CHILD CARE AVAILABILITY: Capital Region Profile

All families with infants and toddlers should have access to affordable, high-quality, safe, and culturally responsive child care supported by a universal, transparent quality rating and improvement system. That requires increasing the availability of high-quality child care slots and ensuring that the full range of providers have the resources and support they need for stability and success.

THE BIG PICTURE: Infant and toddler child care capacity has decreased from 2009 to 2018. Communities of all income ranges have lost access to infant and toddler care.

In 2017, there were an estimated 17 infant/toddler child care slots per 100 children ages 0-5 in the Capital Region (compared to 15 statewide).

15% ↓

decrease in infant/toddler child care capacity from 2009 to 2018

29% ↓

decrease in infant/toddler child care providers from 2009 to 2018

2% ↑

increase in total capacity from 2009 to 2018

3% ↓

decrease in capacity excluding School-Aged Child Care (SACC) from 2009 to 2018

Infant/toddler child care capacity: From 2009 to 2018*

* Infant/toddler capacity is estimated based on: 1) infant and/or toddler capacity for child care centers, and 2) 6 weeks to 12 years / 2 years to 12 years capacity for family child care providers; as a result of the age range, this data may overestimate the amount of capacity dedicated to infants/toddlers.
Which communities have access to infant/toddler child care?

Reads as: “In 2017, there was capacity for an estimated 19 infant/toddler child care slots per 100 children ages 0-5 in the lowest-income quintile of ZIP codes in the Capital Region.”

Which communities are gaining or losing capacity (from 2011 to 2017)?

Source: Analysis by The Education Trust–New York based on data provided by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. Learn more at RaisingNY.org. For family providers, infants are defined by New York State as children up to 24 months old and toddlers are children 24 to 36 months old; for center-based providers, infants are children up to 18 months old and toddlers are children 18 to 36 months old.