

Supporting Families Across California

The first five years of a child's life lays the groundwork for their lifelong learning, behavior, and overall health and well-being. Despite this, disparities persist across California with many children facing significant gaps in income, access, and opportunity. There is an urgent and persistent need for investment in young children and their families, and for more equitable systems that help children thrive.

For more than 40 years, California has built a robust child care infrastructure. Connecting California Families was formed in 2019 to unite over 65 child care agencies statewide. The mission of Connecting California Families is to deliver coordinated and comprehensive services to children, families, and providers because when parents have access to quality child care, early childhood education, and other essential resources, children and entire communities prosper. The data presented here, reflecting the Fiscal Year 2023-2024, comes from the lead regional agencies for Connecting California Families: 4C's of Sonoma County, BANANAS, Child Action, Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles, Child Care Resource Center, Child Development Resources of Ventura County, Family Resource Center, Go Kids, Inc., Merced County Office of Education, Placer County Office of Education, YMCA Childcare Resource Service.

Child Care Business Support



\$1,202,966,117

Invested in **41,416** child care businesses



30,952

Licensed Child Care Provider businesses available for referral



43,603

Families still waiting on Subsidized Child Care



Child and Family Support



144,392 children from **82,591** families received child care financial assistance and related services¹



2,791 foster children from **1,920** families received child care financial assistance and related services²



9,318 children from **8,080** families were enrolled in Head Start & affiliated programs³



6,121 families had **6,474** children enrolled in state funded programs to support kindergarten preparation⁴



1,322 children from **1,160** families received home visiting services⁵



468 children from **575** families received housing services⁶



6,735 children from **3,816** families received developmental screening services⁷



275 children and **424** adults received mental health services⁸



346 children and **305** families enrolled in a high-quality home-based early experiences program⁹



2,373 children aged 0-3 from **1,738** families were enrolled in state funded child care programs¹⁰

¹Subsidized Child Care – CalWORKs Stage 1, 2, 3, Alternative Payment, Family Child Care Home Education Network (FCCHEN)

²Emergency Child Care Bridge (Bridge)

³Head Start / Early Head Start

⁴California State Preschool Program (CSPP)

⁵Home Visiting Services

⁶Housing Services

⁷Developmental Screening Services

⁸Mental Health Services

⁹Child Care Partnership (CCP)

¹⁰General Child Care and Development (CCTR)