

# Union City

## Child Care Industry

The City of Union City's child care industry provides a social and economic infrastructure that is critical to the City's overall economic vitality and quality of life. In 2001, the industry generated over \$10 million in revenue, while supporting approximately 493 local jobs. In addition to 283 people employed directly in child care homes and centers, an additional 210 jobs (in construction, retail, manufacturing, etc.) are supported by the existence of the local child care industry.<sup>1</sup> These jobs bolster the local tax base, while providing a necessary service that enables other Union City businesses to thrive. In addition, child care helps sustain the City's growing workforce by enabling parents to take new jobs, stay in existing jobs or training programs, or return to work after an absence.

### What You Can Do

Local governments and businesses can play a critical role in strengthening the infrastructure for high-quality child care in their communities. For example:

- **Contribute to the Alameda County Child Care Fund for child care facilities;**
- **Include child care in city and economic development planning efforts;**
- **Review and mitigate the impact of major new commercial and residential developments on child care.**

For more information, call 4 C's at (510) 584-3119 or the Alameda County Child Care Planning Council at (510) 208-9578 or (510) 208-9675, or visit [www.acgov.org/childcare/index.shtml](http://www.acgov.org/childcare/index.shtml)

## Demographics

Union City is a growing city

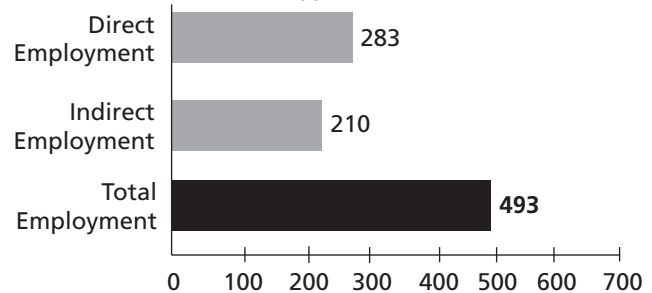
### Population<sup>4</sup>

Residents	66,869
Children under 14	14,410
Age breakdown:	
Infant (0-2)	13%
Preschool (2-5)	28%
School-Aged (6-13)	59%
Children as percent of total population	22%
Expected population change by 2010 <sup>5</sup>	15% (9,700 new residents)

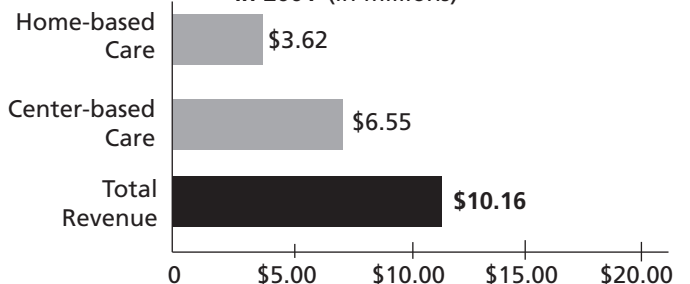
### Family Economics<sup>6</sup>

Median family income	\$74,910
Median home value	\$312,600
Median monthly rent	\$1,094
Poverty rate among children under 18	7%
Families with income less than \$35,000	16%
Children receiving public assistance <sup>7</sup>	1,810

Jobs Created by the Union City Child Care Industry in 2001<sup>2</sup>



Revenue Generated by the Union City Child Care Industry in 2001<sup>3</sup> (in millions)



1. Based on employment multiplier for child care developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Economic Analysis. 2,3. Based on data provided by 4 C's, calculations by Alameda County LINCC. 4. 2000 Census. 5. Projections 2000, Association of Bay Area Governments 6. 2000 Census. 7. Alameda County Social Services Agency (includes CalWORKs, MediCal, and Food Stamps).

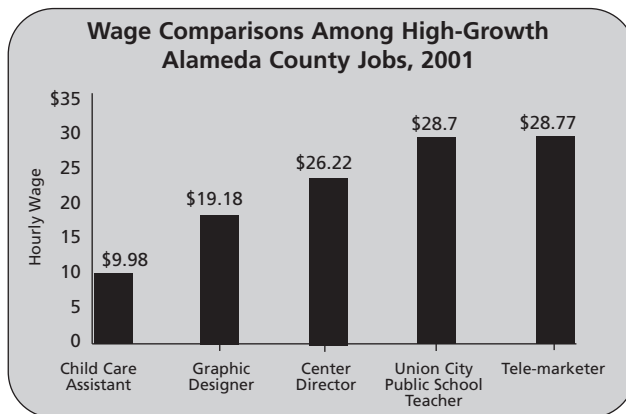
# Child Care Workforce

Child care workers are underpaid

## 2001 Average Annual Salaries<sup>1</sup>

- Child Care Assistant in South County ..... \$18,780
- Child Care Teacher in South County ..... \$30,260
- Child Care Director in South County ..... \$52,440

*Child care workers are more highly educated on average than workers in other industries, yet their salaries fail to reflect their level of education or responsibility.<sup>2</sup>*



This graph compares "high" child care wages in the southern region of the county to other Alameda County occupations. The latter are mid-level wages based on "some experience" and/or "new to the firm." (Occupational Outlook, 2001, www.calmis.cahwnet.gov).

Teacher salary information is from 2000-2001 California Department of Education Certified Teacher Salary Profile, average schedule salary paid (hourly wage calculated based on 40 hrs/wk, 52 wks/yr).

# Child Care Cost

Child care is a significant portion of family income

## Annual Child Care Costs in Alameda County

	Family Child Care Home	% of Median Income	Child Care Center	% of Median Income
Infant (under 2 years) <sup>3</sup>	\$7,349	10%	\$10,891	15%
Preschool (2-5 years) <sup>4</sup>	\$7,079	9%	\$7,843	10%
School-Age (6-13 years) <sup>5</sup>	\$5,218	7%	\$5,115	7%

These costs are for one child. The consensus among experts is that 10% of a family's household income is the most families can "afford."<sup>6</sup>

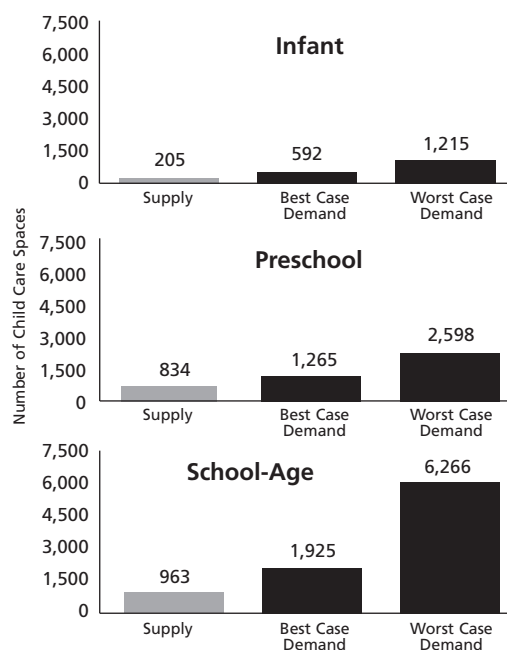
**In Alameda County, the cost to send a preschooler to full-time, center based care is nearly double the cost of tuition for two semesters at the University of California, Berkeley. For an infant, the annual cost of full-time, center based care is almost three times the cost of tuition.<sup>7</sup>**

# Child Care Capacity

Union City's demand exceeds supply

Demand for licensed child care in Union City is greater than supply. Union City has a total of 2,002 licensed child care slots, with shortages in all age groups.

- **Demand Estimates:** Determining the true demand for child care is difficult because it is often unclear whether parents' choices reflect their true preferences or result from location and cost constraints. Therefore, these charts illustrate the gaps in Union City's child care supply by age group using two methodologies:
  - **Best Case:** This conservative estimate calculates demand based upon statewide utilization patterns for different provider types and income levels.
  - **Worse Case:** This broad estimate assumes that all families in which both parents or a single-parent-head-of-household works would demand licensed care.
- **Supply:** This is the total number of licensed spaces in a child care center or family home that are regulated by the state, according to 4 C's, the local child care resource and referral agency.



1. Based on "high" salaries in South County for each position. A Profile of the Alameda County Child Care Workforce 1995-2001. 2. A Profile of the Alameda County Child Care Workforce 1995-2001. 3,4. Assumes full-time care for 12 months; California Child Care Resource and Referral Network Survey of Regional Mean Market Rates, 2001. 5. Assumes full-time care for 3 months (summer) and part-time care of 9 months (school year). 6,7. Alameda County Child Care Needs Assessment, 2002.