

# HUMBOLDT COUNTY CHILD CARE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

2026 DATA SHEET



## POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

- 14.2% identify Hispanic/Latino
- 11.4% students are English Language Learners or Fluent English Proficient

**134,541**

Residents Live in Humboldt County

&

**16,587**

Children ages 0-12 Live in Humboldt County

## MAKING ENDS MEET

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME VS. INCOME NEEDED TO MAKE ENDS MEET FOR FAMILY WITH ONE INFANT/TODDLER AND ONE PRESCHOOLER

**\$105,877**

Income Needed to Meet Basic Needs

**\$61,160**

Median Household Income

**\$44,717**

Gap

FULL-TIME HOURLY RATE NEEDED PER PERSON TO MAKE ENDS MEET FOR FAMILY WITH ONE INFANT/TODDLER AND ONE PRESCHOOLER

**\$25.07**

Per hour Dual Income Household

**\$44.12**

Per hour Single Parent Household

**\$61,160**

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME HUMBOLDT COUNTY



**\$1,287**

median monthly rent

## POVERTY RATES

RESIDENTS LIVING IN POVERTY

**18.7 %**

California

**12.0 %**

Humboldt County

**19.1 %**

Children under 5 Humboldt County

## COST OF CHILD CARE

Monthly Full-Time Tuition Averages

**\$1,094 - \$1,587**

Infant/ Toddler Care

**\$830 - \$884**

Preschool Care

- Families with infants/toddlers in center-based care face the highest tuition, averaging \$19,044/year.
- Systems of support can offset the high costs of care, including subsidy programs such as Alternative Payment Program, CalWORKS, Head Start, and state-funded preschool.

## CHILD CARE OPTIONS

- Options for care include private and public licensed center-based care, and licensed-exempt tribal child care, licensed family child care in a home-based setting, and license-exempt home-based care from family, friends, and neighbors.
- Transitional Kindergarten is available to 4 and 5 year olds.
- Expanded learning options are available to school age children.

# CHILD CARE CAPACITY

1 in 10 children (0-2 year olds) have access to a licensed child care space



AGE GROUP	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	TOTAL CAPACITY	PERCENT OF CHILDREN WHO FACE AN UNMET NEED FOR CARE
0-2	3,418	409	88.0%
3-4	2,795	2,948	0%*
<b>Total children ages 0-4</b>	<b>6,213</b>	<b>3,357</b>	<b>46.0%</b>

**Note:** Zero percent child care capacity does not mean all of the licensed spaces are actually available for enrollment, and to all children within that age range, particularly three-year-olds. Availability of care is dependent on a variety of factors.

## CHILD CARE WORKFORCE

- The majority of the child care workforce, 36% of licensed home-based child care providers and 75% of licensed center-based teachers, intend to stay in the field for the next 3 years.
- A child care worker earns an average of \$38,390/year compared to a Kindergarten teacher who earns an average of \$78,730/year.

For additional information and data sources, view the full [Needs Assessment](#) by scanning the QR code below or visiting

[lccpc.hcoe.org](http://lccpc.hcoe.org)

