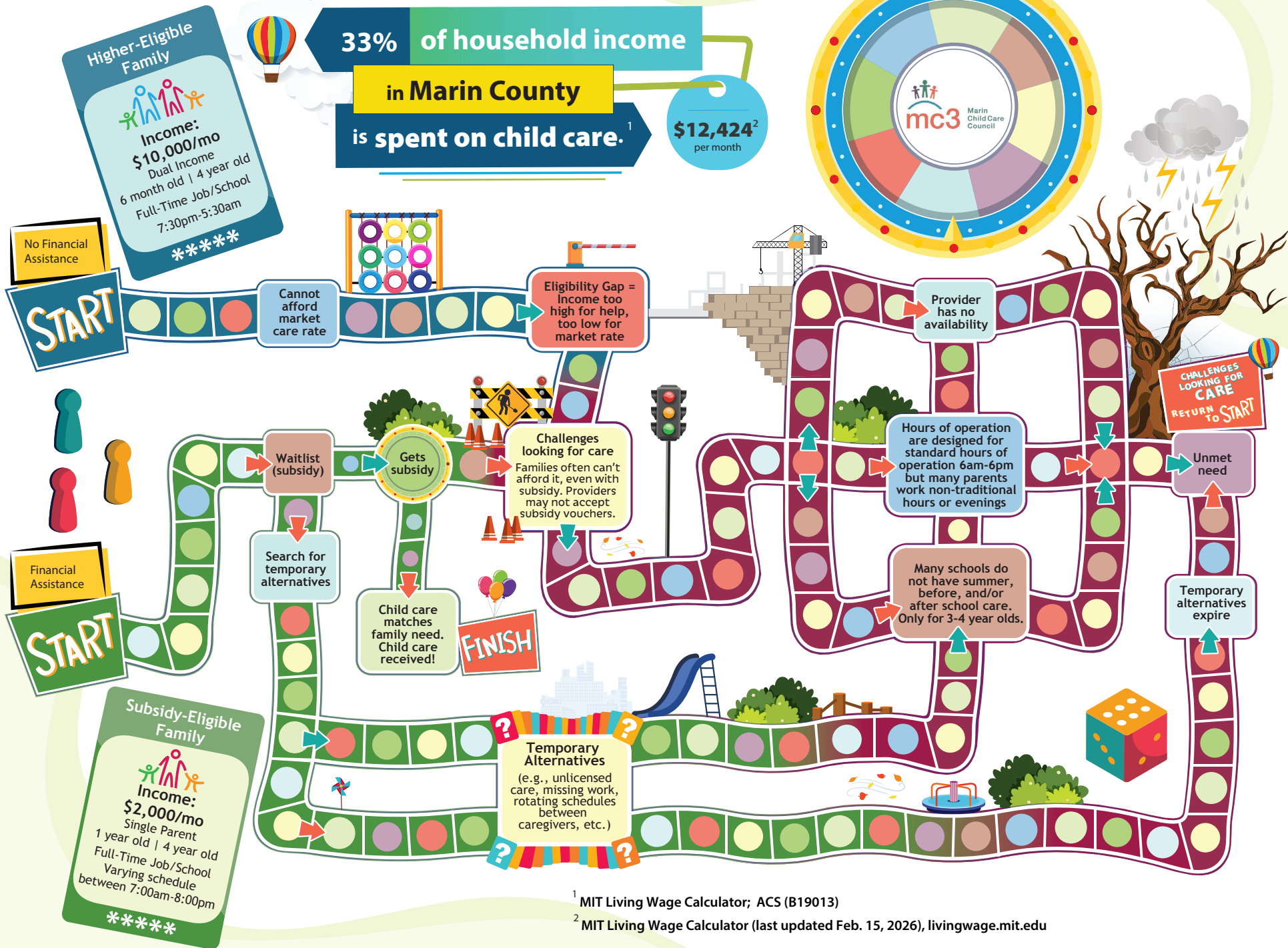


Families Can't Find Affordable Child Care



¹ MIT Living Wage Calculator; ACS (B19013)

² MIT Living Wage Calculator (last updated Feb. 15, 2026), livingwage.mit.edu

Families Can't Find Affordable Child Care

FY24-25

Now is the time to expand and strengthen the community-based child care system, so families can access the care that meets their unique needs.

The system provides licensed spaces for only
1 in 4 children
with working parents³

Child care costs more than in-state college tuition
Child Care (1 child): **\$23,526/year**
College of Marin In-state: **\$1,380/year**

Child Care (2 children): **\$49,418/year** = 33% of their income

13,658 working caregivers of children under 5 in Marin County.⁴

Marin County County specific data	\$149,091 Median yearly income (before taxes) in Marin County. ⁵
1,538 Available Licensed Home Spaces ⁶ 7,792 Available Licensed Center Spaces	934 Children are enrolled in Transitional Kindergarten (TK) ⁷ TK expansion reduced the licensed child care workforce, shrinking available supply for infants, toddlers, and families who need non-traditional hours.

The current child care system is unable to meet demand.

Marin Child Care Council Agency specific data representing a portion of Marin County	430 Families on the waitlist at Marin Child Care Council. Many are on the waitlist for years.
266 Providers available for referral	1,913 Subsidized Licensed Spaces Family Child Care Homes
146 Licensed Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies 237 License-Exempt Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies	7,436 Subsidized Licensed Spaces Center-Based

Even when care is available, cost and other barriers can make it difficult for families to access care.

³ Child Care Aware of America

⁵ ACS 2024 B19013

⁴ ACS 2024 B23008

⁶ California Community Care Licensing Division (CCL)

⁷ California Department of Education (CDE)