



Data Innovation Project

Maine Data Dive: Early Childhood Sources and Reports

Early Childhood Data

The focus of this brief is data from Maine sources and reports related to Early Childhood. Links and information about data sources and reports are organized around three areas: general demographics, health, and education.

Where does the data come from?

The data featured in this brief comes from a variety of sources, including the US Census, State, Maine agencies, and research reports that focus specifically on Maine children and families.

Why are we featuring these sources?

The variety of sources listed on this page provide links to rigorous research done in Maine, as well as population level data for the state. These sources can provide a deeper picture of young children in Maine and help you and your organization to think about larger trends that may be happening in your community, county, or more generally in the state.

How can I use these sources?

These data sources might help you if you are working on your organization's logic model or exploring how you will measure your organization's impact and long-term outcomes. For example if you are an organization that works with increasing educational opportunities for preschool aged children, you might be interested in knowing more about how many licensed providers there are in your county (using Kids Count), or where high quality preschool programs are located (using Child Care Choices).

GENERAL DEMOGRAPHICS



US Census [American Fact Finder](#)

For data on children aged 5 and under, you can use the census to find basic information such as:

- Age: #/% under 6 years old
- Education: number of children enrolled in nursery school/preschool (including public); 3 and 4 year olds enrolled in school
- Origins and Language: #/% native, foreign born, naturalized, not US citizen
- Poverty: Poverty status of families with children under 5 years old



Kids Count

[Data Center](#) (interactive)

[Maine Kids Count Data Book](#) (2017)

You can use Kids Count data to retrieve statistics and look at visualizations on a wide range of topics: from general demographics to health to family structure. Data comes from sources such as the Census, AFCARS, and some state agencies.

HEALTH

Maine Child Development Services

[Annual report to the legislature](#) (2017)

Maine Office of Child and Family Services

[Child protective services report](#) (2016)

[Maine annual progress and services report](#) (2017)

Maine Families

[Kids Count Data Center](#) # of families served by county

[Home visiting summary report](#) (2014)

Maine Shared Community Health Needs Assessment

[County and state reports](#) (2016)

EDUCATION

Kids Count Data Center

Public preschool enrollment (county); #/% licensed child care providers (county); #/% young children not in school (state);

Children under age 6 (state): in family-based childcare; whose family members read to them less than 3 days per week; whose parents had predictive concerns about their development; who received a developmental screening

Maine DOE Data Warehouse

Data on [4 year old enrollment in public schools](#) (SY2015-16) – go to Data Tables, Enrollment, Public School Enrollment 4YO-Grade 12 by Grade and select year, district, school

Child Care Choices

[Search for child care and preschool locations](#) (current)

Head Start

[Program locator](#) (current)

[Head Start Grantee Profiles](#) (Maine) – can view Services Snapshot for each site (2017)

[Early Head Start in Maine](#) brief (Carsey, 2017)

[Maine Head Start Report](#) (Carsey, 2017)

[State\(s\) of Head Start](#) (NIEER, 2016)

[Maine Head Start and Early Head Start 2014-15 Overview](#) (NIEER)

[Maine Head Start annual report](#) (2014)

[Maine Head Start and Early Head Start needs assessment report](#) (2015)

Kids Count Data Center [Head Start enrollment by age group](#) (state)

OTHER RECENT REPORTS ON EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Educate Maine

[Early childhood education policy brief](#) (2016)

[Indicators report](#) (2017)

Maine Children's Alliance

[Maine social and emotional learning and development](#) project (2017)

Maine Education Policy Research Institute

[Factors Influencing Parents' Decision to Use Public Pre-K Programs in Maine: Results of a Parent Survey](#) (2016)

[Public preschool programs in Maine: Four case studies of quality programs](#) (2015)

National Institute for Early Education Research

[The state of preschool](#) (2017)

[Maine profile](#) (2017)

CONTACT US

For more information about this resource or other helpful data resources, please contact:
Emilie Swenson at emilie.swenson@maine.edu or (207) 228-8295.

The **Data Innovation Project** is located at the University of Southern Maine
Muskie School of Public Service • Wishcamper Center
34 Bedford Street • Portland, Maine 04104
www.datainnovationproject.org

Go to the next page to Explore the Data! 

EXPLORE THE DATA!



Now you try! Answer these questions as a way to get familiar with the different sources and to help you think about what questions you might ask.

- 1. How many 3 to 4 year olds are enrolled in school in Maine?**
(hint: Census)
- 2. Is the percentage of low-income children without health insurance (2014 data) in Maine higher or lower than the national percentage?**
(hint: Kids Count)
- 3. How many children ages birth-5 were referred to Child Development Services (CDS) in 2015?**
(hint: CDS report)
- 4. How many 4 year olds were enrolled in Auburn Public Schools in the 2015-16 school year?**
(hint: Data Warehouse)
- 5. How many Step 4 ranked family or center based child care sites are there in Bangor?**
(hint: Child Care Choices)
- 6. In a 2016 study, what did parents in Maine cite as the most important considerations for choosing a public or private preschool program?**
(hint: Education reports section)
- 7. Has the number of families served by the Maine Families program increased or decreased between 2010 and 2014 in Hancock County?**
(hint: Kids Count)
- 8. What percentage of 24-35 month olds were screened for lead in Knox County (2009-2013)? (Bonus: Was this percentage higher or lower than Maine overall?)**
(hint: Health Needs Assessment)
- 9. In a 2016 report, what was the difference in salary between a Head Start teacher in Maine versus a public elementary school teacher?**
(hint: State of Head Start)
- 10. What are the top 3 counties that have the most children 5 years and younger in Maine (2014)?**
(hint: Kids Count)

