

Los Angeles County

Los Angeles, the county with the largest population in the state, is home to nearly 30% of all children birth to 13 years and has the greatest number of licensed child care centers and family child care homes (2004).

The population of Los Angeles County grew 7% between 2000 and 2004, from both natural increase (more births than deaths) and foreign immigration. The county is one of 11 in the state that experienced net domestic migration out of the county.

Los Angeles County has the 2nd highest percentage of foreign-born residents.

The county is one of 13 in California in which a higher percentage of public school children are English language learners (32%) than in the state as a whole (25%).

(CA Dept. of Ed., 2004/5)

Los Angeles is one of only 5 California counties in which 10% or more of the women in the workforce work in construction, production, or related occupations.¹

Los Angeles ranks 6th in percentage of households speaking Spanish at home; 7th in speaking an Asian language at home.

The People	2000 ¹	2004 ²	Change ²
Total number of residents	9,519,338	10,179,716	7%
• Population foreign born residents	26%		
• Population change from natural increase			60%
• Population change from domestic migration			-18%
• Population change from foreign immigration			58%

The Children	2000 ¹	2004 ²	Change
Children 0-13	2,125,915	2,173,014	2%
• Under 2	286,351		
• 2 years	145,189		
• 3 years	150,148		
• 4 years	155,943		
• 5 years	158,512		
• 6 to 13 years	1,229,772		
Children 0-13 with parents in the labor force ³	1,020,525	1,043,134 ⁴	2%
• Under 2	122,450		
• 2 years	62,640		
• 3 years	66,895		
• 4 years	71,915		
• 5 years	73,335		
• 6 to 13 years	623,290		
Children 0-5 living in poverty	26%		

The Labor Force	1990 ⁵	2000 ¹	Change
• Number of employed residents	4,115,248	3,858,750	-6%
• Workers with an hour or more commute	344,851	407,047	18%
• People working at home	112,797	134,643	19%
• People working non-traditional hours ⁶	746,904	772,910	3%
• percent working non-traditional hours		20%	
• People working 35 hours or more	3,804,330	3,735,150	-2%
• percent working 35 hours or more		79%	
• Men in the labor force	2,588,763	2,358,802	-9%
• Women in the labor force	1,968,627	1,953,462	-1%
• Women with a child under 6		577,040	
• percent in the labor force		52%	

The Households	2000 county ¹	2000 state ¹
• Number of households	3,136,279	11,512,020
• speaking English at home	49%	62%
• speaking Spanish at home	32%	22%
• speaking an Asian language at home	10%	9%
• speaking another language at home	8%	7%
• Number of families with children under 18	1,178,391	4,208,775
• percent of families with children under 18	55%	53%
• percent of single parent families	29%	26%
• Homeowners with children under 6	14%	14%
• Renters with children under 6	21%	20%
• Residents over 24 with BA or higher	25%	27%

The 2005 California Child Care Portfolio

For more information about child care in Los Angeles County, call Child Care Referral Countywide at (800) 543-7793.

1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2000.

2. California Department of Finance population projections.

3. This number reflects children with either two parents or a single head of household in the labor force.

4. Network estimate based on California Department of Finance (DOF) population projections.

5. U.S. Census Bureau, 1990.

6. Estimate using commute time. Might or might not include weekends.

Child Care in Los Angeles County

		Child Care Centers	Family Child Care Homes ¹
Facilities	Total number of sites	2,230	7,823
	Total number of slots (percent)	150,261 (65%)	79,187 (35%)
	Infant slots in centers	8,563 (6%)	
	Preschool slots in centers	112,662 (75%)	
	School-age slots in centers	29,036 (19%)	
Schedules ²	Full-time and part-time slots	74%	93%
	Only full-time slots	11%	6%
	Only part-time slots	16%	1%
	Care available during non-traditional hours	6%	56%
Languages	English	100%	89%
	Spanish	59%	47%
	Other	26%	15%

1. A breakdown of slots by age is not available for family child care homes because their licenses are not specific to particular age groups.
2. Full-time (30 or more hours/week) and part-time are a % of total slots. Non-traditional (evenings, weekends, overnight) are a % of total sites.
3. Network estimate based on CA DOF Projections, 2004: either two parents or single head of household in labor force.
4. These types of care are not included in the supply of licensed care available.
5. Some parents find child care without using R&Rs. These requests do not necessarily represent total demand, but they do reflect trends.
6. U.S. HUD. Median rent for a 2-bedroom unit. 2004.
7. Cost estimates 2004/5; 2002 Regional Market Rates with CPI Inflation Factor. Full-time.
8. California Dept. of Education. 2003/4.

Availability of Licensed Child Care

In Los Angeles County, there are an estimated 1,043,134 children ages 0-13 with parents in the labor force³ and 229,448 licensed child care slots.

Licensed child care is available for 22% of children with parents in the labor force.*

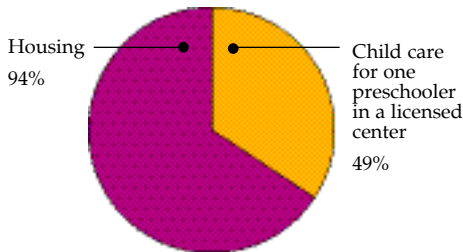
* Some families choose friends and relatives (license-exempt caregivers) to care for their children and programs for school age children are often not licensed by the state.⁴

Parent Requests to the R&R⁵

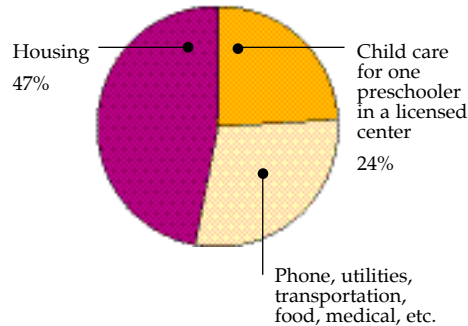
- Type of care requested: 34% infant/toddler; 42% preschool; 24% school-age
- Schedule requested: 90% full-time (0-5 years); 19% part time (0-5 years)
- Reasons for needing care: 82% employment; 13% school/training; 3% looking for work

Child Care and Family Budgets

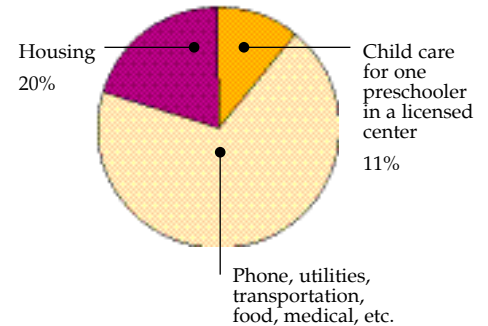
How child care fits into a Los Angeles County family's annual budget (Housing⁶: \$13,140; Preschooler in a licensed center⁷: \$6,866)



Annual Income: \$14,040
Families with 1 minimum wage earner
Care for one infant in a licensed family child care home: 56% of income



Annual Income: \$28,080
Families with 2 minimum wage earners
Care for one infant in a licensed family child care home: 28% of income



Annual Income: \$65,150
Families with 2 entry level public school teachers working in the county⁸
Care for one infant in a licensed family child care home: 12% of income