

Tulare County Urgent, Unmet Need for Child Care

Based on results from a 2018 comprehensive assessment of child care need in Tulare County.¹

“Skills developed through quality early childhood education last for a lifetime.”
— James Heckman, American Economist and Nobel Laureate

Why do families seek child care?

85% because parents work

11% because parents are in school or training



26,409

school age children (ages 6-12)
from working families lack care when
needed during after-school
and non-school hours

of 11,499 infants & toddlers with parents at work or in school
23% are served with child care

of 16,574 preschool age children with parents at work or in school
39% are served with child care

What are the other 8,790 children and their families doing?



What are the other 10,098 children and their families doing?

U.S. businesses lose \$3 billion annually due to employee absenteeism as the result of child care breakdowns.

Fewer Options Exist for Children in Income Eligible Families

(annual income less than 70% of the state median income, ~\$4,000/month for a family of four)

INCOME ELIGIBLE
INFANTS & TODDLERS

12,243 are NOT served



INCOME ELIGIBLE
PRESCHOOL AGE

11,155 are NOT served

Child care costs families 20% to 30% of their household income.
Too few families can afford child care without financial help.

INFANT & TODDLER
CARE COSTS

\$9,500 to \$16,000 / year

PRESCHOOL
CARE COSTS

\$8,700 to \$14,000 / year



LOW wages for
child care workers
(minimum wage)



TOO FEW
child care
workers



LESS
available
child care

Over 50% of child care workers cannot afford the basic cost of living in their community (such as housing, food, and child care they provide for others)

Our children's and our community's success demands high quality, affordable child care for all children. Let us work together toward this greater good.

1 - Information referenced in the Tulare County ECE Needs Assessment.
available at <http://www.tularecountykids.org/>.

For more information, please contact:

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Child & Youth Development Council Manager
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