



Lexey Swall

The State of Families in Philadelphia, 2019

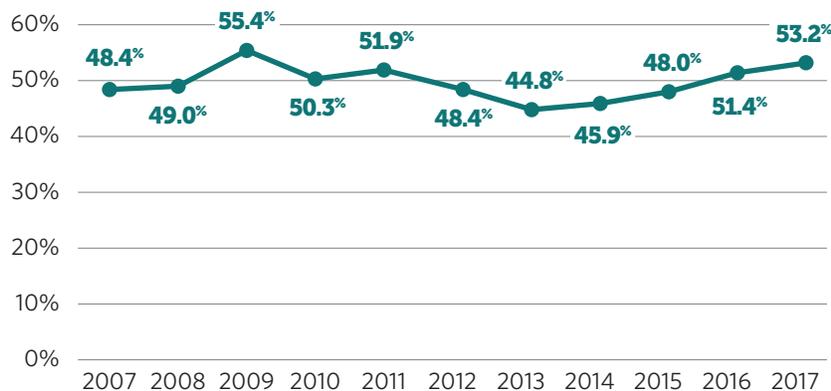
Overview

Forty-nine percent of Philadelphia's households are families, and 47 percent of those families include children under 18, while 26 percent are living below the poverty line, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Over the past few years, the city has aimed to increase the availability of high-quality prekindergarten education. Census data show that 53 percent of Philadelphia's 3- and 4-year-olds were enrolled in pre-K as of 2017, and PHLpreK—a program created by the Kenney administration—has introduced 2,500 city-funded seats. Affordable pre-K can help parents have higher earnings while saving on child care.

Meanwhile, local births to teenage mothers have declined by 64 percent over the past decade, although the birthrate remains higher than the national average on a per capita basis.

Percentage of 3- and 4-Year-Olds Enrolled in School in Philadelphia, 2007-17

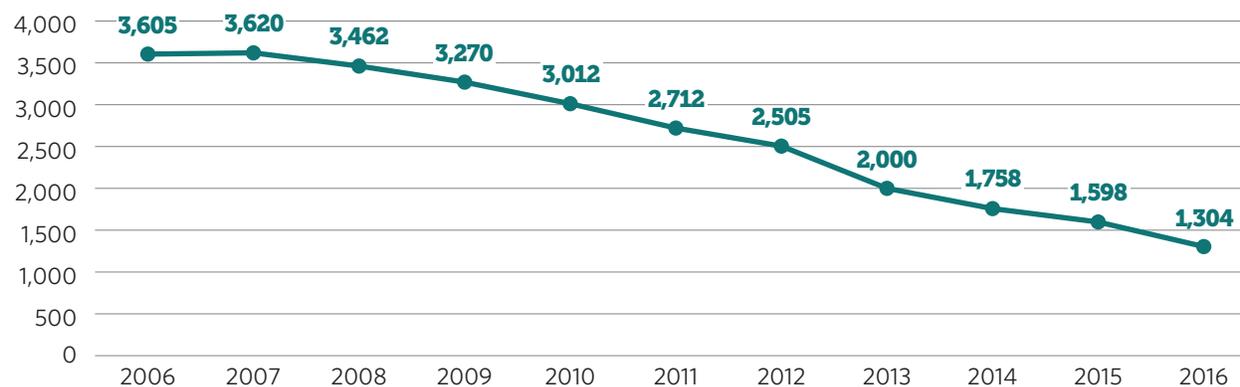


The share of 3- and 4-year-olds attending nursery school and preschool in Philadelphia fluctuated in a narrow range from 2007 to 2017. In 2016, at the urging of Mayor Jim Kenney, the city adopted a sweetened beverage tax of 1.5 cents per ounce, designed in part to pay for an expansion of prekindergarten programs. The tax went into effect in 2017.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, one-year estimates, 2007-17, Table S1401 (School Enrollment), <http://factfinder.census.gov>

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Births to Teenage Mothers Ages 15-19 in Philadelphia, 2006-16



The number of children born to teenage mothers in Philadelphia continued to decline, dropping to 1,304 in 2016, down 64 percent in a decade. Philadelphia recorded 27 births for every 1,000 females ages 15-19, which remains higher than the national rate of 20 births per 1,000 adolescent females.

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Health, Bureau of Health Statistics and Research, "Resident Live Births by Age of Mother, Counties and Pennsylvania," <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/HealthStatistics/VitalStatistics/BirthStatistics/Pages/birth-statistics.aspx>

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