP

County High School Graduation	
94.05%	High School on Time Graduate Rate (2024)
88.4%	High School Graduate Rate, Economically Disadvantaged (2024)

Child Care Subsidies in Sussex County (2025)

675	Number of Children Receiving Child Care Subsidy (Unduplicated)
388	Number of Families whose Children Received Subsidy (Unduplicated)

Sussex County Child Care Prices (2025)

\$17,322	Center-based Infant Care Annual Fees
\$12,983	Center-based Preschool-age Annual Fees
\$15,173	Family Child Care Home Infant Annual Fees
\$14,722	Family Child Care Home Preschool Annual Fees
\$17,960	NJ Annual Cost of 4-Year Public College Tuition & Related Fees for In-State Residents (2025)
Source: CCR&R child care price data (2025) and U.S. College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges, Public 4-Year Universities for 2025.	

Child Care Subsidy Rates

Child care assistance [rates](#) are tiered based on levels within Grow New Jersey Kids (GNJK). The lowest subsidy rate is paid to providers not participating in GNJK. The subsidy rate increases as GNJK levels rise (e.g., higher rates are paid for 3-star, 4-star, and 5-star care).

As of 4/1/26 Child Age Group	Center Providers				Family Child Care Providers			
	Licensed Child Care Centers Monthly Rate	State Assistance Monthly Rate (4-Star GNJK)	Licensed Child Care Centers Annualized	State Assistance Rate Annualized (4-Star GNJK)	Registered Family Child Care Homes Monthly Rate	State Assistance Monthly Rate (4-Star GNJK)	Registered Family Child Care Homes Annualized	State Assistance Rate Annualized (4-Star GNJK)
Infant	\$1,591.66	\$1,746.19	\$19,100	\$20,954.28	\$1,217.56	\$1,452.54	\$14,611	\$17,430.48
Toddler	\$1,417.54	\$1,500.55	\$17,010	\$18,006.60	\$1,217.56	\$1,374.11	\$14,611	\$16,489.32
Preschooler	\$1,265.66	\$1,357.41	\$15,188	\$16,288.92	\$1,067.23	\$1,321.83	\$12,807	\$15,861.96
School-age	\$1,193.54	\$0.00	\$14,322	\$0.00	\$1,061.95	\$1,061.95	\$12,743	\$12,743.40

Source: New Jersey Department of Human Services, Maximum Child Care Payment Rates, April 2026

Sources:

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 National Center for Education Statistics, 2024 Reading Grades 4 and 8 Assessment Report Cards: Summary Data Tables for National and State Average Scores and NAEP Achievement Level Results. [2024 NAEP 4th Grade Reading Results, NJ](#).
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 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start, [2025 Program Information Report \(PIR\), NJ](#).
 Annie E. Casey, Kids Count Data Center, [New Jersey Profile Children Age 6-17 Who Repeated One or More Years of School](#) (2022-2023).
 Rutgers University [Eagleton Center for Public Interest Polling](#), July 2025
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 NJ Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agency subsidy data, 2025.
 U.S. College Board, Annual Survey of Colleges, Public 4-Year Universities, [Average 2025 Tuition and Fees at Public Four-Year Institutions by State](#)

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