

Glenn County

In rural Glenn County, a predominately agricultural region located north of the Sacramento Valley, there are many seasonal workers earning low wages. Head Start programs and state-funded preschools have met some of the demand for the children of these families. But for families with infants and toddlers, there are few affordable choices. All of the slots in licensed child care centers in the county are for children ages 18 months to five years.

Another problem for farm laborers, as well as service economy workers in retail and other jobs, is that evening and weekend work is often required, yet there is no center-based care available during these hours. And in the county's licensed family child care homes, only 20 percent offer care during non-traditional hours. Meanwhile, in Willows, the county seat, the continuing growth of the Latino community has created a large demand for Spanish-speaking providers (the number of Spanish-speaking households in the county grew by 46 percent in the last decade).

Training to improve the quality of care

The local resource and referral (R&R) agency, part of the Glenn County Office of Education (GCDE), has supported efforts through the statewide Compensation and Retention Encourage Stability (CARES) and California Child Care Initiative (CCIP) programs to recruit, train, and retain licensed child care providers, including those who speak Spanish. For the first time, CARES has been made available to license-exempt providers in the hope it will improve quality and encourage some to become licensed. Also, a partnership between the GCDE and the KIDS program, funded by First 5, is offering training and in-home support to caregivers who provide services to children with behavioral issues and other special needs. R&R staff have also collaborated with CalWORKs, the state's welfare-to-work program, by presenting information to their participants, monthly, on choosing child care.

"Parents are becoming advocates in regards to child care in Glenn County. Licensed family child care providers have also organized and formed an association."

– R&R Counselor

The People ¹	1990	2000	Change
Total number of residents	24,798	26,453	7%
Total number of employed residents		10,342	
Percent working outside the county		29%	
Percent working non-traditional hours		20%	
Total number of households	8,840	9,197	4%
Speaking English	6,974	6,852	-2%
Speaking Spanish	1,371	1,995	46%
Speaking an Asian language	141	145	3%

The Children ¹							2000
Total number of children (0–13 years)							6,188
Under 2	2	3	4	5	6–11	12	13
757	429	392	414	443	2,781	480	492
Children 0–5 living in poverty (% of total)							704 (30%)
Children 0–5 living in single parent household (% of total)							562 (26%)
Total number of children (0–13) with parents in the labor force ²							3,450
Under 2	2	3	4	5	6–13		
310	240	215	205	225	2,255		

Child Care Cost and Family Income	2002
Average annual cost of full-time licensed care for a preschooler, 2–5 years old, in a center ³	\$4,380
Annual minimum wage of a full-time worker ⁴	\$14,040
Care for a preschooler as a percent of income of a single parent household at minimum wage	31%
Annual median family income ¹	\$37,023
Annual fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit ⁵	\$6,036
Salary of entry-level public school teacher ⁶	\$31,403

1. U.S. Census Bureau, 1990; 2000.
2. This number reflects children with either two parents or single head of household in the labor force.
3. 2002 Regional Market Rate Survey of California Child Care Providers.
4. California Department of Industrial Relations, Industrial Welfare Commission, 2002.
5. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2002.
6. California Department of Education, 2002-2003.

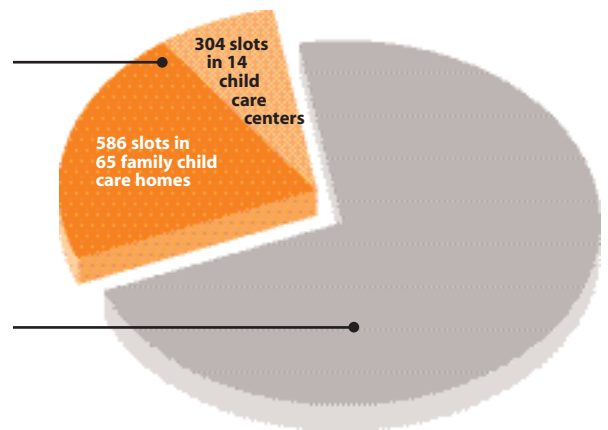
For more information about child care in Glenn County, call:

Glenn County Office of Education,
Child Care Resource Referral and Payment Program 530-865-1118

Child Care Supply in Glenn County

Licensed Child Care Supply 890 slots

Total number of licensed slots	890
Percent of slots in child care centers	34%
% of slots for infants (under 2 years old)	0%
% of slots for preschoolers (2–5 years old)	100%
% of slots for school-age children (6 years and older)	0%
Percent of slots in family child care homes ¹	66%



Children with Parents in the Labor Force² 3,450

Licensed child care is only available for 26% of children with parents in the labor force².

- Licensed center-based care not available for infants¹
- Licensed center-based care available for 34% of preschoolers¹

Supply of Licensed Child Care and Requests from Parents to the R&R

		Child Care Centers	Family Child Care Homes
Facilities	Total number of sites	14	65
	Total number of slots	304	586 ¹
	Infant slots	0	
	Preschool slots	304	
	School-age slots	0	
Schedules³	Full-time and part-time	47%	86%
	Only full-time available	13%	9%
	Only part-time available	40%	5%
	Care available during non-traditional hours	0%	20%

Parent Requests to the R&R⁴

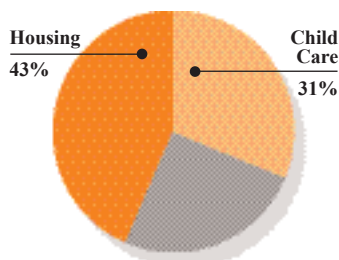
Type of care: 19% infant/toddler; 44% preschool; 38% school-age

Type of facility: 94% family child care homes; 19% child care centers

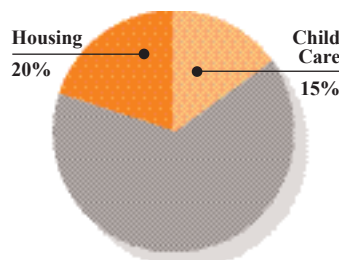
Schedule of care: 82% full-time care (0–5 years); 65% part-time care (0–5 years)

Reasons for needing child care: 56% employment; 6% school/training; 33% looking for work

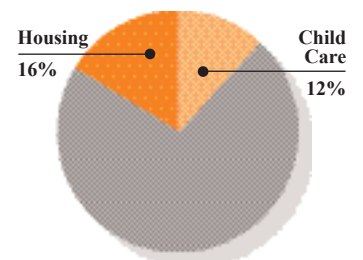
Portion of Income Needed to Pay for Basic Family Needs: Housing and One Preschooler in a Licensed Center



**For a Family at Minimum Wage
\$14,040 / year**



**For a Family Earning
\$30,000 / year**



**For a Family at County Median Income
\$37,023 / year**

1. A breakdown of slots by age is not available for family child care homes because they are licensed to care for children of all ages.
2. Children (0–13 years old) living with two parents or with a single parent in the labor force. 2000 U.S. Census.
3. Full-time and part-time schedules are percentages of total slots. Some centers that are exempt from licensing requirements are included in the percentages related to care during non-traditional hours (evening, weekend, or overnight.) Non-traditional schedules are percentages of total sites.
4. Since some parents find child care without using R&Rs, the calls recorded here do not necessarily represent total demand for child care, although they do reflect trends.