



Early Care & Education Programs in Gaston County

Did you know that...

- **126** child care centers and family child care homes are in Gaston County?
- higher stars mean that the program has met a higher standard and provides increased quality for children? In Gaston County there are:

	Centers		Homes	
5 Star	45	47%	7	23%
4 Star	20	21%	9	30%
3 Star	13	14%	8	27%
2 Star	2	2%	1	3%
1 Star	1	1%	5	17%
Other	15	16%	0	0%
TOTAL	96	100%	30	100%

- NC Pre-K serves at-risk children who are four years old, in private and public sites across the state? In Gaston County there were **40** sites with one or more NC Pre-K classrooms in fiscal year 2013.
- Head Start provides a range of services for children and families, including classroom settings and home visiting? In Gaston County, **6** sites provided Head Start services in fiscal year 2013.
- to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) means that a program has voluntarily chosen to meet higher national standards related to teacher education and programmatic standards? In Gaston County, **0** child care centers are accredited by NAEYC as of December 2013.
- **55** child care centers enroll children birth to three years old and **85** child care centers enroll children 3 to 5 years old in Gaston County?
- **14** family child care homes enroll children birth to three years old and **14** family child care homes enroll children 3 to 5 years old in Gaston County?
- on-going professional development ensures that teachers continue to strengthen their skills in providing early care and education to children? In the region where Gaston County is located, **659** early educators participated in professional development activities in fiscal year 2013 provided by or through a child care resource and referral agency.



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Did you know that...

- **61** teachers, directors and family child care providers living in the county participated in the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project in fiscal year 2013? There were **30** child care programs that sponsored their employees returning to school through this scholarship program.
- programs receive ongoing help through on-site assessments and technical assistance in order to provide the highest quality services for children and family? In fiscal year 2013, **267** classrooms serving children birth to five in Gaston County received technical assistance through a child care resource and referral agency.
- when child care sites enroll children through the state subsidized child care program, the reimbursement received by the child care provider is based on the age of the child and the site's star rated license level? Reimbursement rates have not been increased to match the actual payment market rates, so child care programs are not receiving adequate funding for the services they provide. For example:

Gaston County	Maximum Reimbursement Rate - (rate the provider receives)	Market Price - (reflects what private payment would be)	Percent of Market Prices Covered by the Reimbursement Rate
2 Year Old / 4 Star Center	\$581	\$637	91%
2 Year Old / 5 Star Center	\$649	\$647	100%
4 Year Old / 4 Star Center	\$535	\$596	90%
4 Year Old / 5 Star Center	\$588	\$599	98%