
SAN DIEGO COUNTY
CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT
LOCAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Child Care
Needs Assessment Report



The Child Care Needs Assessment Report was completed October 1, 2021 and was fully approved by the County Superintendent of Schools and County Board of Supervisors on January 25, 2022.

CALIFORNIA COUNTY LOCAL CHILD CARE PLANNING COUNCIL NEEDS ASSESSMENT – TEMPLATE – Completed October 1, 2021

1. Attach Reports

Please include the following reports from the California Early Learning Needs Assessments Reports (CELNAR). Attach reports in Excel or PDF format directly from the CELNAR webpage (<http://reports.elneedsassessment.org/LPCReports.aspx>).

- a. [CELNAR Table 1](#): Number of Children by Age
- b. [CELNAR Table 2](#): Percent of Children by Race/Ethnicity and Age
- c. [CELNAR Table 3](#): Regional Market Rate Ceilings Allowed for State Subsidy by Age and Type of Care
- d. [CELNAR Table 4](#): Unmet Need for State and Federally Subsidized Programs for Infants and Toddlers
- e. [CELNAR Table 5](#): Unmet Need for State and Federally Subsidized Programs for Preschool
- f. [Addendum](#): The San Diego County LPC has also included an Addendum with added data to further support the Child Care Plan recommendations.

2. Local Population Data

Please provide below any additional information or explanation related to the population figures from the CELNAR. Please cite the specific source of data. *This could include any information related to recent population increases or decreases in your county, or local data sources that you believe provide more accurate estimates about the child population in your county (please cite specific source) than 1a-e above.*

The Census Bureau data for San Diego County shows 39,102 babies born in 2019. Additional data was gathered from the [American Institutes for Research](#) (AIR) and UC Berkeley [California Child Welfare Indicators Project](#) (CCWIP). The 5-year average number for children 5 years and under, using CCWIP data from 2016 to 2020, is 84,893. Whereas the 2013 to 2018 5-year estimates available from AIR shows 41,687 children 5 and under. Due to significant difference in more recent data, LPC is reporting the UC Berkeley CCWIP data of 84,893 children 5 and under as the more accurate estimate of child population in the county.

3. Local Enrollment Data & 4. Waiting List

Please provide any additional information about enrollment in Early Learning and Care (ELC) programs not accounted for in 1a-e above (for example, locally funded preschool programs). Please cite the specific source of data. Please provide any information you have related to the estimated number of children on ELC program waiting lists, by age cohort. Please cite the specific source of data.

Enrollment and waiting list numbers are not available for San Diego County because each agency holds their own California Department of Education (CDE)/ California Department of Social Services (CDSS) contract and LPC does not have County-wide access to this data. Additionally, families place themselves on waiting lists for multiple programs. The County does not have a centralized data system to collect unduplicated families on the waiting lists. However, county-wide center-based and home-based capacity data is available from the San Diego County Child Care Supply Map, managed by our local Resource and Referral agency Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Childcare Resource Service (CRS).

<https://ymcasandiego.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=5591c17107934e268605e773e66491d2>

5. Language

Please provide the number of children in kindergarten in your county speaking each language. This is a proxy for the languages of children ages zero to five. Please pull this information from California Department of Education (CDE) Dataquest.

Language	Number of Children
Spanish	3,496
Tagalog	77
Mandarin	118
Cantonese	14
Vietnamese	124
Russian	52
Armenian	1
Arabic	203
Other: Chaldean	148
Other: Farsi	85
Other: Korean	66
All other non-English languages	81

6. Local Language Data

Please provide any additional local information you have related to the estimated number of children ages zero to five speaking different home languages. Please cite the specific source of data.

[Based on The Census Bureau, American Community Survey \(ACS\) 1-year Estimate, in 2019 the most common non-English language spoken in San Diego County was Spanish. The Census Bureau shows that in 2019 24% of the overall population of San Diego County spoke Spanish.](#)

7. Children Receiving Special Education Services

- How many children under three years of age (up to 36 months) in your county had an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) as of October of the most recent year?
Please cite the specific source of data.
Infants and toddlers with IFSPs: [4,347](#)
- How many children ages three to four (from 37 to 60 months) in your county had an Individualized Education Program (IEP) as of October of the most recent year? (Clearly specify source of data)
Preschoolers with IEPs: [5,936](#)

8. Children Under Protective Services (for example, foster children)

- How many children under three years of age in your county are under protective services supervision as of October of the most recent year? Please cite the specific source of data. Recommended data source: http://csr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/
Infants and toddlers under protective services: [696](#)
- How many children ages three and four in your county are under protective services supervision as of October of the most recent year? Please cite the specific source of data. Recommended data source: http://csr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/
Preschoolers under protective services: [379](#)

9. Number of Children in Working Families

Please pull these numbers from the Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool subscription website (www.elneedsassessment.org).

Age Group	Number of Children in Working Families
Infants (less than one year old)	24,109
One-Year-Olds	25,562
Two-Year-Olds	27,287
Three-Year-Olds	25,580
Four-Year-Olds	30,061

10. Families Receiving Public Assistance

Please indicate the number of children ages zero to five in families receiving public assistance (including CalFresh benefits, housing support, Medi-Cal, and assistance from the Healthy Families Program and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families [TANF] program).

Please cite the specific source of data.

Number of children: 73,905: Case-count of children ages 0-5 in active CalWORKs, CalFresh and Medi-Cal case – every child is in a home and every child is counted just once regardless of program and participation in multiple cases.

11. Median Family Income

Please indicate the median family income for a family of four. Please retrieve this data from <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/> (search for your county name to find its profile).

Median income: \$ 79,000.00

12. Migrant Children

Please indicate the number of children ages zero to five in migrant families. Please cite the specific source of data.

Number of migrant children: 120,446

13. Facilities

Please describe ELC facilities needs in your county and any progress made in the past five years towards meeting those needs (for example, has the county conducted a facilities Needs Assessment in the last two years? Are there any new facilities being built or that have been built in the last two years? Are there any sites that have expanded capacity due to facilities expansion?).

The ELC Facilities need in San Diego County includes funding to conduct a comprehensive ELC facilities assessment. Although data shows a great need for increasing ELC facilities at a systems level, San Diego County has not made progress towards meeting ELC facilities needs in the past five years. The LPC recognizes the need for ELC facilities and has included this topic within the Child Care Plan.

There is also a grassroots organization, the Children First Collective, that was developed within San Diego County, to advocate for fair child care options/practices (including supports for facilities). Additionally, San Diego Workforce Partnership, together with the San Diego Foundation, released a digital article outlining the struggle to find good childcare in the County, which includes data on the lack of facilities (<https://childcare.workforce.org>).

14. Requests for Care During Nontraditional Hours

Please give an estimate of the number of requests for care during nontraditional hours during the past six months. Clearly specify your source of data. (Suggested resource: Local child care resource & referral agency, Alternative Payment agencies)

Local Resource and Referral agency (YMCA CRS) reports 203 requests for care during non-traditional hours during the last 6 months (reported May 2021).

15. ELC Workforce and QCC

Please describe needs in your county related to workforce and site participation in Quality Counts California (QCC), and any progress towards meeting those needs. Be sure to include a summary of any findings from any Local Educational Agency (LEA) or provider focus groups or surveys conducted for this Needs Assessment here.

The San Diego County has identified a need for a structured process for all types of stakeholders to be given a platform to share information, provide feedback and give guidance to decisions that are being considered or are being made regarding Early Childhood Education. Through discussion and collaboration with stakeholders, the QCC Consortia will hold two meetings per year, taking into consideration linguistic needs, time of day and meeting format for ECE stakeholders that are interested in participating. These meetings will be held at centralized locations. There will be an established process for taking input for topics. We are currently reviewing the format of the meetings and are considering a Cafe or Community of Practice model.

16. Parent Needs and Concerns

Please provide information about parent needs and concerns regarding access to quality learning and care, needs for supports, family engagement, and transition to kindergarten. Please provide a description of findings from any focus groups or parent surveys conducted as a part of the Needs Assessment. Indicate how many parents participated and how parents were recruited for participation. Please provide some demographic information about the parents who participated and how well this reflects the demographics of your county. Please do *not* include any identifying information about parents.

Using the [Preschool Development Grant](#) (PDG) funding, focus groups were conducted across the county in the 19/20 fiscal year. Generally, parents did not feel supported in finding child care and filling out paperwork. They noted feelings of frustration and discouragement. Then, when a child care setting was found, they noted that there was not space for their child. Families found barriers such as cost, location, and quality. The families mentioned that children who do not attend preschool are at a disadvantage and they spoke about equity issues related to access. When conversing about the transition to Transitional Kindergarten (TK)/ Kindergarten (K), families mentioned an overwhelming feeling and the need for better connections between the preschool teacher and TK/K teacher. There was no knowledge of transition plans and families mentioned the need for stronger alignment. For more details, the Parent Focus Group Summary and Responses can be found here: https://sdcoe2-my.sharepoint.com/:b/g/person/dezerie_martinez_sdcoe_net/EX_NTJNHZjICgJkhyMfYTOWbViMiSOIY6K9IYyUJBPbYg?e=L5oKIP

17. Access

What is your county doing to ensure access to all geographic areas in your county, including remote areas? Please describe.

San Diego County, at a systems level, has not made progress towards ensuring access to ELC settings. The LPC recognizes the need for more ELC options and has included this topic within the Child Care Plan. There is also a grassroots organization, the Children First Collective, that was developed within San Diego County, to

advocate for equitable child care options/practices (including supports for access). Additionally, San Diego Workforce Partnership, together with the San Diego Foundation, released a digital article outlining the struggle to find good childcare in the County, which includes issues with access (<https://childcare.workforce.org>).

If you are a pilot county, please answer the following additional questions:

18. Requests for Care

Approximately how many requests in the past year have agencies in your county received for the following types of care? (Suggested resource: Local child care resource & referral agency, Alternative Payment agencies)

Type of Care	Number of Requests
Infant – Part Day	852
Infant – Full Day	2,338
Infant – Non-traditional Hours	182
Toddlers – Part Day	601
Toddlers – Full Day	1,460
Toddlers – Non-traditional Hours	178
Preschoolers – Part Day	633
Preschoolers – Full Day	1,776
Preschoolers – Non-traditional Hours	208.00

19. Self-sufficiency

What is the self-sufficiency income level for a family of two adults and two children in your county? Please find this figure at <https://insightccd.org/tools-metrics/self-sufficiency-standard-tool-for-california/>

Self-Sufficiency Income Level: \$ 118,000.00

20. Emergency Preparedness

In the wake of the current pandemic, and other current emergencies, what is your county doing to ensure that children and families have access to resources that support distance learning, health and safety? Please describe.

The San Diego County Child Care Disaster Council (CCDC) was re-established. CCDC is coordinated through the Office of Emergency Services (OES) and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) disaster response plan in collaboration with subject matter experts from local and supporting agencies. An LPC member and the LPC coordinator are members of this council. The purpose of the Council is to assess the child care needs and capacity during disaster responses, support the child care community in service continuity during a disaster, and advise the OES and EOC on recommended courses of action around child care. The council meets on a regular basis to plan the support of the various needs related to child care throughout the disaster cycle: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Currently, the Council is working toward providing guidance and support in response to the pandemic. CCDC members from the local LPC, R&R, and QCC agencies are working together to provide resources that support distance learning, health and safety. The CCDC has assessed the effects to the region’s child care infrastructure, assessed the current state of child care, and supported child care providers to continue operations under CDC guidelines pertaining to social distancing, and hygiene requirements, as well as guidance from the Federal Government, the CA Department of Education (CDE) and Community Care Licensing (CCL) to support a coordinated approach. First 5 San Diego holds bi-monthly sector meetings for child care providers. These sector meetings include information from Community Care Licensing, the San Diego County Office of Education, and County Health Officials. Directly after the sector meeting, the CCDC meets.

**CELNAR Table 1:
Number of Children by Age**

Number of children	0-11 Months	12-23 Months	24-35 Months	3-year-olds	4-year-olds	Total
Five-year estimates from American Community Survey	41188	41582	43397	40477	46299	212943

AIR analysis of American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) data, five-year estimates

**CELNAR Table 2:
Percent of Children by Race/Ethnicity and Age**

Race/Ethnicity	Age	Sum	Percent
White	4 year olds	15982	34.52%
Two or more races	4 year olds	2739	5.92%
Other Race/Ethnicity	4 year olds	229	0.49%
Hispanic	4 year olds	21075	45.52%
Filipino	4 year olds	1341	2.90%
Black or African American	4 year olds	1654	3.57%
Asian	4 year olds	3007	6.49%
American Indian	4 year olds	272	0.59%
White	3 year olds	13035	32.20%
Two or more races	3 year olds	2364	5.84%
Other Race/Ethnicity	3 year olds	253	0.63%
Hispanic	3 year olds	18747	46.32%
Filipino	3 year olds	1444	3.57%
Black or African American	3 year olds	1674	4.14%
Asian	3 year olds	2801	6.92%
American Indian	3 year olds	159	0.39%
White	24-35 Months	14140	32.58%
Two or more races	24-35 Months	2417	5.57%
Other Race/Ethnicity	24-35 Months	367	0.85%
Hispanic	24-35 Months	20321	46.83%
Filipino	24-35 Months	1174	2.71%
Black or African American	24-35 Months	2329	5.37%
Asian	24-35 Months	2461	5.67%
American Indian	24-35 Months	188	0.43%
White	12-23 Months	13722	33.00%
Two or more races	12-23 Months	2686	6.46%
Other Race/Ethnicity	12-23 Months	397	0.95%
Hispanic	12-23 Months	19665	47.29%
Filipino	12-23 Months	981	2.36%
Black or African American	12-23 Months	2032	4.89%
Asian	12-23 Months	2009	4.83%
American Indian	12-23 Months	90	0.22%
White	0-11 Months	14963	36.33%

Race/Ethnicity	Age	Sum	Percent
Two or more races	0-11 Months	3263	7.92%
Other Race/Ethnicity	0-11 Months	222	0.54%
Hispanic	0-11 Months	17336	42.09%
Filipino	0-11 Months	1094	2.66%
Black or African American	0-11 Months	1612	3.91%
Asian	0-11 Months	2524	6.13%
American Indian	0-11 Months	174	0.42%

CELNAR Table 3:

Regional Market Rate Ceilings Allowed for State Subsidy by Age and Type of Care

RMR	Measure Names	Measure Values
FCCH weekly regional market part-time maximum reimbursement rate	Age 2-5	160.53
FCCH weekly regional market full-time maximum reimbursement rate	Age 2-5	200.5
Center weekly regional market part-time maximum reimbursement rate	Age 2-5	229.25
Center weekly regional market full-time maximum reimbursement rate	Age 2-5	301.89
FCCH weekly regional market part-time maximum reimbursement rate	Birth to 24 Months	162.1
FCCH weekly regional market full-time maximum reimbursement rate	Birth to 24 Months	219.34
Center weekly regional market part-time maximum reimbursement rate	Birth to 24 Months	268.03
Center weekly regional market full-time maximum reimbursement rate	Birth to 24 Months	363.1

CELNAR Table 4:

Unmet Need for State and Federally Subsidized Programs for Infants and Toddlers

		0-11 Months	12-23 Months	24-35 Months	Total
Number of children	Total children	41,188	41,582	43,397	126,167
	Income-eligible and qualifying need for care (eligibility)	13,718	14,711	15,383	43,812
	Percentage of children income-eligible and qualifying need for care (eligibility)	33%	35%	35%	35%
Number of children enrolled by program type	Alternative payment	32	89	131	252
	CalWORKs stage 1	178	178	264	620
	CalWORKs stage 2	212	429	579	1,220
	CalWORKs stage 3	61	94	126	281
	Head Start (2016-17)	129	233	513	875
	Received Head Start funding only (2016-2017)	88	158	349	595
	Title 5 center-based	42	146	408	596
	Title 5 family child care home network	49	105	140	294
	Title 5 migrant child care program	0	1	10	11
	Title 5 state preschool program	0	0	0	0
Total enrollment in publicly subsidized programs	662	1,200	2,007	3,869	
Unmet need-based on children eligible for	Unmet need in publicly subsidized programs	13,056	13,511	13,376	39,943

subsidized care (income-eligible and need for care)	Percentage unmet need in publicly subsidized programs	95%	92%	87%	91%
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**CELNAR Table 5:
Unmet Need for State and Federally Subsidized Programs for Preschool**

		3-year-olds	4-year-olds	Total
Number of children	Total children	40,477	46,299	86,776
	Income-eligible for subsidized early learning and care (85% SMI)	25,697	28,329	54,026
	Percentage of children income-eligible for subsidized early learning and care (85% SMI)	64%	62%	63%
Number of children enrolled by program type	Alternative payment	146	124	270
	CalWORKs stage 1	264	264	528
	CalWORKs stage 2	613	600	1,213
	CalWORKs stage 3	187	241	428
	Estimated TK students income - eligible for title 5	0	4,423	4,423
	Head Start (2016-17)	2,791	3,859	6,650
	Received Head Start funding only (2016-2017)	1,898	2,624	4,522
	Title 5 center-based	49	10	59
	Title 5 family child care home network	16	21	37
	Title 5 migrant child care program	13	20	33
	Title 5 state preschool program	3,479	6,876	10,355
	Total enrollment in publicly subsidized programs	6,665	15,203	21,868
Transitional kindergarten (2017-18)	7,228	7,228		
Unmet need-based on all income-eligible	Unmet need in publicly subsidized programs	19,032	13,126	32,158
	Percentage unmet need in publicly subsidized programs	75%	47%	60%

San Diego County

Addendum:

Available Child Care

There is a 205,569 gap between available child care slots and children in working families. American Institutes for Research (AIR) Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool (ELNAT) data shows that San Diego County has an estimated 348,974 number of children in working families, and the YMCA Child Care Supply Map shows 143,405 child care slots.

San Diego County Child Care Supply			
Age of Children	Children in Working Families	Center-based Slots	Family Child Care Slots
Infant/Toddler	76,958	6,155	29,941
Preschool	55,641	54,794	
School Aged	216,375	52,515	

Data Source: 2018 five-year estimates from American Community Survey analyzed by AIR; YMCA CRS [San Diego County Child Care Supply Map](#)

Infant and Toddler Care + Family Child Care

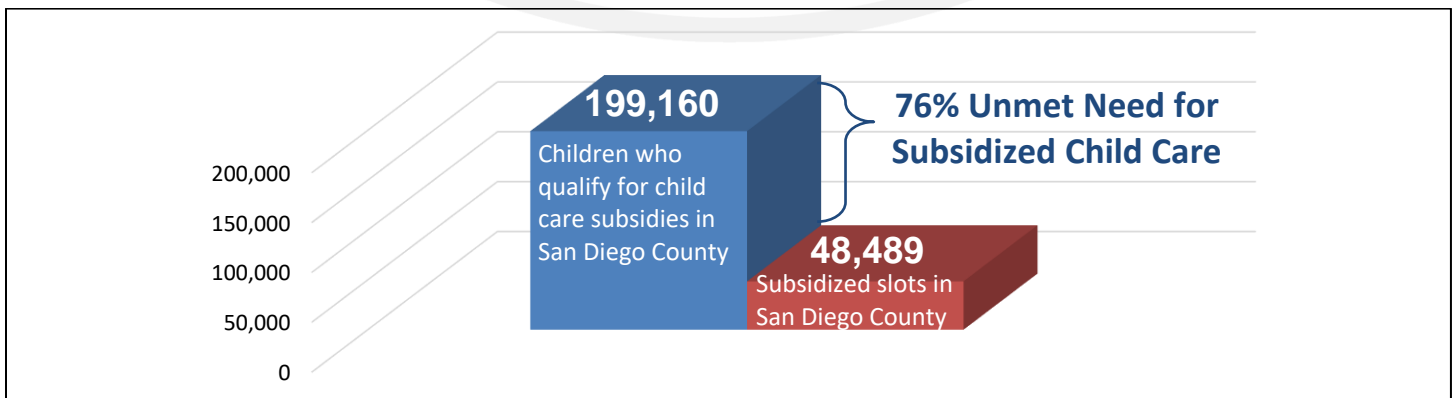
California Early Learning Needs Assessment Report (CELNAR) shows that infant/toddler subsidized care has an unmet need of 91%. Under 20% of licensed child care centers offer infant/toddler care which can be seen in the San Diego County Child Care Supply Map. Many infants and toddlers in San Diego County are cared for in Family Child Care (FCC) home settings. However, the number of FCC providers is decreasing. The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) Community Care Licensing (CCL) department Child Care Home Data-Report shows that over 400 San Diego County FCC licensed providers hold a status of closed or inactive; 131 San Diego County FCC homes closed between 2020 and 2021.

Family Child Care Facilities			
Year	Opened	Closed	Growth
2017	72	84	-12
2018	62	90	-28
2019	74	89	-15
2020	72	94	-22
2021*	20*	37*	-17
5-year Total	300	394	-94

* Facilities numbers from 2021 include data from January to June.
 Data Source: CDSS, Community Care Licensing – Child Care Home Data Downloads from <http://www.ccl.dss.ca.gov/carefacilitysearch/downloaddata>

Unmet Child Care Needs

Child care is the highest household expense and there is a 76% unmet need for subsidized child care. The Insight Center’s Family Needs Calculated estimates that child care costs between \$1,300 to \$1,600 a month for a child under five years of age, in San Diego County. A family of four must make over \$118,000 annually to be [self-sufficient in our county](#). However, the annual median household income is \$79,000 according to data from The Census Bureau, ACS 5-year Estimate report.



Paying Early Educators Living Wages

With such great need, some may wonder why our field cannot pay their educators a living wage. State subsidized early care and education, such as the California State Preschool Program (CSPP), does not provide enough funding to pay an early educator a living wage with benefits. As an example of this challenge, the table below shows a typical center based ELC program structure. CSPP funding was distributed by classroom – using child days of enrollment with the Standard Reimbursement Rate of \$48.28 for 64 children at 180 days of operation. The maximum number of children per classroom allowed under CSPP requirements is 24 and the adult to child ratio is 1:8.

Using the [California Self Sufficiency Standard for San Diego County](#), see table A below, an hourly wage of \$27.97 was used. This is in alignment with the self-sufficiency needs of a family of four with two young children – for an annual salary of \$40,276.80. Using the [US Bureau of Labor Statistics for San Diego County](#), see table B below, to price annual benefits costs, an added \$18,259.20 is needed per staff annually for benefits – coming to \$58,536.00 per staff for 8 hours a day for 180 days per year. For a site leader, with an hourly wage of \$30, the annual salary plus benefits would be \$61,459.20.

Program Structure	Children and Staff per Classroom/Center	Annual Max Reimbursement Rate per Classroom/Center	Annual Price of Adult Salary + Benefits per Classroom/Center
ELC Center	1 Site Leader	\$0.00	\$61,459.20
Room A	24 children and 3 staff	\$208,569.60	\$175,608.00
Room B	24 children and 3 staff	\$208,569.60	\$175,608.00
Room C	16 children and 2 staff	\$139,046.60	\$117,072.00
TOTAL	64 children and 9 staff	\$556,184.60	\$529,747.20

The amount left for other annual programmatic costs including rent, utilities, insurance, maintenance, learning materials, and more is \$26,437.40.

Using this scenario, the ELC CSPP center has a not to exceed budget of \$556,184.60, with annual staff costs of \$529,747.20. This leaves \$26,437.40 for the remaining annual price of running a preschool. Other costs in running a preschool include but are not limited to rent, insurance, utilities, learning materials, maintenance, and more.

Table 37: San Diego County	1 Adult	1 Adult with 1 Child under 3	2 Adults with 2 Children under 3
Monthly Costs			
Housing (Rent + Utilities)	\$1,642	\$2,124	\$2,124
Child Care	\$0	\$1,618	\$3,237
Food	\$301	\$447	\$833
Transportation	\$326	\$335	\$641
Health Care	\$155	\$526	\$596
Miscellaneous	\$242	\$505	\$743
Taxes	\$576	\$1,310	\$2,107
Earned Income Tax Credit (-)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Child Care Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$50)	(\$100)
Child Tax Credit (-)	\$0	(\$167)	(\$333)
Self-Sufficiency Wage			
Hourly	\$18.43	\$37.78	\$27.97
Monthly	\$3,243	\$6,649	\$9,847
Annual	\$38,919	\$79,792	\$118,164

Table B: The US Bureau of Labor Statistics – San Diego County		
Type of Benefit	Cost of Benefit per Hour	
Paid Leave	\$3.35	
Supplemental Pay	\$1.28	
Insurance	\$3.23	
Retirement and Savings	\$1.41	
Legally Required Benefits	\$3.41	
Total Cost of Benefits	\$12.68 per hour	
https://www.bls.gov/regions/southwest/news-release/employercostsforemployeecompensation_regions.htm		

