

Families Can't Find Affordable Child Care



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 parents⁴

Child care costs more than in-state college tuition
Child Care (1 child): **\$13,978/year**
CSU in-state tuition: **\$6,084/year**

Child Care (2 children): **\$29,497/year** = 30% of their income

1,490,901 working caregivers of children under 5 in participating counties.⁵

Participating Counties County specific data	\$98,427 Median yearly income (before taxes) in participating counties. ⁶
113,807 Available Licensed Home Spaces ⁷ 455,842 Available Licensed Center Spaces	456,303 Children are enrolled in Transitional Kindergarten (TK) ⁸ 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.

All Agencies ⁹ Agency specific data representing a portion of County	55,852 Families on the waitlist at All Agencies. Many are on the waitlist for years.
42,938 Providers available for referral	19,230 Licensed Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies 42,232 License-Exempt Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies 156,959 Subsidized Licensed Spaces Family Child Care Homes 357,004 Subsidized Licensed Spaces Center-Based

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

⁴ Child Care Aware of America

⁵ ACS 2024 B23008

⁶ ACS 2024 B19013

⁷ California Community Care Licensing Division (CCL)

⁸ California Department of Education (CDE)

⁹ 4Cs of Sonoma, BANANAS, CCALA, CCRC San Bernardino, CDRV, Changing Tides, Child Action, Children's Home Society, Community Resources for Children, FRC San Joaquin, Go Kids, Inc., Marin Child Care Council, Merced COE, Placer COE, The Resource Connection, YMCA San Diego