

2020



Santa Clara County and San Benito County  
Head Start Community Assessment



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## Chapter I: Introduction

### Background

Head Start is a comprehensive child development program for young children and families living below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The comprehensive program includes early childhood education, health and nutrition services, parent education, and social service support. The program is based on the premise that all children share certain needs, and that children from low-income families, in particular, can benefit from a comprehensive developmental program that meets those needs.<sup>1</sup>

### Purpose

Federal Head Start Performance Standards and Regulations define the overall program philosophy, goals, objectives, and service requirements, but provide considerable local flexibility on the design and implementation of the program. Head Start has been a dynamic program, growing and changing to meet the needs of the children and families it serves. A broad range of additional services through partnerships with other agencies has been a necessary component to enhance support to children and families in Head Start. With high accountability, the program has to address the national performance standards and

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<sup>1</sup> California Head Start Association (2012). Head Start/Early Head Start in California Data Report. Retrieved from [www.caheadstart.org/facts.html](http://www.caheadstart.org/facts.html).

initiatives. The purpose of this report is to assess community needs and program operations to ensure program quality and responsiveness.

Head Start regulations require each Early Head Start and Head Start grantee agency to conduct a Community Assessment within its service area once every three years with updates annually. The comprehensive Head Start Community Assessment (HSCA) is intended to assist the grantee in making important decisions about how best to serve eligible children and families. This includes determining:

- (1) Community strengths, needs, and resources;
- (2) Program structure; and,
- (3) Program management and quality improvement.

The contents of this community assessment are guided by the federal requirements which state that it must “include, at a minimum:

- (1) The number of eligible infants, toddlers, preschool age children, and expectant mothers, including their geographic location, race, ethnicity, and languages they speak, including:
  - a. Children experiencing homelessness;
  - b. Children in foster care; and
  - c. Children with disabilities, including types of disabilities and relevant services and resources provided to these children by community agencies;
- (2) The education, health, nutrition and social service needs of eligible children and their families, including prevalent social and economic factors that impact their well-being;
- (3) Typical work, school, and training schedules of parents with eligible children;
- (4) Other child development, childcare centers, and family childcare programs that serve eligible children, including home visiting, publicly funded state and local preschools, and the appropriate number of eligible children served;
- (5) Resources that are available in the community to address the needs of eligible children and their families; and,
- (6) Strengths of the community.”

- 45 CFR 1302.11 Determining community strengths, needs and resources

## Overview of Data Sources

The comprehensive nature of the Community Assessment requires data from many different sources. Key sources for the 2020 Community Assessment include:

- California Department of Education;
- California Department of Finance;
- Children Now, California County Scorecard of Children’s Well-Being;

- Kidsdata.org;
- Local Early Childhood Education Care Planning Council of Santa Clara County;
- Santa Clara County Social Services Agency;
- Santa Clara County Office of Education;
- Departments/Divisions of Public Health; and
- Santa Clara/San Benito County Head Start Program Summary Reports.

Much of the demographic data presented in this report comes from the U.S. Census Bureau. Though post-decennial population estimates are available as of 2020 it is important to note that they are based on the 2010 Demographic Profile. To be more specific, the Census Bureau’s Population Estimates Program (PEP) utilizes current data on births, deaths, and migration to calculate population change since the last decennial census to produce time series estimates of population, demographic components of change, and housing units.

## Report Organization

This report is organized into a series of chapters starting with a presentation of demographic and child population data (see Chapter 2: Demographics) and ending with a review of key data elements collected from children and families served by Early Head Start (see Chapter 9) and Head Start (see Chapter 10) in San Benito and Santa Clara County. Additional chapters include information on income (see Chapter 3), health (see Chapter 4), education (see Chapter 5), child care (see Chapter 6) and resources that can be leveraged to better meet the needs of children and families in the community (see Chapter 7). Consistent with the 2019 report, this year’s report includes a chapter that focuses on identifying children and families that meet federal income requirements and/or are categorically eligible for Head Start services (see Chapter 8). The 2020 HSCA concludes with a summary of key assessment findings that are intended to guide discussions for program planners and decision-makers alike (see Chapter 11: Observations and Recommendations).

## Spotlight on the Coronavirus Pandemic

Head Start services rendered in 2020 to children and families residing in Santa Clara and San Benito County were provided as the events of the growing COVID-19 public health pandemic unfolded. Some of the services rendered were provided in direct response to the pandemic. For example, when Head Start classrooms reopened after site closures that occurred due to an initial statewide shelter-in-place order issued by Governor Newsom, concerted efforts were made to ensure that all sites were equipped with the necessary equipment and training needed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to children and staff. Once open, attention shifted to strategies to implement early learning instruction in in-person and distance-learning environments, as some families opted to retain their Head Start slot yet keep their children home. Given the complexities and challenges posed by the pandemic, the 2020 HSCA, where accessible and relevant, includes additional data elements that are intended to tell the story of how the pandemic has impacted the local community.



## Chapter 2: County Demographics

### Background

The Santa Clara County Office of Education is the Head Start grantee for the counties of Santa Clara and San Benito. Although they are neighboring counties, Santa Clara and San Benito differ in terms of population, economics, and educational opportunities. Santa Clara County is located at the base of the Bay Area Peninsula, has urban areas in the north and central regions, and has rural communities such as Morgan Hill and Gilroy in the southern region. San Benito County is located south of Santa Clara County and is largely rural with small agricultural communities. San Benito's main cities are Hollister and San Juan Bautista.

### Population Overview

Santa Clara County is the sixth most populous county in the state of California with a population approaching 2 million. It is comprised of 15 cities and various unincorporated areas, extending from Palo Alto in the northwest and Milpitas in the northeast to Gilroy in the south. Just over three-fourths of the population is above the age of 18, and the median age is 37-years. Approximately 23% of the population in Santa Clara County are children under the age of 18. For demographic details of who lives in Santa Clara County (see Table 1).

**TABLE 1. POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY (2019)**

	Count	Percent
Total Population	1,927,470	--
Male	974,422	50.6%
Female	953,048	49.4%
Population Under 18	428,382	22.2%
15 to 17 years	70,294	3.6%
5 to 14 years	241,580	12.5%
Population Under 5	116,508	6.0%
Population 18 and over	1,499,088	77.8%
Median age (years)	37.1	--

**Source:** Table S0101, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

Although the size of the county in square miles approximates that of Santa Clara County, San Benito County is largely rural and has a population that is 32 times smaller than that of Santa Clara County with 60,376 residents (see Table 2). San Benito's largest cities include Hollister and San Juan Bautista. More than a quarter of the population is under the age of 18, and the median age is 35 years. The proportion of households with children under the age of 18 is slightly greater than that of Santa Clara County at 26%.

**TABLE 2. POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS OF SAN BENITO COUNTY (2019)**

	Count	Percent
Total Population	60,376	--
Male	30,151	49.9%
Female	30,225	50.1%
Population Under 18	15,678	26.0%
15 to 17 years	2,865	4.7%
5 to 14 years	8,930	14.8%
Population Under 5	3,883	6.4%
Population 18 and over	44,698	74.0%
Median age (years)	35.7	--

**Source:** Table S0101, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau

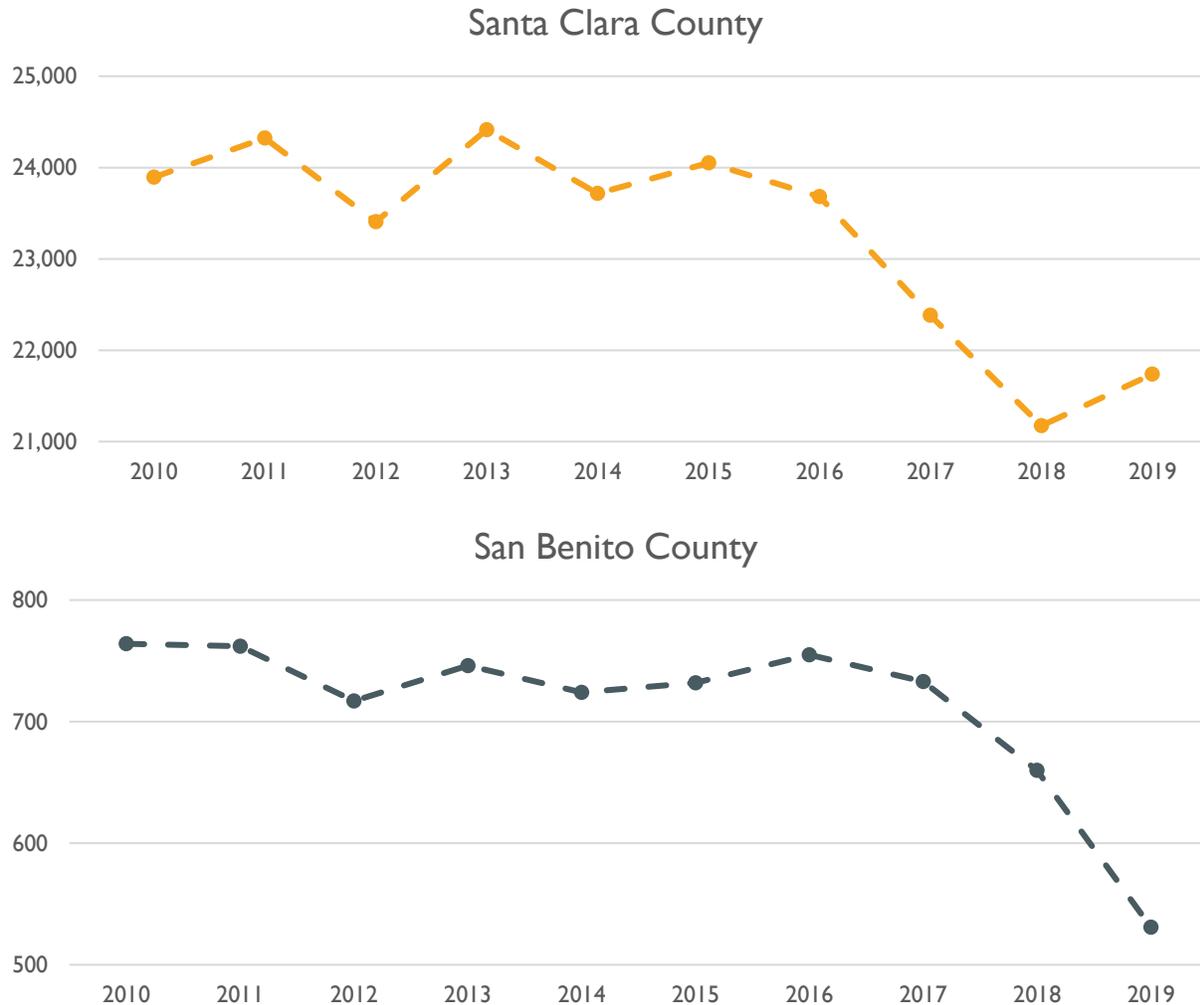
### Child Population Trends and Race/Ethnicity Distributions

Data presented in the following section comes from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) and the California Department of Finance (DOF). The American Community Survey is an annual nationwide survey designed to provide current estimates of population, social, economic, and housing characteristics.

### Change in Number of Births

Population estimates for children ages 0-11 months serve as a proxy measure for child births. Figure 1 illustrates change in population estimates for children ages 0-11 months, by county, calculated by the Demographic Research Unit of the California DOF using a component-change method that adjusts for natural increases and net migration. Since 2010, births in Santa Clara County have declined by 9%. San Benito County experienced a 30% decline over that same time period. In both counties, the steepest decline in child births has occurred over the past five years.

**FIGURE 1. CHILD BIRTHS BY COUNTY**

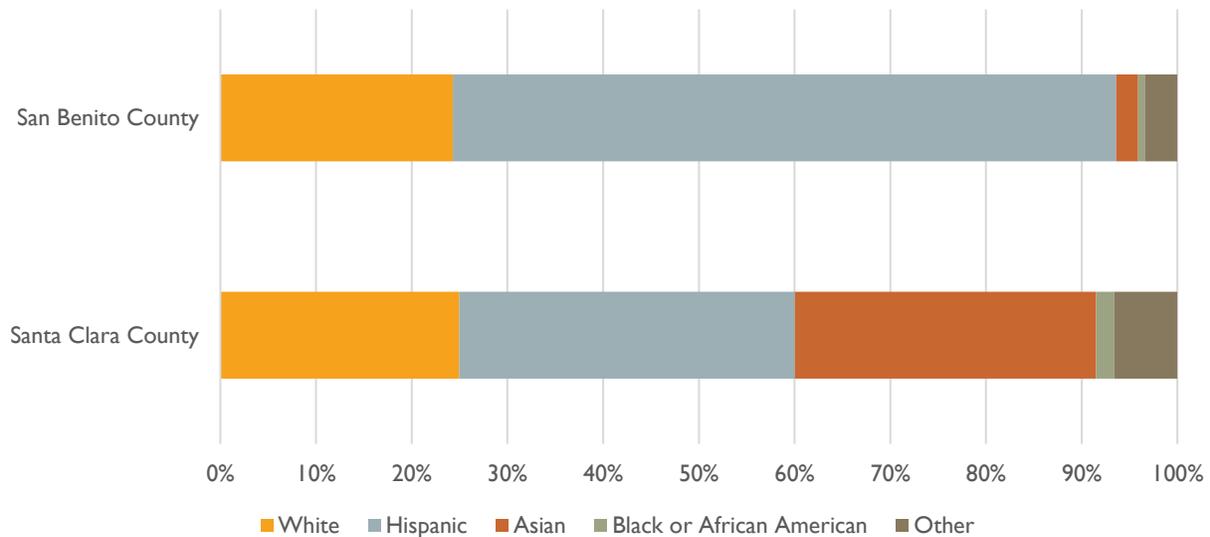


**Source:** P-2B County Population by Age, p-2: County Population Projections (2010-2060), Projections, CA Department of Finance. Available at <https://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/Projections/>.

### Child Race/Ethnicity Distributions

Figure 2 shows the race/ethnic distributions for San Clara and San Benito counties for 2019. In Santa Clara County, roughly one-third of children under the age of six (6) are Hispanic and approximately one-third are of Asian descent (Note: American Indian and Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, and two more races are included in the “Other” category.). In San Benito County, two thirds of children under the age of six are Hispanic. The proportion of Hispanic children in this age range in San Benito is double that of Santa Clara County.

**FIGURE 2. RACE/ETHNICITY DISTRIBUTIONS FOR CHILDREN AGES 0-5 YEARS (2019)**



**Source:** California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, Report P-3, Retrieved from January 5, 2021 from <http://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/projections/>.

### Child Population by City

The U.S. Census Bureau provides data for children under the age of six years by city. Table 3 lists the number and proportion of children under 18 and under six years of age by city. Additionally, Table 3 shows the proportion of children within each city in comparison to respective countywide rates (Note: The up arrows indicate a higher proportion compared to the county overall while the down arrows indicate a lower proportion). Across both counties, the cities of Gilroy, Milpitas, Sunnyvale, Hollister, and Paicines/Tres Pinos have the highest overall proportions of children under six years old, at over 8% of the total general population.

**TABLE 3. CHILD POPULATION BY MAJOR CITY (2019)**

	Total (General Population)	Children under 18 years	Children Under 18 years (Percent)	Total Children Under 6 Years of Age	Children Under 6 Years of Age (Percent)
<b>Santa Clara County</b>	<b>1,927,470</b>	<b>413,511</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>135,442</b>	<b>7.0%</b>
Campbell	42,221	8,758	20.7% (↓)	3,129	7.4% (↑)
Cupertino	60,257	15,305	25.4% (↑)	3,395	5.6% (↓)
Gilroy	56,766	15,902	28% (↑)	4,614	8.1% (↑)
Los Altos	30,504	7,869	21.6% (↑)	1,700	5.6% (↓)
Los Gatos	30,729	6,637	21.6% (↑)	1,490	4.8% (↓)
Milpitas	79,517	16,753	21.1% (↓)	6,355	8% (↑)
Monte Sereno	3,479	917	26.4% (↑)	237	6.8% (↓)
Morgan Hill	44,686	11,293	25.3% (↑)	3,303	7.4% (↑)
Mountain View	81,656	15,486	19% (↓)	5,840	7.2% (↑)
Palo Alto	66,573	15,070	22.6% (↑)	3,897	5.9% (↓)
San Jose	1,027,690	221,018	21.5% (-)	72,409	7% (-)
San Martin	6,803	1,399	20.6% (↓)	308	4.5% (↓)
Santa Clara	127,721	24,759	19.4% (↓)	9,875	7.7% (↑)
Saratoga	30,697	6,240	20.3% (↓)	950	3.1% (↓)
Sunnyvale	152,770	31,442	20.6% (↓)	13,252	8.7% (↑)
<b>San Benito County</b>	<b>60,376</b>	<b>15,062</b>	<b>24.9%</b>	<b>4,409</b>	<b>7.3%</b>
Hollister	38,687	10,625	27.5% (↑)	3,171	8.2% (↑)
San Juan Bautista	2,019	501	24.8% (↓)	160	7.9% (↑)
Paicines/Tres Pinos	683	192	28.1% (↑)	88	12.9% (↑)

**Note:** Arrows next to percentages indicate whether the city is higher or lower than the overall county proportion.

**Source:** Tables DP05 and S0901, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2015-19), U.S. Census Bureau

### Family Structure and Children's Home Life

The average household size varies by city, with Santa Clara County cities ranging from 2.41 in Mountain View to 3.41 in San Martin; in San Benito County, the average ranges from 2.93 in San Juan Bautista to 3.51 in Hollister. Households that have a high percentage of children under the age of six (of households with children under 18 years) can be found in the cities of Mountain View, Santa Clara, and Sunnyvale (see Table 4). In those cities, over 30% of households with children under 18 have children ages 0-5 years. Households that have the highest number of children under the age of six can be found in the cities of Santa Clara, San Jose, and Sunnyvale. In those cities, there are over 4,000 households with children ages 0-5; San Jose alone has 24,432 households with children in that age group. Compared to Santa Clara County, San Benito County has a slightly higher percentage of households headed by married-couple families and a lower percentage of single-parent/female-headed households with children.

**TABLE 4. HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILY STRUCTURE BY MAJOR CITY (2019)**

	Total number of households	Average household size	Percent of married-couple households	Of households with children < 18, number with children <6	Of households with children < 18, percent with children <6	Of households with children <6, percent that are headed by single females
<b>Santa Clara County</b>	<b>640215</b>	<b>2.95</b>	<b>57.0%</b>	<b>49514</b>	<b>23.4%</b>	<b>14.7</b>
Campbell	16163	2.59	49.8%	1262	26.3%	21.7
Cupertino	20981	2.85	68.6%	1160	12.2%	0
Gilroy	16126	3.49	57.1%	848	12.8%	15.1
Los Altos	10652	2.84	72.9%	587	14.8%	6.8
Los Gatos	12083	2.51	58.1%	568	15.5%	6.9
Milpitas	23595	3.27	64.7%	2569	30.2%	6.8
Monte Sereno	1128	3.08	85.2%	32	8.5%	0
Morgan Hill	14854	2.98	63.6%	895	16.9%	3.9
Mountain View	33756	2.41	45.3%	2715	31.2%	15.6
Palo Alto	26161	2.52	55.5%	1646	18.9%	18.1
San Jose	325114	3.12	55.6%	24432	22.6%	15.8
San Martin	1929	3.41	65.4%	63	12.2%	0
Santa Clara	44669	2.74	55.3%	4780	34.4%	16
Saratoga	11013	2.77	74.2%	217	6.1%	0
Sunnyvale	56103	2.71	57.4%	6275	34.6%	10.7
<b>San Benito County</b>	<b>18135</b>	<b>3.31</b>	<b>59.6%</b>	<b>1068</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>9.8</b>
Hollister	10995	3.51	56.8%	647	13.7%	7.3
San Juan Bautista	688	2.93	48.0%	66	30.7%	100
Paicines/Tres Pinos	220	3.1	70.9%	13	21.7%	0

**Source:** Tables S1901 (Income in the Past 12 Month) and S1101 (Households and Families), American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2015-2019), U.S. Census Bureau

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, households headed by single-women and families with young children (i.e., children under the age of six years) are at a greater risk for homelessness.<sup>2</sup> In Campbell and San Juan Bautista nearly 30% of households with children under six years were headed by single-mothers. These data suggest that the need for additional services, such as housing assistance, may be greater in these two cities compared to other regions in the service area. More information on poverty status and homelessness is provided in Chapter 3: Income Characteristics.

<sup>2</sup> U. S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2007). Characteristics and Dynamics of Homeless Families with Children. Retrieved from <http://aspe.hhs.gov/>.

## Summary

Notable demographic characteristics for Santa Clara County:

- Seven percent of Santa Clara County's general population is under 56 years old; there are 135,442 children five years old and younger in the county.
- In Santa Clara County, approximately one-quarter of the child population (i.e., children 0-5 years) are Hispanic and another third are Asian.
- Santa Clara County is home to cities where the proportion of households with children under the age of 6 years (of households with children under 18 years) meets or exceeds 30%. These cities include Milpitas (30.20%), Mountain View (31.20%), Santa Clara (34.40%), and Sunnyvale (34.60%).
- In some cities, the population of children under 6 years old exceeds 5,000; in San Jose alone, there are over 72,409 children under the age of 6.
- Nearly twenty-four percent of households with children in Santa Clara County have children under 6 years old.

Notable demographic characteristics for San Benito County:

- Over seven percent of San Benito County's general population is under 6 years old; there are 4,409 children age five years old and younger in the county.
- The proportion of Hispanic children in San Benito County is two-times that of Santa Clara. Approximately 60% of children ages 0-5 years in San Benito are Hispanic. However, among children under 6 years old in the county, 82% are "Caucasian".
- Over fifteen percent of households with children in San Benito County have children under 6 years old, eight percentage points lower than Santa Clara County.

Notable demographic characteristics for Santa Clara County and San Benito County:

- Children under the age of 6 years make up approximately 7% of the entire population in both counties.
- Births in birth counties have declined substantially since 2010.



## Chapter 3: Income Characteristics

### Background

The economic status of families and individuals is linked to the health and well-being of children and demonstrates the need for community resources within a county. Included in this chapter is a summary of economic indicators. Family and household incomes, cost estimates for housing and rent, unemployment rates, and rates for families living in poverty in Santa Clara and San Benito County are provided.

### Median Household Income and Median Family Income

Median household income divides households into two equal groups with half earning less than the median and half earning more. A household is defined as anyone living at the same residence; a family is defined as a group of two or more individuals related by birth, marriage, or adoption living at the same residence. Families living in Santa Clara County generally have higher median household and family incomes compared to those in San Benito County. The median household income (MHI) in Santa Clara County increased by 43% between 2011 and 2019 (see Table 5). The increase in MHI in San Benito is lower at 32% for the same time period. Like MHI, the median family income (MFI) increased in both counties between 2011 and 2019.

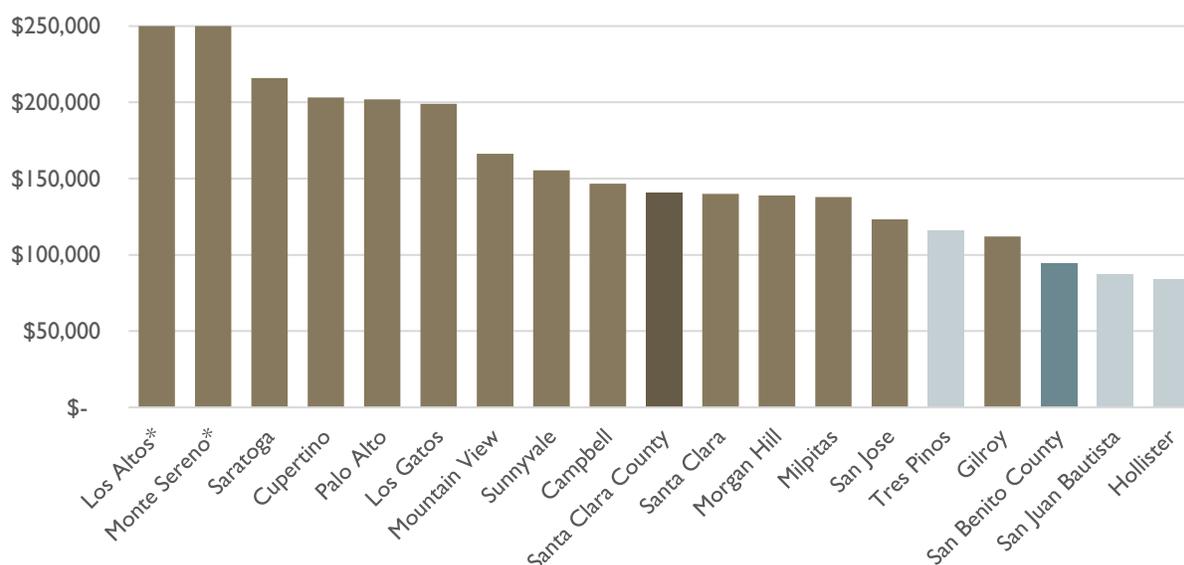
**TABLE 5. CHANGE IN MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD (MHI) AND MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME (MFI)**

	2010 MHI	2019 MHI	MHI Percent Change 2010-2019	2010 MFI	2019 MFI	MFI Percent Change 2010-2019
Santa Clara County	\$86,850	\$124,055	42.8%	\$100,733	\$140,651	39.6%
San Benito County	\$65,771	\$86,958	32.2%	\$75,051	\$94,572	26.2%

**Source:** Table DP03 (2010, 2019), American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau.

The 2019 median family income (MFI) for cities in Santa Clara and San Benito County are summarized in Figure 3. Cities within the county of Santa Clara have an MFI that ranges from a low of \$112,109 (Gilroy) to a high above \$250,000 (Los Altos Hills and Monte Sereno). San Jose, the city with the largest population, has an MFI of \$123,291. The highest MFI in San Benito County is in Paicines/Tres Pinos at \$115,938 and the lowest is in Hollister at \$83,921.

**FIGURE 3. MEDIAN FAMILY INCOMES BY CITY (2019)**



**Note:** San Benito County and cities therein are displayed blue. Asterisk (\*) indicates that the median family income exceeds the \$250,000 tick mark in the above figure.

**Source:** Table DP03, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2015-19), U.S. Census Bureau.

### Housing Characteristics and Costs

As shown in Table 6, the median value of owner-occupied housing units in Santa Clara County (\$984,000) is nearly twice that of owner-occupied housing units located in San Benito County (\$551,500). Though a greater proportion of housing units are owner-occupied and homes are more affordable in San Benito compared to Santa Clara, an estimated 37.4% of renters in San Benito and 37.1% of renters in Santa Clara are putting 35% or more of their income into the cost of rent.

**TABLE 6. HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS AND COSTS**

	California	Santa Clara County	San Benito County
Percent of OHUs that are owner-occupied	54.8%	56.4%	63.7%
Median housing value of owner-OHUs (dollars)	\$505,000	\$984,000	\$551,500
Percent of OHUs that are renter-occupied	45.2%	43.6%	36.3%
Median monthly housing costs for renter-OHUs (dollars)	\$1,503	\$2,268	\$1,535
Gross Rent is 35% or more of HI	45.2%	37.1%	37.4%

**Abbreviations:** OHUs = Occupied Housing Units; HI = Household Income

**Source:** Table CP04, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2015-19), U.S. Census Bureau.

As shown in Table 7, by the end of the 2019 calendar year, the median price of a single-family home and a condo/townhome in San Jose were \$1,100,000 and \$720,000 respectively. In just two years, the median price for a single-family home in San Jose increased by 10%. Over the same time period, the price of a condo or townhome in San Jose increased by 13%. As of end-of-year 2019, the cities of Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, and Palo Alto had a median price for a single-family home above \$3 million. The only city in Santa Clara County where the median price for a single-family home falls below \$1 million is Gilroy (\$781,000). Condominiums or townhomes offer a more affordable housing alternative but carry additional considerations such as Home Owners Association (HOA) fees, shared walls, and parking restrictions.

**TABLE 7. MEDIAN PRICE FOR SINGLE FAMILY HOMES IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

	Single Family Residence			Condo/Townhome		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Campbell	\$1,339,800	\$1,498,800	\$1,385,000	\$830,000	\$941,500	\$860,000
Cupertino	\$2,100,000	\$2,371,000	\$2,250,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,400,000	\$1,248,000
Gilroy	\$705,000	\$785,000	\$781,000	\$446,300	\$498,000	\$500,000
Los Altos	\$3,020,000	\$3,400,000	\$3,288,000	\$1,565,000	\$1,805,000	\$1,629,444
Los Altos Hills	\$3,881,000	\$4,850,000	\$4,200,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Los Gatos	\$1,975,000	\$2,122,500	\$2,185,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,250,000	\$1,200,000
Milpitas	\$990,000	\$1,175,000	\$1,090,000	\$795,000	\$977,000	\$895,000
Monte Sereno	\$2,917,500	\$3,300,000	\$3,125,000	N/A	N/A	N/A
Morgan Hill	\$920,000	\$1,010,000	\$1,025,000	\$575,000	\$679,000	\$672,500
Mountain View	\$1,989,944	\$2,350,000	\$2,126,500	\$1,152,500	\$1,300,000	\$1,250,000
Palo Alto	\$2,950,000	\$3,200,000	\$3,080,000	\$1,510,000	\$1,701,000	\$1,500,000
San Jose	\$1,000,000	\$1,180,000	\$1,100,000	\$637,000	\$770,000	\$720,000
San Martin	\$948,000	\$1,267,500	\$1,112,500	N/A	N/A	N/A
Santa Clara	\$1,265,000	\$1,500,000	\$1,357,500	\$767,000	\$887,500	\$890,000
Saratoga	\$2,500,000	\$2,815,000	\$2,697,500	\$1,195,000	\$1,235,000	\$1,425,000
Sunnyvale	\$1,728,000	\$1,888,000	\$1,732,500	\$1,088,000	\$1,252,000	\$1,122,500

**Notes:** Prices are End-of-Year figures. "N/A" indicates that the data were not available.

**Source:** Year-End Statistics, Marketing Housing Statistics, Santa Clara County Association of Realtors. Retrieved from <https://www.sccaor.com/housing-stats/>.

## Area Rents

The cost for rental housing units in both Santa Clara County and San Benito County has steadily increased since 2018. For families that live in Santa Clara County, the average rent in 2020 ranged from \$2,103 for a studio to \$4,525 for a four-bedroom apartment (see Table 8). Projected costs for the 2021 year show an increase of rent by as much as \$100 per month in Santa Clara County, but are expected to decrease for San Benito County for the same year.

**TABLE 8. FAIR MARKET RENT FOR ALL BEDROOM SIZES BY COUNTY BY YEAR**

	Efficiency	One Bedroom	Two Bedroom	Three Bedroom	Four Bedroom
<b>Santa Clara County</b>					
2021	\$2,228	\$2,558	\$3,051	\$3,984	\$4,593
2020	\$2,103	\$2,458	\$2,970	\$3,943	\$4,525
2019	\$1,865	\$2,212	\$2,712	\$3,658	\$4,198
2018	\$1,716	\$2,031	\$2,522	\$3,468	\$3,942
<b>San Benito County</b>					
2021	\$1,200	\$1,270	\$1,674	\$2,396	\$2,898
2020	\$1,290	\$1,298	\$1,710	\$2,467	\$3,002
2019	\$1,314	\$1,323	\$1,750	\$2,530	\$3,074
2018	\$1,269	\$1,277	\$1,699	\$2,471	\$2,992

**Source:** Fair Market Rents (FMRs), HUD USER, Department of Housing and Urban Development. Retrieved from <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/fmr.html>.

## State Income Limits for HUD Section 8 Housing Assistance

State income limits for HUD Section 8 housing assistance are provided in Table 9 (Santa Clara County) and Table 10 (San Benito County). As of 2019, a family of four in Santa Clara earning \$112,150 (i.e., low income) or less per year may qualify for housing assistance. Those earning less than \$47,350 are considered extremely low income.

**TABLE 9. HOUSING ASSISTANCE INCOME LIMITS FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY (2019)**

	Number of People in Family							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
LI	\$78,550	\$89,750	\$100,950	<b>\$112,150</b>	\$121,150	\$130,100	\$139,100	\$148,050
VLI	\$55,300	\$63,200	\$71,100	<b>\$78,950</b>	\$85,300	\$91,600	\$97,900	\$104,250
ELI	\$33,150	\$37,900	\$42,650	<b>\$47,350</b>	\$51,150	\$54,950	\$58,750	\$62,550

**Abbreviations:** LI = Low Income; VLI = Very Low Income; ELI = Extremely Low Income

**Notes:** Low income is defined as 80% of area median income. Very low income is defined as 50% of area median income. Extremely low income is 30% of area median income. Income Lit areas are based on FY 2020 Fair Market Rent (FMR) areas.

**Source:** Income Limits, HUD USER, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Retrieved from <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html>.

In San Benito County, a family of four earning less than \$79,750 is considered low income (see Table 10). A family of four earning less than \$29,900 is considered extremely low income. Families falling into the “Extremely Low” classification in either county have incomes that exceed income eligibility criteria for Head Start.

**TABLE 10. HOUSING ASSISTANCE INCOME LIMITS FOR SAN BENITO COUNTY (2019)**

	Number of People in Family							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
LI	\$55,850	\$63,800	\$71,800	<b>\$79,750</b>	\$86,150	\$92,550	\$98,900	\$105,300
VLI	\$34,900	\$39,900	\$44,900	<b>\$49,850</b>	\$53,850	\$57,850	\$61,850	\$65,850
ELI	\$20,950	\$23,950	\$26,950	<b>\$29,900</b>	\$32,300	\$35,160	\$39,640	\$44,120

**Abbreviations:** LI = Low Income; VLI = Very Low Income; ELI = Extremely Low Income

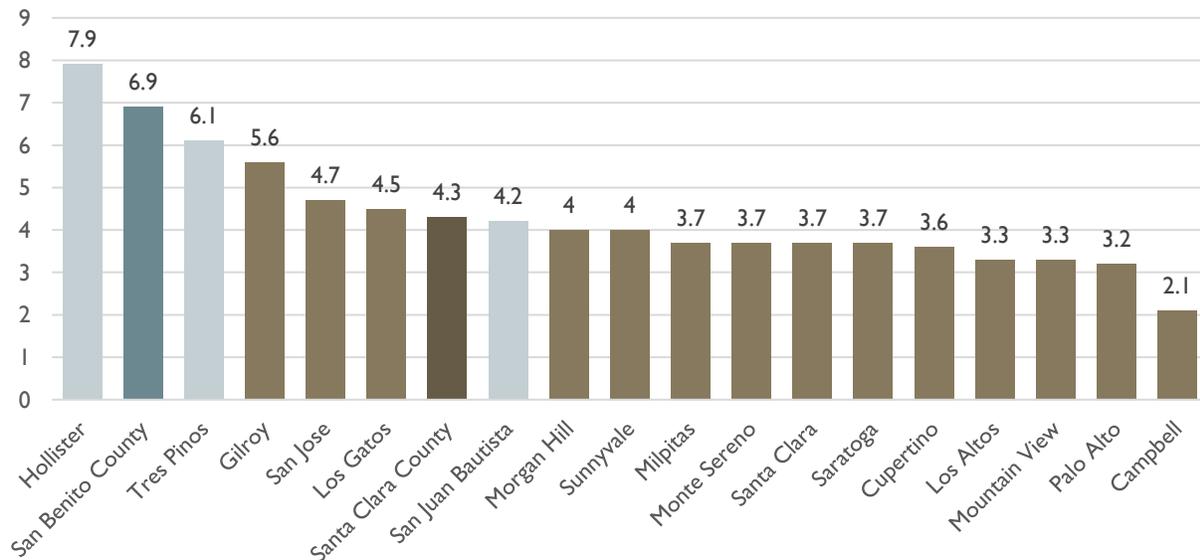
**Notes:** Low income is defined as 80% of area median income. Very low income is defined as 50% of area median income. Extremely low income is 30% of area median income. Income Lit areas are based on FY 2020 Fair Market Rent (FMR) areas.

**Source:** Income Limits, HUD USER, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, available at <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html>.

## Unemployment

As shown in Figure 4, unemployment rates for San Benito County (6.9%) are higher than Santa Clara County (4.3%). In 2019, the city of Hollister had the highest unemployment rate at 7.9% of the adult working population. In general, cities that are considered more rural, such as Tres Pinos, Hollister, and Gilroy, where there may be fewer opportunities for work, have the highest unemployment rates. In 2019, the city of San Jose had the second-highest unemployment rate (4.7%) in Santa Clara County.

**FIGURE 4. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY MAJOR CITY (2019)**



**Note:** San Benito County and cities therein are displayed in blue.

**Source:** Table DP03, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2015-19), U.S. Census Bureau.

## The Impact of COVID-19 on Unemployment

According to the Bay Area Council Economic Institute, the COVID-19 public health pandemic contributed to a seven-point increase in unemployment rates across the Bay Area from January to November of 2020. Though unemployment rates in the Bay Area did not initially increase as much as in other areas of the U.S., such as Seattle and Denver, the recovery in the fall of 2020 was not as strong either.<sup>3</sup> This is especially true for industries such as leisure and hospitality, which experienced employment rates that were down 22% in October 2020 relative to the same month in the previous year. More generally, lower-wage industries experienced concentrated job losses as a result of the pandemic, potentially leading to a wider income gap between individuals currently working in various types of industries.<sup>4</sup> Without job training and skill building services for workers formerly employed in these lower-wage positions and industries, this gap may continue after public safety orders are lifted.

## Self-Sufficiency Standard Income

The Self-Sufficiency Standard Index (SSSI) is a tool to calculate the income necessary for families of various sizes and types to meet basic needs such as childcare, housing, food, and transportation. This index assumes that adults in the household are non-disabled adults between 18 and 65 years old who work full-time work, year-round, with no public (e.g., public housing) or private/informal (e.g., babysitting by a relative) assistance. Table II shows the various incomes necessary for families to be considered self-sufficient in Santa Clara County. By the SSSI standard, a family of four with one infant and one preschooler, both in need of childcare, must earn \$141,559 annually to meet cost of living expenses in Santa Clara County.

**TABLE II. ANNUAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY STANDARD INCOMES BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE (2020)**

	Santa Clara County	San Benito County
<b>One-Adult Households</b>		
1 Infant	\$106,191	\$68,980
2 Infants	\$149,091	\$94,824
1 Infant, 1 Preschooler	\$141,559	\$88,383
1 Preschooler	\$98,514	\$63,699
2 Preschoolers	\$134,027	\$81,957
<b>Two-Adult Households</b>		
1 Infant	\$110,772	\$79,116
2 Infants	\$151,665	\$101,308
1 Infant, 1 Preschooler	\$144,371	\$95,299
1 Preschooler	\$103,833	\$73,827
2 Preschoolers	\$137,076	\$89,983

**Source:** Self-Sufficiency Standard Tables (2020), California, Self Sufficiency Standard, University of Washington. Retrieved from <http://www.selfsufficiencystandard.org/california>.

Depending on the number of children, a family in San Benito can earn \$50,000 fewer dollars annually than a family of equal size in Santa Clara. For example, a family of four with one infant and one preschooler,

<sup>3</sup> Economic Profile 2020: Bay Area Economic Recovery Tracker, Bay Area Council Economic Institute. Available at <http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/report/bay-area-economic-recovery-tracker/>.

<sup>4</sup> Economic Profile 2020: The Impact of COVID-19 on the Regional Labor Force, Bay Area Council Economic Institute. Available at <http://www.bayareaeconomy.org/report/economic-profile-2020-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-the-regional-labor-force/>.

both in need of child care, must earn \$95,299 annually to meet cost of living expenses in San Benito County; in Santa Clara County, a family of the same size would need to earn \$144,371. It should be noted that the SSSI for a family of four residing in San Benito County that fits this demographic is \$69,099 higher than the qualifying income for Head Start.

### Children in Families with Incomes At or Below the Federal Poverty Level

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, if a family's total pre-tax income, not including capital gains or noncash benefits, is less than the income needed by that family to cover the cost of basic necessities such as food, utilities, and accommodations (i.e., pre-tax income for the family size falls below annual Federal Poverty Level (FPL) calculations) then that family and every individual in it is considered in poverty. A higher percentage of families with children in poverty live in San Benito County (10.8%) compared to Santa Clara County which has a rate of 5.8% (see Table 12). Countywide poverty rates among families with children under the age of 18 years decreased by approximately two percentage points in both counties from 2010 to 2019.

**TABLE 12. FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS LIVING AT OR BELOW FPL**

	2010		2019		Difference
	Total # Families in County with Children	% of Families with Children in Poverty	Total # Families in County with Children	% of Families with Children in Poverty	% of Families with Children in Poverty
<b>Santa Clara County</b>	<b>227,341</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>230,513</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>-2.8</b>
Campbell	4,880	7.5	5003	4.2	-3.3
Cupertino	9,175	3.0	9,719	3.4	0.4
Gilroy	7,045	10.1	7,551	9.2	-0.9
Los Altos	3,977	0.9	4,131	1.5	0.6
Los Gatos town	3,681	1.8	3,797	1.8	0.0
Milpitas	8,488	6.0	9,404	6.2	0.2
Monte Sereno	426	2.1	416	0.0	-2.1
Morgan Hill	5,600	10.1	5,719	4.8	-5.3
Mountain View	8,270	3.9	9,137	3.3	-0.6
Palo Alto	8,459	3.7	8,841	4.9	1.2
San Jose	121,279	10.9	120,858	7.1	-3.8
Santa Clara	14,326	8.0	14,663	4.1	-3.9
Saratoga	4,231	4.6	3,637	3.7	-0.9
Sunnyvale	17,520	5.9	18,878	3.8	-2.1
<b>San Benito County</b>	<b>8,184</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>7,741</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>-2.4</b>
Hollister	5,616	16.3	5,364	11.9	-4.4
San Juan Bautista	238	13	239	13.4	0.4
Pacines/Tres Pinos	35	11.4	70	4.3	-7.1

**Abbreviations:** FPL = Federal Poverty Level

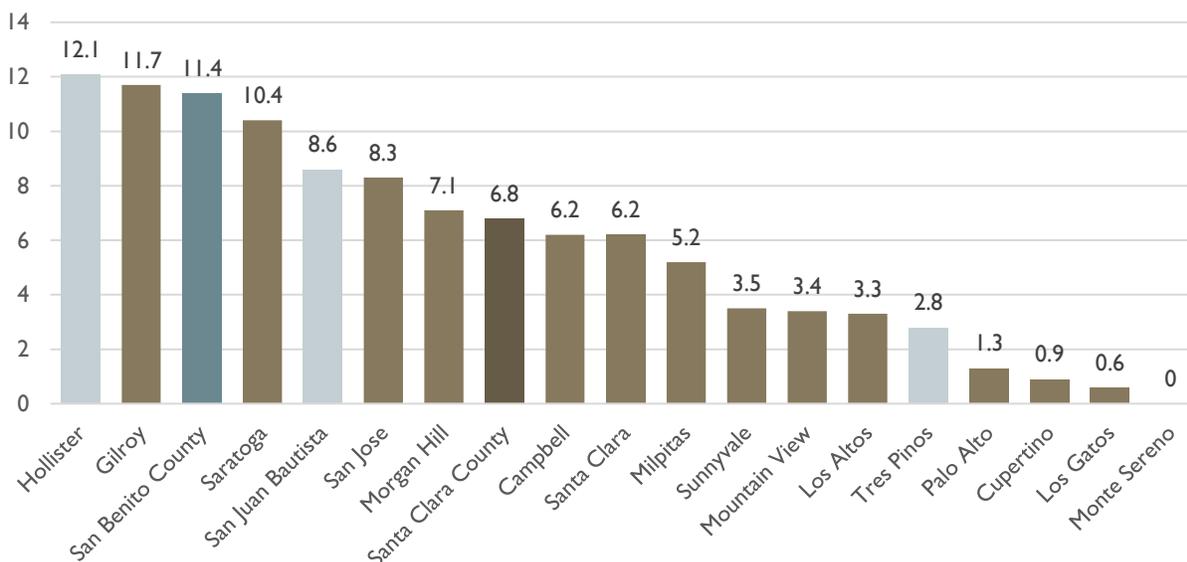
**Note:** Data are for families with related children under 18 years old.

**Source:** Table S1702, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2015-19), U.S. Census Bureau.

Data on children under five years who are living at or below the federal poverty level (FPL) are provided in Figure 5. Hollister, San Benito's most populated city, had the highest child poverty rate among all cities

across both counties. Within Santa Clara County, the cities of Gilroy and Saratoga had the highest child poverty rates. It should be noted, due to population differences, the estimated number of children under five living at or below FPL is higher in Santa Clara County (N=7,786) relative to San Benito County (N=431).

**FIGURE 5. POVERTY RATES AMONG CHILDREN AGES 0-5 YEARS BY CITY (2019)**



**Notes:** San Benito County and cities therein are displayed in blue.

**Source:** Table S1701, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2015-19), U.S. Census Bureau.

## California Cash Aid Programs

The State of California provides cash aid to needy families through several public assistance programs. This section contains information related to two of those programs, CalWORKs and CalFRESH, and the number of recipients who reside in Santa Clara and San Benito County.

### CalWORKs

CalWORKs is a welfare program that gives cash aid and services to eligible California families.<sup>5</sup> The program serves all 58 counties in the state and is operated locally by county welfare departments. If a family has little or no cash and needs housing, food, utilities, clothing or medical care, it may be eligible to receive immediate short-term help. Families that apply and qualify for ongoing assistance receive money each month to help pay for housing, food and other necessary expenses. To be eligible for the program, residents must be unemployed or underemployed and have a very low income. Additionally, one or more the following criteria must apply:

- Have a child 18 years of age or younger, or
- Be pregnant, or
- Be 18 years of age or younger and the head of your household.

<sup>5</sup> California CalWORKs (TANF), Financial Assistance, Benefit Categories, Benefits.gov.

A summary of the number of persons in Santa Clara and San Benito County who benefitted from the CalWORKs Cash Grant program is provided in Table 13. Both counties have seen a reduction since 2015-16 across all caseload types (i.e., Two-Parent Families, TANF, etc.). In Santa Clara County, the total for average monthly persons benefitting from CalWORKs has decreased by 43%. In San Benito County there were 313 fewer average monthly persons benefitting from CalWORKs in 2019-20; down 25% from 2015-16.

**TABLE 13. AVERAGE MONTHLY PERSONS BENEFITTING FROM CALWORKS CASH GRANT**

	2015-16	2019-20	Difference	Percent Change
<b>Santa Clara County</b>				
Two-Parent Families	1594	801	793	49.7%
Zero-Parent Families	6512	3675	2837	43.6%
All Other Families	6991	3754	3237	46.3%
TANF Timed-Out	1615	919	696	43.1%
Safety Net/Fleeing Felon/LTS	2938	2060	878	29.9%
Total	19649	11300	8349	42.5%
<b>San Benito County</b>				
Two-Parent Families	160	96	64	40.0%
Zero-Parent Families	341	264	77	22.6%
All Other Families	494	343	151	30.6%
TANF Timed-Out	88	76	12	13.6%
Safety Net/Fleeing Felon/LTS	181	171	10	5.5%
Total	1264	951	313	24.8%

**Abbreviations:** TANF = Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; LTS = Long-term Sanction

**Notes:** Average monthly persons benefitting from CalWORKs cash grant calculated by averaging the number of total persons in 8a cases (see 8a3 values) reported in the annual CalWORKs Cash Grant Caseload Movement Report (CA 237 CW) by available months for all caseload types. The “Total” is the sum of averages across caseload types.

**Source:** CA 237 CW – CalWORKs Cash Grant Caseload Movement Report (2015-16, 2019-20), CA Department of Social Services. Retrieved from <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/research-and-data/calworks-data-tables/ca-237-cw>.

## CalFRESH

CalFresh is a public assistance program that provides financial assistance to eligible, low-income individuals and families dealing with food insecurity. Like CalWORKs, the program serves all 58 counties in the state and is operated locally by county welfare departments. The amount of financial assistance provided depends on a number of factors, including income, the number of people who are eligible, and the special needs of any of those family members. In addition to financial assistance, CalFresh provides supports such as education services and resources, food distribution, and employment and training access assistance.

Data on families with children under 18 years that received public assistance in 2018 and 2020 are provided in Table 14. The percent of CalFresh individuals who are children under 18 years old are calculated in the table below. Overall, the proportion of CalFresh recipients in California who are children is 40%, with a lower proportion in Santa Clara County but a higher proportion in San Benito County. The Program Reach Index (PRI) estimates the proportion of eligible individuals in a local area who actually receive CalFresh benefits (Note: A high PRI indicates that the program has high utilization among eligible people.).

Across the state, 71% of eligible participants are accessing CalFresh. However, a lower proportion of individuals and families in Santa Clara (49%) and San Benito (67%) counties who could be benefitting from this program are utilizing the program.

**TABLE 14. FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS RECEIVING CALFRESH**

	California	Santa Clara County	San Benito County
CalFresh Households (October, 2020)	2,429,072	60,864	2,546
CalFresh Child-Only Households (January, 2020)	172,129	4,363	203
CalFresh Persons (October, 2020)	4,509,104	102,841	5,054
CalFresh Children under 18 years old (Point in Time, 2020)	1,810,547	34,469	2,439
Pct of CalFresh Persons who are Children*	40%	34%	48%
Program Reach Index (2018)	71%	49%	67%**

**Notes:** \*Indicates calculated row. Data was calculated by dividing CalFresh Persons (October, 2020) by CalFresh Children under 18 years old (Point in Time, 2020). \*\*Indicates the use of a 5-year summary. \*\*\*Indicates some data was masked or suppressed.

**Source:** CalFRESH Data Dashboard, Research and Data, Data Portal, CA Department of Social Services. Retrieved from <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/Data-Portal/Research-and-Data/CalFresh-Data-Dashboard>.

## Summary

Notable economic characteristics for Santa Clara County:

- The median family income for Santa Clara County cities ranges widely, from \$112,109 in Gilroy to over \$250,000 in Los Altos and Monte Sereno. These cities also have the highest and lowest respective percentage of families living in poverty for the county.
- In San Jose, where most of the population in the county resides, the estimated 2019 median family income for residents was \$123,291 which is below the County median family income. According to 2019 data, the median price for a single-family home in San Jose is \$1,100,000; the median price of a townhome in San Jose is \$720,000.

Notable economic characteristics for San Benito County:

- The unemployment rate in San Benito County has been consistently higher than the rate in Santa Clara County; San Benito had an unemployment rate of 6.9% in 2019, while Santa Clara had a 4.3% unemployment rate.
- The city of Hollister has 5,364 families with children, and 11.9% of those families live below the poverty level.

Notable economic characteristics for Santa Clara County and San Benito County:

- Housing costs and income levels are typically higher in Santa Clara County compared to San Benito County.

- The median household income in Santa Clara is \$46,001 higher than that of San Benito.
  - In Santa Clara County, the median value of an owner-occupied housing unit is \$423,500 higher than that of San Benito County.
  - Median monthly rent is \$733 more expensive in Santa Clara than in San Benito.
- Santa Clara County has a smaller percentage of families with children below poverty (5.8%) relative to San Benito (10.8%).
- Food insecurity rates are lower for the child population in both Santa Clara (7.2%) and San Benito (11.7%) counties compared to the state child population (15.2%) The state general population food insecurity rate is 10.8%.



## Chapter 4: Health Characteristics

### Background

This chapter provides an overview of the health status of the residents in Santa Clara and San Benito County. Emphasis is placed in county-level children's health data. The information in this chapter is intended to help guide delivery of Head Start health services.

### Health Ranks

Many factors attribute to the health status of a community. The University of Wisconsin's Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation divide the term into two categories: 1) Health Factors (e.g., health behaviors, clinical care, and social/economic/physical environment) and 2) Health Outcomes (how long people live (mortality) and how healthy people feel (morbidity)). Data is available by county on a variety of factors that are averaged to establish ranks. For both Health Outcomes and Health Factors, ranks closer to one are more desirable. In 2020, Santa Clara County ranked third in Health Outcomes and fourth in Health Factors out of 57 counties; by contrast, San Benito was ranked 20 and 25 in Health Outcomes and Health Factors, respectively (see Table 15).

**TABLE 15. HEALTH RANKINGS BY COUNTY (2020)**

	Health Outcomes	Health Factors
Santa Clara County	3	4
San Benito County	20	25

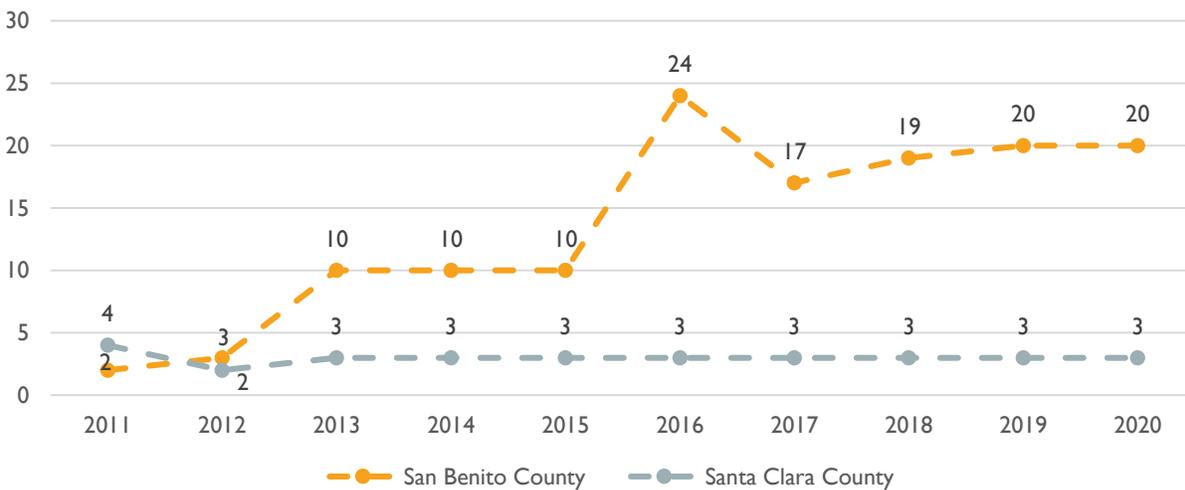
**Notes:** Ranks for 2020 are based on 57 (out of 58) counties in California (CA). A lower number represents better health outcomes and factors.

**Source:** County Health Rankings & Roadmap (2020), University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

### Health Outcomes

Health Outcomes ranks for Santa Clara and San Benito County are plotted in Figure 6. Santa Clara’s rank has held stable since 2013. By comparison, San Benito’s rank has fluctuated and has generally worsened since that time. The decline in San Benito’s rank that has occurred over the past ten years can be attributed to a combination of worsening performance on key health outcomes indicators and improvements made in other counties such as Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz.

**FIGURE 6. HEALTH OUTCOMES RANKS OVER TIME BY COUNTY (2020)**



**Source:** County Health Rankings & Roadmap (2020), University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Level differences between counties are explained by differences in performance on length of life and quality of life measures. For example, on average, Santa Clara County residents can expect to live three years longer than residents of San Benito County where a greater percentage of adults self-reported being in poor or fair health (17% vs. 12% of respondents from Santa Clara) and where roughly one in 10 adults reported frequent physical and mental distress (see Table 16).

**TABLE 16. HEALTH OUTCOMES INDICATORS BY COUNTY (2020)**

	Santa Clara County	San Benito County
<b>Length of Life</b>		
Life expectancy	85 years	82 years
Child mortality	30 per 100,000	40 per 100,000
<b>Quality of Life</b>		
Poor or fair health	12%	17%
Frequent physical distress	8%	11%
Frequent mental distress	9%	11%

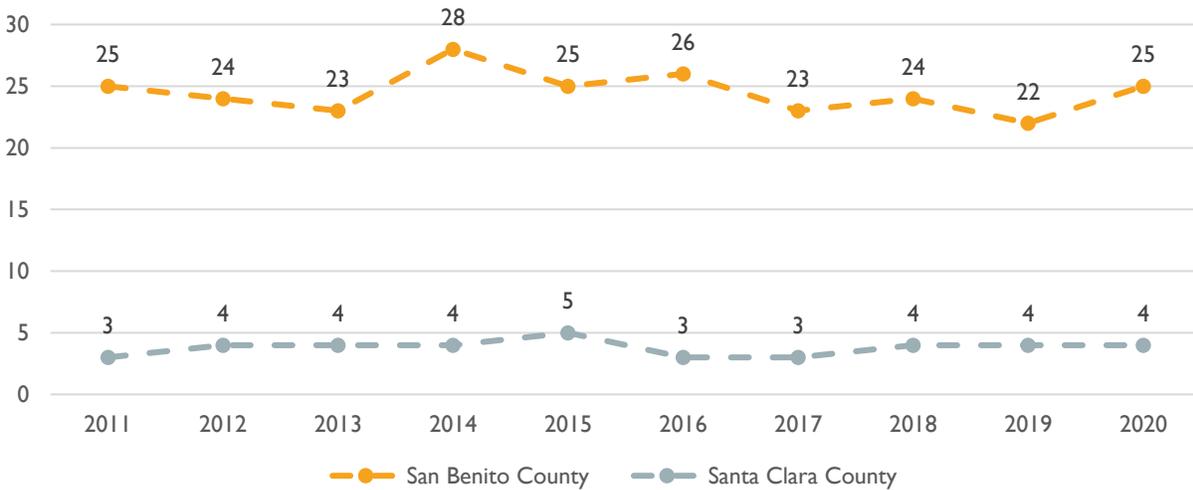
**Notes:** Quality of Life indicators for poor or fair health, frequent physical distress, and frequent mental distress are based on self-report survey data. “Frequent” is defined as 14 or more days of poor health per month.

**Source:** County Health Rankings & Roadmap (2020), University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

### Health Factors

Like Health Outcomes ranks, level differences between counties on Health Factors ranks are evident. Since 2011, Santa Clara has ranked among the top five of California’s counties while San Benito’s has maintained an average rank of 24.5 (see Figure 7).

**FIGURE 7. HEALTH FACTORS RANKS OVER TIME BY COUNTY (2020)**



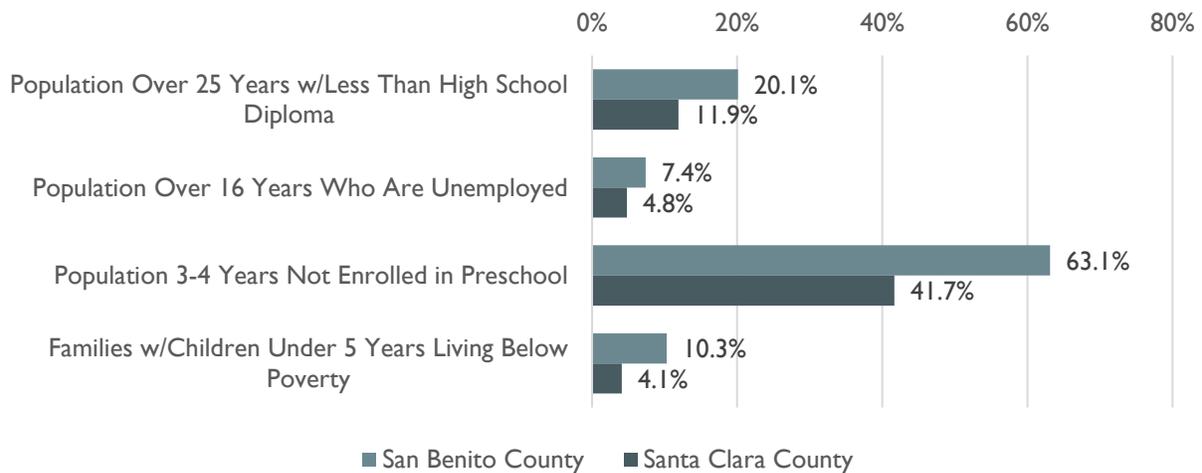
**Source:** County Health Rankings & Roadmap (2020), University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Level differences in Health Factors ranks between counties are the result of differences in social and economic factors, differences in resident health behaviors, and by disparities between counties on access to health care.

### Differences in Social and Economic Factors

A summary of differences on select social and economic factors by county is provided in Figure 8. In San Benito County, 20% of adults over the age of 25 years have not graduated from high school, 7% of residents over the age of 16 years are unemployed, and 10% of families with children under the age of five years are living below the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). By comparison, in Santa Clara County, the rates are lower at 12%, 5%, and 4% respectively. Further, current American Community Survey estimates indicate that 63% children ages 3-4 years who reside in San Benito are not enrolled in preschool (vs. 42% of children ages 3-4 years who reside in Santa Clara). This finding suggests that six out of every 10 children in San Benito County are not able to benefit from early learning programs that are paramount to development in areas that promote Kindergarten readiness.

**FIGURE 8. SELECT POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS BY COUNTY (2019)**



**Source:** American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2015-2019), U.S. Census Bureau

### Differences in Health Behaviors

Health behaviors data that are factored into the calculation of county Health Factors ranks come from a variety of sources including national surveys and databases such as the United States Diabetes Surveillance System and CDC WONDER. A summary of select health behavior indicators by county is provided in Table 17. Rates for physical inactivity and adult obesity are at least 12 percentage points lower in Santa Clara where the incidence of teen births among females ages 15-19 years and injury deaths is less common.

**TABLE 17. HEALTH BEHAVIORS INDICATORS BY COUNTY (2020)**

	Santa Clara County	San Benito County
<b>Health Behaviors</b>		
Adult obesity	19%	32%
Physical inactivity	16%	28%
Teen births	11 per 1,000	19 per 1,000
Injury deaths	38 per 100,000	58 per 100,000

**Notes:** Adults obesity – Percentage of the adult population (age 20 or older) that reports a BMI  $\geq$  30 kg/m<sup>2</sup>; Physical inactivity – Percentage of adults (age 20 or older) reporting no leisure-time physical activity; Teen births – population-weighted rates calculated for females ages 15-19 years.

**Source:** County Health Rankings & Roadmap (2020), University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

### *Differences in Access to Health Care Professionals*

Notable differences in access to health care professionals exist between counties. As shown in Table 18, there are at least 2x the number of dentists and 3x the number of doctors and mental health professionals available to each Santa Clara County resident. Further, a two-year comparison of patient:provider ratios indicates that the situation has improved in Santa Clara County across all provider types while patient:doctor, and patient:dentist ratios worsened in San Benito County. These data partially explain why San Benito’s Health Factors worsened to 25 in 2020.

**TABLE 18. PATIENT:PROVIDER RATIOS BY COUNTY BY YEAR**

	2019		2020	
	Santa Clara County	San Benito County	Santa Clara County	San Benito County
<b>Ratios</b>				
Patients:Doctors	970:1	3,130:1	960:1(†)	3,170:1(↓)
Patients:Dentists	880:1	1,830:1	870:1(†)	1,920:1(↓)
Patients:Mental Health Professionals	310:1	1,010:1	290:1(†)	920:1(†)

**Notes:** † = Indicates movement in a positive direction; ↓ = Indicates movement in a negative direction.

**Source:** County Health Rankings & Roadmap (2020), University of Wisconsin’s Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

## Children’s Health and Wellness

Additional data on children’s health and wellness factors that contribute to county Health Outcomes ranks is provided in this section beginning with information on health insurance status.

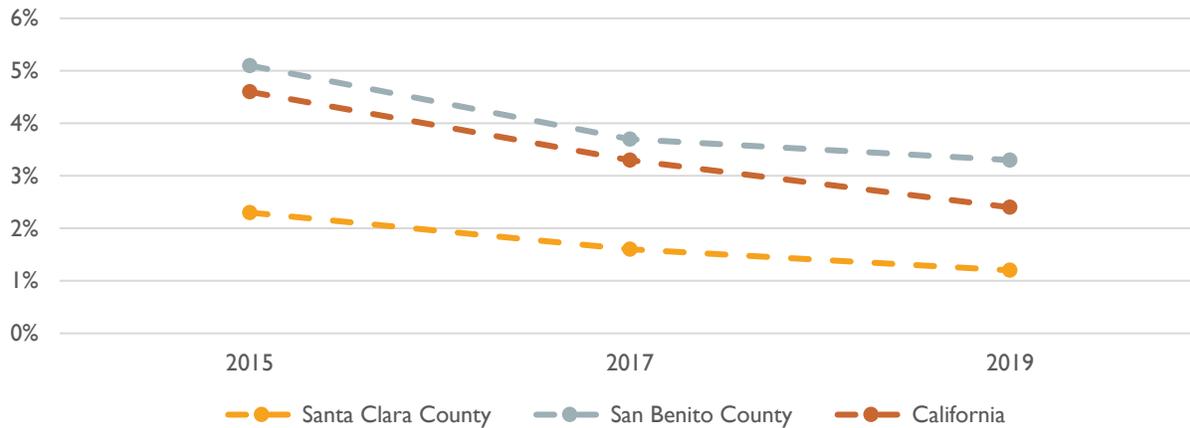
### Health Insurance Status

Children that have health insurance are more likely than uninsured children to receive early care for health problems as well as experience improved outcomes that extend beyond health.<sup>6</sup> As shown in Figure 9,

<sup>6</sup> Murphey, D., Health Insurance Coverage Improves Child Well-Being (May 2017), Research Brief, Child Trends. Retrieved January 20, 2021 from <https://www.childtrends.org/publications/health-insurance-coverage-improves-child-well>.

the estimated percent of children ages 0-5 years who are without health insurance has decreased since 2015. There is a positive trend that applies statewide and in Santa Clara and San Benito County. However, as of 2019, the uninsured rate among children ages 0-5 who reside in San Benito is one percentage point higher than the statewide rate of 2%.

**FIGURE 9. UNINSURED RATES FOR CHILDREN AGES 0-5 BY COUNTY**



**Source:** Table S2701, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates (2015-2019), U.S. Census Bureau

### Immunizations

Immunizations guard against the contraction of communicable diseases.<sup>7</sup> As such, California law requires students to be immunized when they enroll in school and public childcare programs, with some exceptions. Child immunization is measured by the percentage of children receiving all required immunizations by Kindergarten enrollment. As shown in Table 19, 97% of all children entering Kindergarten in the 2018/19 academic year in Santa Clara and San Benito County received all required immunizations. The Kindergarten immunization rate among children in San Benito County declined by 1.3 percentage points from the previous year.

**TABLE 19. KINDERGARTENER IMMUNIZATION RATES BY COUNTY BY YEAR**

	2017/18		2018/19	
	Pct. Who Received All Required Immunizations	No. Who Received All Required Immunizations	Pct. Who Received All Required Immunizations	No. Who Received All Required Immunizations
Santa Clara County	96.7%	25529	97.3%	24817
San Benito County	98.3%	1002	97.0%	1020
California	95.1%	536642	94.8%	526923

**Abbreviations:** Pct. = Percent; No. = Number

**Source:** Kindergarten Immunization Assessment, Immunization Branch CA Department of Public Health. Retrieved on January 19, 2021 from [www.shotsforschools.org/k-12/reporting-data/](http://www.shotsforschools.org/k-12/reporting-data/).

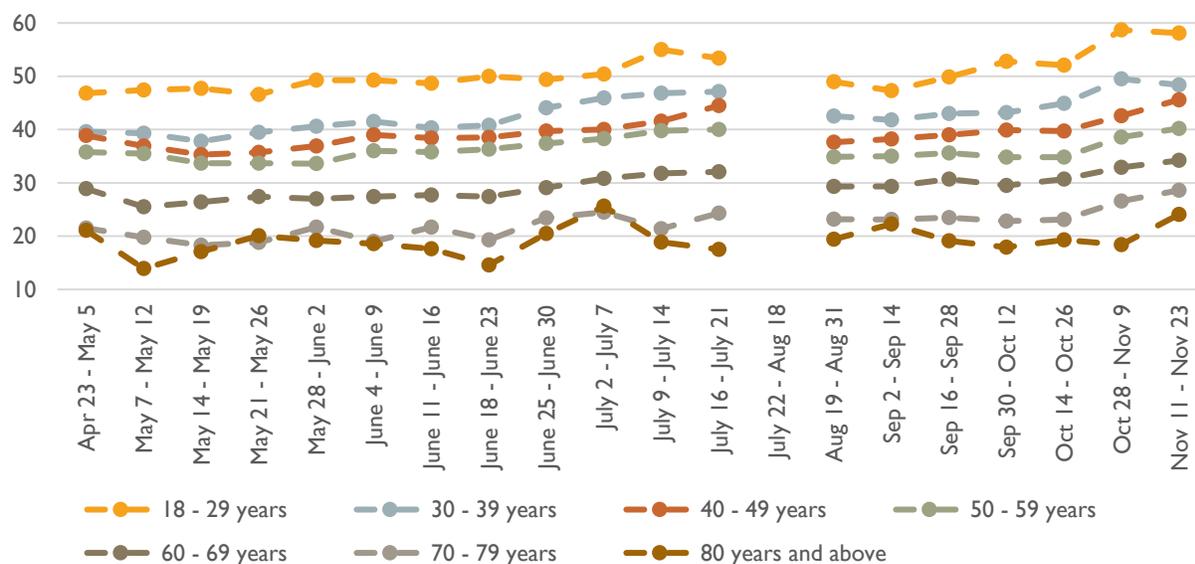
<sup>7</sup> Why Are Childhood Vaccines So Important? Vaccines & Immunizations; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved January 20, 2021 from <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vac-gen/howvpd.htm>.

## Mental Health

Current data on mental health and wellness is not available for children in the 0-5 age group nor at the local level. To complicate things further, issues involving mental health that originate in early childhood often do not manifest into diagnosable problems or disorder until late childhood or adolescence. Despite these limitations, it is important to note that factors presented elsewhere in this report place children and families serviced by Head Start at increased risk for poor mental health and wellness outcomes. Further, many issues may be exacerbated by the current health pandemic (i.e., COVID-19) such as added stress or anxiety resulting from decreased housing and economic stability due to school and business closures, prolonged social isolation, and disruption of school routines and schedules that normally provide structure in the lives of youth.

Data on mental health and wellness that are available at the National and State levels provide some insight into the impact of COVID-19 on youth. Data reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that are collected through the regular administration of the Household Pulse Survey by the U.S. Census Bureau indicate that rates for the experience of symptoms of anxiety and depression (a) are elevated among younger age groups and (b) have increased in recent months especially among respondents in the 18-29 years age group (see Figure 10).

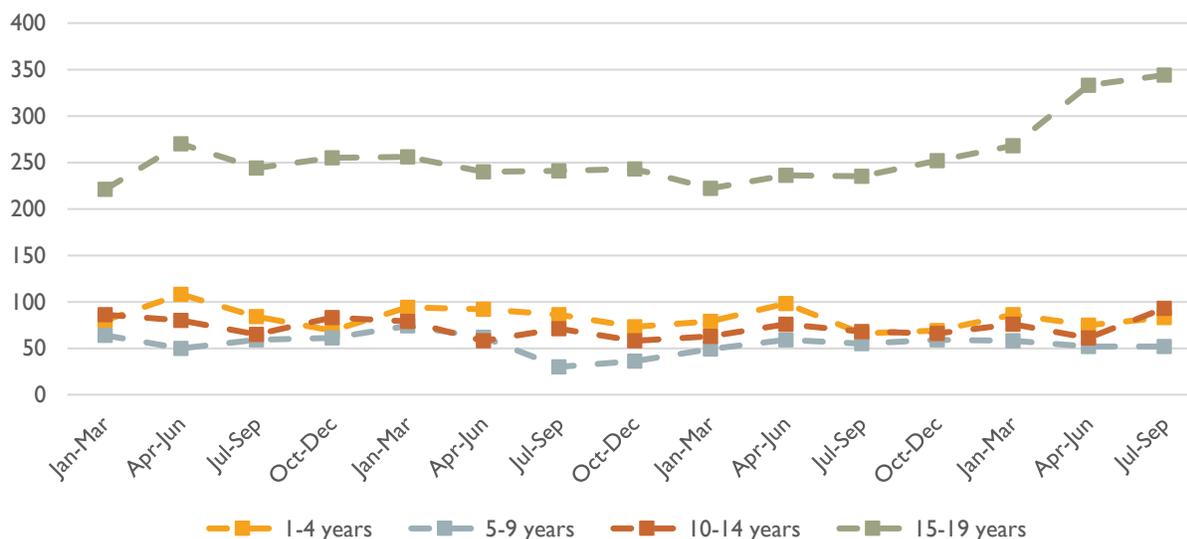
**FIGURE 10. PERCENT OF ADULTS REPORTING SYMPTOMS OF ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION**



**Source:** Indicators of Anxiety or Depression Based on Reported Frequency of Symptoms During Last 7 Days (Dec. 2, 2020). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved November 30, 2020 from <https://data.cdc.gov/NCHS/Indicators-of-Anxiety-or-Depression-Based-on-Report/8pt5-q6wp>.

With these data, it is reasonable to speculate that rates for anxiety and depression symptomology may be higher among adolescents and that the heightened experience of symptomology typical of mood disorder may be responsible for the spike in deaths among children ages 15-19 years that has occurred since the first quarter of 2020 (see Figure 11).

**FIGURE 11. NUMBER OF DEATHS BY AGE GROUP BY QUARTER**



**Source:** Deaths by Age by Month, Statewide Death Profiles, CA Health and Human Services Open Data Portal. Retrieved November 20, 2020 from <https://data.chhs.ca.gov/dataset/statewide-death-profiles>.

### Environmental Exposures

Children’s rapid development, from before they are born through early childhood, and their engagement in age-appropriate behaviors such as crawling and learning by placing things in their mouths, makes them more vulnerable to environmental exposures that have the potential to have a negative impact on health and development.<sup>8</sup> Local data related to common exposures, including contaminants in the air and water, are provided in this section.

#### Air Quality

Children, due to their daily behaviors, more narrow airways, rapid respiration rate, and high metabolism, are at an increased risk for exposure to poor air quality, in particular excess ozone levels and particulate matter pollutants, that have been found to have a negative impact on one’s health and development. Particulate matter (PM) is the term for the mixture of solid particles and liquid in the air. PM is broken down into two categories: PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>. PM<sub>10</sub> are particles that are 10 micrometers or less in diameter while PM<sub>2.5</sub> are fine particles less than 2.5 micrometers.<sup>9</sup> Both types of particles can be inhaled and get into the lungs and bloodstream, causing health issues. PM<sub>2.5</sub> are especially dangerous due to their small size.<sup>10</sup> Common sources of particulate matter include construction sites, fires, fields, power plants, or vehicles. Ozone is a gas that occurs in the Earth’s atmosphere and on the ground. Ground-level ozone comes from chemical reactions from nitrogen and volatile organic compounds, which happen when pollutants from sources such as vehicles or power plants are exposed to sunlight.<sup>11</sup> Inhaling ozone can trigger chest pain, coughing, airway inflammation, and can exacerbate health issues like asthma.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Protecting Kids from Environmental Exposure, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Retrieved January 20, 2021 from <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/features/pehsu/index.html>.

<sup>9</sup> United States Environmental Protection Agency (2018). Particulate Matter (PM) Basics.

<sup>10</sup> <https://blissair.com/what-is-pm-2-5.htm>

<sup>11</sup> United States Environmental Agency (2018). Ground-level Ozone Basics.

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/ground-level-ozone-pollution/health-effects-ozone-pollution>

Table 20 displays 2019 data for the number of days where PM<sub>2.5</sub> and ozone levels were above National regulatory standards. Differences between counties are marginal. More importantly, the low values for San Benito and Santa Clara on both measures indicates that air quality in the Head Start service area does not pose significant health concerns. For comparison, the estimated number of days in which PM<sub>2.5</sub> and ozone levels exceeded National standards in Los Angeles, the most heavily populated and industrious of California’s 58 counties, were 3.1 and 78 respectively.

**TABLE 20. MEASURES OF AIR QUALITY (2019)**

	Santa Clara County	San Benito County
Estimated days > National standard of 35 mcg/m <sup>3</sup>	0	0
Days with ozone levels above regulatory standard	4	0

**Abbreviations:** mcg/m<sup>3</sup> = Micrograms per cubic meter

**Source:** Ozone (National) and PM<sub>2.5</sub> Reports, Air Quality Trends Summary, CA Air Resources Board. Retrieved on January 19, 2021 from <https://www.arb.ca.gov/adam/trends/trends1.php>

#### *Performance Against Local Bay Area Standards*

The Spare the Air Program was established in 1991 by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to reduce air pollution and provide advance notice when air quality is forecast to reach unhealthy levels.<sup>13</sup> Table 21 lists the number of Spare the Air advisories issued for the Bay Area for the past ten years. In 2020, 52 advisories were issued due to increased ozone and particulate matter concentrations resulting from wildfires – 26 more advisories than the year prior and the highest number of advisories reported in the past 10 years.

**TABLE 21. NUMBER OF BAY AREA SPARE THE AIR ADVISORIES BY YEAR**

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
10	8	10	6	10	9	27	18	13	26	52

**Source:** Ozone Historical Data, Data and Records, Spare the Air, Bay Area Air Quality Management District. Retrieved on January 19, 2021 from <https://www.sparetheair.org/about/what-is-spare-the-air>.

#### *Water Quality*

Contaminants in the water supply can cause gastrointestinal illness and contribute to other issues such as reproductive disorders, cancers, or neurological disorders.<sup>14</sup> Similar to issues with problematic air quality, developing children are especially sensitive to harmful effects from water contamination. Table 22 lists the number of total and Class I violations issued to agencies located in San Benito and Santa Clara County from 2015 to 2020. Class I violations are violations that pose an immediate and substantial threat to water quality and that have the potential to cause significant detrimental impacts to human health and the environment. While the number of total violations issued to agencies in San Benito County far exceeds the number issued in Santa Clara, neither county was issued a Class I violation over the five-year period.

<sup>13</sup> What is Spare the Air?, Spare the Air, Bay Area Air Quality Management District. Retrieved on January 19, 2021 from <https://www.sparetheair.org/about/what-is-spare-the-air>.

<sup>14</sup> [https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/water\\_diseases.html](https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/water_diseases.html)

**TABLE 22. NUMBER OF WATER VIOLATIONS BY COUNTY BY YEAR**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Santa Clara County</b>					
Total Violations	3	3	18	3	0
Class I Violations	0	0	0	0	0
<b>San Benito County</b>					
Total Violations	51	64	91	171	39
Class I Violations	0	0	0	0	0

**Notes:** Class I Violations are defined as violations that pose an immediate and substantial threat to water quality and that have the potential to cause significant detrimental impacts to human health or the environment.

**Source:** Violation Report, CA Integrated Water Quality System Project (CIWQS), State Water Resources Control Board, CA Environmental Protection Agency.

### *Lead Exposure*

According to the Santa Clara County Public Health Department, childhood lead poisoning is considered one of the most preventable environmental diseases in young children. Exposure to high lead levels greater than 10 micrograms per deciliter (mcg/dL) may inhibit normal neurological growth and development in children and cause hearing deficits, speech/language impairments, and poor attention spans, however, levels as low as 4.5 mcg/dL are considered abnormal by the Centers for Disease Control and warrant treatment.<sup>15</sup> As shown in Table 23, as of 2015, only 1% percent of children ages 0-5 years screened in San Benito County tested positive for elevated blood lead levels. Santa Clara County's test positivity rate was .01 percentage points higher than the statewide rate of 1.4%. Though not displayed in the table below, current data from 2018 indicate that the percent of children ages 0-5 years in Santa Clara County that tested positive for elevated blood lead levels remains at 1.5%.<sup>16</sup> Current data from San Benito County are suppressed.

**TABLE 23. PERCENT OF CHILDREN WITH ELEVATED BLOOD LEAD LEVELS (2015)**

	No. of Children Ages 0-5 Years Screened for Blood Lead Levels	No. of Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels	Pct. of Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels
Santa Clara County	19900	289	1.5%
San Benito County	697	7	1.0%
California	536075	7657	1.4%

**Notes:** Children with elevated blood lead levels are children with a blood level of 4.5 mcg/dL or greater.

**Source:** Blood Lead Data (2015), Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch, CA Department of Public Health.

<sup>15</sup> Blood Lead Levels in Children, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved January 20, 2021 from <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/prevention/blood-lead-levels.htm>.

<sup>16</sup> 2018 Blood Lead Levels Maps and Data, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## Summary

### Notable health characteristics for Santa Clara County:

- Since 2011, Santa Clara County has ranked among the top five of California's 57 counties on Health Outcomes and Health Factors rankings calculated by the University of Wisconsin's Population Health Institute.
- Santa Clara County's patient:provider ratios improved across all provider types (i.e., doctors, dentists, and mental health professionals) from 2019 to 2020.
- An estimated 99% of Santa Clara County's children ages 0-5 years have health insurance.
- Less than 10% of Santa Clara County residents surveyed reported the experience of frequent physical or mental distress.

### Notable health characteristics for San Benito County:

- San Benito County's County Health Factors rank worsened to 25 out of 57 counties in 2020.
- The number of doctors and dentists per capita in San Benito County worsened from 2019 to 2020.
- 99% of San Benito County's children ages 0-5 years did not test positive for elevated blood lead levels.

### Notable health characteristics for Santa Clara County and San Benito County:

- Santa Clara and San Benito County rank among the lower 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of California's counties in terms of Health Outcomes and Health Factors ranks.
- The percent of Santa Clara's and San Benito County's children who are without health insurance has decreased since 2015.
- Fewer than 3% of children who enter Kindergarten are without all required immunizations in both counties.
- No Class I water violations have been issued in Santa Clara nor San Benito County over the past 5 years.



## Chapter 5: Education Characteristics

### Background

Much of the data in this chapter comes from the California Department of Education’s online portal known as DataQuest. Actual and projected public school enrollment data, including enrollment in public charter schools, are provided for both counties. This information is followed by data on student outcomes ranging from standardized test performance to high school graduation rates. Key teacher demographics by county are included as are U.S. Census Bureau estimates for educational attainment.

### Public School Demographics

Table 24 provides data on public schools including the number and type of schools, both traditional and non-traditional, and student enrollment by district/school type. Across both counties, the majority of students (approximately 97%) are enrolled in traditional school settings. Santa Clara County student enrollment in non-traditional schools is slightly higher than that of San Benito County (2.4% vs. 1.0%). California district sites and student totals do not equal the overall total number/enrollment numbers because additional district designations exist that are not presented in this table. Additionally, charter school numbers only include charter schools where the County Offices of Education are the administrative authority.

**TABLE 24. PUBLIC SCHOOL FACTORS (2019)**

	San Benito County		Santa Clara County		California	
	Count	Number of Students	Count	Number of Students	Count	Number of Students
<b>Districts</b>						
Elementary	9	7,296	20	108,902	525	1,220,725
Unified	1	1,028	6	88,225	346	4,220,013
High	1	3,188	5	54,163	78	584,500
Other	1	33	1	12,159	88	123,740
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11,545</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>263,449</b>	<b>1,037</b>	<b>6,148,978</b>
<b>Traditional Schools</b>						
Elementary	19	6,343	257	123,974	5,887	2,979,617
Inter./Middle/Jr. High	2	1,578	67	50,010	1,331	999,764
High	2	3,421	56	81,017	1,322	1,744,104
K-12	0	0	3	1,727	359	270,776
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>11,342</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>256,728</b>	<b>8,899</b>	<b>5,994,261</b>
<b>Non-Traditional Schools</b>						
Alternative Education	0	0	11	2,826	268	59,094
Community	1	13	4	126	147	3,300
Continuation	1	88	11	1,631	425	49,943
Special Education	0	0	1	1,109	137	19,852
Other	3	24	29	658	712	36,551
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>6,350</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>168,740</b>
<b>TOTAL<sup>†</sup></b>	<b>11,545</b>		<b>263,449</b>		<b>6,163,001</b>	

<sup>†</sup>**Note:** The totals include nonpublic/nonsectarian students (students with disabilities receiving special education and related services outside of the district or county office).

**Sources:** Fingertip Facts on Education in California – *CalEdFacts*, California Department of Education, Retrieved from [www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/ceffingertipfacts.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/cb/ceffingertipfacts.asp). CALPADS UPC Source File (K12), California Department of Education. Retrieved from [www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filescupc.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filescupc.asp).

Table 25 shows historical enrollment in charter schools for the both counties as well as the state. Charter enrollment increased by 13% in San Benito County and by 4.6% in California from 2018-19 to 2019-20. Charter enrollment in Santa Clara County has remained relatively stable since 2018-19. As of 2020, five percent (65 of 1,306) of California charter schools were located in Santa Clara County.

**TABLE 25. ENROLLMENT IN CHARTER SCHOOLS BY YEAR**

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
<b>San Benito County</b>	181	242	302	361	426	480	542
<b>Santa Clara County</b>	26,979	28,844	30,039	31,259	32,278	31,552	31,584
<b>California</b>	514,275	544,980	572,752	602,837	628,849	652,044	675,374

**Notes:** As of 2020, there is 1 charter in operation in San Benito County, 65 in Santa Clara County and 1,314 in California.

**Source:** Enrollment by Subgroup for Charter and Non-charter Schools, DataQuest, California Department of Education. Retrieved from <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>.

### Historical and Projected Student Enrollment

Table 26 shows historical and projected student enrollment figures for San Benito County, Santa Clara County, and California. Based on trends in actual enrollment, enrollment in San Benito is expected to increase by almost 2% over the next five years. Enrollment in Santa Clara County is expected to decline

by 7% over the next five years. Declining enrollment can be attributed to a number of factors such as a declining birth rate and re-location of families due to high cost of living in the South Bay Area.

**TABLE 26. HISTORICAL ENROLLMENT AND ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS**

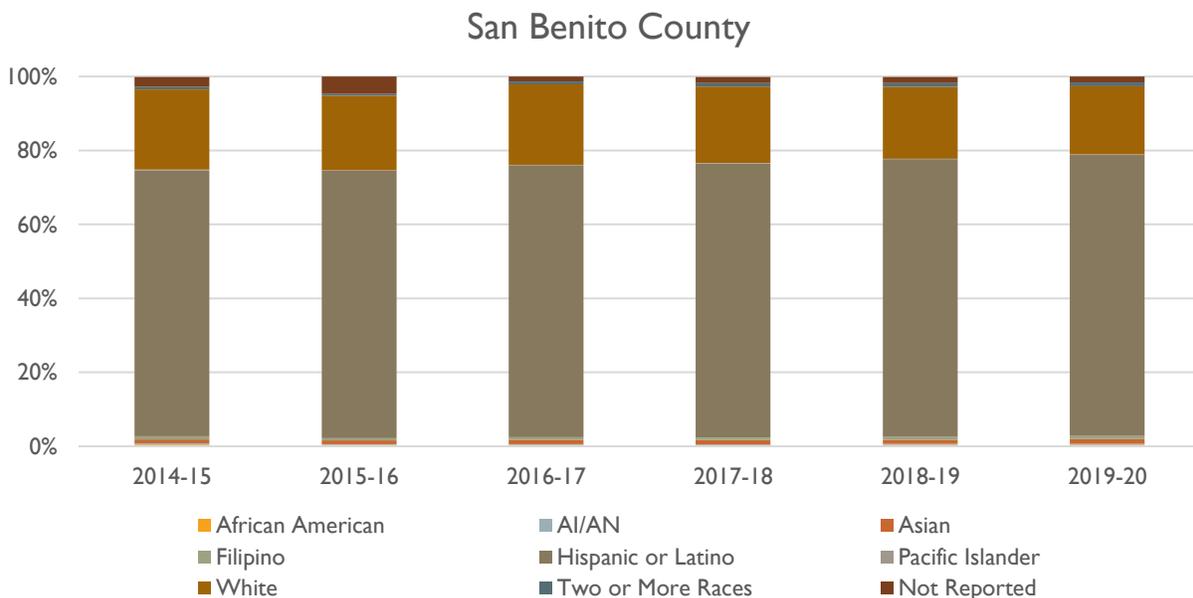
	Year	San Benito County	Santa Clara County	California
Historical Enrollment	2015-16	11,114	274,948	6,226,737
	2016-17	11,164	273,264	6,228,235
	2017-18	11,253	272,132	6,220,413
	2018-19	11,438	267,224	6,186,278
	2019-20	11,545	263,449	6,163,001
Projected Enrollment	2020-21	11,468	260,527	6,154,761
	2021-22	11,563	256,437	6,124,164
	2022-23	11,599	251,878	6,077,373
	2023-24	11,673	246,754	6,011,199
	2024-25	11,648	241,476	5,948,487

**Source:** Enrollment by Ethnicity and Grade, DataQuest, California Department of Education, Retrieved from <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>. California Public K-12 Graded Enrollment and High School Graduate Projections by County, Demographic Research Unit, Department of Finance. Retrieved from [https://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/Projections/Public\\_K-12\\_Graded\\_Enrollment/](https://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/Projections/Public_K-12_Graded_Enrollment/).

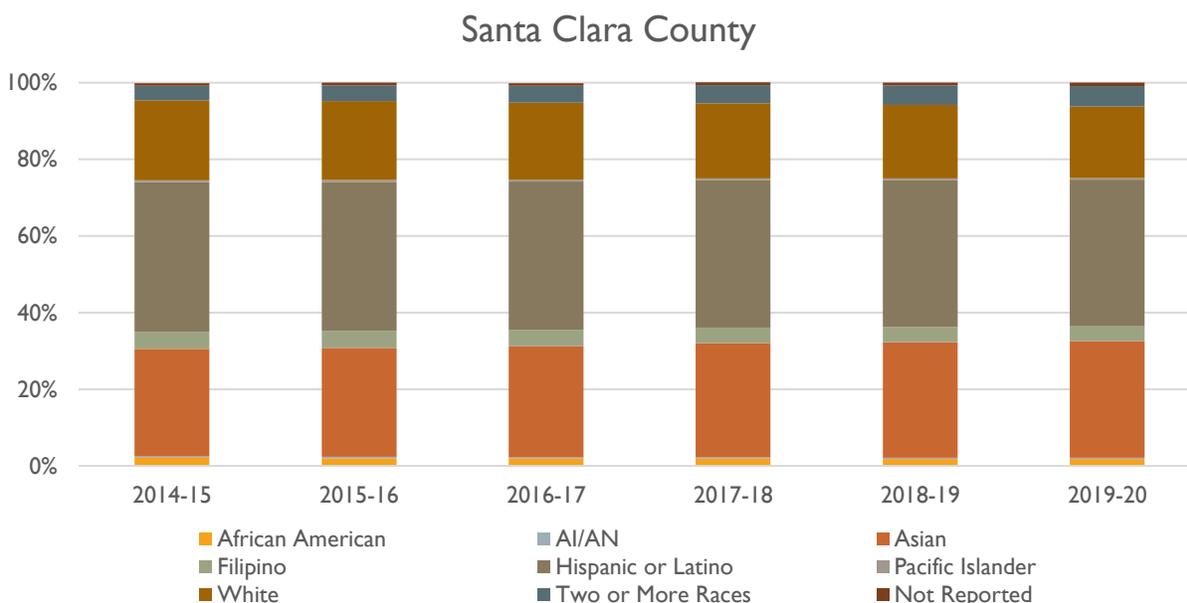
### Student Enrollment by Race and Ethnicity

The demographic makeup of student populations within counties has not been significantly affected by changes in student enrollment. Compared to 2018-19, there has been a slight increase (<1 percent) in the number of Asian and Hispanic/Latino students in Santa Clara County and the proportion of Hispanic/Latino students in San Benito County has increased by one percentage-point (see Figure 12). The number of Asian students enrolled in San Benito County schools has remained relatively the same over time and the number of White students has decreased one percent.

**FIGURE 12. STUDENT ENROLLMENT BY RACE/ETHNICITY BY YEAR**



**FIGURE 12. STUDENT ENROLLMENT BY RACE/ETHNICITY BY YEAR (cont.)**



**Abbreviations:** AI/AN = American Indian/Alaskan Native

**Notes:** Total enrollment in San Benito County ranged from 11,166 students in 2014/15 to 11,545 students in 2019/20. Total enrollment in Santa Clara County ranged from 276,689 students in 2014/15 to 263,449 students in 2019/20.

**Source:** Enrollment Multi-Year Summary by Ethnicity, DataQuest, CA Department of Education.

### Student Characteristics and Completion Rates

Table 27 displays various student information including the percent of K-12 students that are English Language Learners (ELLs), number of languages spoken at schools, and number of high school graduates that meet University of California (UC) or California State University (CSU) enrollment standards. In the 2019-20 academic year, the percent of ELL students in San Benito County (25.0%) was three percentage-points higher than the percent of ELL students in Santa Clara County (21.7%). However, the number of languages spoken by students in Santa Clara was more than double that of San Benito (65 vs. 27). Data on school completion and college readiness suggests that, though more students complete school in San Benito (9.9% vs. 13.8% drop-out rate), a lower overall percentage are prepared for entry into four-year colleges. In San Benito County, 45.8% of high school graduates met UC or CSU enrollment criteria compared to 59% of Santa Clara County graduates.

**TABLE 27. STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS AND COMPLETION RATES**

	San Benito County	Santa Clara County	California
Enrollment (2019-20)	11,545	263,449	6,163,001
Percent of K-12 Students that are English Learners	25.0%	21.7%	18.6%
Languages Spoken in Schools*	27	64	72
UC/CSU Eligible High School Graduates (2017-18)	45.8%	59.0%	49.0%
Dropout Rate (2019-20)**	9.9%	13.8%	8.9%

**Note:** \*Includes all other non-English language spoken at schools. \*\*Dropout Rate is the percentage of cohort students who do not graduate with a regular high school diploma, do not complete high school, and are not still enrolled as a "fifth year senior".

**Source:** Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate and Outcome Data, California Department of Education, Retrieved from <http://cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filesacgr.asp>.

### Students with Disabilities

Table 28 provides data on the number of students with disabilities enrolled in each county. The four most commonly diagnosed disabilities categories for both counties include Autism, Specific Learning Disabilities, Speech or Language Impairment, and Other Health Impairment (displayed in bold).

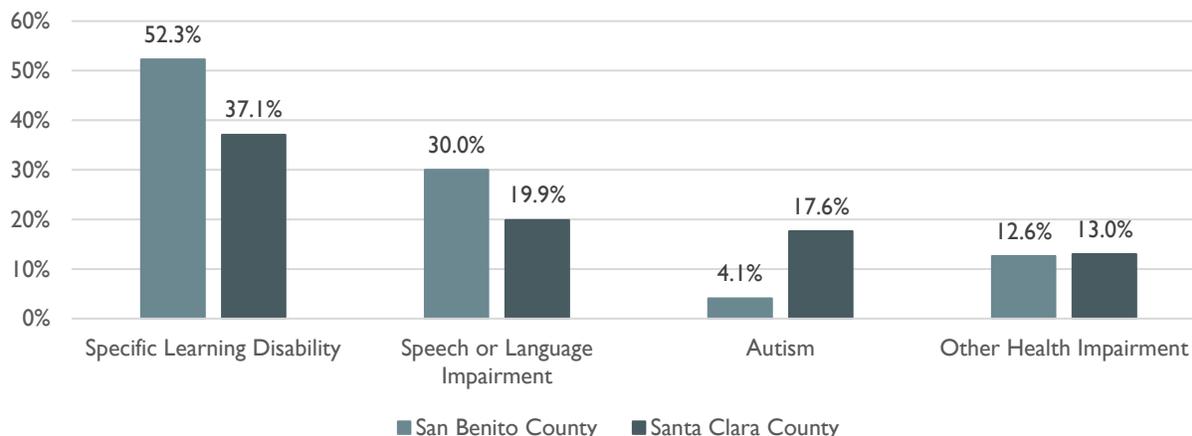
**TABLE 28. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (2018)**

Type of Disability	San Benito County	Santa Clara County
<b>Autism</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>5,081</b>
Deaf	0	0
Deaf Blindness	0	0
Emotional Disturbance	0	1,102
Hard of Hearing	0	416
Intellectual Disability	11	1,493
Multiple Disability	0	207
Orthopedic Impairment	0	295
<b>Other Health Impairment</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>3,756</b>
<b>Specific Learning Disability</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>10,711</b>
<b>Speech or Language Impairment</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>5,748</b>
Traumatic Brain Injury	0	0
Visual Impairment	0	97

**Source:** Special Education Enrollment by Age and Disability (2018/19), DataQuest, CA Department of Education.

A visual comparison of the four most frequently reported disabilities among students in each county is provided in Figure 13. Among students with disabilities, 52% of special education students in San Benito and 37% of those in Santa Clara have a specific learning disability. Among students with disabilities, autism rates are four times greater in Santa Clara County than in San Benito County (18% vs. 4%, respectively).

**FIGURE 13. RATES FOR MOST COMMONLY DIAGNOSED DISABILITIES (2018)**



**Source:** Special Education Enrollment by Age and Disability (2018/19), DataQuest, CA Department of Education.

A comparative analysis of diagnosed speech/language pathology (SLP) and autism rates among children enrolled in Head Start and children ages 3-4 years enrolled in preschool in both counties indicates that Head Start serves a greater proportion of students with SLP and autism diagnoses compared to other, public preschool programs. Additionally, over time, the proportion of children enrolled in Head Start (and in preschool in general) with diagnosed SLP disabilities has decreased while the proportion of children with autism has increased. These data indicate the importance of hiring and/or training staff to meet the unique needs of preschool-aged children with autism.

### Student Expenditures

Based on average daily attendance, the average annual cost per student in San Benito County is \$11,714 (see Table 29). In Santa Clara County the average annual cost expended per student is over \$2,000 more at \$14,139. Annual average per student expenditures in Santa Clara County ranged from a low of \$10,862 in Cambrian Elementary School District to a high of \$33,128 in Lakeside Joint Union School District.<sup>17</sup>

**TABLE 29. AVERAGE PER STUDENT ANNUAL COST OF EDUCATION BASED ON ADA (2018)**

	San Benito County	Santa Clara County	California
Cost per Average Daily Attendance (ADA)	\$11,714	\$14,139	\$13,079

**Notes:** The CDE defines total average daily attendance (ADA) as the total days of student attendance divided by the total days of instruction. The type of ADA used is annual district ADA (for the same year as the expenditures) from CDE's "Attendance School District" and "Attendance Charter School" reports and includes ADA from special education programs and applicable charter schools (i.e., those charter schools with data in the district's Current Expense of Education calculation). ADA credited to districts for the attendance of pupils in county-operated programs is not included.

**Source:** Current Expense of Education (2018/19), Data and Statistics, CA Department of Education. Retrieved from <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/currentexpense.asp>.

<sup>17</sup> Current Expense of Education (2018-19), Data and Statistics, California Department of Education. Retrieved from <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/currentexpense.asp>.

## Teacher Demographics

Table 30 provides several points of information on teachers in the state, Santa Clara County, and San Benito County. San Benito County has a lower average teacher salary (\$78,120 vs. \$96,686) and has a slightly higher percentage of first- and second-year teachers (15.6% vs. 13.4%) compared to Santa Clara County. The proportion of teachers in Santa Clara County with a Master’s degree or higher (49%) is nearly double that of San Benito (29%). Not displayed in Table 38 are data on student:teacher ratios. Results from an analysis of student enrollment and the total number of full-time teachers indicate that Santa Clara County, San Benito County, and California have approximately the same student:teacher ratios (~21:1).

**TABLE 30. COMPARISON OF TEACHER DEMOGRAPHICS (2019)**

	San Benito County	Santa Clara County	California
Number of full-time teachers	509	13,048	307,470
Average teacher salary	\$78,120	\$96,686	\$84,531
Average years teaching	14	13	14
Master’s degree or higher	29.3%	49.0%	47.8%
Female teacher	74.8%	75.3%	73.8%
First- or second-year teachers	15.6%	13.4%	12.3%

**Source:** California Department of Education, available at <https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>; Salary data (2019-20) was retrieved from California Department of Education School Fiscal Services Division, Selected Certificated Salaries and Related Statistics, <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fr/sal/>.

## Student Performance

The 2013/14 school year introduced a new student assessment system in California, the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP). This assessment system uses computer-based tests and performance tasks (i.e., Smarter Balanced Assessments) to assess how students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 are mastering California’s Common Core English language arts/literacy (ELA) and mathematics standards. Data on the proportion of students who met or exceeded state standards in Math and ELA for the past four years are presented in Table 31. Across regions, the data indicate that mathematics performance worsens with each successive grade level. Conversely, ELA performance improves with each successive grade levels. In addition, students in Santa Clara County, regardless of grade level, outperform students in San Benito County and statewide in both ELA and Math. The proportions of students that met or exceeded standards in ELA and Math in San Benito County tend to be roughly equivalent to statewide proportions.

**TABLE 31. PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS MEETING OR EXCEEDING CAASPP STANDARDS**

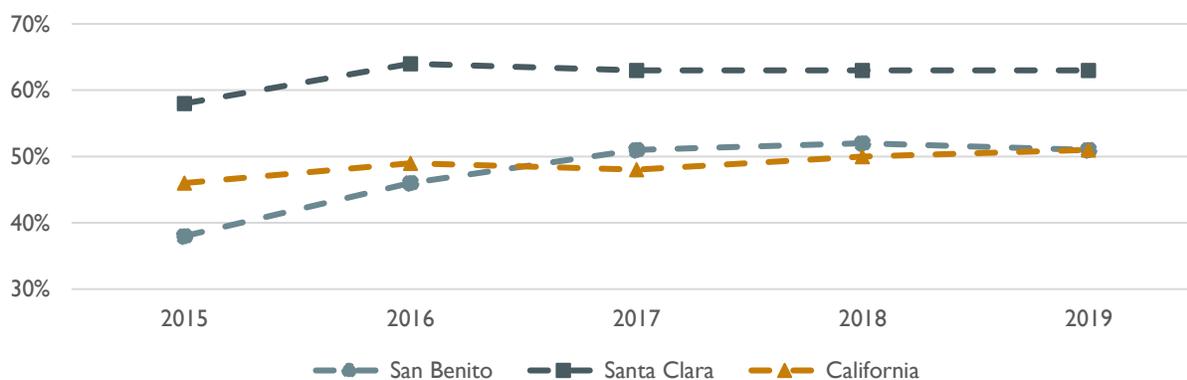
Region	Grade	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math
San Benito County	3	45%	45%	46%	49%	49%	46%	46%	47%
	4	43%	34%	59%	39%	52%	42%	49%	42%
	5	49%	30%	52%	34%	52%	36%	52%	34%
	6	41%	24%	50%	34%	50%	33%	50%	36%
	7	47%	32%	60%	29%	55%	36%	55%	37%
	8	43%	29%	52%	38%	53%	34%	53%	37%
	11	56%	24%	62%	30%	54%	31%	54%	28%
Santa Clara County	3	57%	63%	57%	62%	60%	64%	60%	64%
	4	58%	56%	59%	58%	61%	60%	62%	60%
	5	63%	53%	60%	51%	63%	54%	64%	55%
	6	62%	54%	61%	55%	61%	54%	60%	54%
	7	63%	56%	65%	58%	64%	57%	64%	56%
	8	64%	55%	63%	55%	64%	57%	64%	56%
	11	68%	49%	69%	69%	65%	48%	66%	50%
California	3	43%	46%	44%	47%	48%	49%	49%	50%
	4	44%	38%	45%	40%	49%	43%	49%	45%
	5	49%	33%	47%	34%	49%	36%	52%	38%
	6	48%	35%	47%	36%	48%	38%	48%	39%
	7	48%	36%	49%	37%	50%	37%	51%	38%
	8	48%	36%	49%	36%	49%	37%	49%	37%
	11	59%	33%	60%	32%	56%	31%	57%	32%

**Abbreviations:** CAASPP = CA Assessment of Student Performance and Progress; ELA = English Language Arts

**Source:** Test Results for California’s Assessments, CA Department of Education, available at <https://caaspp-elpac.cde.ca.gov/caaspp/>.

Figure 14 illustrates change in overall ELA student performance over the past five years for each region. In San Benito, ELA performance improved from 2015 to 2018, then remained steady from 2018 to 2019. In Santa Clara, ELA performance improved from 2015 to 2016, then remained steady from 2016 to 2019. As of 2019, a greater proportion of Santa Clara County students (63%) were meeting or exceeding ELA standards compared to San Benito County students (51%) or California students overall (51%).

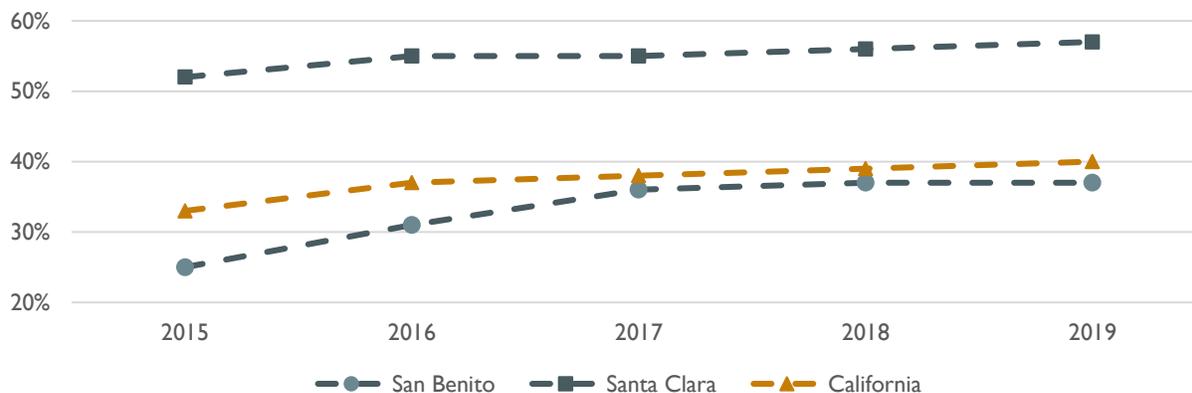
**FIGURE 14. PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO MET OR EXCEEDED ELA STANDARDS**



**Source:** English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics, Test Results at a Glance, Test Results for California’s Assessments, CA Department of Education. Retrieved from <https://caaspp-elpac.cde.ca.gov/caaspp/>.

Figure 15 illustrates change in overall student performance in Math for the past five years for each region. Trajectories and level differences in overall performance in Math are similar to those observed for ELA. As of 2019, a greater proportion of Santa Clara County students (57%) were meeting or exceeding Math standards compared to students in San Benito (37%) or California (40%). In both counties, the proportion of students meeting or exceeding standards in Math is lower than the proportion of respective students meeting or exceeding standards in ELA. In other words, students in a given region tend to perform better on ELA computer-based test items and performance tasks than on math.

**FIGURE 15. PERCENT OF STUDENTS WHO MET OR EXCEEDED MATH STANDARDS**



**Source:** English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics, Test Results at a Glance, Test Results for California's Assessments, CA Department of Education. Retrieved from <https://caaspp-elpac.cde.ca.gov/caaspp/>.

### Educational Attainment

Parent educational attainment is a factor commonly associated with household and family income. According to the 2015-2019 American Community Survey five-year estimates, educational attainment for residents 25 years of age or older in Santa Clara County is higher compared to San Benito County and the State (see Table 32). In San Benito, slightly more than half of adults over 25 years old have attended college or have received a post-secondary educational degree, compared to over two-thirds in Santa Clara. In San Benito County, roughly one in every two residents over the age of 25 have not attended college.

**TABLE 32. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT BY RESIDENTS AGES 25 YEARS AND OLDER (2019)**

	San Benito County	Santa Clara County	California
High School Graduate or Lower	44.3%	24.8%	37.2%
Some college or Higher	55.7%	75.2%	62.8%

**Source:** Table S1501, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2015-19), U.S. Census Bureau.

## Summary

Notable education characteristics for Santa Clara County:

- Enrollment in public charter schools increased by 17%, from 26,979 in 2013-14 to 31,514 in 2019-2020. There was a decline (3.7%) in charter school enrollment from 2017-18 to 2019-2020.
- While the high school dropout rate is higher than in Santa Clara County, the proportion of high school graduates in Santa Clara County that are UC and CSU eligible is almost 15 percentage points higher than San Benito's rate.
- The average teacher in Santa Clara County earns \$96,686, approximately \$18K more annually than teachers in San Benito County.
- Students in Santa Clara County outperformed students statewide and in San Benito in terms of the proportion that met or exceeded CAASPP standards in ELA and Math in 2018-2019.
- According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2019 the proportion of Santa Clara County residents ages 25 years and older who had some college or a college degree was roughly 20 percentage points higher than that of San Benito.

Notable education characteristics for San Benito County:

- In San Benito County, non-traditional schools (Alternative Education, Community Day, Continuation, etc.) account for 1.0% of public school enrollment compared to 2.4% in Santa Clara County.
- The dropout rate in San Benito County is 9.9%, 3.9 percentage points lower than the rate for Santa Clara County.
- In San Benito County, 29.3% of teachers have a Master's degree or higher. The rate in Santa Clara is nearly 2x greater at 49.0%.
- In San Benito County, roughly half of students, 28-47% depending on the grade level, did not meet or exceed standards in mathematics in 2018-2019.

Notable education characteristics for Santa Clara County and San Benito County:

- Though the proportion of Hispanic students enrolled in San Benito has slowly but steadily increased, the overall student race/ethnic distributions have remained relatively stable since 2014 for both counties.
- Head Start schools have a higher proportion of students with speech/language pathologies and autism spectrum disorder compared to non-Head Start schools. Overall, the number of children with speech/language pathology disabilities is decreasing, while the number of children with autism spectrum disorder is increasing.
- The average years teaching (13-14 years) and percent of teachers who are female (74%) are roughly equivalent across counties and when compared to the state (73.8%).



## Chapter 6: Childcare Access and Availability

### Background

Concerns related to childcare are common among all working parents. Issues range from availability of childcare programs (both general and those available to meet the needs of low-income families) to cost. This chapter highlights county-level data on childcare costs, capacity, and demand. Information on Title 5 providers that operate in San Benito and Santa Clara County is provided along with eligibility and enrollment for Title 5 programs, Transitional Kindergarten, and Migrant Education Services.

### Cost of Childcare for Infant/Toddlers and Preschool-Aged Children

Data on the cost of childcare are collected as part of the 2016 Regional Market Rate Survey and are reported in the California Childcare Resource & Referral Network's 2017 Childcare Portfolio. In 2016, the cost of licensed care was 27-36% higher in Santa Clara compared to San Benito County depending on the childcare setting (see Table 33). In both counties, childcare through family childcare home (FCCH) providers remains the more affordable option for families. For example, as of 2018 families in Santa Clara County who seek infant or toddler care through a licensed center can expect to pay \$7,075 more annually than families who seek the same care through an FCCH. Families in San Benito County can save nearly \$6,000 annually by enrolling their infant or toddler in an FCCH.

**TABLE 33. ANNUAL COST OF FT CHILDCARE BY AGE GROUP AND FACILITY TYPE**

	Infant/Toddler Care (0-2 Years)			Preschool (3-5 Years)		
	2014	2016	2018	2014	2016	2018
<b>Santa Clara County</b>						
Center	\$16,375	\$19,212	\$20,746	\$11,991	\$13,994	\$15,314
FCCH	\$11,155	\$12,473	\$13,671	\$10,601	\$11,967	\$13,195
<b>San Benito County</b>						
Center	\$12,470	\$13,357	\$15,147	\$9,032	\$8,962	\$9,635
FCCH	\$8,214	\$9,108	\$9,155	\$7,529	\$8,424	\$8,750

**Abbreviations:** FCCH = Family Child Care Homes

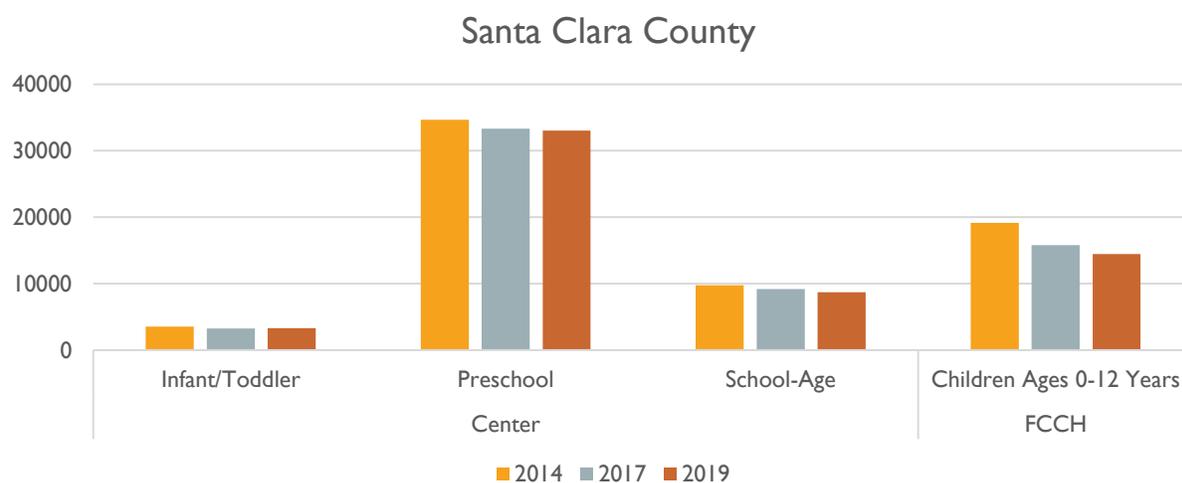
**Source:** California Child Care Portfolio (2015, 2017), California Child Care Resource & Referral Network; California Department of Education, Fiscal Administrative Services Division (April 16, 2019). Retrieved from <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/cd/regionalmarketratesurvey.asp> on December 26, 2019.

A comparison of cost data from 2014 to 2018 indicates that the cost of infant/toddler care through licensed centers in Santa Clara increased by \$4,371 since 2014; by \$3,323 for preschool. In San Benito County, the annual cost of childcare increased by approximately \$1,000 or more for infant/toddler care (both settings) while the cost for preschool has held relatively stable over the past 5 years.

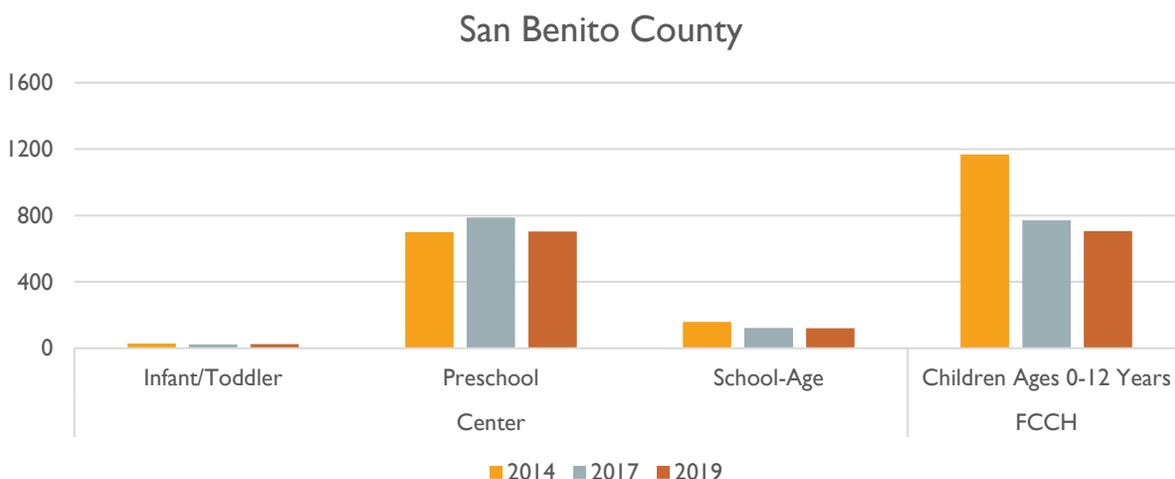
### Childcare Capacity and Parent Needs

Family childcare homes offer a more economically viable option for childcare in both Santa Clara County and San Benito County. While there are a greater number of licensed family childcare homes than there are licensed centers in both counties, the capacity (i.e., number of childcare slots) at family childcare homes is less than that of centers. Small family childcare home providers can care for up to eight children depending on the age distribution of the children served. The maximum capacity for most large family childcare homes is fourteen children. By comparison, centers can serve approximately eight children in each infant/toddler room and approximately 24 children in each preschool classroom. A summary of the number of childcare slots that are available to children in each age group by facility type is provided in Figure 16.

**FIGURE 16. NUMBER OF CHILDCARE SLOTS BY AGE GROUP AND FACILITY TYPE**



**FIGURE 16. NUMBER OF CHILDCARE SLOTS BY AGE GROUP AND FACILITY TYPE (cont.)**



**Abbreviations:** FCCH = Family Child Care Homes

**Source:** California Child Care Portfolio (2017, 2019), California Child Care Resource & Referral Network. Retrieved from [https://rnetwork.org/research/child\\_care\\_portfolio](https://rnetwork.org/research/child_care_portfolio).

The data in Figure 16 indicate that 76% of the current slots available to families in Santa Clara County are provided through more costly childcare centers. In San Benito County, licensed childcare supply is split more evenly between centers and FCCHs. Supply data also show that the total number of slots available to children in Santa Clara and San Benito fell from 2014 to 2019, by 7,592 slots in Santa Clara County and 500 slots in San Benito.

### Requests for Childcare

Data compiled and reported by the CA Child Care Resource & Referral (R&R) Network in the 2019 Child Care Portfolio indicate that parents in Santa Clara and San Benito County have different needs when it comes to childcare. In San Benito County, where a slightly greater proportion of centers have childcare subsidy contracts (21% vs. 19% in Santa Clara County), a greater proportion of parent requests for childcare received by the local R&R agency are for infant/toddler care (44% of request) followed by requests for care for school-aged children (see Table 34). In Santa Clara County, parents more commonly request care for preschool-aged children followed by infant/toddler care.

**TABLE 34. LICENSED CHILDCARE AND PARENT REQUEST DATA (2019)**

	Santa Clara County	San Benito County
<b>Child Care Centers with One or More Federal/State/Local Subsidized Child Care Contracts</b>	19% (- 4 PP)	21% (- 19 PP)
<b>Requests for Child Care</b>		
Children Under 2 Years	35% (+3 PP)	44% (- 12 PP)
Children 2-5 Years	41% (- 4 PP)	23% (- 11 PP)
Children 6 Years and Older	24% (+1 PP)	33% (+33 PP)

**Abbreviations:** PP = Percentage Point

**Notes:** Increase or decrease in percentage points since 2017 noted in parentheses.

**Source:** California Child Care Portfolio (2019), California Child Care Resource & Referral Network. Retrieved from [https://rrnetwork.org/research/child\\_care\\_portfolio](https://rrnetwork.org/research/child_care_portfolio).

### Child Care and Development Programs

A wide array of state subsidized child development services is available to children and families residing in Santa Clara County and San Benito County. In general, while some overlap exists in terms of eligibility criteria for state and federal programs, federal income guidelines ensure that Head Start serves the neediest of families in both counties.

There are two mechanisms used by the state for subsidizing childcare and development services. The first is through direct contracts with agencies for center-based child development and care services. The contracts generally provide for a total number of child-days of service in licensed childcare centers. Standards for the services are governed by either Title 5 of the Education Code or Title 22 of the Social Service Code, depending upon the program. The second mechanism for subsidized childcare and development is known as Alternative Payment, or AP. The state contracts with an AP agency which helps families arrange childcare services and makes payment for those services directly to the childcare provider selected by the family. Families may select a licensed childcare center, a licensed family childcare home, or, under some circumstances, unregulated childcare such as extended family.

As stated, while these programs are intended to serve low-income families, their low-income standard is significantly higher than the federal poverty guidelines for Head Start. As of July 1, 2018, the revised income limit for all state-subsidized early learning and care programs including California State Preschool (CSPP) and General Child Care (CCTR) as set at 85% State Median Income (SMI), which is equivalent to \$63,083 annually for a family of four. As shown in Table 35, the annual income ceiling for a family of four for state-subsidized programs is three times greater than the annual income ceiling for Head Start.

**TABLE 35. INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR (2019)**

	Annual Income Ceiling
Head Start*	\$26,500
All State Subsidized Early Learning and Care Programs**	\$84,822

**Sources:** \* U.S. Federal Poverty Guidelines Used to Determine Financial Eligibility for Certain Federal Programs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Retrieved from <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>; \*\*California Department of Education (2020, June). Management Bulletin 20-12, Revised State Median Income Ceilings and Income Ranking Table for Fiscal Year 2020-21. Retrieved January 24, 2020 from <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/mb2012.asp>.

## CSPP and CCTR Childcare Operators in the Head Start Service Area

California State Preschool (CSPP) and General Child Care (CCTR) programs are provided by local education agencies and nonprofit organizations through contracts with the California Department of Education (CDE). In 2020, the CDE contracted with 29 agencies based in and outside (i.e., Kidango, Inc.) of Santa Clara County to provide subsidized center-based childcare and development services to pre-kindergarten and younger children (see Table 36).

**TABLE 36. CHILD DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTORS WITH SITES IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

Agency	City	CCTR	CSPP	Other
Associate Students San Jose St University	San Jose	✓	✓	
California Young World, Inc.	Sunnyvale	✓	✓	
Campbell Union School District	Campbell	✓	✓	
Child Development Centers*	San Jose	✓	✓	
Child Development Inc.*	San Jose			✓
Continuing Development Inc.*	San Jose	✓	✓	✓
East Side Union High School District	San Jose	✓	✓	
Foothill-De Anza Community College District	Los Altos Hills	✓	✓	
Gilroy Unified School District	Gilroy		✓	
Go Kids*	Gilroy	✓	✓	✓
Kidango*	Fremont	✓	✓	✓
Luther Burbank Elem School District	San Jose	✓	✓	
Mandala Children's House, Inc.	San Jose			✓
Martinson Child Dev Center Inc.	Alviso	✓	✓	
Milpitas Unified School District	Milpitas	✓	✓	
Moreland Elementary School District	San Jose		✓	
Morgan Hill Unified School District	Morgan Hill		✓	
Mountain View-Whisman School District	Mt. View		✓	
Palo Alto City Unified School District	Palo Alto	✓	✓	
San Jose Conservation Corps Charter School	San Jose		✓	
San Jose Grail Family Services	San Jose		✓	
San Jose Unified School District	San Jose		✓	
San Jose/Evergreen Community College District	San Jose	✓	✓	
Santa Clara County Office of Education	San Jose	✓	✓	✓
Santa Clara Unified School District	Santa Clara	✓	✓	
SJB Child Development Centers	San Jose	✓	✓	
Sunnyvale Elementary School District	Sunnyvale		✓	
West Valley-Mission Community College	Saratoga	✓	✓	
YMCA Silicon Valley	San Jose		✓	

**Abbreviations:** CCTR = General Child Care; CSPP = California State Preschool Program

**Notes:** \* = Multi-county contractor; "Other" includes CalWORKs Stages 2 and 3, Alternative Payment program, Family Child Care, Resource and Referral and Migrant Child Care. Listed under "City" are locations in which corporate headquarters are based.

**Source:** California Department of Education, Child Care Data Reports, Contractor List by County (2019), Retrieved from <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/cdddta.asp> on January 24, 2021.

The majority of the agencies (18 of 29) listed in Table 36 hold both CCTR and CSPP contracts. In addition to CCTR and CSPP, larger agencies such as Child Development Centers, Go Kids, Kidango, and the Santa Clara County Office of Education participate in other subsidized CDE programs such as CalWORKs, Alternative Payment, and Resource & Referral. One contractor in Santa Clara County, Mandala Children’s House, Inc., is a sole FCCH contractor.

There are only two agencies in San Benito County with CDE CCTR and/or CSPP contracts (see Table 37). One is a local education agency: Aromas-San Juan Unified School District. The other agency, Go Kids, Inc., is a multi-county contractor with CCTR, CSPP, CalWORKs, Alternative Payment, Resource and Referral, and Migrant Child Care contracts. Go Kids, Inc. operates in both Santa Clara and San Benito County.

**TABLE 37. CHILD DEVELOPMENT CONTRACTORS WITH SITES IN SAN BENITO COUNTY**

Agency	City	CCTR	CSPP	Other
Aromas-San Juan Unified School District	San Juan Bautista		✓	
Go Kids*	Gilroy	✓	✓	✓

**Abbreviations:** CCTR = General Child Care; CSPP = California State Preschool Program

**Notes:** \* = Multi-county contractor; “Other” includes CalWORKs Stages 2 and 3, Alternative Payment program, Family Child Care, Resource and Referral and Migrant Child Care. Listed under “City” are locations in which corporate headquarters are based.

**Source:** California Department of Education, Child Care Data Reports, Contractor List by County (2019), Retrieved from <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/re/cdddta.asp> on January 24, 2021.

### Alternative Payment Programs

Alternative Payment (AP) programs offer an array of subsidized childcare arrangements for parents including in-home care, family childcare, and center care. Alternative Payment agencies help families arrange childcare services and make payments for those services directly to the childcare provider selected by the family. The AP program is intended to increase parental choice and accommodate the individual needs of the family. Currently, of the agencies in San Benito County and Santa Clara County with CDE CCTR and CSPP contracts, three have Alternative Payment contracts: (1) Child Development Inc., (2) Continuing Development Inc., and (3) Go Kids. These agencies also have contracts for CalWORKs Stages 2 and 3 which are described in greater detail below.

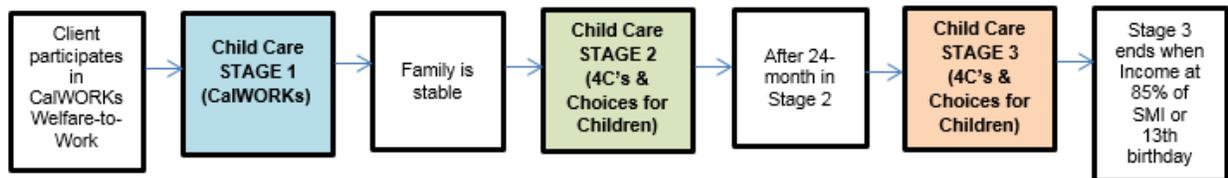
### CalWORKs Child Care Programs

Recipients of the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) grant program are required to engage in work and/or work preparation activities. CalWORKs programs provide an array of welfare-to-work services. Childcare is provided with state and federal funds in three stages.

- Stage 1 is administered by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) through county welfare departments (CWDs). In Santa Clara County, the Social Services Agency (SSA) administers Stage 1 Child Care. The program begins when a family starts a CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work activity. CalWORKs clients are served in Stage 1 until the family is stable (Employed).
- Stage 2 and 3 are administered by the California Department of Education (CDE) through contracts with participating providers. In Santa Clara County and San Benito County, CalWORKs Stage 2 and 3 contractors include the Child Development Inc., Continuing Development Inc., and Go Kids, Inc.

Clients are seamlessly transferred between Stage 1 and Stage 2 during bi-weekly transfer meetings in a collaborative partnership between SSA and participating providers. Families can be eligible for up to two years (24 months) in Stage 2 and then the providers transfer the families to Stage 3. The stage-transfer process is illustrated in Figure 17. A family can remain in Stage 3 until its income exceeds 85% of the SMI or until its child/children are over the eligibility age (i.e., 13<sup>th</sup> birthday).

**FIGURE 17. CALWORKS STAGE 1 TO 3 TRANSFER PROCESS**



**Source:** Social Services Agency, Santa Clara County

### Title 5 Program Eligibility

Title 5 eligibility and enrollment estimates are derived by the American Institutes for Research on a biennial basis. According to the most recent update, in 2018, over 43,000 children in Santa Clara County were eligible for Title 5 programs (see Table 38). Of those children, 15% were enrolled. In San Benito County, only 7% of the estimated 3,277 children eligible for Title 5 programs in 2018 were enrolled. The lower enrollment observed in San Benito County is likely a function of Title 5 capacity, not parent demand.

**TABLE 38. ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT IN TITLE 5 PROGRAMS BY AGE GROUP (2018)**

	0-11 months	12-23 months	24-35 months	3 years	4 years	5 years	Total
<b>Santa Clara County</b>							
Eligible	5380	6881	6823	6574	10099	7585	43342
Enrolled	139	420	720	1773	2819	595	6466
CCTR	29	130	256	10	4	132	561
CSPP Full-day	0	0	31	576	717	42	1366
CSPP Part-day	0	0	25	722	1652	46	2445
CalWORKs Stage 2	48	127	182	181	167	117	822
CalWORKs Stage 3	44	89	113	167	185	184	782
Alternative Payment	18	74	113	117	94	74	490
<b>San Benito County</b>							
Eligible	161	451	658	814	897	296	3277
Enrolled	7	16	27	76	81	31	238
CCTR	2	6	8	12	4	6	38
CSPP Full-day	0	0	0	22	21	3	46
CSPP Part-day	0	0	0	20	30	2	52
CalWORKs Stage 2	2	0	1	3	1	2	9
CalWORKs Stage 3	1	0	7	5	5	4	22
Alternative Payment	2	5	8	12	17	14	58
Migrant Child Care	0	5	3	2	3	0	13

**Abbreviations:** CCTR = General Child Care, CSPP = California State Preschool Program

**Source:** Infant/Toddler and Preschool Reports, Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool, American Institutes for Research. Retrieved from <https://elneedsassessment.org/>.

Table 38 does not include data on the number of children ages 0-5 years whose families are receiving CalWORKs Stage I childcare subsidies. As shown in Table 39, an average of 35 children ages 0-5 years in San Benito County benefited from this program per month in the 2019-20 fiscal year. In Santa Clara County, the number of children is considerably higher at 255 per month. However, a comparison across years provides that the average number of children receiving Stage I subsidies per month in Santa Clara County has decreased by 113 children (-30%) since the 2016-17 fiscal year.

**TABLE 39. CHANGE IN CALWORKS STAGE I CHILD CARE SUBSIDY RECIPIENTS**

	2016/17			2017/18			2018/19			2019/20		
	0-2	2-5	0-5	0-2	2-5	0-5	0-2	2-5	0-5	0-2	2-5	0-5
San Benito County	5	16	21	10	18	28	13	31	44	11	24	35
Santa Clara County	92	276	368	88	247	335	97	219	315	78	178	255

**Note:** Averages calculated by summing the number of children recipients per month from July through June and dividing by 12 months. Counts include Welfare to Work, Cal-Learn, and CalWORKs Safety Net recipients.

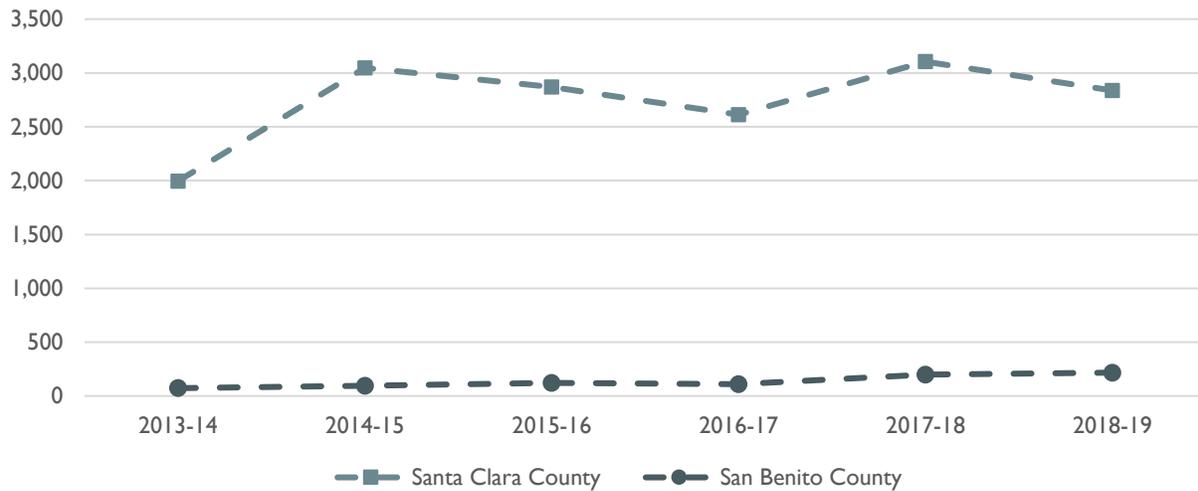
**Source:** CWI15 – Child Care Monthly Report, CalWORKs Families, California Department of Social Services. Retrieved from <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/research-and-data/calworks-data-tables/cw-115>.

## Transitional Kindergarten Enrollment

The Kindergarten Readiness Act, signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2010, changed the cutoff date for kindergarten entry from December 2 to September 2 so that children who turn 5 years of age within that period can enroll in a developmentally appropriate Kindergarten program known as Transitional Kindergarten (TK). The TK program is an entitlement program that must be offered by districts and staffed by credentialed teachers. Districts have the flexibility to determine the schools where TK programs are offered and whether to provide a blended TK program (i.e., one where TK eligible students are enrolled in regular Kindergarten classrooms).

Transitional Kindergarten enrollment for the past five academic years is displayed in Figure 18. Though there has been some fluctuation over time, student enrollment in TK programs in Santa Clara County has trended upwards since initiation of the program. From 2013-14 to 2018-19, TK enrollment increased by 42% in Santa Clara County. The enrollment in San Benito County has increased by 197% during the same time period. Estimates for TK eligibility suggest that 50-60% of children who are age-eligible for TK enroll.

**FIGURE 18. CHANGE IN TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT**



**Source:** Transitional Kindergarten Data (2013-14 – 2018-19), California Department of Education, retrieved from <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/filestkdta.asp>.

### Migrant Education Enrollment

Migrant Education services for children ages 3-5 years who reside in Santa Clara County and San Benito County are provided by licensed child development centers and district-operated preschools. Among the licensed child development providers that service migrant children seasonally are two larger agencies, Go Kids, Inc. and Continuing Development, Inc. Migrant Education services for Region I, which includes the counties of Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, Alameda, San Benito, and Santa Cruz, are managed by the Santa Clara County Office of Education.<sup>18</sup>

A multi-year summary of the number of children ages 3-5 years served by migrant preschool programs operating in Region I is provided in Table 40. Since 2016, the number of children enrolled in migrant preschool programs has declined by 31%.

**TABLE 40. CHANGE IN MIGRANT PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT**

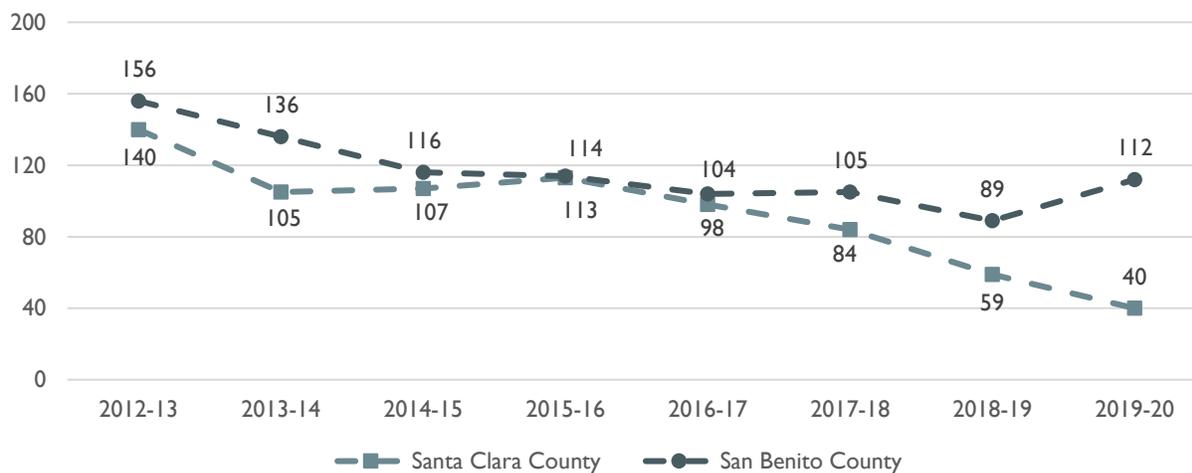
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Percent Change 2016 - 2019
<b>Age</b>					
3 Year Olds	304	307	273	239	-21%
4 Year Olds	420	303	304	278	-34%
5 Year Olds	96	46	45	51	-47%
Children 3-5 Years	820	656	622	568	-31%

**Source:** Migrant Preschool Enrollment, Region I, Migrant Education Program Reports, Santa Clara County Office of Education.

<sup>18</sup> Migrant Education Program (Region I), Santa Clara County Office of Education.

The decline in migrant education enrollment extends beyond that observed for preschool-aged children. As shown in Figure 19, the numbers of migrant children enrolled in Kindergarten in Santa Clara County and San Benito County have fallen since 2013. In Santa Clara, 100 fewer children were served in 2019 compared to seven years earlier; a 71% reduction. Though San Benito has maintained larger enrollment numbers over the years and experienced an uptick in enrollment from 2018-19 to 2019-20, there were 44 fewer migrant children enrolled in Kindergarten in 2019 than in 2012.

**FIGURE 19. NUMBER OF MIGRANT CHILDREN ENROLLED IN KINDERGARTEN**



**Source:** Enrollment by Ethnicity and Grade (2012-13 to 2019-20), DataQuest, CA Department of Education

## Summary

Notable childcare characteristics for Santa Clara County:

- The annual cost of full-time, center-based care for infants/toddlers and preschool-aged children is \$20,746 and \$15,314 respectively.
- 76% of the childcare slots available to children are through licensed centers.
- The majority (41%) of childcare requests received by Resource & Referral agencies are for preschool.
- Twenty-nine agencies operating childcare centers in Santa Clara County have contracts to provide subsidized childcare.
- Of the children eligible for Title 5 programs, an estimated 6,466 (20%) are enrolled.

Notable childcare characteristics for San Benito County:

- The annual cost of full-time, center-based care for infants/toddlers and preschool-aged children is \$15,147 and \$9,635 respectively.
- Family childcare homes providers serve roughly the same number of children as licensed centers.

- The majority (44%) of parent requests for childcare are for infant/toddler care.
- Two agencies with centers operating in San Benito County have contracts to provide subsidized childcare.
- Of the children eligible for Title 5 Programs, an estimated 238 (7%) are enrolled.

Notable childcare characteristics for Santa Clara County and San Benito County:

- The cost of infant/toddler care and preschool is on the rise. From 2014-2018, the annual cost of infant/toddler increased by roughly \$3,000 in both counties
- The number of childcare slots available to children in both counties has fallen since 2014, by over 7,500 in Santa Clara and over 500 in San Benito.
- The income eligibility cutoff for a family of four for General Child Care and State Preschool is 3x higher than the income cutoff that qualifies a family of four for Head Start.
- Transitional Kindergarten enrollment has increased in both counties.
- The number of migrant children enrolled in preschool in the region (Region 1) has steadily declined since 2014.



## Chapter 7: Community Resources

### Background

Information on community resources and services that are available to families that reside in Santa Clara County and San Benito County is provided in this chapter. The number of agencies and scope of services is greater in Santa Clara compared to San Benito. Key agencies that serve low income children and families in Santa Clara include the Public Health Department, Social Services Agency, United Way Bay Area, and FIRST 5. FIRST 5, among many other services, works with partner agencies to conduct health screenings in early learning settings that are designed to identify children at risk for poor developmental and behavioral health. Key agencies in San Benito County include the Public Health Division and the Health and Human Services Agency. This chapter concludes with an overview of agencies that provide services to children with disabilities.

### Resources in Santa Clara County

A wide array of organizations and community resources serve children and families who are in need throughout Santa Clara County. Most of these organizations are listed in the online countywide informational and referral database known as 211bayarea.org. The database lists and links over 100 non-profit and government agencies and resources that provide services such as food pantries, shelter for the

homeless, and rent assistance (see Table 41). Supports and services are clustered within 14 resource types that include food, housing, income and expenses, crisis services, transportation, health care, mental health, substance abuse, children and family, youth, seniors, education, legal services, and reentry.

**TABLE 41. SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

Resource	Services
Food	(1) Food Expense Assistance, (2) Food Programs, (3) Meals
Housing	(1) Housing Expense Assistance, (2) Emergency Housing & Shelters, (3) Landlord/Tenant Assistance, (4) Homeless Individuals & Families, (5) Residential Housing Options
Income & Expenses	(1) Money Management, (2) Public Income and Benefits, (3) Utility Assistance, (4) Personal/Household Items, (5) Employment, (6) Housing
Crisis Services	(1) Crisis Intervention, (2) Protective Services/Report Potential Abuse, (3) Law Enforcement/Emergency Services
Transportation	(1) Bus & Train Services, (2) Medical Transportation, (3) Senior Ride Programs
Health Care	(1) Medical Care, (2) Health Insurance & Medical Expense Assistance, (3) Specialty Screenings & Services, (4) Dental Care, (5) Immunizations, (6) Home Nursing & Caregiving, (7) Sexual & Reproductive Health, (8) End of Life Care
Mental Health	(1) Counseling, (2) Addiction, (3) Abuse, (4) Support Groups, (5) Hotlines/Crisis Response, (6) Psychiatric Services, (7) Grief & Loss
Substance Abuse	(1) Alcohol Treatment & Facilities, (2) Education & Prevention, (3) Drug Treatment & Facilities
Children & Family	(1) Child Care & Early Education, (2) Expectant & New Parents, (3) Family Counseling, (4) Family Resource Centers, (5) Foster Care & Adoption, (6) Parenting Resources, (7) Child Abuse Prevention
Youth	(1) Teen Pregnancy, (2) Prevention & Intervention, (3) Youth Programs
Seniors	(1) Senior Centers, (2) Senior Support Services, (3) Senior Health Care, (4) Senior Housing, (5) Senior Meals, (6) Elder Abuse, (7) Senior Transportation
Education	(1) Computer Literacy, (2) Schools & Libraries, (3) Educational Programs, (4) Educational Services
Legal Services	(1) General Legal Services, (2) Records & Certificates, (3) Family Law, (4) Citizenship & Immigration, (5) Courts, (6) Victim Assistance
Reentry	(1) Basic Needs, (2) Substance Abuse, (3) Education, (4) Employment, (5) Health, (6) Legal

**Source:** 211bayarea.org

Specific services under Children & Family range from childcare provider referrals and childcare expense assistance (see Child Care & Early Education Services) to developmental screening (see Expectant & New Parents Services) and co-parenting workshops (see Parenting Resources Services). Under Education, parents can access services for computer classes (see Computer Literacy Services) and English as a second language and GED/high school equivalency (see Educational Programs Services). Similarly, under Food, pregnant or new mothers can access food assistance programs such as WIC (see Food Expense Assistance Services), formula and baby food (see Food Programs Services), and summer food services programs for children (see Meals Services).

In order to be accessible and meet the needs of county residents, many of these agencies have regional offices located throughout the county. The two largest organizations serving low income children and families in Santa Clara County are the Public Health Department and the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency. Each are described in greater detail in the following sections.

### Public Health Department

The Santa Clara County Public Health Department focuses on protecting and improving the health of communities through education, promotion of healthy lifestyles, disease and injury prevention, and the promotion of sound health policy.

The Public Health Department provides a wide range of services focused on helping children and families, which include the following:

- **Open Data Portal** – System where residents can access the most up-to-date data on health issues in our area, from vegetable consumption to tuberculosis infection to teenage births.
- **Travel and Immunization Services** – Clinic offers immunizations and testing for tuberculosis (TB) infection for adults over 18 years of age, travel vaccines for those traveling outside the United States, and immunizations for immigration purposes.
- **Birth and Death Registration** – Registry that documents all births and deaths in Santa Clara County.
- **Public Health Pharmacies** – Better Health Pharmacy offers donated medications that are unused, unopened, and unexpired to patients with valid prescriptions at no cost. Public Health Pharmacy also fills patients' prescriptions, and bills the patients' insurance for the medication.
- **Black Infant Health Prenatal and Postpartum Empowerment Groups** – Black Infant Health strives to improve poor birth outcomes and health disparities in maternal and infant health by empowering women to make healthy choices for themselves, their families, and their communities.
- **California Children's Services** – The California Children's Services (CCS) program coordinates and authorizes specialized medical care and provides rehabilitation for children with special health care needs, from birth to 21 years of age, who have a CCS eligible medical condition.
- **STD/HIV Testing and Support** – The Public Health Department offers free HIV and Hepatitis C testing in addition to low-cost STD screening, clinical evaluations for STDs, and treatment for STDs including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).
- **Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)** – The WIC program provides nutrition education, counseling, case management, and supplemental foods for eligible clients. WIC eligibility requirements include: pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women with a medical or nutritional risk; infant or child under five years of age with a medical or nutritional risk; and individuals who meet the low income guidelines ( $\leq$  185% of federal poverty guidelines).

The County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Center has been activated in response to the spread of COVID-19. As a result, the Public Health Department's more popular services include: COVID-19 Test

(scheduling system); COVID-19 Information and Human Services Referral (operator support); and COVID-19 Data Dashboard (data on case counts and hospital utilization).

Information on these and other Public Health Department services can be found on the agency [website](#).

### Santa Clara County Social Services Agency

The Santa Clara County Social Services Agency provides a host of family support, income assistance, and employment preparation services to residents of Santa Clara County. These services include:

- **Financial Assistance** - Families and individuals with little or no income can receive cash assistance through the publicly funded programs listed below. For more information, call (877) 962-3633.
  - Cash Assistance for Families with Children – CalWORKs
  - General Assistance (GA)
  - Refugee Cash Assistance Program (RCA)
  - Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI)
  - Employment Assistance – CalWORKs Employment Services (CWES) Program
- **Food Assistance** - The CalFresh Program helps families and individuals with little or no income to buy food. For more information, call (877) 962-3633.
- **Medical Assistance** – No-cost or low-cost health coverage and services are provided to children and adults. Regional and general information contacts are listed below.
  - North County – (408) 278-2400
  - Central County – (877) 962-3633 // I don't see this one listed on the site.
  - South County – (408) 758-3300
  - DFCS General Information – (408) 501-6300
- **In-Home Care** - The In-Home Supportive Services program provides in-home personal assistance to eligible aged and disabled individuals. For more information, call (408) 792-1600.
- **Adoption & Foster Parent Recruitment** - Support and assistance is available for those interested in adopting a child and those who want to give up a child for adoption. For more information, call (408) 299-KIDS.
- **Foster Youth Services** - The California Connected by 25 Initiative (CC25I) Program assists and provides developmental and transition support services to current and former foster care youth to prepare them for independent living and ensure their success in adulthood. For more information, call (877) 975-1225.
- **Investigation of Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect** - The Child Abuse and Neglect Center (CANC) operates a year-round, 24-hour hotline that residents can use to file non-emergency reports of child abuse and neglect. The toll-free number is (833) 722-5437.

Information on these and other Social Services Agency services for families and children can be found on the agency [website](#).

### United Way Bay Area

In 2016, the United Way of Silicon Valley merged with its counterpart in San Francisco to form the United Way Bay Area. The United Way Bay Area (UWBA) has funded and supported numerous non-profit

agencies that provide needed services to the residents of Santa Clara County that addresses the specific needs of the community through four pillars of impact: youth development, adult empowerment, providing for basic needs, and community development.<sup>19</sup>

Some of the highlights for how financial contributions to the UWBA have generated results in the lives of local residents include: (1) 4,656 adults that have received free one-on-one financial counseling; (2) 108,000 calls answered and 53,000 online visits to connect those in-need with essential services; (3) 7,300 youth connected with jobs, internships, and job training; (4) 78,000 tax returns assisted with over \$82 million in refunds to low- and moderate-income families; and (5) 10,000 low-income families in the Bay Area served through the Labor Community Services partnership.<sup>28</sup> The UWBA has also conducted advocacy work. It supported poverty-cutting policies such as the reauthorization of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit (i.e., California's adoption of its own State Earned Income Tax Credit) and expansion of Medi-Cal for all children regardless of their immigration status.<sup>20</sup> Several of the community impact initiatives supported by UWBA that are of particular relevance to Head Start children and families are described below:

- **Emergency Assistance Network** – United Way Bay Area's collaboration with seven local Santa Clara County partner agencies offers support to Santa Clara County residents struggling for financial stability and independence. The goal is to stabilize individuals and families during times of trouble and help them return to self-sufficiency. The collaboration offers assistance to help families and individuals recover from emergency situations by providing food assistance, rent and mortgage aid, utility assistance and medical and transportation aid.<sup>21</sup> Participating agencies include LifeMoves, Sacred Heart Community Services, the Salvation Army, St. Joseph's Family Services, Sunnyvale Community Services, West Valley Community Services, and the Community Services Agency of Mountain View and Los Altos.

**2-1-1 Bay Area**<sup>22</sup> – 2-1-1 Bay Area is a free, comprehensive information and referral service for San Francisco, San Mateo, Napa, Marin, Santa Clara and Solano county residents. Similar to 911, residents can dial 211 by phone or text their zip code to 898211 to obtain non-emergency assistance and information 24 hours a day, seven days a week in more than 150 languages including English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Tagalog and Mandarin. Information is also provided online at [www.211bayarea.org](http://www.211bayarea.org), a database that contains access to over 11,000 programs and services. 2-1-1 Bay Area has proved to be a critical lifeline for local families and individuals impacted by emergencies (such as the North Bay wildfires). Top reasons people contact 2-1-1 Bay Area include: Basic Needs (for example, food, clothing, rent assistance, emergency shelter), Criminal Justice and Legal Services, Organizational/Community/International Services, Income Support and Employment, and Individual and Family Life (such as community centers and arts/culture programs).

### FIRST 5 Santa Clara County

FIRST 5 Santa Clara County was formed when California voters approved Proposition 10 in November 1998. Proposition 10 established a tax on tobacco products with 80% of the revenues allocated to county commissions to fund local initiatives and more than \$30 million invested each year. FIRST 5 funding promotes, supports, and improves early childhood development for children prenatal through age five and their families. By working with parents, community leaders, social services and health care agencies, FIRST 5 funds and sponsors essential services in the areas of early learning, family strengthening, health, and development. Among the most relevant services provided to parents are:

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<sup>19</sup> United Way Bay Area (2018). <https://uwba.org/>

<sup>20</sup> United Way Bay Area (2017). UWBA Fact Sheet. <https://uwba.org/research-and-publications/>

<sup>21</sup> United Way Bay Area (2018). <https://uwba.org/emergency-services/>

<sup>22</sup> 2-1-1 United Way Bay Area (2018). <https://www.211bayarea.org/>

- **Health and Development**<sup>23</sup> - FIRST 5 offers free developmental screenings for children ages 0-5 years through its Family Resource Centers. Parents that bring their children in for a screening will learn if their children are achieving developmental milestones and receive information on what to expect as their children grow. Parents will also learn about activities they can do with their children to strengthen development. Parents may also receive a referral to the KidConnections Network if their child needs additional support in a certain area.
- **Healthy Eating and Physical Health**<sup>24</sup> - FIRST 5 has developed a series of resources for tips and recipes that parents can access to learn more about how to make healthy changes as a family. FIRST 5 has partnered with the Healthier Kids Foundation and the Santa Clara County Health and Hospital System on “10 Steps to a Healthier You.” Steps include:
  - Eat 5–9 servings of fruits and vegetables every day.
  - Drink water instead of soda or other sweet drinks.
  - Eat fruit instead of drinking juice.
  - Choose a healthy, natural snack (fruit is best) instead of packaged snacks.
  - For children older than 2 years of age, drink low-fat (1%) or non-fat (skim) milk.
  - Eat three meals a day. Breakfast is especially important.
  - Be active/play outside at least 1 hour every day.
  - Choose only one TV program (or none) per day.
  - Get enough sleep.
- **Oral Health**<sup>25</sup> – FIRST 5 supports free and low-cost dental services for children through three centers spread across Santa Clara County:
 

<p>Western Dental Kids of San Jose <b>1153 S. King Road</b> <b>San Jose, CA 95122</b> <b>408.240.0250</b></p>	<p>Western Dental Kids of Sunnyvale <b>897 W. El Camino Real</b> <b>Sunnyvale, CA 94087</b> <b>408.701.5882</b></p>	<p>Gardner South County Health Center <b>7526 Monterey Road</b> <b>Gilroy, CA 95020</b> <b>408.848.9436</b></p>
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FIRST 5 has also developed an oral health brochure in Spanish and English that lists brushing tips suitable for children of all ages.

- **Family Resource Centers**<sup>26</sup> – FIRST 5’s vision for the Family Resource Center Initiative is that families in Santa Clara County have the skills and capacity to promote their children’s development, ensure their children are ready for school, build strong family relationships, and create a connected community. FIRST 5 has established Family Resource Centers (FRCs) throughout Santa Clara County that increase access to services and provide opportunities for parents/caregivers to become more engaged in their children’s healthy development, school readiness, and other collaborative efforts to improve their lives and the communities in which they live. Contact information for FRCs located in Santa Clara County is provided in Table 42.

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.first5kids.org/health-development/health/>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.first5kids.org/health-development/healthy-eating/>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.first5kids.org/health-development/oral-health/>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.first5kids.org/frc/>

**TABLE 42. FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

Center Name	Location	Phone
Adelante	Rebekah Children's Services 290 IOOF Avenue Gilroy, CA 95020	408.846.2460
AACSA	African American Community Service Agency 304 N. 6th Street San José, CA 95112	408.292.3157
Captain Jason Dahl	Captain Jason Dahl Elementary School 3200 Water Street, Bldg P-5 San Jose, CA 95111	408.363.5650
Cesar Chavez	Cesar Chavez Elementary School 2000 Kammerer Avenue, Room 20 San Jose, CA 95116	408.928.7275
Cureton	Horace Cureton Elementary School 3720 E. Hills Drive, Room 1 & 2 San Jose, CA 95127	408.928.7390
Educare	Educare at Silicon Valley 1399 Santee Drive San Jose, CA 95122	408.573.4804
Edenvale	Edenvale Community Center 330 Branham Lane E., ECR Room San Jose, CA 95111	408.200.0997
Escuela	Mountain View Senior Center 260 Escuela Avenue Mountain View, CA 94040	650.967.4813
Evergreen	Katherine R. Smith Elementary School 2025 Clarice Drive, Room B6 San Jose, CA 95121	408.270.6752
Gardner	Gardner Family Health 160 East Virginia Street, Suite 280 San Jose, CA 95112	408.893.1340
Generations	Generations FRC 749 Story Road, Suite 10 San Jose, CA 95122	408.213.0961
Grail	Grail FRC 2003 E. San Antonio Street San Jose, CA 95116	408.347.7892
Hubbard	Hubbard Media Arts Academy 1680 Foley Avenue, Room H2 & H3 San Jose, CA 95122	408.928.7700
ICAN	Vietnamese American Cultural Center 2072 Lucretia Avenue San Jose, CA 95122	408.509.1958
Josephine Guerrero	Robert Randall Elementary School 1300 Edsel Drive, Portable 3 Milpitas, CA 95035	408.635.2662 ext. 1637

**TABLE 42. FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY (cont.)**

Center Name	Location	Phone
Luther Burbank	Luther Burbank Elementary School 4 Wabash Avenue, Room 12 San Jose, CA 95128	408.903.4673
Mercy Street	Trinity United Methodist Church 748 Mercy Street Mountain View, CA 94014	650.967.4813
Morgan Hill	1766 Crest Avenue, Room 102 Morgan Hill CA 95037	408.846.2460
Painter	Ben Painter Elementary School 500 Rough and Ready Road San Jose, CA 95133	408.928.7274
Roots	Roots Community Health Center, South Bay 1898 The Alameda San Jose, CA 95126	408.490.4710
San Miguel	San Miguel Elementary School 777 San Miguel Avenue, Room K-5 Sunnyvale, CA 94085	408.522.8200 ext. 1890
Seven Trees	Daniel Lairon Elementary School 3975 Mira Loma Way San Jose, CA 95111	408.283.6251
Sherman Oaks	Sherman Oaks Elementary School 1800 Fruitdale Avenue San Jose, CA 95128	408.364.4200 ext. 4993
Regnart	William Regnart Elementary School 1170 Yorkshire Drive, Room 28 Cupertino, CA 95014	650.967.4813
Rosemary	Rosemary Elementary School 401 W. Hamilton Avenue Campbell, CA 95008	408.364.4200 ext. 4993
Vargas	Vargas Elementary School 1054 Carson Drive, Room 15 Sunnyvale, CA 94086	650.967.4813

**Source:** FIRST 5 Santa Clara County at <https://www.first5kids.org/frc/>.

### Resources in San Benito County

San Benito has neither the population nor the community resources of Santa Clara County. Most services are located in Hollister, San Benito's main population center, and local government agencies are the key providers of services. A directory of local nonprofit and service organizations can be found at GiveSanBenito.org.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>27</sup> <https://givesanbenito.org/nonprofit-directory>

## San Benito County Public Health Division

The San Benito County Health and Human Services Agency Public Health Division offers many of the same programs as the Santa Clara County Public Health Department for families including the homeless and children in foster care. These include:

- Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP)
- Immunization Program
- Maternal and Child Adolescent Health (MCAH)
- Public Health Nurse Home Visits and Case Management
- Services for Patients with HIV/AIDS
- Emergency Preparedness
- Environmental Health

The Public Health Division implements local, state, and federal goals and mandates for health improvements, tackles social problems specific to the community, educates the public, partners with physicians and their patients, and assesses and reports community health statistics.<sup>28</sup> Table 43 lists the health clinics available to residents of San Benito County.

**TABLE 43. HEALTH CLINICS IN SAN BENITO COUNTY**

Clinic	Location	Phone
Pinnacle Health Care	591 McCray Street, Suite 100, Hollister, CA	831-634-4444
San Benito Health Foundation	351 Felice Drive, Hollister, CA	831-637-5306
San Benito County Public Health Services	439 Fourth Street, Hollister, CA	831-637-5367
Hazel Hawkins Community Clinic	301 The Alameda, Space B-3, San Juan Bautista, CA	831-623-4615
	930 Sunset Drive, Hollister, CA	831-636-2664

**Source:** <https://www.sanbenitocountychamber.com/list/ql/health-care-11>

The Public Health Division implements the Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care<sup>29</sup>. This program seeks to meet the medical, dental, mental, and developmental health needs of children and youth in court-ordered out-of-home placement or foster care. Public Health Nurses (PHN) work with the Human Services Department/Child Welfare Services and collaborate with social worker and probation officers to ensure that health care resources are provided to children placed in foster homes and group homes.

## San Benito County Health and Human Services Agency

Most county support services are provided through the central office in Hollister, located at 1111 San Felipe Road. These services include:

- Adult Protective Services;
- Child Protective Services;
- CalWORKs;
- General Assistance;

<sup>28</sup> <http://hhsa.cosb.us/public-health/>

<sup>29</sup> <http://hhsa.cosb.us/publichealth/health-care-program-for-children-in-foster-care/>

- CalFresh, formally known as California’s Food Stamps Program; and,
- IHHS Public Authority (in conjunction with In-Home Supportive Services).<sup>30</sup>

## Resources for Children with Disabilities

Although most of the special education services are provided through the public education system, there are also community-based organizations that provide services such as occupational and physical therapy, speech and language services, and transportation. Some of these organizations that serve Santa Clara and San Benito Counties are discussed in this section.

### San Andreas Regional Center

The San Andreas Regional Center is a community-based, private nonprofit corporation that is funded by the State of California to serve individuals with developmental disabilities. It is one of the 21 Regional Centers throughout California serving children and their families who reside in Santa Clara, San Benito, Monterey, and Santa Cruz Counties.<sup>31</sup> Individuals believed to have a developmental disability (regardless of age, cultural background, or income) are encouraged to apply for services. Eligible individuals who have conditions which the staff can identify receive assistance services; individuals identified as not eligible for services are referred to appropriate agencies in the community.

The San Andreas Regional Center provides services for young children, called their Early Start program. They serve high risk children under the age of three with genetic, medical or environmental histories that place them at greater risk for developmental disability. Once young children are assessed and found to be at-risk, they are eligible for the Early Start Prevention Program. To arrange for an assessment, San Benito County families must call 844-700-9889; Santa Clara County families must call (800) 404-5900. More information on San Andreas Regional Center services can be found on the agency’s [website](#).

### Parents Helping Parents

Parents Helping Parents (PHP) is a nonprofit, community-based, and parent-directed family resource center that assists special needs children of any age with education/training, health care, support, and additional resources and services that they may need throughout their lifetime.<sup>32</sup> Although PHP does not offer therapies, they provide information and direction on resources and referrals. They provide assistance to children and families with any special needs, such as cancer, accidents, birth defects, premature birth, and attention deficit (hyperactivity) disorder. PHP supports both families with children who have special needs and the professionals who serve them. For support contact (408) 727-5775.

### Special Parents Information Network

Special Parent Information Network (SPIN) is a non-profit parent-to-parent support and information network serving parents, guardians and families in Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties who have a child or children with special needs of any age.<sup>33</sup> The network houses a Family Empowerment Center on Disabilities as well as a Family Resource Center. Specific SPIN services include:

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<sup>30</sup> San Benito County Health and Human Services Agency (2019). Web site: <http://hhsa.cosb.us/>

<sup>31</sup> <http://www.sanandreasregional.org/>

<sup>32</sup> Parents Helping Parents (2019). About Us. Website: <https://www.php.com/about-us/>

<sup>33</sup> <http://spinsc.org/>

- Information on and referral to local resources for children with special needs.
- Mentor program for parents who want support and information from another parent who has a child with a similar disability or has experience navigating the system of services.
- Support Groups for both English and Spanish speaking parents.
- Educational workshops and training on various topics to educate parents and professionals to better meet and advocate for a child's needs at home, school, and in the community.
- IEP Clinics that provide individual assistance on issues regarding children's Individualized Educational Plan (IEP).
- Networking opportunities through support groups, events, workshops and training, and parent-to-parent support.
- Resource library of books, periodicals, journals, brochures and videos on various special needs topics.

For more information on SPIN Services, San Benito families can contact (831) 722-2800.

#### Santa Clara County Office of Education Inclusion Collaborative

The Inclusion Collaborative of Santa Clara County provides information, professional development workshops, annual conferences, and resources that promote the inclusion of children with special needs or disabilities in child care, preschool, and the community settings.<sup>34</sup> Some of the topics covered in trainings and workshops held by the Inclusion Collaborative include understanding the special education referral maze, adapting toys and activities for children with disabilities, and understanding the impact of language on behavior. The Inclusion Collaborative operates a Warmline where individuals can receive free support, information, and referrals for including children of all ages with disabilities and other needs. The Warmline can be accessed by phone at (408) 453-6651 or email at [inclusionwarmline@sccoe.org](mailto:inclusionwarmline@sccoe.org).

#### Family and Children Services of Silicon Valley

Family & Children Services of Silicon Valley is a private, nonprofit health and human services agency that has been a resource for residents in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties since 1948; they provide a variety of comprehensive and affordable counseling, education and prevention programs.<sup>35</sup> With a staff of over 100 full- and part-time therapists, social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, facilitators, and clinical interns, Family & Children Services has extensively collaborated with agencies at more than 100 community-based locations in addition to their own offices located in Palo Alto and San Jose. Services for children, teens, and their families include:

- Counseling services - Therapists apply evidence-based, proven practices and strategies to address a range of emotional and mental health needs, including grief and loss, anxiety, depression, peer and family relationships, co-occurring disorders (dual diagnosis), mood disorders, and the effects of trauma (including witnessing or experiencing violence or abuse).<sup>36</sup>

<sup>34</sup> <http://www.inclusioncollaborative.org/>

<sup>35</sup> <http://www.fcservices.org/>

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.fcservices.org/individual-and-family-counseling-services/>

- Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing Program - Support groups and counseling for students who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing that are provided at select campuses in Santa Clara County.<sup>37</sup>
- School-Based Services –FCS partners with schools and districts to provide on-campus counseling (general or special education), mental health assessments, teacher or parent education workshops, or the Teen FAST Program. Using evidence-based practices and strategies, therapists assist children and teens with a wide variety of concerns, including bullying, depression, anxiety, stress, home life issues, and behavior.<sup>38</sup>
- LGBTQ Wellness - The LGBTQ Wellness Program was founded in 2015 to support the mental health of LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning) community members and allies by providing outreach, education, and advocacy services that encourage social support and holistic wellness. Program services include one-on-one support and resource and referral, peer support groups, educational programs, cultural competency training programs, and community needs identification and advocacy.<sup>39</sup>
- LGBTQ Youth Space – The LGBTQ Youth Space Program empowers lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and ally youth and young adults in Santa Clara County through culturally-competent, youth-driven counseling and support services.<sup>40</sup>
- Family Violence & Abuse Prevention Services – Through the Positive Solutions Programs, Family and Children Services of Silicon Valley addresses the root causes of domestic violence, child abuse, and neglect, in order to end cycles of violence and abuse. The program provides anger management, parenting education, counseling, and domestic violence prevention services that teach healthy relationship skills and that help men and women take ownership of their emotions and choices.<sup>41</sup>

More information on these services can be found on the agency [website](#).

## Resources for Homeless Children and Families

The number of homeless individuals in Santa Clara County increased by 31% from 2017 to 2019.<sup>42</sup> Of the homeless population, 921 (9%) were members of family units and 1,876 (19%) were classified as unaccompanied youth and young adults. These data suggest that the need for programs that service the homeless is high, especially in Santa Clara County where there is a lack of affordable housing and work opportunities for people with limited education. This environment, combined with a single, triggering event, are all that are needed to force a family without emergency funds out of stable housing. There are a number of agencies that service the homeless in Santa Clara County and surrounding region. Listings of important resources are provided by Destination: Home<sup>43</sup> and Project WeHOPE.<sup>44</sup> HomeFirst, the San

<sup>37</sup> <http://www.fcservices.org/deaf-hard-of-hearing-program/>

<sup>38</sup> <http://www.fcservices.org/services-in-collaboration-with-schools/>

<sup>39</sup> <http://www.fcservices.org/lgbtq-wellness/>

<sup>40</sup> <http://www.fcservices.org/lgbtq-youth-space-program/>

<sup>41</sup> <http://www.fcservices.org/family-violence-abuse-prevention-positive-solutions-program/>

<sup>42</sup> Santa Clara County Homeless Census & Survey (2019), Applied Survey Research.

<sup>43</sup> <https://destinationhomesv.org/>

<sup>44</sup> <https://www.projectwehope.org/all-programs>

Jose Family Shelter, and Housing Trust of Silicon Valley are among the homeless population service providers operating in Santa Clara County.

A listing of homeless shelters and services for the needy operating in San Benito and Santa Clara County can be found on the [Homeless Shelter Directory](#).

### HomeFirst

HomeFirst is a leading provider of services, shelter, and housing opportunities to the homeless and those at risk of homelessness in Santa Clara County.<sup>45</sup> The organization serves more than 5,000 adults, veterans, families, and youth each year through offices at seven locations. HomeFirst's Boccardo Reception Center, the county's largest homeless services center, provides shelter and transitional housing as well as a wide array of additional services to the homeless year-round. Currently, HomeFirst operates two family living centers, the Sobrato Family Living Center in Santa Clara, and the Boccardo Family Living Center located in San Martin. For more information, contact (408) 539-2100.

In 2020 HomeFirst announced a pilot program in partnership with the City of San Jose. HomeFirst's Bridge Housing (BHC) Program provides safe and secure interim housing to eligible individuals enrolled in Santa Clara County and City of San Jose Rapid Rehousing Programs. Participants receive an array of on-site supportive services and access to resources needed to build a lifestyle of self-sufficiency. For general operations and program inquiries, the BHC Program Manager can be reached at 408-510-7661.

### The San Jose Family Shelter

The San Jose Family Shelter is the only shelter in Santa Clara County that exclusively serves single- and two-parent families.<sup>46</sup> The shelter can serve up to 35 families at a time. Each family is provided with a private room and case management services that are designed to help them identify barriers to self-sufficiency and develop a plan to securing permanent housing. Families that participate in the program are provided with housing for up to three months, are referred to other agencies for services such as CalFresh or subsidized childcare, and financial literacy/job readiness training. According to program data, seventy-five percent of families that have participated in the program have moved into permanent housing. For more information, contact (408) 926-8885.

### Housing Trust of Silicon Valley

The Housing Trust of Silicon Valley is a nonprofit housing lender located in Santa Clara County that services the homeless, renters, and first-time homebuyers.<sup>47</sup> Services to the homeless include prevention and housing assistance efforts through their Finally Home Security Deposit Program. The program provides a one-time grant up to \$2,500 to individuals and families moving to permanent, sustainable housing. Priority is given to those with the greatest need and who demonstrate long-term self-sufficiency. Interested applicants must work through designated partner agencies to complete the application process. For more information, contact (408) 436-3450.

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<sup>45</sup> <https://www.homefirstsc.org/>

<sup>46</sup> <http://familysupportivehousing.org/programs-and-services/the-san-jose-family-shelter-2/>

<sup>47</sup> <https://housingtrustsv.org/>

## Summary

Services that support low-income children and families:

- In Santa Clara County:
  - Public Health Department
    - The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program provides nutrition education, counseling, case management, and supplemental foods for eligible clients.
  - Social Services Agency
    - Provides childcare and employment assistance through the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program.
    - The CalFresh Program provides monthly electronic benefits to eligible families that can be used to buy food at participating market and food stores.
- In San Benito County:
  - Health and Human Services Agency
    - Services align with those provided by the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency, which include CalWORKs and CalFresh programs for eligible families.

Services that support children that have been or are at-risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation:

- In Santa Clara County
  - FIRST 5
    - Works with partner agencies and the court system(s) to provide services and support for families with children who are at-risk of suffering from emotional/physical abuse by parents or caregivers.
- In San Benito County:
  - The Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC) coordinates medical, dental, mental, and developmental health services to children in foster care through a network of Public Health Nurses (PHN), social workers, and probation officers.

Services that support homeless children and families:

- In Santa Clara County
  - United Way Bay Area
    - Collaborates with partner agencies located in Santa Clara County. In addition to other support services (i.e., food assistance, utility assistance, medical and transportation aid), UWBA provides emergency rental assistance and mortgage aid to families.
  - HomeFirst
    - Provides year-round shelter and transitional housing services to Santa Clara County's homeless population. Operates two Family Living Centers located in Santa Clara and San Martin.
  - The San Jose Family Shelter
    - Provides transitional housing for single- and two-parent families for up to 90 days, referrals to other programs, planning services, and jobs training.
  - The Housing Trust of Silicon Valley
    - Offers the Finally Home Security Deposit Program which provides a one-time grant up to \$2,500 to individuals and families moving to permanent, sustainable housing.

Services that support children with disabilities:

- In Santa Clara County:
  - Public Health Department:
    - The California Children’s Services program coordinates medical and rehabilitation services for children (ages 3-21 years) with special health care needs.
    - The Child Health and Disability Prevention program provides services for early detection and prevention of disease in children
  - FIRST 5
    - Works with partner agencies to identify children at-risk of poor developmental and behavioral health. Administration of the Ages and Stages Questionnaire is a requirement for childcare providers participating in FIRST 5’s Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) consortium.
- In San Benito County:
  - Public Health Division
    - The Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program provides periodic preventative health assessments and services to income eligible children.



## Chapter 8: Head Start Eligible Children

### Background

This chapter includes data on children who are income and categorically eligible for Head Start services. Estimates for children who meet federal income eligibility guidelines are provided at the city-level for all major cities located in Santa Clara and San Benito County. Data on the number of children who are categorically eligible for Head Start services are derived from California Department of Education annual enrollment figures and are provided at the county-level.

### Income Eligible Children

Children in families with household incomes at or below 100% the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) are income eligible for Head Start services. For a family of four, that equates to an annual household income of \$26,200. In the Santa Clara County-San Benito County service area, an estimated 4,556 children ages 0-2 years qualify for Early Head Start, and 6,020 children ages 3-4 years qualify for Head Start on the basis of household income (see Table 44). A comparison of income eligibility rates between counties reveals that the proportion of San Benito's child population that is income eligible for Head Start is three times greater than that of Santa Clara County, yet the number of children who are income eligible for services in Santa Clara far exceeds that of San Benito County.

**TABLE 44. INCOME ELIGIBLE CHILDREN BY CITY AND AGE GROUP (2018)**

	Children Ages 0-2 Years			Children Ages 3-4 Years		
	No. of Children	Children Living At or Below 100% FPL	Percent of Children Living At or Below 100% FPL	No. of Children	Children Living At or Below 100% FPL	Percent of Children Living At or Below 100% FPL
<b>Santa Clara Co.</b>	<b>76029</b>	<b>3658</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>53493</b>	<b>4765</b>	<b>8.9%</b>
Alviso	100	1	1.0%	70	3	4.3%
Campbell	1597	186	11.6%	1337	94	7.0%
Cupertino	1706	5	0.3%	1108	62	5.6%
Gilroy	2243	0	0.0%	1776	175	9.9%
Livermore	1908	20	1.0%	1410	61	4.3%
Los Altos	1338	119	8.9%	893	21	2.4%
Los Gatos	1377	15	1.1%	926	82	8.9%
Milpitas	2980	0	0.0%	1783	86	4.8%
Morgan Hill	1782	0	0.0%	1410	138	9.8%
Mountain View	2451	222	9.1%	1637	38	2.3%
Palo Alto	3821	412	10.8%	2486	141	5.7%
San Jose	37922	2078	5.5%	27130	2815	10.4%
San Martin	250	0	0.0%	198	19	9.6%
Santa Clara	5781	385	6.7%	3673	297	8.1%
Saratoga	847	3	0.4%	553	32	5.8%
Sunnyvale	6797	59	0.9%	4823	220	4.6%
Watsonville	3125	153	4.9%	2276	481	21.1%
<b>San Benito Co.</b>	<b>5492</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>4308</b>	<b>1255</b>	<b>29.1%</b>
Aromas	167	22	13.2%	123	23	18.7%
Hollister	4382	720	16.4%	3444	1014	29.4%
King City	711	118	16.6%	559	165	29.5%
Paicines	30	5	16.7%	23	7	30.4%
San Juan Bautista	184	30	16.3%	145	42	29.0%
Tres Pinos	18	3	16.7%	14	4	28.6%
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>81521</b>	<b>4556</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>57801</b>	<b>6020</b>	<b>10.4%</b>

**Abbreviations:** Co. = County; No. = Number; FPL = Federal Poverty Level

**Source:** Infant/Toddler and Preschool Reports (2018), Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool (ELNAT), American Institutes for Research (AIR)

### Capacity to Serve Income Eligible Children

As shown in Table 45, there are 1,680 slots available to an estimated 10,576 children under the age of 5 years who (a) reside in the Santa Clara-San Benito County service area and (b) meet income eligibility criteria for Head Start services. These data indicate that Head Start has the capacity to serve 15.9% of the income eligible child population. Head Start's capacity to serve income eligible children varies by age group and county, with 67% of all slots allocated to children ages 3-4 years who reside in Santa Clara.

**TABLE 45. CAPACITY TO SERVE INCOME ELIGIBLE CHILDREN BY COUNTY (2018)**

	No. of Children Living At or Below 100% FPL	No. of Available Slots (Capacity)	No. of Slots Needed to Service 100% of Income Eligible Children	Pct. of Children that Can Be Served with Available Slots (Pct. Capacity)
<b>Santa Clara Co.</b>	<b>8423</b>	<b>1582</b>	<b>6729</b>	<b>18.8%</b>
Children Ages 0-2 Years	3658	449	3424	12.3%
Children Ages 3-4 Years	4765	1133	3305	23.8%
<b>San Benito Co.</b>	<b>2153</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1901</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
Children Ages 0-2 Years	898	0	876	0.0%
Children Ages 3-4 Years	1255	98	1025	7.8%
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>10576</b>	<b>1680</b>	<b>8630</b>	<b>15.9%</b>
Children Ages 0-2 Years	4556	449	4300	9.9%
Children Ages 3-4 Years	6020	1231	4330	20.4%

**Abbreviations:** Co. = County; No. = Number; Pct. = Percent

**Source:** No. of Children Living At or Below 100% FPL - Infant/Toddler and Preschool Reports (2018), Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool (ELNAT), American Institutes for Research (AIR); No. of Available Slots – Program Information Report (2020), Early Learning Services, Santa Clara County Office of Education

### Categorically Eligible Children

Children may qualify for Head Start on a basis other than income. Those under the age of five (5) years that meet any one or more of the following criteria are categorically eligible for Head Start services:

- Children who are homeless;
- Children in foster care; and/or,
- Children with disabilities.

Unfortunately, current population data on children who are categorically eligible for Head Start services are not readily available for a variety of reasons. For example, for most children, outcomes such as the need for special education services are not typically determined until children first enroll in Kindergarten at the age of six years.

While imprecise, data on Kindergartners with disabilities, or those who are in foster care or homeless, can serve as a proxy for the number of preschool-aged children that potentially qualify for Head Start on the basis of categorical criteria. According to the data presented in Table 46, 1,837 children enrolled in Kindergarten in Santa Clara County and San Benito County had characteristics or circumstances that, were they present one or two years prior to Kindergarten enrollment, would have made them eligible for Head Start services. Not accounting for duplicates (i.e., children that meet multiple criteria), that is 8.2% of the entire Kindergarten population in both counties (N=22,318). If 8.2% of the estimated number of children ages 3-4 years who reside in the Head Start service area (N=57,801) are categorically eligible, then an estimated 4,740 additional children may qualify for Head Start services on a basis other than income. The estimated number of children ages 3-4 years who reside in the service area that meet categorical criteria for Head Start services is nearly three times greater than the number of available slots.

**TABLE 46. KINDERGARTNERS BY CATEGORICAL SUBGROUP (2019)**

	No. of Children with Disabilities	No. of Children in Foster Care	No. of Children Who Are Homeless	Aggregate Count
Santa Clara County	1473	32	200	1705
San Benito County	101	3	28	132
<b>Service Area</b>	<b>1574</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>1837</b>

**Abbreviations:** No. = Number

**Source:** Enrollment by Ethnicity and Grade (2019/20), DataQuest, CA Department of Education

### Summary

Notable eligibility characteristics for Santa Clara County:

- Head Start has the capacity to serve 15.2% of the income eligible population in Santa Clara County.

Notable eligibility characteristics for Santa Benito County:

- Head Start has the capacity to serve 26.9% of the income eligible population in San Benito County.

Notable eligibility characteristics for Santa Clara County and San Benito County:

- There are 4,300 income-eligible children ages 0-2 years who reside in the service area and are without an Early Head Start slot.
- There are 4,330 income-eligible children ages 3-4 years who reside in the service area and are without a Head Start slot.
- Head Start has the capacity to serve 15.9% of all income eligible children who reside in the service area.
- It is estimated that the number of children ages 3-4 years that qualify for Head Start services on the basis of categorical criteria exceeds the number of available slots.



## Chapter 9: Early Head Start Program Information

### Background

This chapter summarizes key data elements from the Early Head Start Program Information Report (PIR), including but not limited to enrollment data and data on the characteristics of children and families from Santa Clara County and San Benito County who were served by the Early Head Start program between 2012-13 and 2019-20. The PIR is a standardized statistical report submitted annually to the Administration on Children and Families (ACF). Some data for this chapter is unavailable or incomplete for the 2019-20 year due to a disruption in normal data collection that occurred in the wake of the COVID-19 public health pandemic. Due to the public health pandemic, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office of Head Start suspended the requirement for grantees to submit PIR data in 2019-20.

### Early Head Start Enrollment

In 2019-20, a new Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership was added to existing partnerships which resulted in a 79% increase in funded enrollment slots from the previous year (see Table 47). For the first time in eight years, the cumulative enrollment in Early Head Start (EHS) did not exceed the funded enrollment. Cumulative enrollment in EHS has increased by 173% since 2012-13.

**TABLE 47. NUMBER OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN EARLY HEAD START**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Total Funded Enrollment	88	88	88	196	196	256	254	455
Total Cumulative Enrollment	157	134	137	288	294	350	351	429
Percent Total Actual Enrollment Over Funded Enrollment	78%	52%	56%	47%	50%	37%	38%	NA

**Abbreviations:** NA = Not Applicable

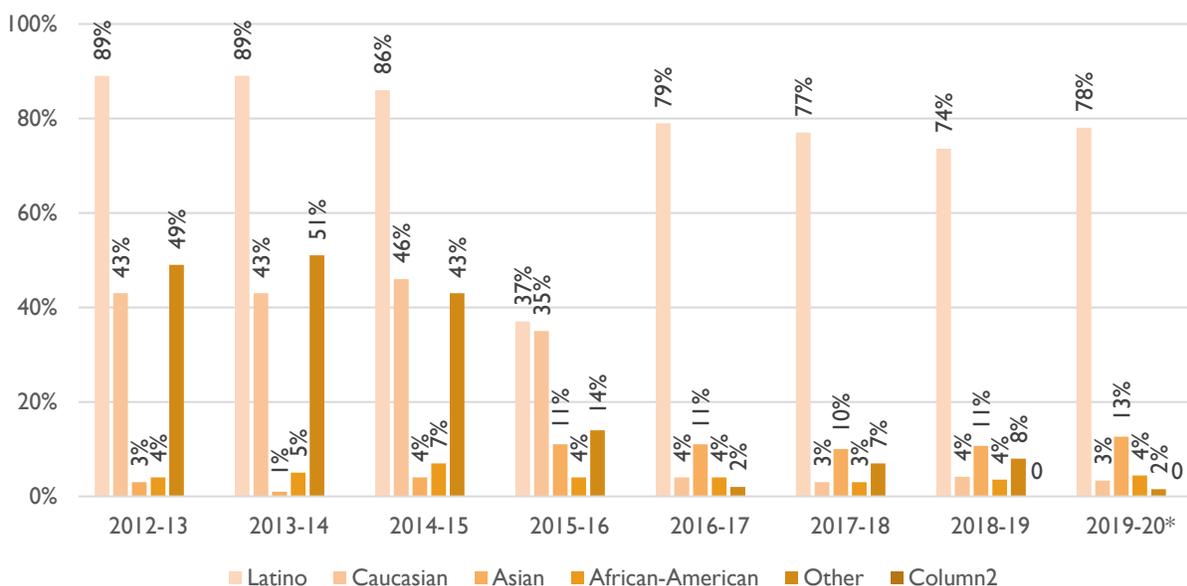
**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Early Head Start Program Information Report

### Race/Ethnicity of Children Enrolled in Early Head Start

Like Head Start, Latino/Hispanic children account for the largest proportion of EHS enrollment. Even with the 11 percentage-point decline observed since 2012-13, more than three-fourths of the enrollment population in 2019-20 was Latino/Hispanic (see Figure 20). Asian-Americans accounted for 13% of the 2019-20 Early Head Start enrollment

**FIGURE 20. RACE/ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN EARLY HEAD START**



**Note:** “Other” subgroup includes American Indian/Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and biracial or mixed ethnicities. Prior to 2015-16, race and ethnicity are reported as separate fields. Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Early Head Start Program Information Report

## Primary Language of Children Enrolled in Early Head Start

As shown in Table 48, the two most common languages spoken by EHS children in 2019-20 were Spanish (52%) and English (37%). Included in the “Other” category are 6% of children with a primary home language of East Asian origin.

**TABLE 48. PRIMARY LANGUAGE OF CHILDREN IN EARLY HEAD START**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Spanish	114	100	70	134	128	159	173	225
English	39	31	25	97	131	166	154	160
Other	4	3	42	56	35	25	24	44

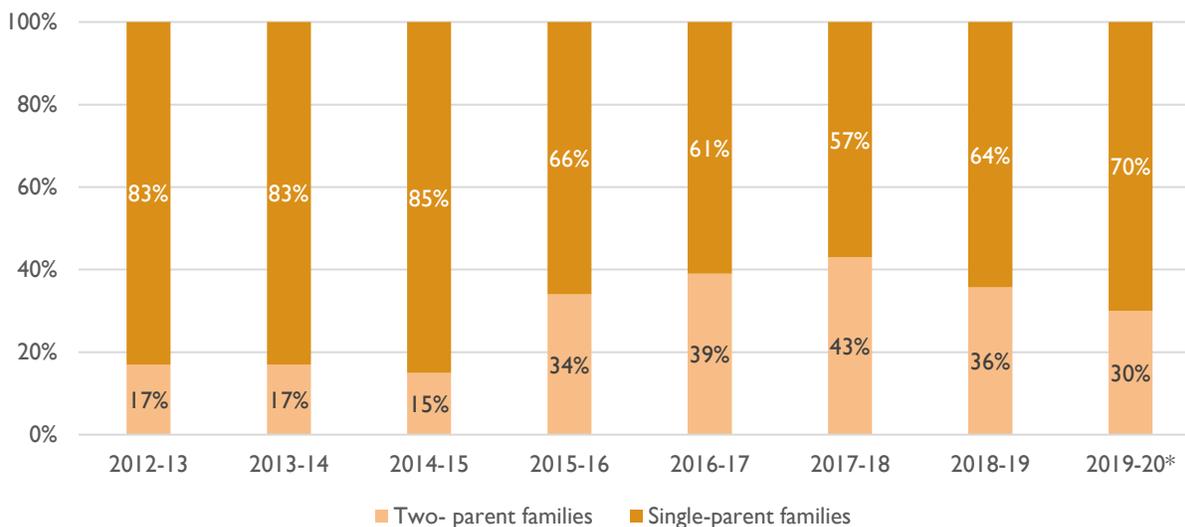
**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Early Head Start Program Information Report

## Dual- and Single-Parent Families

Approximately 70% of the children served by EHS in 2019-20 were in single-parent families (see Figure 21). Though smaller in size, the proportion of children in two-parent families has nearly doubled since the 2012-13.

**FIGURE 21. EARLY HEAD START TWO- AND SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES**



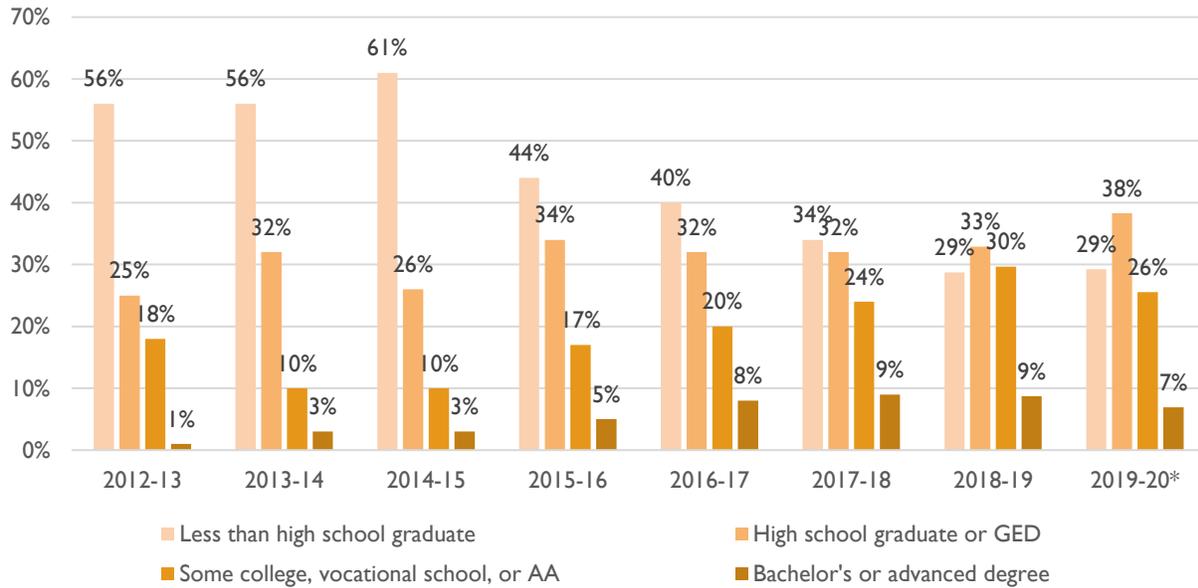
**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Early Head Start Program Information Report

## Parent Education

As shown in Figure 22, the proportions of EHS parents who report graduating from high school or earning a GED, completing some college or vocational training, or obtaining a college degree have increased since 2012. As of 2019/20, less than 30% of parents reported that did not graduate from high school or obtain their GED. In 2012-13, that applied 56% of EHS parents.

**FIGURE 22. HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL OF EHS PARENTS**



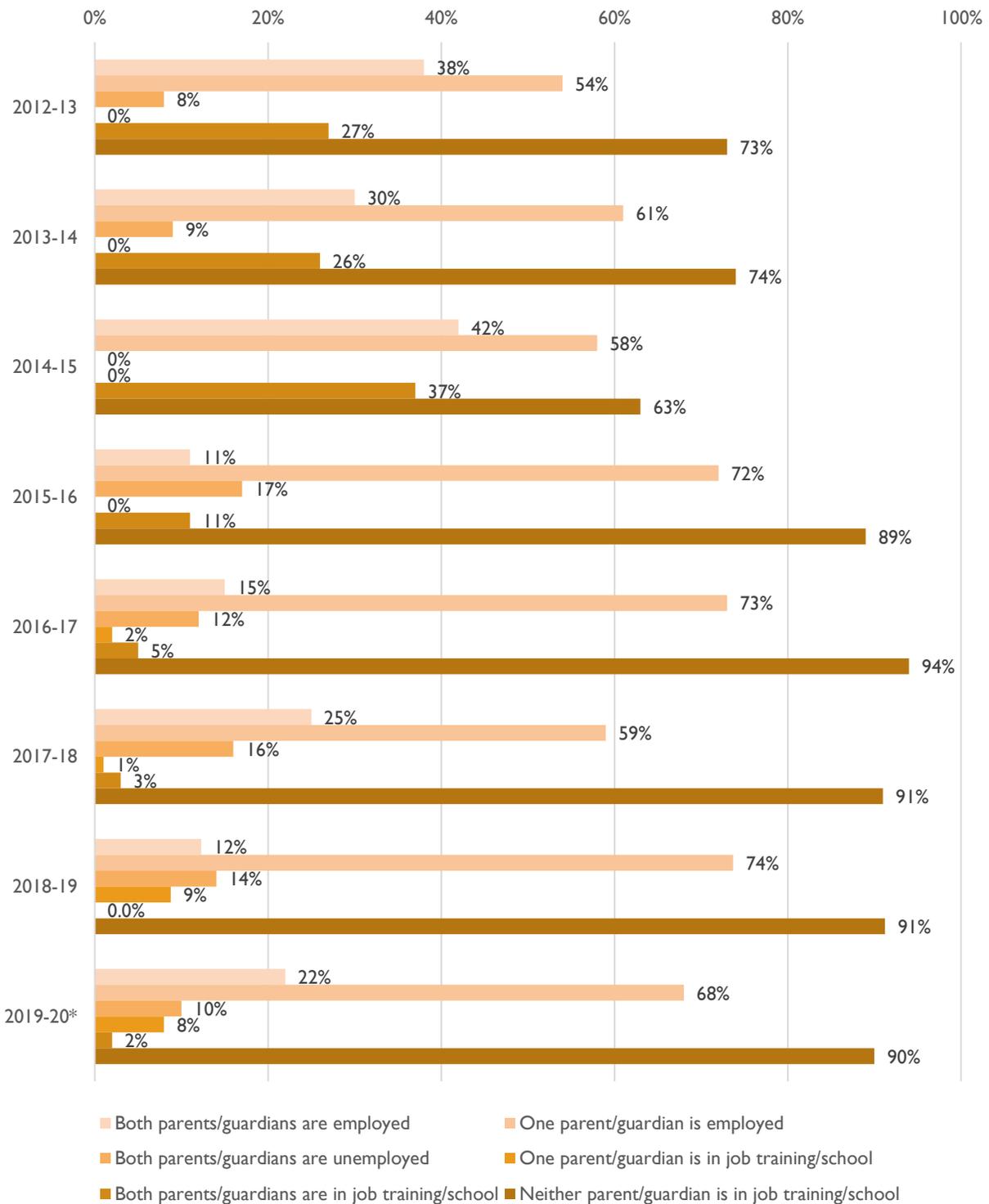
**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Early Head Start Program Information Report

### Employment and Jobs Training/School

Changes in job opportunities and the economy have impacted EHS families. The percentage of two-parent families with both parents working decreased from 38% in 2012-13 to 22% in 2019-20 (see Figure 23). Declines are also evident for the proportion of two-parent families with both parents enrolled in job training or school (from 27% in 2012-13 to 2% in 2019-20).

**FIGURE 23. EMPLOYMENT AND JOB TRAINING/SCHOOL OF TWO-PARENT EHS FAMILIES**

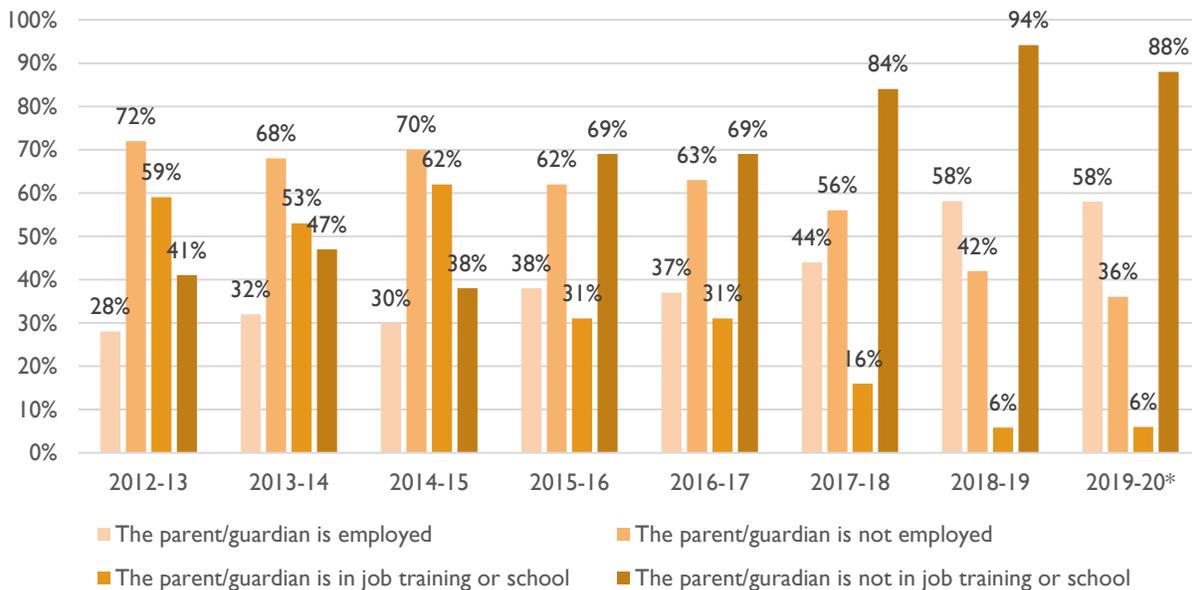


**Note:** Employment distributions are independent of job training/school distributions. Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Early Head Start Program Information Report

For single-parent families, the majority (88% in 2019-20) are not in job training or school and 36% of single-parents reported that they were not employed (see Figure 24). The percentage of employed single-parent families increased from 28% in 2012-13 to 58% in 2019-20.

**FIGURE 24. EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING/SCHOOL OF SINGLE-PARENT EHS FAMILIES**



**Note:** Employment distributions are independent of job training/school distributions. Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Early Head Start Program Information Report

## Summary

Early Head Start (EHS) demographics:

- The majority of children served by EHS in 2019-20 were Hispanic (78%), followed by Asian-American children (13%).
- The proportion of children with a reported home language of Spanish (59%) exceeded the proportion that primarily speak English in the home (37%).
- The proportion of two-parent families served by EHS has increased since 2012-13.
- Since 2014-15, the percent of EHS parents with less than a high school diploma has decreased.
- In 2019-20, the majority of single-parent EHS families were employed (58%).
- The percent of single-parent EHS families pursuing jobs training or schooling has decreased significantly since 2012-13.



## Chapter 10: Head Start Program Information

### Background

This chapter summarizes key data elements from the Head Start Program Information Report (PIR) including but not limited to enrollment data, services data (e.g., medical and dental homes) and characteristics of children and families from Santa Clara County and San Benito County who were served by the Head Start program between 2012-13 and 2019-20. Some data for this chapter is unavailable or incomplete for the 2019-20 year due to a disruption to normal data collection that occurred in the wake of the COVID-19 public health pandemic. Due to the public health pandemic, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Office of Head Start suspended the requirement for grantees to submit PIR data in 2019-20.

### Enrollment

Slot and enrollment trends for Head Start classrooms have varied over the past six years. During the most recent year of available data (2018-19), the number of “5 Days a Week – Full Day” slots has increased by 209 over the span of 2015-16 and 2018-2019. However, this is still 25 slots shy of the 2012-13 count (see Table 49). Like full-day slots, the number of “5 Days a Week – Part Day” slots has increased from 242 slots in 2017-18 to 424 slots in 2018-19 (a 75% increase). Conversely, the number of “4 Days a Week – Part Day” slots has trended downwards since 2014-15, enrolling only 612 children in 2018-19. Despite these fluctuations, the program has consistently served more than its funded enrollment.

**TABLE 49. HEAD START ENROLLMENT**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
5 Days a Week – Full Day	787	668	553	553	662	654	762	NA
5 Days a Week – Part Day	0	0	0	0	0	424	424	NA
4 Days a Week – Part Day	1,481	1,600	1,715	1,715	1,402	612	612	NA
Home-based	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	NA
Total Funded Enrollment	2,268	2,268	2,268	2,268	2,064	1,690	1,946	1,690
Total Cumulative Enrollment	2,535	2,553	2,573	2,328	2,257	1,869	2,219	1,816
% Total Actual Enrollment over Funded Enrollment	12%	12%	12%	3%	9%	11%	14%	7%

**Abbreviations:** NA = Not Available

**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Race and Ethnicity of Children Enrolled in Head Start

Prior to 2015-16, data on race was captured separately from data on ethnicity. In 2015-16, race and ethnicity response options were combined into a single variable. Despite this change in data collection methods, the majority of children enrolled (approx. 70%) continue to be Hispanic/Latino (see Figure 25 and Table 50). The second largest demographic enrolled are Asian children. These two subgroups consistently make up over 90% of Head Start children.

**TABLE 50. HEAD START ENROLLMENT BY RACE/ETHNICITY**

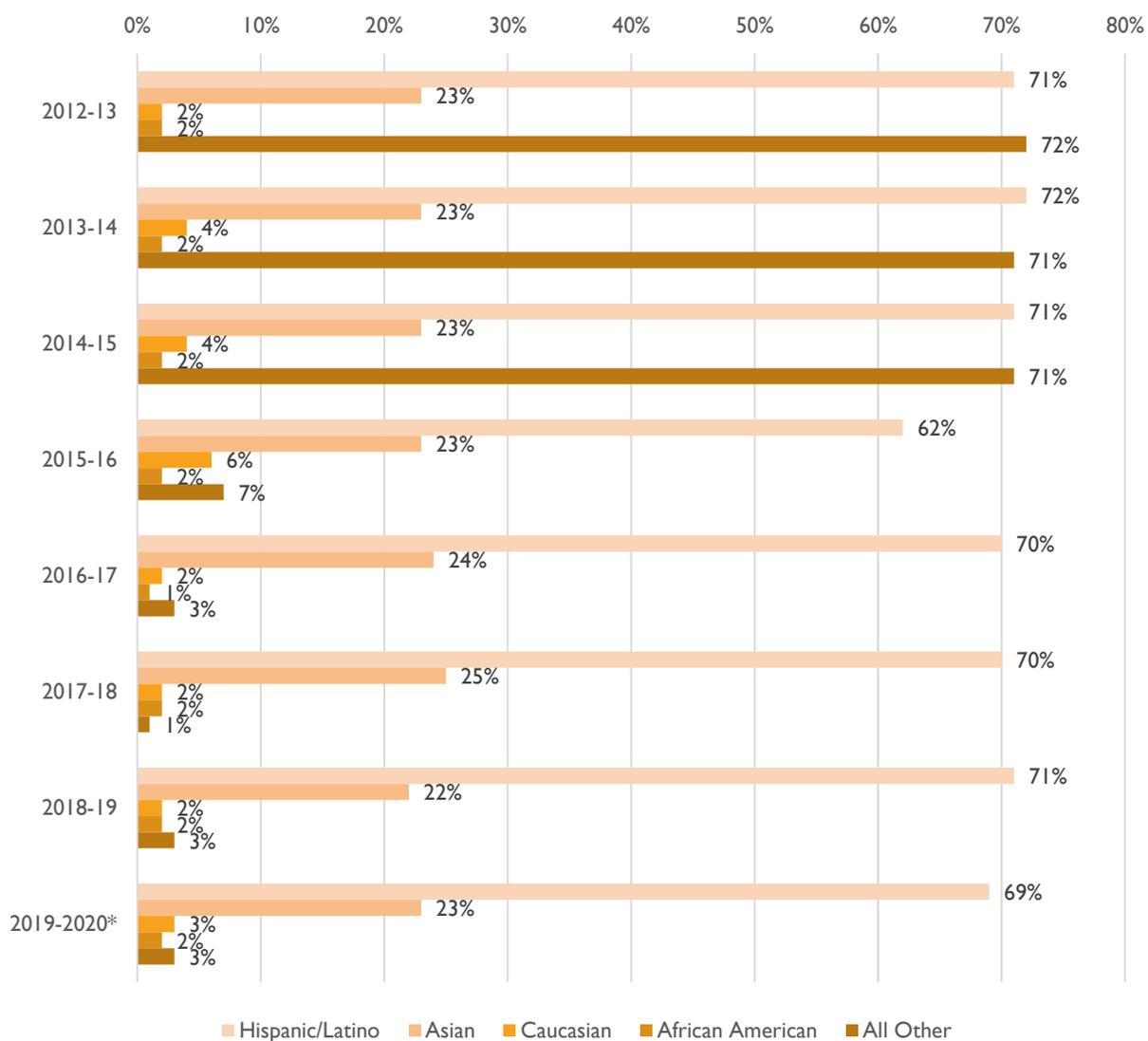
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Latino	1,804	1,834	1,819	1,455	1,581	1,301	1,572	1,218
Asian	592	579	593	539	550	465	499	406
African American	57	57	49	40	32	39	49	42
Biracial/Multiracial	1,779	118	145	103	19	13	20	26
Caucasian	61	99	92	142	52	32	42	58
NH/PI	8	11	13	9	12	7	9	8
AI/AN	0	1,651	1,648	0	0	1	1	7
Other/Unspecified	38	38	33	40	11	6	27	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,535</b>	<b>2,553</b>	<b>2,573</b>	<b>2,328</b>	<b>2,257</b>	<b>1,869</b>	<b>2,219</b>	<b>1,771</b>

**Abbreviations:** NH/PI = Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander; AI/AN = American Indian/Alaskan Native

**Notes:** In 2011-12 and beyond, modified data collection methods were used to accurately reflect children identified as Caucasian or American Indian/Alaska Native. From 2015-16 and on, race/ethnicity not collected as mutually exclusive variables. Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

**FIGURE 25. HEAD START CHILDREN BY RACE/ETHNICITY**



**Notes:** Hispanic/Latino and Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino are the two classifications for ethnicity. Race classifications include Caucasian, Asian, African-American, and Other (Biracial/Multi-racial, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander); the race subgroups may not equal to 100% due to rounding. Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

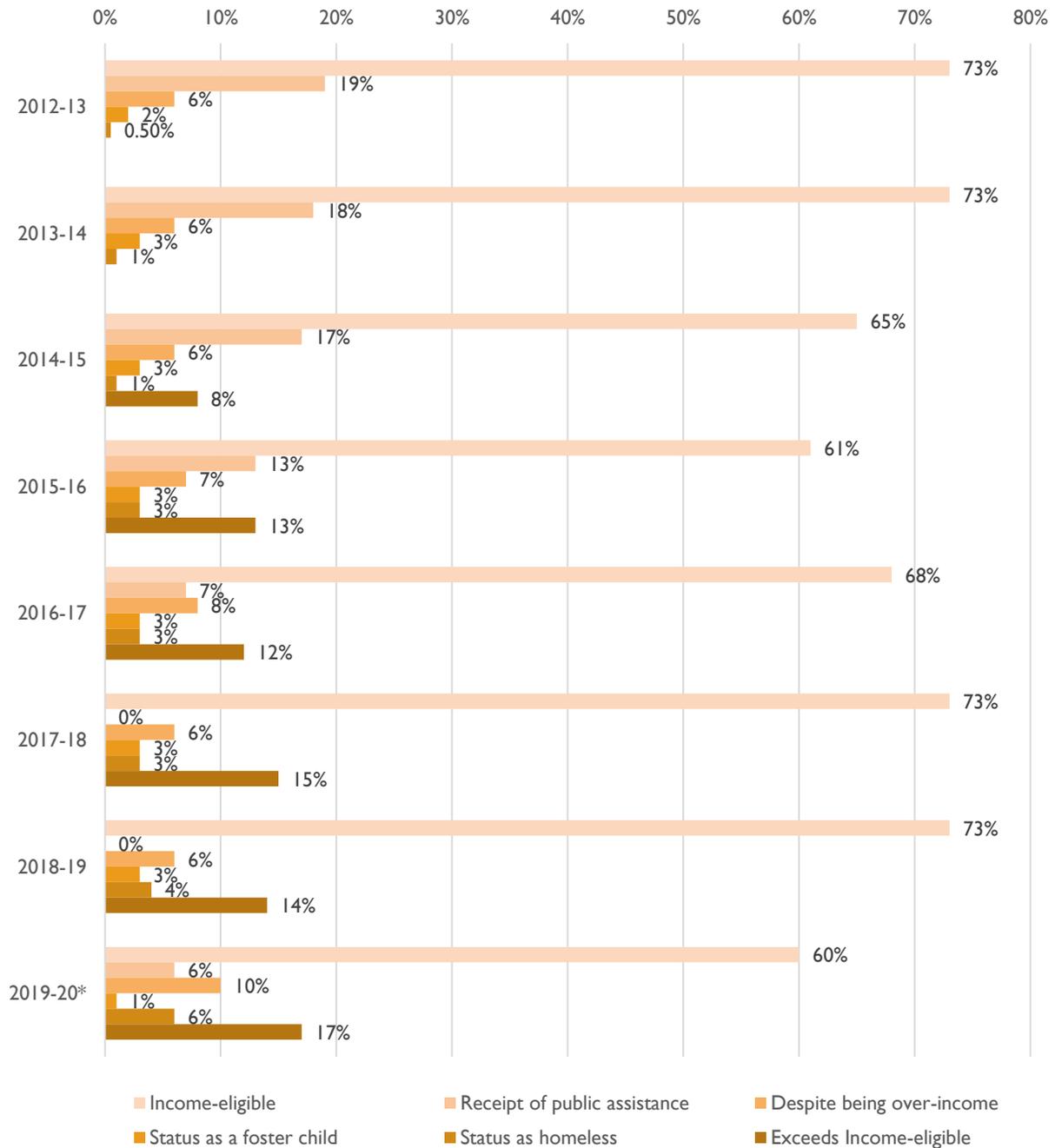
**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Head Start Eligibility Status

Nearly three-quarters of families who participate in Head Start meet income eligibility criteria. As of 2014-15, the PIR includes data on the percentage of families who are between 100% and 130% of the federal poverty line. This distinction applied to 17% of enrollees in 2019-20 (see Figure 26 and Table 51). Despite earning an income that exceeds the income-eligible guidelines, these are families that would find it very difficult to meet cost of living expenses, including childcare, in this service area. It should be noted

that prior to the 2019-20 year, the percent of over-income children has ranged between 5-8%, which is below the 10% allowed by federal regulation.

**FIGURE 26. HEAD START ENROLLMENT BY TYPE OF ELIGIBILITY**



**Notes:** Exceeds income-eligible (i.e., enrollees exceeding the allowed over income enrollment with family incomes between 100% and 130% of the federal poverty line) is a new variable collected in 2014-15. Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

**TABLE 51. ACTUAL ENROLLMENT BY TYPE OF ELIGIBILITY**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Income-eligible	1,847	1,862	1,667	1,411	1,530	1,370	1,624	1,090
Receipt of public assistance	479	452	428	307	162	0	0	109
Despite being over-income	142	142	154	163	177	120	125	176
Status as a foster child	55	68	83	77	61	51	70	25
Status as homeless	12	29	36	61	62	56	91	101
Exceeds Income-eligible	-	-	205	309	265	272	309	311
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,535</b>	<b>2,553</b>	<b>2,573</b>	<b>2,328</b>	<b>2,257</b>	<b>1,869</b>	<b>2,219</b>	<b>1,812</b>

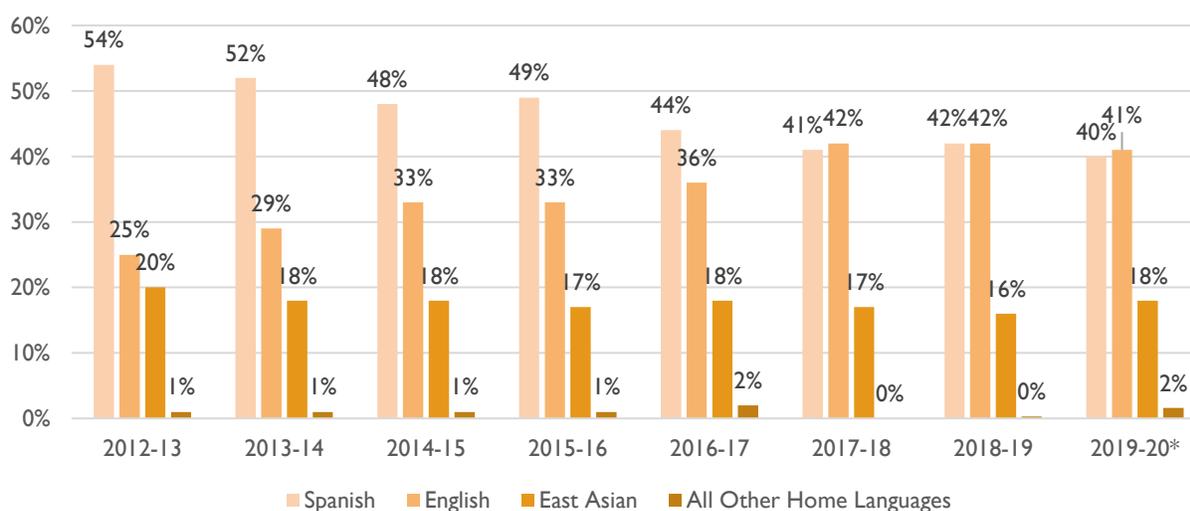
**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection. Hyphen-minus (-) indicates no data available.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Home Languages of Children in Head Start

As shown in Figure 27 and Table 52, the percentage of children speaking Spanish trended downwards from 2012-13 to 2017-18, decreasing 13 percentage points during this time span, then remaining consistent for the next two program years. Conversely, the percentage of students speaking English has increased by 17 percentage points during this same time period. Over one-half of the Head Start children came from a home in which a language other than English is spoken, with 40% Spanish, 18% East Asian languages and the remaining 2% speaking Middle Eastern/South Asian, African, Pacific Island, Native North American/Alaskan, and unspecified languages in the 2019-20 program year.

**FIGURE 27. HOME LANGUAGES IN HEAD START**



**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

**TABLE 52. HEAD START ENROLLMENT BY HOME LANGUAGE**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Spanish	1,362	1,319	1,242	1,143	991	763	922	718
English	639	751	859	764	809	777	943	749
East Asian Language	514	467	451	407	408	326	347	320
Middle E. & South Asian	12	10	10	2	3	2	2	9
African Languages	3	5	3	1	0	0	0	3
Pacific Island Languages	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	1
Eur. & Slavic Languages	3	0	4	1	1	0	0	0
Caribbean Languages	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Native N. American/Alaskan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Native Central, S. American	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unspecified	0	0	2	10	44	1	5	14

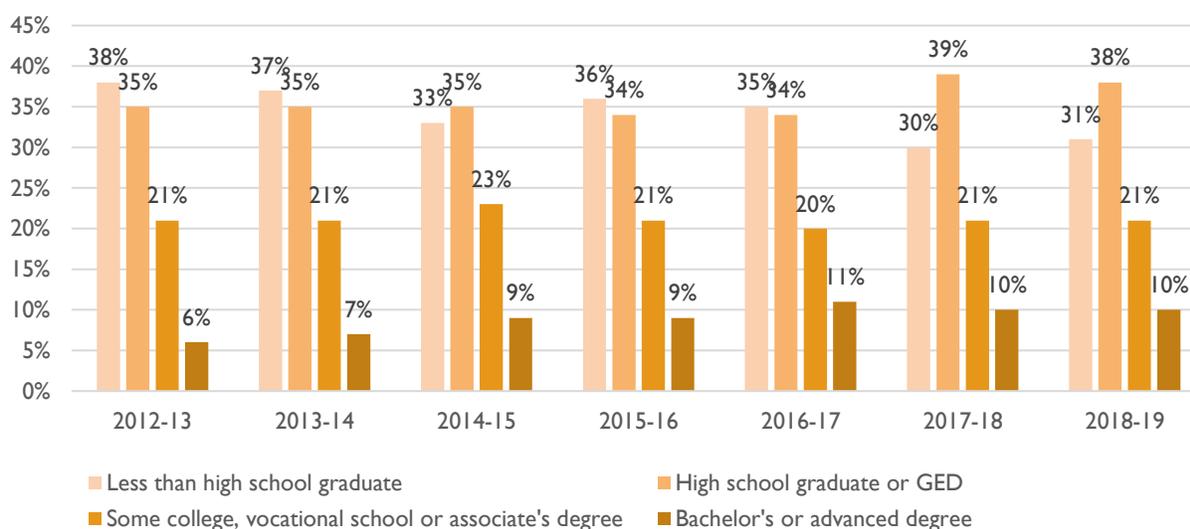
**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Parent Education Level

Data on parent education level was not available for the 2019-20 program year due to data collection disruption. In the most recent year of data collection (2018-19), approximately one-third of parents (31%) had some college or a bachelor’s degree or higher (see Figure 28 and Table 53). Trends show that there was an increase in the percentage of parents who are earning their bachelor’s or advanced degree (from 6% in 2012-13 to 10% in 2018-19). There was a slight decrease in the percentage of parents with less than a high school diploma (-7% from 2012-13 to 2018-19).

**FIGURE 28. PARENT EDUCATION LEVEL**



**Notes:** In years 2014-15 to 2017-18, data is based on total parents with program information.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

**TABLE 53. EDUCATION LEVEL OF HEAD START PARENTS**

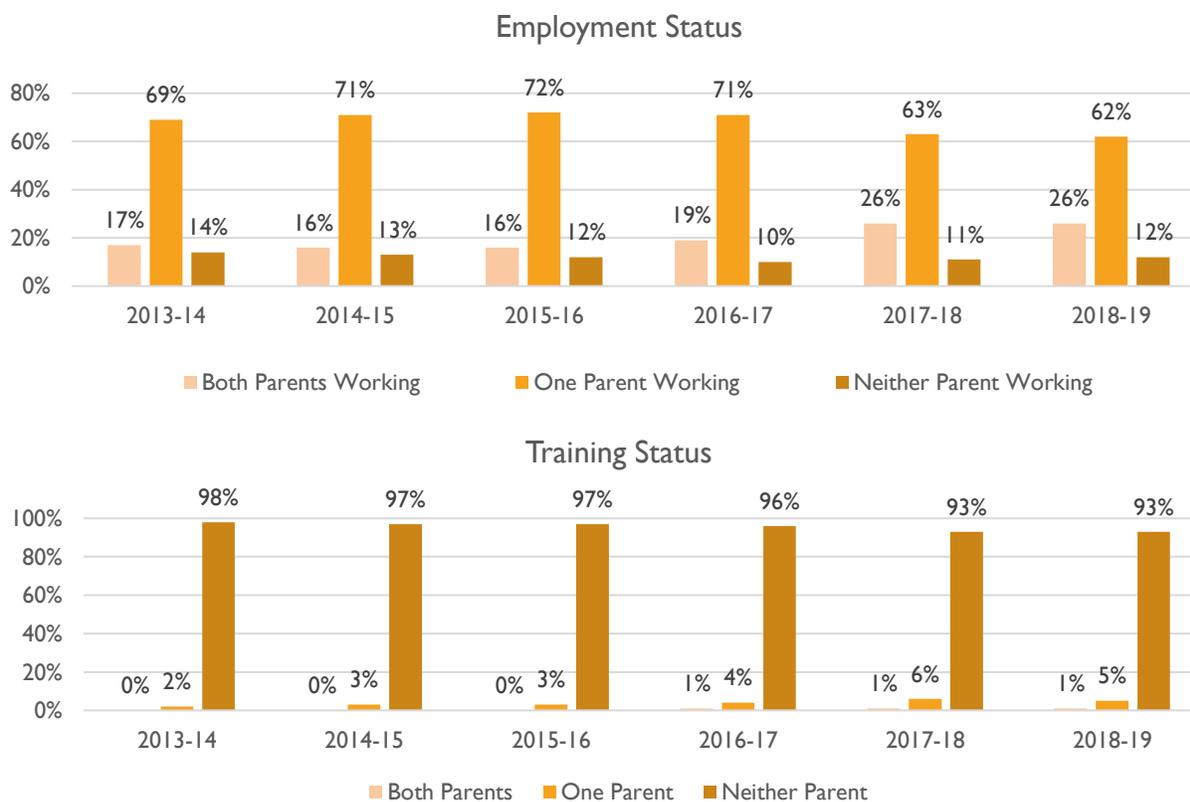
	2012 -13	2013 -14	2014 -15	2015 -16	2016 -17	2017 -18	2018 -19
Less than high school graduate	914	896	813	745	698	516	613
High school graduate or GED	851	861	870	700	692	657	749
Some college, vocational school, or AA degree	522	512	560	445	408	356	426
Bachelor's or advanced degree	143	175	218	190	221	174	201

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Parent Participation in Employment and/or Education/Training Programs

Data on parent employment and training was not available for the 2019-20 program year due to data collection disruption. In the most recent year of available data (2018-19), approximately two thirds of two-parent families had one parent working (see Figure 29 and Table 54). The percentage of both parents working increased since 2015-16, from 16% to 26% in 2018-19. In two-parent families, 5% had at least one parent in job training or school, down 1% in 2018-19 since the previous year.

**FIGURE 29. EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING STATUS OF TWO PARENT/GUARDIAN HS FAMILIES**



**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

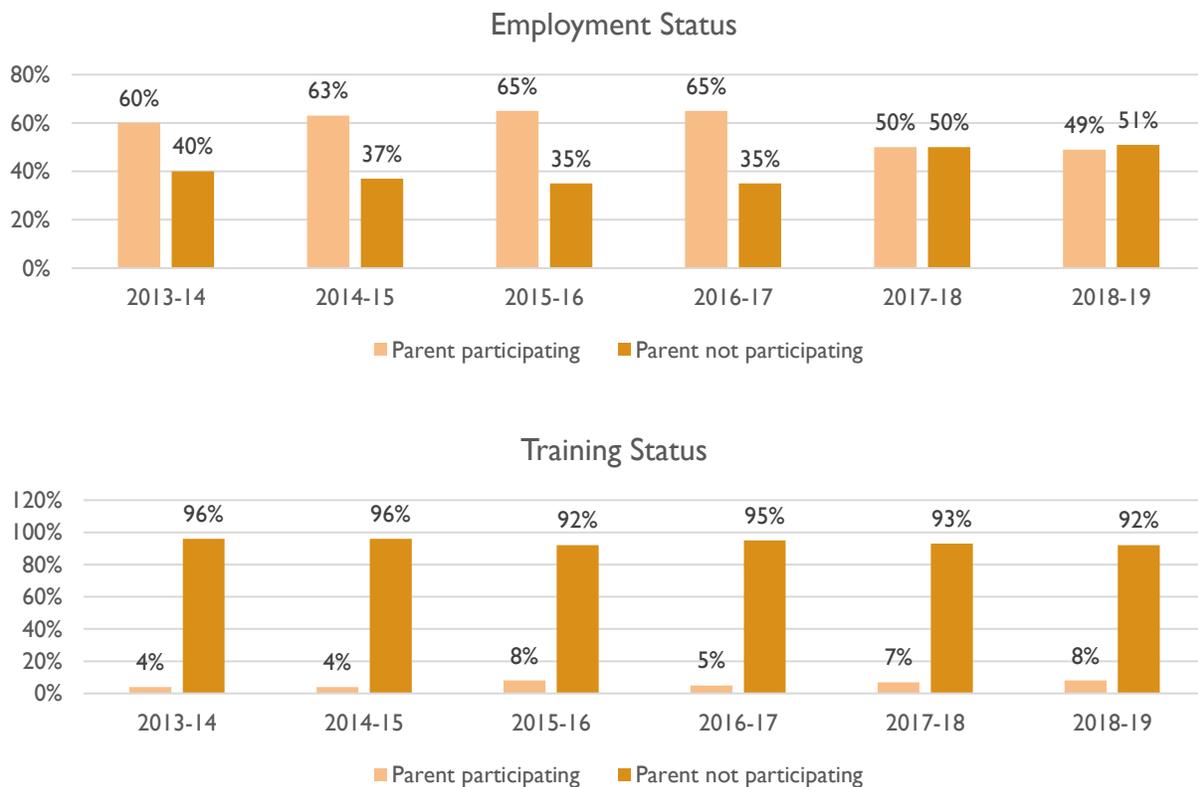
**TABLE 54. EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING STATUS OF TWO-PARENT/GUARDIAN HS FAMILIES**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
<b>Employment</b>							
Both parents/guardians employed	210	198	204	189	204	201	235
One parent/guardian employed	830	838	910	831	742	492	573
Both parents/guardians not working	195	163	169	134	101	89	111
<b>Job Training/School</b>							
Two parents/guardians in job training/school	4	1	6	4	7	11	13
One parent/guardian in job training/school	40	28	34	36	38	47	51
Neither parent/guardian in job training/school	1,191	1,170	1,243	1,114	1,002	750	875

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

Similar to two-parent families, half of single-parent/guardian families (49%) were employed during the 2018-19 program year. As shown in Figure 30 and Table 55, of those not employed, only 8% had participated in jobs training in 2018-19. That rate is up one percentage point from the previous year and has doubled since 2013-14.

**FIGURE 30. EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING STATUS OF SINGLE-PARENT/GUARDIAN HS FAMILIES**



**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

**TABLE 55. EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING STATUS OF SINGLE-PARENT/GUARDIAN HS FAMILIES**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
<b>Employment</b>							
Parent/guardian employed	723	751	749	681	653	264	319
Parent/guardian not working	472	497	438	369	351	263	333
<b>Job Training/School</b>							
Parent/guardian in job training or school	60	53	43	87	47	64	93
Parent/guardian not in job training or school	1,135	1,195	1,144	963	957	903	1056

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Family Services Rendered

Data on family services rendered was not available for the 2019-20 program year due to data collection disruption. Despite this interruption in data collection, families in Head Start have used family services offered by the program. Moreover, in the most recent year of data collection (2018-19) a total of 1,819 families have reported using at least one type of family service. Table 56 summarizes the number of families that received Head Start services by type of service. The most common family service received during 2018-19 was Health Education (1,272 families) followed by Parenting Education (1,217 families).

**TABLE 56. NUMBER OF FAMILIES SERVICED BY TYPE OF SERVICE**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Health education	1,140	778	1,223	1,191	1,088	956	1,272
Parenting education	1,080	1,025	1,599	1,425	1,252	951	1,217
ESL training	140	186	222	176	141	134	152
Emergency/crisis intervention	232	238	538	528	431	403	485
Adult education	300	322	545	430	407	209	229
Mental health services	258	226	319	186	246	114	135
Job training	29	68	115	51	75	39	48
Housing assistance	47	92	177	166	133	93	125
Domestic violence services	2	7	17	10	14	7	8
Relationship/marriage education	5	16	10	12	19	8	11
Substance abuse prevention or Tx	9	6	99	52	15	7	25
Child abuse and neglect services	3	7	77	13	12	6	7
Child support assistance	3	7	49	15	18	11	14
Incarcerated families' services	3	6	13	11	22	16	19
<b>Unduplicated Count</b>	<b>2,228</b>	<b>2,272</b>	<b>2,279</b>	<b>1,969</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>1,502</b>	<b>1,819</b>

**Abbreviations:** ESL = English as a Second Language; Tx = Treatment

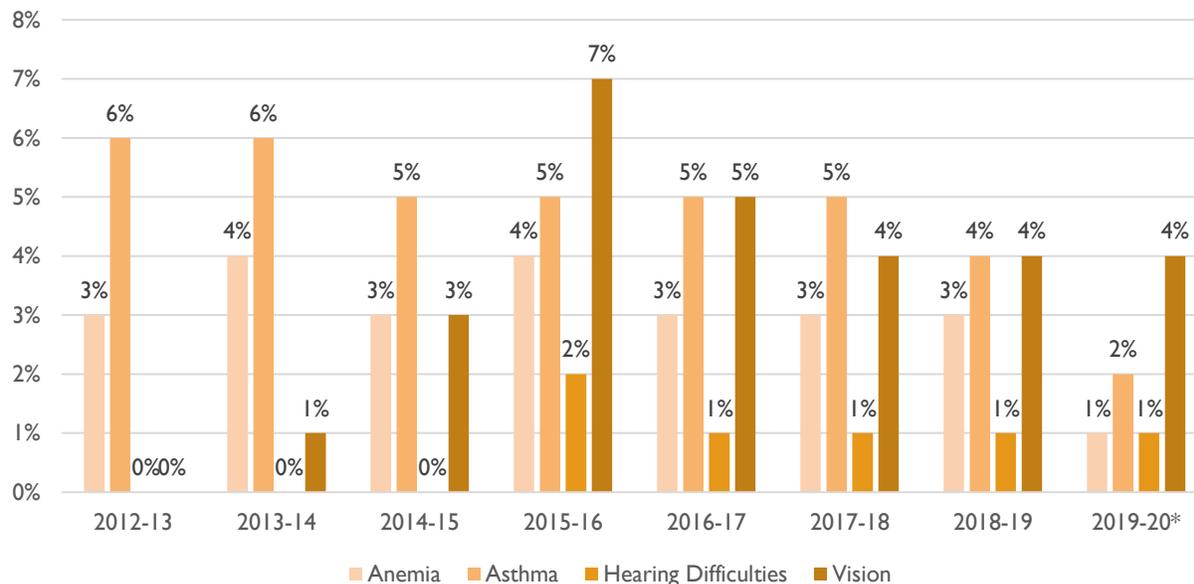
**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Health Conditions Requiring Treatment

In 2019-20, the most frequent health condition for which Head Start children received treatment were for asthma and vision issues (see Figure 31 and Table 57). Though asthma has consistently held a 4-6% treatment rate since 2012-13, the number of children receiving treatment for vision problems has

increased substantially since 2012-13. It is important to note that due to the disruption in data collection and rendering services to Head Start families and children, the number of children who received treatment or identified as needed treatment may be underestimated.

**FIGURE 31. MOST COMMON CONDITIONS REQUIRING TREATMENT**



**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

**TABLE 57. NUMBER RECEIVING TREATMENT BY CONDITION TYPE**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Asthma	150	155	131	113	106	87	93	44
Anemia	71	113	81	91	74	59	75	13
Vision	5	19	89	152	107	81	84	71
Hearing Difficulties	2	2	10	35	21	23	30	14
High Lead Levels	6	1	0	3	2	1	1	2
Diabetes	3	1	5	0	0	0	0	0

**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

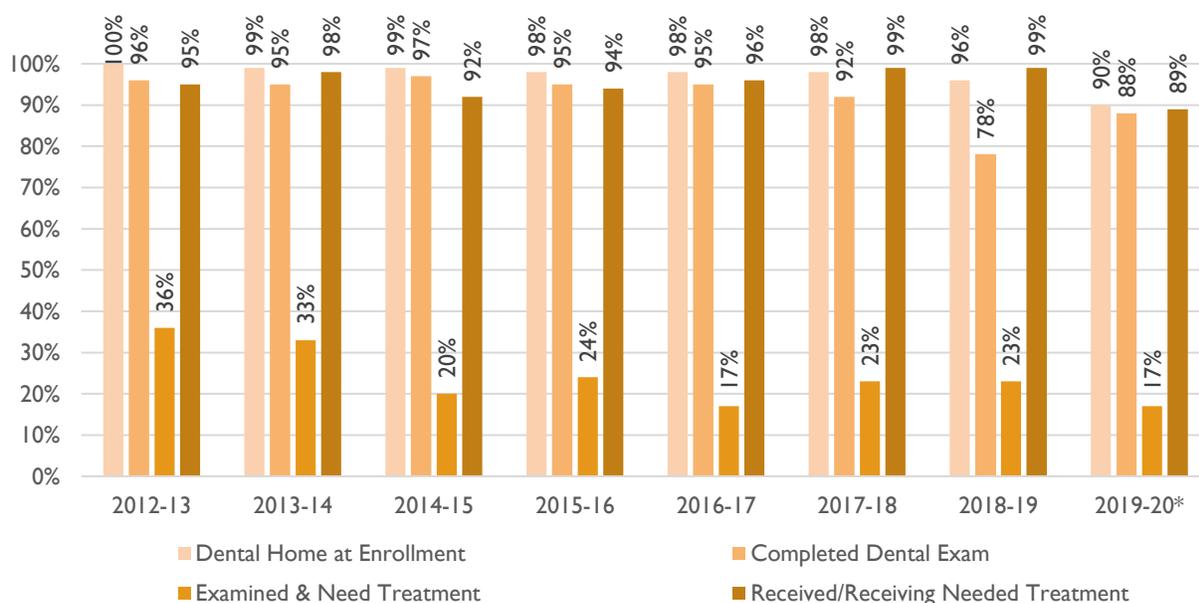
**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Dental Homes among Head Start Children and Families

Trends show a consistent pattern for children’s dental enrollment and treatment. Ninety percent of children had continuous, accessible dental care in the home in 2019-20 (see Figure 32 and Table 58). Over 80% of children completed a dental exam (88%) with 17% (or with approximately 2 out of 10) of the examined children needing treatment. Of the children who needed treatment, 89% began or completed the follow-up treatment. Furthermore, relative to 2012-13, a lower proportion of children were

diagnosed as needing treatment because of the Head Start program’s implementation of preventative dentistry education to parents and dental homes to children.

**FIGURE 32. DENTAL CARE STATUSES**



**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

**TABLE 58. DENTAL CARE STATUSES**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20**
Had Continuous Accessible Dental Care Home at Enrollment	2,525	2,527	2,557	2,293	2,212	1,825	2138	1630
Had Continuous Accessible Dental Care Home at End of Enrollment Year	2,472	2,530	2,557	2,293	2,210	1,810	2132	1642
Completed Professional Dental Exam	2,423	2,432	2,486	2,174	2,137	1,723	1723	1598
Received Preventative Care	2,472	2,473	2,324	2,230	2,172	1,728	1728	1315
Diagnosed as Needing Treatment	877	820	460	508	379	399	399	272
Received/Receiving Treatment	831	800	421	476	363	394	394	242

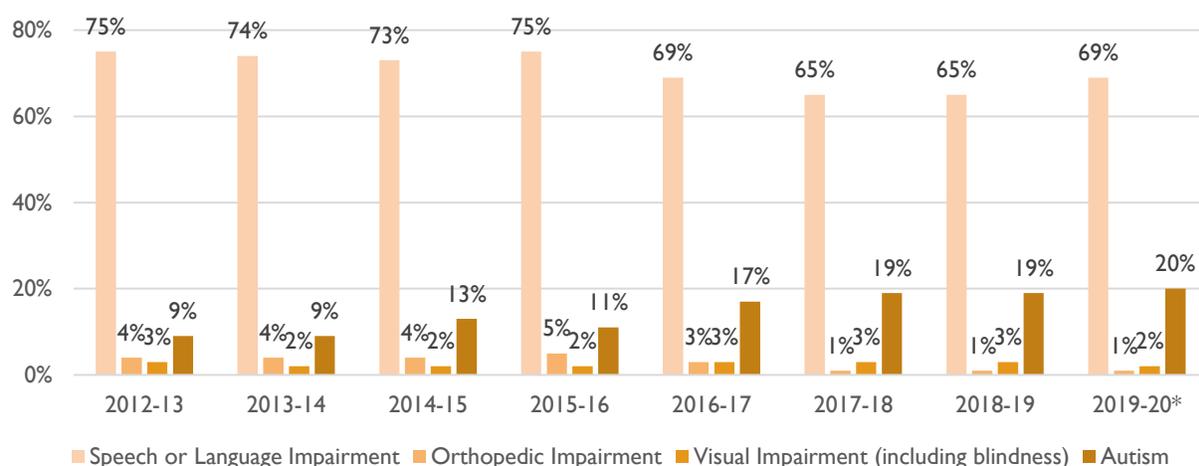
**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Children in Head Start with Disabilities

Of the children diagnosed with disabilities, the majority are diagnosed each year with speech/language impairments. Speech/language impairment accounted for 69% of the diagnoses in 2019-20, down six percentage points from 2012-13 (see Figure 33 and Table 59). Of the total diagnoses for the 2019-20 program year, 20% of children were diagnosed with autism (up 11 percentage points from six years ago). The third most common diagnosis was visual impairments (2%) followed by orthopedic impairments (1%).

**FIGURE 33. MOST COMMON DISABILITIES**



**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

**TABLE 59. NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES BY DISABILITY TYPE**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20*
Autism	29	28	37	33	48	46	46	47
Emotional/behavioral disorder	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Health impairment	11	6	1	2	8	11	11	7
Hearing impairment	1	3	4	4	2	2	2	2
Specific learning disabilities	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	0
Intellectual disabilities	9	14	8	7	6	4	4	7
Multiple disabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-categorical/DD	3	5	6	5	5	9	9	1
Orthopedic impairment	12	13	12	15	8	3	3	3
Speech or language impairment	234	220	211	228	191	158	158	160
Visual impairment	9	6	7	6	7	8	8	5

**Abbreviations:** DD = Developmental Delay

**Note:** Asterisk (\*) indicates data not available due to disruption in data collection.

**Source:** Head Start Program Information Report

### Parent Survey Response Summary

In 2020, Head Start administered surveys to enrolled families to assess parent and child needs during shelter-in-place orders issued by state and local government in an effort to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. In one survey, parents were asked about their childcare needs for the 2020-21 year. A majority of respondents indicated they preferred in person (74%) and full-day (61%) childcare.

Due to the local shelter in place orders, parents were provided with a list of supports that they may need for distance learning components of childcare. Parents indicated their highest areas of need were technology (e.g., devices and internet connection; 44%), time management (43%) and learning engagement

and activities (41%). In another survey, three out of four parents indicated that they were likely or very likely to continue with the distance learning activities during the next school year (2020-21) if distance learning is continued. Additionally, 83% of participants indicated that distance learning allowed them and their children to participate in activities posted by the teacher. Among those who did not feel they could participate, respondents indicated that barriers to distance learning included lack of materials for activities (25%), personal challenges (27%), or work schedule conflicts (23%). When asked what areas the Head Start program prepared and supported the parents and their children for distance learning, the most selected areas by parents included the parent orientation (29%), routine assistance (36%), and 1:1 support (24%).

## Summary

### Head Start demographics:

- Approximately 69% of children enrolled in Head Start are Latino/Hispanic followed by Asian-American at 23%.
- Sixty percent of families who participate in Head Start are eligible based on income and a combined 1% are homeless or foster children.
- The percentage of children that speak Spanish decreased from 54% in 2012-13 to 41% in 2017-18 and has remained stable between 2017-18 to 2019-20 (ranging from 40-42%).
- The percent of parents earning a bachelor's degree or higher has increased since 2012-13.
- Approximately 1 out of every 4 two-parent families had both parents working in 2018-19, the most recent available year of data. Roughly two-thirds had at least 1 parent working. A combined 57% of parents in single-parent households were employed or participating in jobs training.

### Head Start services:

- For the most recent years of available data, the two most common family services for Head Start parents are Parenting Education and Health Education.
- At enrollment, 90% of children had continuous access to dental care in the home. The rate for children identified as needing dental treatment upon screening was 17%, and 89% of these children received or are receiving treatment. Due to data collection disruptions in 2020, the percentage of children receiving treatment may not accurately reflect actual care received.
- The percent of Head Start children with diagnosed speech/language disabilities had decreased from 75% in 2012-13 to 69% in 2019-20. During that same time period, the percent of children diagnosed with autism increased by 11 percentage points.



## Chapter II: Observations and Recommendations

### Background

The 2020 Head Start Community Assessment (HSCA) contains a wealth of information on children and families residing in the counties of Santa Clara and San Benito. Included in the assessment are demographic data, data on income, health, and education characteristics, information on childcare programs and community resources, and Head Start program data (i.e., information on children and families served by Head Start). This chapter offers recommendations for services and supports that are based on data included in this report.

### Recommendations Based on Demographic Information

#### Observations

The need for Early Head Start and Head Start slots is greater in Santa Clara County where a greater number of children and families within the Head Start service area reside. Children and families that reside in more rural areas of Santa Clara County and virtually all of San Benito County may find it more difficult to access Head Start services.

## Recommendations

- When available, utilize 2020 U.S. Census tract data to determine where significant sub-populations of children under the age of five (5) years who are living below poverty reside within Santa Clara County and San Benito County. This will help identify areas most in need of Early Head Start and Head Start slots.
- Continue to monitor increases in child population that are occurring in rural areas of Santa Clara County and San Benito County despite reductions in child births.

## Recommendations Based on Income Characteristics

### Observations

Rates for poverty, unemployment, and food insecurity are all higher among children and families who reside in San Benito County. Pockets of child poverty exist throughout Santa Clara County in cities that include Gilroy and Saratoga. The cost of housing and rent in both counties continues to rise at rate increases that are disproportionately higher than increases observed for household and family incomes. These circumstances may make the cost of living in both Santa Clara County and San Benito County untenable for many income-eligible families. Further, there is some evidence that employment and housing stability may be adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Recommendations

- Ensure that families serviced by Head Start are aware of local and state-operated housing and employment assistance programs such as CalWORKs.
- Ensure that families serviced by Head Start are aware of food assistance programs and sites within their communities where they can collect meals.
- For families that lack transportation or live in remote areas of Santa Clara County and San Benito County, consider meal delivery options.

## Recommendations Based on Health Characteristics

### Observations

Health disparities between children and families that reside in Santa Clara County and those that reside in San Benito County persist. This applies to both health outcomes, such as length-of-life and incidence of premature death, and health factors, such as access to health care providers. Relative to San Benito County, Santa Clara County is home to three times the number of mental health professionals per capita. According to State and National data, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, more adults are reporting symptoms of anxiety and depression and the number of deaths among adolescents has increased.

## Recommendations

- Continue to provide families with medical, dental, and vision screenings.
- Educate families on strategies for reducing the spread of the Coronavirus within their communities.
- Strengthen mental health consultation services, referral processes, and partnerships with care providers to better support the mental health and social-emotional wellbeing of children and families served.
- Equip parents with self-help tools and resources to mitigate the effects of social isolation on their child's mental health and social-emotional wellbeing.

## Recommendations Based on Education Characteristics

### Observations

Santa Clara County students outperform San Benito County students on standardized assessments administered by the State across the grade span. Additionally, a greater proportion of Santa Clara County students meet college entrance requirements upon graduation from high school. Disparities in these and other educational outcomes may speak to differences in the quality of education that is delivered in both counties in addition to other factors that include, but are not limited to, parent involvement and parent educational attainment. In Santa Clara County, the proportion of teachers that have a Master's degree is nearly two times greater than that of San Benito County.

### Recommendations

- Increase access to Early Head Start and Head Start programs in San Benito County.
- Continue to support efforts by the Santa Clara County Office of Education to link early care and education (ECE) data to K-12 data systems. If successful, this process will allow for analyses that demonstrate that children who receive high quality ECE enter Kindergarten with increased readiness to learn and a stronger social-emotional foundation.
- Develop and implement strategies to increase parent involvement in ECE and beyond. Curate related resources and make them available to Head Start families as well as those who are low-income but do not meet Head Start income-eligibility criteria.

## Recommendations Based on Childcare Access and Availability Information

### Observations

Early care and education (ECE) programs are commonly operated by licensed center-based and family childcare home (FCCH) providers. In both counties, there are not enough infant/toddler care nor preschools slots among existing providers to meet the total demand. Additionally, of the existing licensed childcare providers operating in both counties, very few are contracted to provide state- or federal-subsidized childcare. This poses a problem for many low-income working families given that the cost of childcare can exceed 30% of their annual incomes and their work schedules may not permit the flexibility needed to maintain their child's enrollment in part-day programs.

### Recommendations

- Continue to work with partner agencies including local government to identify and implement strategies that effectively address the gap in funds needed to extend part-day, partial-year Head Start slots.
- Continue to educate parents on the CalWORKs program and inform them of education and training opportunities.
- Support local Resource & Referral efforts to screen and refer families to all qualifying public pre-Kindergarten programs including State Preschool, Migrant Preschool, and Transitional Kindergarten.

## Based on Community Resources

### Observations

Santa Clara County and San Benito County are home to numerous agencies that provide services and supports to children and families that qualify for Head Start. The Social Services Agency within each county operates a transitional work program that provides childcare support for low-income families known as CalWORKs. The Santa Clara County Office of Education's Early Start program and the San Andreas Regional Center provide screening and disability services to young children (i.e., children under the age of three (3) years) with special needs. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, county Public Health Departments have become hubs for the dissemination of information and resources intended to curb the spread of the Coronavirus.

### Recommendations

- Continue to ensure that staff are familiar with existing resources (including the services and supports provided by partner agencies) that are available to children and families residing in Santa Clara County and San Benito County who are income-eligible for Head Start.

- Continue to ensure that staff are familiar with existing resources (including the services and supports provided by partner agencies) that are available to children and families residing in Santa Clara County and San Benito County that qualify for Head Start on the basis of categorical criteria.

## Recommendations Based on Head Start Eligible Children Data

### Observations

The number of children who reside in Santa Clara County and San Benito County who are income-eligible for Head Start far exceeds the number of slots. Estimates derived from Kindergarten enrollment data indicate that nearly 5,000 children may qualify for Head Start on the basis of categorical criteria alone. Not accounting for those children, it is estimated that Early Head Start has the capacity to serve 10% of the children ages 0-2 years who meet income eligibility criteria. Head Start has the capacity to serve approximately 20% of the income-eligible children ages 3-4 years.

### Recommendations

- Identify and leverage new childcare partnerships to increase access to Early Head Start services in Santa Clara and San Benito County.
- Strengthen partnerships with organizations that serve young children with disabilities, children in foster care, and homeless children and families to increase enrollment among children who are categorically eligible for Head Start services.
- Ensure that staff have the capacity, including knowledge, skills, and strategies, necessary to serve children in foster care, children who are at-risk or have experienced abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and homeless youth.

## About Us

The Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) is a state regional service agency that provides instructional, business, and technology services including academic and fiscal oversight to the 31 school districts of Santa Clara County and county board-authorized charter schools. The SCCOE directly services students through special, alternative, early, migrant, and youth-engagement programs. Research and evaluation services, including needs assessments, are coordinated by the SCCOE's Executive Services Division under the auspices of the Office of the Superintendent. Housed within the SCCOE's Student Services and Support Division, the Early Learning Services Department operates Head Start, Early Head Start, and State Preschool programs within the counties of Santa Clara and San Benito.

## Acknowledgements

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