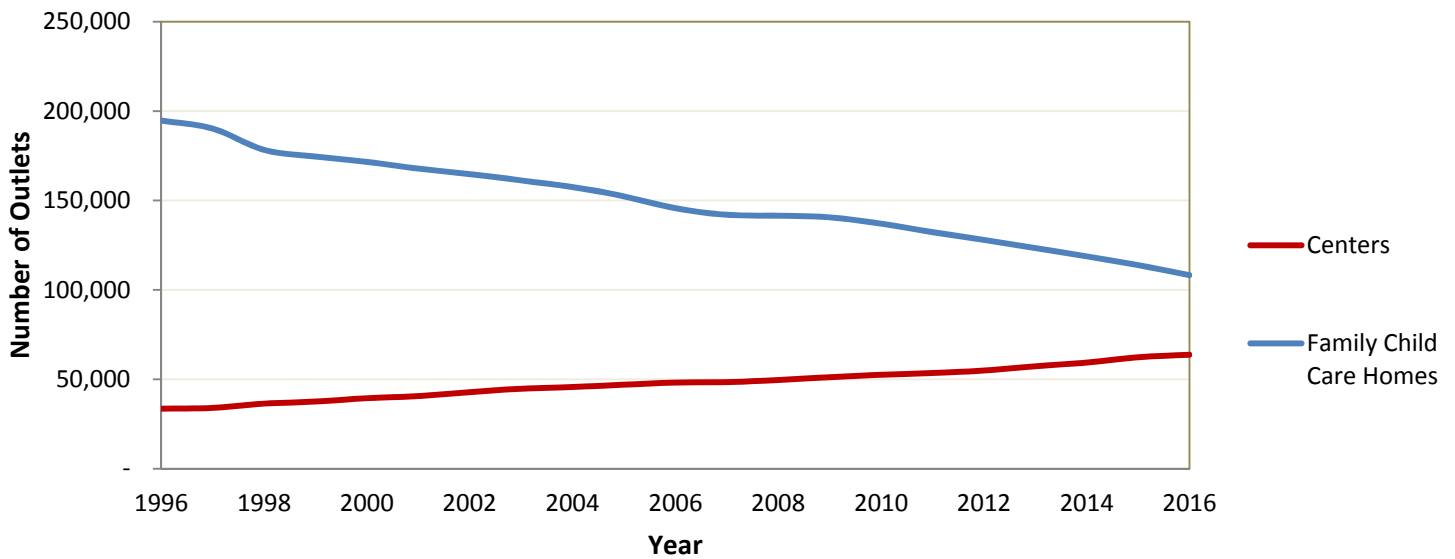


Each year, the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC) analyzes participation data in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). FRAC uses U.S. Department of Agriculture data to develop a picture of participation trends in the U.S as a whole, each of the 50 states, and the District of Columbia. This report discusses changes in the number of CACFP child care centers and family child care homes over the past 20 years from fiscal year (FY) 1996 to 2016, the more recent changes from FY 2015 to FY 2016, and the overall increase in average daily attendance.

**Figure 1. Child and Adult Care Food Program:
Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Home Participation Change**



Source: FRAC CACFP Participation Trends Report

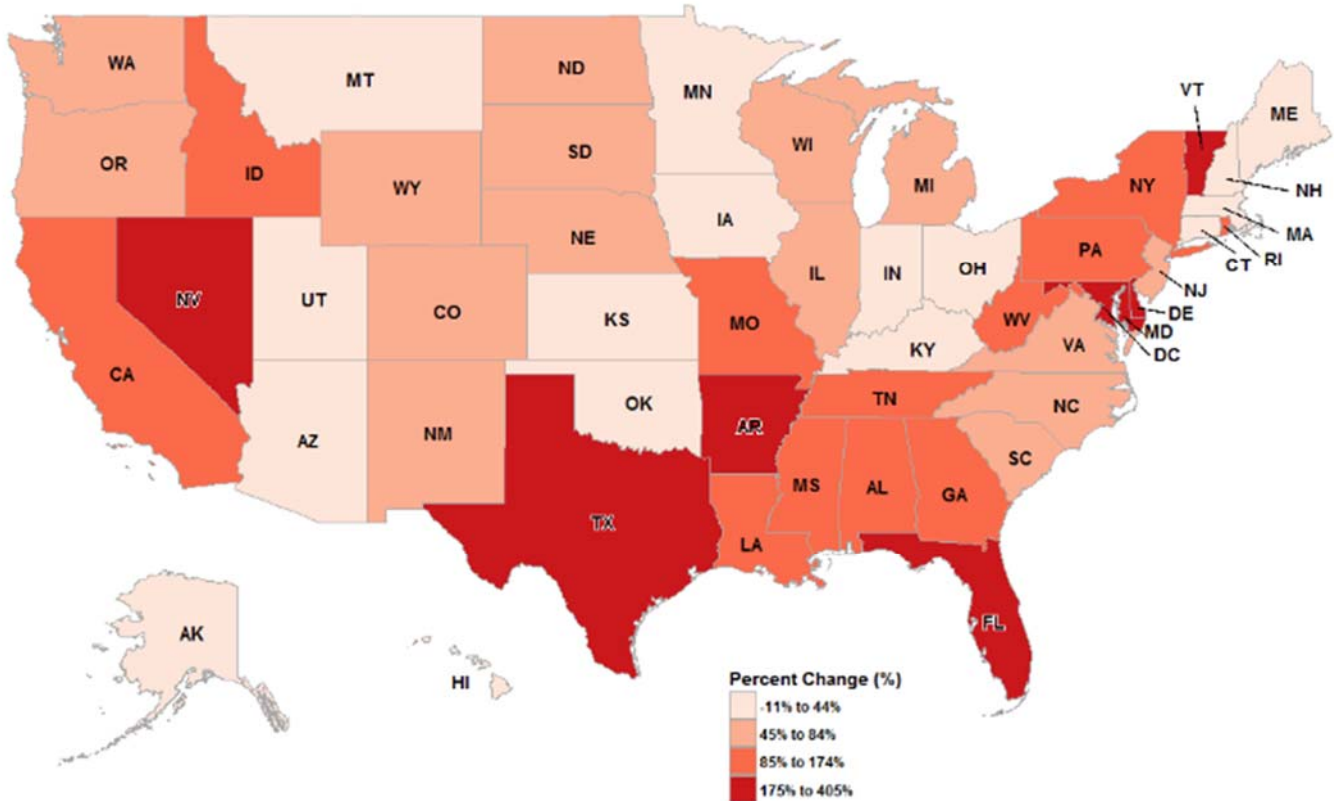
Figure 1 (above) depicts the change in number of CACFP child care centers and family child care homes from FY 1996 to FY 2016. In the last 20 years, the number of centers has almost doubled, with an increase of 92 percent. However, the number of family child care homes has decreased by 44 percent, largely due to a means test implemented in FY 1996, which changed the way family child care homes were reimbursed.

The growth in the number of CACFP centers has led to a 136 percent increase in the number of children being served each day through CACFP centers since FY 1996. Center participation is consistently rising each year. Over 3.5 million children enrolled in child care centers benefited daily from CACFP in FY 2016, a seven percent increase from FY 2015. Table 1 (to the right) shows the top five states with the highest average daily attendance by percent increase from FY 2015 to FY 2016.

**Table 1
Top 5 States: CACFP Centers
Increase in Number of Children Served
Fiscal Year 2015 to Fiscal Year 2016**

State	Percent Increase in Center Average Daily Attendance
Massachusetts	19.9%
Alabama	19.0%
Utah	18.6%
Vermont	16.4%
Florida	11.6%

**Figure 2. Child and Adult Care Food Program:
Change in Center Participation in CACFP from FY 1996 to FY 2016**



Source: *FRAC CACFP Participation Trends Report*

CACFP Centers

Nationally, the number of child care centers participating in CACFP grew to 64,845 in FY 2016, a 93 percent increase since FY 1996. Figure 2 (above) depicts the change in the number of CACFP centers by state from FY 1996 to FY 2016. At-risk afterschool programs have contributed significantly to this growth.

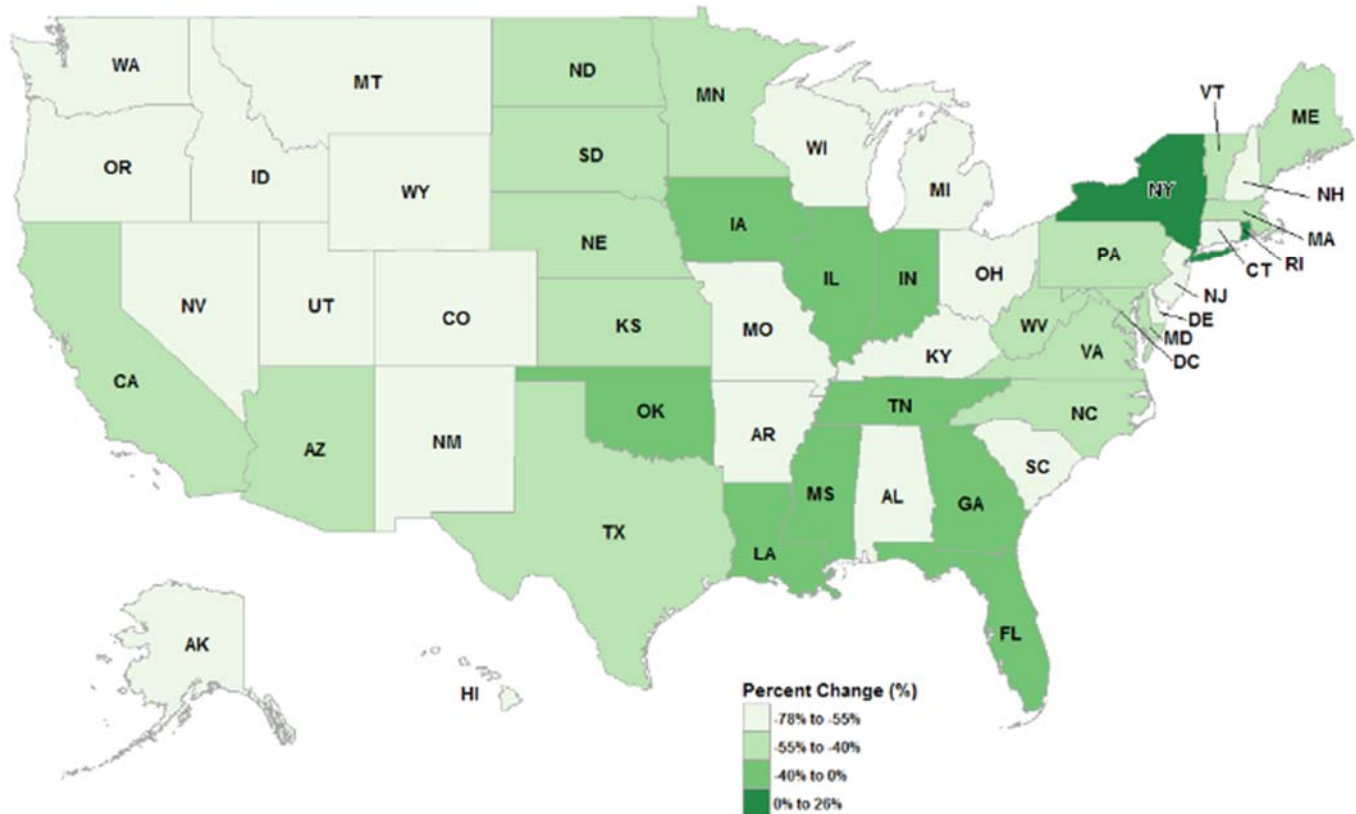
CACFP centers continue to show steady growth from FY 2015 to FY 2016, with an overall four percent increase. Table 2 (to the right) depicts the five states with the highest percent increase in number of CACFP centers.

Table 2

**Top 5 States: CACFP Centers' Growth
Fiscal Year 2015 to Fiscal Year 2016**

State	Percent Increase in Number of Participating Centers
Rhode Island	15.7%
Massachusetts	13.0%
Alabama	12.7%
Vermont	10.4%
Florida	8.1%

**Figure 3. Child and Adult Care Food Program:
Change in Family Child Care Homes Participation in CACFP from FY 1996 to FY 2016**



Source: FRAC CACFP Participation Trends Report

Family Child Care Homes

Since FY 1996, CACFP family child care homes have declined by 44 percent. The map above (*Figure 3*) depicts the percent change in CACFP family child care homes by state. While the map depicts change over the last 20 years, the past fiscal year also has a declining trend in the number of participating family child care homes. Nationally 108,362 family child care homes participated in CACFP in FY 2016, a five percent decrease from the previous year.

The Impact of the CACFP Means Test

One part of welfare reform, which was undertaken in 1996, mandated major changes in the way family child care homes are reimbursed in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). A means test was instituted which effectively cut in half the federal reimbursement for meals and snacks for providers serving children in moderate-income households.

These changes have had negative consequences that continue to affect the program. Between FY 1996 and FY 2016 the number of family child care homes participating in CACFP dropped by 44 percent, while the number of children served fell by 220,179. This is in contrast to the growth of child care centers (and Head Start programs) using CACFP over that time. During the same 20-year period, the participation of centers in CACFP grew by 92 percent and the number of children served by those centers grew by nearly 2.1 million.

Number of Centers			
State	FY1996	FY2016	Change
Nevada	60	303	405.0%
Texas	1,708	6,344	271.4%
Florida	1,219	4,505	269.6%
Delaware	93	331	255.9%
Maryland	399	1,348	237.8%
Arkansas	394	1,227	211.5%
Vermont	72	208	189.9%
Georgia	983	2,429	147.1%
Idaho	98	229	133.7%
California	3,342	7,527	125.2%
Pennsylvania	1,486	3,311	122.8%
Tennessee	790	1,732	119.2%
Alabama	456	960	110.5%
Missouri	614	1,229	100.2%
Rhode Island	106	211	99.8%
New York	2,247	4,455	98.3%
West Virginia	349	689	97.6%
Mississippi	361	704	95.2%
Louisiana	500	968	93.7%
North Dakota	104	190	82.7%
Colorado	441	803	82.3%
Virginia	756	1,360	80.0%
South Carolina	308	548	77.9%
Michigan	898	1,529	70.3%
District of Columbia	106	180	70.0%
Nebraska	332	553	66.6%
Washington	778	1,289	65.7%
Wyoming	78	127	63.5%
Illinois	1,477	2,368	60.4%
South Dakota	155	244	57.4%
New Mexico	376	590	57.0%
Oregon	479	738	54.1%
North Carolina	1,457	2,229	53.0%
Wisconsin	657	993	51.1%
New Jersey	898	1,345	49.8%
New Hampshire	132	191	44.9%
Oklahoma	678	973	43.5%
Montana	163	233	43.4%
Indiana	700	980	40.0%
Kansas	427	584	36.9%
Alaska	159	217	36.5%
Arizona	549	746	35.9%
Ohio	1,387	1,876	35.3%
Massachusetts	703	940	33.7%
Kentucky	790	1,016	28.7%
Connecticut	268	306	14.4%
Iowa	515	582	13.0%
Minnesota	565	622	10.1%
Utah	303	321	5.9%
Hawaii	231	218	-5.4%
Maine	202	180	-10.5%
US Total	33,627	64,845	92.8%

Number of Family Child Care Homes			
State	FY1996	FY2016	Change
New York	7,309	9,183	25.6%
Rhode Island	227	256	13.0%
Louisiana	8,675	8,390	-3.3%
Tennessee	1,753	1,553	-11.4%
Illinois	7,306	6,463	-11.5%
Mississippi	958	847	-11.6%
Indiana	2,298	2,011	-12.5%
Florida	2,623	1,961	-25.2%
Oklahoma	2,216	1,567	-29.3%
Iowa	2,658	1,813	-31.8%
Georgia	2,542	1,550	-39.0%
California	24,008	14,075	-41.4%
Massachusetts	7,012	4,071	-41.9%
West Virginia	1,424	817	-42.6%
Virginia	3,805	2,179	-42.7%
North Carolina	3,172	1,765	-44.3%
Arizona	4,114	2,283	-44.5%
Nebraska	3,706	2,030	-45.2%
Minnesota	12,768	6,908	-45.9%
South Dakota	979	524	-46.4%
Pennsylvania	3,212	1,611	-49.8%
Maryland	5,646	2,805	-50.3%
Maine	1,745	860	-50.7%
Texas	10,144	4,964	-51.1%
Kansas	6,153	2,990	-51.4%
Vermont	937	446	-52.3%
North Dakota	2,201	1,018	-53.7%
Hawaii	532	235	-55.7%
Kentucky	712	314	-55.8%
Alaska	577	251	-56.4%
Wisconsin	4,296	1,857	-56.8%
Montana	1,299	557	-57.1%
District of Columbia	133	57	-57.1%
Ohio	5,179	2,151	-58.5%
Delaware	1,308	536	-59.0%
Michigan	9,476	3,847	-59.4%
Utah	4,205	1,684	-59.9%
Missouri	2,667	1,063	-60.1%
Idaho	574	226	-60.6%
Wyoming	756	273	-63.8%
South Carolina	1,378	498	-63.9%
Connecticut	2,288	820	-64.1%
Oregon	5,753	2,033	-64.7%
Arkansas	1,107	356	-67.8%
New Mexico	6,891	2,217	-67.8%
Washington	6,073	1,795	-70.4%
Alabama	2,427	709	-70.8%
New Jersey	1,689	461	-72.7%
Nevada	466	115	-75.2%
Colorado	4,938	1,125	-77.2%
New Hampshire	395	87	-77.9%
US Total	194,710	108,326	-44.4%

Data Source: USDA: 2016 data remain subject to change.