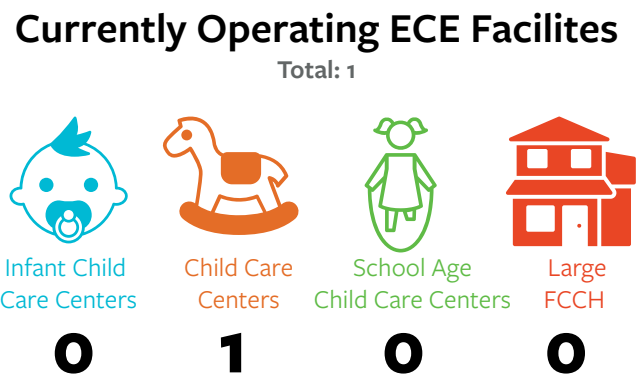
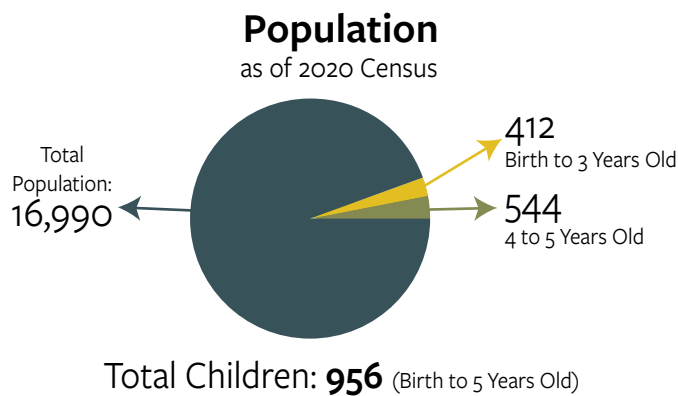


Establishing a Child Care Facility - Guide to Zoning and Permitting

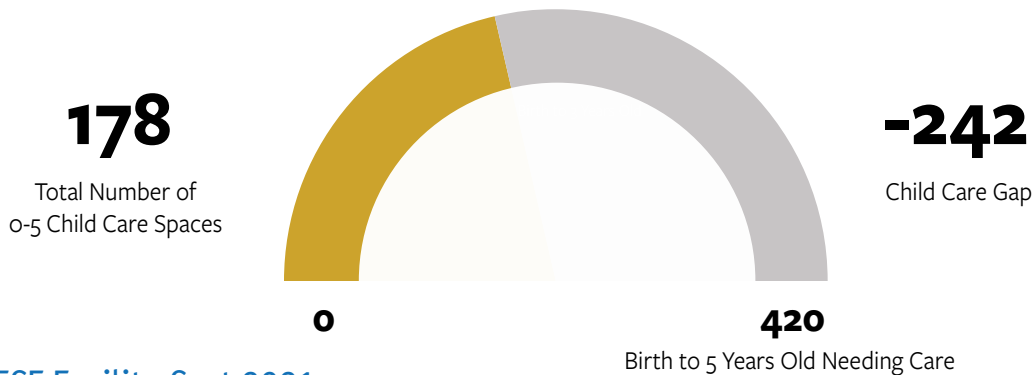
In 2021, Riverside County ranked 56 out of 58 for the availability of child care. This severely limits working families access to quality, safe, and healthy licensed child care spaces. The fact sheet below (with data self-reported through a survey conducted in 2023) provides a snapshot of current child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

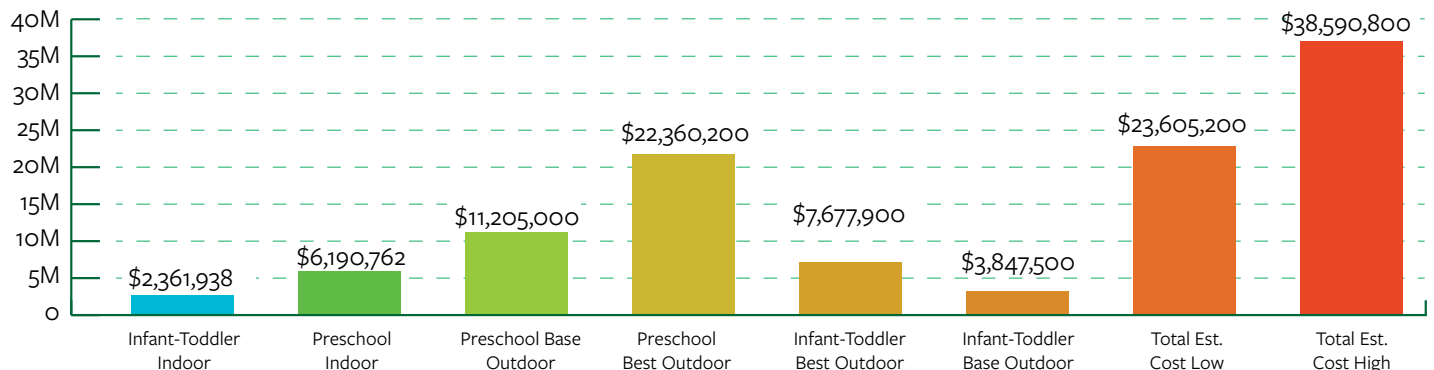


Child Care Gap



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)	✓	✓	✓	✓	—
Prohibited	—	—	—	✓	Child Care 9-14 Prohibited in Hillside Reserve Zone (Permitted only for Child Care up to 8 children); Child Care Center 16-30 Children Prohibited in Mixed Use & Resort Hotel Zone (Permitted for Child Care Centers up to 15 children) RMMC Section 17.10.012 & 17.08.012
Zones where child care is allowed with a Conditional (Discretionary) Use Permit	—	✓	✓	✓	Conditional Use Permit required for Child Care up to 15 children in Regional Interstate Commercial Zone; Conditional Use Permit Required for Child Care Center 16-30 Children in the Commercial Neighborhood, General Commercial, Community Commercial, Office, Light Industrial, & Regional Interstate Commercial Zones. (RMMC Section 17.10.012)

About the Permit Application Process

Approximate Timeline	0 – 6 weeks
Noise Requirements	All operations shall comply to the Rancho Mirage Exterior Noise Limits in the Rancho Mirage Municipal Code Section 08.45.030
Landscaping Requirements	Unanswered
Parking Requirements	Child Day Care Centers require 1 space for each 10 children, plus a permanent drop-off area as approved by the director. Large Family day-care homes require 1 space, in addition to the required residential spaces. RMMC 17.26.040
Traffic Requirements	Unanswered
Setback Requirements	Unanswered
Other	HOA Approval letter/ Property Owner Consent
Requirements to Obtain a Child Care Center Clearance From the Fire Department	Please reach out to our Fire Safety Specialist, Jacqueline Garcia at (760) 324-4511 Ext. 307 for this question

About the Permit Hearing Process

Permit Hearing Caused By	Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Process
Hearing Conducted By	Planning Commission. City of Rancho Mirage, CA APPEALS (ecode360.com) https://tinyurl.com/3k97ef3d
Notified of Hearing	Property owners within a 500 feet radius of the project. If the required 500 feet radius mailing list results in less than twenty-five properties, the mailing radius shall be increased to 1,000 feet. Also anyone subscribed to the email notifications for a public hearing
Approves or denies the permit	If permitted by right, the Planning Department reviews the Use and Occupancy Application/ Home Use Occupation. If a CUP is required, then the Planning Commission
Appeal Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any determination or action taken by the Planning Commission to approve or disapprove an application may be appealed to the City Council by the applicant, Rancho Mirage citizen, or any person having an interest Appeals must be filed with the City Clerk on an application form with the appeal-filing fee within ten (10) days of the date of Planning Commission action

Child Care Centers Costs and Fees*

Permit Hearing Costs:	\$2,648
Business License Fee:	Refer to the link for a Business License Application or reach out to our Administration Services at (760) 770.3207
Planning Permit Fees:	If permitted by right, a Use and Occupancy Application or Home Use Occupation Application will need to be submitted. Fee of \$53, which is waived per state guidelines

*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	Not Sure	—
Fire Department Permit Clearance and Fees for FCCH Not Required	Not Sure	—

Costs and Fees*
FCCH Business License Fee: Not Sure

General Plan

Next Update to the General Plan	6-12 months
Child Care Included In General Plan	Not sure

Quick & Helpful Contacts*

	Planning Dept	Building Dept	Build Up Riverside County
Name	Majna Dukic	Michael Stitt	Andrea Del Valle
Email	Planning@ranchomirageca.gov	Mstitt@ranchomirageca.gov Buildingdept@ranchomirageca.gov	adelvalle@liifund.org
Phone	(760) 328-2266	(760) 202-9253	(323) 986.6465 - Ext 465
Website	https://ranchomirageca.gov/our-city/city-departments/planning/	https://ranchomirageca.gov/our-city/city-departments/building-safety/	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.