

2013 Program Report Card: Child Day Care Licensing/Department of Public Health (DPH)

Quality of Life Result: All Connecticut children birth to 9 nine grow up in a stable environment, safe, healthy, and ready to succeed.

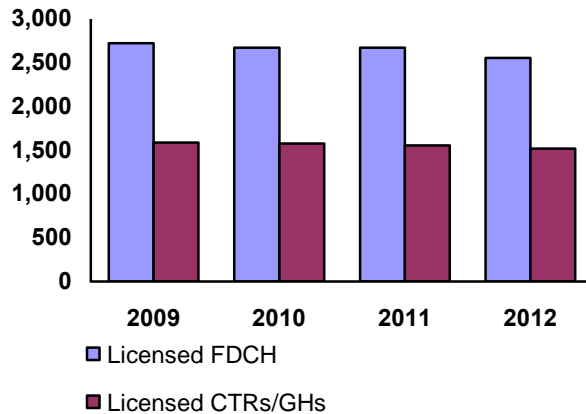
Contribution to the Result: The Child Day Care Licensing Program is responsible for licensing family day care homes, group day care homes, and child day care centers throughout the state of Connecticut. The child care licensing staff are dedicated to assuring that all licensed child day care facilities operate at or above the required standards established by legislation to ensure the health and safety of children participating in such programs is protected. This is accomplished by providing technical assistance, application processing, facility monitoring, complaint investigation and enforcement activities.

Program Expenditures	State Funding	Federal Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding
Actual SFY 12	3,862,005	666,791	-	4,528,796
Estimated SFY 13	4,088,445	666,791	-	4,755,236

Partners: Departments of Social Services (DSS), Education (SDE) and Children and Families (DCF); Office of the Attorney General, 211 Child Care, local health building, zoning, health and fire departments, CT Charts-A-Course, child day care programs and various associations

How Much Did We Do?

of Licensed Family Day Care Homes and Child Day Care Centers/Group Day Care Homes



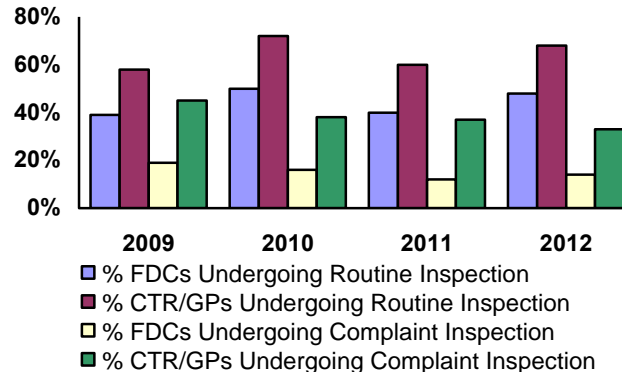
Story behind the baseline:

The total number of licensed facilities has declined slightly from 2009 to 2012. However, the total licensed capacity of child day care centers/group day care homes has increased from 2009 to 2012. 211 Child Care surveyed child care providers to identify reasons for closures. In a report issued by 211 Child Care for the time period 2007 to 2011, "business not profitable" was the number one reason given by child day care centers/group day care homes for closing and "career change" was the number one reason given by family day care homes.

Trend: ▼

How Well Did We Do It?

% of Licensed Child Care Facilities That Underwent Routine Inspections and Complaints Inspections



Story behind the baseline:

DPH continues to exceed its statutorily mandated inspection frequency of once every 3 years for family day care homes and once every 2 years for child day care centers/group day care homes. DPH's ability to continue this trend is contingent on maintaining staffing levels. The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies conducted a review of state standards and oversight and ranked CT low for oversight due to its inspection frequency. DPH investigates 100% of the complaints it receives. The % of programs undergoing complaint inspections does not presently account for the same program receiving multiple complaint inspections. Inspection counts do not include other types of visits such as follow-up inspections, partial visits and consent order monitoring visits.

Trend: ◀▶

Is Anyone Better Off?

% of Licensed Child Care Facilities That Were Subject to Enforcement Actions

Action	2009	2010	2011	2012
Consent Order	1.0%	1.0%	0.7%	0.6%
Revocation	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Voluntary Surrender	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
TOTAL	1.6%	1.7%	1.2%	1.0%

Story behind the baseline:

DPH continues to take enforcement actions against licensed facilities that fail to comply with minimum statute and regulatory requirements. This data does not include enforcement actions taken against unlicensed individuals such as denials of initial licensure, and consent orders and injunctions for illegal operations.

Trend: ◀▶

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Proposed Actions to Turn the Curve:

Efforts to maximize the capabilities of the eLicense system will continue to be explored. For example, enabling individuals to apply for initial licensure and renewal on-line will perhaps encourage more individuals to seek and maintain licensure. DPH will continue to seek added resources for the purchase of lighter laptops which will expedite the completion of field inspections.

DPH will continue to seek to refill positions that are vacated so that the inspection frequency can be maintained. DPH will explore proposals to increase staffing levels to increase inspection frequency to meet national recommendations.

In 2011, the Child Day Care Licensing Program finalized its transition to a new licensing system. The new licensing system, known as eLicense, takes advantage of new technology capabilities that will increase efficiency and service quality for licensed providers, researchers, parents, the general public, and other interested stakeholders. The new system enables the Department to collect valuable data related to the child day care licensing and monitoring activities, and then create more comprehensive reports to allow for more analysis. For example, programs that receive multiple complaint visits will only be counted once when calculated the % of programs visited. Also, eLicense will allow us to generate reports which identify providers with repeat violations to target monitoring activities.

Data Development Agenda: