

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

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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): **\$16,242/year**
CSU Channel Islands In-state: **\$6,084/year**

Child Care (2 children): **\$32,482/year** = 30% of their income

50,411 working caregivers of children under 5 in Ventura County.⁴

Ventura County County specific data	\$109,797 Median yearly income (before taxes) in Ventura County. ⁵
3,748 Available Licensed Home Spaces ⁶ 17,376 Available Licensed Center Spaces	4,150 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.

CDRV		1,240	
Agency specific data representing a portion of Ventura County		Families on the waitlist at CDRV. Many are on the waitlist for years.	
958 Providers available for referral	589 Licensed Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies	5,868 Subsidized Licensed Spaces Family Child Care Homes	
	945 License-Exempt Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies	40,192 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)