



NATIONAL CENTER ON
Early Childhood Quality Assurance

Licensing Data Show the Decrease in Numbers of Licensed Family Child Care Providers

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Presenter

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A photograph of a young child with dark hair, wearing a red dress with a white floral pattern, sitting on a green lawn. The child's arms are raised in the air, and they are smiling. A large white flower is visible on the grass to the right of the child. The background is a soft-focus green landscape.

Data and Definitions

Child Care Licensing Studies

- ◆ Studies were partnerships between the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (ECQA Center) and the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA).
- ◆ Research began in 2005.
- ◆ Studies have been conducted in 2005, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2014, and 2017.
- ◆ Research briefs on findings and trends available at <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/trends-child-care-licensing-requirements-and-policies-2017>

Definitions of Licensed Child Care Homes

◆ Family child care home (FCCH)

- One individual who provides child care services for fewer than 24 hours per day per child, as the sole caregiver, in a private residence other than the child's residence, unless care in excess of 24 hours is due to the nature of the parent(s)' work.

◆ Group child care home (GCCH)

- Two or more individuals who provide child care services for fewer than 24 hours per day per child, in a private residence other than the child's residence, unless care in excess of 24 hours is due to the nature of the parent(s)' work.

Source: ECQA Center, 2015a, 2015b

States Licensing: FCCHs and GCCHs

License FCCHs: 44 states

- ◆ 7 states do **not** license FCCHs
 - Arizona, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, New Jersey, Ohio, and South Dakota (most of these states license GCCH providers)
- ◆ 3 states do **not** have mandatory licensing requirements for either FCCHs or GCCHs providers
 - Louisiana, New Jersey, and South Dakota

License GCCHs: 38 states

- ◆ 13 states do **not** license GCCHs
 - Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Maine, North Carolina, New Jersey, South Dakota, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin (most of these license FCCH providers)

Source: ECQA Center, 2020a, 2020b

Number of Licensed Facilities

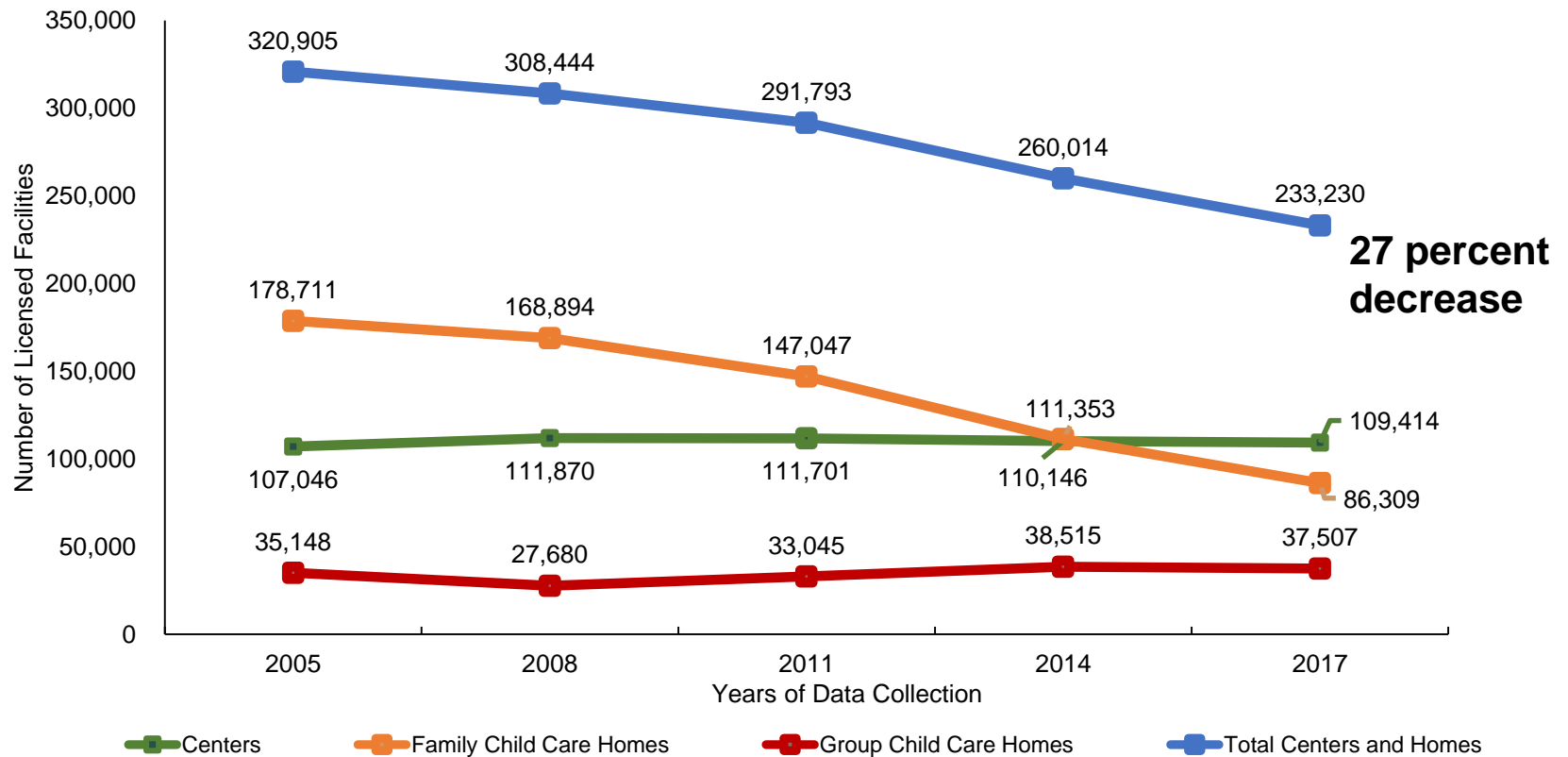


Trends in Number of Facilities

- ◆ The numbers of child care centers and group child care homes have increased since 2005.
- ◆ There has been a large drop in the number of licensed family child care homes—52 percent.
- ◆ The total number of licensed facilities has decreased by 27 percent.

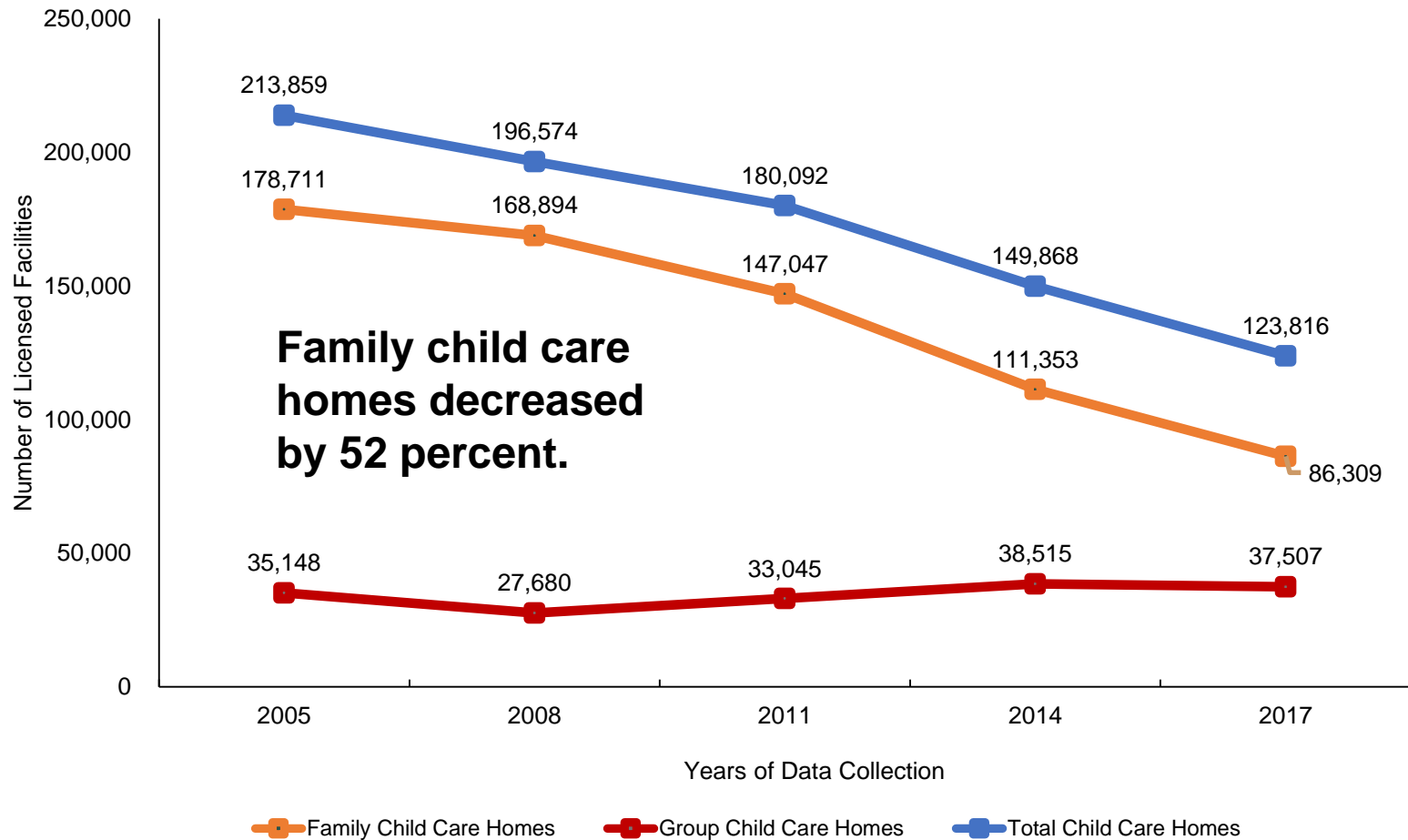
Source: ECQA, 2020c

Number of Licensed Facilities, 2005–2017



Source: ECQA, 2020c

Number of Licensed Homes, 2005–2017



Source: ECQA, 2020c

A young child with dark skin and curly hair is sitting on a grassy lawn, smiling broadly. The child is wearing a light blue t-shirt with a blue elephant graphic and white shorts. They are surrounded by colorful plastic blocks in shades of red, yellow, green, and blue. The background is a lush, green, out-of-focus garden or park setting with sunlight filtering through the leaves.

Licensed Capacity

Trends in Licensed Capacity

- ◆ Licensed capacity is the number of licensed slots.
- ◆ Licensed capacity in centers is 87 percent of the total.
- ◆ Capacity has increased by 7 percent overall; there has been a large increase in center capacity.
- ◆ Capacity has decreased in family child care homes by 40 percent.

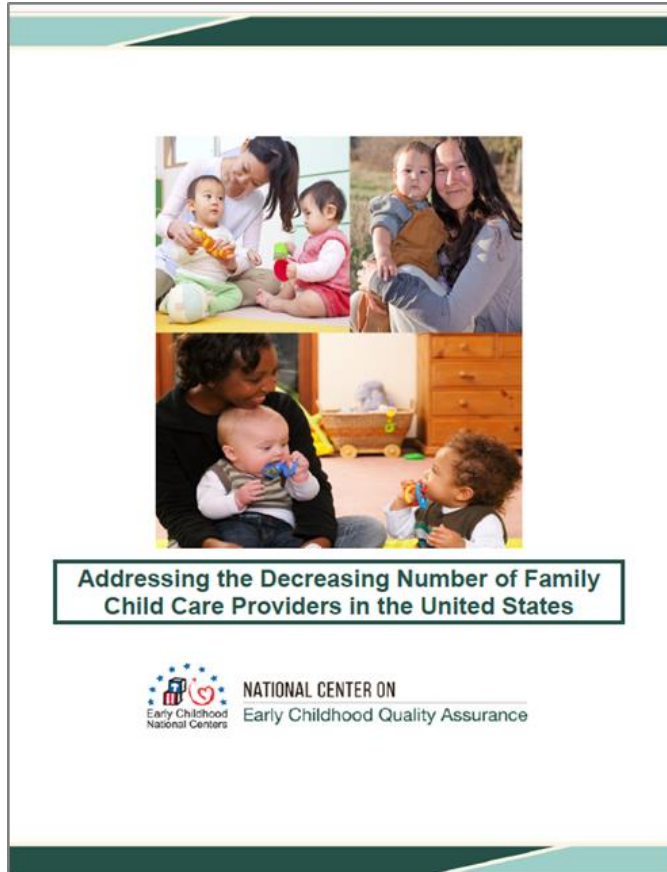
Source: ECQA, 2020c

Licensed Capacity 2005–2017

Licensed Capacity	2005	2017	Difference	Percentage Change
Child care centers	7,440,000	8,730,000	1,290,000	17%
Family child care homes	1,580,000	942,000	-638,000	-40%
Group child care homes	320,000	320,000	0	0%
Total licensed capacity	9,340,000	9,992,000	652,000	7%

Source: ECQA Center, 2020c

Addressing the Decreasing Number of Family Child Care Providers in the U.S.



- ◆ Publication by the National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance
- ◆ <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/addressing-decreasing-number-family-child-care-providers-united-states>

Trends in Child Care Licensing for 2017



<https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/resource/trends-child-care-licensing-requirements-and-policies-2017>

References

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