Ah-Has

Share of families meeting eligibility criteria that are participating in key family support programs

WIC & SNAP
www.fns.usda.gov
TANF
www.cbpp.org
DHS Data Book
humanservices.hawaii.gov

» Ah-Ha: There are many families on SNAP, not many on TANF. What explains the difference?
Share of children (Age 3-4) enrolled in nursery school, preschool or kindergarten, during the previous three months

Population Reference Bureau, analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, pooled American Community Survey data.

Data derived from American Community Survey table B14003

» Ah-Ha: Very little increase in publicly funded seats in 3 yrs
While the number of families receiving child care subsidies has fallen, the amount families are receiving has risen to cover a larger share of child care costs.

Number of children whose families receive child care subsidies

Including Preschool Open Doors (State Funding) and Child Care Connection Hawaii (U.S. government funding)


2021 Data: Personal correspondence from Dayna Luka to Jeff Larson on October 4, 2021.

» Didn’t suspect such a steep drop in child care [subsidy] recipients
Funded seats in EOEL Public Pre-k Program & prekindergarten in public charter schools & Head Start and Early Head Start

Executive Office on Early Learning, earlylearning.hawaii.gov
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children & Families, Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center. eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov

» Need to explain differences between publicly funded and tuition funded child care
What questions does that raise for our work?

» TANF is very burdensome for participants - how to encourage people to seek help & reduce barriers

» TANF/WIC: Do we know more about families who do and do not take advantage of these supports? How might we better engage with non-participating families who are eligible and would benefit?

» Do non-US citizens understand that they may be eligible for SNAP support?

» Learn more from families about barriers; Where do we need to connect with families on their journey to get care?

» Rising cost of child care means more families need help. Who fills the gap?
What is missing?

» How many families wanted preschool but couldn’t access/afford it?

» How is staffing affecting how long it takes families to get assistance?

» What happened in POD & CCC? Why the drop?

» Can we say more about factors that have contributed to rising child care costs? How has this impacted child care programs?

» Is there a relationship between the drop in TANF & child care subsidies?

» Why the drop in subsidy use?

» How many families get off public assistance & stay off? What are the most typical patterns of use of public assistance programs in Hawaii?
Comments about data needs

» Is it possible to get data that differentiates between nursery school, preschool, and kindergarten?

» Separate data on nursery school, preschool, & kindergarten

» Need more data on family characteristics (family size; ethnicity; geography)

» Overlay the PS program data with the PS attendance graph

» Need more specific data on who’s attending preschool

» Need County / Island data

» How does the placement of publicly funded seats align with the number of keiki in a community?

» What is the relationship between subsidy use rates & # of providers

» How many families complete the childcare subsidy application, how long does it take to get assistance?

» What is the denominator for access?