

Executive Summary

What's Inside

- ▶ Child Care Shortages Greatest in West and East County
- ▶ Significant Need for More Subsidized Child Care
- ▶ Surplus of Preschool Spaces in Central County
- ▶ Addressing ECE Shortages – Results of a Facilities Survey



Children benefit from participation in ECE programs

Participation in high-quality ECE (Early Care and Education) programs increase children's likelihood of success in school and adult life, allows adults caring for children to work outside the home to support their families, and provides over 7,000 ECE jobs countywide².

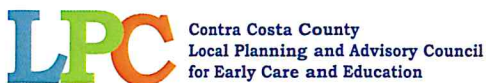
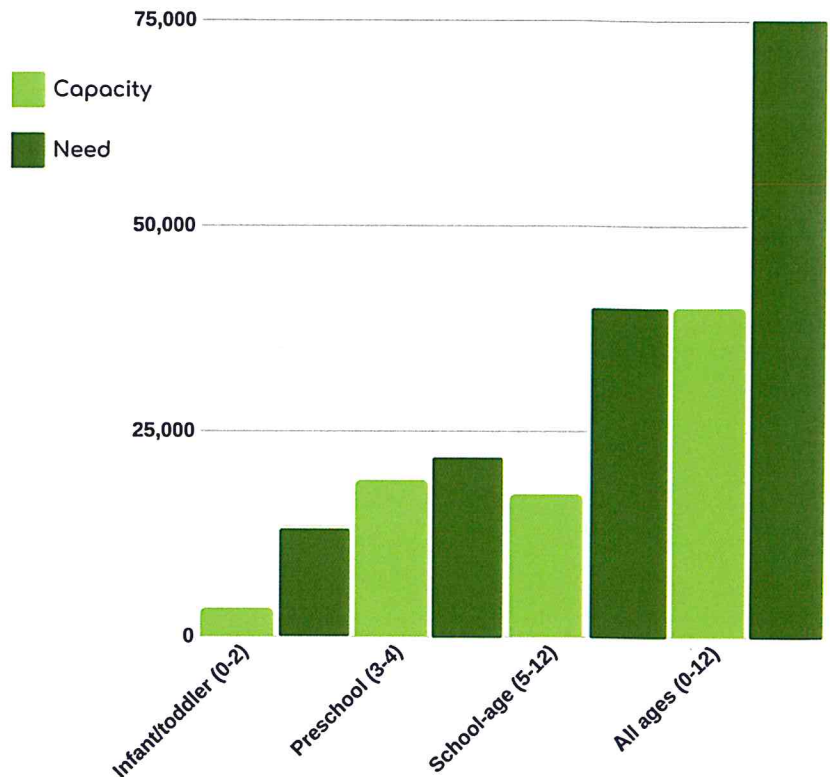
There are about 200,000 children aged birth to 12 years in Contra Costa County. **We estimate that about 75,000 children (38%) need space in high-quality ECE programs** because adults in their families are working or in education/training programs or because adults choose to enroll their children in ECE programs for the early learning benefits these programs provide.

¹Early Care and Education (ECE) is used interchangeably with child care and includes many types of programs for children 0-12 years old.

²Economic Impact of Child Care Services in Contra Costa County, Contra Costa Local Planning and Advisory Council for Early Care and Education, 2013

Current capacity of ECE programs fall far short of estimated need in Contra Costa County.

There are about 40,000 licensed ECE spaces available to meet an estimated need of 75,000 children (birth to 12 years old). The greatest shortage is in infant-toddler care (birth to 2 years old) where just 25% of infants and toddlers can be served.



For the full report, visit www.plan4kids.org

Child Care Shortages Greatest in West and East County

Cities along the I-80 and CA Rt. 4 corridors have the greatest needs for additional ECE spaces to meet demand¹. These cities also have (1) the greatest percentages of ethnic and racial minorities², (2) lowest median family incomes³ and (3) highest predicted population growth over the next 10 years⁴.



Cities with greatest unmet demand in terms of percentages ¹ % unmet demand = [1 – (total supply/total demand)] x 100 The bolded areas are predicted to have the greatest population growth over the next ten years (2017-2027) ⁴ .	Infant-toddler (0-2 yrs old)	Preschool (3-4 yrs old)	School age (5-12 yrs old)
	Countywide (75%)	Countywide (12%)	Countywide (57%)
Pinole (88%)	Pinole (50%)	Pinole (79%)	
Hercules (86%)	Hercules (28%)	Rodeo/Crockett(92%)	
Pittsburg (83%)	Antioch (36%)	Antioch (75%)	
Oakley (81%)	Oakley (51%)	Brentwood (69%)	
Rural far east (92%)	Rural far east (70%)	Oakley (86%)	

Cities with greatest unmet demand in terms of numbers ¹ (total number of spaces that must be added to meet demand) The bolded areas are predicted to have the greatest population growth over the next ten years (2017-2027) ⁴ .	Infant-toddler (0-2 yrs old)	Preschool (3-4 yrs old)	School age (5-12 yrs old)
	County-wide (10,000)	Countywide (2,700) ⁵	Countywide (22,700)
Richmond (1,300)	Richmond (670)	Richmond (2,500)	
	San Pablo (420)		
	Hercules (420)		
Concord (1,200)		Concord (1,700)	
Pittsburg (1,200)		Pittsburg (1,900)	
Antioch (1,200)	Antioch (860)	Antioch (3,400)	
	Oakley (500)	Oakley (1,800)	
San Ramon (830)	San Ramon (690)	San Ramon (1,800)	

Significant Need for More Subsidized Child Care

A family of four with an annual income of \$65,000 and an infant and a preschool-aged child may spend 30 to 40% of their income for licensed child care programs.

To be eligible for subsidized child care, a family of four cannot earn more than \$63,083.

There is a shortage of subsidized child care for all age groups and especially for infants/toddlers and school-aged children.

	Infant/ toddler (0-2 yrs)	Preschool (3-4 yrs) ⁷	School- aged (5-12 yrs) ⁷	Total (0-12 yrs)
Eligible children ⁸	9,800	8,100	29,500	47,400
# subsidized spaces	1,800	6,000 ⁹	11,000 ⁹	18,800
% unmet demand 2017 ¹⁰	81%	27% ¹¹	63% ¹¹	60% ¹¹
% unmet demand 2012 ¹⁰	83%	29%	51%	53%

Type of ECE program	Infant/toddler (0-2 years old)	Preschool (3-4 years old)
Center-based program	\$17,700	\$12,600
Family child care home	\$11,400	\$10,900

Surplus of Preschool Spaces in Central County

About 300 of 1,250 licensed programs responded to an online survey about ECE supply and demand.

- **76%** of centers and **69%** of family child care home providers (FCCHs) are within 90% of their enrollment targets.
- **However**, full-time programs for **infants/ toddlers** (0-2 years old) and programs for **school-aged children** (5-12 years old) are often at or near capacity (100% of enrollment targets).
- Countywide, **58%** of programs reported that they maintain wait lists for enrollment.

ECE enrollment statistics suggest that there is unused capacity. This unused capacity may not meet families' needs in terms of accessibility, affordability, and/or preferences.

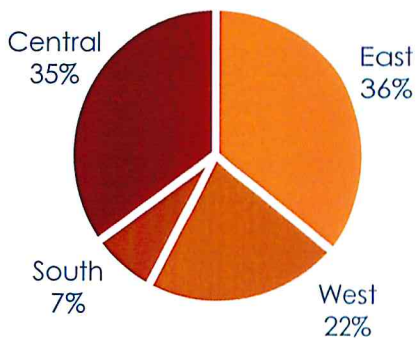
City	% of preschool demand met	# surplus preschool spaces
Clayton	111	20
Concord	110	260
Pleasant Hill	120	130
Martinez	102	10
Walnut Creek	120	250
Orinda	170	140
Moraga	250	340
Lafayette	180	300
Alamo-Blackhawk	125	50
Danville	104	30
El Cerrito	170	350
Rodeo-Crockett	120	40

There is surplus preschool capacity concentrated in central county cities while shortages exist throughout the rest of the county.

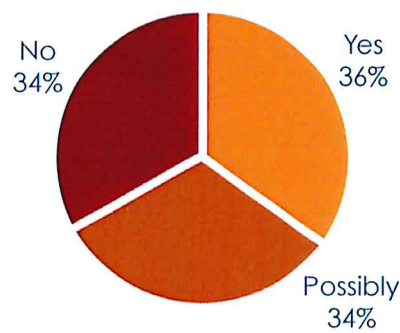
However, even if all surplus preschool spaces were utilized, there would still be a countywide shortfall of about 2,700 preschool spaces needed to meet demand.

Addressing ECE Shortages – Results of a Facilities Survey

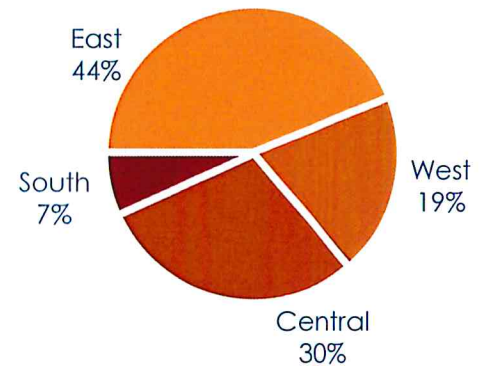
Survey Responses by Region
n=306 responses



Facilities Interested in Expanding
n=86 responses



Facilities Interested in Expanding by Region
n=96 responses



Most Cited Expansion-Related Challenges

- Difficulty finding a site
- Lack of available qualified staff
- Lack of funding
- Lack of time/expertise to manage

Contra Contra County Local Planning and Advisory Council for Early Care and Education (LPC)

Our mission is to promote quality child care through community assessment, advocacy, resource development, and collaboration with other organizations and stakeholders. We are mandated by the state to:

- Assess the County's child care needs for children 0-12 years old once every five years
- Support training and professional development of child care providers/early childhood educators
- Develop priorities for allocation of federal Child Care Grant funds
- Collaborate with government agencies, community organizations and other stakeholders to meet children's and families' needs for early care and education.

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the County Office of Education are joint governing and appointing bodies for the LPC. If you are interested in serving on the LPC, please visit www.plan4kids.org for more information.

Acknowledgements

Contra Costa County Office of Education and First 5 Contra Costa provided funding to support the LPC's 2017 Child Care Needs Assessment.

Brion Economics, Inc., with Davis Consultant Network and Nilsson Consulting collected the data on which this Executive Summary is based.

CocoKids helped with implementation of the facilities survey.

Deborah Penry, LPC Chair 2018-2019, analyzed data and wrote this summary. The Contra Costa County Office of Education's Communications Office designed this summary.

¹ See Contra Costa County Comprehensive Countywide Child Care Needs Assessment—2017-2027 for data on all cities in the county.

² The Demographic Statistical Atlas of the United States, <https://statisticalatlas.com/county/California/Contra-Costa-County/Race-and-Ethnicity>

³ DataUSA: Contra Costa County, <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/contracosta-county-ca/#economy>

⁴ The population in Contra Costa County is predicted to grow 6.5% over the next 10 years (2017-2027) with an overall increase of about 73,000 new residents. The largest population growth (in numbers of new residents) is predicted to occur in Concord with an increase of about 14,700 residents (11% growth) and in Richmond with an increase of about 10,300 residents (8% growth). The largest percentages of population growth are predicted to occur in Hercules (14%), Oakley (12%), Concord (11%) and Pittsburg (9%). ABAG Projections '13, http://files.mtc.ca.gov/pdf/PDAs_Data_from_Projections_2013.pdf

⁵ Countywide, some cities have a surplus of preschool spaces. The countywide preschool total is the net sum of areas of surplus (+) and areas of need (-). Therefore, net unmet demand countywide is less than the sum of the unmet demand for the cities listed.

⁶ Costs are from the 2016 Child Care Regional Market Rate Survey, https://www.rnnetwork.org/child_care_data. Families may choose to use license-exempt care (e.g. care provided by family members, nannies, neighbors and friends), but costs of these care options are difficult to quantify.

⁷ Preschool age range used in 2012 was 3-5 years. Preschool age range used in 2017 was 3-4 years. School age range used in 2012 was 6-12 years. School age range used in 2017 was 5-12 years.

⁸ Eligible children have working parents and a family income at or below 70% of State Median Income.

⁹ Data from "Contra Costa Child Care Needs Assessment 2012 Update", Contra Costa County Local Planning and Advisory Council for Early Care and Education (LPC), http://plan4kids.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/2012update_CCC_NA_Report.pdf. Counts from 2012 were used because 2017 data were unreliable, showing a decrease of 4,000 subsidized spaces that did not occur.

¹⁰ % unmet demand = $[1 - (\text{total supply} / \text{total demand})] \times 100$

¹¹ Use of 2012 data provides conservative estimates of unmet demand for subsidized spaces in 2017. If 2017 counts are used instead, percentages of unmet demand for 2017 increase from 27% to 54% for preschool, from 63% to 71% for school-aged children, and from 60% to 70% across all age groups.