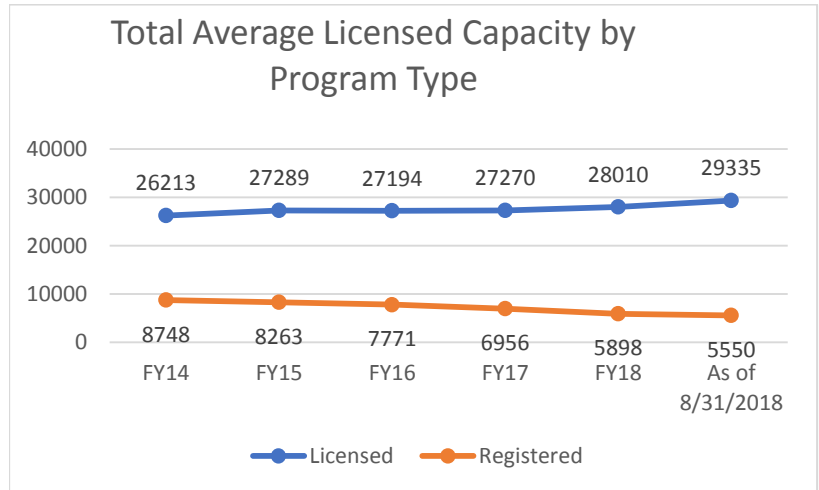


Child Care Capacity in Vermont

The United States, including Vermont, has been struggling with having enough spaces in child care programs for the children that need them. The number of home child care programs has been decreasing. Vermont released a report in April 2017 called, Vermont Regulated Child Care Program Report on Program Closures. This report looked at the information available around why child care programs were closing. It was found that programs close for a variety of reasons, however the biggest challenge in the last couple years is that new home-based programs are not opening at the rate that programs are closing. The report is available at:

https://dcf.vermont.gov/sites/dcf/files/CDD/Reports/April_2017_Closed_Program_Report.pdf



The Child Development Division pulled together a coalition of partners in spring 2018 to develop a plan to address this issue. This coalition developed six strategies:

- Child Care Family Survey
- Recruitment Campaign
- Business Supports
- Addressing Barriers to Recruitment or Expansion
- Resources for Startup or Expansion
- Building the capacity of the workforce

The coalition determined this work was best completed with a variety of partners, and the Early Learning and Development Committee of Building Bright Futures is leading the work.

Since July 1, 2018

- 21 registered child care programs closed
- 11 new registered child care programs opened
- 10 center-based or after school programs closed
- 20 center-based or afterschool programs opened
- 6 center-based programs expanded their capacity
- 1 registered home program closed their registration and reopened as a licensed home program with more capacity
- 2 registered home programs closed their registration and opened one center-based program and one afterschool program

