



Parent Voices Give Children Choices

Be In The Know!

New Jersey Child Care Fact Sheet #1

The High Price of Child Care in Morris County, New Jersey

Did you know?

- In 2011, the average annual price of full-time center-based care for an infant 0-12 months in a licensed child care center in **Morris County** was \$16,346; parents of a pre-school age child paid an average of \$12,289 and parents with a school-age child paid an average of \$8,791. In New Jersey, the average annual price of full-time center-based care was \$11,135 for infants; \$9,098 for pre-schoolers; and \$5,636 for school age children.
- In 2011, the average annual price of full-time family child care for an infant 0-12 months in a registered family child care home in **Morris County** was \$9,798; parents with a pre-school age child paid an average of \$9,763; and parents with a school-age child paid an average of \$8,558. In New Jersey, the average annual price of full-time family child care was \$8,573 for infants; \$7,626 for pre-schoolers and \$5,573 for school-age children.
- Families earning the median household income spend between 12.5% and 21.6% of their income on infant care, depending on the county in which they live, with a state average of 16.4%; female head of households spend between 19.9% and 30.2% of their income on infant child care, with a state average of 24.5%. Families with preschoolers spend between 8% and 16.3% of their income on child care, with a state average of 13.4%; female head-of-households spend between 12.9% and 23.9% of their income on child care with a state average of 20.1%.
- The monthly cost of child care for two children exceeds the monthly housing costs for renters in all counties.

What You Can Do To Be In The Know:

- Join Parent Voices New Jersey! Contact Child & Family Resources at 973-398-1730 for information;
- Visit the New Jersey Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies website (www.njaccrra.org) to learn more about Parent Voices, child care, and how you can get involved;
- Become a friend of NJACCRRRA on Facebook and follow us on Twitter;
- Send regular messages via email, regular mail, or by phone to elected officials regarding your concern over the high cost of child care;
- Visit with your representatives to discuss child care issues and concerns;
- Testify before legislative and budget committees;
- Participate in Town Hall meetings;
- Write letters to the editor on issues related to child care to get more people informed and involved; and
- Encourage other parents to join Parent Voices New Jersey!

Parent Voices, a project of NJACCRRRA, is a parent driven initiative that represents the interests and needs of New Jersey families. Parent Voices empowers parents to advocate for access to high quality and affordable child care that supports learning for healthy growth and development, ensures safety, and promotes future independence for families. The New Jersey Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NJACCRRRA) is New Jersey's network of child care resource and referral agencies.