

Santa Cruz County

by the numbers

A decade of data about child care in California counties

Locally-based child care resource and referral programs (R&Rs) are located in every county in California. Their services have evolved over 30 years—from a grassroots effort to help parents find child care, to a well-developed statewide system that supports parents, providers, and communities to find, plan for, and develop quality child care that is affordable and accessible.

In 1997, following a two-year effort to standardize the data collection of the 61 R&Rs across the state, the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network launched the first *Child Care Portfolio*, a report which documented child care supply and demand, and portrayed the trends and needs of real families as they struggle to find appropriate, quality care for their children, especially as they juggle work and family. *The Portfolio* has been produced biennially since that time. The information presented here offers a picture of the supply and demand for child care in Santa Cruz County, as well as relevant demographics about children and families. The data reflects the most up to date information available and comes from a variety of sources, including the R&R's interaction with parents and providers.

For a copy of the *2007 Portfolio*, including county data pages, visit www.rrnetwork.org.

The 2007 Portfolio is a project of the
California Child Care
Resource & Referral Network
(415) 882-0234
www.rrnetwork.org

People	COUNTY			STATE
	2000 ¹	2006 ⁴	CHANGE	2006 ⁴
Total number of residents	255,602	263,385 ²	3%	37,444,385 ²
New mothers ³		3,745		515,991
with high school or less education		35%		48%
some college or A.A. degree		34%		28%
B.A. or higher		32%		25%
living in poverty		17%		23%

Households	COUNTY			STATE
	2000 ¹	2006 ⁴	CHANGE	2006 ⁴
Number of households	91,244	92,998	2%	12,151,227
speaking English at home	75%	76%		59%
speaking Spanish at home	17%	18%		25%
speaking an Asian language at home	2%	2%		9%
speaking another language at home	6%	5%		7%
Number of families with children under 18	29,832	30,306	2%	4,635,986
Percent with children under 18	52%	53%		56%
percent of single parent families	27%	28%		31%
Children 0-5 in single parent households	2,962	3,281	11%	657,758
Homeowners with children under 6	12%	11%		13%
Renters with children under 6	17%	14%		18%
Residents over 24 with B.A. or higher	34%	36%		29%

Labor Force	COUNTY			STATE
	2000 ¹	2006 ⁴	CHANGE	2006 ⁴
Number of employed residents	126,106	126,710	0.5%	16,740,938
working 35 hours or more	72%	67%		78%
working at home	5%	7%		5%
working non-traditional hours	19%	23%		22%
Women in the labor force	62,436	62,131	-0.5%	8,043,236
New mothers ³ in the labor force prior to the birth of a child		1,812		259,427
Women who took <i>Paid Family Leave</i> for the birth of a child ⁵		1,101 ⁵		126,958 ⁵
Men in the labor force	75,298	74,889	-1%	10,021,262
Men who took <i>Paid Family Leave</i> for the birth of a child ⁵		248 ⁵		31,672 ⁵

1. United States Census Bureau 2000

2. California Department of Finance Projections

3. Women who had a birth in the last 12 months; American Community Survey 2006

4. American Community Survey 2006

5. Approved bonding claims for *Paid Family Leave* 2006; includes claims through one year after birth

Children and Child Care

in Santa Cruz County

Children	COUNTY			STATE
	2000 ¹	2006	CHANGE	2006
Children 0-13 ²	46,808	44,176	-6%	7,628,506
Under 2	6,077	6,837	13%	1,078,951
2 years	3,086	3,371	9%	539,981
3 years	3,106	3,131	1%	542,494
4 years	3,275	3,265	0%	537,387
5 years	3,195	3,319	4%	547,458
6-13 years	28,069	24,253	-14%	4,382,235
Children 0-5 living in poverty	2,542	2,276 ³	-10%	595,847 ³
Children 0-13 with parents in the labor force ⁴	26,690	25,189 ⁵	-6%	3,980,711 ⁵
Children 0-13 receiving subsidized child care ⁶		4,492		486,327

For more information about child care in Santa Cruz County, call:
 Santa Cruz County Office of Education
 Child Development Resource Center
 (831) 479-5282

AVAILABILITY OF LICENSED CARE

Number of children 0-13 with parents in the labor force ⁴	25,189 ⁵
Estimated number of licensed child care slots	7,669
Licensed care available for children with parents in the labor force ¹²	30%

Infant/toddler slots in licensed child care centers represent **6%** of the total number of slots in licensed centers.

Child Care		LICENSED CHILD CARE CENTERS	LICENSED FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES
FACILITIES	Total number of sites	99	321
	Total number of slots/percent	4,141 54%	3,528 ⁷ 46%
	Infant slots (under 2 years old)	233 6%	
	Preschool slots (2-5 years old)	2,991 72%	
SCHEDULES ⁸	School-age slots (6 years and older)	917 22%	
	Full-time and part-time slots	72%	93%
	Only full-time slots	0%	0%
	Only part-time slots	28%	7%
LANGUAGES	Care available during non-traditional hours ⁹	0%	27%
	English	100%	76%
	Spanish	60%	54%
	Other languages	4%	8%

PARENT REQUESTS TO R&R¹³

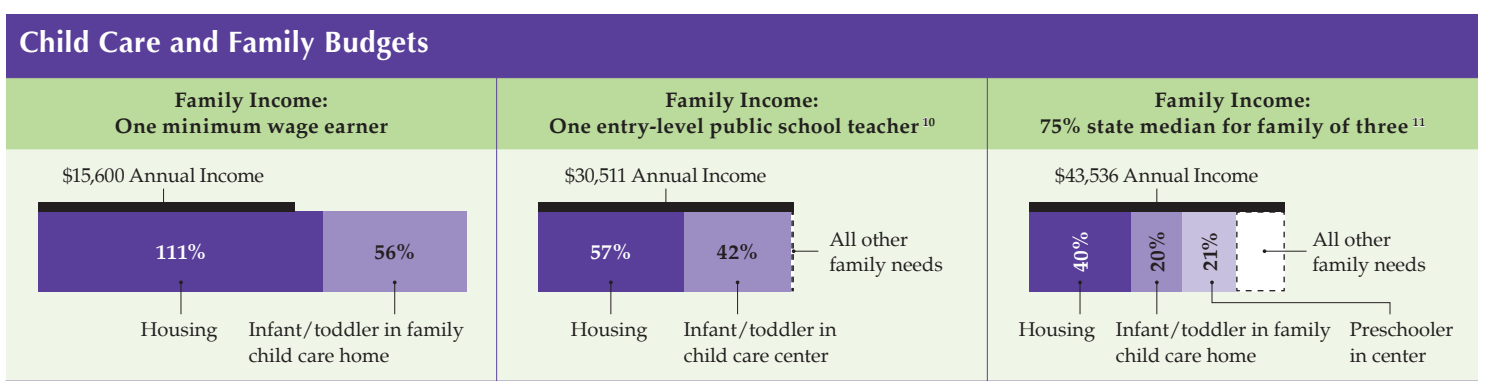
TYPE OF CARE REQUESTED Infant/toddler: 43%, Preschool: 44%, School-age: 14%

SCHEDULE Full-time: 53%, Part-time: 47%

REASONS FOR NEEDING CARE Employment: 73%, School/training: 10%, Looking for work: 6%

COST OF LICENSED CARE¹⁴ AND HOUSING¹⁵

Care for one infant/toddler	
Licensed family child care home	\$8,729
Licensed center	\$12,671
Care for one preschooler	
Licensed family child care home	\$7,854
Licensed center	\$9,303
Housing (rent for 2 bedroom unit)	\$17,364



1. United States Census Bureau 2000
 2. California Department of Finance Projections 2006
 3. American Community Survey 2006
 4. Children living with two parents or single head of household in the labor force
 5. Network estimate applied to 2006 child population projections
 6. Child care slots funded by Head Start, CA Child Development Division, and Department of Social Services 2006
 7. Breakdown by age not available for family child care homes
 8. Full-time defined as 30 hours or more per week
 9. Evening, weekend, or overnight care
 10. California Department of Education 2005/06
 11. Child Care and Development Family Fee Schedule 2006
 12. Some children are cared for by friends and relatives (license-exempt) or school-age programs (often not licensed)
 13. Resource & referral programs are located in every county in CA
 14. Regional Market Survey of CA Child Care Providers 2004/05
 15. US HUD, Median rent for 2 bedroom unit 2006