



Final Report:

CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO PROFILE

San Mateo County

Child Care Needs Assessment 2022 and 2032:

Supply and Demand Summary

Prepared for

San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council,

San Mateo County Office of Education, and San Mateo County Superintendent of Schools



Prepared by

Brion Economics, Inc.

November 2022

CITY OF EAST PALO ALTO CHILD CARE SUMMARY

Brion Economics, Inc. prepared this summary report for the San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE), in partnership with the San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council, First 5 San Mateo County, and the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. This summary report is based on a countywide study of child care needs for children 0 to 12 years old and is one part of a larger, countywide study that identifies current and future child care needs by city, also known as supply and demand analysis.

DEMOGRAPHICS¹

East Palo Alto	2022	2032	Net Change	% Change
Total Population	30,793	32,601	1,808	5.9%
Total Employees	5,918	6,337	419	7.1%
Children Under 2 Years Old	1,076	1,074	(1)	-0.1%
Children 2 to 4 Years Old	1,476	1,475	(2)	-0.1%
Children 5 to 12 Years Old	3,472	3,539	67	1.9%
Total Children 0 to 12 Years Old	6,024	6,088	64	1.1%
Children 0 to 12 as % of Total Population	19.6%	18.7%		-0.9%

Note: 40% of 4-year-olds are shifted to School Age, or 5- to 12-year-olds at 2032 for Transitional Kindergarten.

CHILD CARE SUPPLY AND DEMAND AS OF 2022

- **Child Care Providers:** 45 total providers: 28 Family Child Care Homes (FCCH Spaces) and 17 Child Care Centers (Center Spaces) with a total of 2,648 spaces.
- **2022 and 2032 Estimated Supply of Child Care Spaces²**

2022 Supply in East Palo Alto				
Age Group	FCCH Spaces	Center Spaces	Total Spaces	% of Supply
Infants	75	-	75	3%
Preschool	150	666	816	31%
School Age	113	1,644	1,757	66%
Total Supply	338	2,310	2,648	100%
% of Supply	13%	87%	100%	

2032 Supply in East Palo Alto					Change 2022 to 2032	
Age Group	FCCH Spaces	Center Spaces	Total Spaces	% of Supply	Net Change	% Change
Infants	75	-	75	3%	-	0%
Preschool	150	690	840	31%	24	3%
School Age	113	1,644	1,757	66%	-	0%
Total Supply	338	2,334	2,672	100%	24	1%
% of Supply	13%	87%	100%			

¹ Population and employment data are from ABAG's *Projections 2040*, ELNAT, and ABAG's *Projections 2013*. Please note that totals in charts may be slightly off due to rounding.

² Infants include birth up to 2 years, Preschool includes 2 to 4-year-olds, and School Age includes 5 to 12-year-olds.

- **Planned Spaces:** In East Palo Alto, there is one new planned child care project with 24 Preschool spaces.
- **2022 Estimated Demand for Licensed Child Care Spaces:** Total need equals 3,029 spaces, including 2,932 spaces for residents and 97 spaces for non-resident employees working in East Palo Alto and commuting in from outside the County.

2022 Demand in East Palo Alto				
Age Group	Resident Demand	Employee Demand	Total Spaces Needed	% of Demand
Infants	400	39	439	14%
Preschool	904	58	962	32%
School Age	1,628	-	1,628	54%
Total Demand	2,932	97	3,029	100%
% of Demand	97%	3%	100%	

- **2032 Estimated Demand for Licensed Spaces and Net Change**

2032 Demand in East Palo Alto					Change 2022 to 2032	
Age Group	Resident Demand	Employee Demand	Total Spaces Needed	% of Demand	Net Change	% Change in Demand
Infants	376	41	417	12%	(21)	-5%
Preschool	884	62	947	28%	(15)	-2%
School Age	2,013	-	2,013	60%	385	24%
Total Demand	3,274	104	3,377	100%	348	12%
% of Demand	97%	3%	100%			

- **Estimated Shortage or Surplus of Child Care Spaces in 2022 and 2032**

Estimated Surplus or Shortage of Spaces by Year - East Palo Alto				
Age Group	Surplus (Shortage) - 2022	% of Demand Met - 2022	Surplus (Shortage) - 2032	% of Demand Met - 2032
Infants	(364)	17%	(342)	18%
Preschool	(146)	85%	(107)	89%
School Age	129	108%	(256)	87%
Total Surplus/(Shortage)	(380)	87%	(705)	79%

- **Subsidized Need and Spaces:**³ According to data from SMCOE and the California Department of Education, East Palo Alto has 47 Infant and 484 Preschool subsidized spaces. According to 2020 data for children 0 to 4 years old from ELNAT,⁴ East Palo Alto has 897 children ages 0 to 4 that qualify for subsidized care. This translates into 59% of the current need being met. There is an unmet need for 366 subsidized spaces for children 0 to 4 years old. East Palo Alto also has 405 School Age subsidized spaces (not shown below).

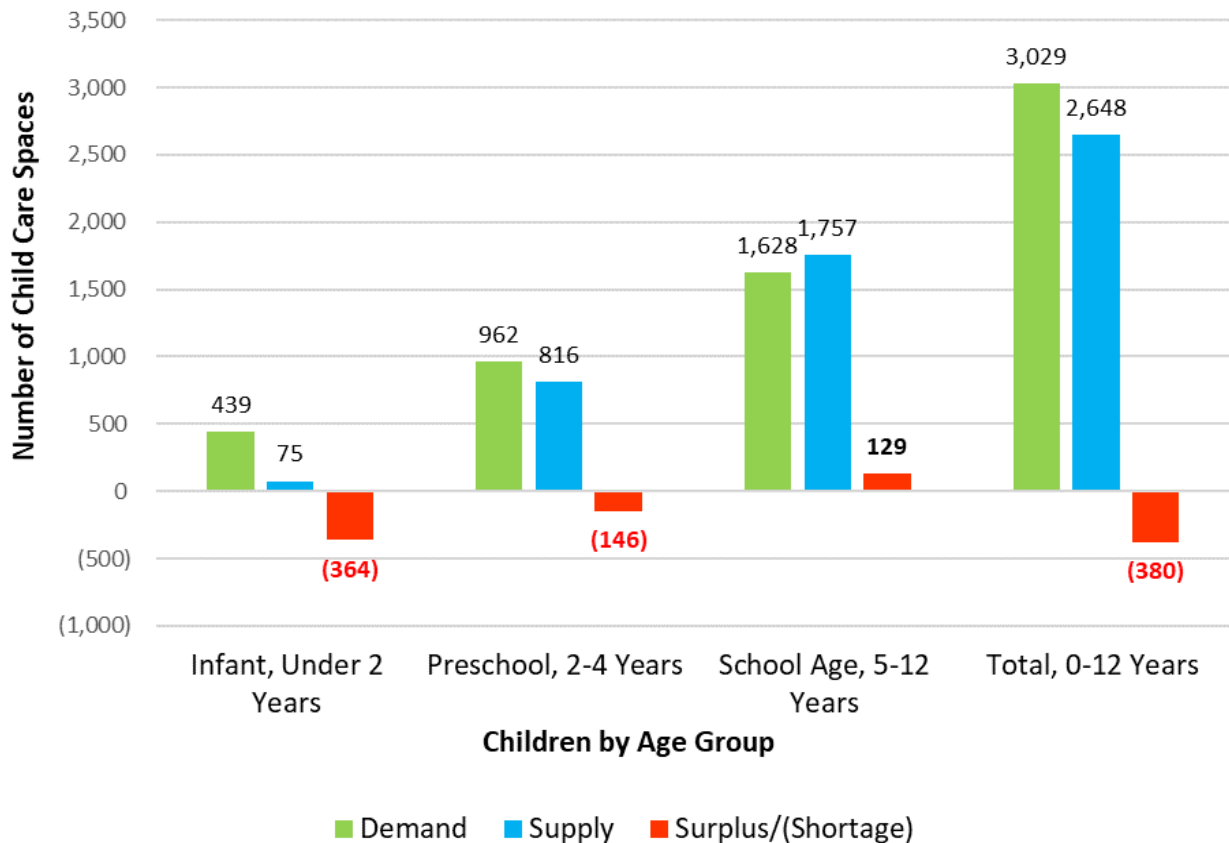
³ Includes State Preschool, General Child Care, ASES, Early Head Start, and Head Start, CalWORKs – Stage 2 and 3, and Alternative Payment programs. Age groups for subsidized care are Infants, birth to 2 years old, and Preschool, 3 and 4 years old.

⁴ Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool created by American Institutes for Research (AIR).

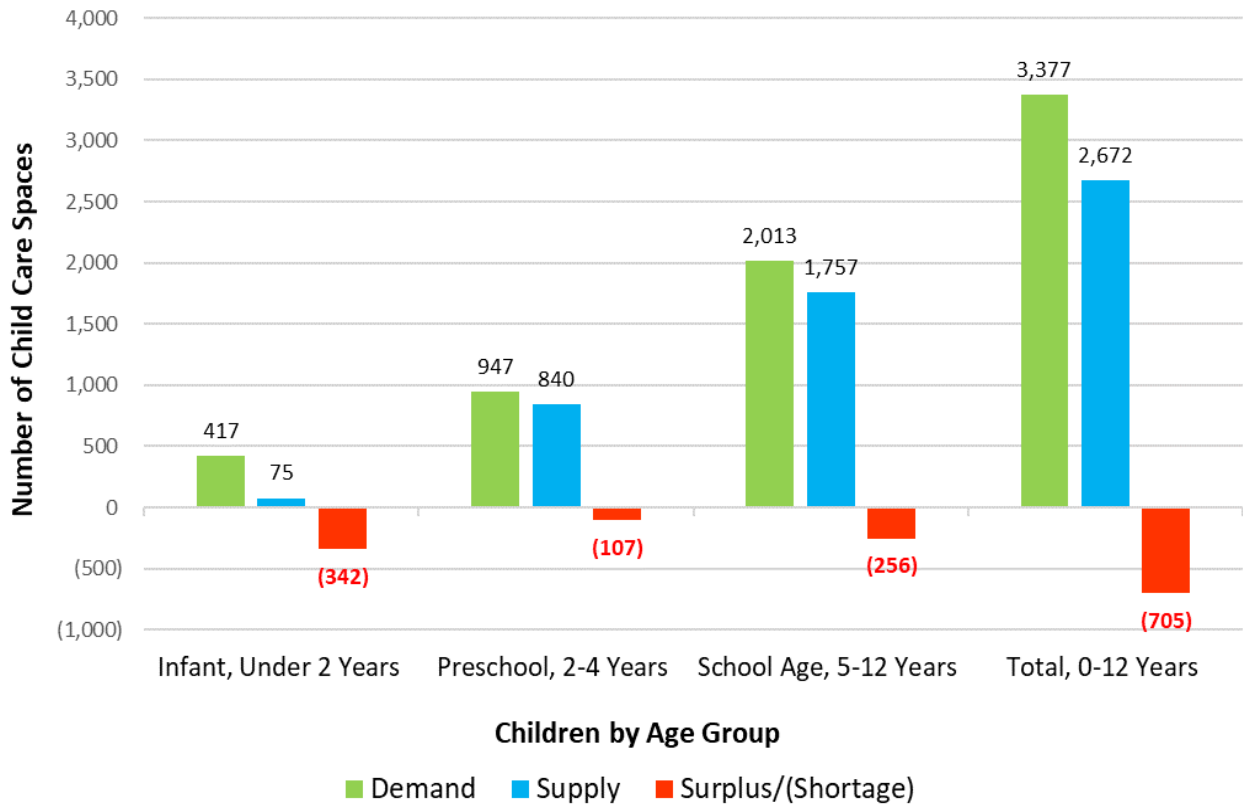
East Palo Alto - 2020 - Subsidized Care and Need			
Item	Infants 0-2 Years	Preschool 3-4 Years	Total 0-4 Years
Estimated Children	1,839	1,138	2,977
Eligible (Need) for Subsidized Spaces	520	377	897
Percent of Total Children	28%	33%	30%
No. of Subsidized Spaces	47	484	531
Unmet Need	(473)	107	(366)
Percent of Need Met	9%	128%	59%

Supply and Demand Summary by Year

Supply and Demand for Child Care in East Palo Alto - 2022



Supply and Demand for Child Care in East Palo Alto - 2032



METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

- **Resident Population:** Total population and children estimates are based on ABAG’s *Projections 2040* for 2022 and 2032. Population data from the Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool (ELNAT) is incorporated to estimate children by age for each City/Area and countywide.
- **Child Care Demand by Age Group:** The following factors are applied to estimates of total children by age group and year. These data are from the *2022 Parent Survey* (see Chapter 3 of the full Needs Assessment) prepared for this study.

Age Group	2022 Demand	2032 Demand	Difference
Infants - Under 2 Years	37.2%	35.0%	-2.2%
Preschool, 2-4 Years	61.2%	68.8%	7.7%
School Age, 5 or older	46.9%	54.0%	7.2%

- **Transitional Kindergarten (TK):** For 2032 estimates, 40% of 4-year-olds are assumed to utilize TK, increasing the need for School Age child care spaces, and decreasing the need for Preschool spaces. These 4-year-olds are included in the School Age category of children 5 to 12 years old for 2032.

- **Employee Demand:** Using the 2019 5-Year American Community Survey Journey-to-Work data, the number of employees that work in each City/Area and reside outside of San Mateo County is calculated. It is assumed that 3.0% of these non-resident employees commuting from outside the County require child care in the City/Area where they work. This total demand is split 40% for Infant spaces and 60% for Preschool spaces.⁵
- **Subsidies:** Subsidized space data and analysis is from a combination of sources including SMCOE 2022 survey results of direct state contracts, CalWORKs Stage 2 and 3, and Alternative Payment (AP) data from the California Department of Education, and CD-801A Monthly Report for October 2020,⁶ by family residence location. Note that the Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool (ELNAT) does not provide 2020 subsidized data for School age children. ELNAT data is by zip code and has to be combined and/or divided into the study's defined Cities/Areas.

STUDY ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND FUNDING

BEI would like to acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for their support in this effort:

- Sarah Kinahan, Project Manager, San Mateo County Child Care Partnership Council;
- Child Care Coordinating Council of San Mateo County (also known as 4Cs);
- San Mateo County Office of Education; and,
- Child Care Needs Assessment Ad Hoc Committee Members

Funding for this study was provided by:



⁵ It is assumed that School Age children of non-resident employees require child care near their school.

⁶ This is the most current data available.