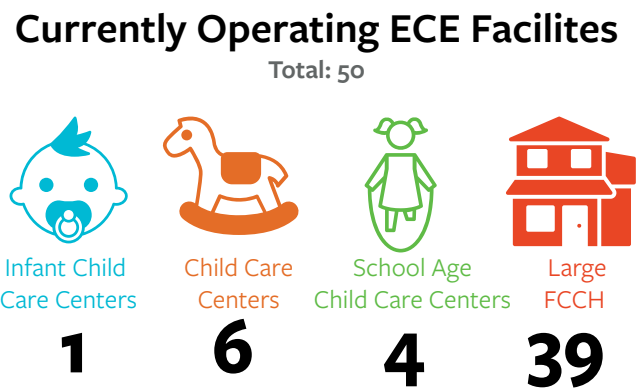
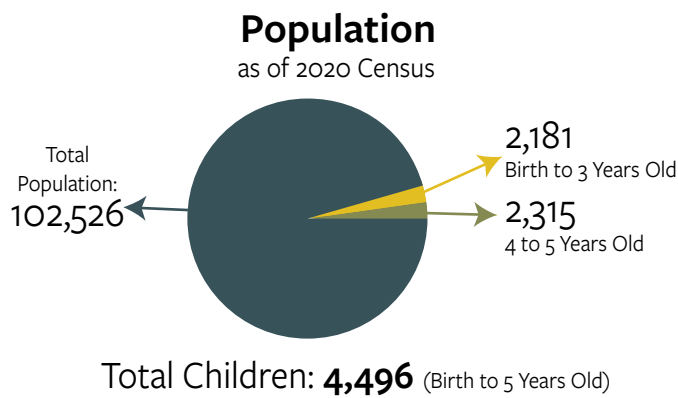


## Establishing a Child Care Facility - Guide to Zoning and Permitting

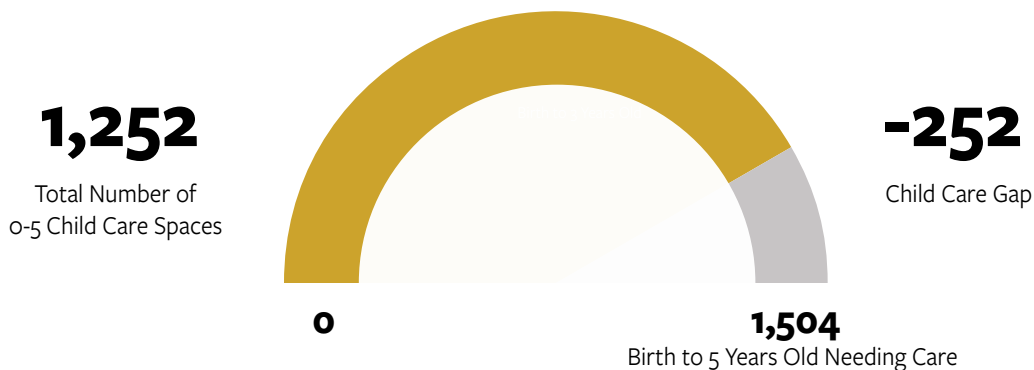
In 2021, Riverside County ranked 56 out of 58 for the availability of child care. This severely limits working families access to quality, safe, and healthy licensed child care spaces. The fact sheet below (with data self-reported through a survey conducted in 2023) provides a snapshot of current child care zoning, permitting and fees in each jurisdiction with the goal of helping guide changes to support and improve access to child care.

### Riverside County Population Census 2020: 2,418,177

#### City of Menifee by the Numbers:

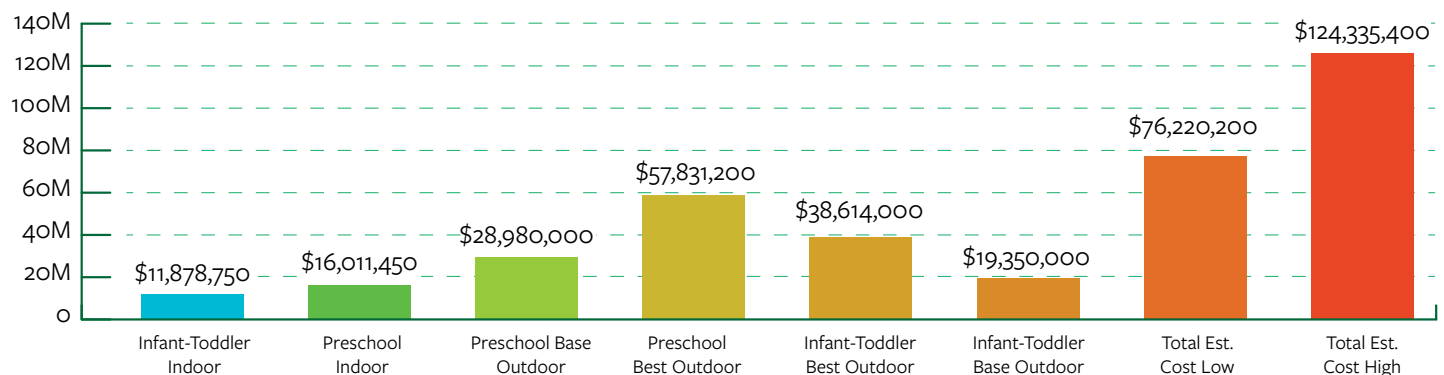


#### Child Care Gap



#### Estimated ECE Facility Cost 2021

(Average new construction sq. ft. per child is about 110 sq. ft.)



## Zones where Child Care Centers are Allowed and are Not Allowed

Zones	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Mixed-Use	Other/Notes
Allowed By-Right (with an Administrative Permit)	—	✓	—	—	
Prohibited	✓	—	—	—	Heavy Industrial (HI), all Open Space/ Conservation zones, Public Utility Corridor (PUC) and Rail (RX) zones
Zones where child care is allowed with a Conditional (Discretionary) Use Permit	—	✓	✓	✓	Economic Development Corridor Zones & Commercial zones, except by right in the “Commercial Retail (CR)” Zone

### About the Permit Application Process

Approximate Timeline	More than 6 months
Noise Requirements	Noise may be a consideration and noise conditions may apply on case-by-case basis
Landscaping Requirements	Landscaping standards apply to proposed development/construction
Parking Requirements	1 space per 2 employees plus 1 space per 5 children based on facility capacity
Traffic Requirements	Traffic study & improvements may be needed depending on size of facility
Setback Requirements	Setbacks requirements of zone apply to proposed development/construction
Other	Compatibility requirements in residential neighborhoods
Requirements to Obtain a Child Care Center Clearance From the Fire Department	A six-foot-high wood fence or masonry wall shall be erected around the side and rear property lines, behind the required front yard setback

### About the Permit Hearing Process

Permit Hearing Caused By	Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Process, Public hearing required for Major CUP and Major Plot Plan application when the use involves new development
Hearing Conducted By	Planning Commission
Notification of Hearing	Owners of property within a radius of 300 feet of the exterior boundaries of the property involved in the application or to 25 property owners within a radius up to one mile around the project, whichever is greater. Also public notice posted at City Hall, mailed to any person who has filed a written request for notice, and notice posted on the property of a proposed development
Approves or Denies the Permit	Planning Commission
Appeal Process	<p><b>Step 1:</b> Notice of appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date of decision or action subject of the appeal</p> <p><b>Step 2:</b> Notice of appeal shall set forth matter appealed, specific grounds for appeal and relief sought</p> <p><b>Step 3:</b> City Clerk shall schedule matter for consideration at a regular City Council meeting &amp; provide notice of appeal and materials to the City Council with agenda</p> <p><b>Step 4:</b> At a hearing the appellant shall present evidence to support the appeal</p> <p><b>Other:</b> The Council may continue the matter, uphold, modify or reverse the action appealed. Council action is final</p>

### Child Care Centers Costs and Fees\*

Permit Hearing Costs	\$3,771 1st Hearing and \$3,295 2nd Hearing
Business License Fee	Not Sure
Planning Permit Fees	Fee 1: \$4,195 for Minor Conditional Use Permit (Director approval), or
	Fee 2: \$15,149 for Major Conditional Use Permit (PC approval)
	Fee 3: \$4,670 for Minor Plot Plan with minor new construction (Director approval), or
	Fee 4: \$29,365 for Major Plot Plan with new development (PC approval)
	Fee 5: \$2,786 for Landscape Plan Review (Commercial)
	No Required Fee: No use permit fee required where permitted by right in Commercial Retail Zone

\*Estimate as of September 2023. Additional fees may apply, for more information review Helpful Contacts.

### Zones Where Family Child Care Homes are Allowed and are Not Allowed

Zones	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Mixed-Use	Other/Notes
Allowed By-Right	✓	—	✓	—	—
Prohibited	—	✓	—	✓	Family child care home is by right in all residential zones; however, a large family day care permit is required for large family day care

State law SB 234 requirements which exempt small and large family child care home from any licenses, permits, home occupation permits, or fees ([Child Care Law Center’s Fact Sheet. Frequently Asked Questions: SB 234: The Keeping Kids Close to Home Act — Child Care Law Center](#)).

#### Find out where your city is with SB 234 implementation

	Non-Compliant	Compliant
FCCH Allowed in Residential	—	✓
FCCH Business License Fee Not Required	—	✓
Fire Department Permit Clearance and Fees for FCCH Not Required	—	✓

**Costs and Fees\***  
FCCH Business License Fee: \$0

#### General Plan

Next Update to the General Plan	5 – 6 years
Child Care Included In General Plan	Yes

**Additional Information**

According to City response processing time would likely be shorter, approximately 3 to 6 months for a child care center locating in an existing building (i.e. only needing a CUP/Minor CUP or by-right). Since recent child care centers approved in the City were associated with new development, the City’s response indicated more than 6 months

Application for Land Use and Development - <https://tinyurl.com/mr3p9a2e>

General plan - The Land Use Element of the General Plan includes Environmental Justice Policy EJ-3.2 “Encourage safe, high quality, and affordable childcare services for residents and workers in or near housing, transportation and employment centers.”

**Quick & Helpful Contacts\***

	<b>Principal Planner</b>	<b>Building Dept</b>	<b>Community Development</b>	<b>Build Up Riverside County</b>
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Phone	(951) 723-3744	General: (951) 672-6777	(951) 723-3741	(951) 870-8112
Website	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/bd6daesa">https://tinyurl.com/bd6daesa</a>	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/5fmnd533">https://tinyurl.com/5fmnd533</a>	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/bd6daesa">https://tinyurl.com/bd6daesa</a>	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/mwezjj29">https://tinyurl.com/mwezjj29</a>

*\*We thank each jurisdiction for completing the survey. If you have any questions about this profile, please contact them directly. View the website for updated contact information.*