

2010

# District of Columbia Early Childhood Risk and Reach Assessment

## Fiscal Year 2009

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## Introduction

The years before school entry are a critical time for a young child's learning and development as the skills and abilities children develop early in life set them on the path for later academic success.<sup>1</sup> Yet not all children reach kindergarten healthy and ready to learn.<sup>2</sup> Children and families who live in poverty may not be able to access or afford the types of high-quality care and education programs that are demonstrated to promote young children's healthy development.<sup>3</sup> Compelled by substantial research on the ability of high-quality early care and education programs to reduce and even prevent later gaps in learning and achievement, policy makers are committed to providing opportunities for young children to learn, thrive, succeed in school, and eventually contribute to the economic vitality of their communities. Despite the current fiscal climate, states are seeking strategies to maximize limited resources and target early childhood investments to the children and families who stand to receive the greatest benefit from such programs. These strategies often include conducting a scan of neighborhoods with the highest levels of risk and ensuring that public programs and resources are directed in ways that address the needs of these communities.

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) in the District of Columbia oversees all levels of education in the District. The mission of the Division of Early Childhood Education (ECE) within OSSE is to ensure that all children ages birth to five have access to high-quality programs. OSSE/ECE oversees many of the District's publicly funded early care and education programs, which include licensed child care, pre-kindergarten, child care subsidies, early literacy programs, and professional development supports for early childhood educators. OSSE's Office of Special Education also houses the Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities Division, which provides additional services to the early childhood community. These programs are implemented in partnership with community-based organizations and government agencies.<sup>4</sup>

In 2009 OSSE released the District of Columbia's first *Early Childhood Risk and Reach Assessment* based on data available for Fiscal Year 2008. The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the first *Early Childhood Risk and Reach Assessment* with data available for Fiscal Year 2009. This second edition includes:

- An analysis of family risk indicators that affect children in the District of Columbia;
- Information on the reach of early childhood programs and usage within the District; and
- An examination of the Wards and zip codes in the District of Columbia most likely to benefit from early childhood investments based on current needs and services.

This report also includes data from fiscal year 2010 on pre-kindergarten programs provided to children in the District as a result of the 2008 *Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Act*. This report is not meant to be a comprehensive compendium of all early childhood programs in the District of Columbia. Rather, this annual report is meant to be a continued exploration of the reach of programs supported by OSSE/ECE. This information can be used to help communities within the District of Columbia better understand their early care and education programming needs, particularly in high-needs areas. The data in this report can also inform future decisions regarding early care and education investments and help the Division of Early Childhood Education meet its goal of reaching all children with quality early childhood services.

## Risk and Reach Findings

The findings on risk and reach in the District of Columbia are presented in two parts. First, we identify family risk indicators that can potentially affect child outcomes. The prevalence of children "at-risk" in the District of Columbia is analyzed by calculating the percentage of children in the various risk categories by

Ward and by zip code. Second, we examine the number of children and families who are served or who can be served through early childhood programs supported by OSSE's Division of Early Childhood Education. This "reach" data is also presented by Ward and by zip code. The District of Columbia has many zip codes that are classified by the U.S. Postal Service as "special cases." These special cases of zip codes include specific companies, military locations, and P.O. Boxes. Due to the lack of sufficient data on these special cases, these zip codes have been excluded from this report.

### ***Family Risk Indicators***

There are a wide range of factors that can affect developmental outcomes for children. This report focuses on eleven family risk indicators by Ward and nine family risk indicators by zip code. These family risk indicators were identified using data from the 2000 Decennial Census, 2007/2006/2005 Vital Statistics data, 2009/2008 Income Maintenance Administration data, and 2008 data from the District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency. These specific indicators of risk were chosen based on the most recently available data collected at the Ward and zip code level within the District of Columbia. Different risk indicators were examined by Ward and by zip code because more data were available on risk indicators by Ward. Below, information is provided on each risk indicator as it relates to child outcomes, in addition to the risk indicator data specific to the District of Columbia (see Tables 1 and 2).

#### **Percentage of children under age five living in families below the poverty level**

The federal poverty definition consists of a series of thresholds based on family size and composition. The 2000 U.S. Census defined "low income" as below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, which was equivalent to \$34,058 for a family of four in 2000. (In 2009, 200 percent below the federal poverty level was equivalent to a family of four earning an annual income of \$44,100 or less.)<sup>5</sup> This estimate is based on the most recent publicly available data. Research indicates that children who are raised in poverty are at a higher risk of being exposed to risk factors that might impair brain development and affect their social and emotional development. These risks can include environmental toxins, inadequate nutrition, maternal depression, parental substance abuse, trauma and abuse, violent crime, divorce, low quality child care, and decreased cognitive stimulation (originating in part from exposure to a limited vocabulary as infants).<sup>6-8</sup>

Based on Census data from the year 2000, Wards 7 and 8 had the highest percentage (29.3 percent and 35.5 percent, respectively) of children under age five living in families at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, in comparison to the national estimate of 17.8 percent. In contrast, Wards 3 and 4 had the lowest percentages, at 2.1 percent and 11.9 percent respectively. Data at the zip code level show that zip codes 20020, 20024, and 20032 had the highest percentages of children under age five living in families at or below 200 percent of the poverty level in 2000. The following zip codes had less than one percent of children under age five living in families at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level in 2000: 20004, 20008, 20016, and 20036.

#### **Percentage of single mother-headed families with children under age five living below poverty level**

Nationally representative data demonstrate that children who do not live with both biological parents are more likely to have behavioral and psychological problems and are less likely to graduate from high school.<sup>9</sup> Across income groups, the likelihood of a family being a single-headed family varies by race. White low-income families are three times as likely as their middle- and high-income counterparts to be headed by single parents. Black and Hispanic low-income families are only twice as likely to be single headed as higher-income families of the same race/ethnicity.<sup>10</sup>

Based on Census data for the District of Columbia for the year 2000, Wards 7 and 8 had the highest percentages of children under age five living in single-mother headed families below the poverty level at 25.9 percent and 31.1 percent, respectively. The national estimate of children under age five living in single-mother headed families below the poverty level was 9.6 percent in the year 2000. The lowest percentages of communities with these characteristics were located in Wards 3 and 4, at 1.4 percent and 6.4 percent, respectively. The zip code data indicate that zip codes 20003 and 20009 had the highest percentage of children living under these circumstances in 2000. In comparison less than one percent of children in zip codes 20004, 20016, 20036, and 20037 were living in single-mother headed families below the poverty level.

### Percentage of births to single mothers

Children born to unmarried mothers are more likely to grow up in a single-parent household, experience instability in living arrangements, live in poverty, and have socio-emotional problems.<sup>9,11-13</sup> As these children reach adolescence, they are more likely to have low educational attainment, have sex at younger ages, and have a premarital birth.<sup>9,11</sup>

In 2006, the national estimate of births to single mothers was 38.5 percent.<sup>i</sup> The Wards in the District of Columbia with the highest percentage of births to single mothers in 2007 were Wards 7 and 8 with 83.1 percent and 84.1 percent, respectively. Ward 3 had the lowest percentage, at 7.6 percent. Data for 2007 on births to single mothers are not available by zip code; therefore, the most recent publicly available data from 2006 are examined. The following three zip codes had percentages above 84.0 percent in 2006: 20019, 20020, and 20032. The zip codes with the lowest percentages of births to single mothers in 2006 include 20007, 20015, and 20016.

### Percentage of births to teenage mothers

Compared to children born to older mothers, children of teen mothers are more likely to have a low birth weight and to be born prematurely.<sup>14</sup> These children are also at a higher risk of having academic and behavioral problems in school. In addition, teen mothers are more likely than their peers without children to drop out of school, receive public assistance, and have an income below the poverty level.<sup>14</sup>

Ward-level data in the District of Columbia for the year 2007 indicate that Wards 7 and 8 had the highest percentages of births to teenage mothers, at 18.4 percent and 19.6 percent, respectively. The lowest percentages were in Wards 2 and 3, at 5.3 percent and 1.3 percent, respectively. The national average of births to teenage mothers was 10.4 percent in the year 2006.<sup>i</sup> Zip codes 20019 and 20020 had the highest percentage of births to teenage mothers in 2007, each at 20.0 percent. The following zip codes had less than 1.0 percent of births to teenage mothers in 2007: 20004, 20007, 20015, and 20037.

### Percentage of low birth weight infants

Babies who are very low in birth weight (less than 1,500 grams, or 3 pounds, 4 ounces) have a 25.0 percent chance of dying before age one. Factors that may result in babies with low and very low birth weight include smoking during pregnancy, low maternal weight gain or low pre-pregnancy weight, maternal or fetal stress, infections, or experiencing violence while pregnant.<sup>15</sup>

Infants born at a low birth weight are also at increased risk of long-term disability and impaired development. Infants born under 2,500 grams are more likely than heavier infants to experience delayed motor and social development. Children ages 4 to 17 who were born at a low birth weight are more likely

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<sup>i</sup> At the time this report was created, 2007 national data from the National Vital Statistics System were not available from the National Center for Health Statistics. Therefore, national data from 2006 are used for comparison purposes for most indicators.

to be enrolled in special education classes, repeat a grade, or fail school than children with a normal birth weight.<sup>15</sup>

The national average of low birth weight infants born in 2006 was 8.3 percent, the highest level in four decades.<sup>16, ii</sup> In the District of Columbia in 2007, Wards 5, 7, and 8 had the highest percentages of low birth weight infants, all between 12.8 and 14.1 percent. The remaining Wards all had percentages of low birth weight infants that ranged from 7.0 percent to 11.3 percent. Zip code level data show that zip codes 20024 and 20032 had the highest percentages (16.0 and 15.0 percent, respectively) of infants who were born at low birth weight in 2007. The lowest percentages were in zip codes 20004 and 20006, at 0.0 percent in 2007.

### Percentage of births to mothers who received adequate prenatal care

Prenatal visits are important for the health of both the infant and the mother. Health care providers can educate expectant mothers on important health issues such as diet and nutrition, exercise, immunizations, weight gain, and abstaining from drugs and alcohol. Expectant parents can also receive instruction by health professionals on nutrition for their newborn, breastfeeding, illness prevention, and the new emotional challenges of caring for a newborn infant.<sup>17</sup>

Using the Kessner Criteria for Adequacy of Prenatal Care, adequate prenatal care is defined using two criteria: 1) care was initiated in the first trimester and 2) the number of prenatal visits was proportional to the weeks of gestation.<sup>18</sup> Within this indicator, higher percentages are more desirable because they represent more adequate prenatal care for expectant mothers. In the year 2006, the multi-state average of births to mothers who received adequate prenatal care was 73.7 percent.<sup>ii, iii</sup> Ward-level data in the District of Columbia for the year 2007 indicated that Ward 3 had the highest percentage of births to mothers with adequate prenatal care (87.0 percent). Wards 5, 7, and 8 had the lowest percentage of births to mothers with adequate prenatal care in 2007 (55.3 percent, 52.2 percent, and 50.8 percent, respectively). Data for 2007 on births to mothers with adequate prenatal care are not available by zip code; therefore, the most recent publicly available data from 2006 are examined. The zip codes 20004, 20007, 20008, 20015, and 20016 had percentages of births to mothers with adequate prenatal care at or above 85.0 percent in 2006. The zip code with the lowest percentage was 20032 at 48.4 percent in 2006.

### Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births

Infant mortality is associated with a variety of factors including maternal health, the quality of- and access to medical care, socioeconomic status, and public health practices. The infant mortality rate generally declined in the U.S. during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1990, the U.S. infant mortality rate was approximately 100 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, while in 2000, the rate was 6.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.<sup>19</sup> However, the U.S. infant mortality rate did not significantly decline from 2000-2005. Increases in preterm birth and preterm-related infant mortality account for much of the lack of decline in the United States' infant mortality rate during this time period.<sup>19</sup>

In 2005, the national infant mortality rate was 6.9 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.<sup>20</sup> In 2006, the national infant mortality rate was 6.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.<sup>ii</sup> In the District of Columbia in the year 2006, Wards 5 and 8 had the highest rates of infant mortality at 16.7 and 20.0 deaths per 1,000 live

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<sup>ii</sup> At the time this report was created, 2007 national data from the National Vital Statistics System were not available from the National Center for Health Statistics. Therefore, national data from 2006 are used for comparison purposes for most indicators.

<sup>iii</sup> The multi-state average is restricted to those states that did not adopt the 2003 electronic revised birth certificate and continue to use the 1989 paper version of the birth certificate. The data provided on the District of Columbia is based on the 1989 version. For more information, see the 2006 Final Birth Report at [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr57/nvsr57\\_07.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr57/nvsr57_07.pdf)



births. The lowest rates were in Wards 1 and 3 at 5.0 and 4.3 deaths per 1,000 live births, closer to the national average for that year. Data for 2006 on the infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births are not available by zip code; therefore, the most recent publicly available data from 2005 are examined. The zip code with the highest rate of infant deaths per 1,000 live births in 2005 was 20020, with 25.2 deaths per 1,000 live births. Zip codes 20004, 20005, and 20015 had infant mortality rates of less than 1 per 1,000 live births in 2005.

### **Percentage of children in families receiving aid through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)**

Many families with incomes below the poverty threshold receive support from Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), which succeeded the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Program (AFDC) in 1997 as part of federal welfare reform. Each state is responsible for setting the benefit levels and benefits for TANF recipients, which vary widely across states.<sup>21</sup>

The highest percentages of children in families receiving aid through TANF in DC in 2009 were in Wards 2 and 7, at 34.9 percent and 34.0 percent, respectively. The lowest percentage was in Ward 3 at 0.3 percent. Data for 2009 on the percent of children in families receiving aid through TANF in the District of Columbia are not available by zip code; therefore, the most recent publicly available data from 2008 are examined.<sup>iv</sup> Zip code data show that zip codes 20019, 20020, and 20032 had the highest percentages of children receiving aid through TANF in 2008, whereas zip codes 20007 and 20008 had the lowest percentages. National estimates of the percentage of children in families receiving aid through TANF are not available for comparison.

### **Percentage of children in families receiving aid through Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) provides eligible low-income families with benefits to purchase food. Recipients are given a card linked to an Electronic Benefit Transfer account that can be used at grocery stores and other food retailers. In 2008, the name of the program was changed from the federal Food Stamp Program to emphasize nutrition and the importance of healthy food.<sup>22</sup>

Wards 2 (48.4 percent) and 7 (45.4 percent) had the highest percentages of children receiving aid through SNAP in the District of Columbia in 2009. The lowest percentage was in Ward 3 at less than one percent. Data for 2009 on the percent of children in families receiving aid through SNAP in the District of Columbia are not available by zip code; therefore, the most recent publicly available data from 2008 are examined. The highest percentages of children receiving aid through SNAP in 2008 were in zip codes 20019, 20020, and 20032 at or above 46.0 percent. The lowest percentages by zip code were less than one percent in zip codes 20007 and 20008. National estimates of the percentage of children in families receiving aid through SNAP are not available for comparison.

### **Percentage of children in families receiving aid through Medicaid/State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)**

In the District of Columbia, Medicaid is a healthcare program that compensates qualified individuals for medical services they receive. It often helps pay for medical services for residents who are low-income and disabled. Medicaid recipients can be of any age, race, or sex.<sup>23</sup> Over the past decade, new federal and state rules, including the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), have led to major

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<sup>iv</sup> While the D.C. Office of the State Superintendent of Education does not maintain TANF data by zip code, this information can be obtained from the D.C. Department of Human Services, Income Maintenance Administration, the District's TANF coordinating agency.

expansions in medical coverage for low-income, uninsured children. Until the recent passage of the 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which includes provisions for national health care for young children, SCHIP has marked the most significant expansion of health insurance coverage for young children in the U.S. since 1965, when Medicare and Medicaid were established. In the District of Columbia, SCHIP is called the DC Healthy Families program. This program is part of the DC Department of Health Care Finance and provides free health insurance for District residents and their children.<sup>24</sup>

The highest percentage of children in families receiving aid through Medicaid/SCHIP in the District of Columbia in 2009 was 68.5 percent in Ward 2. The lowest percentage was in Ward 3 at 5.1 percent. Data on the percent of children in families receiving aid through Medicaid/SCHIP are not available by zip code. Additionally, national estimates of the percentage of children in families receiving aid through Medicaid/SCHIP are also not available for comparison.

### **Number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect**

Children are considered victims of abuse and neglect if an investigation by the state child welfare agency classifies their case as substantiated child maltreatment. A substantiated case is one in which an allegation of maltreatment or risk of maltreatment was supported or founded according to state law or policy.<sup>25</sup> This indicator includes both sexual and physical abuse, which are often associated with physical injuries, delayed physical growth, and neurological damage.<sup>26</sup> Child abuse and neglect are also associated with psychological and emotional problems, such as aggression, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder.<sup>27</sup> In addition, child abuse alone is related to an increased risk of substance abuse, eating disorders, obesity, suicide, and sexual promiscuity later in life.<sup>28</sup> Acts of child abuse and neglect are influenced by a number of factors, including lack of knowledge of child development, substance abuse, other forms of domestic violence, and mental illness. Although child abuse and neglect occur in families at all economic levels, they are more common in families with lower incomes.<sup>29</sup>

The highest number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect in the District of Columbia in 2008 was in Ward 8, at 460 substantiated cases. The lowest number was in Ward 3 at 6 substantiated cases. Data on the number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect are not available by zip code. In addition, national estimates of the number of substantiated cases of abuse and neglect are not available for comparison.

Table 1. Family Risk Indicators by Ward

Ward	# of Children Under 5*	% Population Under 5*	% Children Under 5 Living in Families Below Poverty Level*	% Children Under 5 Living in Single Mother-Headed Families Below Poverty Level*	% Births to Single Mothers **	% Births to Teen Mothers **	% Low Birth Weight Infants **	% Births to Mothers who Received Adequate Prenatal Care **	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births ***	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through TANF ^	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through SNAP (Food Stamps) ^	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through Medicaid/ SCHIP ^	# of Substantiated Cases of Abuse & Neglect ^^
Population Characteristics													
1	4,105	5.6%	26.3%	19.1%	56.5%	12.0%	9.2%	63.6%	5.0	14.5%	22.4%	60.3%	97
2	1,803	2.6%	18.9%	9.1%	28.2%	5.3%	7.0%	75.7%	11.4	34.9%	48.4%	s	32
3	2,857	3.9%	2.1%	1.4%	7.6%	1.3%	7.2%	87.0%	4.3	0.3%	0.6%	5.1%	6
4	4,196	5.6%	11.9%	6.4%	56.3%	9.4%	9.7%	60.8%	7.0	16.0%	25.4%	64.8%	115
5	4,001	5.6%	21.4%	17.3%	69.8%	14.3%	12.8%	55.3%	16.7	25.1%	33.9%	59.2%	208
6	3,342	4.9%	23.9%	20.6%	42.1%	8.0%	11.3%	70.2%	8.6	33.4%	42.6%	64.5%	125
7	4,963	7.0%	29.3%	25.9%	83.1%	18.4%	13.7%	52.2%	14.8	34.0%	45.4%	68.5%	283
8	7,269	10.2%	35.5%	31.1%	84.1%	19.6%	14.1%	50.8%	20.0	33.3%	42.0%	62.5%	460
TOTAL	32,536	5.7%	23.5%	19.0%	58.5%	12.2%	11.1%	62.8%	11.4	25.4%	34.2%	65.1%	1,580

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from 2007 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\* Data are from 2006 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^ Data are from 2009 Income Maintenance Administration, DC Department of Human Services and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^^ Data are from 2008 DC Child and Family Services Agency. 254 cases were missing the child's home Ward

s = Data suppressed for this indicator and Ward because it does not produce a reliable estimate.

Table 2. Family Risk Indicators by Zip Code

Zip Code	Ward	# of Children Under 5*	% Population Under 5*	% Children Under 5 Living in Families Below Poverty Level*	% Children Under 5 Living in Single Mother-Headed Families Below Poverty Level*	% Births to Single Mothers ***	% Births to Teen Mothers ****	% Low Birth Weight Infants ****	% Births to Mothers who Received Adequate Prenatal Care ***	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births **	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through TANF ^	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through SNAP (Food Stamps) ^
20001	1,2,5,6	1,896	5.7%	33.9%	44.6%	61.4%	11.0%	13.0%	61.3%	11.0	20.8%	27.8%
20002	6,7	2,911	5.9%	34.9%	45.5%	61.5%	12.0%	12.0%	63.7%	14.8	27.3%	35.5%
20003	2,6,7,8	1,047	4.5%	31.5%	57.4%	28.1%	7.4%	9.4%	76.6%	11.9	16.2%	20.9%
20004	2,6,8	9	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	27.5%	0.0%	0.0%	86.3%	0.0	s	s
20005	2	380	3.6%	27.6%	42.3%	39.7%	6.5%	6.1%	62.4%	0.0	8.1%	15.4%
20006	2	4	s	s	s	s	17.0%	0.0%	s	s	s	s
20007	2	916	3.2%	9.0%	22.2%	4.7%	0.4%	7.0%	85.3%	7.6	0.2%	0.3%
20008	1,2,3	704	2.7%	0.7%	10.4%	8.0%	1.3%	7.5%	84.8%	14.6	0.3%	0.3%
20009	1,2	1,982	4.3%	28.3%	51.4%	47.8%	9.3%	8.2%	66.1%	10.8	12.1%	17.9%
20010	1,3	2,024	7.0%	24.6%	15.4%	61.0%	13.0%	8.8%	59.1%	10.0	22.9%	32.6%
20011	3,4,5	3,277	5.7%	13.9%	8.0%	60.9%	11.0%	10.0%	58.3%	13.4	15.0%	22.1%
20012	3,4	614	4.5%	9.8%	3.4%	43.5%	6.8%	9.2%	68.2%	19.3	9.2%	14.1%
20015	3,4	899	5.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	0.0%	8.7%	85.1%	0.1	s	s
20016	3	1,376	4.4%	0.8%	0.8%	4.3%	2.0%	5.1%	87.3%	5.1	s	s
20017	5	826	4.3%	8.0%	5.7%	60.1%	10.0%	12.0%	58.6%	13.0	13.4%	18.5%
20018	5,7	888	5.2%	14.0%	9.8%	65.9%	15.0%	11.0%	60.0%	8.9	22.8%	30.3%
20019	7	4,037	7.6%	31.7%	27.9%	84.2%	20.0%	14.0%	54.0%	15.8	36.3%	48.1%
20020	7,8	4,394	8.8%	37.1%	33.0%	85.9%	20.0%	14.0%	53.6%	25.2	35.7%	46.2%
20024	2,6,8	513	4.3%	37.2%	32.9%	61.1%	13.0%	16.0%	63.8%	17.8	29.0%	37.8%

Table 2. Family Risk Indicators by Zip Code

Zip Code	Ward	# of Children Under 5*	% Population Under 5*	% Children Under 5 Living in Families Below Poverty Level*	% Children Under 5 Living in Single Mother-Headed Families Below Poverty Level*	% Births to Single Mothers ***	% Births to Teen Mothers ****	% Low Birth Weight Infants ****	% Births to Mothers who Received Adequate Prenatal Care ***	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births **	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through TANF ^	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through SNAP (Food Stamps) ^
20032	8	2,923	9.2%	37.1%	32.2%	87.7%	19.0%	15.0%	48.4%	19.7	39.3%	49.8%
20036	2,8	44	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	10.8%	4.0%	7.7%	70.7%	7.3	8.5%	11.0%
20037	2	86	0.7%	5.8%	0.0%	5.8%	0.6%	8.7%	75.4%	15.6	3.7%	4.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>31,750</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>23.6%</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>57.6%</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>63.5%</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>23.7%</b>	<b>31.5%</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from 2005 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\* Data are from 2006 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\*\* Data are from 2007 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^ Data are from 2008 Income Maintenance Administration, DC Department of Human Services and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

s = Suppressed data when number of children is <5.

## ***Early Childhood Reach Program Usage***

The early childhood programs described below are considered “reach” programs because they represent the extent to which OSSE/ECE is reaching the relevant population of the District and providing services to meet the needs of very young children. Data on the use of each program were obtained from the OSSE/ECE for fiscal year 2009.

### **Licensed child development centers by Ward and zip code**

ECE’s Compliance and Integrity Division (Child Care Licensing Unit) regulates the licensing of child development centers, defined as a location where a child development program is provided for infants and children, away from the child’s home, less than 24 hours a day for each infant and child. The facility may be a child development center or an infant care center, but does not include public or private elementary or secondary schools.<sup>30</sup> Many child development centers in the District of Columbia participate in the Child Care Subsidy Program, which is federal funding provided to states via block grants to support low-income families with child care so that parents can work or attend school. Federal guidelines allow states to assist families in paying for child care if the family’s income falls below 85 percent of state median income (SMI) and if they need child care to support employment and/or education and training. The federal eligibility level is a maximum but not a requirement, and many states set their eligibility levels lower than 85.0 percent of SMI.<sup>31</sup> The District of Columbia sets its eligibility for child care subsidies at 85.0 percent of the median income. Eligible families that receive child care subsidies may choose to use them for family child care or center-based care, although families may also use child care subsidies for family, friend and neighbor care.<sup>32</sup> The data in Tables 3 and 4 include the total number of child development centers in each Ward and zip code, including those centers providing services to subsidy-receiving families.

For fiscal year 2009, the greatest number of licensed child development centers were located in Ward 2 (67 centers), whereas the fewest were located in Wards 1 and 5 (31 and 32 centers, respectively). The capacity to serve children under the age of five in child development centers was greatest in Ward 2 (4,266 slots), and lowest in Ward 7 (2,050 slots). The capacity in Ward 2 was high considering the relatively low number of resident children in this Ward as compared to other Wards in the city (see Table 3). This is most likely due to the high concentration of businesses in that area that house child care programs. The zip codes 20011 and 20019 had the greatest number of child development centers (36 and 30 centers, respectively), while zip codes 20012 and 20037 had the lowest number, with only three licensed centers in each community (see Table 4). The number of slots for all children ages birth to five was greatest in zip code 20011 (2,351 slots) and lowest in zip code 20012 (147 slots).

The greatest number of centers providing early care and education services to families receiving child care subsidies was in Ward 8 (43 centers), whereas Ward 3 had the lowest number of centers (4 centers). Zip code 20020 had the highest number of centers providing services to families receiving subsidies (38 centers) whereas zip codes 20012 and 20037 had the lowest, with only three centers in each zip code.

It is important to note that children served by child development centers and homes in each Ward/zip code may not reside in that Ward/zip code. Families often travel to locations outside of their residential area for child care. For this reason, this report focuses on the total capacity of programs within Wards and zip codes to serve children (as well as total available slots for older and younger children noted separately) and not on the specific number of children being served in particular locations.

Table 3. Child Development Center Reach Data – Ward Level, 2009

Ward	# of Children Under 5*	# of Licensed Child Development Centers**	# Child Development Centers Providing Services to Subsidy-Receiving Families**	# of Slots for Infants/Toddlers (Ages 0-2) **	# of Slots for Older Children (Ages 3-5) **	Total Capacity**
1	4,105	31	25	558	2,301	2,859
2	1,803	67	22	1,127	3,139	4,266
3	2,857	36	4	173	2,446	2,619
4	4,196	40	27	602	1,982	2,584
5	4,001	32	25	308	1,991	2,299
6	3,342	45	29	673	1,930	2,603
7	4,963	35	31	353	1,697	2,050
8	7,269	45	43	664	2,608	3,272
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,536</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>4,458</b>	<b>18,094</b>	<b>22,552</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2009

Table 4. Child Development Center Reach Data – Zip Code Level, 2009

Zip Code	# of Children Under 5*	# of Licensed Child Development Centers**	# Child Development Centers Providing Services to Subsidy-Receiving Families**	# of Slots for Infants/Toddlers (Ages 0-2) **	# of Slots for Older Children (Ages 3-5) **	Total Capacity**
20001	1,896	23	18	369	720	1,089
20002	2,911	25	19	369	1,006	1,375
20003	1,047	10	6	46	458	504
20004	9	6	0	171	349	520
20005	380	6	2	121	347	468
20006	4	9	0	193	370	563
20007	916	12	1	55	732	787
20008	704	13	4	103	1,045	1,148
20009	1,982	14	16	300	1,258	1,558
20010	2,024	10	5	173	853	1,026
20011	3,277	36	28	513	1,838	2,351
20012	614	3	0	16	131	147
20015	899	9	0	35	583	618

Table 4. Child Development Center Reach Data – Zip Code Level, 2009

Zip Code	# of Children Under 5*	# of Licensed Child Development Centers**	# Child Development Centers Providing Services to Subsidy-Receiving Families**	# of Slots for Infants/Toddlers (Ages 0-2) **	# of Slots for Older Children (Ages 3-5) **	Total Capacity**
20016	1,376	15	1	53	680	733
20017	826	9	6	114	793	907
20018	888	15	10	153	968	1,121
20019	4,037	30	29	287	1,439	1,726
20020	4,394	38	27	320	1,336	1,656
20024	513	29	5	36	193	229
20032	2,923	29	27	498	1,809	2,307
20036	44	4	0	74	202	276
20037	86	3	1	60	170	230
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,750</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>4,059</b>	<b>17,280</b>	<b>21,339</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2009

### Licensed child development homes by Ward and zip code

A child development home is defined as an early care and education program that operates in a private residence and provides care for up to five infants and children at a given time, with no more than two infants in the group.<sup>30</sup> The data in Tables 5 and 6 include the total number of licensed child development homes in each Ward and zip code for fiscal year 2009. The number of available slots for both infants and toddlers (ages 0-2) and older children (ages 3-5) are given in addition to the total capacity for each Ward and zip code.

In fiscal year 2009, 191 child development homes were in operation in the District of Columbia. Forty-two homes were in Ward 7, with a total of 182 slots available for both infants and older children. This is the largest number of available slots in all Wards. The lowest number of available slots was in Ward 3, which had four homes and 19 slots for infants and older children. Zip code 20019 had the highest number of child development homes and zip codes 20004, 20006, 20008, 20036, and 20037 did not have any child development homes. The greatest number of child development homes providing early care and education services to families receiving subsidies was in Ward 7 (28 homes), whereas Ward 3 had the lowest number (none). At the zip code level, 20019 had the greatest number of child development homes providing services to subsidy-receiving families (23 homes). In fiscal year 2009, 12 zip codes did not have any child development homes providing services to subsidy-receiving families.



Table 5. Child Development Homes Reach Data - Ward Level, 2009

Ward	# of Children Under 5*	# of Licensed Child Development Homes**	# of Child Development Homes Providing Services to Subsidy-Receiving Families**	# of Slots for Infants/Toddlers (Ages 0-2) **	# of Slots for Older Children (Ages 3-5) **	Total Capacity**
1	4,105	8	3	16	23	39
2	1,803	4	1	8	12	20
3	2,857	4	0	7	12	19
4	4,196	35	11	65	100	165
5	4,001	40	15	40	60	100
6	3,342	30	13	58	87	145
7	4,963	42	28	69	113	182
8	7,269	28	22	49	79	128
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,536</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>798</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2009

Table 6. Child Development Homes - Zip Code Level, 2009

Zip Code	# of Children Under 5*	# of Licensed Child Development Homes**	# of Child Development Homes Providing Services to Subsidy-Receiving Families**	# of Slots for Infants/Toddlers (Ages 0-2)**	# of Slots for Older Children (Ages 3-5) **	Total Capacity**
20001	1,896	5	4	10	15	25
20002	2,911	23	11	46	69	115
20003	1,047	3	0	5	9	14
20004	9	0	0	0	0	0
20005	380	1	0	2	3	5
20006	4	0	0	0	0	0
20007	916	1	0	2	3	5
20008	704	0	0	0	0	0
20009	1,982	2	0	4	5	9
20010	2,024	7	4	14	21	35
20011	3,277	23	9	50	76	126
20012	614	8	2	15	24	39
20015	899	1	0	2	3	5
20016	1,376	3	0	5	9	14

Table 6. Child Development Homes - Zip Code Level, 2009

Zip Code	# of Children Under 5*	# of Licensed Child Development Homes**	# of Child Development Homes Providing Services to Subsidy-Receiving Families**	# of Slots for Infants/Toddlers (Ages 0-2)**	# of Slots for Older Children (Ages 3-5) **	Total Capacity**
20017	826	5	6	10	15	25
20018	888	3	1	6	9	15
20019	4,037	32	23	60	98	158
20020	4,394	25	20	48	75	123
20024	513	1	13	1	3	4
20032	2,923	16	0	32	49	81
20036	44	0	0	0	0	0
20037	86	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,750</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>798</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2009

### **“Going for the Gold” Tiered Rate Reimbursement System**

The District of Columbia’s tiered rate reimbursement system, “Going for the Gold,” rewards programs that go beyond minimum requirements to provide higher quality care for infants and toddlers. The goals of the “Going for the Gold” system are to increase the quality of care for children and families in District of Columbia, to help consumers be more informed about child care options, to increase compensation for providers, to bring new providers into the subsidy system, and to increase subsidy slots. This is a voluntary system reserved only for those programs that serve families who receive child care subsidies. In this system, differential reimbursement rates for child care centers and family providers are tied to quality indicators.<sup>33</sup> Participants receive higher reimbursement rates based on their ability to meet specified quality criteria. The “Going for the Gold” system has three tiers: Gold, Silver, and Bronze. The Gold tier represents the highest level of quality achievement, which is equivalent to national accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and receives the highest reimbursement rates.<sup>33</sup>

Quality indicators for child development centers are:

- Accreditation
- Compliance with licensing regulations
- Director qualifications and training
- Staff qualifications and training
- Staff compensation
- Parent involvement and consumer satisfaction

- Learning environment

Quality indicators for child development homes are:

- Accreditation
- Compliance with licensing regulations
- Child Development Home Provider (CDHP) qualifications and training
- Parent involvement and consumer education
- Home environment and home evaluation

In fiscal year 2009, there were a total of 72 Gold, 42 Silver, and 91 Bronze child development centers in the District of Columbia (See Table 7).<sup>v</sup> As mentioned previously, all of the programs participating in the tiered rate reimbursement system provide early care and education services to families receiving child care subsidies. Ward 8 had the highest percentage of Gold centers (48.9 percent) and Ward 3 had the lowest percentage of Gold centers (5.6 percent). Ward 7 had the highest percentage of Silver centers (28.6 percent) and Ward 3 had the lowest percentage of Silver centers (0.0 percent). Ward 5 had the highest percentage of Bronze centers (50.0 percent) and Ward 3 had the lowest percentage of Bronze centers (5.6 percent). At the zip code level, zip code 20032 had the highest percentage of Gold centers with 62.4 percent, 20019 had the highest percentage of Silver centers with 30.0 percent, and 20017 had the highest percentage of Bronze centers with 55.6 percent. See Tables 7 and 8 for additional data on the tiered reimbursement program by Ward and by zip code.

Table 7. "Going for the Gold" Tiered Rate Reimbursement Data - Ward Level, 2009

Ward	Tiered Rate Reimbursement Level					
	Child Development Centers			Child Development Homes		
	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze
1	13	5	7	0	1	2
2	6	8	7	0	1	0
3	2	0	2	0	0	0
4	6	7	13	0	0	11
5	7	3	16	1	1	13
6	9	4	16	3	4	6
7	7	10	14	4	3	20
8	22	5	16	6	0	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>68</b>

Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2009

<sup>v</sup> The totals found in Table 7 and Table 8 do not match due to the differences in reporting of Ward level data and zip code level data. The District of Columbia has many zip codes that are classified by the U.S. Postal Service as "special cases." Due to the lack of sufficient data on these special cases, these zip codes have been excluded from Table 8.

Table 8. "Going for the Gold" Tiered Rate Reimbursement Data - Zip Code Level, 2009

Zip Code	Tiered Rate Reimbursement Level					
	Child Development Centers			Child Development Homes		
	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze
20001	5	6	7	0	1	3
20002	7	2	10	2	2	7
20003	3	1	2	0	0	0
20004	0	0	0	0	0	0
20005	1	1	0	0	0	0
20006	0	0	0	0	0	0
20007	0	1	0	0	0	0
20008	2	0	2	0	0	0
20009	6	4	5	0	0	0
20010	4	0	2	0	0	2
20011	6	8	13	0	0	9
20012	0	0	0	0	0	0
20015	0	0	0	0	0	0
20016	1	0	0	0	0	0
20017	1	0	5	1	0	5
20018	3	2	6	0	3	1
20019	5	8	14	4	3	18
20020	7	6	15	3	0	13
20024	1	2	2	4	0	0
20032	18	1	8	0	0	9
20036	0	0	0	0	0	0
20037	1	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>67</b>

Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2009

### Pre-k programs for three- and four-year-olds

Created in 2008, the *Pre-k Enhancement and Expansion Act* provides funding to ensure high-quality pre-kindergarten programs are universally available for three- and four-year-old children in the District of Columbia by 2014. Pre-kindergarten programs are currently available to children and families through DC Public Schools (DCPS), public charter schools (DCPCS), community-based organizations (CBOs), and Head Start classrooms in DCPS. In fiscal year 2010, \$20 million was approved by the DC City Council to enable 1,000 new children to enroll in pre-k programs, to expand quality improvement efforts through the Pre-K Program Assistance Grant Fund, and to increase teacher qualifications through the Higher Education Incentive Grant Program.<sup>34</sup>

OSSE/ECE is charged with overseeing the implementation of the *Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Act*, which consists of the following activities:

Program enhancement

- Conducting a baseline quality assessment of a sample of pre-k classrooms in DC's public schools, public charter schools, and CBOs. This data will be used as the point of comparison for future quality assessments.
- Implementing a program evaluation that utilizes nationally recognized assessment tools to gauge program quality, including program structure, language and literacy environment, quality of instructional support, classroom climate, and classroom management.
- Administering the Program Assistance Grant Fund, a five-year grant program to assist pre-kindergarten programs in meeting the required high-quality standards.

Program expansion

- Expanding access to high-quality programs at a rate that will make pre-k universally available by 2014.

Workforce development

- Administering the Higher Education Incentive Grant Program to improve professional development and increase the number of highly-qualified teachers.

Program operation and administration

- Conducting an annual capacity audit of pre-k programs to determine the number of children for whom pre-k is not available, the current capacity of all existing pre-k programs, and the manner in which Head Start programs are incorporated in the early education delivery system.

In June of 2010, OSSE announced the twenty-five grantees of the Pre-kindergarten Enhancement and Expansion Program Assistance Grants. These two-year, \$25,000 grants prioritize funding for applicants serving preschool children in the highest-risk Wards: 5, 7, and 8. Grant funds are designed to support pre-k program activities related to accreditation, training, obtaining instructional support and materials, implementing age-appropriate curriculum, performing facility improvements, and family engagement programs.<sup>35</sup>

The data in Tables 9 and 10 include the total number of children enrolled in public pre-kindergarten programs in DCPS and DCPCS by Ward and zip code for fiscal year 2010. Collectively, these entities provided pre-kindergarten programs to 8,273 four-year-old children in the District of Columbia. Ward 7 served the greatest number of children with 1,441 children enrolled in public pre-k programs, and Ward 3 had the lowest number (294 children) enrolled. The greatest number of children were enrolled in pre-k programs in zip code 20011 (1,278 children) and the lowest number of children were enrolled in zip code 20037 (19 children).

Table 9. Pre-K Programs in DCPS, and DCPCS, by Ward, 2010

<b>Ward</b>	<b># of Children Enrolled</b>
<b>1</b>	999
<b>2</b>	515
<b>3</b>	294
<b>4</b>	1,254
<b>5</b>	1,208
<b>6</b>	1,304
<b>7</b>	1,441
<b>8</b>	1,258
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,273</b>

Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2010

Table 10. Pre-K Programs in DCPS, DCPCS, by Zip Code, 2010

<b>Zip Code</b>	<b># of Children Enrolled</b>
<b>20001</b>	323
<b>20002</b>	680
<b>20003</b>	664
<b>20005</b>	168
<b>20007</b>	75
<b>20008</b>	208
<b>20009</b>	707
<b>20010</b>	365
<b>20011</b>	1,278
<b>20012</b>	87
<b>20015</b>	80
<b>20016</b>	100
<b>20017</b>	520
<b>20018</b>	310
<b>20019</b>	1,006
<b>20020</b>	879
<b>20024</b>	102

Table 10. Pre-K Programs in DCPS, DCPCS, by Zip Code, 2010

Zip Code	# of Children Enrolled
20032	702
20037	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,273</b>

Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2010

The data in Table 11 includes the number of pre-kindergarten slots funded by the *Pre-k Enhancement and Expansion Act* and administered by CBOs. These 15 centers provided pre-kindergarten to an additional 492 children in the District. With these children included, a total of 8,765 four-year-olds were served by public pre-kindergarten programs in DCPS, DCPCS, and CBOs in the 2009-2010 school year.

Table 11. Pre-K Programs in Community-Based Organizations, 2010

Ward	Zip Code	Community-Based Organization Name	# of Slots
1	20010	Barbara Chambers Children's Center	64
1	20009	CentroNia	84
1	20009	Easter Seals of Greater Washington	16
1	20009	Jubilee Jumpstart Child Development Center	16
1	20009	Martha's Table Child Development Center	16
2	20005	United Planning Organization #4	16
4	20011	United Planning Organization #1	32
5	20001	Associates for Renewal in Education	32
5	20017	Kennedy Institute Child Development Center	16
5	20020	National Children's Center	32
6	20001	Bright Beginnings, Inc.	36
6	20002	United Planning Organization	16
7	20002	United Planning Organization #8	16
8	20020	Matthew's Memorial Child Development Center	16
8	20032	Sunshine Early Learning Center	84
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>492</b>

Data are from the District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Division of Early Childhood Education, 2010

## Assignment of Risk Levels

Each Ward and zip code was assigned an average risk level based on the concentration of children affected by each of the specified risk factors. Wards and zip codes were assigned an average risk level of “1” for low risk, “2” for moderate risk, and “3” for high risk. For each indicator, the top third of Wards/zip codes with the highest percentages of children affected by the risk indicator received a ranking of three, and the bottom third with the lowest percentages of children affected by the risk indicator received a ranking of one. The individual risk levels for each indicator were then totaled to determine the total risk level for each Ward and zip code. The total risk level for each Ward and zip code was then averaged (by eleven for Wards and by nine for zip codes) to determine the overall average risk level of each Ward and zip code. Appendices A and B contain the risk level assignments for each indicator by Ward and zip code.

Figure 1. Average Risk Level by Ward

### Ward level findings on risk level

Table 12 contains the District of Columbia’s eight Wards and average risk level. These are based on data from the 2000 Decennial Census, 2007/2006 Vital Statistics data, 2009 Income Maintenance Administration data, and data from the 2008 District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency. Based on the risk analyses, Ward 3 was low risk, Wards 1, 2, 4, and 6 were moderate risk, and Wards 5, 7 and 8 were high risk. Figure 1 illustrates the levels of risk in each Ward, with green indicating low risk, yellow indicating moderate risk, and red-orange indicating high risk.

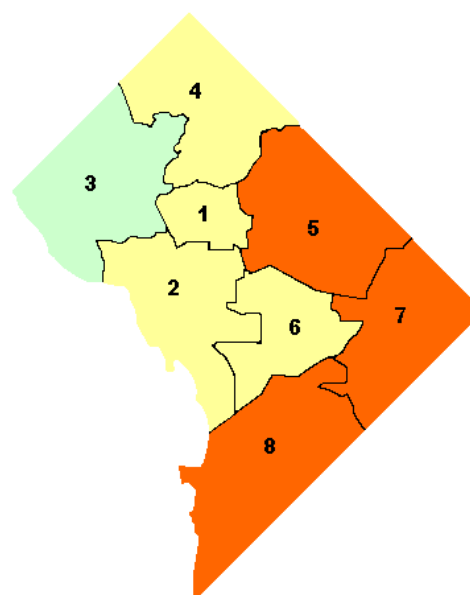


Table 12. Average Risk Level by Ward

Low Risk Wards	Average Risk Level	Moderate Risk Wards	Average Risk Level	High Risk Wards	Average Risk Level
3	1.00	1	1.73	5	2.55
		2	1.73	7	2.82
		4	1.64	8	2.82
		6	1.91		



### Zip code level findings on risk level

Table 13 contains the average risk level for each zip code within the District of Columbia. These analyses are based on data from the 2000 Decennial Census, 2007/2006/2005 Vital Statistics data, 2008 Income Maintenance Administration data, and data from the 2008 District of Columbia Child and Family Services Agency. Based on the risk analyses, zip codes 20004, 20006, 20007, 20008, 20015, 20016, 20036, and 20037 were low risk. Zip codes 20003, 20005, 20009, 20010, 20011, 20012, 20017, and 20018 were moderate risk. Zip codes 20001, 20002, 20019, 20020, 20024, and 20032 were high risk. Figure 2 illustrates the levels of risk in each zip code, with green indicating low risk, yellow indicating moderate risk, and red-orange indicating high risk.

Figure 2. Average Risk Level by Zip Code

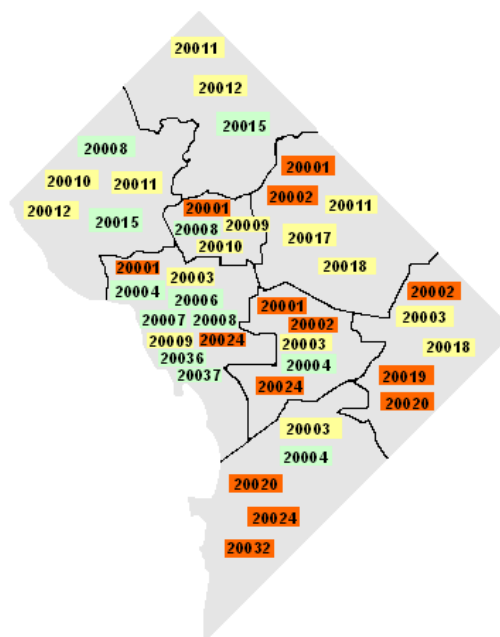


Table 13. Average Risk Level by Zip Code

Low Risk Zip Codes	Average Risk Level	Moderate Risk Zip Codes	Average Risk Level	High Risk Zip Codes	Average Risk Level
20004	0.78	20003	2.00	20001	2.56
20006	0.44	20005	1.78	20002	2.67
20007	1.22	20009	2.11	20019	2.78
20008	1.22	20010	2.11	20020	2.89
20015	0.89	20011	2.11	20024	2.67
20016	0.78	20012	1.67	20032	2.89
20036	1.22	20017	2.11		
20037	1.22	20018	2.33		

## Analyzing Risk and Reach Data Together

In order to determine the areas in the District most likely to benefit from early childhood services, an average risk level was developed to identify those Wards and zip codes with the highest risk levels and, therefore, the greatest need for early childhood investments. These data were analyzed in conjunction with data on early childhood program capacity at the Ward and zip code level to determine the reach of ECE programs and services and to determine potential future improvements in service delivery.

As stated above, children served by child development centers and homes in each Ward/zip code may not reside in that Ward/zip code. Total capacity of each center and home is reported, not the specific number of children served at that location. Further, the number of children living in each Ward and zip code under age five are estimates based on the 2000 Decennial Census. Therefore, results should be interpreted with caution.

## ***Child Care Risk and Reach by Ward***

### **Child development centers**

Wards with the highest average risk level are 5, 7, and 8, yet none of the licensed or subsidized centers in these Wards have enough total capacity to reach many of the children under age five. While Ward 8 has the same number of child development centers as Ward 6, it has more than twice as many children under age five (7,269 children). As a result, it is not possible for Ward 8 to provide access to center-based care to more than 45.0 percent of children under age five. Ward 7 has the lowest total center capacity out of all eight Wards and is only able to provide access to center-based care to 41.3 percent of children under the age of five.

Ward 8 has the highest percentage of centers participating in the “Going for the Gold” Tiered Rate Reimbursement System and has the most centers with a Gold rating. Centers must receive child care subsidies to be eligible for participation in the tiered rate reimbursement system, indicating that Ward 8 also has the highest number of child development centers receiving child care subsidies. Wards 1, 2, 4, and 6 have moderate average risk levels, yet centers in Wards 1, 4, and 6 only have the capacity to serve 69.6 percent, 61.6 percent, and 77.9 percent, respectively, of children under age five. Notably, Ward 2 is the only Ward that has the capacity to serve all its children under age five.

Ward 3 has the lowest average risk level and has 36 centers with a total capacity of 2,619 children. This means that Ward 3 has the potential to reach most of its 2,857 children under the age of five. Further, Ward 3 has the fewest number of centers participating in “Going for the Gold,” which may be because Ward 3 has the lowest number of children under age five in families living at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

### **Child development homes**

Research shows that family child care and home-based care is commonly used among low-income families.<sup>36</sup> Ward 7 has the largest number of child development homes and is one of the Wards with the highest average risk level. Ward 7 also has the largest number of homes receiving child care subsidies, and in turn, the highest number of homes participating in the “Going for the Gold.” However, Ward 8, another high risk Ward, has the most homes with a Gold rating. In this Ward, there are fewer child development homes than other moderate to high risk Wards, yet many more children under the age of five live in this community.

Despite the fact that Wards 1, 4, and 5 have a similar number of young children, Ward 1 has only 8 child development homes, significantly fewer than Wards 4 and 5. Wards 2 and 3 have the lowest number of child development homes and as a result, serve the fewest number of children through this type of care. However, Ward 3 also has a low average risk level and the fewest number of children living in poverty. This suggests that higher income families in the District of Columbia may use family child care homes less often than center-based care. Research supports this assertion, as family child care, specifically family, friend, and neighbor care, is the most common child care arrangement for children from low-income families and is less common for children from more affluent families.<sup>36</sup>

## ***Child Care Risk and Reach by Zip Code***

### **Child development centers**

The zip codes with the highest average risk level include 20001, 20002, 20019, 20020, 20024, and 20032. These zip codes all have comparable numbers of child development centers except 20024, which only has nine centers and 513 children under the age of five living in that zip code. Among these high risk

zip codes, there are significant differences in zip codes 20002, 20019, 20020, and 20024 in the total capacity of child development centers and the number of children under age five. For example, zip code 20020 only has the capacity to serve 37.7 percent of the children under age five living in that zip code.

Zip codes with a moderate average risk level include 20003, 20005, 20009, 20010, 20011, 20012, 20017, and 20018. The number of centers among these zip codes varies. For example, zip code 20011 has the greatest number of centers and can serve the highest number of children. However, zip code 20010 has only 10 child development centers but has as many children under the age of five as other zip codes with more centers.

The lowest average risk levels are located in zip codes 20004, 20006, 20007, 20008, 20015, 20016, 20036, and 20037. The total capacity of child development centers in zip code 20006 is comparable to other low risk zip codes with far greater number of children under the age of five. Additionally, the total center capacity in zip codes 20004, 20006, 20008, 20036, and 20037 exceeds the number of children under five living in those areas.

### **Child development homes**

Zip codes 20019 and 20020 have the highest number of child development homes and both have a high average risk level. This suggests that home-based child care is more prevalent in zip codes with high concentrations of disadvantaged families. This pattern is supported by the finding that zip codes with the low average risk levels (20004, 20006, 20008, 20036, and 20037) do not have any child development homes.

### ***Pre-K Program Risk and Reach by Ward and Zip Code***

Ward 7 has the highest number of children enrolled in public pre-kindergarten programs operated by DCPS and DCPCS, whereas Ward 3 has the lowest. Children in Ward 7, which is a high risk Ward, may be more likely to be enrolled in publicly funded programs such as Head Start than children in Ward 3 due to a higher population of children under the age of five living in families below the poverty level. Zip code 20011 has the highest number of children enrolled in public pre-kindergarten programs, while zip code 20037 has the lowest.

Of the 15 CBOs providing pre-kindergarten programs, the majority are located in high risk Wards 5, 7, and 8. However, Ward 1, a moderate risk Ward, has the highest number for a single Ward (five programs). Although the 2008 Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Act has increased the capacity for pre-k across the District of Columbia for three- and four-year-olds, the majority of this expansion has been within the District of Columbia Public Schools and Public Charter Schools, as reported in Tables 9-11.

## **Comparison with 2008 Report**

As mentioned above, this report is a part of an annual endeavor to inform the District of Columbia's efforts to reach children most at-risk for school failure with programs and services in early childhood. Several changes have occurred since the last report in regard to both Ward and zip code risk levels, and to early childhood programming available in the District of Columbia that should be noted.

The most substantial change in the average risk level by Ward occurred in Ward 2, where the average risk level increased from 1.44 to 1.73. This increase resulted in Ward 2 moving from a low average risk level to a moderate average risk level. Between 2008 and 2009, zip code 20006 went from a moderate risk level of 1.50 to a low risk level of 0.44. In addition, zip code 20002 increased from an average risk level of 2.44 to 2.67, moving it from moderate risk to high risk.

The number of child development centers by Ward and zip code did not change significantly since the 2008 report, although several Wards, including 1, 3, 4, and 8, have observed an increase of at least two additional centers. Zip codes 20006, 20008, 20010, 20011, 20016, 20019, 20020, 20024 have also increased by at least two additional centers according to the 2009 data. The total child development center capacity to serve children under the age of five increased in Ward 8 from 2,645 total slots to 3,272 slots. Total capacity also increased in Wards 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7 by an average of 279 slots.

The 2009 data on child development homes by Ward indicated a substantial increase in the number of homes in Ward 5. From 2008 to 2009, the number of child development homes in Ward 5 increased from 27 to 40 homes. However, despite the increase in home-based care, the total capacity dropped from 135 slots to 100 slots. One plausible explanation for this outcome may be related to a decrease in funding, which may have forced some of these homes to accept fewer children due to lack of resources. In addition, the number of homes in Ward 7 only decreased by 3 homes between 2008 and 2009, yet the total capacity for that Ward changed from 222 slots in 2008 to 182 slots in 2009.

Data on child development homes by zip code did not change substantially from 2008 to 2009. Across most zip codes, the number of homes decreased only by one or two homes from 2008 to 2009. However, zip code 20019 experienced more notable changes. The number of child development homes in this zip code decreased from 39 to 32 homes between 2008 and 2009. As a result, total capacity decreased from 193 slots to 158 slots.

Since fiscal year 2008, the total number of child development homes receiving a Gold tiered reimbursement rating decreased from 33 to 14 homes. In comparison, child development homes receiving a Silver rating increased from 0 to 10 homes, and Bronze-rated homes increased from 0 to 69 homes. Substantial increases occurred in Wards 4, 5, 7, and 8, which all had 0 Bronze-rated child development homes in 2008 and increased to 11, 13, 21, and 16 Bronze-rated homes, respectively, in 2009. This may indicate more child development homes were eligible to receive subsidies, or more child development homes met the quality indicators associated with a Bronze or Silver rating, or a mix of both factors. At the zip code level, the number of Bronze child development homes increased in zip codes 20002, 20017, 20019, 20020, and 20032 from 0 in 2008 to 7, 5, 18, 13, and 9, respectively, in 2009. The decrease in the number of homes receiving a Gold rating may be largely attributed to the decrease of child development homes receiving a Gold rating in Ward 7. Gold-rated child development homes in Ward 7 decreased from 10 homes in 2008 to 4 homes in 2009.

Though changes within child development centers were not as substantial, one notable increase was that the total number of centers receiving a Bronze rating increased from 78 in fiscal year 2008 to 91 in fiscal year 2009. The greatest increase in centers with a Bronze rating occurred in Ward 8 from 11 to 16 centers and in zip code 20020 from 9 to 15 centers.

For the past few years the District of Columbia has focused on increasing the amount of children served by public pre-kindergarten programs. In fiscal year 2008, the Pre-K Incentive program was introduced as a pilot program intended to promote high-quality pre-kindergarten programs in CBOs across the District of Columbia. The *Pre-k Enhancement and Expansion Act* has helped CBOs offering public pre-k programs increase from 11 programs in fiscal year 2008 to 15 programs in fiscal year 2010. The most change within one Ward occurred in Ward 1, which gained 2 CBO pre-k programs in the last year. In addition to adding new community-based pre-kindergarten programs, many organizations from the pilot program substantially increased the number of classrooms and available slots for children enrolled in their programs since the 2008 report. For example, Barbara Chambers Children's Center increased the number of funded pre-k slots from 16 children in fiscal year 2008 to 64 children in fiscal year 2010.

Because specific enrollment data for pre-k programs in DCPS and DCPCS were not included in the fiscal year 2008 report, no comparisons by auspice can be made to the current data included in this report.

## Limitations and Future Directions

Although this report provides insight into how the District of Columbia is reaching its early childhood population, there are a number of limitations that should be considered. As mentioned previously, it is difficult to determine accurately whether child development programs within specific Wards and zip codes are actually serving children who reside in those locations. This difficulty arises because children often attend early childhood programs outside of their immediate neighborhood. In order to remedy this situation in future reports, data on children's home addresses would need to be included within the analyses.

Other early childhood programs that benefit young children and their families such as early literacy programs, professional development supports, and accreditation, currently operate within the District of Columbia. However, there is insufficient information at this time to determine usage by Ward and zip code. Future editions of this report could include data on these programs should data by Ward and zip code be available for analysis. In addition, data on pre-k capacity will need to be updated as the *Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Act* continues to increase access to public pre-k in the District of Columbia.

As mentioned previously, this report excludes those zip codes that are classified by the U.S. Postal Service as special cases. There are a few child care programs that exist in these special zip codes; however, thorough data are not available, preventing an accurate assessment of the total number of children who can be reached by these child care programs.

Future editions of this *Early Childhood Risk and Reach Assessment* report might benefit from including data on funding for early childhood programs in the District of Columbia. This would increase understanding about potential gaps in funding and would inform future reallocations of funds. In addition, future reports might include trend data that could help OSSE and individual programs or Wards track progress towards reaching all children.

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## Appendices

Appendix A . Combined Risk Indicators by Ward

Ward	% Children Under 5 Living in Families Below Poverty Level*	Risk Level	% Children Under 5 Living in Single Mother-Headed Families Below Poverty Level*	Risk Level	% Births to Single Mothers **	Risk Level	% Births to Teen Mothers **	Risk Level	% Low Birth Weight Infants **	Risk Level	% Births to Mothers who Received Adequate Prenatal Care **	Risk Level
1	26.3%	3	19.1%	2	56.5%	2	12.0%	2	9.2%	1	63.6%	2
2	18.9%	2	9.1%	1	28.2%	1	5.3%	1	7.0%	1	75.7%	1
3	2.1%	1	1.4%	1	7.6%	1	1.3%	1	7.2%	1	87.0%	1
4	11.9%	1	6.4%	1	56.3%	2	9.4%	2	9.7%	2	60.8%	3
5	21.4%	2	17.3%	2	69.8%	3	14.3%	3	12.8%	3	55.3%	3
6	23.9%	2	20.6%	2	42.1%	2	8.0%	2	11.3%	2	70.2%	2
7	29.3%	3	25.9%	3	83.1%	3	18.4%	3	13.7%	3	52.2%	3
8	35.5%	3	31.1%	3	84.1%	3	19.6%	3	14.1%	3	50.8%	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23.5%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>58.5%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>62.8%</b>	<b>3</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from 2007 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\* Data are from 2006 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^ Data are from 2009 Income Maintenance Administration, DC Department of Human Services and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^^ Data are from 2008 DC Child and Family Services Agency. 254 cases were missing the child's home Ward.

**Legend:**

Low Average Risk Level	
Moderate Average Risk Level	
High Average Risk Level	



Appendix A . Combined Risk Indicators by Ward, Continued.

Ward	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births ***	Risk Level	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through TANF ^	Risk Level	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through SNAP (Food Stamps) ^	Risk Level	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through Medicaid/ SCHIP ^	Risk Level	# of Substantiated Cases of Abuse & Neglect ^^	Risk Level	Total Risk Level	Average Risk Level (ARL)
1	5.0	1	14.5%	2	22.4%	2	60.3%	1	97	1	19	1.73
2	11.4	2	34.9%	3	48.4%	3	s	s	32	1	19	1.73
3	4.3	1	0.3%	1	0.6%	1	5.1%	1	6	1	11	1.00
4	7.0	1	16.0%	2	25.4%	2	64.8%	1	115	1	18	1.64
5	16.7	3	25.1%	3	33.9%	3	59.2%	1	208	2	28	2.55
6	8.6	1	33.4%	3	42.6%	3	64.5%	1	125	1	21	1.91
7	14.8	3	34.0%	3	45.4%	3	68.5%	2	283	2	31	2.82
8	20.0	3	33.3%	3	42.0%	3	62.5%	1	460	3	31	2.82
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>25.4%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>34.2%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>65.1%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2.27</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from 2007 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\* Data are from 2006 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^ Data are from 2009 Income Maintenance Administration, DC Department of Human Services and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^^ Data are from 2008 DC Child and Family Services Agency. 254 cases were missing the child's home Ward.

**Legend:**

Low Average Risk Level	
Moderate Average Risk Level	
High Average Risk Level	

Appendix B. Combined Risk Indicators by Zip Code

Zip Code	Ward	% Children Under 5 Living in Families Below Poverty Level*	Risk Level	% Children Under 5 Living in Single Mother-Headed Families Below Poverty Level*	Risk Level	% Births to Single Mothers ***	Risk Level	% Births to Teen Mothers ****	Risk Level	% Low Birth Weight Infants ****	Risk Level
20001	1,2,5,6	33.9%	3	44.6%	3	61.4%	3	11.0%	2	13.0%	3
20002	6,7	34.9%	3	45.5%	3	61.5%	3	12.0%	2	12.0%	3
20003	2,6,7,8	31.5%	3	57.4%	3	28.1%	1	7.4%	2	9.4%	2
20004	2,6,8	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	27.5%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	1
20005	2	27.6%	3	42.3%	3	39.7%	2	6.5%	1	6.1%	2
20006	2	s		s		s		17.0%	3	0.0%	1
20007	2	9.0%	1	22.2%	2	4.7%	1	0.4%	1	7.0%	2
20008	1,2,3	0.7%	1	10.4%	1	8.0%	1	1.3%	1	7.5%	2
20009	1,2	28.3%	3	51.4%	3	47.8%	2	9.3%	2	8.2%	2
20010	1,3	24.6%	2	15.4%	1	61.0%	3	13.0%	2	8.8%	2
20011	3,4,5	13.9%	2	8.0%	1	60.9%	3	11.0%	2	10.0%	2
20012	3,4	9.8%	1	3.4%	1	43.5%	2	6.8%	2	9.2%	2
20015	3,4	1.6%	1	1.6%	1	1.7%	1	0.0%	1	8.7%	2
20016	3	0.8%	1	0.8%	1	4.3%	1	2.0%	1	5.1%	1
20017	5	8.0%	1	5.7%	1	60.1%	3	10.0%	2	12.0%	3
20018	5,7	14.0%	2	9.8%	1	65.9%	3	15.0%	3	11.0%	3
20019	7	31.7%	3	27.9%	2	84.2%	3	20.0%	3	14.0%	3
20020	7,8	37.1%	3	33.0%	2	85.9%	3	20.0%	3	14.0%	3
20024	2,6,8	37.2%	3	32.9%	2	61.1%	3	13.0%	2	16.0%	3
20032	8	37.1%	3	32.2%	2	87.7%	3	19.0%	3	15.0%	3
20036	2,8	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	10.8%	1	4.0%	1	7.7%	2
20037	2	5.8%	1	0.0%	1	5.8%	1	0.6%	1	8.7%	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>23.6%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>57.6%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>3</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from 2005 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\* Data are from 2006 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\*\* Data are from 2007 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^ Data are from 2008 Income Maintenance Administration, DC Department of Human Services and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

s = Suppressed data when number of children is <5.

**Legend:**

Low Average Risk Level	
Moderate Average Risk Level	
High Average Risk Level	

Appendix B. Combined Risk Indicators by Zip Code, Continued.

Zip Code	Ward	% Births to Mothers who Received Adequate Prenatal Care ***	Risk Level	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births **	Risk Level	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through TANF ^	Risk Level	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through SNAP (Food Stamps) ^	Risk Level	Total Risk Level	Average Risk Level (ARL)
20001	1,2,5,6	61.3%	3	11.0	2	20.8%	2	27.8%	2	23	2.56
20002	6,7	63.7%	2	14.8	2	27.3%	3	35.5%	3	24	2.67
20003	2,6,7,8	76.6%	1	11.9	2	16.2%	2	20.9%	2	18	2.00
20004	2,6,8	86.3%	1	0.0	1	s		s		7	0.78
20005	2	62.4%	2	0.0	1	8.1%	1	15.4%	1	16	1.78
20006	2	s		s		s		s		4	0.44
20007	2	85.3%	1	7.6	1	0.2%	1	0.3%	1	11	1.22
20008	1,2,3	84.8%	1	14.6	2	0.3%	1	0.3%	1	11	1.22
20009	1,2	66.1%	2	10.8	2	12.1%	1	17.9%	2	19	2.11
20010	1,3	59.1%	3	10.0	2	22.9%	2	32.6%	2	19	2.11
20011	3,4,5	58.3%	3	13.4	2	15.0%	2	22.1%	2	19	2.11
20012	3,4	68.2%	2	19.3	3	9.2%	1	14.1%	1	15	1.67
20015	3,4	85.1%	1	0.1	1	s		s		8	0.89

Appendix B. Combined Risk Indicators by Zip Code, Continued.

Zip Code	Ward	% Births to Mothers who Received Adequate Prenatal Care ***	Risk Level	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births **	Risk Level	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through TANF ^	Risk Level	% Children in Families Receiving Aid Through SNAP (Food Stamps) ^	Risk Level	Total Risk Level	Average Risk Level (ARL)
20016	3	87.3%	1	5.1	1	s		s		7	0.78
20017	5	58.6%	3	13.0	2	13.4%	2	18.5%	2	19	2.11
20018	5,7	60.0%	3	8.9	2	22.8%	2	30.3%	2	21	2.33
20019	7	54.0%	3	15.8	2	36.3%	3	48.1%	3	25	2.78
20020	7,8	53.6%	3	25.2	3	35.7%	3	46.2%	3	26	2.89
20024	2,6,8	63.8%	2	17.8	3	29.0%	3	37.8%	3	24	2.67
20032	8	48.4%	3	19.7	3	39.3%	3	49.8%	3	26	2.89
20036	2,8	70.7%	2	7.3	1	8.5%	1	11.0%	1	11	1.22
20037	2	75.4%	1	15.6	2	3.7%	1	4.2%	1	11	1.22
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>63.5%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>23.7%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>31.5%</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2.00</b>

\* Data are from the 2000 Decennial Census

\*\* Data are from 2005 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\* Data are from 2006 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

\*\*\*\* Data are from 2007 Vital Statistics Data, DC Department of Health and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

^ Data are from 2008 Income Maintenance Administration, DC Department of Human Services and NeighborhoodInfo DC at the Urban Institute

s = Suppressed data when number of children is <5.

**Legend:**

Low Average Risk Level	
Moderate Average Risk Level	
High Average Risk Level	