

California Department of Education

Report to the Governor, Legislature, and the Legislative Analyst's Office: Status Report on the Implementation of County Centralized Eligibility Lists



Prepared by:

**Child Development Division
Curriculum, Learning, and Accountability Branch**

November 2011

Description: Status Report on the Implementation of County Centralized Eligibility Lists

Authority: 2010 Budget Act (Item 6110-196-0001, Provision 11, Chapter 712, Statutes of 2010)

Recipient: Governor, Legislature, and the Legislative Analyst's Office

Due Date: November 1, 2011

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Report on the Implementation of County Centralized Eligibility Lists**

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Executive Summary

The 2011 Budget Act (Senate Bill 87, Chapter 33) eliminated funding for the implementation of county Centralized Eligibility Lists (CELs). State-funded CELs ceased to exist as of July 1, 2011, except in a few counties that elected to continue operating a CEL on a voluntary basis.

This report is required by Item 6110-196-0001 of the 2010 Budget Act (Provision 11, Chapter 712, Statutes of 2010). Pursuant to the Budget Act, this report provides an update on the implementation of state-funded CELs, data on the number of children and families waiting for subsidized child care and development services in each county as of March 31, 2011, and county expenditure data.

The 2011 report shows there were:

- 135,744 families waiting for subsidized child care and development services.
- 193,140 children waiting for subsidized child care and development services.

Of the families waiting:

- 103,800 (76 percent) reported they needed subsidized care because they were working.
- 38,364 (28 percent) families reported they were actively seeking employment.

Of the children waiting:

- 122,388 (63 percent) were between the ages of zero to five.
- 134,697 (70 percent) needed full-time care.

You can find this report on the California Department of Education Centralized Eligibility List Legislative Reports Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/celreports.asp>. If you have a question or need a copy of this report, please contact Marguerite Ries, Education Administrator, Early Education and Support Division, by phone at 916-445-7349 or by e-mail at mries@cde.ca.gov.

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Purpose

Pursuant to the 2010 Budget Act (Item 6110-196-0001, Provision 11, Chapter 712, Statutes of 2010), the California Department of Education (CDE) is submitting the following report on the implementation of the Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) in each county. This report includes, but is not limited to, the cost of implementation and operation and the number of children and families on the list for each county.

Centralized Eligibility List Implementation

Each county designed, maintained, and administered a state-funded CEL in accordance with California *Education Code (EC)* Section 8277 and the provisions of each year's budget act from 2005 until June 30, 2011.

County CELs:

- Enabled families to apply to one list that would be used by child care and development contractors seeking to fill program vacancies; and
- Provided the state with current data on the number of children and families waiting for subsidized child care and development services.

The 2011 Budget Act (Senate Bill 87, Chapter 33, Statutes of 2011) eliminated funding for the implementation of CELs. As a result of the loss of state funding:

- The CDE did not issue CEL contracts for fiscal year (FY) 2011–12.
- Agencies administering a CEL contract for FY 2010–11 were instructed to terminate the state-required CEL. Instructions included notifying all waiting families of the elimination of state funding and about the new process for accessing services.
- Child Development Division (CDD) contractors previously required to use the CEL pursuant to *EC* Section 8227(e) were informed that due to a lack of state funding, they were no longer required to use the CEL. These contractors are now required to adhere to Section 18106(e) of the *California Code of Regulations*, Title 5, which states:

Contractors shall maintain a current waiting list in accordance with admission priorities. Contractors may satisfy the requirement for

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maintaining a waiting list by participating in a county child care centralized eligibility list. Contractors shall contact applicants in order of priority from the waiting list as vacancies occur.

As a result of the loss of state funding, 16 of the 58 counties in California informed the CDE that they had secured local funding to continue to administer a local CEL (now referred to as "local child care waiting list") on a voluntary basis for those contractors that elected to participate.

Centralized Eligibility List Data

In accordance with *EC* Section 8227(d), each county collected and reported CEL data to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction prior to closing out their contract. Last year's legislative report included data reported on June 30, 2010. Due to the elimination of funding, the 2011 report reflects data reported on March 31, 2011, and only includes actively waiting children and families who are income eligible for subsidized child care and development services pursuant to *EC* Section 8263.1, unless otherwise noted.

Number of Families and Children Waiting on Centralized Eligibility Lists

The CEL data indicates there were 193,140 children and 135,744 families waiting on the CEL on March 31, 2011.

Significance of Centralized Eligibility List Data

The data displayed in this report underscore the continued need for subsidized child care and development services. Recent research on the economic impacts of Early Care and Education (ECE) in California conducted by the University of California, Berkeley Labor Center shows that the ECE industry not only benefits those children who receive services, but also the economy as a whole. According to the *Economic Impacts of Early Care and Education in California* report:¹

As part of California's infrastructure for economic development, it is important to maintain the ECE system even during periods of recession

¹ University of California, Berkeley, Center for Labor Research and Education. 2011. *Economic Impacts of Early Care and Education in California*. http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/research/child_care_report0811.pdf (accessed August 19, 2011; PDF; Outside Source).

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and high unemployment. As explained by Mildred Warner, PhD, of the "Linking Economic Development and Child Care Research Project" at Cornell University, if the system atrophies during times of economic contraction, there will be a child care shortage during the recovery that will impede the workforce mobilization and productivity of many parents and hinder new economic growth (2009).

County-Specific Centralized Eligibility List Data

To access data on the number of families and children waiting on a specific county CEL as of March 31, 2011, please see Appendices B and E of this report.

Characteristics of Families Waiting on Centralized Eligibility Lists

The chart below lists the reasons families gave for seeking care. Of the 135,744 families actively waiting for care, the reported reasons for seeking subsidized child care services are as follows:

Reason for Seeking Care	Number of Active Families	Percent
Working	103,800	76%
Actively seeking employment	38,364	28%
Looking for part-day educational preschool program	35,767	26%
Education or training	23,322	17%
Incapacitated	3,460	3%
Seeking permanent housing	2,268	2%
Child protective services	780	1%

Note: Families could have indicated more than one reason for seeking care; therefore, percentages listed do not add up to 100 percent. See Appendix B for specific county information.

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Characteristics of Children Waiting on Centralized Eligibility Lists

Of the 193,140 children actively waiting on the CELs, the age groups of children were as follows:

Age Group	Number of Active Children	Percent
Zero to three years of age	58,492	30%
Three to five years of age	63,896	33%
Five years of age or older	70,752	37%
Note: Age was calculated as of March 31, 2011. See Appendix D for specific information.		

A total of 122,388 (63 percent) of children waiting for subsidized child care and development services were between the ages of zero to five.

Of the 193,140 children waiting, the reported time base for care is as follows:

Time Base Needed	Number of Active Children	Percent
Full-time care	134,697	70%
Part-time care	93,934	49%
Evening care	9,437	5%
Weekend care	6,624	3%
Note: Families could have indicated more than one time base for needing care; therefore, percentages listed do not add up to 100 percent. See Appendix E for specific information.		

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Of the 193,140 children waiting for services, the reported number of children with exceptional needs and the number of children in foster care or in the care of an adult who is neither their biological nor adoptive parent is as follows:

Characteristics	Number of Active Children	Percent
Exceptional needs with either an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or an Individualized Educational Program (IEP)	3,436	2%
Foster children or children in the care of an adult who is neither their biological nor adoptive parent	3,383	2%

Note: See Appendix E for specific information.

Inactive Data Records

In addition to showing that 193,140 children were actively waiting on the CELs as of March 31, 2011, data also indicate that 69,549 child data records were inactivated between January 1, 2011, and March 31, 2011. Of the inactivated data records:

- 9,918 (14 percent) were inactivated because they were enrolled in subsidized care.
- 59,631 (86 percent) were inactivated because they could not be reached (e.g., contact information had changed, and the family did not report updated contact information), they no longer needed care, or their information was no longer valid.

See Appendix F for specific information.

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Funding

The 2010 Budget Act allocated \$7.9 million for the statewide implementation of the CELs in FY 2010–11.

The 2011 Budget Act (Senate Bill 87, Chapter 33) eliminated funding for the CELs.

Cost of Implementation/Operation

CEL contractors were required to submit fiscal reports to the CDE Fiscal and Administrative Services Division (FASD). Based on these unaudited amounts as of September 30, 2011, a total of \$7,332,264 was reported in expenditures for FY 2010–11. This amount may change as a result of completed audits. Local educational agencies (LEAs) who administered a CEL contract in FY 2010–11 may submit a revised expenditure report to FASD following the audit if necessary. Audits are due on December 15, 2011 (*EC* Section 41020), and revised expenditure reports are due by February 13, 2012. See Appendix A in this report for expenditure data.

Please see Appendix A for more information.

Report Availability

You can find this report on the CDE Centralized Eligibility List Legislative Reports Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/celreports.asp>. If you need a copy of this report, please contact Marguerite Ries, Education Administrator, Early Education and Support Division, by phone at 916-445-7349 or by e-mail at mrries@cde.ca.gov.

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Appendix A	
Centralized Eligibility List Expenditures for 2010–11*	
County	Expenditures
Alameda	\$324,295
Alpine	\$2,626
Amador	\$8,544
Butte	\$67,883
Calaveras	\$11,782
Colusa	\$24,182
Contra Costa	\$192,814
Del Norte	\$10,009
El Dorado	\$45,142
Fresno	\$342,729
Glenn	\$21,266
Humboldt	\$45,281
Imperial	\$90,439
Inyo	\$7,538
Kern	\$349,757
Kings	\$63,216
Lake	\$30,357
Lassen	\$7,860
Los Angeles	\$509,268
Madera	\$71,869
Marin	\$43,550
Mariposa	\$6,438
Mendocino	\$35,385
Merced	\$114,567
Modoc	\$4,694
Mono	\$7,826
Monterey	\$161,729
Napa	\$41,995
Nevada	\$36,174
Orange	\$499,999
Placer	\$54,605
Plumas	\$6,996
(Continued on next page)	

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Appendix A (Continued)	
Centralized Eligibility List Expenditures for 2010–11*	
County	Expenditures
Riverside	\$223,982
Sacramento	\$375,893
San Benito	\$28,000
San Bernardino	\$454,625
San Diego	\$386,734
San Francisco	\$197,242
San Joaquin	\$281,855
San Luis Obispo	\$73,016
San Mateo	\$154,977
Santa Barbara	\$156,986
Santa Clara	\$426,603
Santa Cruz	\$82,262
Shasta	\$72,300
Sierra	\$3,162
Siskiyou	\$13,259
Solano	\$95,970
Sonoma	\$152,067
Stanislaus	\$184,949
Sutter	\$52,730
Tehama	\$25,016
Trinity	\$7,138
Tulare	\$257,302
Tuolumne	\$11,940
Ventura	\$290,153
Yolo	\$52,889
Yuba	\$30,399
Total	\$7,332,264

*Source: Fiscal reports submitted to FASD. Unaudited amounts as of September 30, 2011.

Note: The expenditure amounts listed above may change as a result of completed audits. LEAs administering a CEL contract in FY 2010–11 may submit a revised expenditure report to FASD following the audit if necessary. Audits for LEAs are due by December 15, 2011, and revised expenditure reports are due by February 13, 2012.

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Appendix B
Families Waiting and Reasons for Needing Care
Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) Data for Quarter 1, 2011 (January 1, 2011 - March 31, 2011)

County	Family Count	Reason Categories						
		Child Protective Services	Working	Education or Training	Seeking Employment	Incapacitated	Seeking Housing	Part-Day Preschool
Alameda	4,714	10	3,391	1,051	1,467	147	46	992
Alpine	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Amador	108	0	82	12	36	5	4	66
Butte	919	9	680	220	253	28	6	129
Calaveras	32	0	27	4	7	0	0	7
Colusa	106	2	96	7	37	4	0	96
Contra Costa	2,314	4	1,760	335	821	85	37	1,371
Del Norte	78	0	45	11	9	1	1	53
El Dorado	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Fresno	1,761	30	1,410	329	468	93	11	167
Glenn	332	3	257	48	68	10	3	195
Humboldt	10	0	6	2	3	3	0	3
Imperial	950	0	773	134	99	14	8	352
Inyo	12	0	9	4	2	0	0	0
Kern	2,717	1	1,936	591	604	46	7	466
Kings	864	3	660	159	227	12	11	419
Lake	123	4	95	26	35	2	0	6
Lassen	107	0	99	22	20	0	0	0
Los Angeles	20,593	146	16,772	3,804	4,269	541	290	3,300
Madera	846	1	638	157	224	14	5	93
Marin	751	20	634	70	314	14	11	525
Mariposa	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
Mendocino	169	0	144	30	27	5	0	13
Merced	1,200	0	913	242	464	85	30	794
Modoc	21	0	19	2	0	0	0	5
Mono	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Monterey	805	1	650	88	213	13	13	71
Napa	713	20	619	116	217	20	45	6
Nevada	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orange	10,635	120	8,865	1,760	3,349	111	47	2,248
Placer	476	1	311	106	88	2	12	128
Plumas	5	0	4	2	0	0	0	0
Riverside	13,187	15	9,129	1,617	4,424	208	115	3,188
Sacramento	3,601	23	2,545	917	1,186	128	30	1,599
San Benito	474	16	368	61	179	8	13	166
San Bernardino	10,517	42	7,882	1,624	1,802	158	191	4,139
San Diego	6,760	45	4,595	1,455	2,050	106	730	2,478
San Francisco	3,667	36	2,785	973	1,559	167	191	249
San Joaquin	5,420	44	3,633	1,080	1,587	160	50	2,739
San Luis Obispo	450	7	408	70	107	4	1	10
San Mateo	5,456	7	4,413	457	1,373	106	53	928
Santa Barbara	1,546	23	1,277	262	439	75	29	343
Santa Clara	15,282	14	12,412	2,489	4,976	448	55	2,049
Santa Cruz	726	0	610	64	188	19	3	4
Shasta	349	0	249	80	141	32	0	13
Sierra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Siskiyou	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solano	1,248	8	951	180	454	57	12	659
Sonoma	1,952	70	1,559	244	783	83	5	576
Stanislaus	3,879	17	2,664	640	1,124	159	67	2,640
Sutter	472	0	370	107	159	6	1	136
Tehama	248	0	161	24	24	4	1	86
Trinity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tulare	5,034	13	3,857	750	1,430	171	32	1,101
Tuolumne	37	0	34	2	14	1	0	9
Ventura	3,016	25	2,293	672	801	90	93	822
Yolo	730	0	450	133	116	7	6	237
Yuba	325	0	257	87	124	8	3	87
	135,744	780	103,800	23,322	38,364	3,460	2,268	35,767
Percent of Total Families		1%	76%	17%	28%	3%	2%	26%

Source: California Department of Education, Child Development Centralized Eligibility List System (CDECLS)

Data reflects active *family* records at March 31, 2011, and income eligible for subsidized child care services (Income Rankings Chart Fiscal Year 2007). Counts were unduplicated by category, county, and family identifier. (Families could have indicated more than one reason for needing care.)

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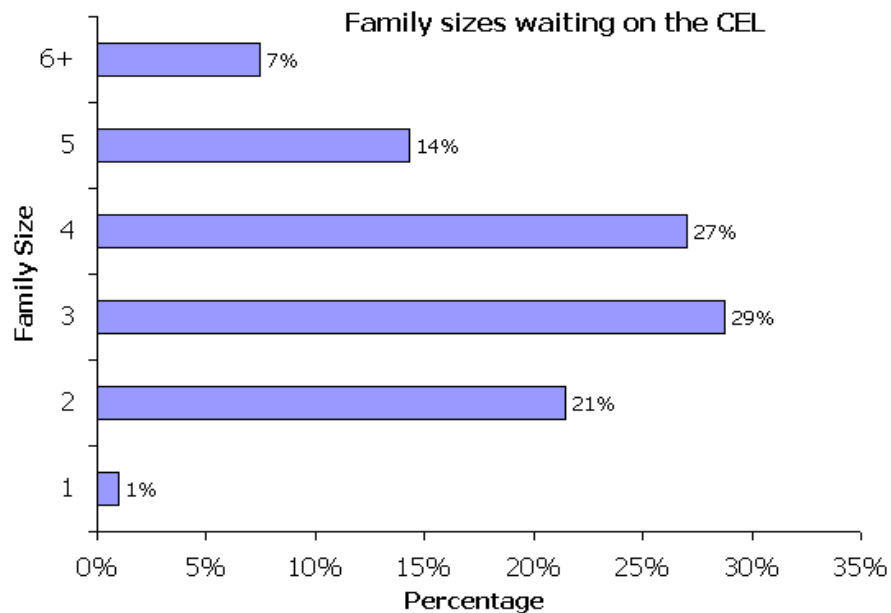
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Appendix C

Families on County Centralized Eligibility Lists, by Family Size

Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) Data for Quarter 1, 2011 (January 1, 2011 - March 31, 2011)

Family Size	Count	Percent
1	1,374	1%
2	29,101	21%
3	39,047	29%
4	36,680	27%
5	19,433	14%
6+	10,109	7%



Source: California Department of Education, Child Development Centralized Eligibility List System (CDCELS).

Data reflects active *family* records at March 31, 2011, and income eligible for subsidized child care services (Income Rankings Chart Fiscal Year 2007). Counts were unduplicated by county and family identifier.

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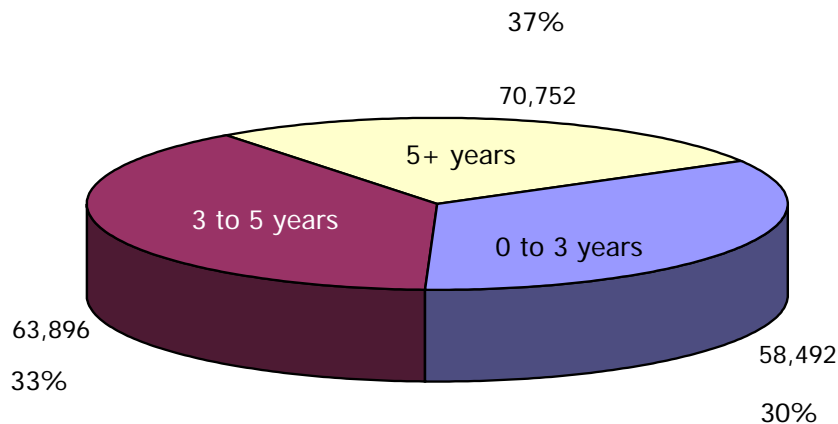
Appendix D

Ages of Children on County Centralized Eligibility Lists

Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) Data for Quarter 1, 2011 (January 1, 2011 - March 31, 2011)

Age Groupings	Count	Percent
0 TO 3 Years	58,492	30%
3 TO 5 Years	63,896	33%
5+ Years	70,752	37%

Children Waiting on the CEL, by Age Groupings



Source: California Department of Education, Child Development Centralized Eligibility List System
Data reflects active *child* records at March 31, 2011, and income eligible for subsidized child care services (Income Rankings Chart Fiscal Year 2007). Counts were unduplicated by county and child identifier. Age was calculated as of March 31, 2011.

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Appendix E
Children Waiting and Time Needed
Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) Data for Quarter 1, 2011 (January 1, 2011 - March 31, 2011)

County	Child Count	Categories					
		Child has IFSP or IEP	Child is Foster or Guardian Child	Child Needs Full Time Care	Child Needs Part Time Care	Child Needs Evening Care	Child Needs Weekend Care
Alameda	6,228	48	73	4,515	2,796	437	317
Alpine	4	0	0	4	0	0	0
Amador	148	7	4	61	119	16	12
Butte	1,374	31	37	586	1,070	6	7
Calaveras	47	1	4	20	33	2	3
Colusa	184	4	3	79	126	2	7
Contra Costa	2,961	106	80	1,722	2,159	106	96
Del Norte	96	8	7	19	81	15	13
El Dorado	4	0	0	4	0	0	0
Fresno	2,887	53	90	2,325	835	311	264
Glenn	405	19	7	241	201	7	9
Humboldt	15	0	0	8	11	0	0
Imperial	1,305	6	16	899	641	76	53
Inyo	22	0	0	8	14	2	2
Kern	4,220	16	69	2,889	2,206	311	256
Kings	1,211	11	16	613	663	52	33
Lake	170	6	5	115	74	25	19
Lassen	183	4	6	151	110	0	0
Los Angeles	30,480	406	587	25,488	8,557	1,159	1,045
Madera	1,478	8	13	1,147	540	1	0
Marin	1,014	71	17	644	686	75	31
Mariposa	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Mendocino	250	3	6	147	124	29	26
Merced	1,809	26	38	908	838	154	94
Modoc	25	0	0	6	20	0	0
Mono	2	0	0	2	2	0	0
Monterey	1,210	1	5	687	569	33	25
Napa	951	15	23	782	301	39	56
Nevada	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orange	14,412	268	240	7,561	9,838	305	184
Placer	685	26	8	467	355	67	42
Plumas	7	0	0	2	5	3	0
Riverside	17,934	14	240	12,273	12,429	360	285
Sacramento	5,324	216	223	2,954	4,064	423	313
San Benito	763	4	13	552	260	40	29
San Bernardino	15,990	288	351	11,291	6,236	1,052	625
San Diego	10,598	424	243	8,068	4,810	2,058	1,233
San Francisco	4,584	163	24	4,188	396	130	110
San Joaquin	7,045	224	157	3,534	4,497	347	300
San Luis Obispo	636	4	17	390	380	13	45
San Mateo	7,196	29	26	5,341	3,334	479	271
Santa Barbara	2,257	15	34	1,775	742	29	7
Santa Clara	20,597	310	160	13,874	10,274	475	219
Santa Cruz	1,174	0	3	833	421	0	1
Shasta	473	5	27	336	279	40	41
Sierra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Siskiyou	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solano	1,881	64	73	1,043	1,719	129	101
Sonoma	2,658	75	43	1,755	1,184	10	23
Stanislaus	5,136	120	101	2,491	3,557	98	49
Sutter	657	18	14	359	432	36	32
Tehama	373	4	4	223	235	2	0
Trinity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tulare	7,845	206	145	6,293	3,496	12	2
Tuolumne	70	1	3	27	56	6	7
Ventura	4,933	94	107	4,134	1,236	407	291
Yolo	959	11	5	590	595	28	20
Yuba	473	3	16	273	327	30	26
	193,140	3,436	3,383	134,697	93,934	9,437	6,624
Percent of Total Children		2%	2%	70%	49%	5%	3%

Source: California Department of Education, Child Development Centralized Eligibility List System (CDELS)
Data reflects active *child* records at March 31, 2011, and income eligible for subsidized child care services. (Income Rankings Chart Fiscal Year 2007; updated ceilings) Counts were unduplicated by category, county, and child identifier. (Families could have indicated more than one time base need for care.)

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Appendix F

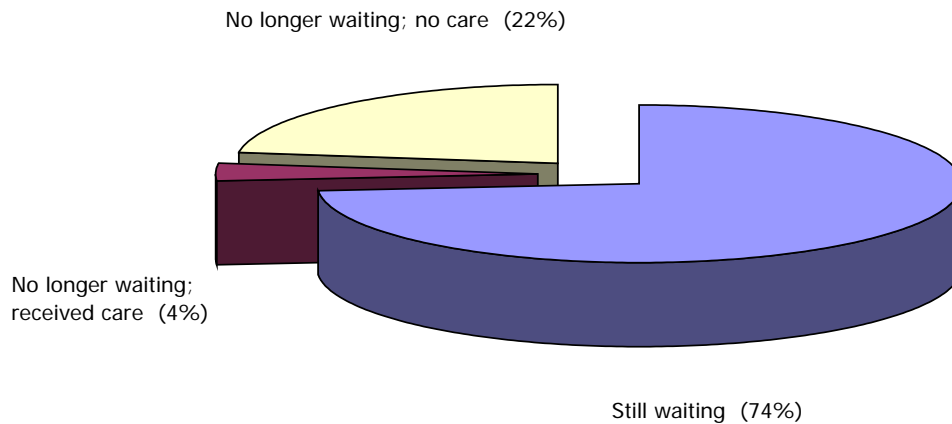
Status of Child Records on Centralized Eligibility Lists

Centralized Eligibility List (CEL) Data for Quarter 1, 2011 (January 1, 2011 - March 31, 2011)

Status	Count	Percent
Active	193,140	74%
Inactive	69,549	26%

If no longer active, was child enrolled in a Child Development Program

Status	Enrolled	Count	Percent
Inactive	No	59,631	86%
Inactive	Yes	9,918	14%



Source: California Department of Education, Child Development Centralized Eligibility List System (CDCELS).

Data includes all active, inactive, terminated, and enrolled *child* records for Quarter 1, 2011 and income eligible for subsidized child care services (Income Rankings Chart Fiscal Year 2007) Counts were unduplicated by county and child identifier.

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Appendix G Local Child Care Waiting Lists

The agencies listed below reported to the California Department of Education (CDE) that they would be operating a locally funded Centralized Eligibility List/local child care and development waiting list on a voluntary basis. The CDE does not contract with these agencies to provide these services. For current information about these programs (including the status of their operation), please contact the agency directly.

County	Name of Administering Agency	Name of Contact Person	E-mail Address	Phone Number
Amador	The Resource Connection of Amador and Calaveras Counties	Kelly Graesch	kgraesch@theresourceconnection.net	209-754-1075
Calaveras	The Resource Connection of Amador and Calaveras Counties	Kelly Graesch	kgraesch@theresourceconnection.net	209-754-1075
Glenn	Glenn County Office of Education	Joyce Rupp	jrupp@glenncoe.org	530-865-1145
Marin	Marin Child Care Council	Leah Benz	leah@mc3.org	415-491-5776
Merced	Merced County Office of Education	Samantha Thompson	sthompson@mcoe.org	209-381-6719
Modoc	Training Employment and Community Help, Inc.	Mary Lynn DeWitt	mdewitt@teachinc.org	530-233-5437
Nevada	Sierra Nevada Children's Services	Jackie Herring	jackieh@sncs.org	530-272-8866 Ext. 210
Placer	Placer County Office of Education – Early Childhood Education	Catherine Goins	cgoins@placercoe.k12.ca.us	530-745-1380
Sacramento	Child Action, Inc.	Lynn Patten	lynn@childaction.org	916-369-4462

California Department of Education

Report to the Governor, Legislature, and the Legislative Analyst's Office: Status Report on the Implementation of County Centralized Eligibility Lists

County	Name of Administering Agency	Name of Contact Person	E-mail Address	Phone Number
San Diego	YMCA of San Diego County	Kathleen Ferenchak	kferench@ymcacrs.org	619-521-3055 Ext. 2104
San Francisco	Children's Council of San Francisco	Eileen Sugai	esugai@sf3c.org	415-343-3378
Santa Clara	Community Child Care Council of Santa Clara County, Inc.	Colette Kudumu	colettek@4c.org	408-487-0747 Ext. 207
Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz County Parent's Association, Inc.	Elaine M. Henning	sccpavp@bayarea.net	831-688-2152
Solano	The Children's Network of Solano County	Kim Thomas	kthomas@childnet.org	707-421-7229
Stanislaus	Stanislaus County Office of Education	Lisa Henry	lhenny@stancoe.org	209-238-6400
Tulare	Tulare County Office of Education	Karen Osborn	kosborn@cc.tcoe.org	559-651-3026
Information as of November 2011				