County of Los Angeles Public Health

Local Planning Council Child Care Needs Assessment – Los Angeles County

Presentation to Child Care Planning Committee

December 7, 2023

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Kenyon Consulting

Overview

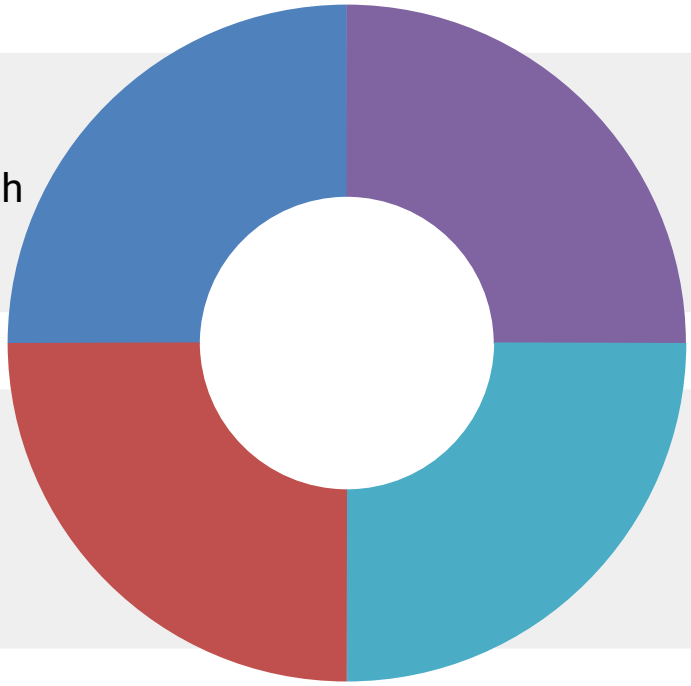
- Children and Families
- ECE Supply
- ECE Demand (Need)
- Barriers to access
- ECE Workforce
- Next Steps

Children and Families

Family and Child Demographics

725,474
Number of children birth to age 5 in LA County (2020)

1,629,978
Number of children birth to age 12 in LA County (2020)

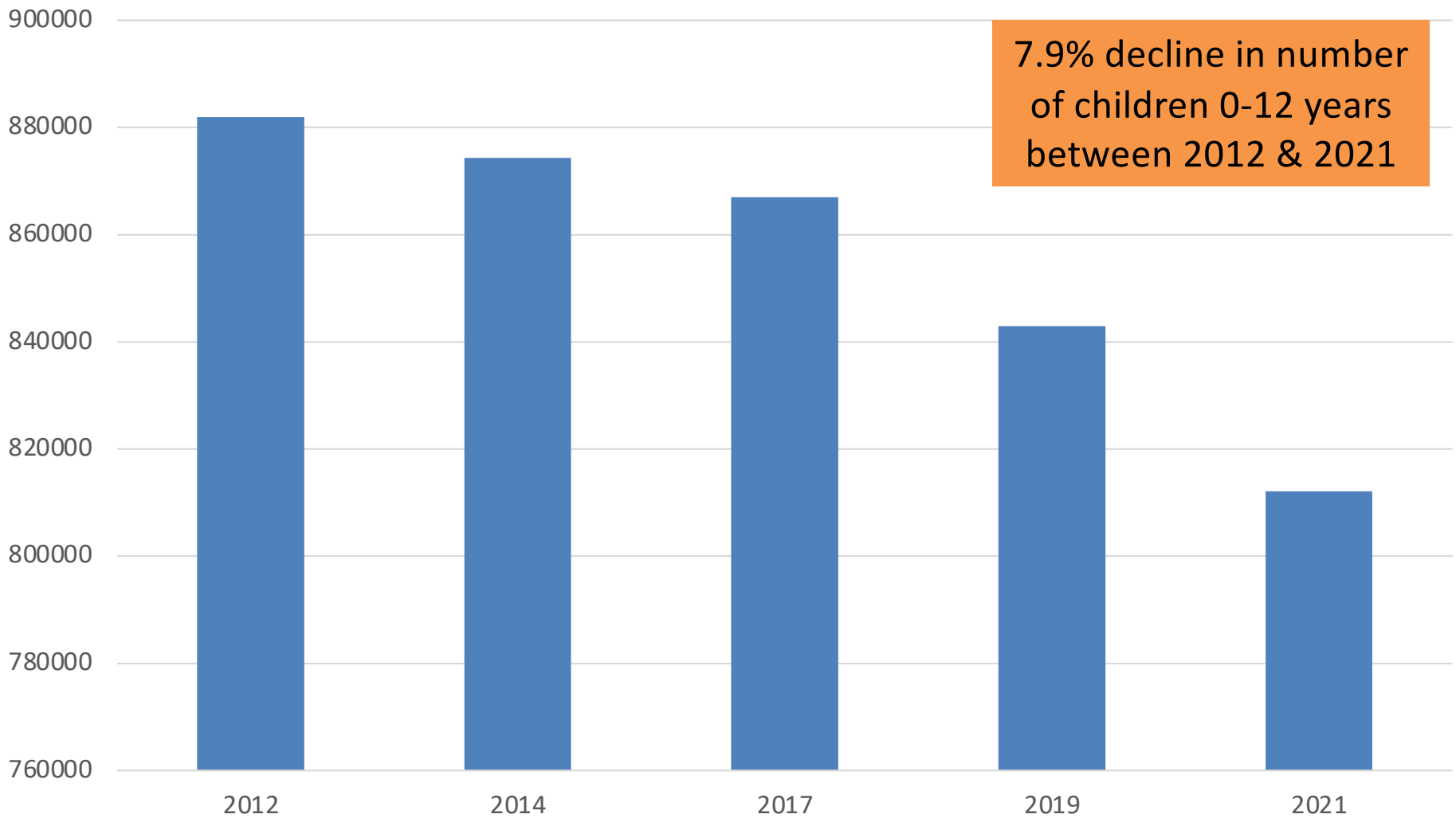


83%
of children birth to 5 are children of color

60%
of children birth to age 5 in LA County are Hispanic/Latinx

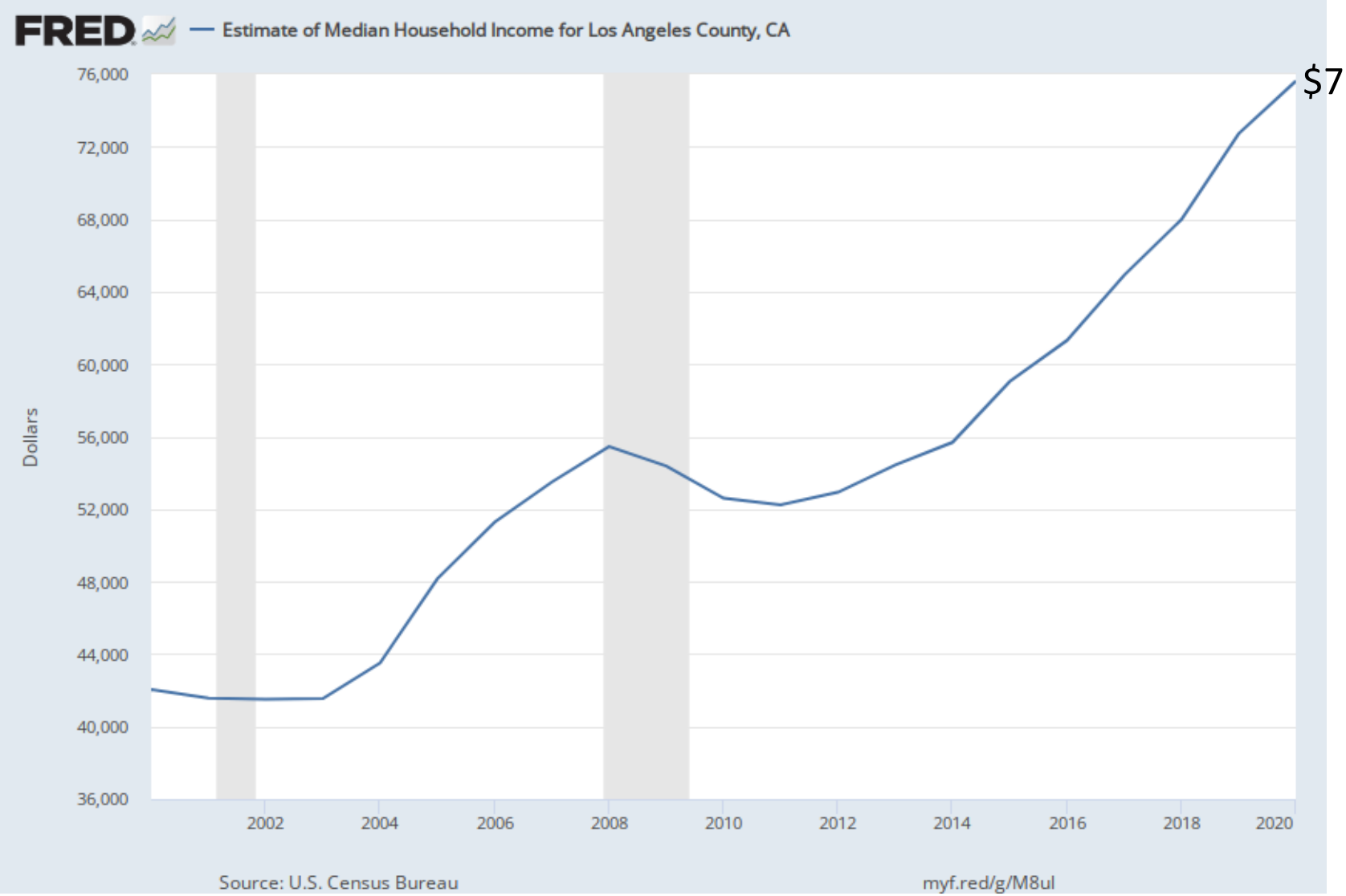
Source: kidsdata.org

Number of children ages 0-12 years (2012-2021)

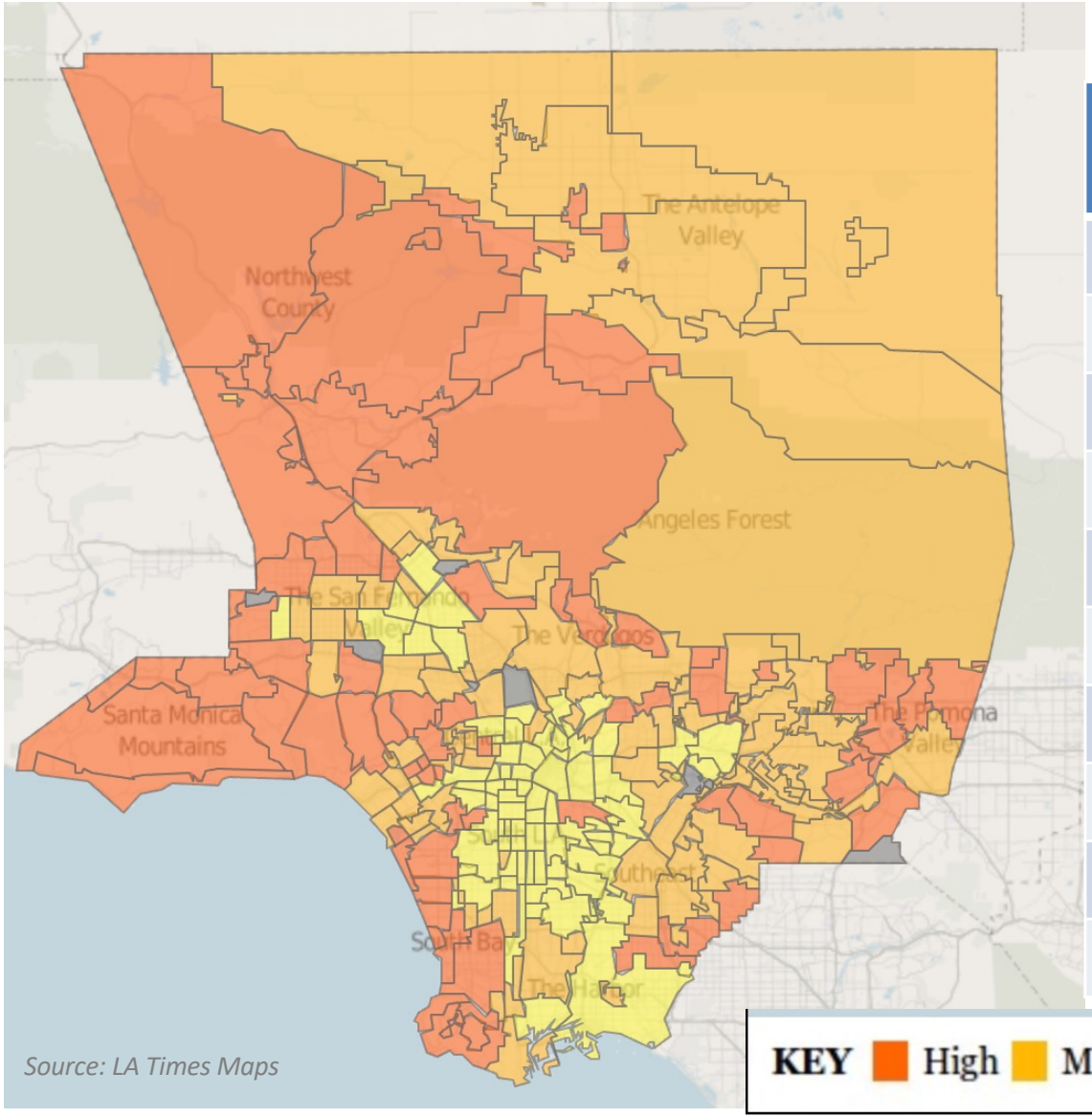


Source: kidsdata.org

Median Household Income LA County (2000—2020)



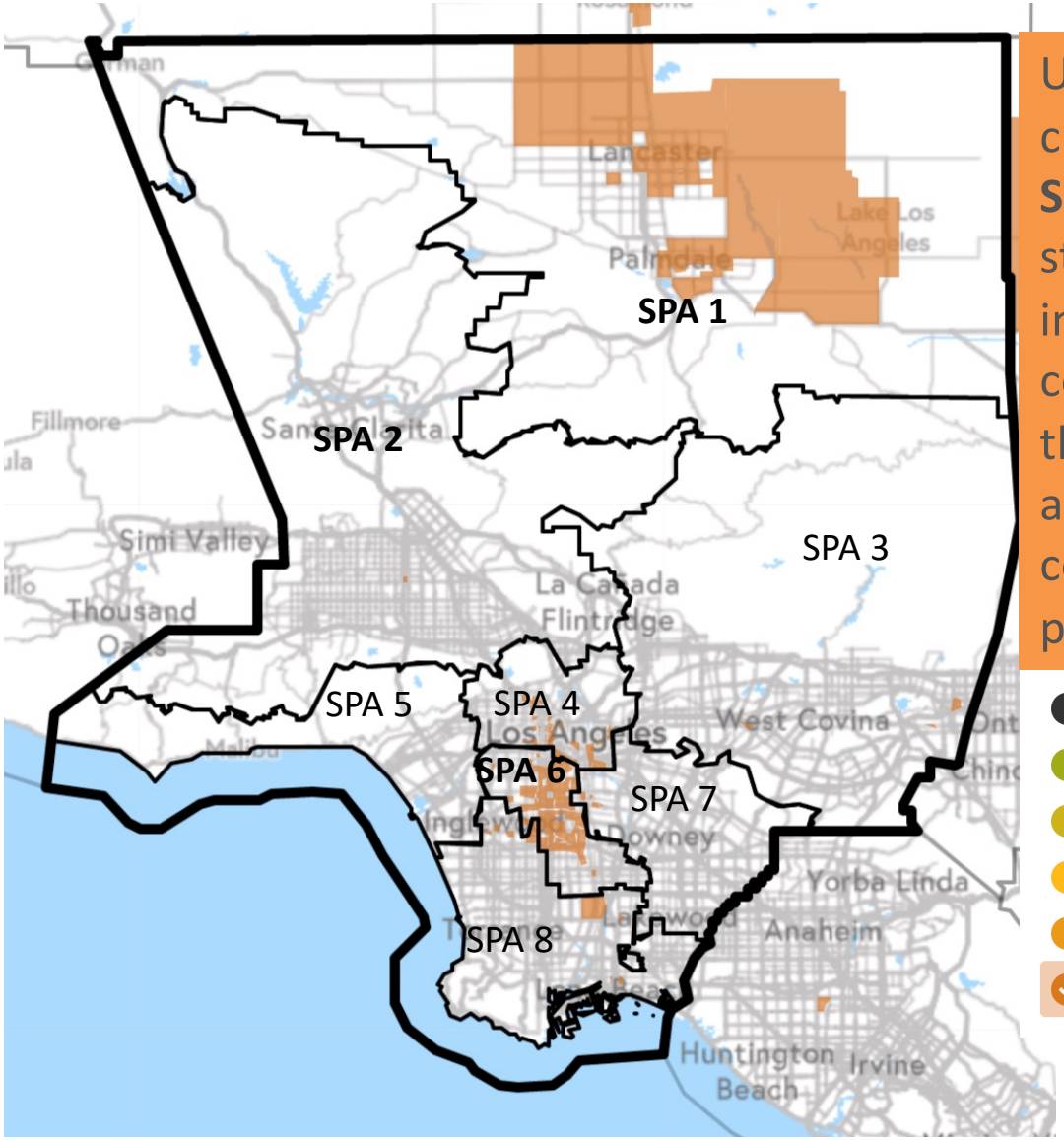
Median Household Income by neighborhood



Source: LA Times Maps

10 Lowest Neighborhoods	Median Income
Downtown	$15,003
University Park	$18,533
Chinatown	$22,754
Watts	$25,161
Pico-Union	$26,424
Westlake	$26,757
Vermont Knolls	$27,730
Elysian Park	$28,263
Florence	$29,447
South Park	$29,518

Strong Start Index (assets) by Service Planning Area (SPA)



Using data that already exists for children and families, the **Strong Start Index** summarizes, in a standardized way, the conditions into which children are born. It comprises a total of 12 variables that fall into four domains. A birth asset score is calculated by simply counting the number of assets present (0-12).

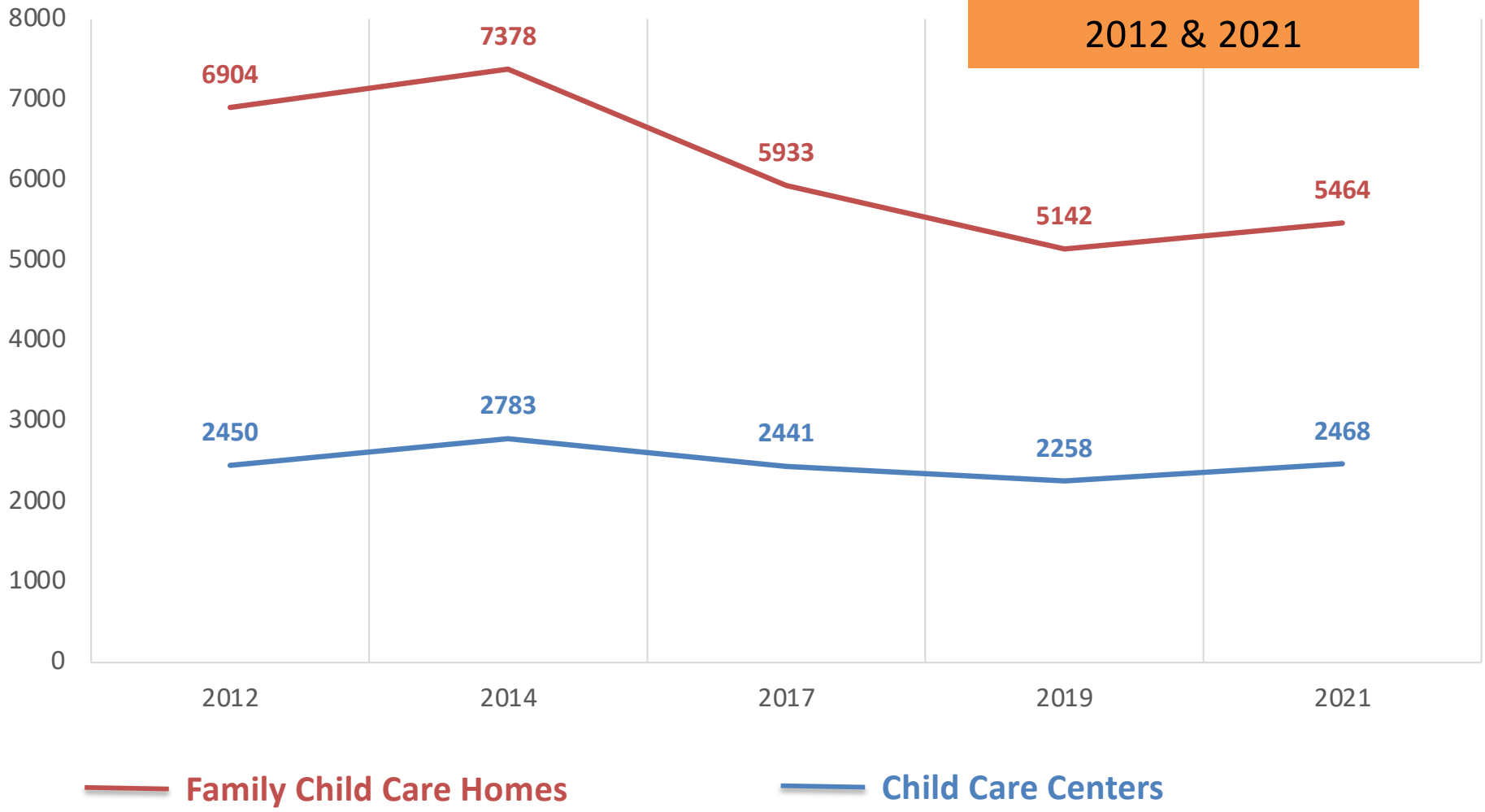
- All
- 11-12
- 10
- 9
- 8
- Fewer than 8

Source: https://strongstartindex.org/

Early Care and Education Supply

Licensed Facilities (2012-2021)

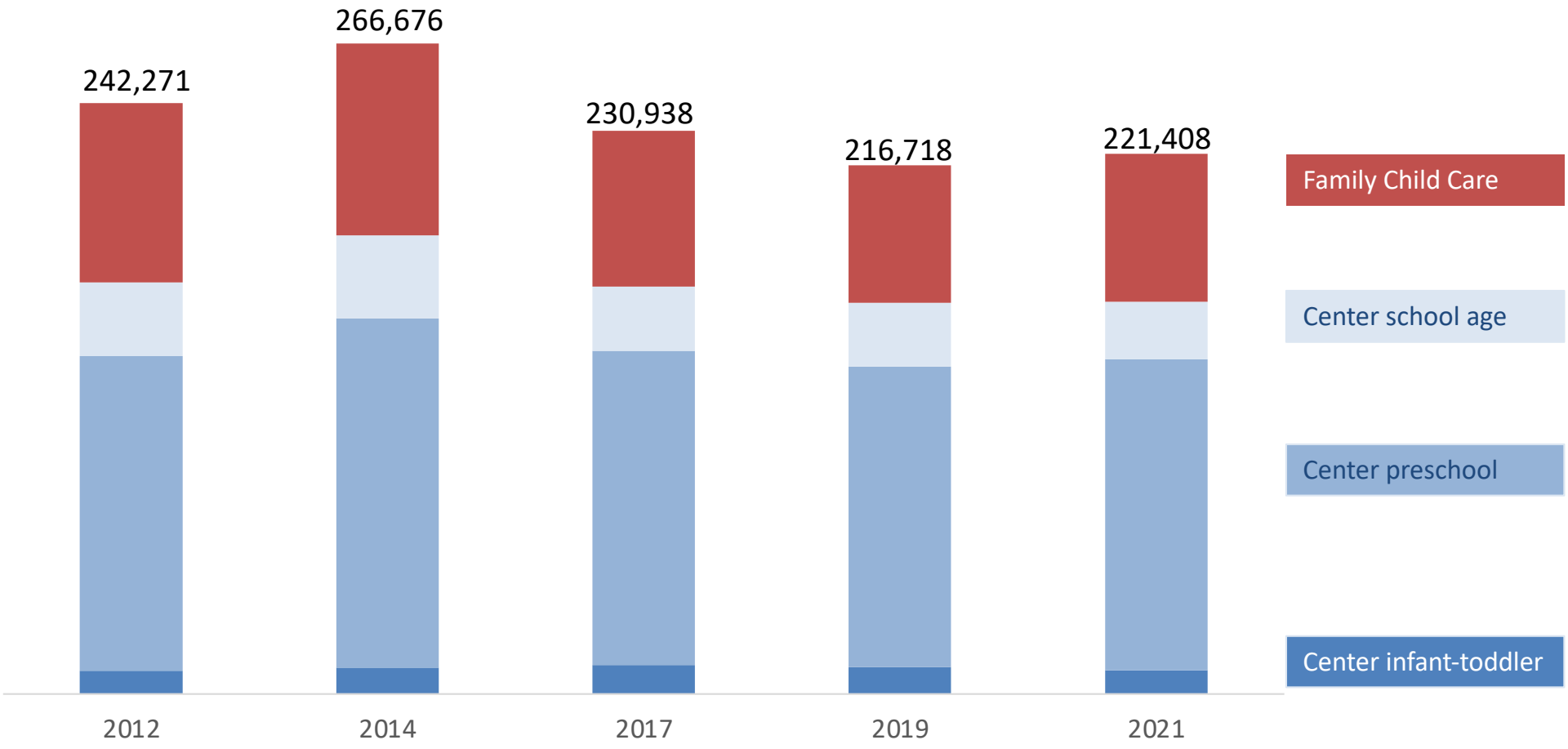
21% decline in number of FCCHs between 2012 & 2021



Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, *California Child Care Portfolio*

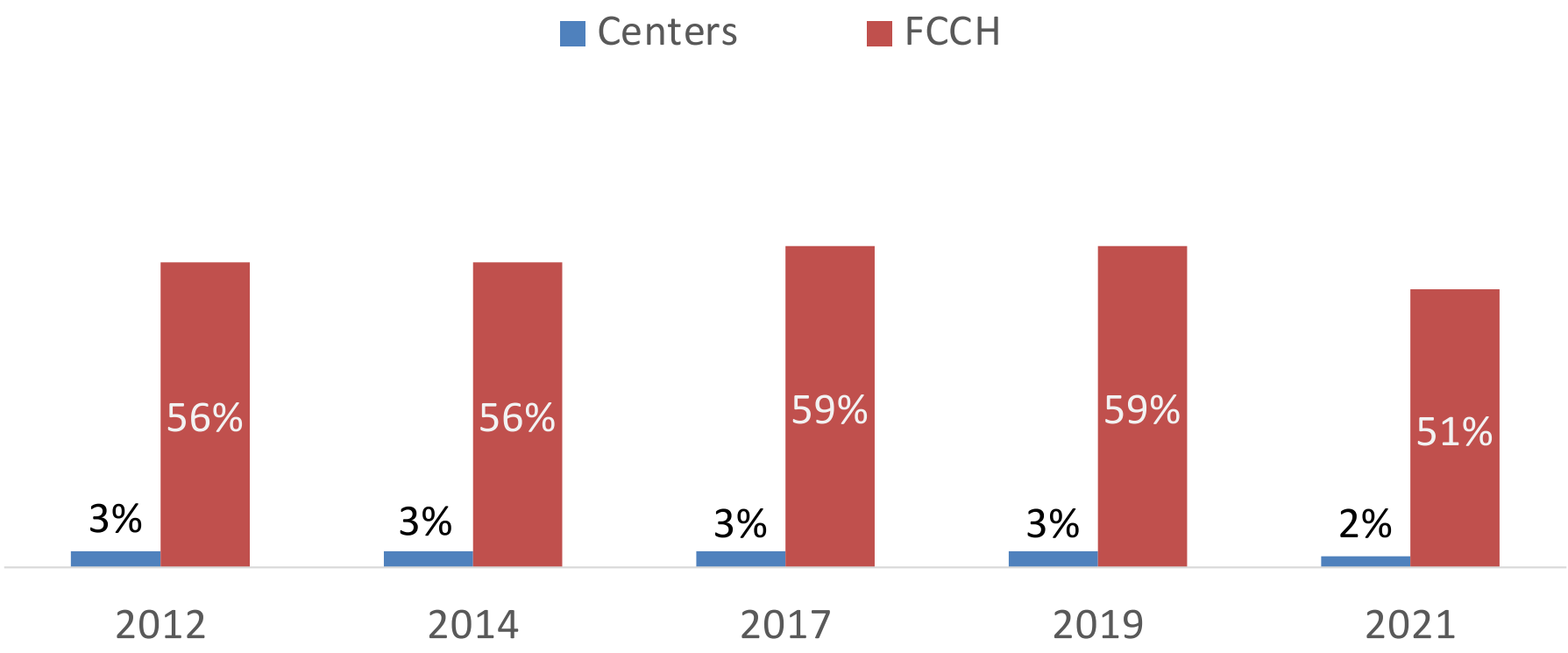
Licensed spaces (2012-2021)

8.6% decline in number of spaces between 2012 & 2021



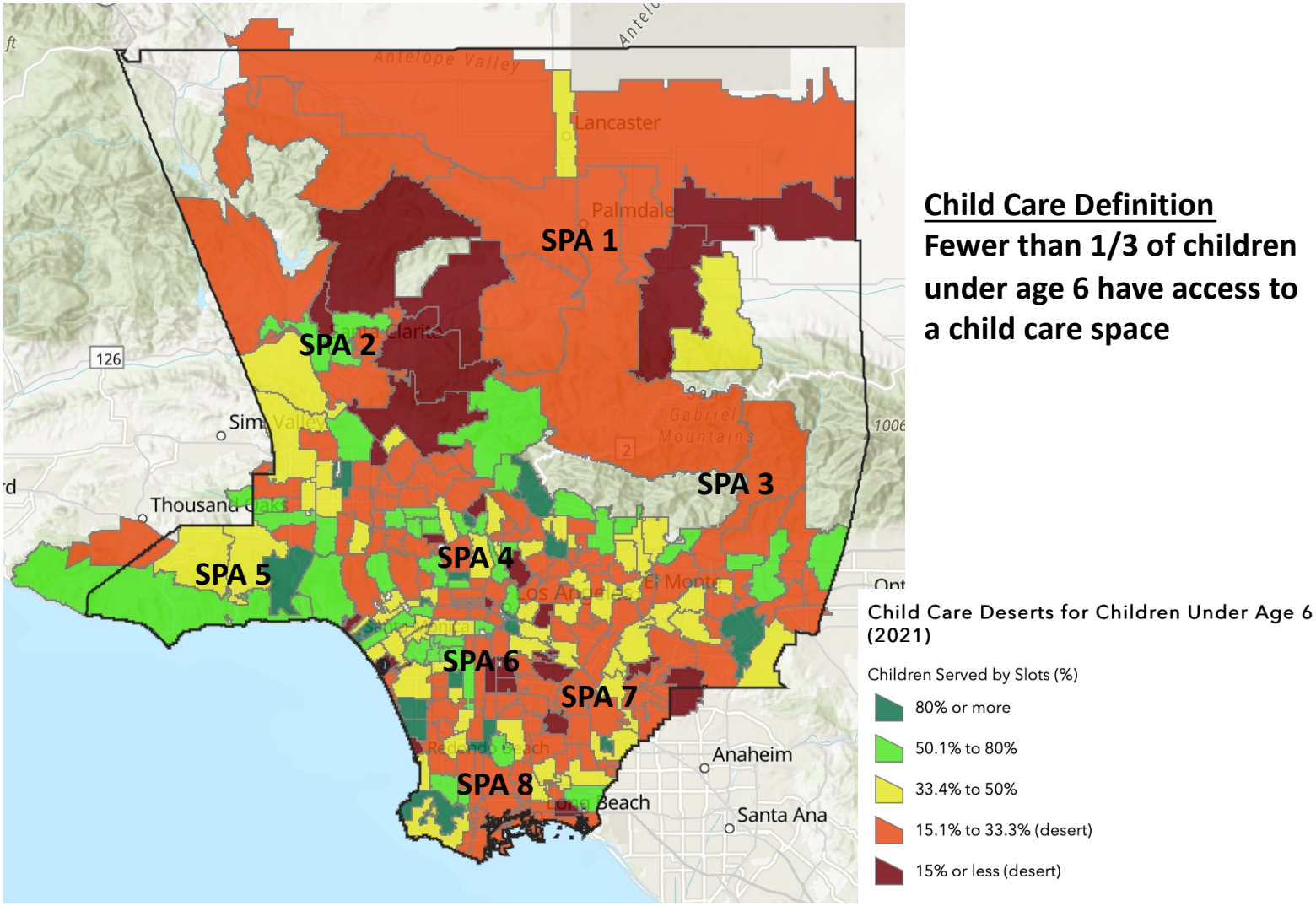
Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, *California Child Care Portfolio*

Percent of licensed facilities offering evening, weekend, or overnight care (2012-2021)



Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, *California Child Care Portfolio*

Child Care Deserts Map



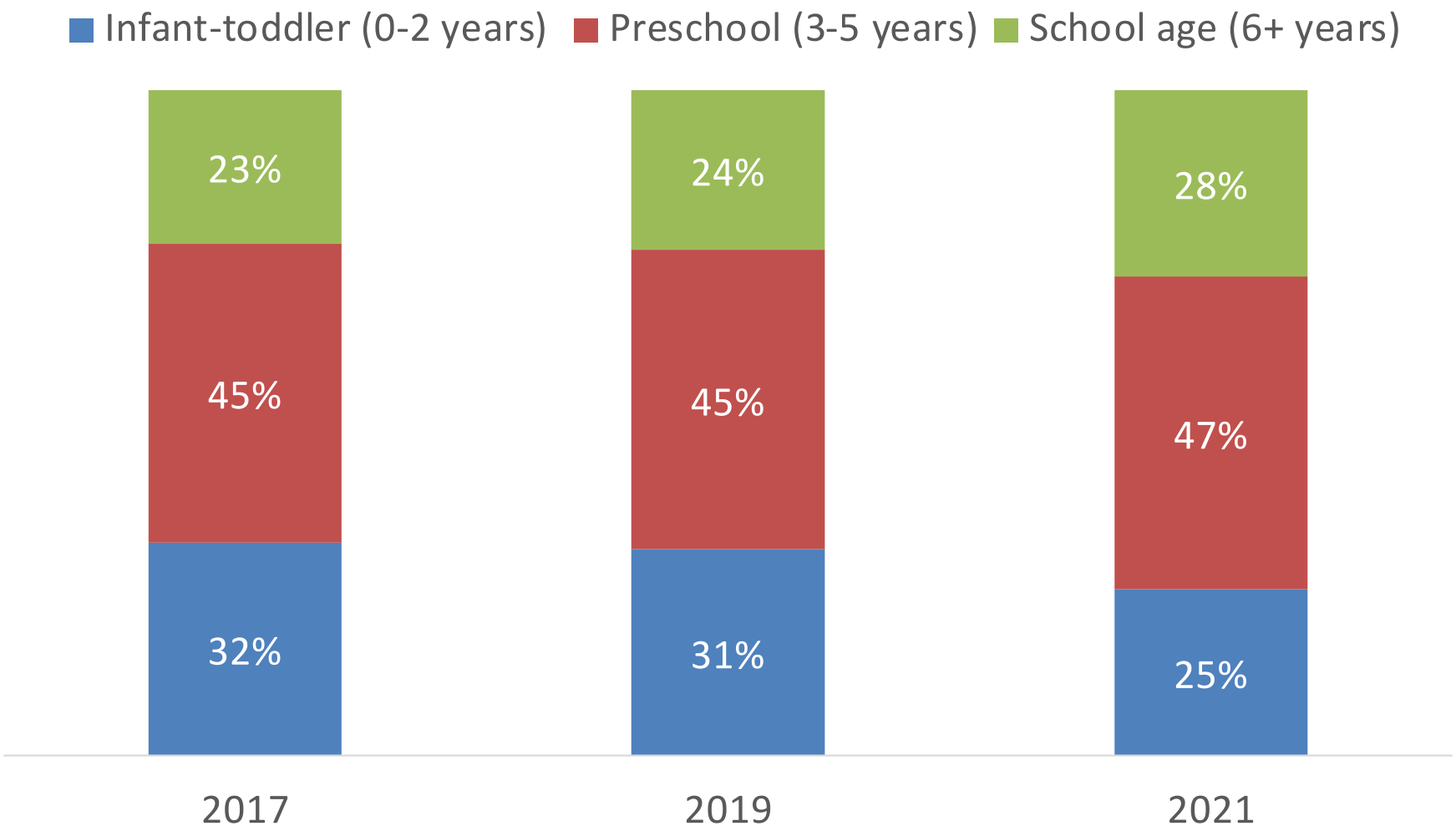
Child Care Definition

Fewer than 1/3 of children under age 6 have access to a child care space

Source: CCRC (2021) Child Care Deserts Map, LA County

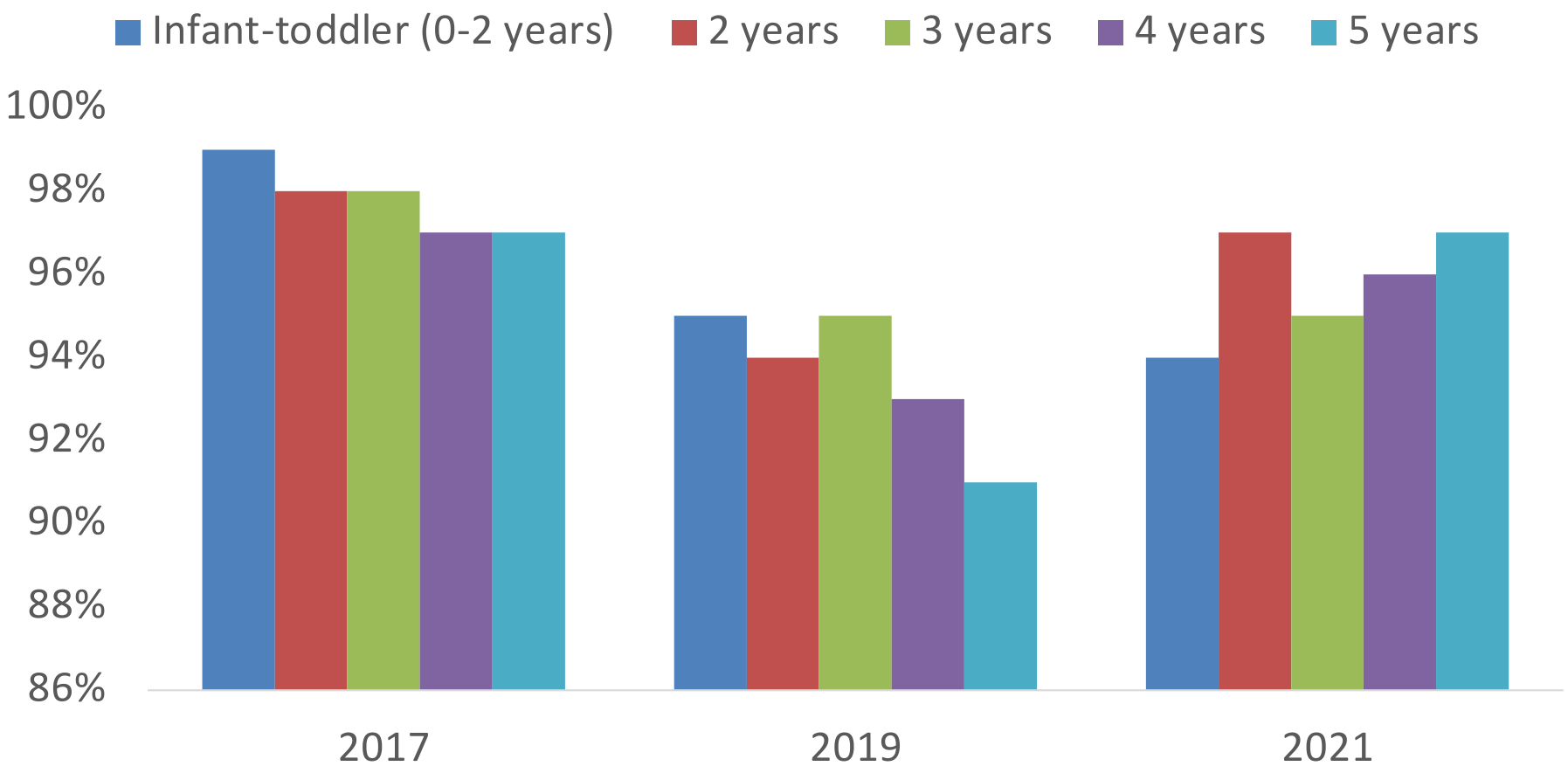
Early Care and Education Demand (Need)

Child Care Requests by Child Age (2012-2021)



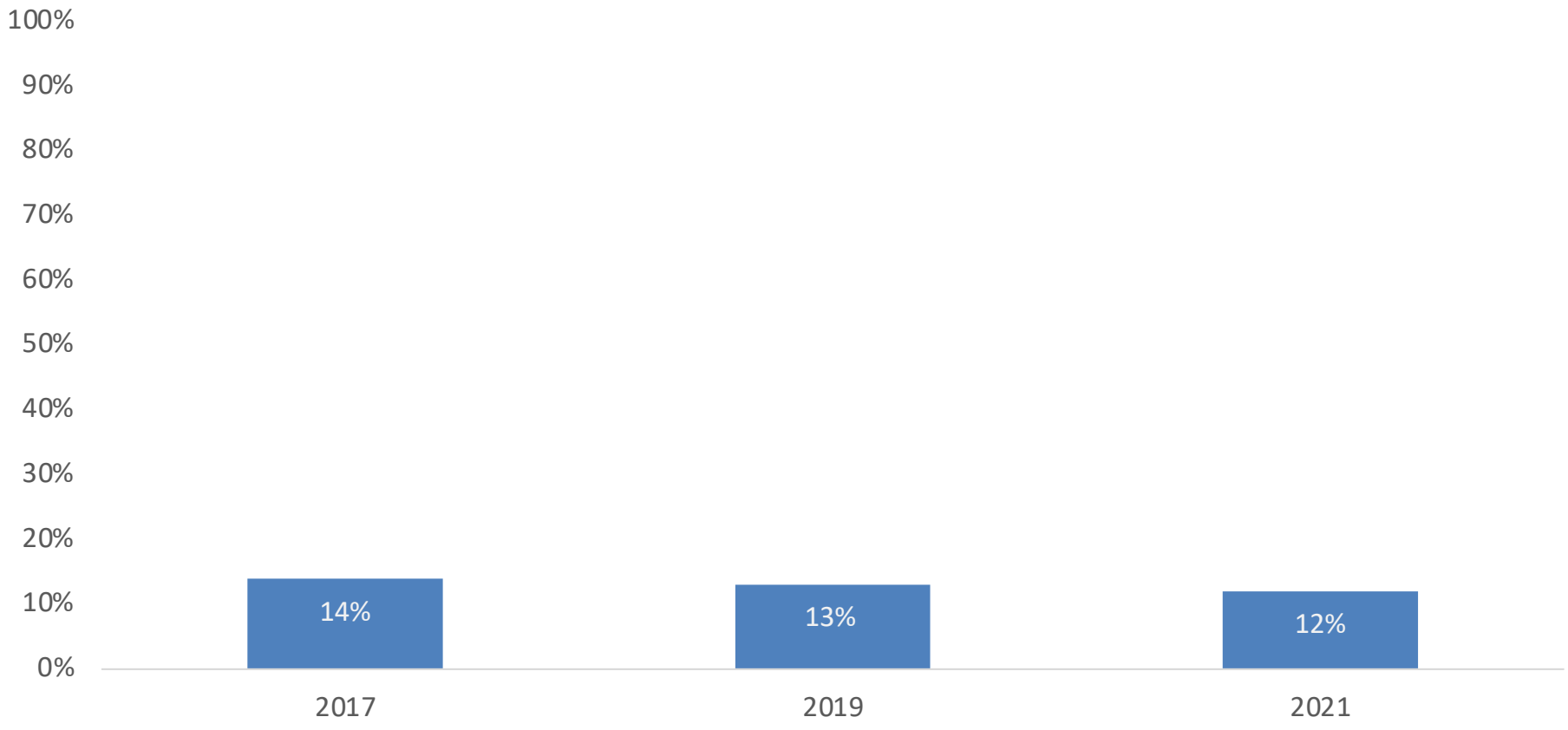
Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, *California Child Care Portfolio*

Percent of child care requests that were for full-time care by child age (2012-2021)



Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, *California Child Care Portfolio*

Percent of child care requests that are for nontraditional hours (2017-2021)



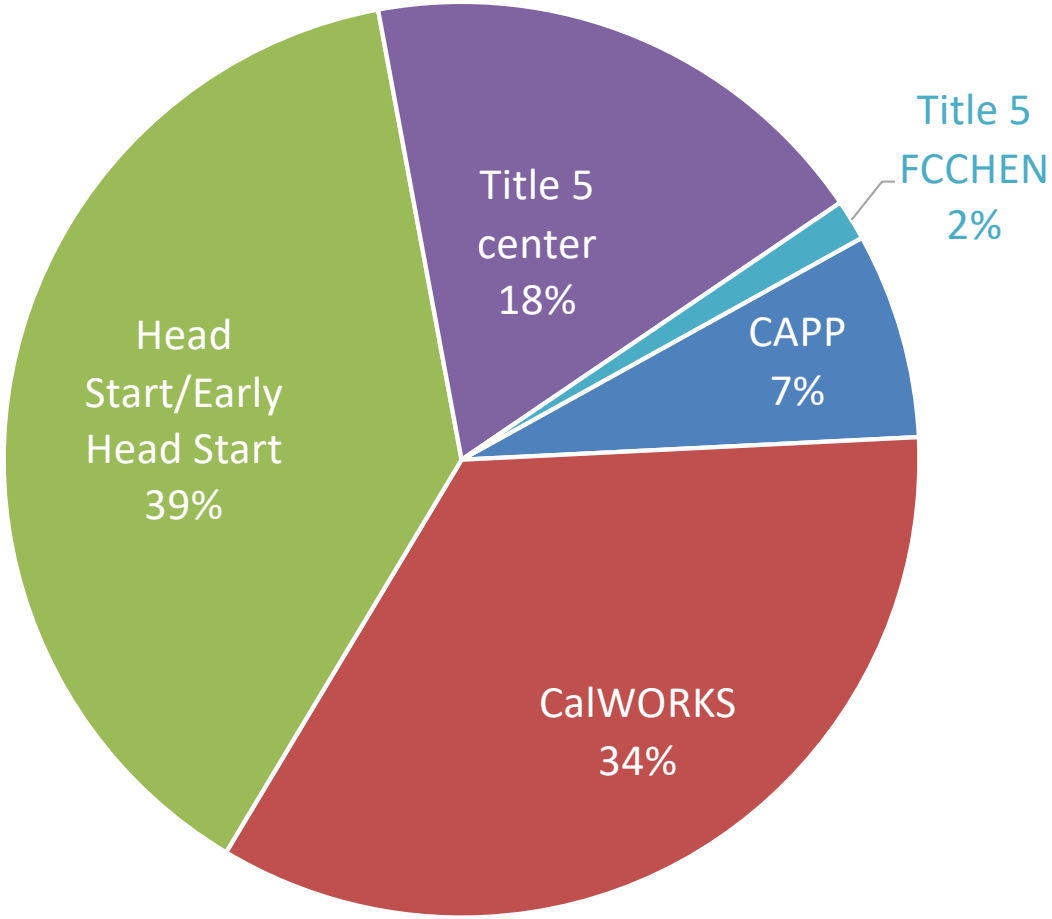
Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, *California Child Care Portfolio*

Unmet Need for Subsidized Care – Birth to 3 years

	Birth - 11 months	12-23 months	24-35 months	TOTAL
Number of eligible children (percent of age group)	43,801 (37%)	44,515 (36%)	52,320 (41%)	140,636 (38%)
Number enrolled in subsidized care (percent of eligible)	3,467 (8%)	5,970 (13%)	10,442 (20%)	19,879 (14%)
Number eligible but NOT enrolled in subsidized care (percent of eligigible)	40.334 (92%)	38,545 (87%)	41,878 (80%)	120,757 (86%)

Source: ELNAT, Five-year estimates from American Community Survey
https://www.elneedsassessment.org/NeedsAssessment.aspx

Percent of children enrolled in publicly funded programs by program funding stream– birth to 3 years



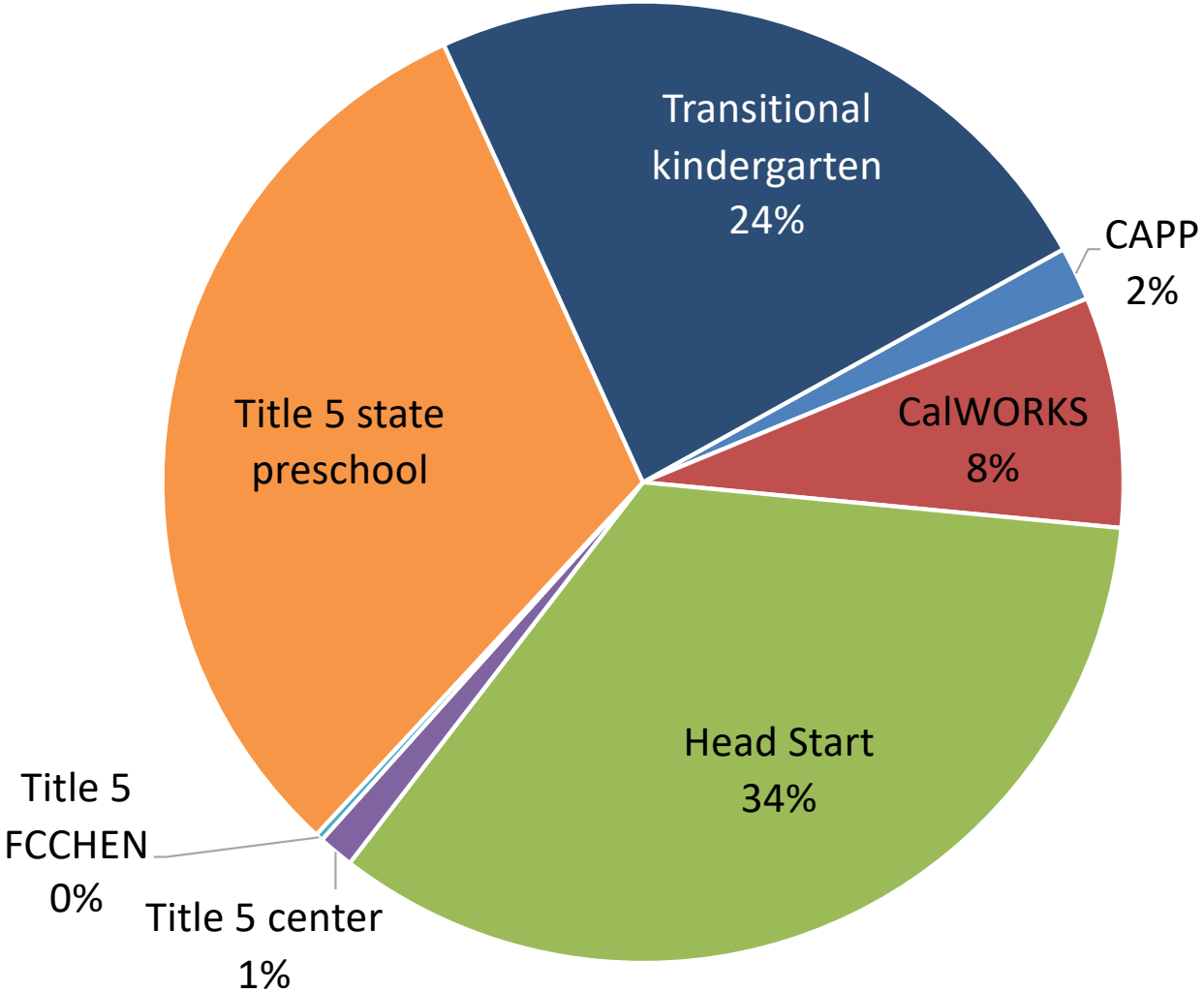
Source: CELNAR County Level Reports, 2018
https://reports.elneedsassessment.org/LPCReports.aspx

Unmet Need for Subsidized Care – Preschoolers

	3-year-olds	4-year-olds	TOTAL
Number of eligible children (percent of age group)	95,324 (73%)	91,659 (72%)	186,983 (72%)
Number enrolled in subsidized care (percent of eligible)	28,360 (30%)	56,487 (62%)	84,847 (45%)
Number enrolled in transitional kindergarten	n/a	27,615	27,615
Number eligible but NOT enrolled in publicly subsidized programs (percent of eligible)	66,964 (71%)	35,172 (39%)	102,136 (55%)

Source: ELNAT, Five-year estimates from American Community Survey
https://www.elneedsassessment.org/NeedsAssessment.aspx

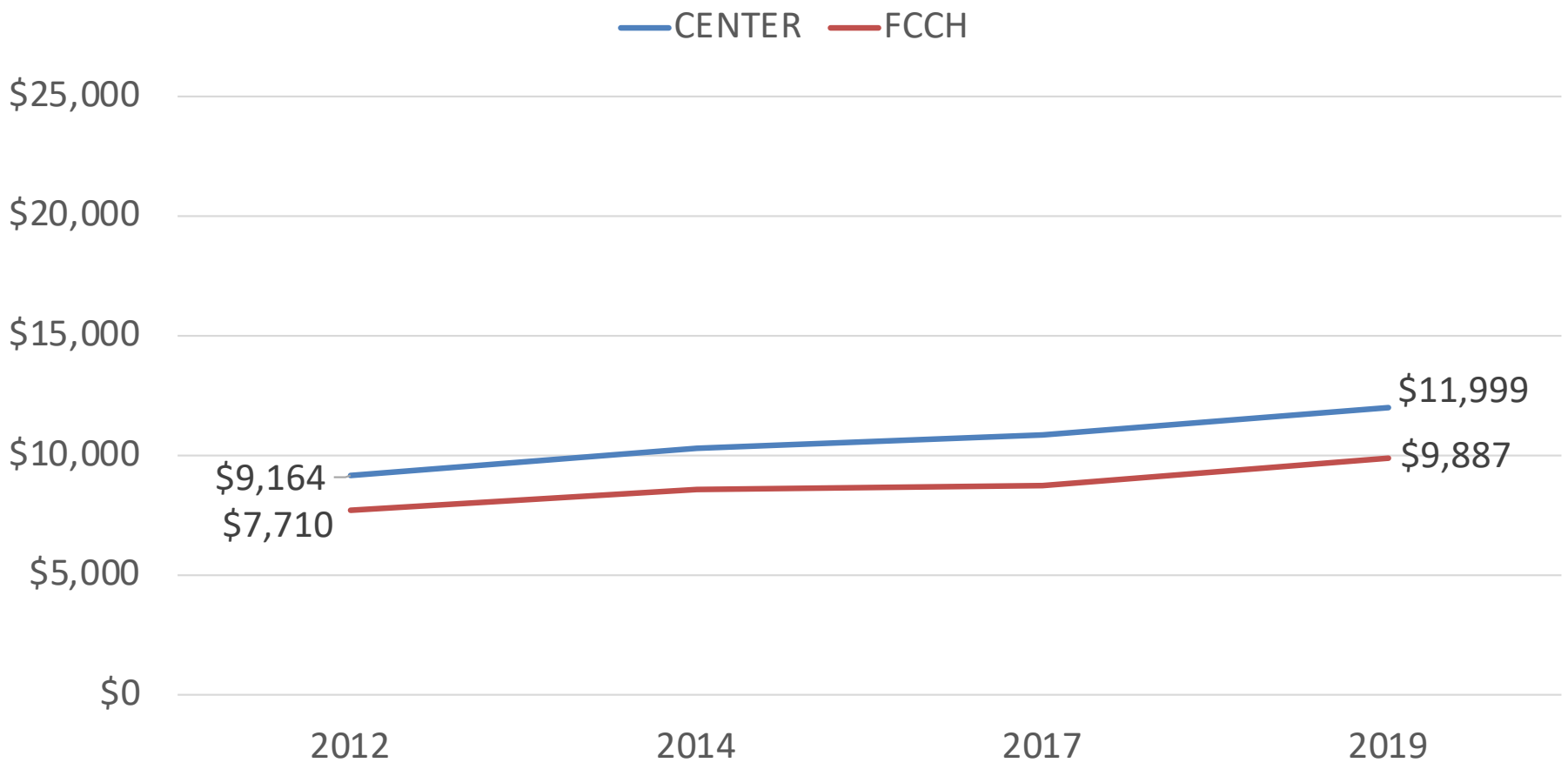
Percent of children enrolled in publicly funded programs by program funding stream– preschoolers



Source: CELNAR County Level Reports, 2018
https://reports.elneedsassessment.org/LPCReports.aspx

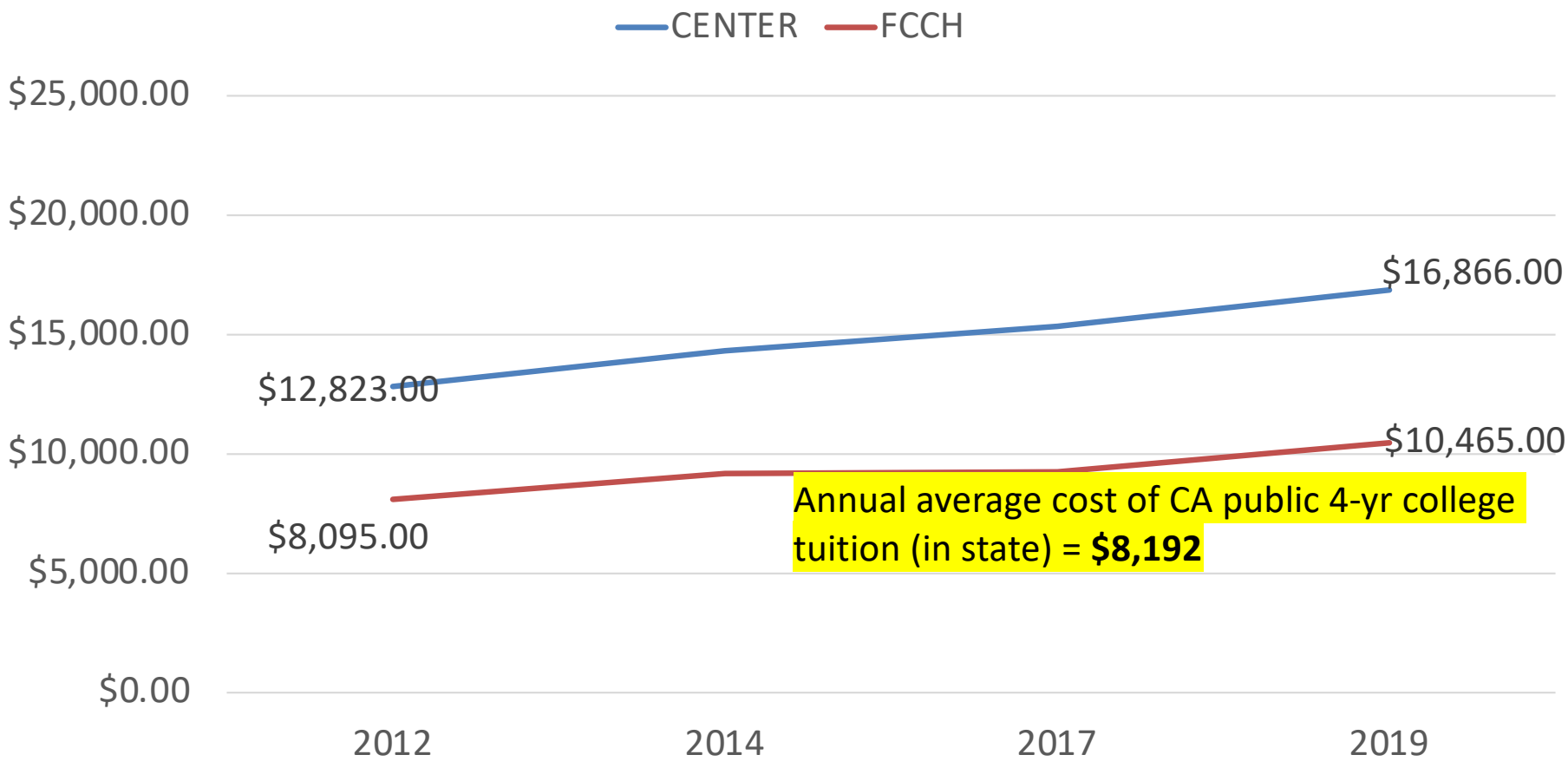
Barriers to Access

Average cost of full-time preschool care (2012-2019)



Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, *California Child Care Portfolio*

Average cost of full-time infant care (2012-2019)



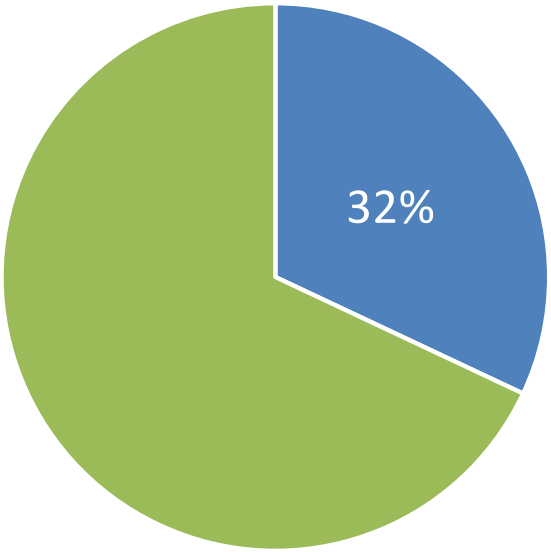
Source: California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, *California Child Care Portfolio*

Proportion of median family income

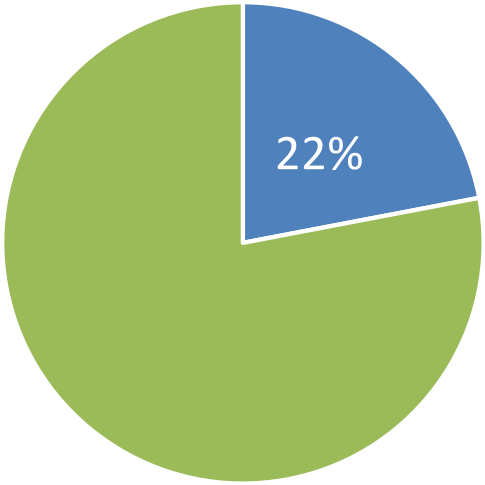
Center-based care for 1 infant and 1 preschooler in Los Angeles County would cost 32% of the median income for a family of 4

FCC care for 1 infant and 1 preschooler in Los Angeles County would cost 22% of the median income for a family of 4

Center-based



Family child care

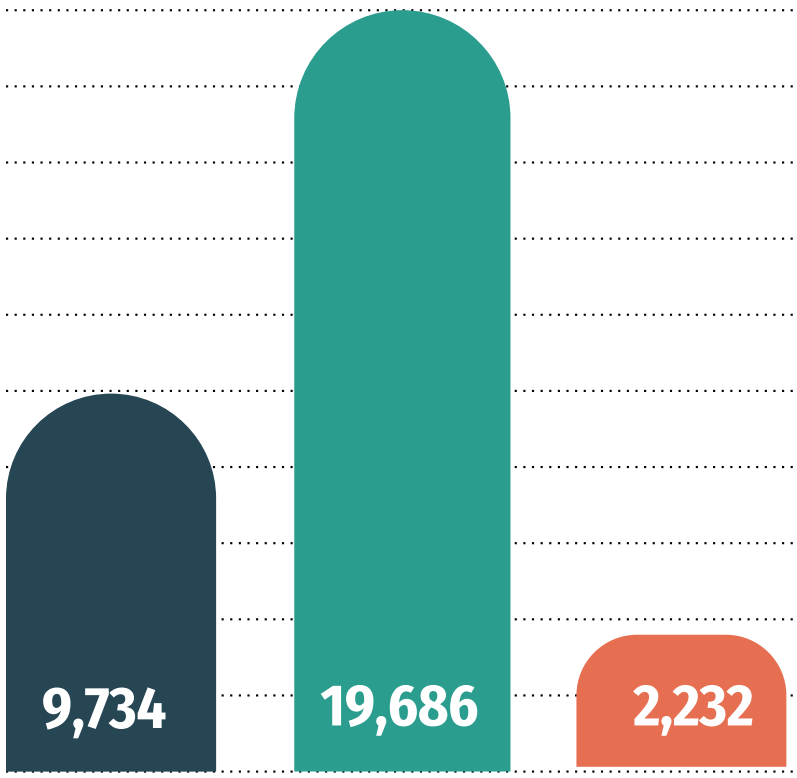


Source:

ECE Workforce

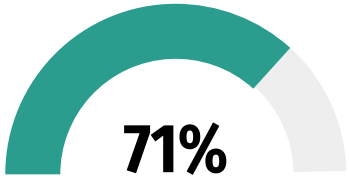
Estimated Size of Child Care Workforce in LA County

Family Child Care Educators	An estimated 9,734 early educators work in FCC homes
Educators in Centers	An estimated 19,686 early educators work in centers
Directors & Administrators	An estimated 2,232 directors and administrators
TOTAL	**31,651**

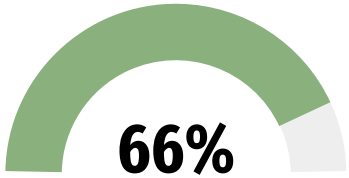


Note: Estimates based on statewide data from the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment CA ECE Workforce Study and applying the percentage of all CA licensed facilities in LA County from the CA R&R Network online Data Tool.

CA ECE Workforce Demographics



FCC owners are educators of color in CA

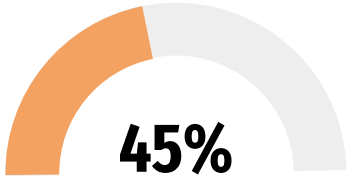


Center educators are people of color in CA

98%
Nearly all 98% of CA's ECE workforce are **women**

33%
Center **educators are over age 50**

FCC owners
Center Teachers
Directors



Center directors are people of color in CA

53%
Over half of center **directors are over age 50**

Source: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, CA ECE Workforce Study

Diversity of CA's ECE Workforce

42%

Family Child Care Providers

Born outside the United States

28%

Center-based Educators

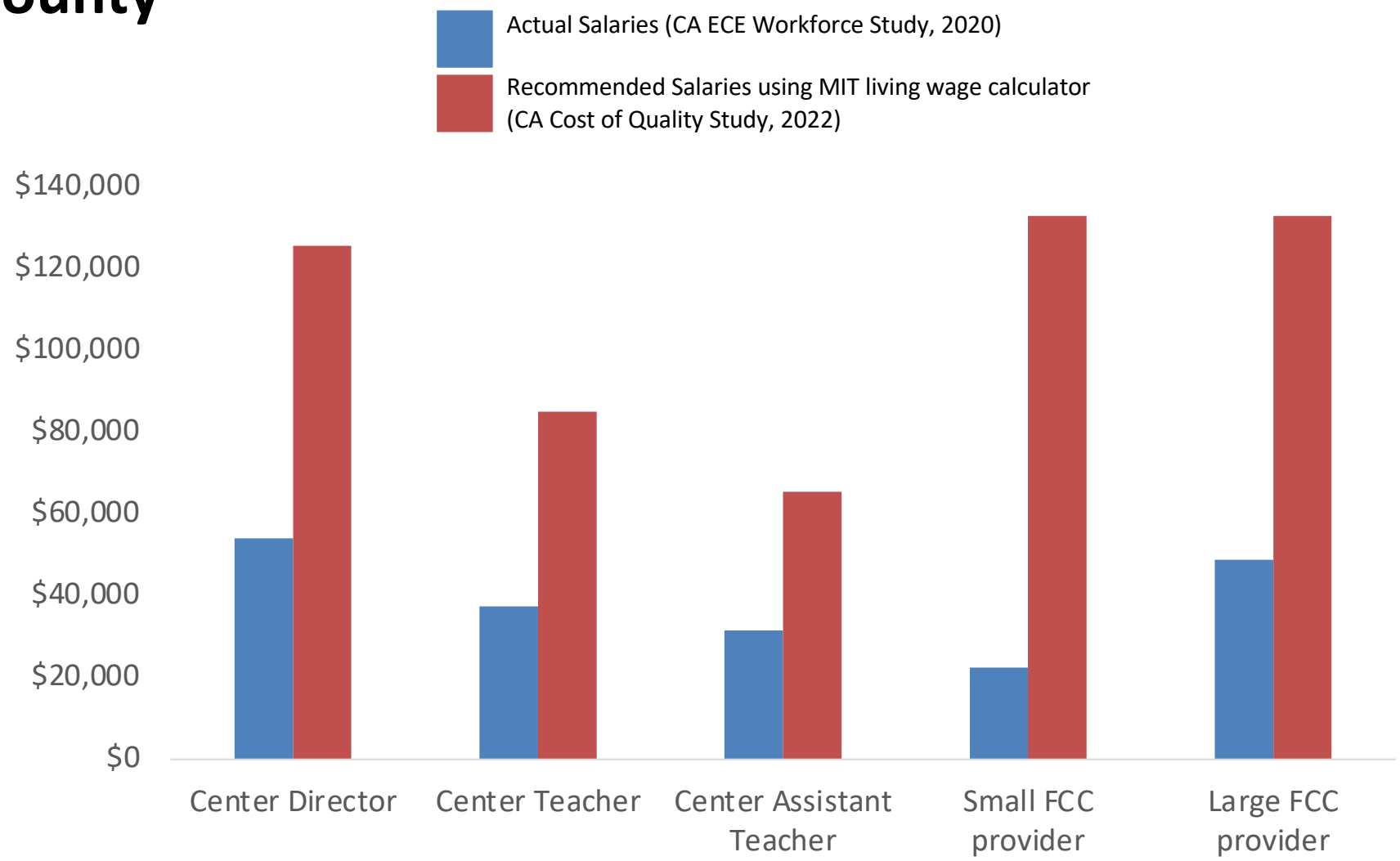
Born outside the United States

1/3

Early educators

Are multilingual, speaking 2 or more languages

Median annual full-time salaries, by position, LA County



Sources: Center for the Study of Child Care Employment (2020) CA ECE Workforce Study & Prenatal to 5 Fiscal Strategies (2022) Understanding the true cost of child care in California: Building a cost model to inform policy change

CA ECE Workforce Participation in Public Assistance

	FCC Provider	Center Teaching Staff	Center Director	California Average*
One or more	41.9%	31.6%	16.4%	‡
Medicaid (child)**	26.2%	29.2%	15.1%	25.3%
Medicaid (self)	18.1%	12.1%	3.8%	15.5%
WIC**	17.6%	17.6%	7.0%	16.2%
SNAP	9.1%	8.1%	2.8%	9.3%
Food pantry	8.1%	8.4%	3.7%	‡
Child care subsidy**	5.9%	5.5%	3.2%	‡
Housing subsidy	0.6%	1.0%	0.2%	3.2%
TANF**	0.5%	0.5%	0.1%	1.3%
Other	1.1%	2.0%	1.9%	‡

Source: Powell, A., Chávez, R., Austin, L.J.E., Montoya, E., Kim, Y., & Copeman Petig, A. (2022). *"The Forgotten Ones"—The Economic Well-Being of Early Educators During COVID-19.* Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, University of California, Berkeley. https://cscce.berkeley.edu/the-forgotten-ones- the-economic-well-being-of-early-educators-during-covid-19/. Diagram from page 12.

Professional Development Landscape

- WPLA Landscape Analysis June 2022
  - Major shift from in-person to virtual trainings between 2019 and 2020 and more trainings provided in 2020
  - Competency areas with the fewest trainings
    - Culture, Diversity & Equity
    - Administration and Supervision
    - Dual Language Development
    - Leadership in Early Childhood Education
    - Special Needs and Inclusion

Source: Workforce Pathways LA (June 2022) Learning from Today, Preparing for Tomorrow: An Early Care and Education Professional Development Landscape Analysis for Los Angeles County

Next Steps

Next steps

- Submit state report (December 2022)
- Develop recommendations (January-March 2023)
- Narrative report/brief (April 2023)
- Launch event (April 2023)

Discussion Questions

- What surprised you the most?
- What's missing that you would want to know?
- Do these data reflect your experience/what you know from your work?
- How can we best share the data moving forward? (e.g., reports, infographics)

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