

San Bernardino County

Because of its lower housing costs and relative proximity to the Los Angeles basin, the eastern stretches of the vast Mojave Desert in San Bernardino County have gone from sun-baked isolation to bedroom community in just one decade. Much of the county's 21 percent growth between 1990 and 2000 occurred in the high desert and mountain communities surrounding the county seat and its neighboring suburban cities. In addition, much of the county's 70 percent growth in its Spanish-speaking population has occurred in the outlying areas, prompting the need for providers who can offer child care that is culturally- and linguistically-appropriate. Many families in these areas are employed in service and retail jobs, which often require early morning, evening, and weekend shifts. Just 5 percent of the county's child care centers – which make up 65 percent of all licensed care in the county – offer care during these times. Beyond the need for care during the hours when parents work, communities throughout the county continue to experience shortages in care for children with special needs.

Providers furthering their education

Child Development Services, the local resource and referral (R&R) agency, has been active in recruiting and training more than 500 family child care providers between 2002 and 2003. The R&R's licensing orientations are in both English and Spanish. The agency is also involved with ensuring that there is ongoing child college-level, credit-bearing training in child development at San Bernardino Valley College, through the statewide Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP) and grants from First 5. CPR, first aid, and other health and safety classes are provided to participants who complete 30 hours of training.

Kidsncare.com, a state-of-the-art web site, encourages providers to describe their programs, list rates, and announce vacancies, and provides on-line access to child care referrals for parents.

"More providers are offering care during non-traditional hours, seven days a week. This has benefitted families who previously had limited choices."

– R&R Counselor

The People ¹	1990	2000	Change
Total number of residents	1,418,380	1,709,434	21%
Total number of employed residents		658,708	
Percent working outside the county		31%	
Percent working non-traditional hours		25%	
Total number of households	465,877	528,839	14%
Speaking English	346,190	341,033	-1%
Speaking Spanish	85,291	144,717	70%
Speaking an Asian language	13,876	21,532	55%

The Children ¹	2000
Total number of children (0–13 years)	435,162

Under 2	2	3	4	5	6–11	12	13
54,864	28,358	29,190	30,664	31,231	198,753	32,025	30,077

Children 0–5 living in poverty (% of total) 39,408 (23%)

Children 0–5 living in single parent household (% of total) 35,693 (25%)

Total number of children (0–13) with parents in the labor force² 219,305

Under 2	2	3	4	5	6–13
24,080	13,200	13,060	14,425	15,540	139,000

Child Care Cost and Family Income	2002
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Average annual cost of full-time licensed care for a preschooler, 2–5 years old, in a center ³	\$5,653
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	40%
Annual median family income ⁵	\$46,574
Annual fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit ⁵	\$7,872
Salary of entry-level public school teacher ⁶	\$29,998

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 San Bernardino County, call:

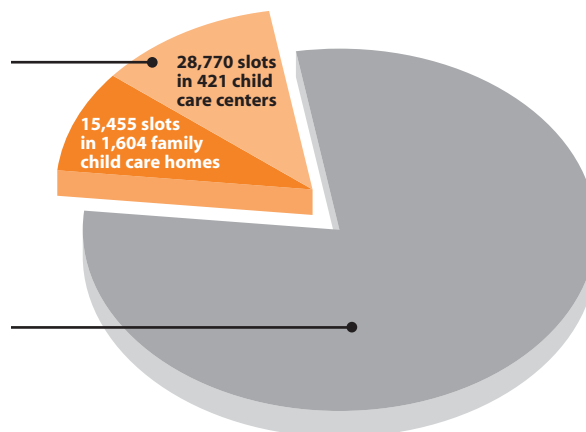
San Bernardino County Schools
Child Development Services
909-384-8046

Pomona Unified School District
Child Care Information Service
909-397-4740

Child Care Supply in San Bernardino County

Licensed Child Care Supply 44,225 slots

Total number of licensed slots	44,225
Percent of slots in child care centers	65%
% of slots for infants (under 2 years old)	5%
% of slots for preschoolers (2–5 years old)	72%
% of slots for school-age children (6 years and older)	22%
Percent of slots in family child care homes ¹	35%



Children with Parents in the Labor Force² 219,305

Licensed child care is only available for 20% of children with parents in the labor force².

- Licensed center-based care available for 6% of infants¹
- Licensed center-based care available for 37% 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	421	1,604
	Total number of slots	28,770	15,455 ¹
	Infant slots	1,471	
	Preschool slots	20,831	
	School-age slots	6,468	
Schedules³	Full-time and part-time	95%	98%
	Only full-time available	0%	2%
	Only part-time available	5%	0%
	Care available during non-traditional hours	5%	42%

Parent Requests to the R&R⁴

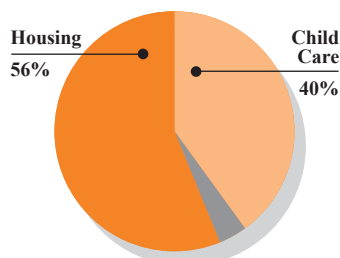
Type of care: 25% infant/toddler; 40% preschool; 35% school-age

Type of facility: 85% family child care homes; 83% child care centers

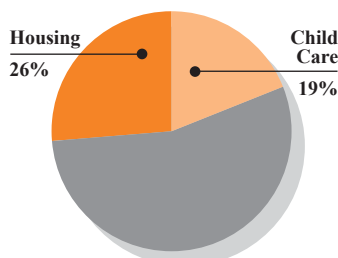
Schedule of care: 82% full-time care (0–5 years); 20% part-time care (0–5 years)

Reasons for needing child care: 73% employment; 17% school/training; 13% looking for work

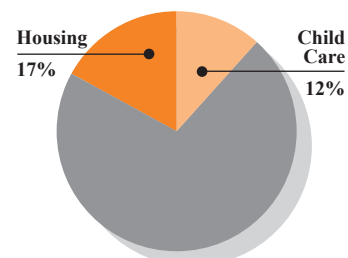
Portion of Income Needed to Pay for Basic Family Needs: Housing and One Preschooler in a Licensed Center



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



For a Family Earning
\$30,000 / year



For a Family at County Median Income
\$46,574 / year

- 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.
- Children (0–13 years old) living with two parents or with a single parent in the labor force. 2000 U.S. Census.
- 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.
- 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.