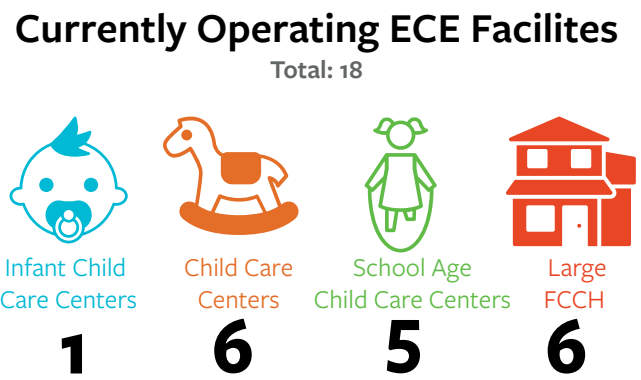
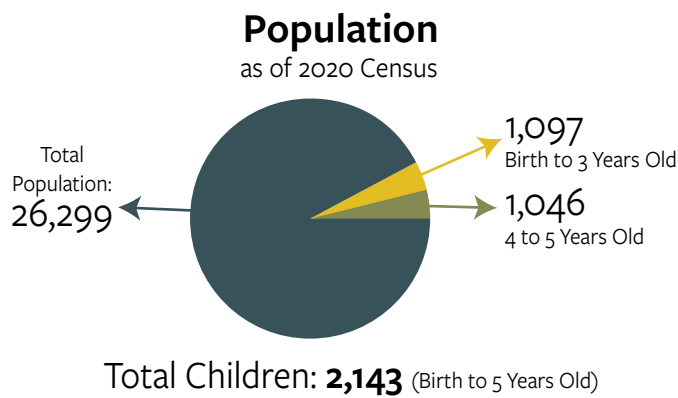


Establishing a Child Care Facility - Guide to Zoning and Permitting

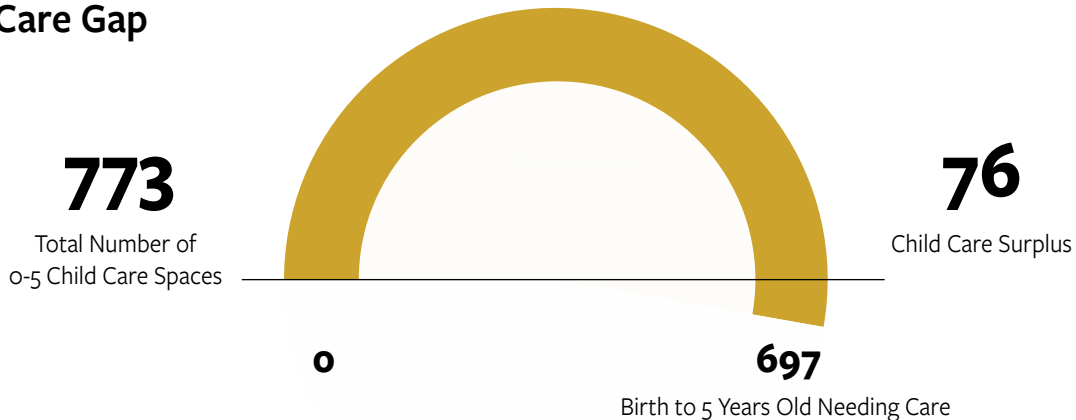
In 2021, Riverside County ranked 56 out of 58 for the availability of child care. This severely limits working families access to quality, safe, and healthy licensed child care spaces. The fact sheet below (with data self-reported through a survey conducted in 2023) provides a snapshot of current child 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 Norco by the Numbers:

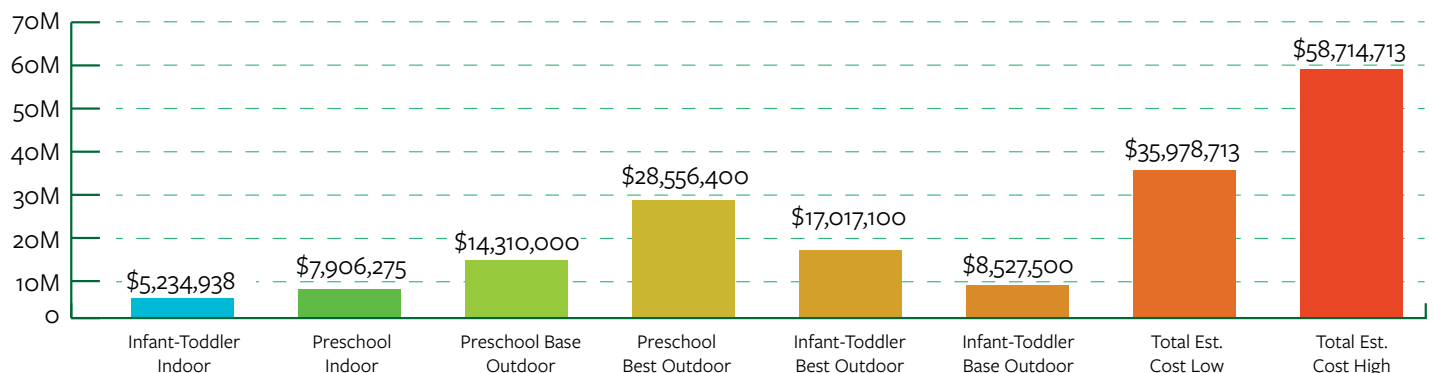


Child Care Gap



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 Not Allowed

Zone	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Mixed-Use	Other/Notes
Allowed By-Right (with an Administrative Permit)	—	—	—	—	Business Park
Prohibited	—	—	✓	—	—
Zones where child care is allowed with a Conditional (Discretionary) Use Permit	✓	✓	✓	—	Agricultural (Residential) zones, Specific Plan districts, Hillside (HS) zone

About the Permit Application Process

Approximate Timeline	6 weeks to 3 months
Noise Requirements	Play areas shall not be subjected to noise levels greater than 60 dBA, design will minimize excessive noise impacts to adjoining properties
Landscaping Requirements	If required in the zone; C-G min 15%, C-4 min 5%
Parking Requirements	1 per 4 children + 1 per employee at largest shift
Traffic Requirements	Loading and unloading area to accommodate 2 vehicles
Setback Requirements	Play area minimum 10 feet from public right-of-way
Other	Play area minimum fence height 5 feet
Requirements to Obtain a Child Care Center Clearance From the Fire Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County of Riverside Fire Department requirements Please contact: Frank Martinez frank.j.martinez@fire.ca.gov Family child care homes required to obtain a permit for fire department clearance per state requirements

About the Permit Hearing Process

Permit Hearing Caused By	Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Process
Hearing Conducted By	Planning Commission
Notified of Hearing	Property owners within 300 feet and a minimum of 25 property owners, public through newspaper publication
Approves or denies the permit	Planning Commission
Appeal Process	<p>Step 1: Appellant files appeal application within 10 days of Planning Commission resolution</p> <p>Step 2: Appeal is scheduled for City Council review within 40 days of appeal filed</p> <p>Step 3: City Council decides on the entitlement(s) appealed</p>

Child Care Centers Costs and Fees*

Permit Hearing Costs:	\$1690
Business License Fee:	\$270
Planning Permit Fees:	Fee 1 - Conditional Use Permit \$9139
	Fee 2 - Categorical Exemption \$168
	Fee 3 - Public Notice \$605
	Fee 4 - County Filing Fee \$50

*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	—	—	—	—	—

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: \$140

General Plan

Next Update to the General Plan	1-2 years
Child Care Included In General Plan	No

Additional Information

Business License Application - https://norco.hdlgov.com/Apply/GettingStarted/BusinessLicense
Family child care home - No current plans to update their code to comply with requirements of SB 234



Quick & Helpful Contacts*

	Planning Dept	Building Dept	Director of Community Development	Build Up Riverside County
Name	General Planning Department	General Planning Department	Alma Robles	Andrea Del Valle
Email	Planning@ci.norco.ca.us	building@ci.norco.ca.us	arobles@ci.norco.ca.us	adelvalle@liifund.org
Phone	(951) 270-5561	(951) 270-5636	(951) 270-5682	(323) 986.6465 - Ext 465
Website	https://www.norco.ca.us/departments/planning	https://www.norco.ca.us/departments/building-safety	https://www.norco.ca.us/departments/city-manager/management-team	https://buildupca.org/riverside/

*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.