

Detroit Early Childhood Education Gap Comparison

2015 to 2023

Overview

IFF's 2015 report, "The System We Need: A Neighborhood Snapshot of Early Childhood Education in Detroit" examined the early childhood education (ECE) landscape in Detroit, including estimates of supply, demand, and gaps.

IFF is again examining Detroit's ECE system. As IFF's methodology and assumptions for calculating child care gaps has changed since 2015, IFF has updated the 2015 estimates to better compare the 2015 and 2023 ECE gaps.

The chart on the right shows estimates of slots, children, and their gaps from IFF's 2015 study; 2015 Revised; and 2023 estimates.

Between 2015 and 2023, the slot gaps decreased by 8,904 for ages 0-5; by 6,074 for ages 0-2; and by 2,829 for ages 3-5.



Children of the Rising Sun, Detroit

		Ages 0-5	Ages 0-2	Ages 3-5
Published 2015 Estimates	Supply	20,674	4,135	16,539
	Demand	43,913	21,082	22,831
	Service Gap	(23,239)	(16,947)	(6,292)
Revised 2015 Estimates*	Supply	20,674	4,135	16,539
	Demand	56,817	28,635	28,182
	Service Gap	(36,143)	(24,500)	(11,643)
2023 Estimates	Supply	21,007	5,323	15,684
	Demand	48,246	23,749	24,498
	Service Gap	(27,239)	(18,426)	(8,814)
Change: 2015 Revised and 2023 Estimates		(8,904)	(6,074)	(2,829)

* Revised based on 2023 methodology

Data Sources: Census 2021, ESRI 2022, the 2015 IFF report, and provider data from the Michigan Department of Licensing And Regulatory Affairs (LARA) and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) {State subsidy data from the Child Development and Care (CDC) Program; State subsidy data for PreK from the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP); Federal subsidy data from the Head Start Collaboration (Head Start/ Early Head Start); Early Childhood Investment Corporation's (ECIC) Great Start to Quality (GSQ)}.

Closing the Early Childhood Education Gap in Detroit

Provider Data

		Center	Family Home	Group Home	Totals
2015	# Facilities	305	-	77	382
	Slots Ages 0-2	3,732	-	403	4,135
	Slots Ages 3-5	16,316	-	223	16,539
	Slots Ages 0-5	20,048	-	626	20,674
2023	# Facilities	292	100	66	458
	Slots Ages 0-2	4,713	252	358	5,323
	Slots Ages 3-5	14,868	336	481	15,685
	Slots Ages 0-5	19,581	587	839	21,007

Key Insights

- **Overall service gap decreased** for ages 0-5 by 8,904 slots between 2015 and 2023 but the current gap of 27,239 slots is still significant.
- **Increase in home-based care** is positive but not enough to close the gap without significant investments in expanding center-based care.
- **Change between 2015 Revised and 2023** is attributable to the combined result of a slight increase in supply and a significant decrease in demand.

Supply

- **Relatively steady supply of slots** with a slight increase between 2015 and 2023, using the same assumptions for supply calculations.
- **Overall number of facilities increased** by 76 because of a significant increase in home-based care and a smaller decrease in center-based and group home-based care. There were no licensed home-based care slots in 2015.
- **Number of slots for ages 0-2 increased** rather significantly, 29%, due to added capacities in center-based care and the addition of home-based care slots.
- **Number of slots for ages 3-5 decreased** slightly because of the 4% decrease in the number of center-based facilities and their capacities.

Demand

- **Universal access, a slot for every child**, is the assumption for both the 2015 revised and the 2023 demand estimates.
- **Demand for slots decreased** by 25% between 2015 and 2023 because of an overall decrease in total population and the population for children ages 0-5.

Closing the Early Childhood Education Gap in Detroit

Neighborhood-level ECE Gaps

The 10 neighborhoods with the largest ECE gaps for ages 0-5

Published 2015		Revised 2015		2023	
Neighborhood	Gap Ages 0-5	Neighborhood	Gap Ages 0-5	Neighborhood	Gap Ages 0-5
Chadsey	(1,709)	Chadsey	(2,212)	Chadsey	(2,004)
Rouge	(1,224)	Mt. Olivet	(1,764)	Rouge	(1,773)
Vernor/Junction	(1,120)	Brooks	(1,628)	Brooks	(1,431)
Finney	(1,143)	Rouge	(1,622)	Springwells	(1,339)
Burbank	(1,194)	Vernor/Junction	(1,439)	Cerven/Grandmont	(1,241)
Springwells	(1,112)	Cerven/Grandmont	(1,435)	Davison	(1,223)
Mt. Olivet	(1,180)	Finney	(1,354)	Mt. Olivet	(1,158)
Brooks	(1,118)	Denby	(1,349)	Vernor/Junction	(1,129)
Denby	(1,157)	Burbank	(1,331)	Denby	(1,110)
Evergreen	(836)	Conner	(1,329)	Conner	(1,051)

The 10 neighborhoods with the smallest ECE gaps for ages 0-5

Published 2015		Revised 2015		2023	
Neighborhood	Gap Ages 0-5	Neighborhood	Gap Ages 0-5	Neighborhood	Gap Ages 0-5
Upper East Central	48	Central Business Dist	406	Central Business Dist	542
Indian Village	10	University	314	Hubbard Richard	130
Corktown	(3)	Corktown	126	St. Jean	99
Central Business Dist	(4)	Middle Woodward	89	McNichols	97
East Riverfront	(5)	Chene	27	Middle Woodward	5
West Riverfront	(45)	Belle Isle	-	Belle Isle	-
Middle East Central	(59)	Milwaukee Junction	(4)	Milwaukee Junction	(20)
Hubbard Richard	(69)	McDougall-Hunt	(24)	Pembroke	(31)
Butzel	(87)	Indian Village	(44)	Corktown	(51)
Palmer Park	(90)	East Riverfront	(50)	Indian Village	(53)

Key Insights

- * Similar to the city-wide decrease in ECE gaps, there is a **general decrease in neighborhood level gaps**.
- * Eight of the ten neighborhoods (highlighted) with the largest ECE gaps from 2015 continue to have large gaps in 2023. Similarly, six of the ten neighborhoods with the smallest ECE gaps continue to be on the 2023 list.
- * There are **two new neighborhoods in the 2023 list of the largest gaps**. Their **gaps increased because of a reduced supply in ECE slots**.
- * **Central Business District seems to have a surplus of ECE slots** due to a smaller population of children ages 0-5, but these slots are catering to children from other neighborhoods and/or children of employees commuting to Detroit for work.
- * The **three new neighborhoods on the 2023 list of the smallest gaps** had a deficit of ECE slots in 2015 but a surplus in 2023. **Corktown**, on the other hand, **went from having a surplus in 2015 to a deficit in 2023** because of a sharp reduction in ECE slots.