

Executive Summary

The Groton Early Childhood Community Collaborative (ECCC) convened a committee to develop five basic outcome statements that summarize the group's hopes for Groton children.

These outcomes are:

- All children belong to economically self-sufficient families.
- All children are healthy.
- All children are safe.
- All children's early care and education needs are met.
- All children have access to out-of-school time opportunities.

These outcome statements guided a process of defining indicators that most likely answer the question: How are Groton's children doing? The data used to make this assessment are organized around the health, safety, early learning, and economic security of Groton's children birth to age five, and the families and communities that support their development. This information serves as a statement of the present well being of Groton's youngest residents, as well as a reference point to be compared to in the future.

Key findings include:

- Groton closely mirrors the racial and ethnic diversity of the state of Connecticut
- Families are working, but a proportion is still economically challenged
- Not all children have a healthy start
- Groton is a safe community to raise a family
- Many of Groton's children are not receiving a quality early care experience.

Taken together, these key findings point to a community that has many opportunities to improve outcomes for its children. They offer a baseline against which outcome goals can be set, and progress measured over time.

A full analysis can be found in the technical report *Child Well Being in Groton* that accompanies this summary. A detailed list of data sources is included at the end of the report.

This project was made possible by

**GROTON
EARLY
CHILDHOOD
COMMUNITY
COLLABORATIVE**

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**The
Status of
Young
Children**

***Groton Community
Report Card 2006***



**Facts
About
Groton**

FACTS ABOUT CHILDREN IN GROTON — Community, Economics, Health, Safety, and Early Care

This data represents a statistical snapshot of the community of Groton (Town and City) as it relates to children ages birth to 5 years.

Community Context	Groton	CT
Population		
Total	39,907	3,405,565
Children birth to 5 years	8.1%	6.6%
Racial and Ethnic Diversity		
White, Non-Hispanic	83.6%	81.6%
Hispanic	7%	9.1%
Black, Non-Hispanic	5%	9.4%
American Indian	.8%	.3%
Asian	3.3%	2.4%
Minority Students in Public Schools	29%	N/A
Non-English Home Language	4%	13%
All Children Belong To Economically Self-Sufficient Families		
Workforce Education		
HS Degree or higher	88%	84%
College Degree or higher	26%	31%
HS Drop Out	4%	11%
Income and Employment		
Unemployment	4%	4%
Per Capita Personal Income	\$23,995	\$28,766
Affordable Food and Housing		
Food Stamp Recipients	3%	4.6%
Vacant Housing Units	8%	6.1%
Owner-occupied Housing Units	50.5%	67%
Students at same school previous year	84%	88%
Income to Afford Fair Market Rent (2-BR)	\$31,160	\$37,229
Poverty		
Families below Federal Poverty Level	4.9%	5.6%
Children below Federal Poverty Level	8.3%	10.4%
Families with children under 6 below FPL	13.2%	10.9%
School Poverty Rate	25.8%	26.6%
All Children Are Safe		
Crime		
Crime Rate per 1000 residents	20	30
Juvenile Crime Rate per 1,000	44	52
Child Abuse & Neglect		
Substantiated as abused/neglected/uncared-for (of total child population)	1.1%	1.4%

All Children's Early Care And Education Needs Are Met	Groton	CT
Quality Preschool Experience		
Kindergartners with Preschool Experience	62.3%	76.4%
School Readiness Spaces	15	--
NAEYC Accredited Child Care Centers	4	--
Head Start Sites	1	--
Spaces	70	--
Vacancy	0	--
Child Care Fees Per Week		
Infant/Toddler Center	\$175	\$196
Infant/Toddler Family Day Care Home	\$139	\$151
Preschool Center	\$154	\$159
Preschool Family Day Care Home	\$132	\$144
Child Care Assistance Program		
% Recipients in Licensed Care	60%	46%
# Receiving Subsidy by Age		
Infant/Toddler	34	--
Preschool	51	--
School Age	44	--
# Receiving Subsidy by Setting		
Child Care Center	63	--
Informal	59	--
Family Day Care Home	0	--

Do all children have what they need to succeed?
What does the data tell us?

Licensed Child Care Capacity

Child Care Centers					
Age Group	# programs	Licensed Capacity	% of total capacity	Vacancies	Vacancy rate
Infant	13	190	17%	10	5%
Toddler	13	372	34%	6	2%
Preschool	17	534	49%	42	8%
Total	17	1,096	100%	58	5%
(unduplicated count)					

Family Day Care Homes					
Age Group	# programs	Licensed Capacity	% of total capacity	Vacancies	Vacancy rate
Infant/Toddler	29	56	31%	8	14%
Preschool	32	126	69%	21	17%
Total	32	182	100%	29	16%
(unduplicated count)					

All Children Are Healthy	Groton	CT
Prenatal Care		
Late or No Prenatal Care	13.9%	10.9%
Birth Rate		
Total Births	643	42,659
Total Births Per Thousand Residents	16.4	13.5
Low Birth Weight		
Total	6.5%	7.5%
Infant Mortality		
Average per thousand births	6.6	6.3
Teen Birth Rate		
Teen Birth Rate (per thousand)	30.6	10.4
1990 – 2001 Average as % of all births	1.4%	2.6%
# births to teens	9.3	1,091
as % of all births	1.4%	2.6%
Lead Exposure		
Housing built before 1950	25%	32%
Tested for Lead Blood Levels	24%	26%
Elevated Lead Levels	.2%	1.5%
Health Care Coverage		
HUSKY A	16%	23%
HUSKY B	1%	1.6%



2006