



**SONOMA COUNTY  
CHILD CARE NEEDS ASSESSMENT UPDATE  
2019**

Prepared by  
Nilsson Consulting

Prepared for  
Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County  
Sonoma County Office of Education

# Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County

## Mission

The mission of the Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County is to convene and inspire the community through collaboration, leadership and advocacy to promote and plan for quality child care and development for the benefit of all children (birth to 12), their families and Sonoma County.

## Purpose of Needs Assessment

The Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County (CCPC) is responsible for providing a forum to identify the child care priorities of families in Sonoma County and to develop policies to meet those needs. To accomplish this, the CCPC is responsible for a number of tasks, one of which is to conduct a county-wide assessment of child care needs, called the “Needs Assessment,” at least once every five years. The term “child care” includes a range of early care and education settings, including half-day and full-day preschools, licensed family child care homes, after-school programs, etc. The Needs Assessment shall meet the requirements as specified in Education Code, Section 8499.5(b). This study represents the Needs Assessment in Sonoma County for 2019, and it is an update from the 2014 study. A Data Committee, composed of Council staff and members, was assigned by the CCPC to oversee this study preparation. This committee has provided tremendous input and oversight into the preparation of this study, the data collection, and analysis process. The information in this study is used to:

- Identify gaps and opportunities
- Guide strategies and investments
- Inform the development of the 2015-2020 comprehensive county-wide Child Care Plan

## Approach and Methodology

This 2019 study presents an update of the 2014 Sonoma County Needs Assessment at the county level only. The update incorporates the template developed by the Child Care Coordinators Association (CCCCA) to assist local planning councils in preparing needs assessments. The template suggested by the association is provided in **Attachment A**. The underlying data and a summary description of that data including sources are provided in **Attachment B**. This report uses data and information that is readily available from various public agencies (as provided) and on the internet. No primary data was collected for this effort, such as surveys. Data presented is generally “point in time” data for the most current year or time frame available, which ranges from 2016 to 2019.

Since this report uses data and information that is readily available from various public agencies (as provided) and on the internet, we are aware that the many undocumented children in the

County are not included. Therefore, please note that population and child care demand data in this report may be significantly underestimated.

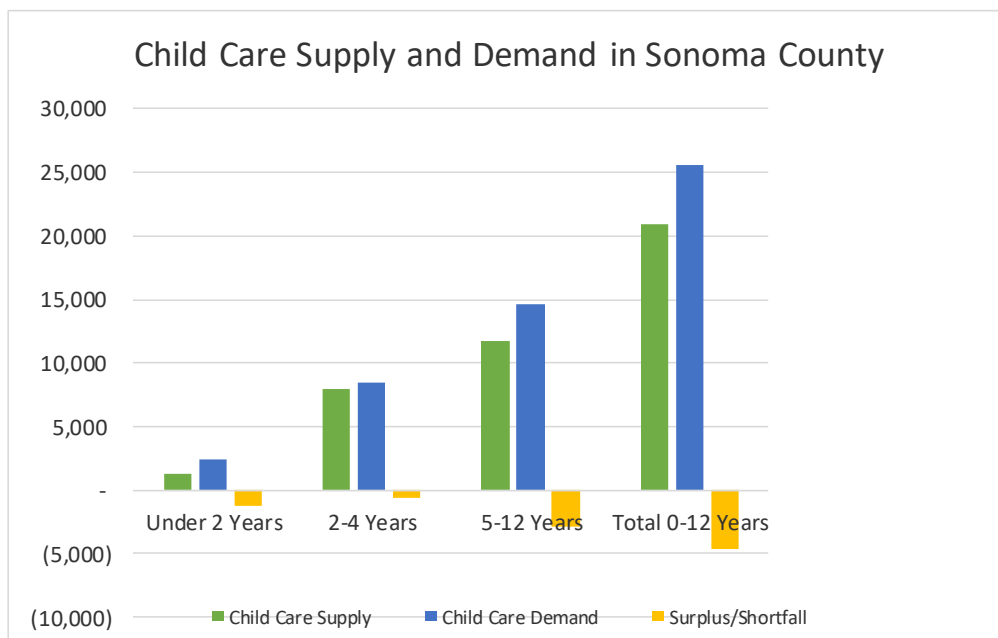
## Key Findings

- 1. From 2014 to 2019, the population of children ages 0 to 12 in Sonoma County decreased by 9.2% from approximately 74,200 to 67,400 (see Table 1).**

There are currently 67,374 children ages 0 to 12 which make up 13.2% of the total population of Sonoma County. This is 6,798 less children ages 0 to 12 than were in the County in 2014 at the time of the last Child Care Needs Assessment. Total population in Sonoma County has increased during the same time period, at the rate of 3.7%.

- 2. There is currently a shortage of almost 4,700 child care spaces across all age groups in the County, with the largest shortage, of 2,900 spaces, being for school age children (see Table 15).**

Overall, the County is meeting 82% of the demand for child care for children ages 0 to 12. There is demand for almost 25,492 spaces and there are 20,937 available. For the County as a whole, there is a shortage of 4,655 spaces across all ages, 0 to 12 years. There are significant shortages for infant and school age care; for preschool spaces 94% of demand is being met.



**3. *The greatest shortage in care is for school age children, ages 5 to 12 years. Currently there is a shortage of approximately 2,900 spaces (see Table 15).***

For school age children, ages 5 to 12, 80% of total demand is currently met. There is a need for 14,638 spaces and only 11,752 are available in the County. This leaves a shortage of 2,886 school age spaces. While there are additional license-exempt programs for school age kids, they are not counted in the supply data because they have not chosen to be listed in the county's Resource and Referral agencies' data bases. Also, license-exempt programs may not meet families' needs for full-year care.

**4. *The greatest percentage shortfall is for infant care spaces, with only 51% of demand being met (see Table 15).***

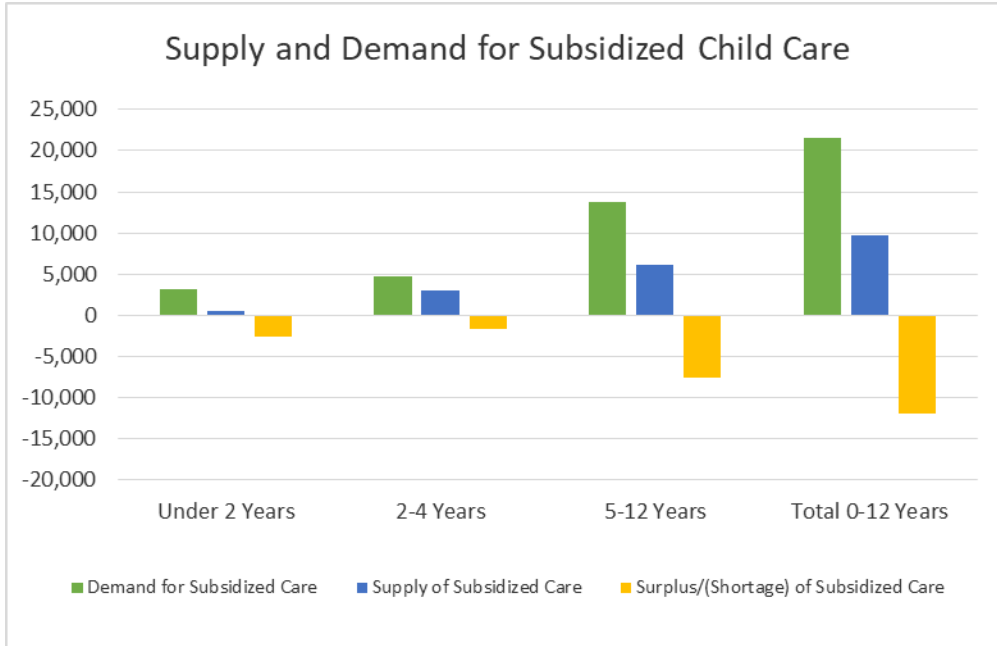
Infant care includes children ages 0 to 23 months. There is currently a shortage of 1,218 infant spaces in Sonoma County. Overall, there is a demand for 2,461 infant spaces and there are 1,243 spaces available.

**5. *For preschool children, ages 3 and 4, there is a shortage of approximately 551 child care spaces with 94% of total demand being met (see Table 15).***

There is a demand for 8,493 preschool spaces. Currently there are only 7,942 available in the County, with a shortfall of 551.

**6. *There is a significant shortage of subsidized care for children in the County, with only 45% of the demand met for children 0 to 12 (see Tables 11 and 15).***

There are approximately 21,500 children ages 0 to 12 in Sonoma County who live in households that earn equal to or less than 85% of the State Median Income (SMI) and qualify for subsidized child care. Almost 3,100 infants qualify for subsidized child care but only 445 spaces are available and only 14% of demand is met. For preschool age children, 65% of demand for subsidized care is currently met, with a shortage of 1,700 slots. For school age children, 45% of demand for subsidized care is met, with a shortage of about 7,600 spaces. Currently, only 45% of overall demand for subsidized care is being met, as compared to 2014, when only 16% of demand for subsidized care was met.



**7. About 10% of children under the age of 6 and 11% of children ages 6 to 12 in Sonoma County live below the Federal Poverty Level (see Table 7).**

Almost 7,000 children in Sonoma County live in families that earn less than the Federal Poverty Level, which is \$25,750 for a household of four in 2019. Additionally, 46.5% of infants, 47.4% of preschoolers, and 46.8% of school age children live in families earning less than 85% of SMI, or \$67,169 (for 2017). That is a total of 31,609 children ages 0 to 12 in families earning less than 85% SMI (or 46.9% of all children). Another resource for understanding family incomes in Sonoma County is the California Family Needs Calculator (formerly the Self-Sufficiency Standard Tool). According to the report, 44% of households with one or more children live below the Standard, as compared to 20% for households with no children.<sup>1</sup>

**8. The number of children ages 0 to 12 years old speaking languages other than English and the ethnic range of Sonoma County has increased since 2014 and is expected to continue to increase (see Tables 2 and 3).**

In 2014, 65% of children ages 0 to 12 years old spoke English as their primary language. Now, in 2019, this percentage is 62%. Of the multilingual 38%, most, or 34% are Spanish speaking. Other languages include Vietnamese, Filipino, Khmer, Mandarin and Farsi. Hispanic children make up 45.5% of the child population and White children make up 42.6%. Multiracial is the next largest group with 4.3%.

<sup>1</sup> California Self Sufficiency Standard Fact Sheet: Sonoma County Key Facts. Viewed on December 3, 2019. <https://insightccd.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/SonomaCounty-FactSheet-FINAL.pdf>

## Summary of Children and Child Care Data as of 2019

The following is a summary snapshot of the data from Attachment B.

- ◆ **Total Children 0 to 12:** 67,375 or 13.2% of total population in 2019.
  - 10,138 children under 2 years old or 15% of total 0 to 12 children.
  - 15,232 children 2 to 4 years old or 22.6% of total 0 to 12 children.
  - 42,004 children 5 to 12 years old or 62.3% of total 0 to 12 children.
  
- ◆ **Ethnicity:** 46% Hispanic, 43% Caucasian, 3% Asian, 2% African American, 1% American Indian/Alaska Native, 4% multi-racial.
  
- ◆ **Labor Force Participation Rate of Working Parents:** children under 6 years old: 65.6%; and children over 6 years old: 69.7%.
  
- ◆ **Non-English Language Spoken:** 34.1% Spanish and 8 other languages spoken with less than one percent each; in total 38.1% of children in grades K-12 speak a foreign language.
  
- ◆ **Child Care Facilities or Providers:** 624 total
  - 247 licensed small family child care homes
  - 85 licensed large family child care homes
  - 183 licensed child care centers
  - 109 license-exempt centers
  
- ◆ **Estimated Supply:** 20,937 total child care spaces
  - 1,243 infant spaces (6% of total supply)
  - 7,942 preschool spaces (38% of total supply)
  - 11,752 school age spaces (56% of total supply)
  
- ◆ **Estimated Demand:** 25,592 total child care spaces
  - 2,461 infant spaces needed (10% of total demand)
  - 8,493 preschool spaces needed (33% of total demand)
  - 14,638 school age spaces needed (57% of total demand)
  
- ◆ **Child Care Gap:** Shortfall of 4,655 spaces
  - Overall, 82% of demand is being met
  - Infant: 1,218 spaces Shortfall
  - Preschool: 551 spaces Shortfall
  - School Age: 2,886 spaces Shortfall
  - Infant care shows significant shortfalls, with about 49% of demand not met.

- ◆ **Subsidized Child Care Spaces:** 9,641 for children 0 to 12 years, compared to 3,522 spaces available in 2014.
  - **Center-based (General) Program (CCTR):** 758 children served 0 to 12 years
  - **California State Preschool:** 1,168 children served, 2 to 4 years old
  - **Family Child Care Home Education Network:** 197 children being served, ages 0 to 12
  - **CalWORKS Stage 1, 2 and 3:** 1,008 children being served, ages 0 to 12
  - **Alternative Payment:** 1,659 children served
  - **Head Start:** 480 children enrolled in the Head Start program countywide, or 3% of total children ages 2-4, countywide
  - **Early Head Start:** 40 children participating in the Early Head Start program, or 0.4% of total children, ages under 2, countywide
  
- ◆ **Children Eligible for Subsidized Care:** 21,542 children ages 0-12 years are eligible for subsidized care and 9,641 spaces are available, with 45% of demand being met.
  
- ◆ **Children with Special Needs:** 6,361 children have identified special needs. This is 9.4% of all children 0 to 12 years old.
  - 5,226 are children 5 to 12 with IEPs
  
- ◆ **CalWORKs:** 1,008 children ages 0 to 12 receive public assistance (cash grants) through CalWORKs, countywide.
  - 1,008 children 0 to 12 years old receive CalWORKs or 1.5% of all children 0 to 12, countywide.
  
- ◆ **Child Protective Services:** 460 children are active with Child Protective Services (March 2019), or about 0.7% of total children countywide.

## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the following organizations and public agencies for providing data and information for this study:

- American Institutes for Research (AIR) - Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool
- Butte County Office of Education
- California Department of Education
- California Department of Social Services
- California Department of Finance
- Care Parent Network
- Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County
- Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County
- Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs)
- County of Sonoma - Human Services Department
- North Bay Regional Center
- River to Coast Children's Services (RCCS)
- Sonoma County Human Services Department
- Sonoma County Office of Education
- Sonoma County LEA Special Day Class Preschool Operators
- Sonoma County SELPA
- U.S. Census Bureau

## Study Authors

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- ◆ Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County – Needs Assessment Committee

For more information please visit [www.scoe.org/ccpc](http://www.scoe.org/ccpc)



## **Attachment A: Sonoma County Child Care Needs Assessment Form**

**LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL (LPC) COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

<b>County: Sonoma</b>	<b>County Code: 1049</b>	<b>Date Submitted:</b>
<b>Contact: Susy Marron</b>	<b>Phone: (707) 524-2939</b>	<b>Email: smarron@scoe.org</b>

<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b>							
<b>Section 1: Number of Children in the County by Age Cohorts</b>			<b>Section 2: Percent of Children K-12 by Race/Ethnicity</b>		<b>Section 3: Child Population K-12 by Threshold Languages</b>		
<b>Ages</b>	<b>1a. Number</b>	<b>Age Totals</b>	<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>3a. Number</b>	<b>3b. %</b>
<1	5,086	<b>1b.</b> 0-1 yr olds: 10,138	Hispanic or Latino	45.5%	Spanish	13,867	93.3%
1	5,052		American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.9%	Filipino	48	0.3%
2	5,092	<b>1c.</b> 2 - 4 yr olds: 15,232	Asian American	3.2%	Mandarin	71	0.5%
3	5,128		Pacific Islander	0.4%	Cantonese	18	0.1%
4	5,012	<b>1d.</b> 5-12 yr olds: 42,004	Filipino	0.7%	Farsi	16	1.1%
5	4,927		African American	1.6%	Vietnamese	138	0.9%
6-12	37,077		White, Not Hispanic	42.6%	Arabic	53	0.4%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>67,374</b>		Multiracial/ethnic	4.3%	Korean	25	0.2%
			Not reported	0.8%	Other	628	4.2%

Section 1 Source: California Department of Finance; Nilsson Consulting.

Section 2 Source: California Department of Education; Nilsson Consulting.

Section 3 Source: California Department of Education DataQuest Report for 2017-18 for Sonoma County; Nilsson Consulting.

<b>SPECIAL NEEDS</b>				
<b>Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) or an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) by Age</b>			<b>Section 5: Number of Children Served in Child Protective Services</b>	
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>4a. with IFSP</b>	<b>4b. with IEP</b>	<b>5a. In the CPS System by Age Group</b>	<b>5b. Referred for Child Care by Age Group</b>
<b>0-1</b>	135		140	73
<b>2-4</b>	275	725	75	62
<b>5-12</b>		5,226	245	66

Section 4 Sources: Sonoma County SELPA/Sonoma County Charter SELPA; Care Parent Network; North Bay Regional Center; Nilsson Consulting.

Section 5 Source: Sonoma County Human Services Department; Nilsson Consulting.

**LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL (LPC) COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Section 6: Number of Children in Families Receiving CalWORKs by Age and Stage</b>			
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Stage 1</b>	<b>Stage 2</b>	<b>Stage 3</b>
<b>0-1</b>	48	40	14
<b>2-4</b>	29	164	105
<b>5-12</b>	47	220	341
<b>Section 7: Estimated Number of Children by Income Category, by Age</b>			
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>7a. At or Below Federal Poverty (Eligible for Head Start)</b>	<b>7b. At or Below 85% State Median Income (Eligible for State Subsidy)</b>	<b>Above 85% State Median Income</b>
<b>0-1</b>	983	4,714	5,424
<b>2-4</b>	1,478	7,220	8,012
<b>5-12</b>	4,536	19,675	22,329
<b>Section 8: Number of Children in Migrant Families (50% or more of income is from Migrant Work)</b>			
<b>Children in Migrant Families 0-12</b>		1,092	

Section 6 Sources: River to Coast Children's Services; Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs); County of Sonoma Human Services Department; Nilsson Consulting.

Section 7 Sources: California Department of Finance; American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2017; American Institutes for Research; Nilsson Consulting.

Section 8 Source: Butte County Office of Education; Nilsson Consulting.

**LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL (LPC) COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

<b>DEMAND FOR CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES</b>			
<b>Demand Populations</b>	<b>Ages 0-1</b>	<b>Ages 2-4 yr olds</b>	<b>Ages 5-12 yr olds</b>
<b>Section 9: Number of Children in families with working parents who are at or below 85% SMI</b>	3,092	4,736	13,713
<b>Section 10: Number of children with all parents in the workforce (all income levels)</b>	6,651	9,992	29,277
<b>Section 11: Number of 3 &amp; 4 yr olds with at least 1 non-working parent (all income levels)</b>		3,488	
<b>Section 12: Number of 3 &amp; 4 yr olds with at least 1 non-working parent in family at or below 85% SMI</b>		1,653	

Sections 9-12 Source: California Department of Finance; American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2017; American Institutes for Research 2016; Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs); River to Coast Children's Services; Nilsson Consulting.

<b>CAPACITY</b>			
<b>Section 13: Licensed Capacity by Age Groups</b>			
<b>Spaces</b>	<b>13a. Infants (0-1)</b>	<b>13b. Preschool (2-4)</b>	<b>13c. School-Age (5-12)</b>
Licensed Centers	325	6,786	11,210
Licensed Family Child Care Homes*	918	1,156	542
License-Exempt Centers**	0	0	9,544

\* Spaces by age for FCCHs may be an estimate rather than actual

\*\* Number of spaces in License-exempt are self-reported or estimated

Section 13 Sources: California Department of Education; Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs); River to Coast Children's Services; Nilsson Consulting.

**LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL (LPC) COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

<b>COST OF CARE: COUNTY REGIONAL MARKET RATES ALLOWED FOR STATE SUBSIDY</b>				
<b>Section 14: Weekly Regional Market Rates by Age and Type of Care</b>				
<b>Center Regional Market Rates</b>	<b>Center Full-Time Maximum</b>	<b>Center Full-Time Average</b>	<b>Center Part-Time Maximum</b>	<b>Center Part-Time Average</b>
Infant / Toddler	\$348	\$289	\$266	N/A
Preschool	\$270	\$270	\$220	N/A
School-Age	\$238	\$164	\$143	N/A
<b>Family Child Care Home Regional Market Rates</b>	<b>FCCH Full-Time Maximum</b>	<b>FCCH Full-Time Average</b>	<b>FCCH Part-Time Maximum</b>	<b>FCCH Part-Time Average</b>
Infant / Toddler	\$233	\$252	\$199	N/A
Preschool	\$221	\$233	\$173	N/A
School-Age	\$178	\$209	\$141	N/A

Section 14 Sources: California Department of Education; Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs); River to Coast Children's

## LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL (LPC) COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Services; Nilsson Consulting.

<b>CHILDREN ENROLLED IN STATE AND FEDERAL CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SUBSIDY PROGRAMS</b>			
<b>Section 15: Children served in Subsidized Child Care and Development Subsidy Programs (point in time)</b>			
<b>Funding / Program Type</b>	<b>Infant/Toddler (0-1)</b>	<b>Preschool (2-4)</b>	<b>School-Age (5-12)</b>
Full-Day Center (CCTR)	47	245	466
CA State Preschool (CSPP)		1,168	
FCCH Networks	98	59	40
Migrant	0	0	0
Handicap Program	0	0	0
California Alternative Payment (voucher)			
CalWORKs Stage 1	48	29	47
CalWORKs Stage 2	40	164	220
CalWORKs Stage 3	14	105	341
Head Start	0	480	0
Early Head Start	40	0	0
Other (Transitional K and ASES programs)		322	4,009

Section 15 Sources: American Institutes of Research 2016; County of Sonoma Human Services Department; Nilsson Consulting.

**LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL (LPC) COUNTY NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

<b>UNMET NEED</b>						
<b>Section 16: County Unmet Need By Type of Care and Age Group</b>						
<b>Type of care needed</b>	<b>Infant Toddler (0-1)</b>		<b>Preschool (2-4)</b>		<b>School-Age 5-12</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>16a. Full-time care for working parents</b>	(5,408)	19%	(2,050)	79%	(7,981)	73%
<b>16b. Full-time care for working families eligible for State subsidy</b>	(2,805)	9%	(2,164)	54%	(8,590)	37%
<b>16c. Part-time Preschool for enrichment / school readiness (all incomes)</b>			4,454	128%		
<b>16d. Part-time Preschool for enrichment / school readiness and eligible for state subsidy</b>			919	56%		

## **Attachment B: Detailed Data and Documentation**

In preparing the 2019 Child Care Needs Assessment for Sonoma County for the Child Care Planning Council of Sonoma County (CCPC), Nilsson Consulting followed the *LPC Child Care Needs Assessment: Instruction Guide for Completing the Aggregate County Report* as closely as possible. We used the suggested data sources, and additional sources of information as needed. In the following pages, the table numbers correlate to the section numbers in the LPC Child Care Needs Assessment report form generated by the California Child Care Coordinators Association (CCCCA), and the narrative documents how the numbers in the Needs Assessment report were derived.



## Children by Age and Total Population

**Table 1** shows the number of children, ages 0 to 12 in Sonoma County and total population as of 2019. This data is based on the California Department of Finance P-2 Report, entitled “County Total Population by Age, 2010 to 2060.” The data is estimated for 2019 and was last updated on January 31, 2018, which is the most current available data. The Needs Assessment Instruction Guide recommends using the Summary File 1 from the Department of Finance; however it was decided to use the more current P-2 report for the purposes of this Needs Assessment. Totals for each age group—Infants (0 to 2 years), Preschool (3 to 5 years), and School Age (6 to 12 years) are listed at the bottom of the table.<sup>1</sup> **Table 1** also shows the percentage of each age as compared to children ages 0 to 12 years, and to the population as a whole. By group, infants make up 15% of children ages 0 to 12 and 2% of the County's population, preschoolers comprise 22.6% of children ages 0 to 12 and 3.0% of the County's population, and school age children make up 62.3% of children ages 0 to 12 years and 8.2% of the County's population. Since 2014, when the last Needs Assessment for Sonoma County was completed, the number of children ages 0 to 12 years old has decreased from approximately 74,200 to 67,400 or by 9.2%, while overall population increased by 3.7%.

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<sup>1</sup> Note that 25% of 5 year olds are included in the 6 to 12 year old, or school age, category in order to account for those children enrolled in Transitional Kindergarten programs.

**Table 1**  
**Children by Age, 0-12 Years Old**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age in Years <sup>1</sup>	2019 Population	% of Children 0-12 Years	% of Total Population	2014 Population	% Population Change 2014 to 2019
0	5,086	7.5%	1.0%	5,601	-9.2%
1	5,052	7.5%	1.0%	5,556	-9.1%
2	5,092	7.6%	1.0%	5,523	-7.8%
3	5,128	7.6%	1.0%	5,296	-3.2%
4	5,012	7.4%	1.0%	5,538	-9.5%
5	4,927	7.3%	1.0%	5,552	-11.3%
6	5,038	7.5%	1.0%	5,616	-10.3%
7	4,978	7.4%	1.0%	5,919	-15.9%
8	5,204	7.7%	1.0%	5,842	-10.9%
9	5,379	8.0%	1.1%	5,908	-9.0%
10	5,360	8.0%	1.0%	5,966	-10.2%
11	5,409	8.0%	1.1%	5,957	-9.2%
12	<u>5,709</u>	<u>8.5%</u>	<u>1.1%</u>	<u>5,896</u>	<u>-3.2%</u>
<b>Total Ages 0-12</b>	<b>67,374</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>74,172</b>	<b>-9.2%</b>
Total Sonoma County Population	511,308			493,261	3.7%
Total Infants (0-1 years)	10,138	15.0%	2.0%	16,680	-39.2%
Total Preschool (2-4 years) <sup>2</sup>	15,232	22.6%	3.0%	10,834	40.6%
Total School Age (5-12 years)	42,004	62.3%	8.2%	46,657	-10.0%

*Note: Due to rounding, there may be slight variations in the totals.*

<sup>1</sup>Population estimates are from CA Department of Finance P-2 Report, estimates for 2019.

<sup>2</sup>The 2014 Sonoma County Needs Assessment had different age groupings: Preschool included 75% of 5 year olds.

Sources: California Department of Finance; Nilsson Consulting.

## Ethnicity of Children

**Table 2** shows the breakdown of race/ethnicity for the population ages 0 to 12 years old as of 2017-18, which is the latest data available for ethnicity. Children who are Hispanic/Latino make up 45.5% of the 0 to 12 population in Sonoma County, followed by White children at 42.6% of the 0 to 12 population children, and Multiracial at 4.3%. Data in **Table 2** is based on the California Department of Finance's Summary 1 file.

**Table 2**  
**Children K-12 by Race/Ethnicity**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Race/Ethnicity	No. of Children 0-12 Years <sup>1</sup>	% of Total Children 0-12 Years
Hispanic/Latino	30,655	45.5%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	606	0.9%
Asian American	2,156	3.2%
Pacific Islander	269	0.4%
Filipino	472	0.7%
African American	1,078	1.6%
Multiracial	2,897	4.3%
White, Not Hispanic	28,701	42.6%
Not reported	539	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,374</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Data from California Department of Education; 2017-18 (most recent available).

Sources: California Department of Education; Nilsson Consulting.

## Language Spoken by Children in Grades K to 12

Child Population by Language reflects the primary language spoken (other than English) by children in grades K to 12 in Sonoma County as of 2017-18, and which is summarized in **Table 3**. Data on language spoken is from the California Department of Education's Data Quest database ([www.cde.ca.gov](http://www.cde.ca.gov)). This data set is not available for children ages 0 to 5 years old, but it is assumed that the K to 12 data is reflective of the language spoken by households with younger children in the County. Spanish makes up the greatest percentage (93.3%) of primary language spoken (not including English), followed by Vietnamese (0.93%), and Mandarin (0.48%). When looking at all children in K to 12 grades, Spanish speakers make up 34.1% of the population. No other language is greater than 1% of total children. Overall, 38.1% of children speak a language other than English.

**Table 3**  
**Children In Grades K-12 by Language Spoken (Excluding English)**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Language	Number of Children K-12 <sup>1</sup>	Percentage of Children who Speak Languages Other Than English	Percentage of Total Children <sup>1</sup>
Spanish	13,867	93.29%	34.08%
Filipino	48	0.32%	0.25%
Mandarin	71	0.48%	0.26%
Cantonese	18	0.12%	0.12%
Farsi	16	0.11%	0.05%
Vietnamese	138	0.93%	0.80%
Arabic	53	0.36%	0.15%
Korean	25	0.17%	0.11%
Other	<u>628</u>	<u>4.22%</u>	<u>2.26%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,864</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>38.1%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Percentages of total children who speak languages other than English, from the California Department of Education.

Sources: California Department of Education DataQuest Report for 2017-18 for Sonoma County; Nilsson Consulting.

## Children with Special Needs

The number of children with an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is broken down by age group in **Table 4**. IFSPs are for families with children younger than 3 years and IEPs are for children ages 3 and up. Data regarding children with special needs comes from Sonoma County SELPA, the North Bay Regional Center, and the California Department of Education. There are 135 infants with IFSPs, 1,000 preschoolers, and 5,226 school-age children with IEPs, for a total of 6,361 children 0 to 12. Numbers of children with special needs typically increase as children get older, primarily due to higher rates of identification and diagnosis.

**Table 4**  
**Children with an IFSP or IEP by Age Group**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years	Percent of Total
Total (IFSP or IEP) <sup>2</sup>	135	1,000	5,226	6,361	9.4%

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Data provided by Sheri Roberge, Sonoma County SELPA/Sonoma County Charter SELPA and January Crane, North Bay Regional Center. May 2019.

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Children 3 years and up have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and children under 3 have Individual Family Services Plans (IFSPs).

Sources: Sonoma County SELPA/Sonoma County Charter SELPA; Care Parent Network; North Bay Regional Center; Nilsson Consulting.

## Children in Child Protective Services

**Table 5** provides information on the number of children in Child Protective Services (CPS) as of 2018. Based on data from County of Sonoma Human Services Department, there were 460 children ages 0 to 12 years old in Child Protective Services. During the period from March 2018 to March 2019, 201 children ages 0 to 12 were referred by Child Protective Services to child care services. Not all children referred by Children Protective Services actually enter the child care system.

**Table 5**  
**Children in Child Protective Services System and Number Referred for Child Care Services**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
Number of Children in Child Protective Services <sup>2</sup>	140	75	245	460
Number of Children Referred for Child Care Services <sup>3</sup>	73	62	66	201

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Data on total children in child protective services is for 2018. Infant category includes 2-year-olds and Preschool category is 3- and 4-year olds. The data could not be provided to match the age categories used in this study.

<sup>3</sup> Children referred for child care services is for the time period from March 2018 through March 2019.

Sources: Sonoma County Human Services Department; Nilsson Consulting.

## Children in CalWORKs

The number of children in families on CalWORKs by age group is shown in **Table 6**. The data for CalWORKs Stage 1 is provided by the County of Sonoma Human Services Department for February 2019, and includes 48 infants, 29 toddlers and 47 school-age children. CalWORKs Stage 2 and 3 data was provided by River to Coast Children’s Services and the Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County. CalWORKs Stage 2 is supporting child care for 40 infants, 164 preschoolers and 220 school-age children. CalWORKs Stage 3 has 14 infants, 105 preschoolers and 341 school-age kids. There are a total of 1,008 children receiving CalWORKs ages 0 to 12.

**Table 6**  
**Children in Families on CalWORKs by Age Group**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
CalWORKs Stage 1 <sup>2</sup>	48	29	47	124
CalWORKs Stage 2 <sup>3</sup>	40	164	220	424
CalWORKs Stage 3 <sup>3</sup>	14	105	341	460
<b>Total CalWORKs</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>1,008</b>

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> CalWORKs Stage 1 data provided by County of Sonoma Human Services Department, February 2019 and Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs), March 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Data on CalWORKs Stage 2 and 3 provided by, River to Coast Children's Services and Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs), March 2019.

Sources: River to Coast Children's Services; Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs); County of Sonoma Human Services Department; Nilsson Consulting.

## Children by Family Income and Age

**Table 7** calculates the number of children in families by income category and age group. Based on the American Community Survey 5 Year Estimates (2017), the percentage of families with incomes below the poverty level in the past 12 months for children under 5 years (9.7%) is applied to the total number of infants (under 2 years) and preschoolers (2 to 4 years). The percentage of families with incomes below the poverty level in the past 12 months for children ages 5 to 17 years (10.8%) is applied to school age children (6 to 12 years). These percentages are multiplied by the total number of children in each age group to calculate the number of children in families with incomes below the poverty level.

Using the Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool, created for the CCCCA by the American Institutes for Research (AIR), data on the number of children in each age group with family incomes that are below 85% of State Median Income, (SMI) is calculated. The AIR data shows that 46.5% of children aged under 2, 47.4% of children ages 2 to 4, and 46.8% of children 5 to 12 years old live in families earning less than 85% of SMI. The AIR percentages are based on numbers from the American Community Survey and are calculated separately from the total children they report, which is based on data from the Department of Public Health. According to AIR, these percentage data are more accurate and we are using these factors here.<sup>2</sup>

Lastly, **Table 7** also calculates the number of children by age group who live in families earning more than 85% SMI. In 2017, the SMI for a family of four in California was \$67,169.<sup>3</sup> The Federal poverty guidelines for a family of four in 2019 is \$25,750.<sup>4</sup>

Another resource for understanding family incomes in Sonoma County is the California Family Needs Calculator (formerly the Self-Sufficiency Standard Tool). Assuming a four-person household, with two adults, one preschooler, and one school age child in 2018, the family would require an annual income of \$83,537 to be self-sufficient.<sup>5</sup> This is significantly more than the Federal poverty guidelines or the SMI for a family of four (2017). According to the report, 44% of households with one or more children live below the Standard, as compared to 20% for households with no children.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Based on emails with Karen Manship, Senior Researcher at AIR.org, on May 15, 2014.

<sup>3</sup> Based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau. Viewed August 15, 2019. <https://www.census.gov/search-results.html?searchType=web&cssp=SERP&q=state%20median%20income>

<sup>4</sup> Data from the U.S. Census Bureau. Viewed August 15, 2019. <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>

<sup>5</sup> Data from the California Family Needs Calculator for 2018. Viewed December 3, 2019. <https://insightcced.org/2018-family-needs-calculator/>

<sup>6</sup> California Self Sufficiency Standard Fact Sheet: Sonoma County Key Facts. Viewed on December 3, 2019. <https://insightcced.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/SonomaCounty-FactSheet-FINAL.pdf>



**Table 7**  
**Number of Children in Families by Income Category and Age Group**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
Total Children by Age Group	10,138	15,232	42,004	67,374
% of Children in Families Whose Income was Below Poverty Level In the Past Year <sup>2</sup>	9.7%	9.7%	10.8%	10.4%
# of Children in Families Whose Income was Below Poverty Level In the Past Year	983	1,478	4,536	6,997
% of Children in Families earning less than 85% of State Median Income (SMI) <sup>3</sup>	46.5%	47.4%	46.8%	46.9%
# of Children in Families Earning less than 85% SMI <sup>3</sup>	4,714	7,220	19,675	31,609
Children in Families with Incomes Above the Poverty Level <sup>2</sup>	9,155	13,754	37,468	60,377
Children in Families with Incomes Above 85% SMI <sup>3</sup>	5,424	8,012	22,329	35,765

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> This data is from the American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2017, for families with children under 5, and 5 to 17.

<sup>3</sup> This data is from the Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool compiled by American Institutes for Research.

The percentage used here is based on numbers from the American Community Survey for Sonoma County, according to the American Institutes for Research for 2016. The children in families earning less than 85% of State Median Income also include the children living below the poverty level.

Sources: California Department of Finance; American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2017; American Institutes for Research; Nilsson Consulting.

## Children in Migrant Families

Data for children from migrant families is shown in **Table 8**. There are 1,092 children from migrant families in Sonoma County, according to the Butte County Office of Education which collects migrant student data for Sonoma County.

**Table 8**  
**Number of Children in Migrant Families for 2019**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
Children in Migrant Worker Families <sup>2</sup>	70	140	882	1,092
Percent Distribution	6%	13%	81%	100%
Migrant Children as Percent of Total Children	0.7%	0.9%	2.1%	1.6%

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Data provided by Angelica Mora, Butte County Office of Education, March 2019.

Sources: Butte County Office of Education; Nilsson Consulting.

## Children Eligible for Subsidized Care

**Table 9** estimates the number of children by age group whose families work and are eligible for subsidized child care and development. This analysis uses Labor Force Participation Rates from the ACS 5 to Year Survey (2017) for children in households with two working parents and the number of families earning less than 85% of SMI. This data is used to estimate the number of children eligible for subsidized care. It is estimated that 21,542 children ages 0 to 12 qualify for subsidized care in Sonoma County.

**Table 9**  
**Number of Children in Families at or Below 85% of SMI with Working Parents**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
Total Number of Children by Age Group	10,138	15,232	42,004	67,374
Children at or Below 85% of SMI <sup>2</sup>	4,714	7,220	19,675	31,609
Labor Force Participation Rates <sup>3</sup>	65.6%	65.6%	69.7%	
Children at or Below 85% of SMI with Working Parents	3,092	4,736	13,713	21,542

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Number of children based on data from AIR, 2016.

<sup>3</sup> Labor force participation rates are from the 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates and include children with two working parents or single working parents. Rates vary by age: under 6 years, and 6 and over.

Sources: California Department of Finance; American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2017; American Institutes for Research 2016; Nilsson Consulting.

## Child Care Demand

The child care demand for children in households with working parents is calculated in **Table 10**, as of 2017. The total number of children by age group is multiplied by the Labor Force Participation Rates (65.6% for children under 5 years and 69.7% for children 5 to 12 years) to calculate the number of children with working parents (either two working parents or a single parent who works). The number of children with working parents is then multiplied by the percentage of children who need licensed care by age group (37% for infants, 85% for preschool, and 50% for school age). These percentages are both based on the percentages recommended by the CCCCA and agreed upon by the CCPC. The Needs Assessment instructions suggest 75% for preschool, unless additional information is available to use a more accurate local number. In other studies in similar jurisdictions, 85% has frequently been used to calculate preschool demand because demand for preschool is not only based on need. The benefits of preschool have demonstrated in various studies in recent years and parents are sending their children to preschool for its social benefits, not necessarily because they require child care. The Needs Assessment instructions also recommend 39% demand for school age care, but with more children in Transitional Kindergarten, we have adjusted this to 45% for the purposes of this study. Based on these percentages, it is estimated that 25,592 children ages 0 to 12 years require licensed care in Sonoma County.

**Table 10**  
**Estimated Number of Children in Families Where All Parents/Guardians Work**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
Number of Children by Age Group	10,138	15,232	42,004	67,374
Labor Force Participation Rates	65.6%	65.6%	69.7%	68.2%
Children With Working Parents	6,651	9,992	29,277	45,920
% Children Needing Licensed Care	37%	85%	50%	56%
Number of Children Needing Licensed Care	2,461	8,493	14,638	25,592

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

Sources: California Department of Finance; American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2017; American Institutes for Research 2016; Nilsson Consulting.

## Demand for Part-Time Preschool

**Table 11** calculates the demand for part-time preschool for children that have at least one non-working parent. The total number of children ages 3 to 4 years is shown, followed by the number of children that have at least one non-working parent. Applying the 47.4% of families below 85% SMI to that figure results in 1,653 children ages 3 and 4 in families earning less than 85% of SMI and with one non-working parent. Because this table calculates children with at least one non-working parent, this is used to consider demand for part-time preschool care instead of full-time care. This figure represents children that may require subsidies for part-time child care. Part-time care is considered important for kindergarten-readiness and all of the benefits of early care and education but does not represent “child care” for all families. It should be noted that some of these parents may wish or need their preschool age child to be in full-time care as well.

**Table 11**  
**Demand for Part Day State Preschool for 3 & 4 Year Olds**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Item	3 to 4 Years or Preschool
Total Preschool Children Countywide	10,140
Number of Children in Working Families	6,652
Number of 3 & 4 Year Olds With At Least One Non-Working Parent	3,488
% of Children in Families earning less than 85% of State Median Income (SMI) <sup>1</sup>	47.4%
Number of 3 & 4 Year Olds With At Least One Non-Working Parent Earning Less than 85% SMI	1,653

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<sup>1</sup> Number of children based on AIR, 2016.

Sources: American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2017; California Department of Finance; Nilsson Consulting.

## Child Care Supply

Licensed capacity at centers and family child care homes is shown in Section 12. **Table 12** presents the number of licensed and license-exempt spaces provided by private child care centers by age. As shown there are a total of 8,777 spaces in 183 licensed child care centers, with 77% as preschool spaces. There are an additional 9,544 spaces in 109 different license-exempt programs, all of which are for school age children. These are the license-exempt spaces that are listed with the local Child Care Resource and Referral (R&R) agencies.

The number of licensed spaces at Family Child Care Homes (FCCH) are also shown in **Table 12**. These numbers are calculated using data the local R&R agencies provided: the number of licensed FCCHs and their desired capacity. The spaces included here are spaces that each FCCH would like to have filled, by age group, and do not necessarily reflect the number of children they are licensed for (some choose to have less children than they are licensed for). In general, small FCCHs can have up to 8 children and large FCCHs can have up to 14. As of March 2019, there are 247 small FCCHs and 85 large FCCHs. For small FCCHs in Sonoma County, there are a total of 564 infant spaces, 696 preschool spaces, and 316 school age spaces for a total of 1,576 spaces at small FCCHs. For large FCCHs, there are a total of 354 infant spaces, 460 preschool spaces, and 226 school age spaces in the County for a total of 1,040 spaces for children at large FCCHs. This provides a total of 2,616 licensed spaces at all Family Child Care Homes in the County.

**Table 12**  
**Capacity at Licensed and License-Exempt Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes (FCCHs)**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	# of Providers	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
<b>Child Care Centers</b>					
Licensed Child Care Centers	183	325	6,786	1,666	8,777
Percent Distribution		4%	77%	19%	100%
License-Exempt Centers	109			9,544	9,544
Percent Distribution		0%	0%	100%	100%
<b>Total Center Spaces by Age</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>6,786</b>	<b>11,210</b>	<b>18,321</b>
Percent Distribution		2%	37%	61%	100%
<b>FCCHs</b>					
Spaces at Small FCCH <sup>2</sup>	247	564	696	316	1,576
Spaces at Large FCCH <sup>2</sup>	<u>85</u>	<u>354</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>226</u>	<u>1,040</u>
<b>Total FCCH Spaces by Age</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>1,156</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>2,616</b>
Percent Distribution		35%	44%	21%	100%
<b>TOTAL CHILD CARE SUPPLY</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>1,243</b>	<b>7,942</b>	<b>11,752</b>	<b>20,937</b>
Percent Distribution		6%	38%	56%	100%

Note: Child care supply data is current as of February and March 2019.

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Breakdown of spaces by age is based on reported desired capacity and age groups served by each FCCH.

Sources: Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs); River to Coast Children's Services; Nilsson Consulting.

## Cost of Child Care by Type

**Table 13** shows the maximum reimbursement rates and average weekly costs of child care for full-time and part-time care at licensed centers and Family Child Care Homes. The maximum reimbursement rates come from the California Department of Education for 2018, the most recent data available, and the average rates for part-time and full-time care at centers and FCCHs comes from the Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County and is current for 2018/19. The average child care preschool space at a center is \$270 per week, for full time care. In FCCHs, the average preschool cost for full time care is \$233 and \$173 is the reimbursement rate for part-time care.

**Table 13**  
**Weekly Cost of Care by Age Group and Facility Type**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Year of Data	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers
<b>Center-Based Care</b>				
Center Full-Time Maximum Reimbursement Rates <sup>2</sup>	2018	\$348	\$270	\$238
Center Full-Time Average <sup>3</sup>	2019	\$289	\$270	\$164
Center Part-Time Maximum Reimbursement Rates <sup>2</sup>	2018	\$266	\$220	\$143
<b>Family Child Care Homes</b>				
FCCH Full-Time Maximum Reimbursement Rates <sup>2</sup>	2018	\$233	\$221	\$178
FCCH Full-Time Average <sup>3</sup>	2019	\$252	\$233	\$209
FCCH Part-Time Maximum Reimbursement Rates <sup>2</sup>	2018	\$199	\$173	\$141

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Maximum reimbursement data from <http://www3.cde.ca.gov/rcsc/index.aspx>. CDE data was viewed March 2019 and current as of January 1, 2018.

<sup>3</sup> Full time average weekly costs for centers and FCCHs presented above are for the Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs), which has significantly more centers and FCCHs than River to Coast Children's Services (RCCS). RCCS' costs are slightly lower overall for centers, and slightly higher for FCCHs.

Sources: California Department of Education; Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs); River to Coast Children's Services; Nilsson Consulting.



## Supply of Subsidized Child Care by Program

The existing capacity serving children who are eligible for subsidized care is shown in **Table 14**. The Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs) and River to Coast Children's Services, (April/May 2019) provided numbers for Center-based care, CSPP, FCCHEN, Migrant, Handicap, Alternative Payment, Stage 2 and 3 CalWORKS, Head Start and Early Head Start. Data from the County of Sonoma Human Services Department provided Stage 1 CalWORKS numbers. As of 2019, there were 9,641 children enrolled in some form of subsidized care in the county.

**Table 14** also shows the total demand for subsidized spaces that was calculated in **Table 9**. With a total demand of 21,542, about 45% of demand for subsidized spaces is currently met, though this varies by age group; 11,901 children still require, but are unable to find, subsidized care in Sonoma County.

**Table 14**  
**Income Eligible Children Enrolled in Programs**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Age <sup>1</sup>	Year of Data	Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
Center-Based (General) Program (CCTR) <sup>2</sup>	2018/19	47	245	466	758
CSPP <sup>2</sup>	2018/19	0	1,168	0	1,168
FCCHEN <sup>2</sup>	2018/19	98	59	40	197
Migrant	2018/19	0	0	0	0
Handicap Program	2018/19	0	0	0	0
Alternative Payment <sup>2</sup>	2018/19	158	513	988	1,659
CalWORKs Stage 1 <sup>3</sup>	2018/19	48	29	47	124
CalWORKs Stage 2 <sup>2</sup>	2018/19	40	164	220	424
CalWORKs Stage 3 <sup>2</sup>	2018/19	14	105	341	460
Head Start <sup>2</sup>	2018/19	0	480	0	480
Early Head Start <sup>2</sup>	2018/19	40	0	0	40
Transitional Kindergarten <sup>4</sup>	2018/19	0	322	0	322
Other (ASES and other school age license-exempt programs) <sup>1</sup>		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,009</u>	<u>4,009</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>445</b>	<b>3,085</b>	<b>6,111</b>	<b>9,641</b>
Percent Distribution		5%	32%	63%	100%
<b>Demand for Subsidized Care by Age (See Table 9)</b>					
Children at or Below 85% of SMI with Working Parents		<b>3,092</b>	<b>4,736</b>	<b>13,713</b>	<b>21,542</b>
<b>Surplus/(Shortage) of Subsidized Care</b>		<b>(2,647)</b>	<b>(1,651)</b>	<b>(7,602)</b>	<b>(11,901)</b>
Percent of Demand Met		14%	65%	45%	45%

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this study, Infants are children under the age of 2, Preschoolers are children ages 2 to 4 years old, and School-Agers are children 5-12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Data provided by Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs) and River to Coast Children's Services, April/May 2019.

<sup>3</sup> CalWORKs data provided by County of Sonoma Human Services Department.

<sup>4</sup> Transitional Kindergarten data is from the California Department of Education, 2018-19.

Sources: American Institutes of Research 2016; County of Sonoma Human Services Department; Nilsson Consulting.

## Unmet Need for Child Care by Age

**Table 15** determines the shortfall and surplus in child care availability by type and by age group included in the Needs Assessment Form. One data item that is calculated is the unmet need for child care for children, by age group, who require full time care because they have working parents. This is calculated by taking the number of total children with working parents, also shown in **Table 10**, and multiplying this times the percentage of children needing licensed care. These numbers are subtracted from the number of licensed spaces for that age group. Totals show a shortage of 1,218 infant spaces, a shortage of 551 preschool spaces, and a shortage of 2,886 school age spaces.

**Table 15** also calculates unmet need for children who need full time care and are eligible for subsidized care. There are 21,542 children who qualify for subsidized care between the ages of 0 to 12 years and 11,901 of those don't receive it. There is also an unmet demand of 403 for part-time preschool spots for enrichment and school readiness and an unmet demand of 1,653 part-time preschool spaces for enrichment and school readiness and eligible for a state subsidy.

**Table 15**  
**Existing Child Care Demand and Supply in 2019 in Sonoma County**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

SONOMA COUNTY	No. of Providers	Child Care as of 2019			
		Infants	Preschoolers	School-Agers	Total, 0 to 12 Years
<b>EXISTING DEMAND</b>		Child Care Demand			
Estimated Total Children <sup>1</sup>		10,138	15,232	42,004	67,374
Avg. Labor Force Participation Rates <sup>2</sup>		65.6%	65.6%	69.7%	68.2%
Children With Working Parents		6,651	9,992	29,277	45,920
% Children Needing Licensed Care <sup>3</sup>		37%	85%	50%	56%
<b>Total Demand for Child Care Spaces</b>		<b>2,461</b>	<b>8,493</b>	<b>14,638</b>	<b>25,592</b>
% Distribution of Total Demand for Spaces by Age Group		10%	33%	57%	100%
% of Total Children Needing Licensed Care		24%	56%	35%	38%
<b>EXISTING SUPPLY<sup>4</sup></b>		Child Care Spaces			
Family Child Care Home Supply <sup>5</sup>					
Licensed for 8	247	564	696	316	1,576
Licensed for 14	85	354	460	226	1,040
Child Care Center Supply	183	325	6,786	1,666	8,777
Other License Exempt Programs <sup>6</sup>	109	-	-	9,544	9,544
<b>Current Child Care Supply</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>1,243</b>	<b>7,942</b>	<b>11,752</b>	<b>20,937</b>
Percent Distribution		6%	38%	56%	100%
<b>EXISTING SURPLUS/(SHORTAGE)</b>		<b>(1,218)</b>	<b>(551)</b>	<b>(2,886)</b>	<b>(4,655)</b>
Percentage of Demand Met by Existing Facilities/Spaces		51%	94%	80%	82%
<b>DEMAND FOR SUBSIDIZED CARE</b>					
Children at or Below 85% of SMI with Working Parents		3,092	4,736	13,713	21,542
Surplus (or shortage) of Subsidized Care		<b>(2,647)</b>	<b>(1,651)</b>	<b>(7,602)</b>	<b>(11,901)</b>
Percent of Subsidized Demand Met		14%	65%	45%	45%

<sup>1</sup> Based on estimated number of children by area using California Department of Finance data. Infants include 2 year olds up to 35 months. Preschoolers are ages 2 to 4 years old and includes children who are four years old and turn five during the school year. School-Agers are 5 to 12 years old.

<sup>2</sup> Labor force participation rates are from the 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates and include children with two working parents or a single working parent.

<sup>3</sup> Not all children with working parents are assumed to need licensed care: percentage assumptions under each age category are used. The remaining children are assumed to be cared for by family members, nannies, friends, and unlicensed care.

<sup>4</sup> Child care supply data provided by Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County (4Cs) and River to Coast Children's Services (RCCS), March 2019.

<sup>5</sup> Family Child Care Home spaces by age are broken down by desired capacity of providers.

<sup>6</sup> Other license exempt programs include after school programs on school sites and locations that don't require licensing.

Sources: California Department of Finance; 2010 U.S. Census; American Community Survey 2017; Community Child Care Council of Sonoma County; River to Coast Children's Services; Nilsson Consulting.

## Unmet Need for Subsidized Child Care

A detailed assessment of subsidized child care need is shown in **Table 16** below. The shortage for full time care for families of all incomes is also shown in **Table 14** and totals 4,655 spaces for children 0 to 12. The number of children eligible for full time subsidized care is 3,092 infants, 4,736 toddlers and 13,713 school age children. Of these children, 2,647 infants, 1,651 toddlers and 7,602 school agers parents will be unable to find a subsidized space. This leaves a total of almost 12,000 children eligible for subsidized child care, but unable to obtain it.

There are 403 preschool children who have one parent at home, but would still benefit from part time preschool, but are unable to obtain space. There are also 485 preschoolers with one parent at home and who are eligible for subsidized part time care, but whose parents are unable to find a subsidized space for them.

**Table 16**  
**Countywide Unmet Need for Subsidized Care by Type of Care and By Age<sup>1</sup>**  
**Sonoma County Needs Assessment - 2019 Update**

Type of Care Needed	Infants	Preschool	School Age	Total
	0 to 1 Year or Infant	2-4 Years	5-12 Years	
Need for Full-Time Care for Working Parents - Surplus/(Shortage)	(1,218)	(551)	(2,886)	(4,655)
% of Unmet Need for Full-Time Working Parents (% of children for whom there are no spaces)	49%	6%	20%	18%
Full-Time Care Because of Work and Eligible for State Subsidy (total number of eligible children from low-income working families)	3,092	4,736	13,713	21,542
# of Available Subsidized Spaces	445	3,085	6,111	9,641
# of Eligible children for whom there is no subsidy	2,647	1,651	7,602	11,901
% of Unmet Need for those who Work and are Eligible for State Subsidy (% of eligible children for whom there is no subsidy)	86%	35%	55%	55%
Demand (Unmet Need) for Part-Time preschool care for enrichment/school readiness <sup>2</sup>		403		
Unmet Need as % of Demand for Part-Time preschool care for enrichment/readiness		12%		
Demand (Unmet Need) for Part-Time preschool care for enrichment/school readiness and eligible for state subsidy <sup>3</sup>		485		
Unmet Need as % of Demand for Part-Time preschool care for enrichment/school readiness and eligible for state subsidy		29%		

<sup>1</sup> This table and its calculations are based on a detailed worksheet provided by the Child Care Coordinators Association and was not developed by Nilsson Consulting.

<sup>2</sup> This figure includes need for half-day preschool for all families regardless of income with at least one parent at home. This includes Head Start, CSPP, and other 1/2 day licensed programs.

<sup>3</sup> This is the number of 3 and 4 year olds with at least one non-working parent and in a household earning less than 85% SMI. See Tables 11 & 14.

Source: Nilsson Consulting.