



**CENSUS 2020**

**#CountAllKids**



**KIDS  
COUNT**



*2019 Fact Book*







# CENSUS 2020

## #CountAllKids

### *Fact Book 2019*



We sincerely thank the children and families who have shared their photos, and their lives.

This research was funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the State of Delaware, Highmark Delaware, and the University of Delaware. We thank them for their support but acknowledge that the findings and conclusions presented in this report are those of the author(s) alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of these organizations.



#### **KIDS COUNT in Delaware**

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March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dear Friends,

It's my pleasure to address you in this year's KIDS COUNT in Delaware Fact Book. The statistics and information provided by KIDS COUNT make a serious impact on leaders throughout our state. Policymakers, program providers, and advocates make great use of the facts provided by KIDS COUNT to find ways to better serve Delaware's children. We're thankful for KIDS COUNT in Delaware and its commitment to providing these invaluable resources.

This year, KIDS COUNT is focused on accurate and complete Census data. As we prepare for the 2020 Census, it's important to realize just how impactful this data can be. A complete count helps our government understand the needs of our communities. Important services, funding and representation all depend on a complete Census count. In September of 2018, I signed an Executive Order to create the Complete Count Commission, a group of individuals that will raise awareness and encourage full participation in the 2020 Census.

Thank you to KIDS COUNT in Delaware and the University of Delaware for your great work on this year's Fact Book. I look forward to continuing to work with our communities to support our children in all areas of their development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John C. Carney".

John C. Carney  
Governor, State of Delaware



## *A Message from KIDS COUNT*

Dear Friends,

2019 Fact Book is evolving! KIDS COUNT in Delaware 2019 Fact Book still provides an overview of child well-being in our state and reports on select indicators across the four categories of health, education, economic well-being and family & community in relation to this year's data and policy focus: Census 2020. Historically, however, we have included a much larger number of indicators in the fact book. The good news is that these data will still be available to you! We are pleased to share that **all of the data traditionally reported by KIDS COUNT in Delaware will continue to be accessible in the online KIDS COUNT Data Center:**

**[datacenter.kidscount.org/de](https://datacenter.kidscount.org/de)**

Other aspects of KIDS COUNT in Delaware have not changed. We are still a collaborative effort of over forty organizations, housed within the Center for Community Research & Service at the University of Delaware's Biden School of Public Policy and Administration. Our continued mission is to provide up-to-date, accurate, objective, comprehensive data on the well-being of children, youth and their families in order to raise awareness and inform both policy and programmatic decisions throughout the state.

**Census 2020** was selected as a data and policy focus because of both the timeliness and critical importance of the work. With census day - April 1, 2020 - less than a year away, adequate preparations now are critical for collecting an accurate and complete count. The data quality of the census is important for a number of reasons:

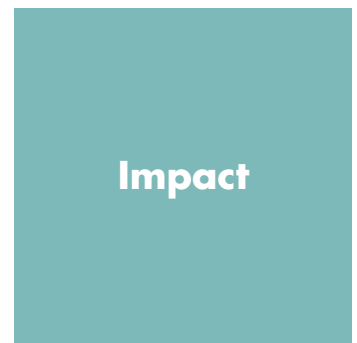
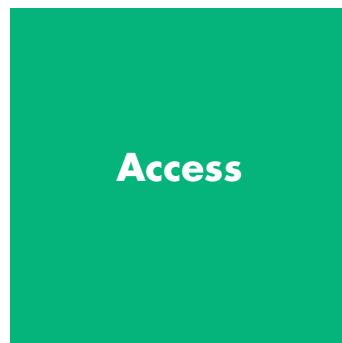
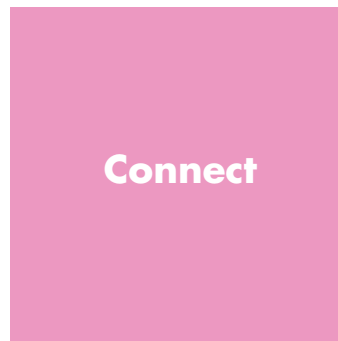
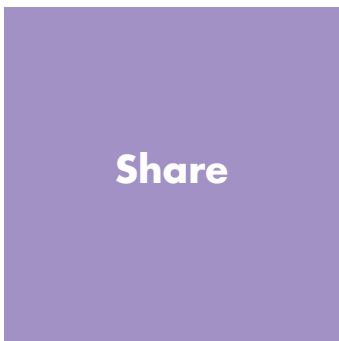
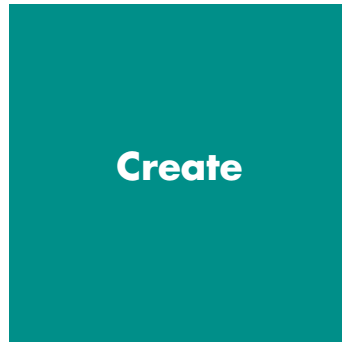
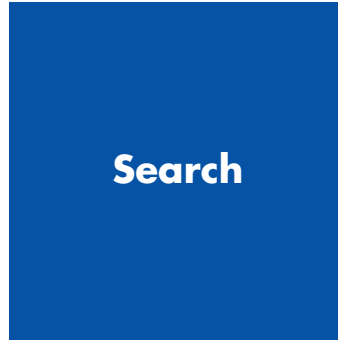
- It has far-reaching implications. While the census asks just a few basic questions, the population count and demographic data those questions collect serve as a benchmark for most of the surveys and statistics used every day for research, decision making and planning across sectors.
- The census data will determine how much federal funding states and localities receive each year **for the next decade**. If kids aren't counted, communities won't get their fair share of federal dollars for Head Start, school lunches, public health insurance, housing, child care and myriad other programs and services that help young children in low-income families get a healthy start in life.
- Census figures also impact representation. Leaving people out of the census makes them invisible to policymakers, further marginalizing people who are already vulnerable.

**Census 2020: #CountAllKids** is the 24th edition of KIDS COUNT in Delaware's signature publication. In the quest to improve outcomes for our state's children, KIDS COUNT in Delaware has used the fact book as a vehicle to highlight critical issues related to healthy child development with special emphasis on the importance of child well-being to our state's future prosperity and the strength of our communities; the variability in child well-being by income, race, ethnicity & geography; and evidence-based policies, programs and practices that work.

We have one chance to get this right. Let's work together to #CountAllKids!



Sincerely,  
Kim Gomes, President, Board  
Mary Joan McDuffie, Chair, Data Committee  
Janice Barlow, Director





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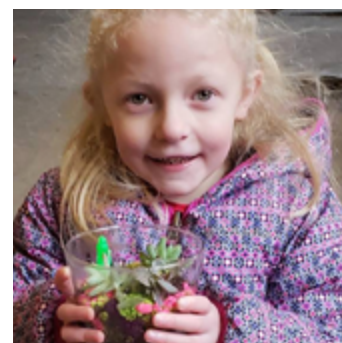
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# KIDS COUNT Data CENTER

*Provides you with the most recent statistics on more than 100 indicators...*

**W**e believe that educating our audiences about timely issues faced by Delaware's kids is a powerful way to engage our partners and create collective impact. While this edition of the KIDS COUNT in Delaware Fact book focuses on indicators relevant to the 2020 Census and how important it is to #CountAllKids, KIDS COUNT in Delaware will continue to provide access to thousands of data points in our online Data Center. All of the indicators historically part of our annual publication can be found in this online resource.

*For data on education, employment and income, poverty, health and youth at risk factors*

The KIDS COUNT Data Center offers a number of advantages over a traditional publication. These include increased searchability, the ability to create and customize charts, map, and graphs, access data from other KIDS COUNT projects from across the country, and receive data updates throughout the year. We invite you to discover ways to customize the data and join us in using this data to make informed program and policy decisions by investing in Delaware's biggest asset, our kids.

## Search

Make the most of the over 500 indicators for Delaware in the KIDS COUNT Data Center by finding the statistics most relevant to our state. Enter any location, topic or keyword into the powerful search engine to find the statistics most relevant to your community.

## Create

Use the KIDS COUNT Data Center's intuitive visual tools to easily create customized profiles, maps, line graphs and bar charts about how Delaware's kids and families are faring.

## Disaggregate

Seamlessly connect to state and national statistics in three areas: race and ethnicity, age and family nativity. Not only can you find tons of disaggregated indicators for Delaware provided by KIDS COUNT in Delaware, but thousands more for others states and the nation.

## Share

Expand your reach through social media. Post data visualizations on Facebook, add custom graphics to Instagram or tweet about how the well-being of Delaware's children compares with the region and nation. Join KIDS COUNT in Delaware in getting the data out there!

## Connect

Not only can you connect to KIDS COUNT in Delaware in the Data Center but also data experts at the Annie E. Casey Foundation and throughout the KIDS COUNT national network. Let KIDS COUNT in Delaware and others help you communicate with institutions, agencies, legislative decision makers and community leaders about putting data into action!

**[datacenter.kidscount.org/DE](https://datacenter.kidscount.org/DE)**





## Access

The KIDS COUNT Data Center works on any screen. Find hundreds of child well-being indicators at your fingertips to support smart decision making and good policies for children and families. KIDS COUNT in Delaware is available to answer any questions about using the Data Center and can even offer demonstrations and tutorials.

## Impact

The KIDS COUNT Data Center is your link to hundreds of child well-being indicators related to education, health, economics and family and community measures. You can now more easily than ever access data through a sophisticated search to create compelling visualizations. Share information across many networks to shed light on how children and families are faring in Delaware and beyond. The power is at your fingertips to encourage policies that support smart decisions about children and families.

## Making Sense of the Numbers:

- ◆ KIDS COUNT in Delaware uploads the most current and reliable data available to the national Data Center.
- ◆ Data that are inadequate or unavailable are denoted by N/A.
- ◆ Accepted names for various racial and ethnic groups are constantly in flux and indicators differ in their terminology. Therefore, KIDS COUNT in Delaware has used the terminology reported by the data collection sources.
- ◆ Most data presented are for calendar years. Where data collected by state or federal authorities is available by school calendar year or fiscal year, the periods are from September to August or July 1 to June 30 respectively.
- ◆ The data are presented primarily in three ways: 1. Annual data 2. Three-year and five-year averages to minimize fluctuations of single-year data and provide more realistic pictures of children's outcomes and 3. Annual, three-year or five-year average data for a decade or longer to illustrate trends and permit long-term comparisons

- ◆ Where possible, data were delineated by counties and the City of Wilmington. Whether a number, rate or percentage, each statistic tells us something different about children. Not only do the numbers represent real individuals but also have the advantage of allowing for comparisons between the United State, Delaware and counties.

Caution should be exercised when attempting to draw conclusions from percentages or rates which are based on small numbers. Delaware and its counties can show very large or very small percentages as a result of only a few events. KIDS COUNT in Delaware encourages you to look at overall trends. The key in the evaluation of statistics is to examine everything in context.

The data challenges stereotypes—pushing us to look beyond the surface for the less obvious reasons for the numbers. Individual indicators, like the rest of life's concerns, do not exist in a vacuum and cannot be reduced to a set of the best and worse. Delaware rankings within the national KIDS COUNT data may fluctuate from year to year. Therefore, it is important to look at trends within the state over a significant period of time.

**[datacenter.kidscount.org/DE](http://datacenter.kidscount.org/DE)**

# Kids Count Overview: Delaware

HEALTH AND HEALTH BEHAVIORS		BASELINE DATA	LATEST DATA	CHANGE SINCE BASELINE
	<b>Low BIRTH WEIGHT BIRTHS</b> AS A PERCENTAGE OF ALL BIRTHS	<b>8.6%</b> 2008-2012	<b>8.8%</b> 2013-2017	=
	<b>INFANT MORTALITY</b> DEATHS OF INFANTS LESS THAN 1 YEAR OLD PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	<b>8.1</b> 2008-2012	<b>7.3</b> 2013-2017	✓
	<b>CHILDREN WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE</b> PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN (0-17) WITHOUT HEALTH INSURANCE	<b>7.5%</b> 2011-2013	<b>6.0%</b> 2016-2018	✓

EDUCATIONAL INVOLVEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT	<b>GRADUATION RATES</b> PERCENTAGE OF JUNE GRADUATES COMPARED TO THE 9TH GRADE CLASS FOUR YEARS PREVIOUS	<b>80.0%</b> 2011-2012	<b>85.8%</b> 2016-2017	✓
	<b>3RD GRADE READING PROFICIENCY</b> PERCENTAGE OF DELAWARE THIRD GRADERS MEETING THE STANDARD IN READING	— Baseline data not available	<b>52.0%</b> 2017-2018	—
	<b>8TH GRADE MATH PROFICIENCY</b> PERCENTAGE OF DELAWARE EIGHTH GRADERS MEETING THE STANDARD IN MATH	— Baseline data not available	<b>27.0%</b> 2017-2018	—



# Kids Count Overview: Delaware

		BASELINE DATA	LATEST DATA	CHANGE SINCE BASELINE
ECONOMIC SECURITY	<b>CHILDREN IN POVERTY</b> PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN (0-17) IN POVERTY	<b>20.6%</b> 2011-2013	<b>14.9%</b> 2016-2018	✓
	<b>MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME</b> MEDIAN INCOME IN THOUSANDS OF US DOLLARS OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 BY FAMILY TYPE	1-PARENT <b>\$25,201</b> 2-PARENT <b>\$82,058</b> 2011-2013	1-PARENT <b>\$36,569</b> 2-PARENT <b>\$103,271</b> 2016-2018	✓
	<b>ECONOMIC INCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE</b> PERCENTAGE OF TEENS (16-19) NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL AND NOT WORKING	<b>6.6%</b> 2011-2013	<b>8.2%</b> 2016-2018	✗

FAMILY & COMMUNITY	<b>TEEN BIRTHS</b> LIVE BIRTHS TO 15-19 YEAR-OLD FEMALES PER 1,000 15-19 YEAR-OLD FEMALES	<b>31.4</b> 2008-2012	<b>20.3</b> 2013-2017	✓
	<b>CHILDREN IN ONE-PARENT FAMILIES</b> PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN (0-17) IN ONE-PARENT FAMILIES	<b>39.1%</b> 2011-2013	<b>39.6%</b> 2016-2018	=
	<b>CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT</b> RATE OF SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT PER 1,000 CHILDREN	<b>11.7</b> 2012	<b>7.2</b> 2017	✓

✓ BETTER ✗ WORSE = NO CHANGE - DATA NOT AVAILABLE

# Delaware Demographics: Counting the Kids

**D**emographically, children make up a smaller proportion of American society now than 100 years ago. In the United States, children accounted for 40% of the population in 1900, but only 24% in 2010. Similar trends are evident in Delaware. While the number of children in America is expected to grow over the next ten years, it is estimated that the ratio of children to adults will actually decrease.<sup>1</sup>

Delaware's future depends on the well-being of our state's child population, which is becoming increasingly diverse each year. Accurate data allows us to track and measure child well-being over time, gives strength to policy and advocacy efforts, and directs the allocation of funding for programs and services which create opportunity where disparity currently exists.

KIDS COUNT in Delaware uses data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey and from the Delaware Population Consortium to provide a picture of the population of the State of Delaware, its counties and its cities. Access to such



robust, informative datasets is possible because of our nation's decennial census.

## What is the census?

The United States is constitutionally mandated to count the entire country's population every ten years. This is called the census. It is the only time we count everyone. The U.S. Census Bureau and other organizations take additional surveys of people throughout the decade, but data gained via those surveys are based on samples, not the full population. Sample size for each community are generally determined based on census population estimates. Simply put, if we get the census wrong, every survey which uses census data as a baseline- for the next decade- is distorted.<sup>2</sup>

In addition to undertaking a decennial census, the U.S. Census Bureau collects detailed socio-economic data from a sample of the population every year through the American Community Survey

(ACS), formerly known as the "long form" portion of the census. Together, the census and the ACS produce some of the best data for understanding characteristics of our population and needs of our residents.<sup>3</sup> High standards related to research, testing & implementation are a must in order to maintain the reliability of this foundational data on American society.<sup>4</sup>

Our next census- Census 2020- will take place in less than a year.

## How is census data used?

The census has been called the cornerstone of our social, political and economic system.<sup>5</sup> Census data informs civic representation, federal, state and local funding choices as well as strategic planning and decision making across nonprofit, public and private sectors.

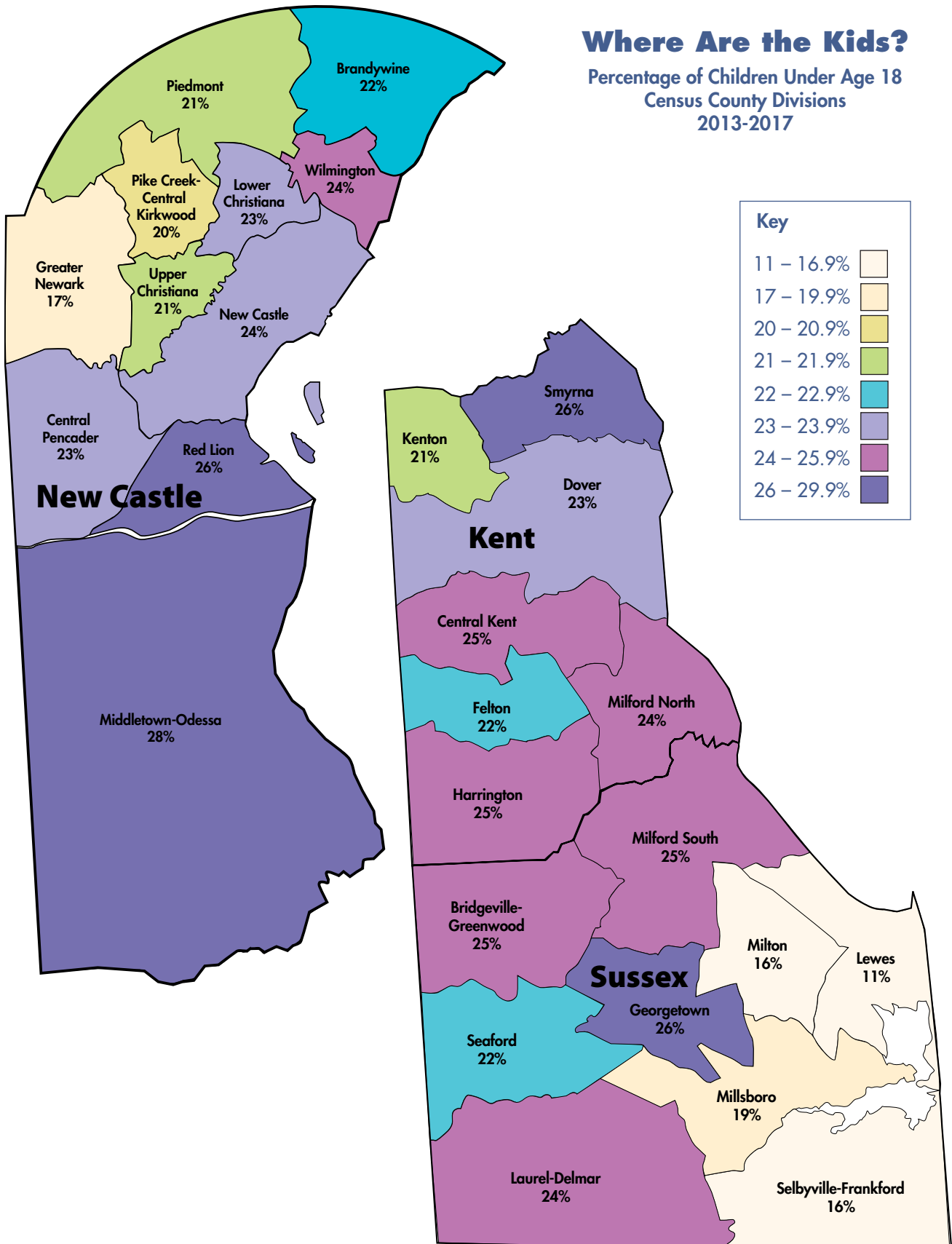
The numbers that come from the census determine how many seats in Congress and votes in the electoral college each state is awarded (reapportionment) and





## Where Are the Kids?

Percentage of Children Under Age 18  
Census County Divisions  
2013-2017



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

# Delaware Demographics: Counting the Kids

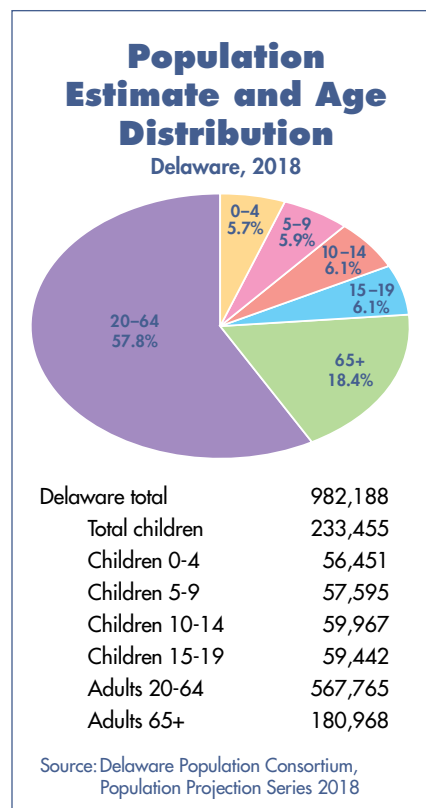
inform changes in boundaries for state and local representation (redistricting).<sup>6</sup> A fully inclusive, balanced and well-executed population count is critical to upholding the civil rights of every person in the United States.<sup>7</sup> Leaving people out of the census makes them invisible to policymakers, possibly marginalizing people who may already be vulnerable.

Census data determine how billions of dollars of federal funding will be allocated to communities throughout the country. Across the U.S., about 300 federal programs geographically allocate over \$800 billion a year based on census-derived statistics.<sup>8</sup> In Delaware, more than \$500 million flows to the state each year from the 10 largest federal programs that serve children.<sup>9</sup> Census data is also instrumental in distribution decisions for state, local and philanthropic dollars.<sup>10</sup> Virtually every American social program uses census numbers to allocate resources.<sup>11</sup>

Accurate information about the demographic composition of communities throughout our nation is necessary to make strategic decisions regarding the services, programs and products that are provided, funded and utilized across sectors.<sup>12</sup> Census data informs businesses, government agencies, community organizations and researchers.<sup>13</sup> Figures resulting from the decennial count fuel medical, economic and social research which seek to find solutions to a variety of national challenges.<sup>14</sup> The data identify community and demographic trends that inform long-term plans, grants, define where services are delivered and inform infrastructure investment decisions.<sup>15</sup>

## Who is most likely to be undercounted?

Ensuring the entire population of the United States is counted accurately is a huge job. In every census, miscounts happen. Families and individuals who experience homelessness or



move from location to location may be missed by the census count. In addition, those who are partial residents of several locations can potentially be counted more than once, which

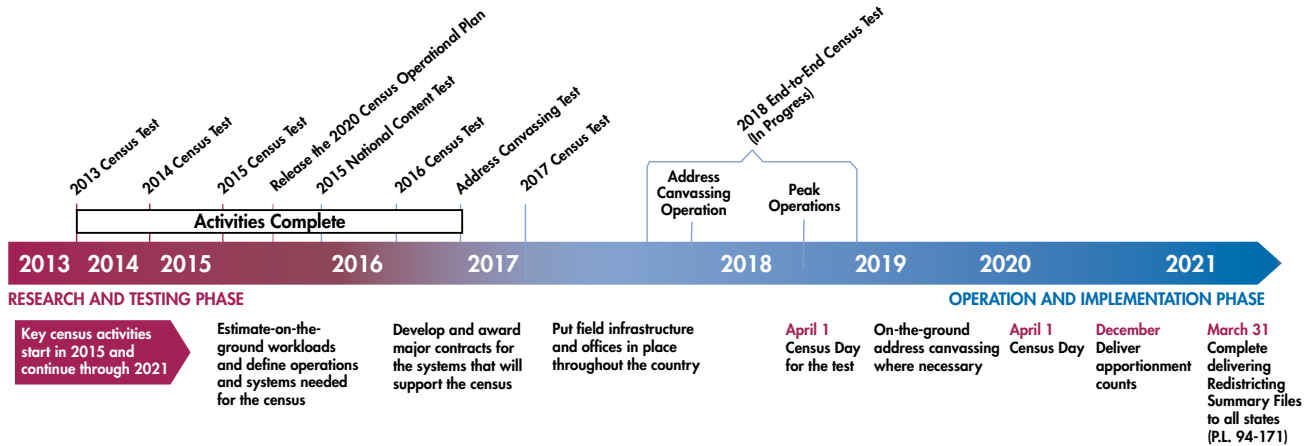
## The Importance of a Complete Count

Trick-or-treating in costume at Halloween is one of my family's valued traditions. Each year, kids and adults alike hurriedly prepare for a night of fun- eating dinner, donning costumes and adding last minute touches to our 'spookified' front yard. One year, when my daughter was young, she happily announced that her BFF and her friend's grandma would be joining us in our festivities. This excited proclamation was made just as I was dishing out dinner. When my surprise guests rang the doorbell a few minutes later, I worried about what I might offer them, having only planned a large enough meal to feed my family of 4. How was I to feed 6 instead? As it turns out, grandma had her doubts about whether the BFFs had shared their Halloween night plans with any of the adults involved in advance and so, had eaten before arrival. All ended well that night. But as this memory demonstrates, even something as straightforward as dinner requires a count and when that count is wrong, resources don't get allocated properly. Now think bigger: imagine the misallocation of resources-funding that isn't allocated-if our next census misses thousands of children in communities throughout our state. ♦



# Road to the 2020 Census

## 2020 Census Operational Timeline



United States  
**Census**  
Bureau

**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)



is why we look at the net count (i.e., total overcount minus total undercount) to understand census accuracy. Net undercounts of specific population subgroups are a recurring challenge.<sup>16</sup> Historically, these undercounted populations, classified as “hard to count” include very young children, young adults of color, people in low-income households and renters, among others.<sup>17</sup>

Research has shown that 1 million of America’s youngest residents were not counted in the last census- the worst net undercount for any age group.<sup>18</sup> This equals an estimated 5% of kids under the age of 5 who weren’t counted in Census 2010.<sup>19</sup> And this isn’t a new phenomenon. Children aged 0 to 4 had a relatively high

net undercount rate as far back as 1880. The high rate at which young children are missed seems to be driven largely by a high net undercount of young children of color.<sup>20</sup> Changing demographics of the nation, mirrored in Delaware, compound undercount concerns. In Delaware, Hispanics are the most rapidly growing population, with this growth led by youth.<sup>21</sup>

Populations most likely to be undercounted- young children, people of color, low-income families- are the same populations that are often a major focus of funders across the country. According to one estimate, areas most affected by census undercounting lose about \$2,913 per year in federal funding for

# Delaware Demographics: Counting the Kids

every undercounted person, which in turn places additional demands on state, local and philanthropic funding available to invest in communities.<sup>22</sup>

## Why does the census miss kids?

While the high net undercount rate for young children is clear, the reasons for such a high undercount rate are not well understood. There is no commonly accepted explanation, but researchers are exploring possibilities because gaining a better understanding of why young children have such a high net undercount will be important to efforts aimed at counting all kids in Census 2020.<sup>23</sup> Preliminary research by the U.S. Census Bureau had suggested the following reasons why young children are missed at a higher rate than other populations, including<sup>24</sup>:

- Child splits time between two homes. The child lives or stays with another family or with another relative such as a grandparent.
- The child lives in a lower income household.
- The child lives in a household with young parents or a young single mom.
- The child is a newborn.
- The child lives in a household that is large, multigenerational or includes extended or multiple families.
- The child lives in a household that rents or recently moved.
- The child lives in a household where they're not supposed to be, for one reason or another.



- The child lives in a non-English or limited-English speaking household.
- The child lives in a household of recent immigrants or foreign-born adults.

Additional research on how best to count every individual is being conducted leading up to Census 2020 by a number of national groups including the Partnership for America's Children, where research will focus on minimizing the expected young child undercount. As results of these studies are released, KIDS COUNT in Delaware will share them with Complete Count Committees and other interested stakeholders throughout our state.

## Challenges Specific to Census 2020

What was once a door-to-door survey of just under 4 million U.S. residents has evolved to a multi-stage, mixed media operation, using mailings, phone calls and

in-person enumeration to count more than 300 million people.<sup>25</sup> But, both budget constraints and operational challenges threaten the success of Census 2020.

While the census is a point-in-time count of America's population, the process to implement a successful census- including research, testing, planning, training and implementation- spans the decade, with a particularly steep ramp-up of activity in the few years directly preceding census day.

Congress has underfunded the Census Bureau leading up to 2020, including the research, testing and planning phases.<sup>26</sup> Specifically, funding issues have caused delay and cancellations of testing in several hard-to-count places.<sup>27</sup> The restricted budget has also impacted implementation decisions. Budget constraints compelled the Census Bureau to turn to automation and the internet to an unprecedented



extent.<sup>28</sup> In fact, Census 2020 will be the first conducted mostly online; phone response will be included as an additional self-response option.<sup>29</sup> Other creative ways the bureau has found to cut costs include opening fewer field offices, paying enumerators less and requiring fewer hours of training. For the next census, staff are working out of half as many offices as they did in 2010, utilizing 6 regional offices instead of 12 and 250 local offices instead of 500 a decade ago. The Bureau will also try to accomplish the 2020 count with scaled back door-to-door outreach. Enumerators will number 300,000 instead of the 516,000 hired for the 2010 count.<sup>30</sup>

A larger dependence on electronic and phone response carries its own challenges. According to the Federal Communications Commission,

while internet access is more available nationally, there are still Americans who do not have high-speed internet at home.<sup>31</sup> A “digital divide” highlights disparities in access by socioeconomic status, geography, age and other characteristics.<sup>32</sup> A lower rate of internet access in communities of color could undermine response rates.<sup>33</sup> Cybersecurity, data privacy and confidentiality are also concerns.<sup>34</sup> The integrity and quality of census data will rely on the bureau’s cybersecurity strategy to an extent not seen before. Therefore, the Census Bureau is taking extra precautions against malware, fraud and hacking.<sup>35</sup>

Demographic complexity that includes growing racial and ethnic diversity as well as increasingly complicated household arrangements- declining marriage rates, increases in racially and

ethnically mixed families and single heads of households- contribute to an increase in the number of individuals at risk of being undercounted.<sup>36</sup> A heightened climate of fear and distrust of government authorities in many communities have also added to operational challenges.<sup>37</sup> The potential addition of an untested citizenship question is- as of this writing- under review by America’s highest court.<sup>38</sup>

It will take focused effort of communities across the state to accomplish our complete count. Each of us can help by completing our own census form, talking about these issues to neighbors and advocacy groups you may be involved in, and sharing concerns with legislators about the importance of the Census as strategies for ensuring its success emerge. By working together, we can #CountAllKids. ♦



# Health and the Census: Delaware Data



A child's health is vital to development from birth and infancy through adulthood. The health of a child impacts other aspects of well-being such as school readiness and attendance and can have lasting consequences on his or her future. Social and economic determinants of health have outsized influence in a child's opportunity to thrive. Therefore, it's important to focus change efforts on strategies that are likely to have impact. The CDC recommends community-wide approaches like quality early childhood education and the earned income tax credit as examples of policy solutions shown to have an influence on community health.<sup>39</sup>

## Health and the Census: Impact of an Undercount

Census data, like the number of children and adults in each household, is crucial information for communities to enroll families in programs that support child health and well-being. For example, census data is used in setting income thresholds for programs like WIC, Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program.<sup>40</sup>

More generally, professionals utilize census data for emergency preparedness, medical research, disaster relief and resiliency planning as well as planning related to public health initiative like vaccinations, disease control and prevention or public health tracking.<sup>41</sup> Census data is used to collect additional information and for planning related to social determinants of health, fertility and disability.

Funding decisions are also made related to data gained from the census. Data helps leaders locate health facilities and designate Health Professional Shortage Areas (shortages of primary care, dental care, or mental health providers), to plan for essential services and to hire medical

professionals.<sup>42</sup> Because funding allocations to community-based services is based on geography and population data collected in a given census count, Delaware has several Community Health Centers that are able to take patients on a sliding fee scale dependent on household income. These centers accept all children, regardless of medical insurance status.<sup>43</sup>

## Low Birth Weight Births

State & Counties by Race/Ethnicity  
2013-2017

### Delaware

All – 8.8%  
Non-Hispanic White – 7.0%  
Non-Hispanic Black – 13.2%  
Hispanic – 7.2%

### New Castle County

All – 9.0%  
Non-Hispanic White – 6.8%  
Non-Hispanic Black – 13.6%  
Hispanic – 7.1%

### Kent County

All – 9.2%  
Non-Hispanic White – 7.6%  
Non-Hispanic Black – 12.6%  
Hispanic – 8.9%

### Sussex County

All – 7.9%  
Non-Hispanic White – 7.0%  
Non-Hispanic Black – 12.0%  
Hispanic – 6.5%

Delaware Average – 8.8%

Low birthweight births as a percentage of all births

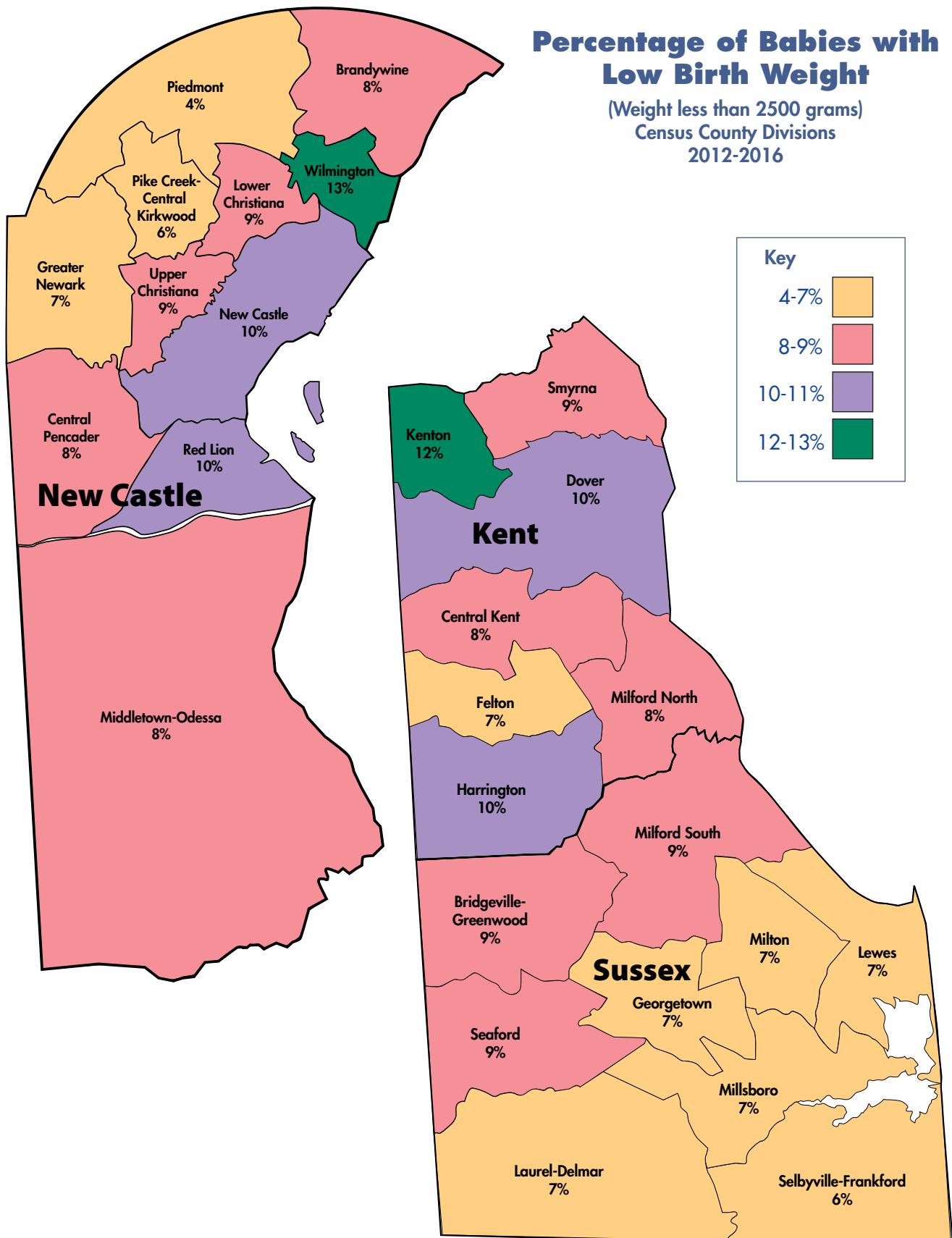
Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center





## Percentage of Babies with Low Birth Weight

(Weight less than 2500 grams)  
Census County Divisions  
2012-2016



Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

## Health and the Census: Delaware Data

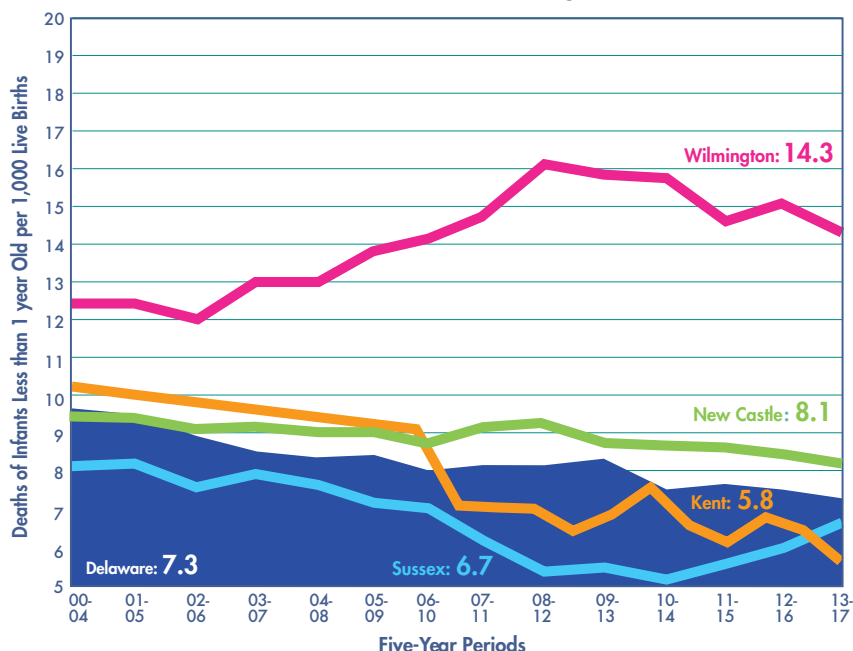
Ensuring kids are born healthy is the first step toward improving their life chances. An infant's weight at birth can be a decisive factor of the newborn's chances for survival, growth and long-term health and well-being. Babies born at a low birth weight (less than 5.5 pounds) have a high probability of experiencing developmental problems and short- and long-term disabilities. They are also at greater risk of dying within the first year of life. A mother's health as well as social determinants like poverty and violence can increase the chances of being born at a low birth weight.<sup>44</sup>



Get more data  
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### Infant Mortality

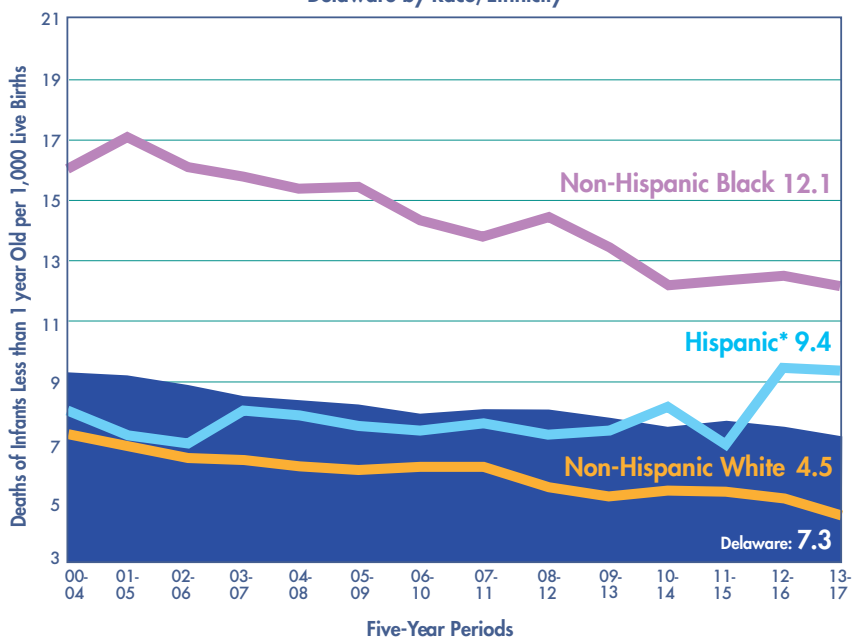
Delaware, Counties and Wilmington



Note: Infant Mortality Rate – number of deaths occurring in the first year of life per 1,000 live births  
 Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

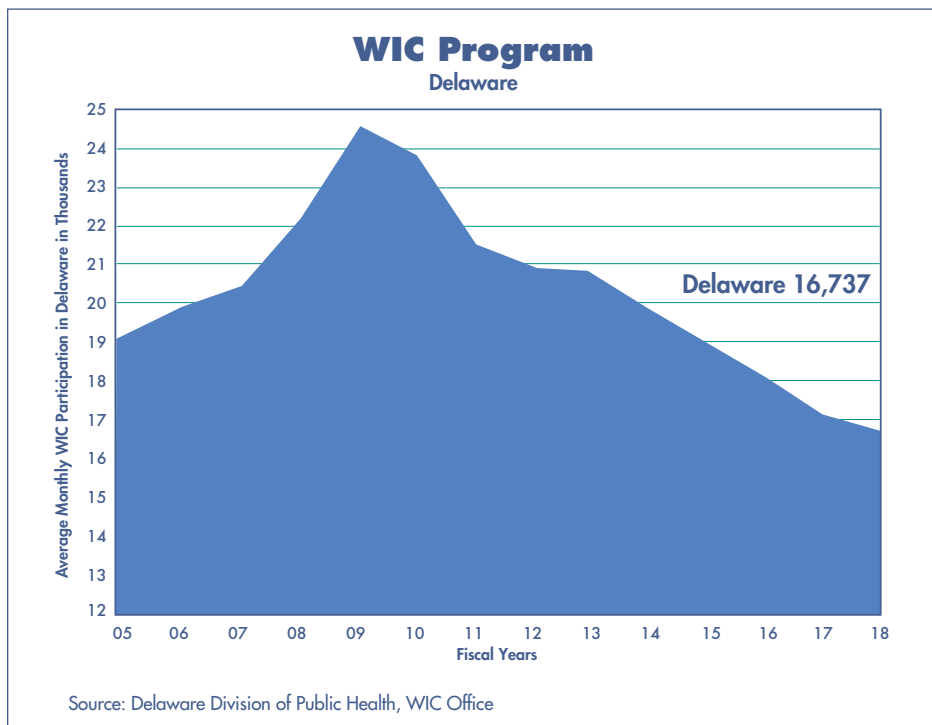
### Infant Mortality

Delaware by Race/Ethnicity



\* Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race. Hispanic rates prior to 1996–2000 do not meet standard of reliability or precision; based on fewer than 20 deaths in the numerator.  
 Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center





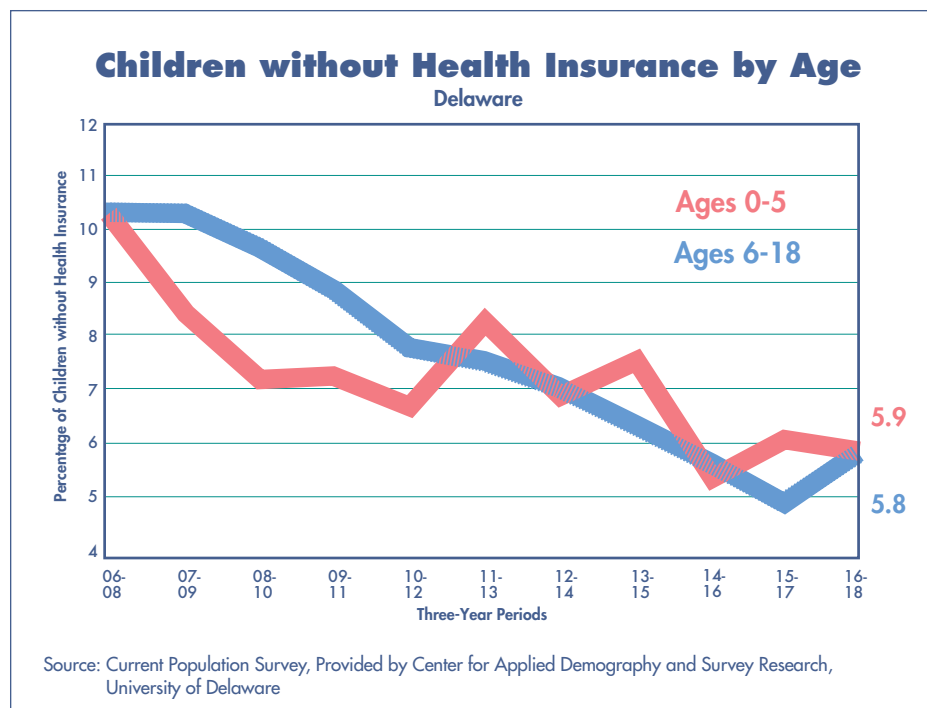
**W**omen and children across the United States face the effects of poor nutrition and hunger on a regular basis. Each month, millions of low-income women and children at risk for inadequate nutrition receive support from the federally-funded Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). This program provides those in need with nutritious foods, nutrition education and referrals to health and other social service providers free of charge. WIC also supports low-income pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, in addition to low-income infants and children under the age of five. The lasting positive impact of WIC can be seen both on present and future generations. The WIC program is correlated with positive outcomes such as lower Medicaid costs, longer gestation periods, higher birth weight and lower rates of infant mortality. WIC has very positive outcomes including fewer infant deaths, fewer premature births, less incidences of low birth weight infants, savings in health care costs within the first 60 days after birth and improved rates of childhood immunizations.<sup>45</sup>

### *Using Data to Build a Healthier Delaware*

I love my commute to work! How many people are able to honestly say that? Thanks to a network of multi-use trails, bike lanes, and “Safe routes to school”, getting myself to work – and my kid to school – can be achieved without a car, making us healthier and safer (driving is the riskiest activity most people do). It’s also made us more connected to our neighborhood and the ones around it, since we can often meet and greet people along the way, strengthening our community ties. Supporting pedestrian and bike routes requires a financial investment that can only be justified if it will serve enough people, and the data to support those decisions comes in part from the Census and the American Community Survey. ♦

## Health and the Census: Delaware Data

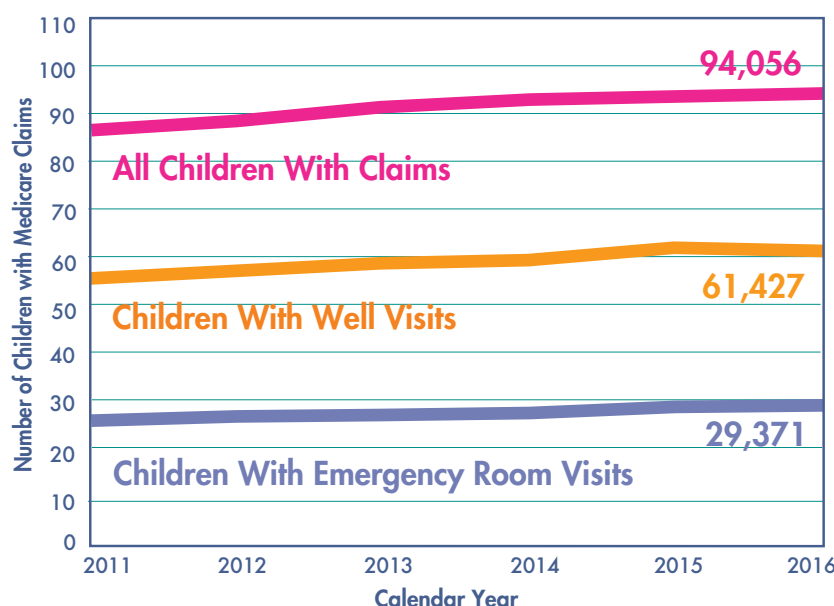
It's a lot smarter to prevent a problem than to wait until it is a crisis. Health insurance plays a crucial role in children's health by making it possible for children to have a regular source of health care they can access for preventive services, to treat acute and chronic conditions or to address injuries when they occur. Children without coverage are less likely than insured children to receive care when they need it. Public health insurance has increased coverage among children during the past decade as fewer employers provide health insurance and most low-wage and part-time workers lack employer-sponsored coverage. Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) play a crucial role in providing coverage for uninsured youth, providing coverage for more than one in three children nationally.<sup>46</sup>



Get more data  
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## Number of Children with Medicaid/CHIP Claims

Delaware children with Medical Claims 2011-2016



NOTE: Includes all children who had a claim within the Calendar Year under full benefit aid categories and who were eligible for five or more months during the year. Numbers include both the Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Source: Center for Community Research & Service, University of Delaware, 2019. Compiled with data provided by the Delaware Division of Medicaid & Medical Assistance through a partnership with of the University's Colleges of Health Sciences and Arts & Sciences

The Children's Health Insurance Program, better known as CHIP, is a program that provides insurance coverage to children from lower- and middle- income families who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid.<sup>47</sup> Like Medicaid, it is a jointly funded program, meaning both states and the federal government provide some portion of resources. In Delaware, our CHIP program goes by the name Delaware Healthy Children Program (DHCP). Children under 19 living in households earning between 135% and 212% of the Federal Poverty Level are eligible for coverage. Premium payments are set based on household income and copayments are not required for coverage. In an effort to expend comprehensive healthcare services to Delaware's children, the DHCP includes a wide range of competitive health services, including eye exams and dental care. ♦

## Using Data to Make Systemic Decisions

The U.S. Census Bureau collects real life examples of how their data is used. For example, emergency management officials in one state were tasked with evaluating how vulnerable their areas were to major weather events. They initially focused on residents of their areas and used ACS data to better understand these populations. They then expanded their research to include businesses, especially in industries that they found critical (hospitals and other health care providers, building material dealers, etc.). Using Census business data they were able to identify the workforce size and jobs concentration for those key businesses that might be impacted during a major weather event. ♦



# Education and the Census: Delaware Data

**B**ecause today's students will enter a world that is increasingly interconnected and complex, we need to be sure that future leaders have the skills required to tackle the problems of tomorrow. Future success is directly related to a person's ability to think, learn and communicate. And education plays a primary role in equipping young people with the necessary skills, knowledge, and experiences for achievement.

Children growing up in households with highly educated adults are better positioned for future success. These parents are better able to provide the financial stability and security they need to foster their children's development. Higher levels of parental education are also strongly associated with better outcomes for children, including their own higher educational attainment and achievement.<sup>48</sup> Kids who grow up with parents who have not graduated from high school not only have fewer socioeconomic advantages but also are more likely to be born with low birth weight, have health problems, enter school not ready to learn, and have limited educational and employment opportunities as adults.<sup>49</sup> High school diplomas no longer guarantee success in the workplace. As jobs require more skills and education, it is encouraging to see that parental education at all levels has steadily increased over the past several decades.



## Education and the Census: Impact of an Undercount

Leaders look to census data as integral information required for decision-making that impacts students' educational opportunities, from early childhood to K-12 systems. States and local school districts use census data to make a number of long-term decisions including where to locate new schools,<sup>50</sup> and counting the number of children who live in a neighborhood to guide districts in planning how many teachers to hire,<sup>51</sup> as well as the design of educational curricula.<sup>52</sup>

Information gained from a complete census count informs multiple surveys that collect data used in measuring and planning the educational needs of students. This data is related to such topics as school district characteristics, immigrant students and bilingual programming, high school graduation and dropout rates,

higher education performance and labor force trends.<sup>53</sup>

Census data also supports the enforcement of civil rights.

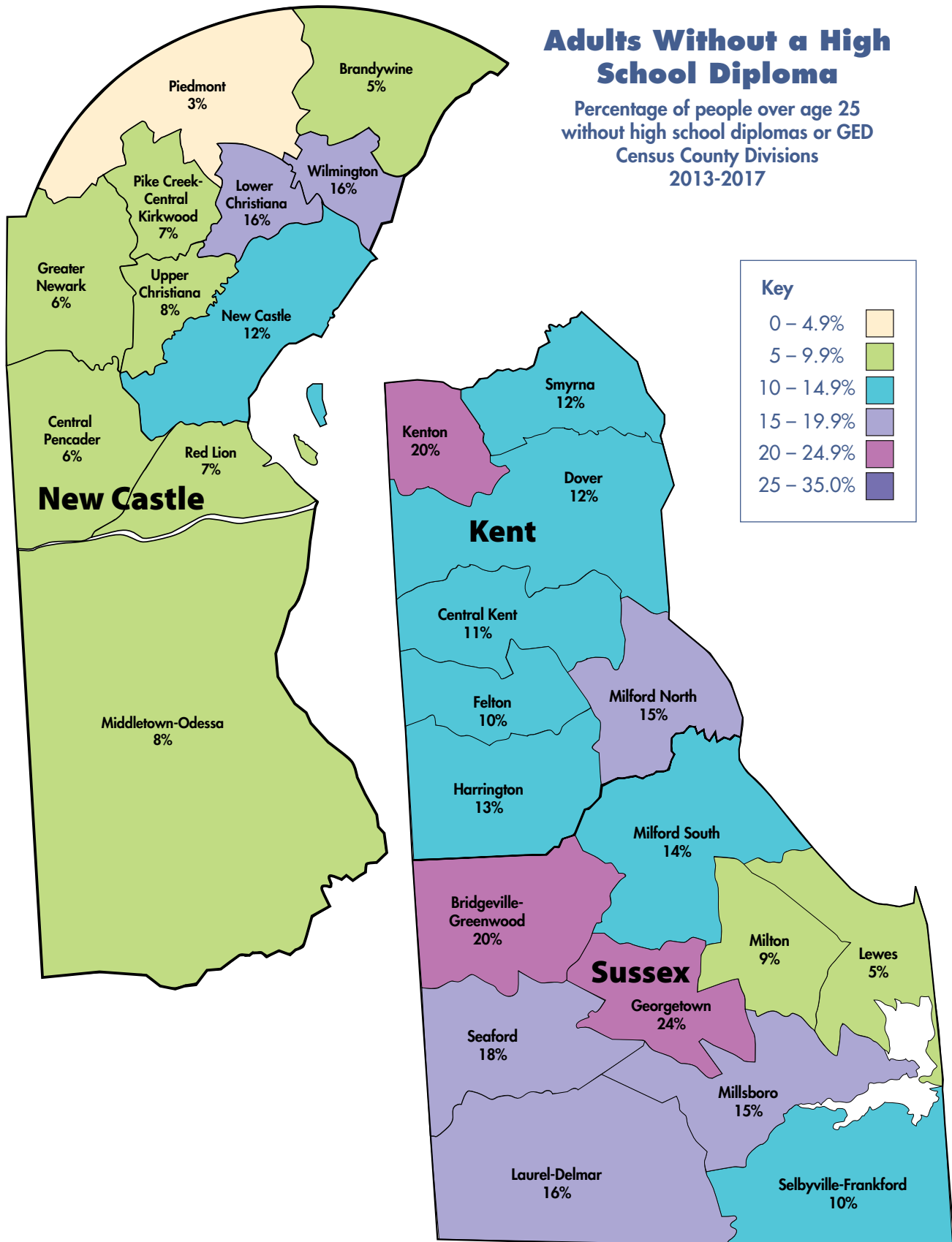
In the case of schools, anti-discrimination laws related to education utilize data such as race, ethnicity and English language ability to determine compliance.

Several education-related federal funding decisions are based on census data. For example, Head Start is a program that provides comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families, with a special focus on helping preschoolers develop the early reading and math skills they need to be successful in their future academic careers. The range of services offered are designed to be responsive to the developmental, ethnic, cultural and linguistic experience for children and their families. Head Start and partnering organizations promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services. Head Start focuses on the child's overall development and a hallmark of this program is its emphasis on engaging parents in the many activities that support their child's development.

Other federal funding related to census data include Title I grants to Local Education Agencies (LEAs), career and technical education grant programs, adult education and literacy and special education grants (IDEA) programs.<sup>54</sup>

## Adults Without a High School Diploma

Percentage of people over age 25  
without high school diplomas or GED  
Census County Divisions  
2013-2017



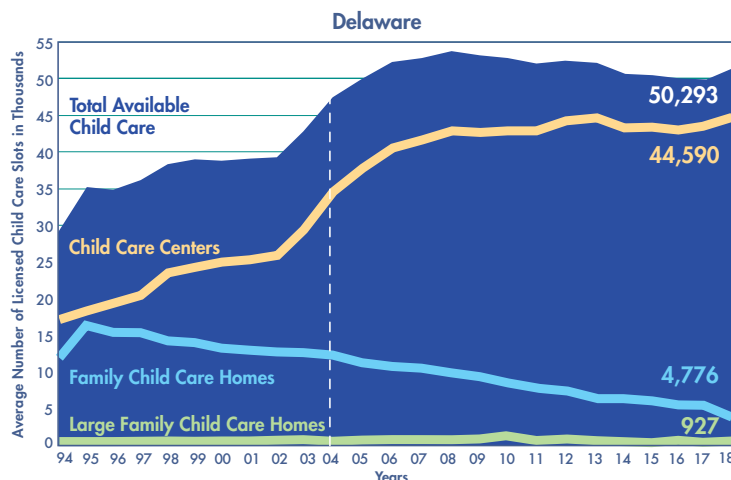
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

# Education and the Census: Delaware Data

The first five years of a child's life are an important time for growth and development and are the foundations for language, academic ability, habits and socio-emotional development. Research shows that access to high quality early care and education programs help young children grow up ready to succeed in school and life.<sup>55</sup> However, there are large gaps in the quality of early care and childhood programs and not all children receive the maximum benefits from their program. When we invest and replicate high quality programs for children and youth, we can solve these gaps in early childhood development and show significant long-term improvements for children.

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is a well-known federal program that allocates funding to bolster student achievement via nutritional support. A healthy diet is essential to the daily function for all people, especially the academic achievement of young people.<sup>56</sup> When children are hungry, they cannot learn or grow to their highest potential. For this reason, nutritious meals are now considered an integral part of a good education. The NSLP is a federally assisted meal program that operates in public and nonprofit private schools and residential child care institutions to provide nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day. In the 2014-15 school year, a new lunch option was made available to Delaware schools participating in the NSLP and the School Breakfast Programs called the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). The CEP was enacted as part of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 and provides universal meal service to students in school districts with at least 40% of students who are directly certified for free meals from July 1-April 1. Programs like this- that support child development by ensuring that all children are well nourished- are a critical component in raising healthy, strong and smart children.

## Available Child Care



Notes: Data for 2003 and after reflects the addition of child care centers providing part time care

**Available Child Care Capacity** – the maximum possible slots within a licensed center which follows state guidelines for minimum staff/child ratios and maximum group sizes for each age group. Capacity does not necessarily reflect actual enrollment.

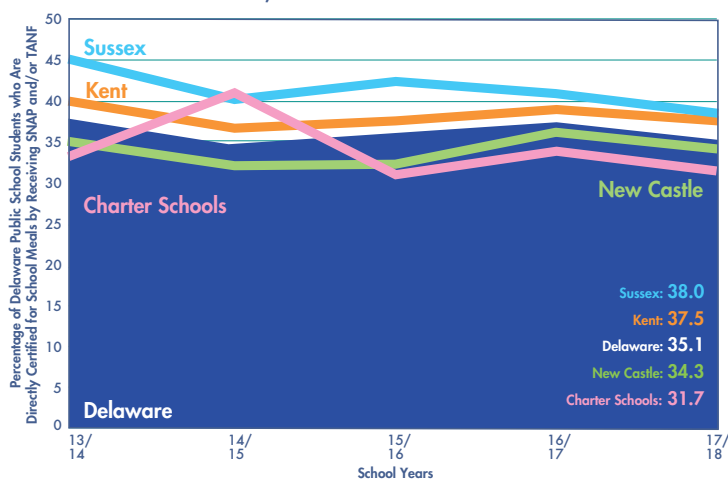
**Family Child Care Homes** – 1 person caring for no more than 6 children.

**Large Family Child Care Homes** – 2 people caring for 7-12 children.

Source: Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families

## Direct Certification for School Meals

Delaware, Counties and Charter Schools\*



Note: **Direct Certification** – Students who receive benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and/or Delaware's Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) automatically qualify for free meals with no further documentation necessary. Other students can qualify based on completion of the meal eligibility form. In CEP schools, the basis for reimbursement is Direct Certification x 1.6, but all students receive free meals.

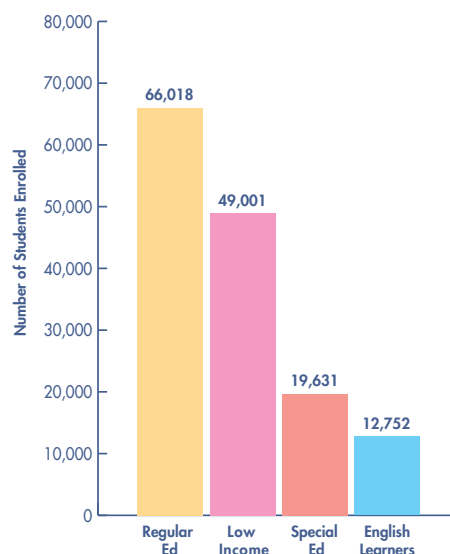
Source: Delaware Department of Education





## School Enrollment

Delaware, 2017-2018



Source: Delaware Department of Education

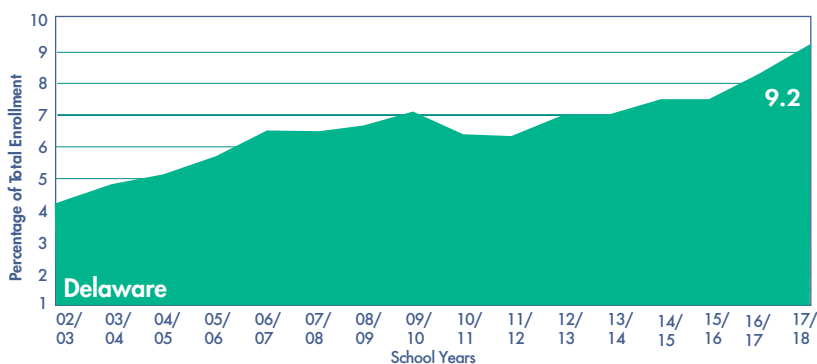
Decades of policy choices and individual behaviors have led to the concentration of children of color and low-income families in certain schools and districts. Research shows that, in general, students in high-poverty schools have less access to effective teachers than students in low-poverty schools, affecting their opportunities to learn.<sup>57</sup> The school funding structure in Delaware, based largely on property wealth, has created a system in which schools across the state have vastly different educational resources. In turn, these opportunity gaps enlarge disparities in measures of educational success. High poverty schools also serve more students who are more likely to face out-of-school challenges which research shows is connected to academic readiness, test performance and educational achievement.<sup>58</sup> These challenges can include housing instability, hunger, and lack of access to health care.

There are more than 19,000 special education students enrolled in Delaware public schools, with nearly half (48%) having a learning disability. Delaware published the Special Education Strategic Plan in April 2017, created through collaborative consensus by a broad group of dedicated stakeholders to make sure all parties had a voice. The purpose was to review current policies, make necessary changes and recommendations and ensure that appropriate supports are in place to serve all students.

As Delaware's child population becomes more diverse, leaders must strive to ensure educational opportunity exists for all students, including our growing population of non-English speakers. An English learner is defined as an individual who wasn't born in the U.S. or whose native language is a language other than English; or is a Native American or Alaskan Native and comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on such individual's level of English proficiency; or an individual who has sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing or understanding the English language and whose difficulties may deny such individual the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English.

## English Learners

Percent of Delaware Students who are English Learners



Notes: **English Learner** – an individual who was not born in the U.S. or whose native language is a language other than English; or is a Native American or Alaskan Native and comes from an environment where a language other than English has had a significant impact on such individual's level of English language proficiency; or an individual who has sufficient difficulty speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language and whose difficulties may deny such individual the opportunity to learn successfully in classrooms where the language of instruction is English.

Number served is the count of students enrolled on April 1. The total of children served per year is higher.

Source: Delaware Department of Education

## Education and the Census: Delaware Data

**R**eading proficiency by the end of third grade is a critical marker in a child's educational development.<sup>59</sup> By fourth grade, children use reading to learn other subjects. Therefore, mastery of reading becomes important for students to keep up academically. Children who reach fourth grade without being able to read proficiently are more likely to struggle academically and eventually drop out of school. Low reading proficiency also reduces earning potential and chances for career success as adults.<sup>60</sup>



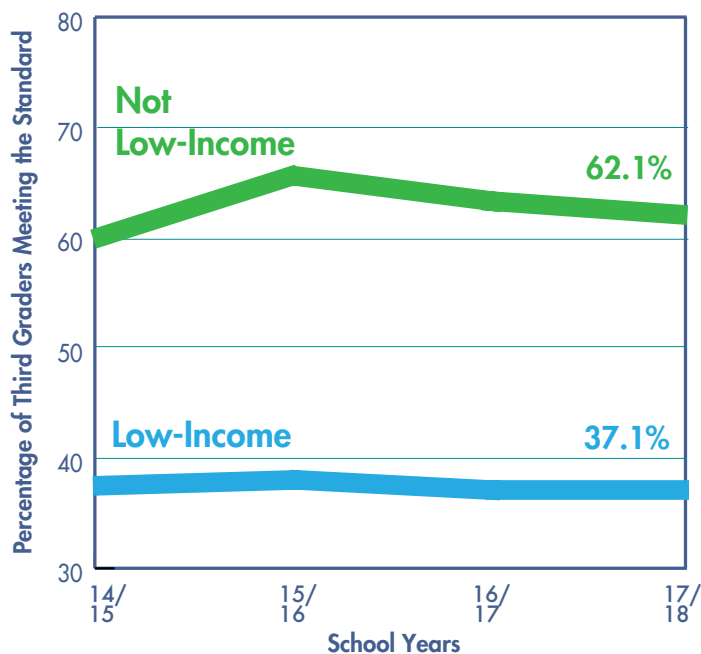
**A**s technology continues to transform the economy, the demand grows for a workforce with math and science skills and training. Students with such skills are more likely to graduate from high school, attend and complete college, earn higher incomes and take advantage of the future opportunities available to them.<sup>61</sup> Even for young people who do not attend college, basic math skills and numerical literacy help with everyday tasks and improve employability. Ensuring kids have early access to high-quality math education is critical for their success in school and life.



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### Reading Proficiency by Family Income

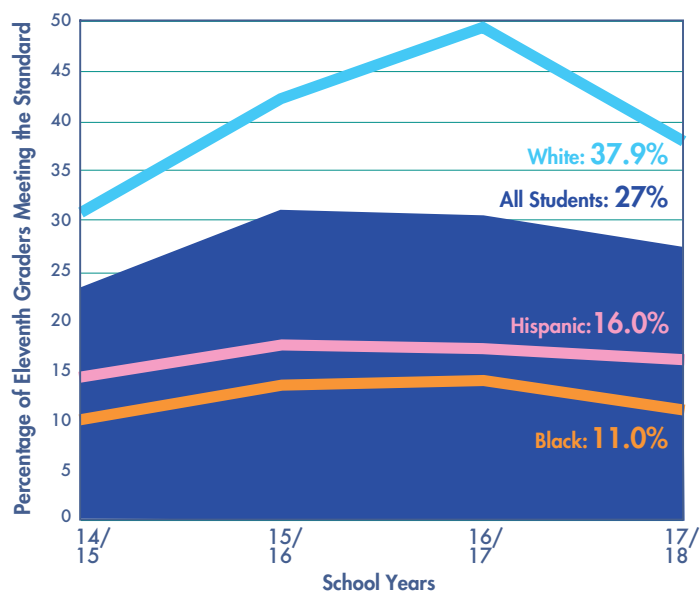
Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA)



Source: Delaware Department of Education

### Grade 11 Math Proficiency by Race

Delaware System of Student Assessments (DeSSA) Results



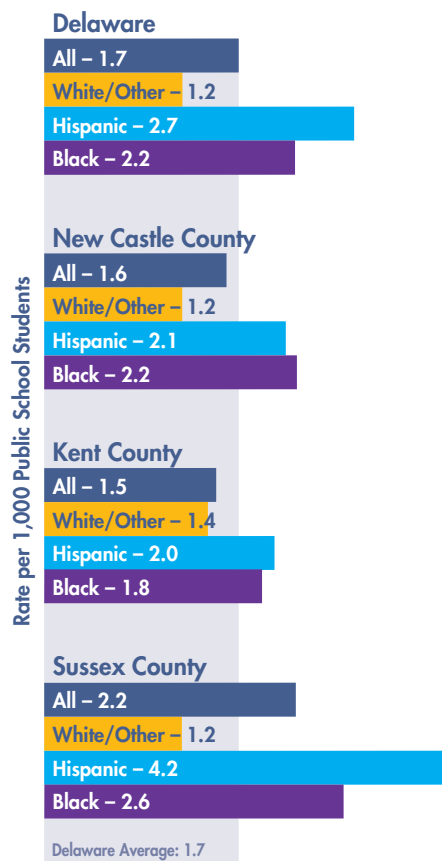
Source: Delaware Department of Education



## Dropout Rates

Race/Ethnicity

School Year 2016/17



Source: Delaware Department of Education

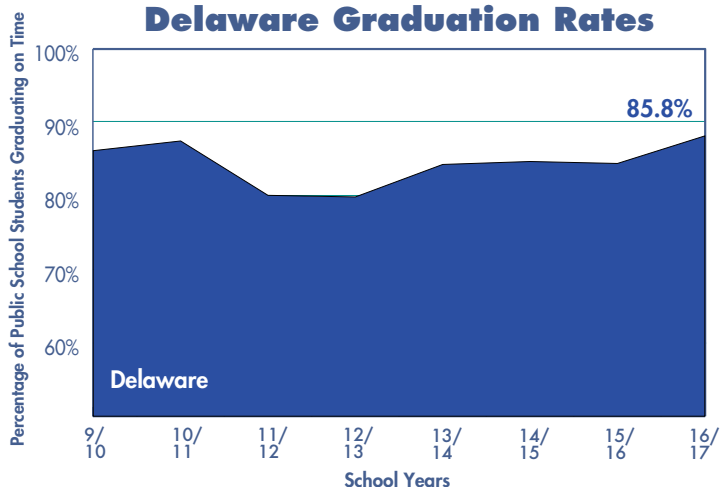


Teens who are not in school and not working (sometimes referred to as “disconnected” youth) are at high risk of experiencing negative outcomes as they transition to adulthood. These young people include youth who drop out of high school, who are involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system, who become parents at a young age or who age out of foster care, among others.

Limited skills and work history, combined with few financial resources to invest in developing the necessary skills, restrict access to good jobs, as well as future higher wages.<sup>62</sup> While students who have dropped out of school clearly face obstacles, many young people who have finished school but are not working are also at a disadvantage in terms of achieving financial stability in adulthood.

While no guarantee to success, a high school diploma does open doors that lead to long-term career opportunities that those without the diploma may not have available. Students who graduate from high school on time have many more choices in young adulthood. They are more likely to pursue postsecondary education and training, make healthier decisions and engage in less risky behaviors. They are also more employable and have higher incomes than students who fail to graduate.<sup>63</sup> ♦

## Delaware Graduation Rates



Source: Delaware Department of Education

Note: Delaware uses the four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate, which measures the number and percentage of cohort members who earned a regular high school diploma within four years or less.



# Economic Security and the Census: Delaware Data

Delaware should be a state where every child lives in a financially secure home. However, historic and current policies, laws and practices have created and maintained deep divides in opportunities available to a child. To help children grow into prepared, productive adults, parents need well-paying jobs, affordable housing and the ability to invest in their children's future. When parents are unemployed or earn low wages, their ability to support their kids' development is more limited, potentially undermining their children's prospects for success in school and beyond.<sup>64</sup> The negative effects of poverty on kids can extend into their teenage years and young adulthood, as they are more likely to contend with issues such as teen pregnancy or failing to graduate from high school.<sup>65</sup>

## Economic Well-Being and the Census: Impact of an Undercount

Policy makers, researchers, policy analysts and others use census data to understand how people are faring economically<sup>66</sup> and when planning how to allocate resources in a way that target financial assistance where needed.<sup>67</sup> Details about a family's income give a snapshot of the American economy and how many people live in poverty. It determines how to distribute aid to help families pay for food, health care, job training and rent. Statistics about a person's employment status and occupation are used to identify neighborhoods where people are having trouble finding work and helps in planning workforce development, training and business opportunities.<sup>68</sup>



Both public and private sectors depend on census data related to housing, manufacturing and business. Vacancy rates and homeownership data are used by public sector when planning. Consumers, businesses and the real estate industry rely on up-to-date info on prices and housing type.<sup>69</sup> Additionally, data about a person's gender, race and ethnicity helps researchers identify barriers faced in the workplace, in their education and in homeownership rates. According to the Census Bureau, the National Science Foundation uses gender data to track the percentage of women working in science and engineering. Several government agencies use the data to investigate whether women have similar job opportunities as men, including those in military service.<sup>70</sup>

The federal government uses census information to allocate resources geographically where they're most needed. Community development block grants, the

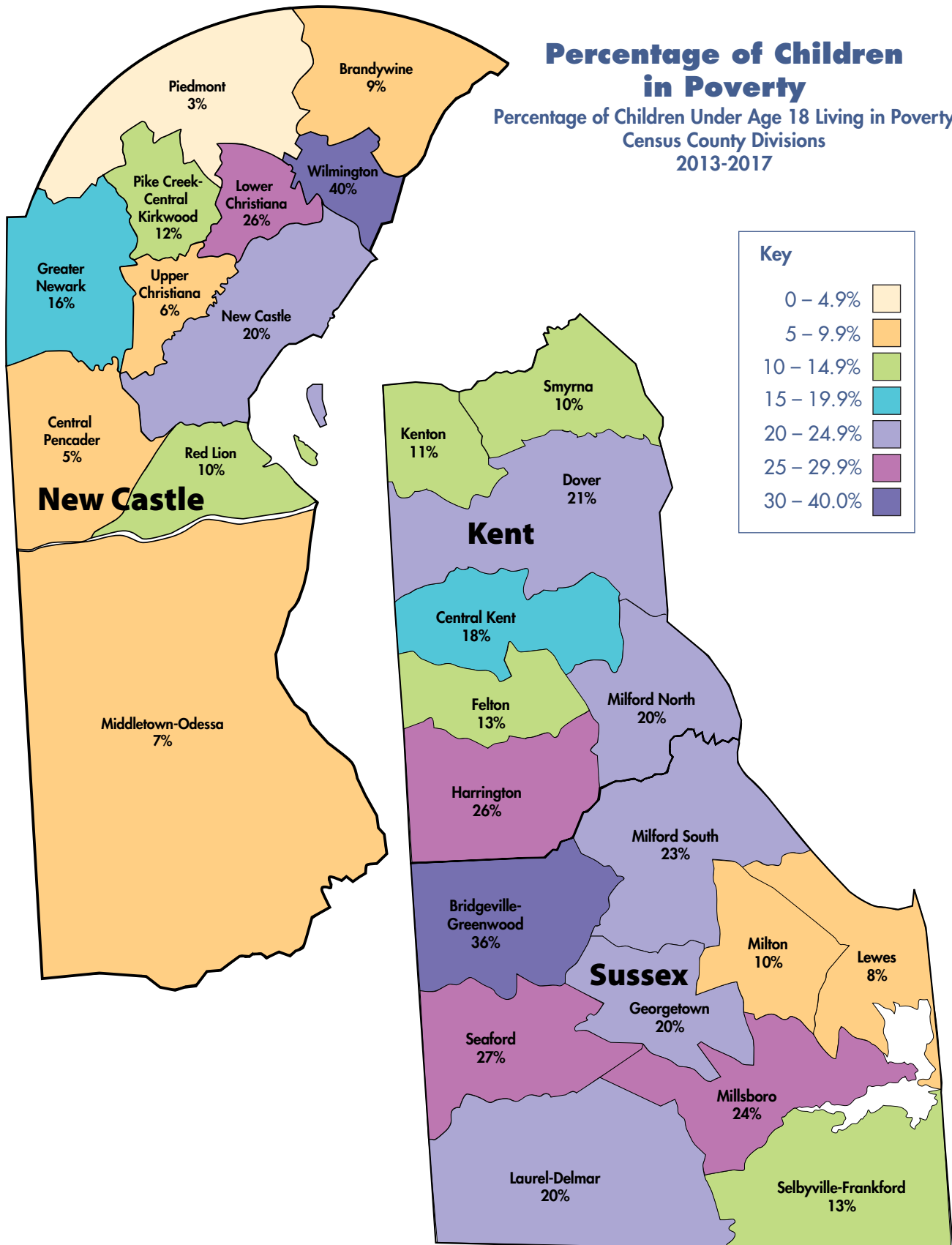
business and industry guaranteed loan program, small business development center program and the new market tax credit are examples of manufacturing investments allocated based on census data which bolster the economy of a local community.

Programs that help strengthen the income of low- and middle-income working families are often referred to as safety net programs, meaning they help prevent those families from falling farther into poverty. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides food benefits and nutrition assistance to eligible low-income families, enabling children to receive the nutrition they need to flourish. Low income renters benefit from Section 8 and the low-income housing tax credit. Funding for other HUD programs, like the housing trust fund and home energy assistance (LIHEAP) is also impacted by census count.

Housing is typically one of the largest family expenses. Rising housing costs and stagnant or falling wages have increased the burden that housing places on family finances.<sup>71</sup> This burden weighs more heavily on low-income families, who are more likely to struggle with finding affordable housing, spending more than 30% of pretax income on a home, whether they rent or own. Paying too much for housing limits the resources families have for other necessities such as child care, food health care and transportation, as well as their ability to save and achieve financial stability.<sup>72</sup>

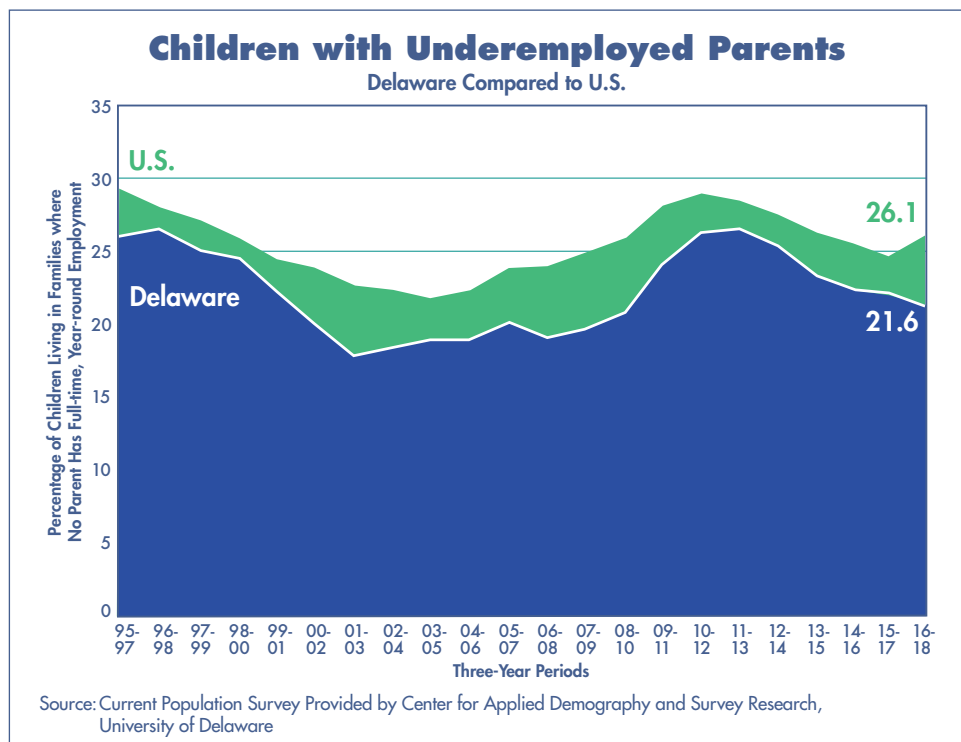
## Percentage of Children in Poverty

Percentage of Children Under Age 18 Living in Poverty  
Census County Divisions  
2013-2017



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

# Economic Security and the Census: Delaware Data



Secure employment is a key contributor to the financial stability and well-being of families, but since 2010, many middle- and low-income families have experienced high rates of job instability.<sup>73</sup> Employment insecurity and the accompanying income loss can disrupt daily living and relationships possibly limiting families' ability to invest in their children's development, potentially diminishing children's achievement in school and chances of future success.<sup>74</sup> Parents may also lack the education and skills needed to gain employment that provides a family-supporting wage and are forced to piece together part-time or temporary work that does not provide sufficient or stable income. Even full-time job at a low wage does not necessarily lift a family out of poverty.



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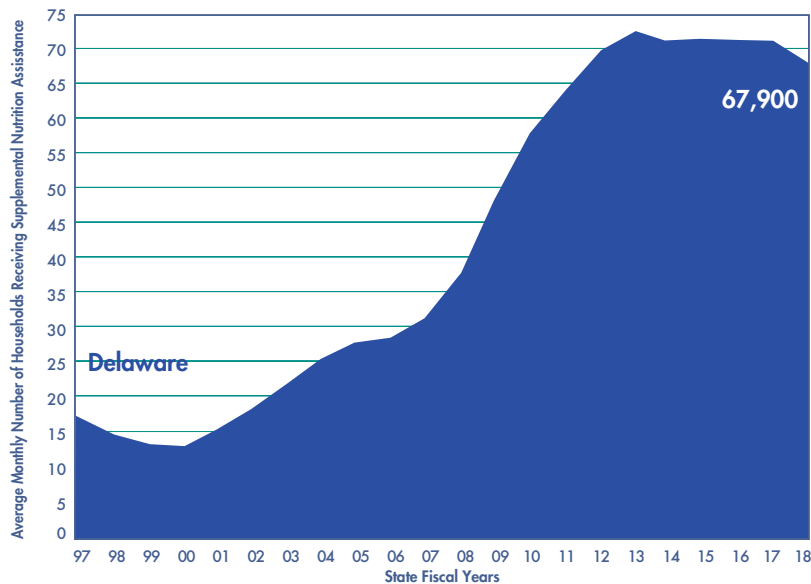


## Using Data to Build Community Infrastructure

The U.S. Census Bureau collects real life examples of how their data is used. For example, a grant writer prepared a request for funding to address “food deserts” (areas with no access to high-quality food) in her county. She has anecdotal evidence of this issue in her area, but needed clear and reliable government data to help her make the case in her grant request. Using Census Bureau economic data, she identified zip codes in her area that had no grocery stores. She then used data from the ACS to refine these identified areas to those with low median household income, high disability status, high population over 65 and limited access to transportation. She included the identified areas- along with the demographic and business data for them- in her grant proposal and was awarded the grant to help fund entrepreneurs to open grocery stores in these areas. ♦

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Delaware



Source: Delaware Health and Social Services



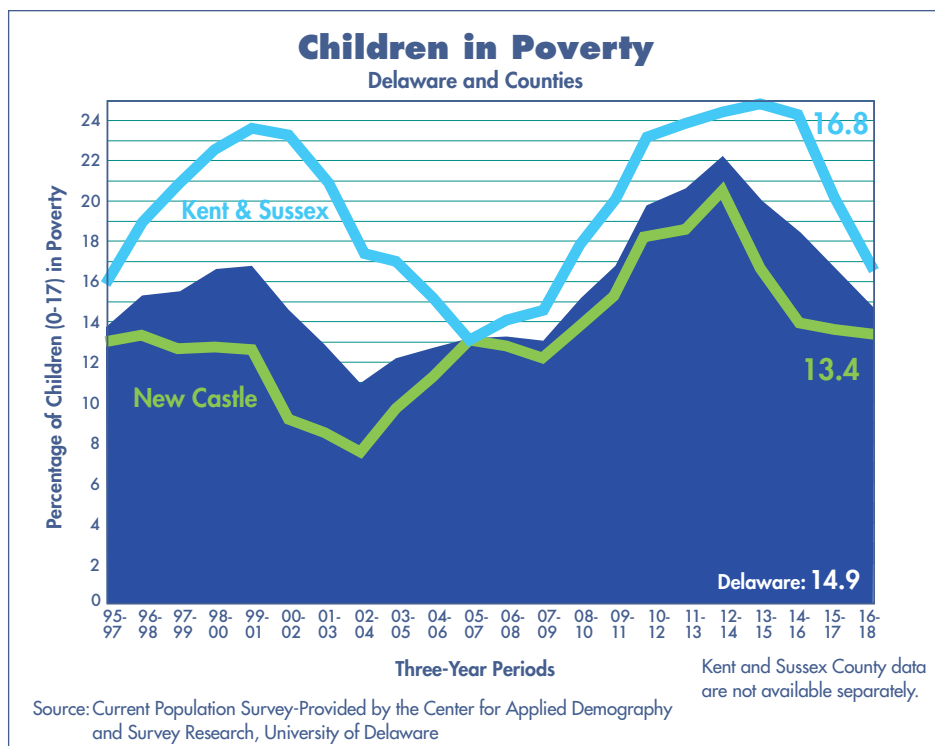
Undernourished children are at risk for illness, cognitive delays and poor social skills, the effects of which will continue to influence their development later in life.<sup>75</sup> According to an analysis released by the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, nearly 50% of all U.S. children and 90% of black children will be on food benefits at some point during childhood.<sup>76</sup>



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# Economic Security and the Census: Delaware Data

Growing up in poverty is one of the greatest threats to healthy child development. It increases the likelihood that a child will be exposed to factors that can impair his or her brain development and lead to poor academic, cognitive and health outcomes. It also can result in higher rates of risky behaviors among adolescents such as substance use and risky sexual behaviors.<sup>77</sup> Extended exposure to poverty also contributes to worse teen and adult outcomes.<sup>78</sup> The child poverty rate in the U.S. increased dramatically because of the economic crisis and has yet to return to pre-recession levels. The risks posed by economic hardship are greatest among children who experience poverty when they are young and among those who experience persistent and deep poverty.<sup>79</sup>



## Children in Poverty by age

Delaware and Counties  
2018

### Delaware

Children Ages 0-5 – 14.9%

Children Ages 6-18 – 11%

### New Castle County

Children Ages 0-5 – 9.8%

Children Ages 6-18 – 8.3%

### Kent County

Children Ages 0-5 – 19.6%

Children Ages 6-18 – 14.2%

### Sussex County

Children Ages 0-5 – 27.3%

Children Ages 6-18 – 16.5%

Source: Current Population Survey-Provided by the Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research

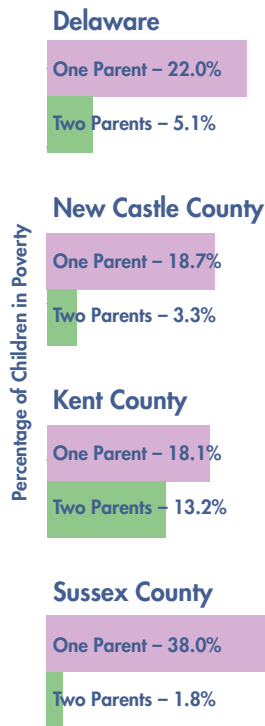


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The poverty measure, first established in 1964, was created as a measure of the minimum level of income that a family needed to meet their basic needs. A family is officially classified as poor if its cash income (wages, pensions, social security benefits and all other forms of cash income) falls below the poverty threshold. For example, according to the federal poverty guidelines, in 2017 the poverty threshold for a one-parent, two-child family was \$19,749. While the thresholds are updated each year for inflation, the measure is widely acknowledged to be outdated because expenses for basic needs have changed substantially from the sixties. ♦

## Children in Poverty by Household Structure

Delaware and Counties  
2018



Source: Current Population Survey-Provided by the Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research



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## Using Data to Meet Needs of Delawareans

For some families, every dollar counts. Recently my five-year old spent months saving up his money for a special toy. He needed \$25 and spent months tucking away each quarter and dollar received from chores or relatives. When he finally had enough money, he couldn't wait to go the store and get the toy he had been thinking about for so long. Once at the store, waiting in line to pay ever so patiently, the moment to spend his savings had arrived. But as it turned out, he had miscounted his money. Instead of having the necessary \$25, he had just \$21. This undercount meant he could not buy the toy he planned to get that day. Many families face this issue but instead of a toy, perhaps it's a much needed family car or a bigger apartment but for one reason or another, the necessary funds aren't available. For many families, the importance of safety nets such as food assistance through SNAP help families fill the gap. We need to know how many folks may need a safety net so that we can be sure it's available. The Census is how we know how many families are facing these issues. In the case of my five-year old, I was his safety net and gave him the few dollars he was short. ♦



# Family & Community and the Census: Delaware Data

The well-being of children is inextricably tied to the well-being of their parents, caregivers and families. In addition to meeting the basic needs of food, shelter and clothing, an optimal family environment might be one in which all members care for and appreciate each other. In turn, families thrive best in communities that are safe, economically vibrant and include amenities like parks, schools, social services and well-maintained infrastructure

The census, the ACS and other census-driven datasets provide a framework for research on issues that are important to local governments, allowing them to provide services to families in communities throughout a given region. Data informs planning and funding decisions related to local infrastructure, including transportation, buildings and social services.<sup>80</sup> Data is key when determining zoning and permitting processes as well

as for measuring success and outcomes of local programs or initiatives.<sup>81</sup> Details about how people get to work or school support planning and funding improvements to road and highway infrastructure and when developing public transportation. Census data is also instrumental to ensure that a city or county's public transit system serves the needs of all groups within a community.<sup>82</sup>

In addition to public sector use of census data for community level planning, private sector businesses use census data to plan, including where to open new stores.<sup>83</sup> Retailers want accurate estimates of residents before investing in a community<sup>84</sup> as well as data that can be used in supply chain and logistics management, determining new markets and where to expand, forecasting sales and growth projections, location of retail outlets or logistics facilities and workforce development.<sup>85</sup> For



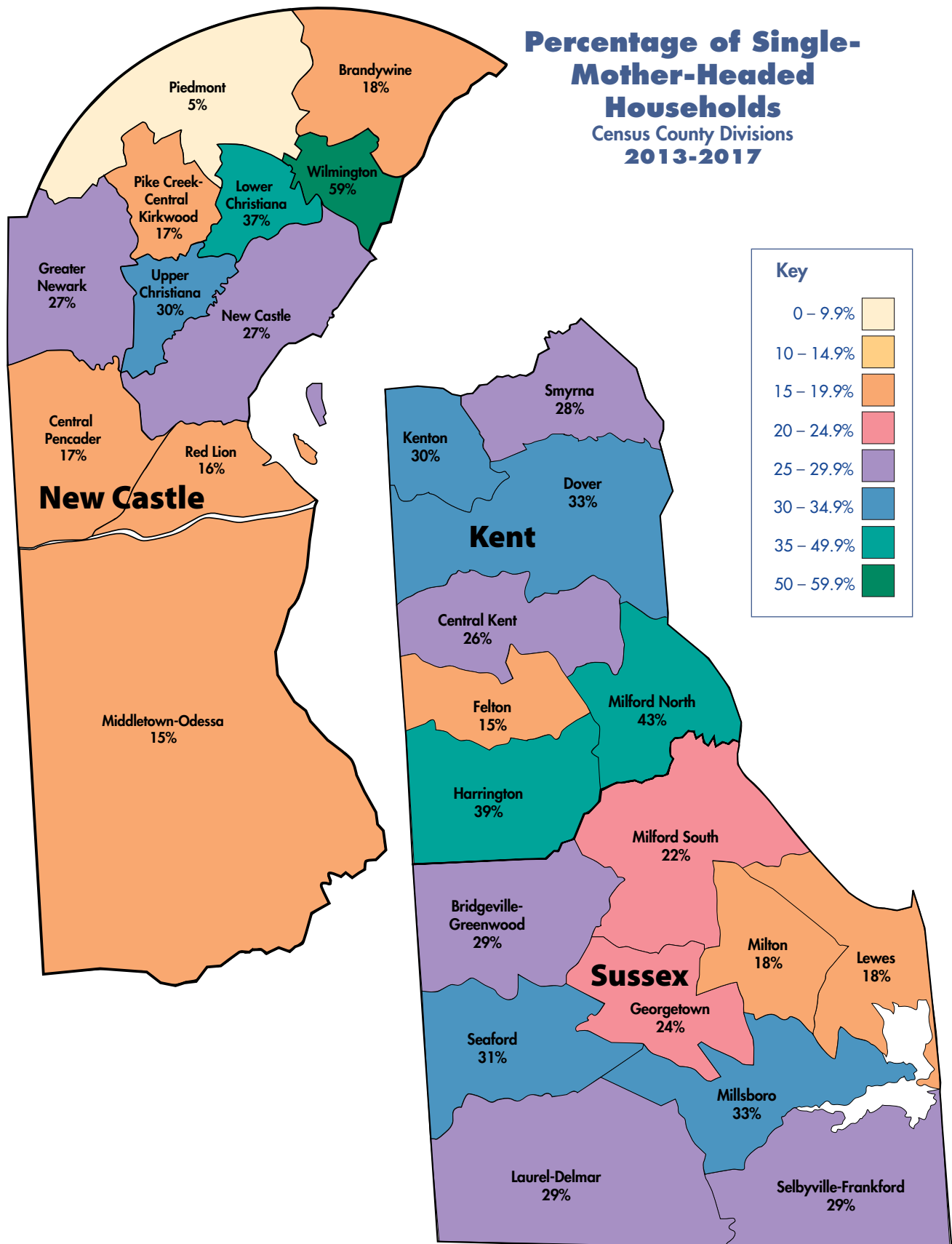
example, businesses use census data when identifying new locations to determine if the local workforce has the level of education needed, or if the local population has the demographic characteristics of the company's target customer base.<sup>86</sup>

## Using Data to Plan Business Strategy

My husband and I recently began thinking about opening a small business and our first step was an entrepreneurship class offered at our local community center. Our small unincorporated town of Claymont seemed to lack a café that offered a place for the community to come together over a great cup of coffee. Part of our market analysis for the class included looking to the Census for information about Claymont. Data about the residents of Claymont could provide important information to help us consider if a café was something our community could benefit from. We utilized Census data to evaluate Claymont's social and economic factors to help us decide if we could meet the need of our town's residents. Census data can not only help the business community determine the needs of a community but ultimately bring jobs, services, and vitality to a community. ♦

# Percentage of Single-Mother-Headed Households

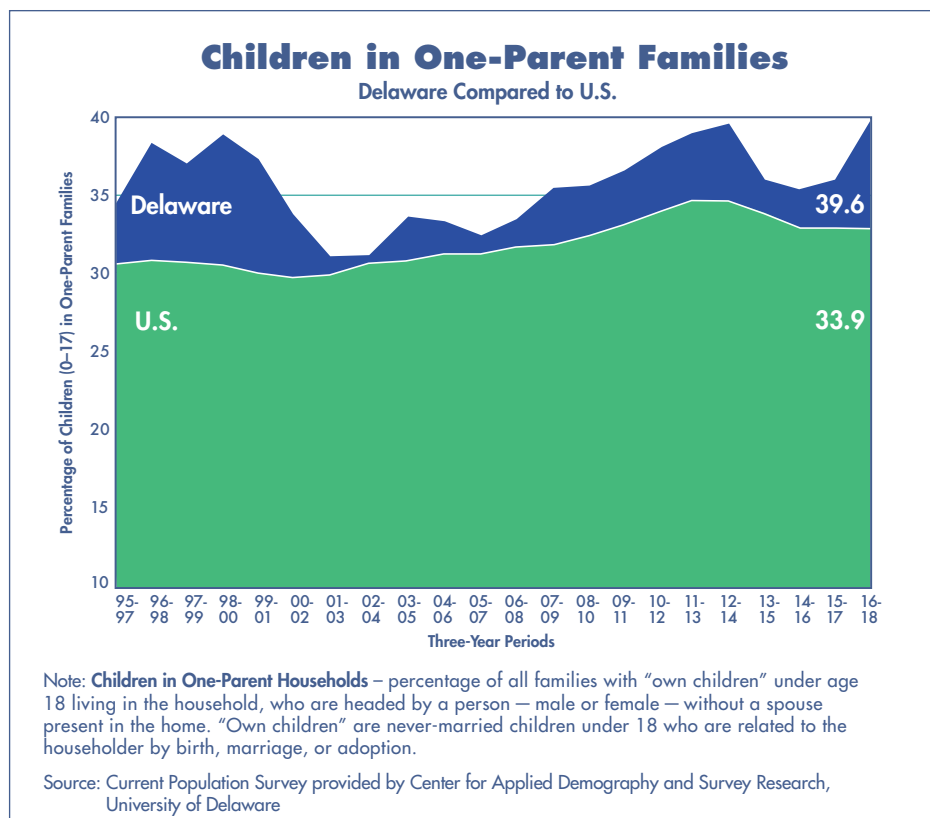
Census County Divisions  
2013-2017



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

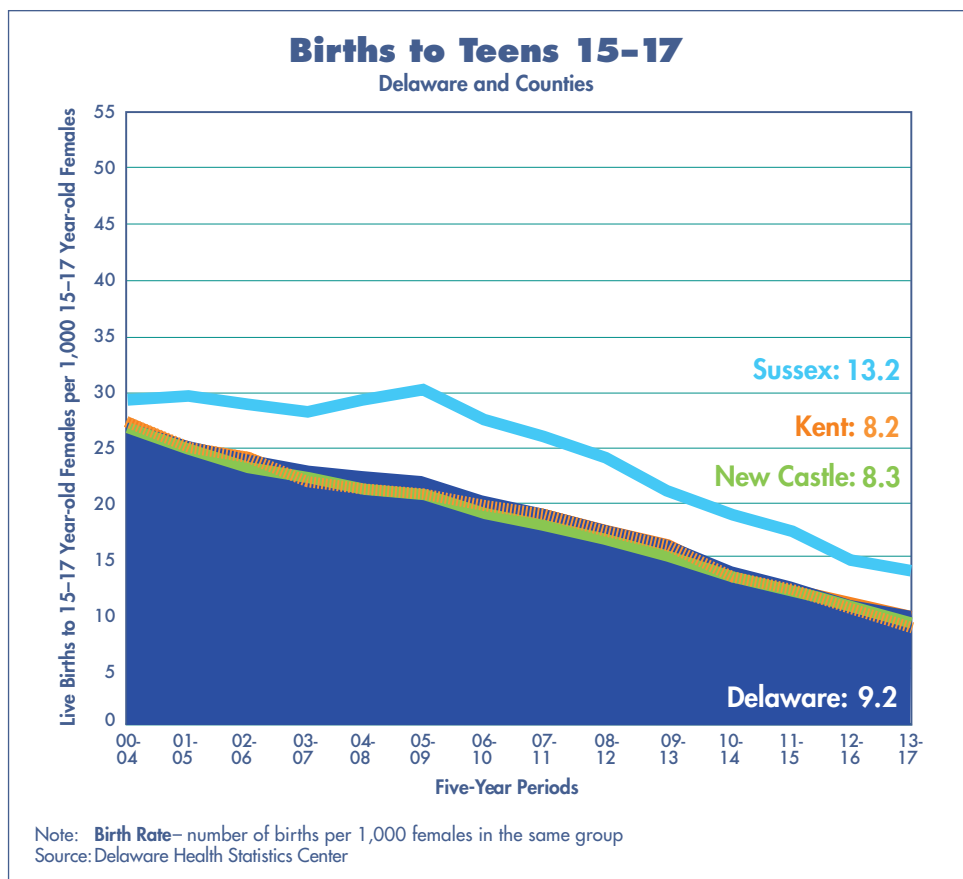
# Family & Community and the Census: Delaware Data

The composition of families in America is constantly changing and as a result, the type and number of primary caregiver(s) in children's lives varies widely. Increasingly, single parents have become primary caregivers in families. Single parenting comes with a variety of unique challenges. Even with the best efforts of parents, children growing up in single-parent families typically have access to fewer economic resources and valuable time with adults than children in families with two parents who can share responsibilities. The effects of growing up in single-parent families go beyond economics to other possible detrimental outcomes, such as increasing the likelihood of children dropping out of school, being disconnected from the labor market and becoming teen parents.<sup>87</sup>





The impact of teen pregnancy is far reaching across individuals and communities. Teenage childbearing can have long-term negative effects for both mother and child. Babies born to teens are far more likely to be born preterm and at a low birth weight and into families with limited educational and economic resources, which undermines their future success.<sup>88</sup> Children born to teen mothers tend to have poorer academic and behavioral outcomes and are more likely to engage in sexual activity and become teen mothers themselves. Although currently at a historic low, the teen birth rate in the U.S. remains the highest among affluent countries.<sup>89</sup>



# Family & Community and the Census: Delaware Data



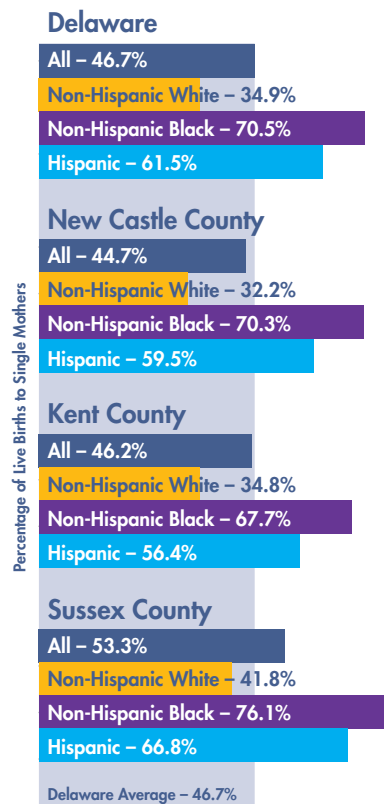
Children who live in nurturing families and supportive communities have stronger personal connections and academic achievement. Parents struggling with financial hardship have fewer resources to invest in their children and are more prone to stress and depression, which can interfere with effective parenting. These realities underscore the importance of two-generation strategies, which address the needs of parents and children at the same time so that families can succeed. Where families live also matters. When communities are safe and have strong institutions, good schools and quality support services, families and their children are more likely to thrive.



Get more data  
[datacenter.kidscount.org](http://datacenter.kidscount.org)

## Births to Single Mothers by Race/Ethnicity

Delaware and Counties  
2013-2017



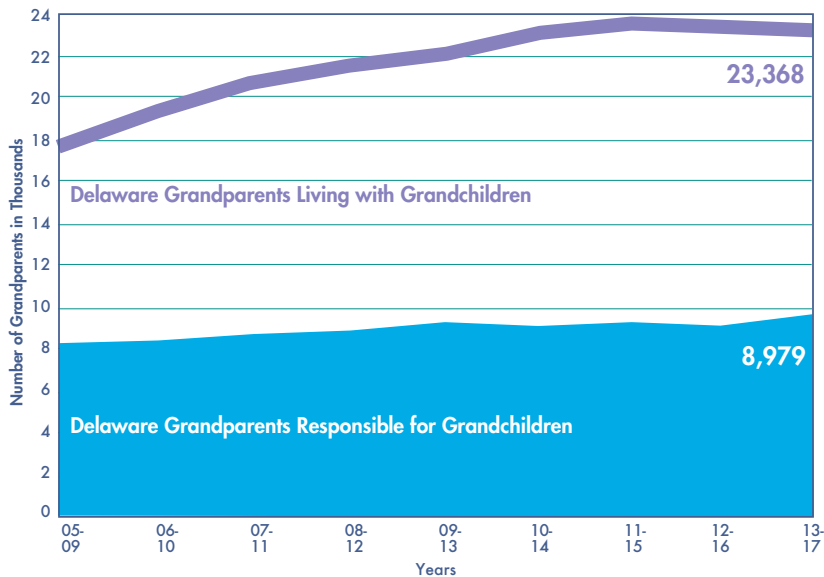
Sources: Delaware Health Statistics Center

## Using Data to Improve Communal Experience

Having accurate population projections for planning impact many aspects of community life. A friend described his frustration that in his town, rapid population growth has strained little league capacity. The fields were built based on the town's traditional population. Larger number of children moving or being born into the area equals a need for little league to field more teams in order to accommodate demand. With limited field space, young children are playing well into the night in order to fit in enough games for each team to have a complete schedule. When growth dominated, both the physical and social infrastructure was affected. A census complete count will provide important data for future community planning. ♦

## Grandparents Living with Grandchildren

Delaware

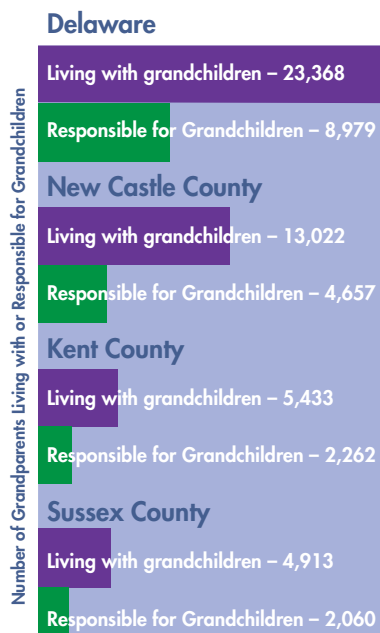


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey



## Grandparents Living with Grandchildren

Delaware and Counties  
2013-2017



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

The phenomenon of children living with grandparents has received considerable attention in recent years. The relationship between grandparent and grandchild is often loving, but it can be challenging for grandparents to meet the needs of a child amidst their own potential health and stability concerns. ♦



Get more data  
[datacenter.kidscount.org](http://datacenter.kidscount.org)



# Call to Action

There is a lot at stake for Delawareans in the next census in terms of funding, representation and data. Understanding the ongoing young child undercount as well as challenges specific to Census 2020 will be instrumental to the work required, including targeting outreach efforts, to obtain a complete and accurate count.

Previous census counts give us basic recommendations to prepare for our upcoming count. Specifically, **every individual** can:

- Talk to family and friends, educating about the importance of a complete and accurate count
- Stay informed
- Form or join a Census Complete Count Committee

Funding from state and local entities for outreach, targeted at hard-to-count populations, can also positively impact our local census count accuracy.

Other “out-of-the-box” thinking will be needed to develop creative ways to count all people. This may include new or uniquely positioned partners - like public libraries, education systems, private businesses and others.

Census outreach efforts could involve K-12 educational partners. Incorporating census into curriculum will give students across the state a basic understanding of the process and results. This will allow children to be informed when parents receive the census form universally, but could be especially important when children serve as translators for non-English speaking family members.

Because a robust census is good for business and our economy, business leaders may be willing partners who can play a key role in encouraging customers, employees and other community members to fill out their census forms.

Additionally, “out-of-the-box” thinking may involve determining solutions to accessibility and answering the question of how to make the logistics of completing a form easy for disconnected families. It could mean partnerships with philanthropy or with tech businesses to open accessibility in non-traditional places. For example: kiosks, special terminals, laptops, iPads, tablets might be placed in public spaces like post offices, hospitals, libraries, recreation centers, outdoors or in private spaces like health clinics, houses of worship or food banks in order to make census forms accessible to those who use these types of spaces.

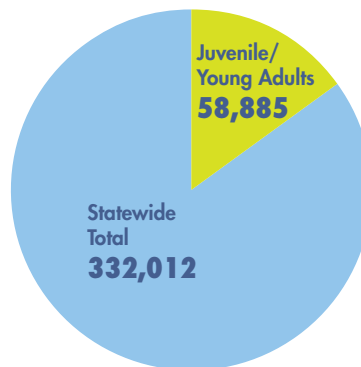
Through all of the work, it will be important to share resources with others who have the same goals in order to eliminate any duplication of efforts. Let’s take action to #CountAllKids! ♦



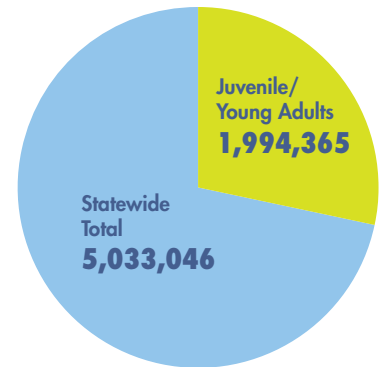
## Library Cards & Circulation

Delaware, FY 2018

### Cards



### Circulation



Source: Delaware Division of Libraries

- 1. Appoquinimink Public Library**  
651 North Broad St.,  
Middletown, DE 19709
- 2. Bear Public Library**  
101 Governor's Place,  
Bear, DE 19701
- 3. Brandywine Hundred Public Library**  
1300 Foulk Rd.,  
Wilmington, DE 19803
- 4. Bridgeville Public Library**  
600 South Cannon St.,  
Bridgeville, DE 19933
- 5. Claymont Public Library**  
400 Lenape Way,  
Claymont, DE 19703
- 6. Corbit-Calloway Memorial Library**  
2nd and High Sts.,  
Odessa, DE 19730
- 7. Delaware City Public Library**  
250 5th and Bayard St.,  
Delaware City, DE 19706
- 8. Delmar Public Library**  
Temporary Location:  
38481 Sussex Highway,  
Delmar DE 19940
- 9. Dover Public Library**  
35 Lockerman Plaza,  
Dover, DE 19901
- 10. Elsmere Public Library**  
30 Spruce Ave., Elsmere,  
DE 19805
- 11. Frankford Public Library**  
8 Main St., Frankford, DE  
19945
- 12. Georgetown Public Library**  
123 W. Pine Street,  
Georgetown, DE 19947
- 13. Greenwood Public Library**  
100 Mill St., Greenwood,  
Delaware 19950
- 14. Harrington Public Library**  
110 E. Center St.,  
Harrington, DE 19952
- 15. Hockessin Public Library**  
1023 Valley Rd.,  
Hockessin, DE 19707
- 16. Kent County Public Library**  
497 South Red Haven  
Lane, Dover, DE 19901
- 17. Kirkwood Library**  
6000 Kirkwood Highway,  
Wilmington, DE 19808
- 18. Laurel Public Library**  
101 E. 4th St., Laurel, DE  
19956
- 19. Lewes Public Library**  
111 Adams St., Lewes, DE  
19958
- 20. Milford Public Library**  
11 S.E. Front St., Milford,  
DE 19963
- 21. Millsboro Public Library**  
217 W. State St.,  
Millsboro, DE 19966
- 22. Milton Public Library**  
121 Union St., Milton, DE  
19968
- 23. New Castle Public Library**  
424 Delaware St., New  
Castle, DE 19720
- 24. Newark Free Library**  
750 Library Ave.,  
Newark, DE 19711
- 25. Route 9 Library & Innovation Center**  
3022 New Castle Avenue,  
New Castle, DE 19720
- 26. Rehoboth Beach Public Library**  
227 Rehoboth Ave,  
Rehoboth Beach, DE  
19971
- 27. Seaford District Library**  
600 N. Market St. Ext.,  
Seaford, DE 19973
- 28. Selbyville Public Library**  
11 Main & McCabe St.,  
P.O. Box 739, Selbyville,  
DE 19975
- 29. Smyrna Public Library**  
107 Main St., Smyrna, DE  
19977
- 30. South Coastal Public Library**  
43 Kent Avenue, Bethany  
Beach, DE 19930
- 31. Wilmington Public Library**  
10 E 10th Street,  
Wilmington, DE 19801
- 32. Wilmington Public Library- North Branch**  
3400 N. Market St.,  
Wilmington, DE 19802
- 33. Woodlawn Public Library**  
2020 W. 9th St.,  
Wilmington, DE 19805



**P**ublic libraries are essential components of the infrastructure in our state which reflect the diversity, character, needs and expectations of a community. They build and support literacy, promote the arts, champion youth, provide gathering places for

diverse populations and allow access to a large amount of knowledge. From story times and summer programs for children, to resume workshops and tax filing assistance for adults, libraries provide beneficial services for all generations in a family. Public

libraries are unique and valuable resources which could help fill a need in counting for Census 2020 by encouraging community members to complete their census form and offering internet access to those who do not have it at home. ♦

# End Notes

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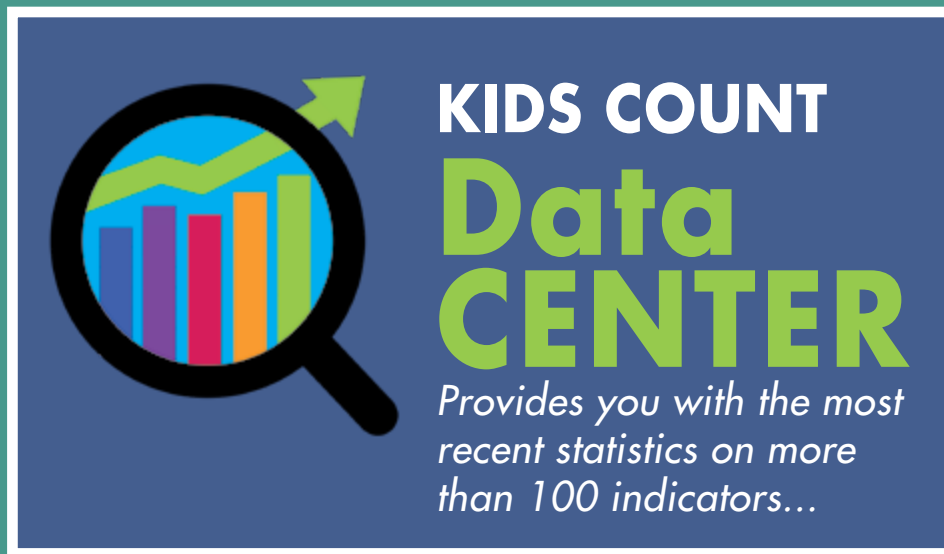
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- Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families
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*A special thank you to the Delaware children and families  
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# Resource Guide

**Delaware Information Helpline**  
2-1-1

**State of Delaware Web Site**  
[www.delaware.gov](http://www.delaware.gov)

**Volunteer Link**  
New Castle County 577-7378  
Kent and Sussex Counties  
739-4456  
Statewide 1-800-815-5465

Delaware Department of Education  
302-735-4000  
[www.doe.k12.de.us](http://www.doe.k12.de.us)

Delaware Department of Labor  
302-761-8000  
[www.delawareworks.com](http://www.delawareworks.com)

Delaware Department of Health  
and Social Services  
[www.dhss.delaware.gov](http://www.dhss.delaware.gov)

Division of Public Health  
302-744-4700

Division of Social Services  
800-372-2022

Division of State Service Centers  
302-255-9675

Division of Substance Abuse  
and Mental Health  
302-255-9399

Delaware Department of Safety  
and Homeland Security  
302-744-2680

Delaware Department of Services for  
Children, Youth and Their Families  
302-633-2500  
[www.kids.delaware.gov](http://www.kids.delaware.gov)

Delaware State Housing Authority  
302-739-4263 (Dover)  
302-577-5001 (Wilmington)  
[www.destatehousing.com](http://www.destatehousing.com)

Drug Free Delaware  
[www.state.de.us/drugfree](http://www.state.de.us/drugfree)

Office of the Governor,  
Dover Office 302-744-4101  
Wilmington Office 302-577-3210  
Statewide 1-800-292-9570



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