

2023 California Child Care Portfolio Briefing

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California Child Care Resource & Referral

N E T W O R K



What is the Child Care Portfolio?



Since 1997, the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network has produced the biennial California Child Care Portfolio. This report presents a unique portrait of child care supply, demand, and cost statewide and county-by-county, as well as information on populations, poverty, and family budgets.

Data Collection



- **Child Care Data:** Licensed Child Care Supply and Request Data
 - Collected from California Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agencies
 - Supply: Spring 2023 at one point in time
 - Requests: 3-month snapshot between April 1, 2023– June 30, 2023
- **Child and Family Data:** Population, Poverty, and Family Budgets
 - Supplemental data sources such as the American Community Survey (ACS), Economic Policy Institute (EPI), KidsData.org, Department of Finance (DOF), and the National Database of Child Care Prices

Child Care Resource & Referral



California Child Care Resource & Referral

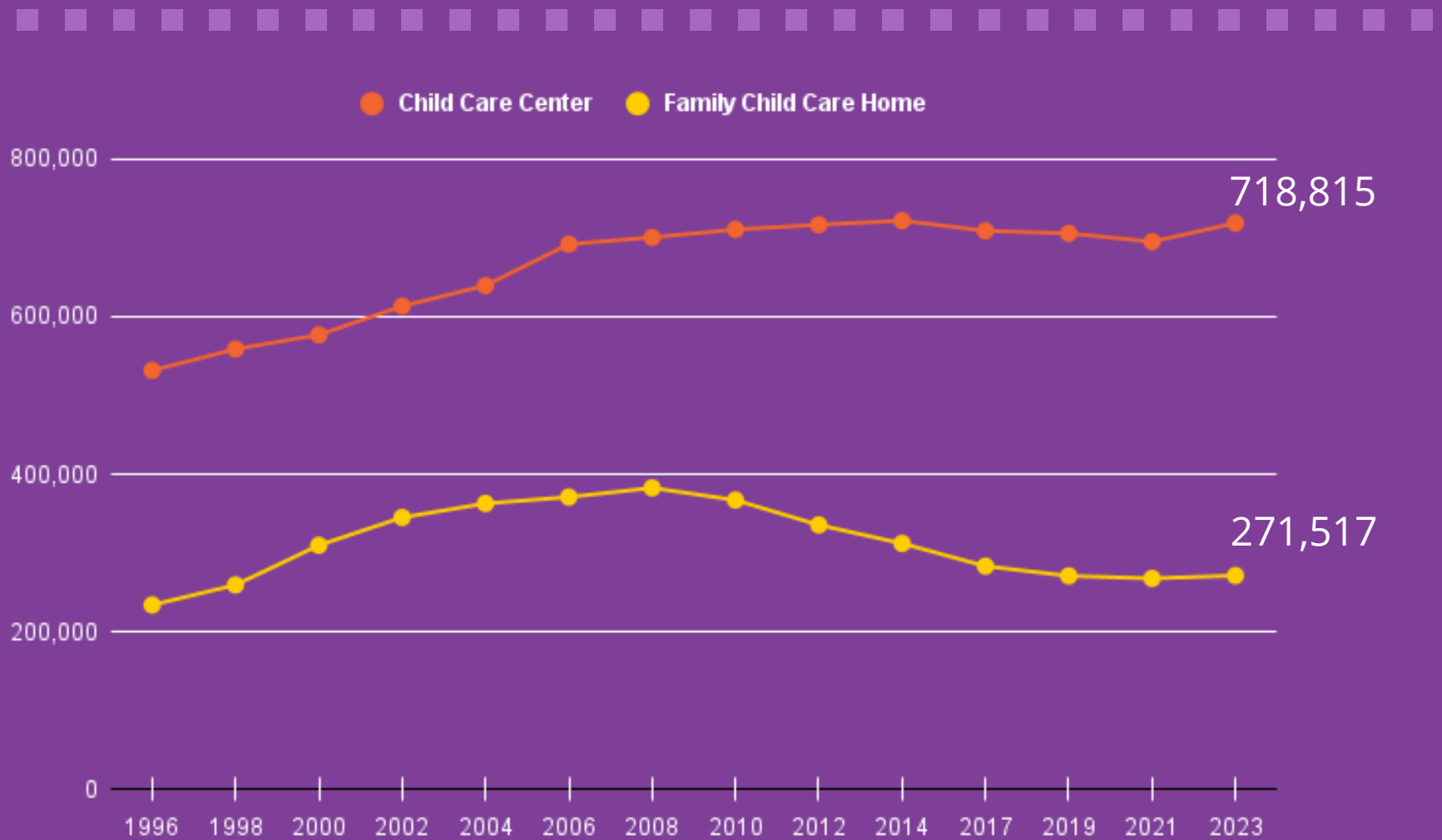
NETWORK

The California Child Care Resource & Referral Network is a membership organization of Child care resource and referral (R&R) agencies across California that work together to help families find accessible, affordable and quality child care, as well as access to information, resources and support that meets their diverse needs.

R&R agencies are state-funded by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). They are community-based programs that exist in every county in California. R&Rs make up a well-developed system that supports **families, child care providers, and local communities with child care information and resources.**

For more information, visit www.rrnetwork.org

Licensed Child Care Spaces



Availability of Licensed Child Care for Working Families



26%

Source: KidsData

Change in Licensed Center Supply 2021-2023

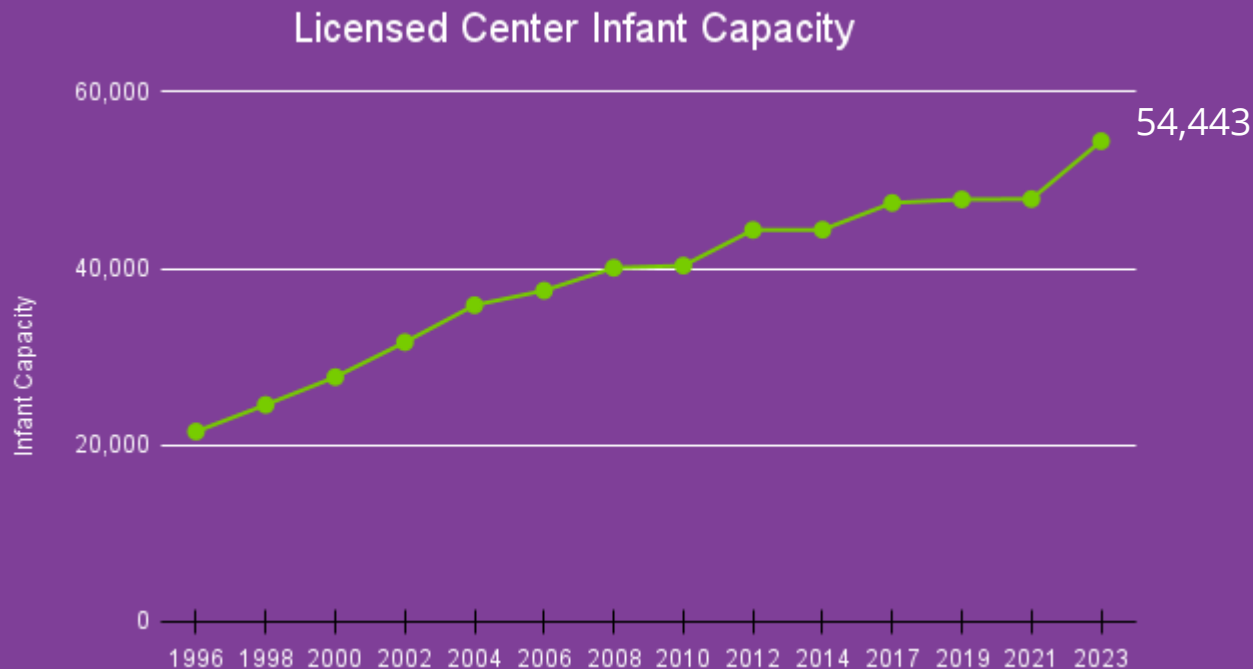
Center sites: 0.6%



Center spaces: 3%



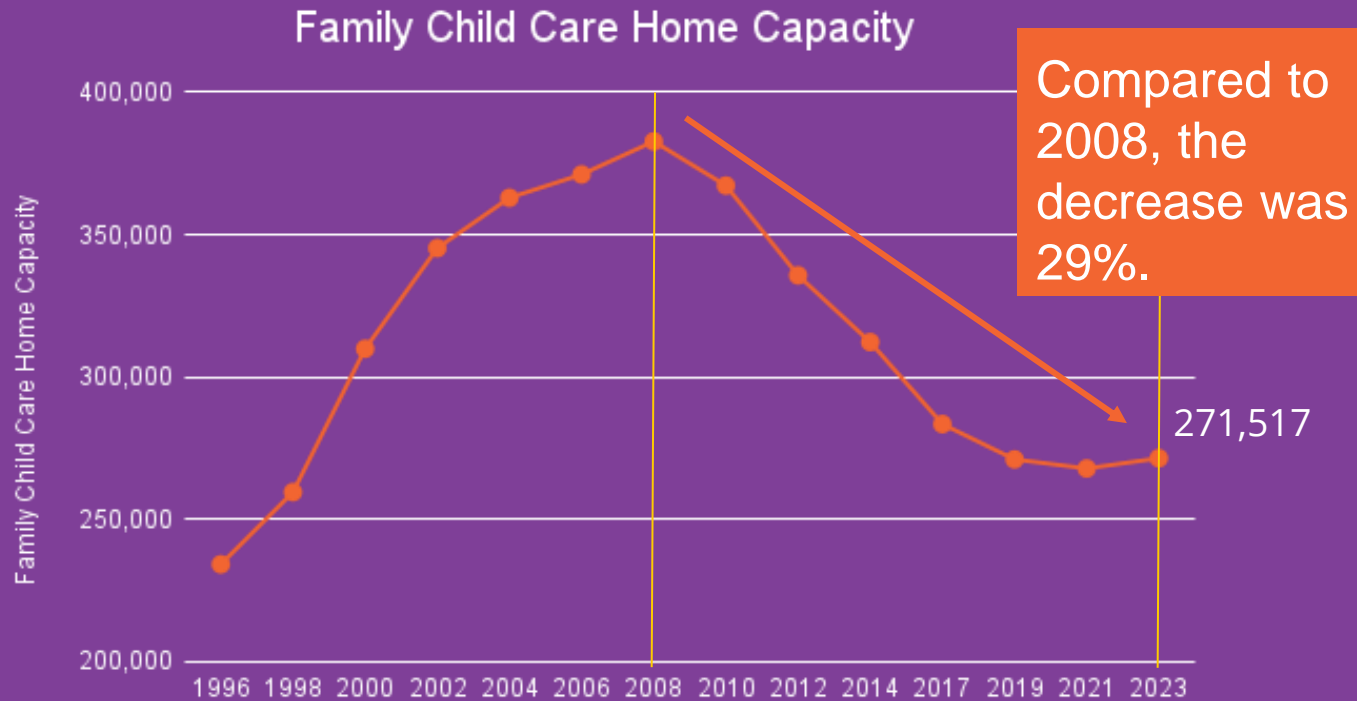
- Infant: 14%
- Preschool: 4%
- School-Age: -3%



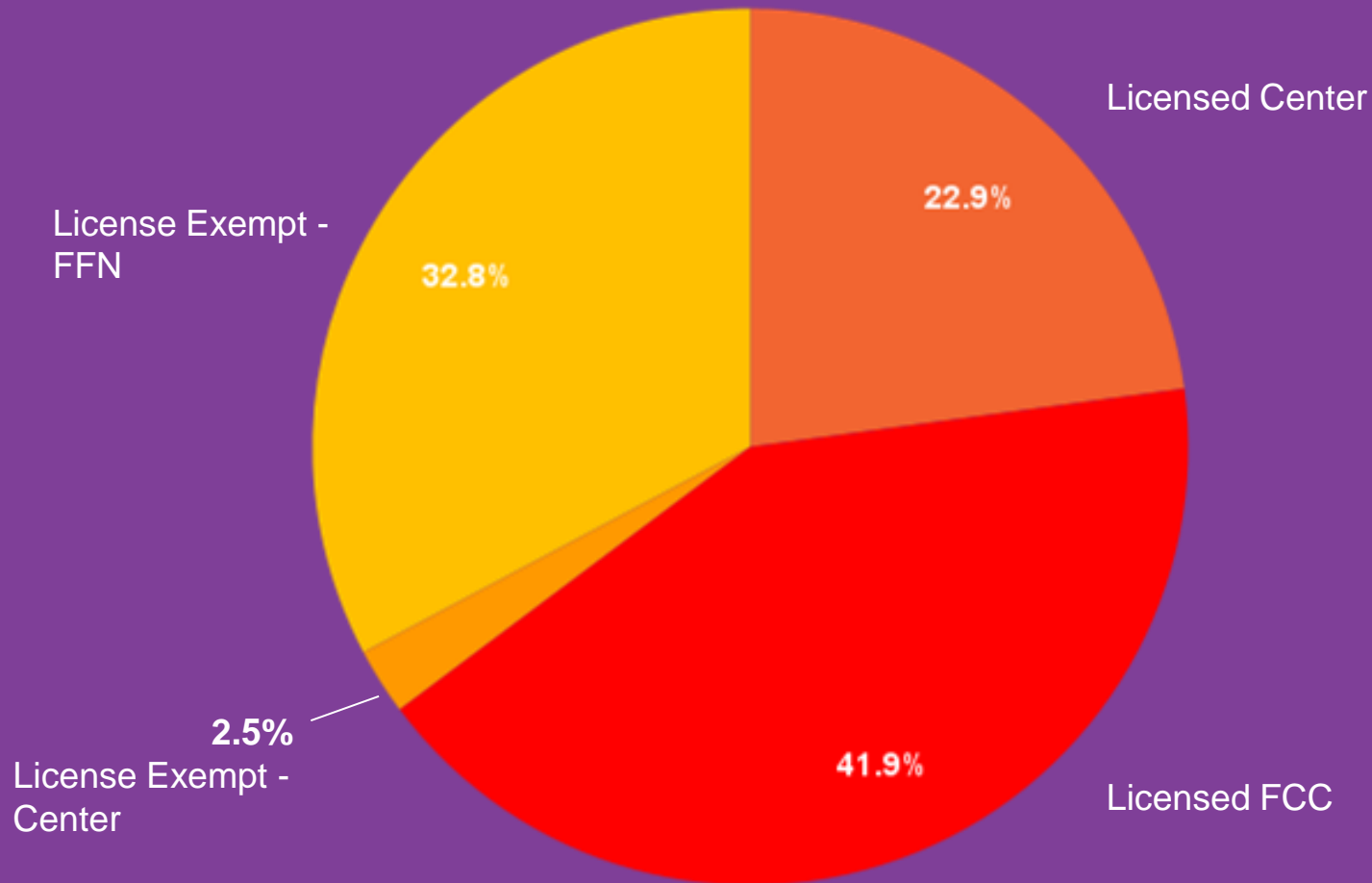
Change in Licensed Family Child Care Home Supply 2021-23

Family child care home sites: 0.3% ↑

Family child care home spaces: 1% ↑

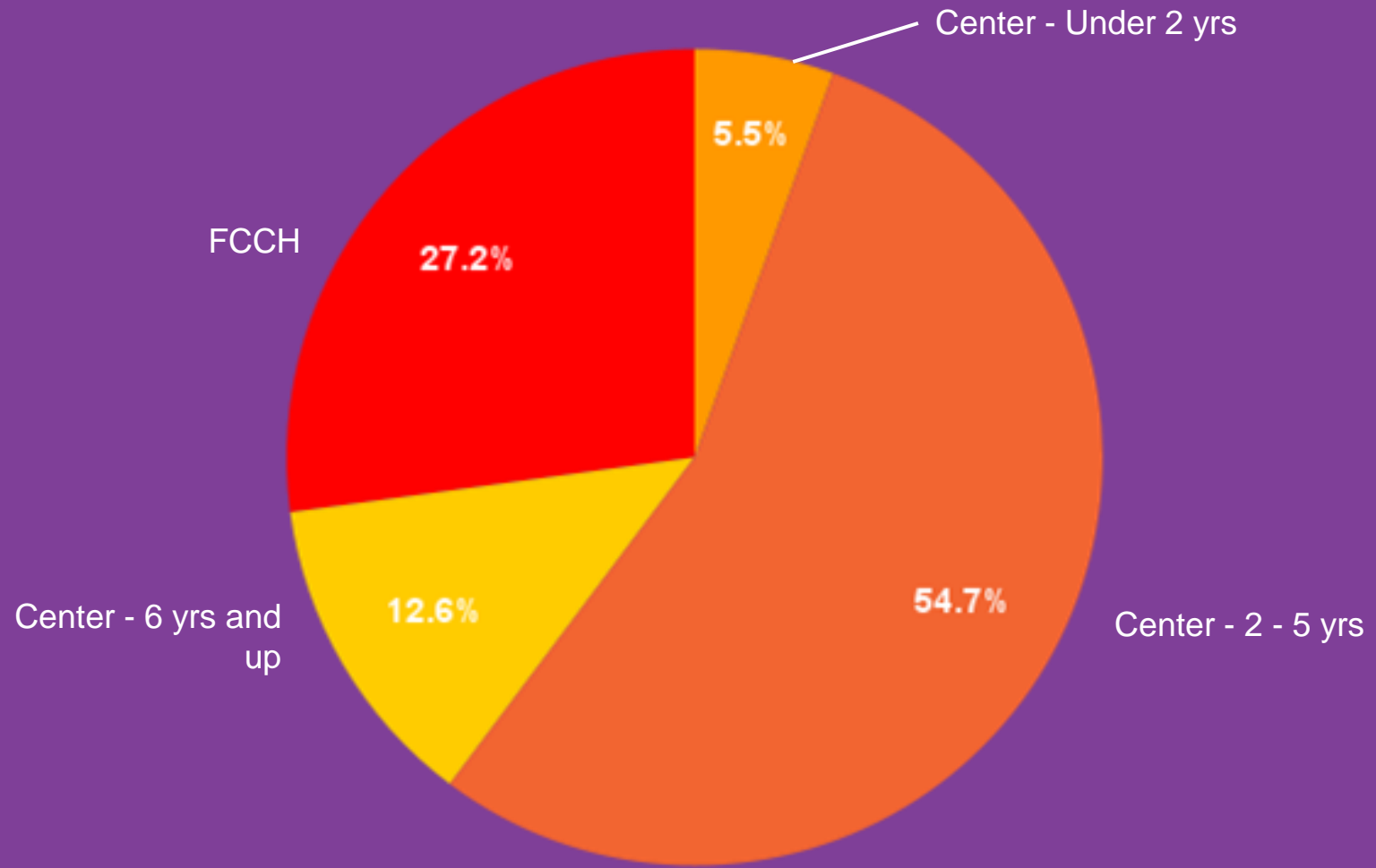


Voucher Use by Setting - October 2023



Source: California Department of Social Services

Licensed Child Care Spaces by Type and Age



Child Care Requests



Change in Licensed Child Care Supply by Region (2021-2023)

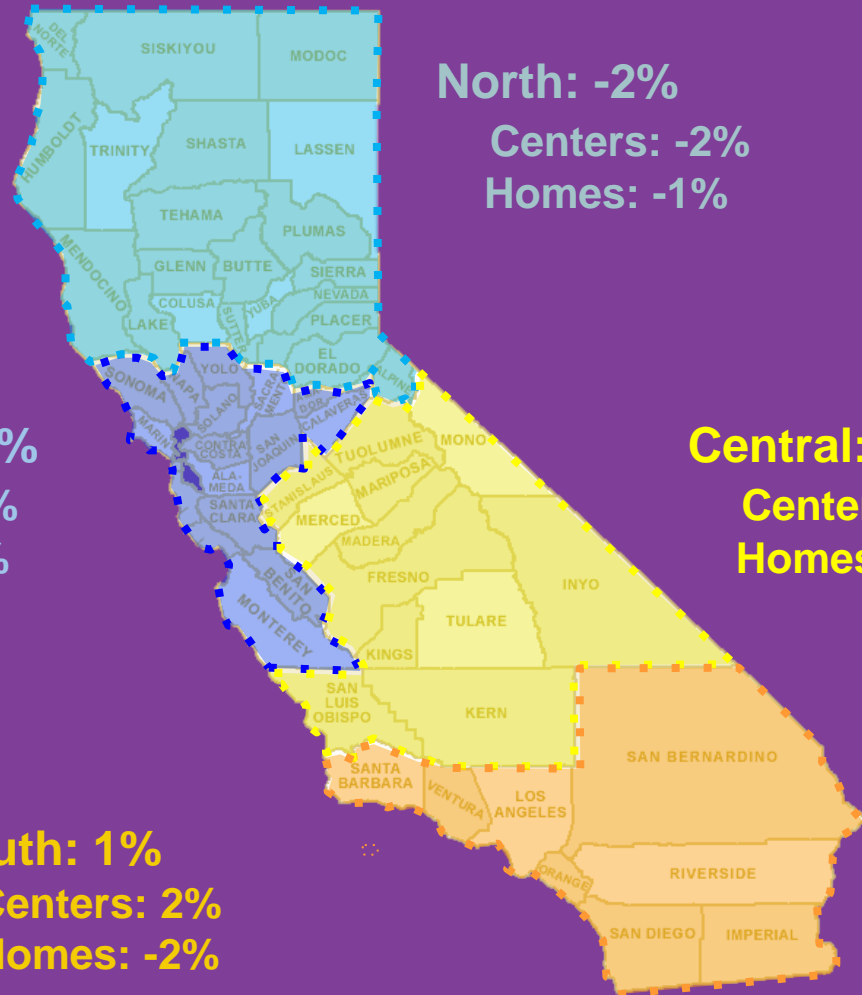
Statewide: 3%
Centers: 3%
Homes: 1%

North: -2%
Centers: -2%
Homes: -1%

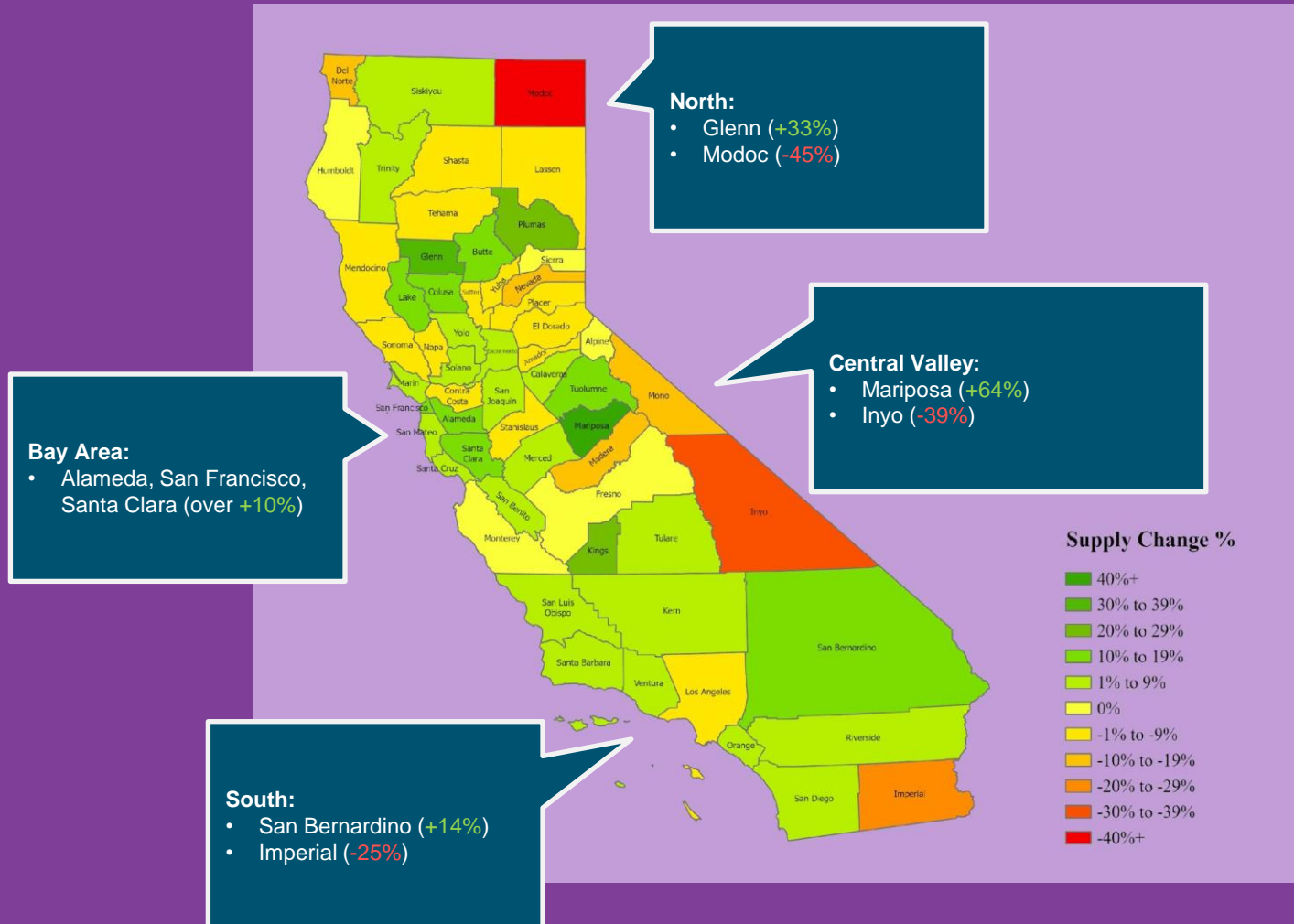
Bay Area: 7%
Centers: 6%
Homes: 7%

Central: 1%
Centers: 2%
Homes: 0.3%

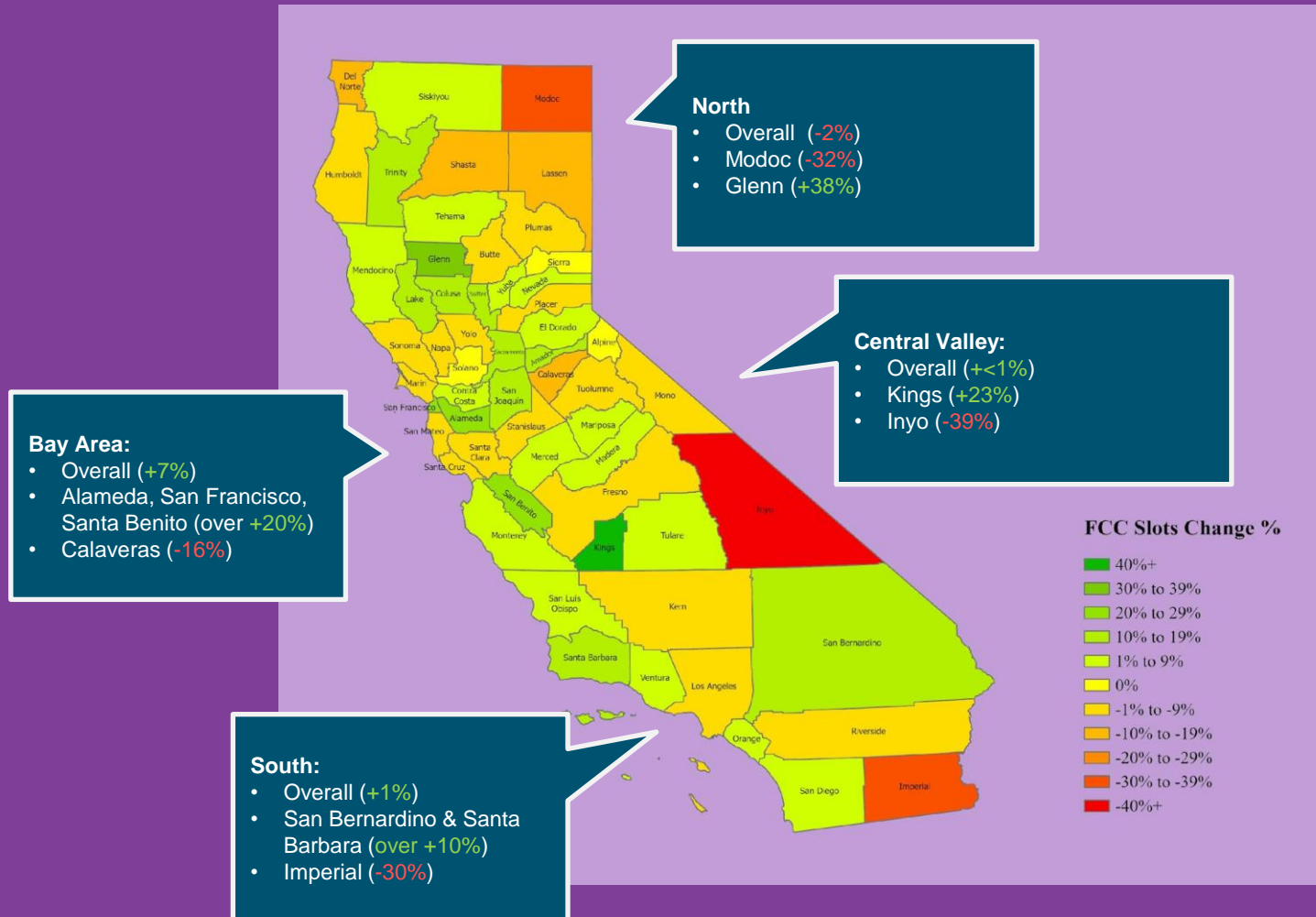
South: 1%
Centers: 2%
Homes: -2%



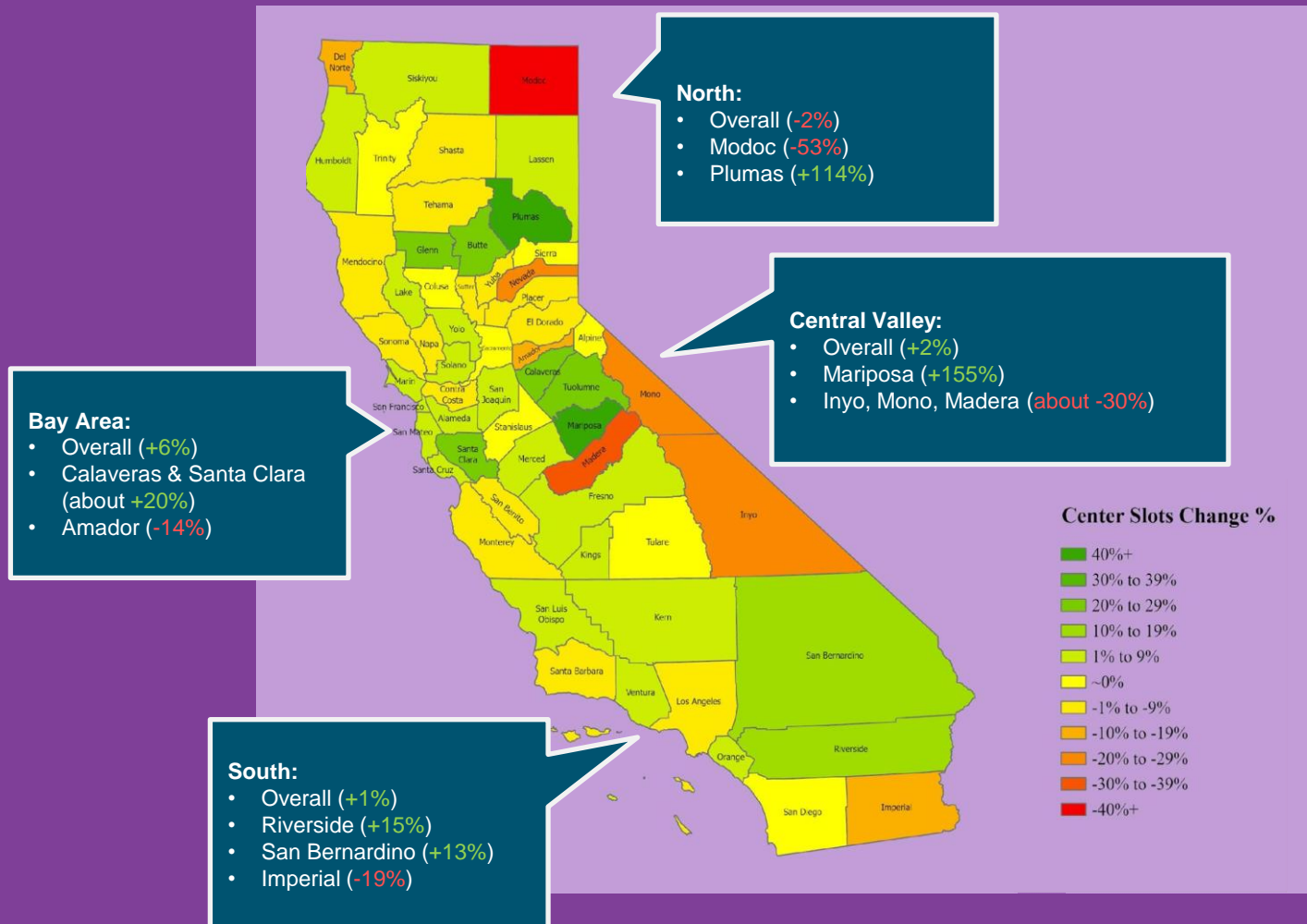
Percent Change in All Licensed Spaces (2021-2023)



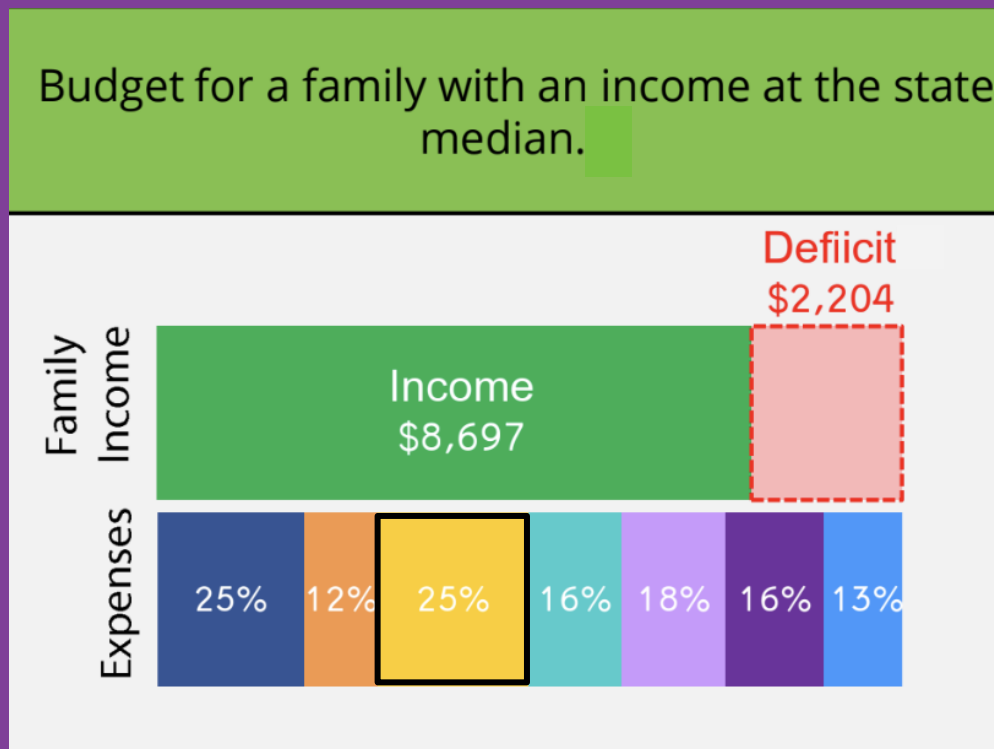
Percent Change in Licensed FCC Spaces (2021-2023)



Percent Change in Licensed Center Spaces (2021-2023)



Family Budget (Monthly)



■ Housing ■ Food ■ Child Care ■ Healthcare ■ Transportation ■ Taxes ■ Other Necessities

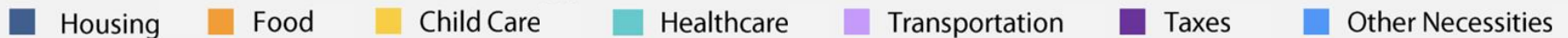
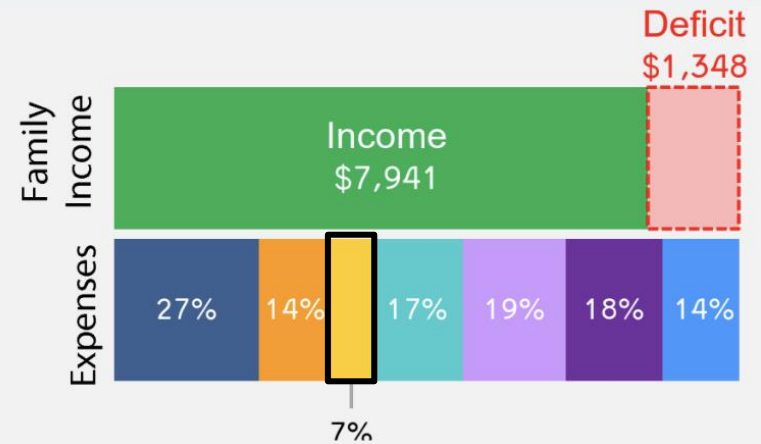
Family Budget (Monthly)



Budget for a family with an income that is eligible for child care subsidies but is **not enrolled** in a child care subsidy program.



Budget for a family with an income that is eligible for child care subsidies and is **enrolled** in a child care subsidy program.



A Parent's Story



"I started searching in my city San Ramon and found out my child care voucher for subsidy did not cover the cost. I would have to pay \$300 a week out of pocket and I can't afford it, that's why I have a subsidy voucher.

So next step I searched for a child care center near my parents house and found a center but was put on a waitlist for my 2 year old daughter's school in October 2024. Finally my daughter was given an opportunity to attend child care and learn...even though I still had to pay a weekly fee of \$29.33.

So all that to say, even though I had a subsidy voucher, I still had a hard time finding and affording child care near my home for my 2 year old daughter." - Parent from Contra Costa County

Data Recap



- Licensed child care in California increased. However, licensed care is still only available to 26% of children with working parents.
- There is substantial regional and county variation in the changes in supply.

Data Recap



- Center-based infant capacity experienced the largest year over year increase seen since the Portfolio's inception, an increase of 6,552 compared to 2021.
- While FCC spaces increased, they are far from the pre-recession levels.
 - More than two-thirds of voucher enrollments were in FFN (32.8%) and FCC (41.9%) care settings
- Child care costs make up a large proportion of many families' budgets

Policy Priorities



Providers

- Fair Provider Pay
 - Rate reform
 - Enrollment based subsidy payments
- Protect State and Federal Investments in Child Care

Policy Priorities



Families

- Equitable Child Care Access
 - Growth and stabilization of child care programs
 - Universal child care that includes the mixed-delivery child care system
 - Further research to understand the impact of Transitional Kindergarten implementation.

Acknowledgement



CCR&R agencies play a vital role in maintaining accurate local data about families and child care providers.

They are well positioned to help families navigate their child care choices, build supply and quality of child care, grow the child care workforce, help families and businesses solve their child care challenges, and deliver on-the-ground information and solutions.

Thank you!



Visit www.rrnetwork.org
to view the full 2023
Child Care Portfolio