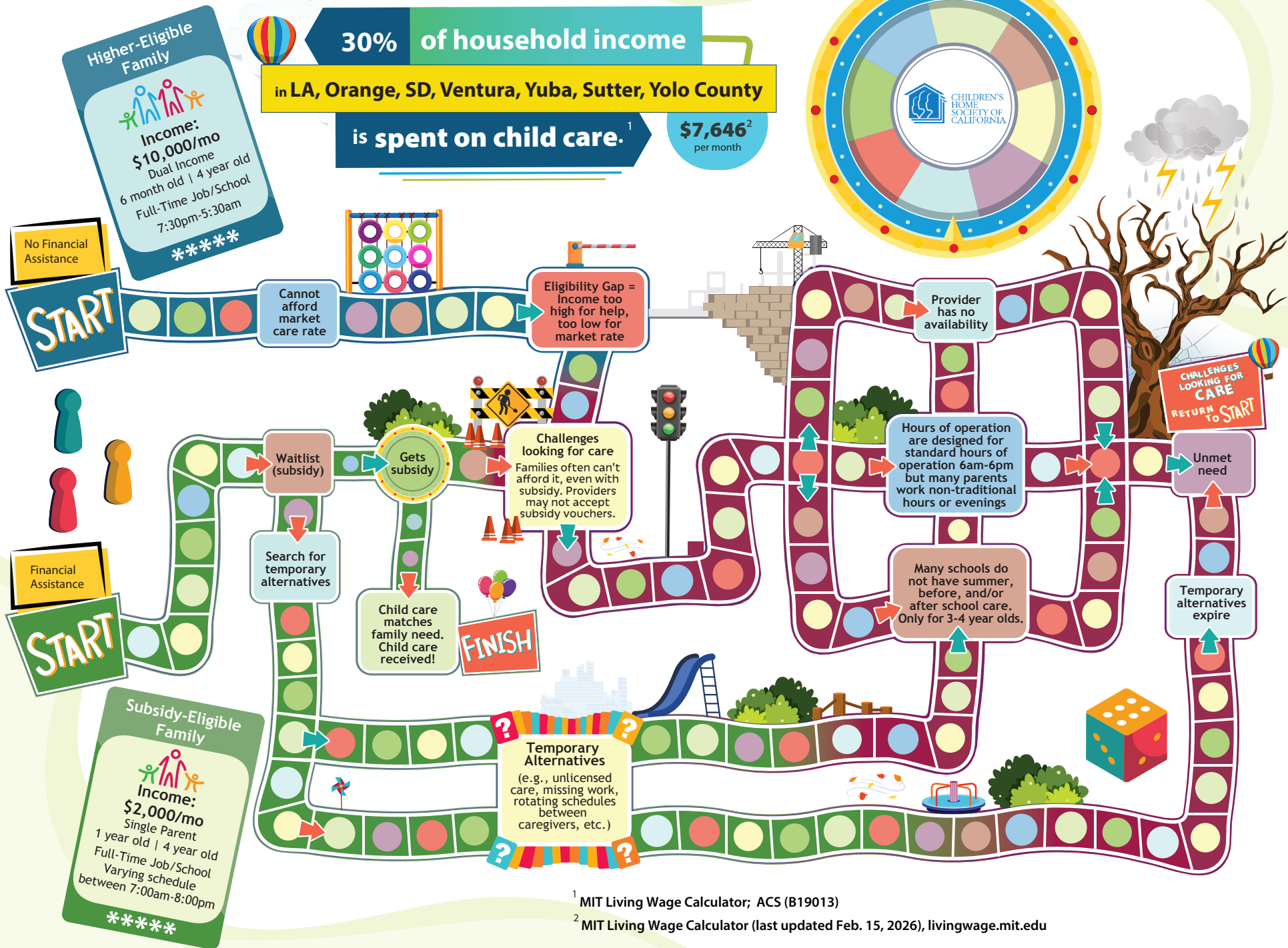


Families Can't Find Affordable Child Care



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): **\$15,832/year**
CSU In-state: **\$6,084/year**

Child Care (2 children): **\$30,581/year** = 30% of their income

50,411 working caregivers of children under 5 in LA, Orange, SD, Ventura, Yuba, Sutter, Yolo County.⁴

LA, Orange, SD, Ventura, Yuba, Sutter, & Yolo County County specific data	\$91,752 Median yearly income (before taxes) in LA, Orange, SD, Ventura, Yuba, Sutter, Yolo 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.

Children's Home Society		5,491	
Agency specific data representing a portion of LA, Orange, SD, Ventura, Yuba, Sutter, Yolo County		Families on the waitlist at Children's Home Society. Many are on the waitlist for years.	
16,546	2,333	815	
	Licensed Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies	Subsidized Licensed Spaces Family Child Care Homes	
Providers available for referral	2,586	12,479	
	License-Exempt Providers receiving Child Care Subsidies	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)