



2012

NEEDS AND ASSETS REPORT

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Partnership Council



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.



FIRST THINGS FIRST

1921 South Alma School Road, Suite 111
Mesa, Arizona 85210
Phone: 602.771.4988
Fax: 480.755.2263
www.azfff.gov

Chair

Toni Harvier

Vice Chair

Chris McIntier

Members

Martina Ashley
Dr. Joyce Helmuth
Frances Kaplan
Virginia Loring
Ron Ransom
Lance Silverhorn
Rene Murphy
Deana
Washington
Caroline
Sekaquaptewa

August 7, 2012

Message from the Chair:

The past two years have been rewarding for the First Things First Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Partnership Council, as we delivered on our mission to build better futures for young children and their families. During the past year, we have touched many lives of young children and their families by implementing programs that meet existing needs and building infrastructure to support a continuum of services in collaboration and partnership with other Community programs.

The First Things First Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Partnership Council will continue to advocate and provide opportunities for access to quality early care and education and parent support and education.

Our strategic direction has been guided by the Needs and Assets reports, specifically created for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Region in 2008, 2010, and the new 2012 report. The Needs and Assets reports are vital to our continued work in building a true integrated early childhood system for our young children and our overall future. The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Council would like to thank our Needs and Assets Vendor, MGT of American, Inc., for their knowledge, expertise and analysis of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community region. The new report will help guide our decisions as we move forward for young children and their families within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community region.

Going forward, the First Things First Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Partnership Council is committed to meeting the needs of young children by providing essential services and advocating for social change.

Thanks to our dedicated staff, volunteers and community partners, First Things First is making a real difference in the lives of our youngest citizens and throughout the entire State.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Toni Harvier, Council Chair
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

1921 S Alma School Rd Suite 111
Mesa, AZ 85210
602-771-4987
www.azftf.gov

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

Toni Harvier, Chair

Christine McIntier, Vice Chair

Martina Ashley

Edna Helmuth

Frances Kaplan

Virginia Loring

Rene Murphy

Ron Ransom

Caroline Sekaquaptewa

Lance Silverhorn

Deana L. Washington

Report Prepared By:

MGT of America, Inc.
Tallahassee, FL

Children's Action Alliance
Phoenix, AZ



INTRODUCTORY SUMMARY AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The way in which children develop from infancy to well-functioning members of society will always be a critical subject matter. Understanding the processes of early childhood development and health is crucial to our ability to foster each child's optimal development, which is fundamental to all aspects of the wellbeing of our communities, society, and the state of Arizona.

This Needs and Assets Report for the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Region (Region) provides a clear assessment and analysis and helps us in understanding the needs, gaps, and assets for young children and points to ways in which children and families can be supported. The needs that these young children and families face are outlined in the Executive Summary and documented in greater detail in the full report.

The First Things First Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Partnership Council (RPC) recognizes the importance of investing in young children and empowering parents, grandparents, and caregivers to advocate for services and programs within the Region. This report provides information that will aid the RPC's decisions and funding allocations; while building a true comprehensive early childhood system.

Acknowledgments:

The First Things First Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Partnership Council owes special gratitude to the departments, programs, community stakeholders, and parents who participated in numerous work sessions and community forums throughout the past year. The success of First Things First was due, in large measure, to the contributions of numerous individuals who gave their time, skill, support, knowledge, and expertise.

To the current and past members of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Regional Partnership Council, your dedication, commitment and extreme passion has guided the work of making a difference in the lives of young children and families within the Region. Our continued work will only aid in the direction of building a true comprehensive early childhood system for the betterment of young children within the Region and the entire State.

We also want to thank the following agencies and organizations for their contribution of data for this report:

- Arizona Department of Administration
- Arizona Department of Economic Security
- Arizona Department of Health Services
- Child Care and Development Fund Annual Report on Services
- Early Childhood Education Center Comparison Performance Profile



- First Things First
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa (SRPMIC) Regional Partnership Council
- SRPMIC Department of Health and Human Services
- SRPMIC Department of Social Services
- SRPMIC Education Division
- SRPMIC Enrollment Office
- U.S. Census Bureau



TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS

Letter from the Chair

Regional Partnership Council

Introductory Summary and Acknowledgments

Acknowledgments

Table of Contents

Executive Summary 1

INTRODUCTION 3

Overview of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Region 3

Methodology..... 4

Primary Data Collection and Analysis..... 4

Web-based Stakeholder Surveys..... 4

Parent Survey 4

Focus Groups..... 5

Secondary Data Collection and Analysis..... 5

Stakeholder and Parent Priorities for Services..... 6

Stakeholder Focus Groups 6

Stakeholder Survey 9

Parent Focus Groups 17

Parent Survey 20

THE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN LIVING IN THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN
COMMUNITY 25

General Population Trends 25



Additional Population Characteristics	28
Economic Circumstances	33
Educational Indicators	37
THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM IN THE SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY REGION	40
Early Care and Education	40
Supporting Families.....	42
CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE DIRECTION	53



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC/"Community") is a small community with cultural strengths and many challenges. Community stakeholders recognize significant assets, with culturally relevant and high quality services available for young children and their families. The Early Childhood Education Center is a focal point of these assets. Community members also confirm major barriers preventing access to services, including lack of awareness, lack of transportation, service hours that don't match families' needs, and program rules that leave families out.

Several key issues show improvement in recent years. The unemployment rate is down. Median incomes for families with children have risen and the poverty rate for single parent families fell. Fewer babies are born to teen moms and more pregnant women are getting adequate prenatal care.

More children are participating in programs at the Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC); there are also more children on the waiting list for services. The Tribal cash assistance program -- referred to as the Life Enhancement and Resource Network (LEARN) -- has been able to serve a growing number of children and families without the dramatic cuts in eligibility affecting participants in the state program.

Babies born in the Community are more likely to start out with risks compared to babies born in other Indian communities in Arizona and Maricopa County overall. Their mothers are more likely to be teenagers with less than 12 years of education. Their mothers are less likely to be married and less likely to get adequate prenatal care. Nearly one out of five births in the Community in 2009 was to mothers who had inadequate prenatal care (fewer than five prenatal visits). This is extremely high compared to the rate in other Indian Communities in Arizona and Maricopa County overall. Nearly one in three women who gave birth during the last 12 months in the Community had less than a high school education compared to less than one in four women giving birth countywide and statewide.

The regional unemployment rate remains nearly double the overall rate in Maricopa County. One in four households with children lives in poverty. Young children in the region are much more likely to live with single moms or grandparents than young children in the rest of the county and the state. Many of these families face large financial and health risks.

Child vaccination rates are a strength in the region. Although these rates declined in SRPMIC between 2005 and 2010, they remain significantly higher than in Maricopa County overall. The percentage of births paid for by families themselves fell between 2005 and 2009. In 2009, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) paid for three out of four births in the region -- quite high compared to other Indian communities and Maricopa County overall.

The need for access to high quality, affordable child care is strong. Two out of three households with children in the region have all caregivers in the labor force. Community



members value many assets in the region for young children and their families, including ECEC, culture and literacy programs, health and wellness services, Family and Child Education (FACE), and on-site health care.

Parents and community stakeholders both identified key services that are missing in the Community: support for grandparents raising grandchildren, teen pregnancy prevention, parent coaching and mentoring, and high quality child care with alternative hours to meet families' needs.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The data and community input point to five potential priority areas for future First Things First funding and leadership in the region.

The first is a focus on strengthening awareness and information about existing programs and services for families with young children. Lack of awareness was frequently cited as a barrier preventing families from getting needed services.

The second is expansion of facilities and operations for child care and preschool services, including child care for parents who work alternative hours. The long waiting list for ECEC indicates the high need for these services.

The third is growth of services for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. “Grandfamilies” are more common in the Community than statewide and parents and stakeholders noted that there are very limited services available for them.

The fourth is enhancing mentoring and parenting education for new moms who are young, single, and uneducated. These moms and their babies face tremendous challenges throughout their lives together and linking them early with resources, education, and early childhood services can have significant and long lasting benefits.

The fifth is strengthening public transportation options, especially on weekends and evenings, to improve access to services. Lack of transportation was frequently cited by stakeholders and parents as a major barrier for families.



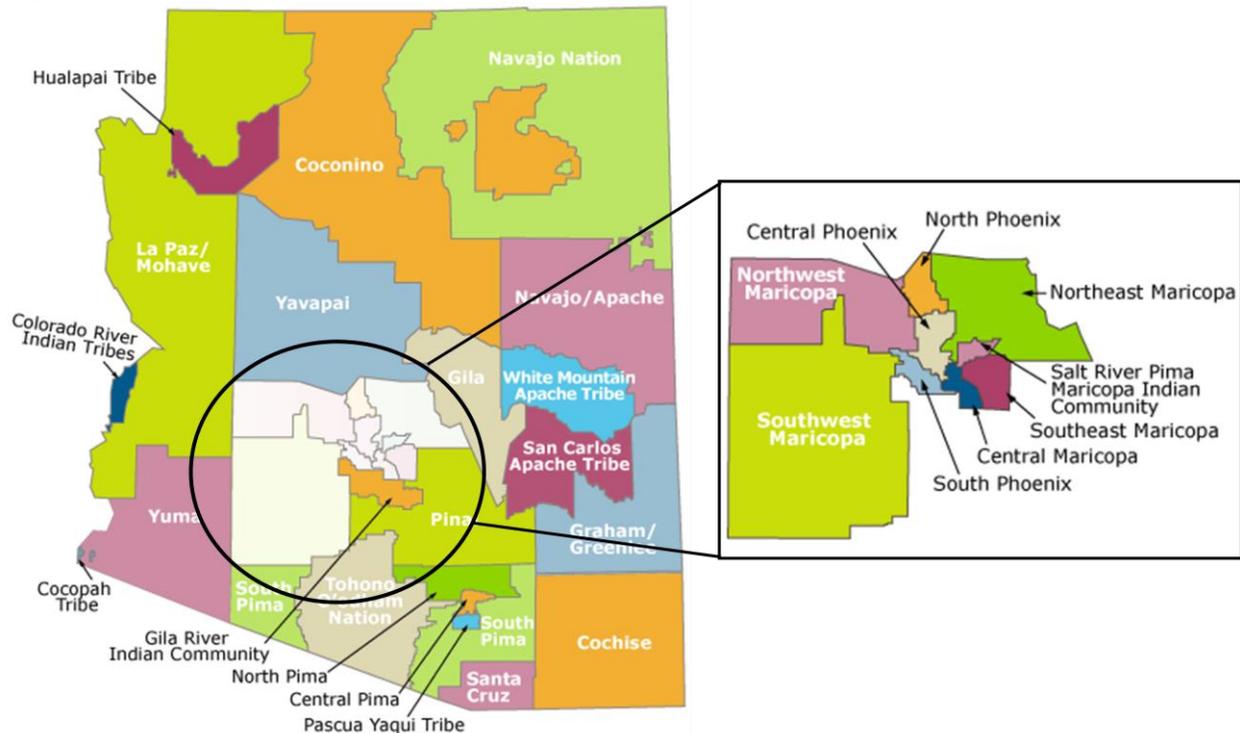
INTRODUCTION

Overview of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Region (Region)

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) is a sovereign tribe located in the metropolitan Phoenix area. Established by Executive Order on June 14, 1879, the Community operates as a full-service government and oversees departments, programs, projects, and facilities.

The SRPMIC is located in Maricopa County and is bounded by the cities of Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa, and Fountain Hills (as shown in **Exhibit 1**). The Community encompasses 52,600 acres, with 19,000 held as a natural preserve. The majestic Red Mountain can be seen throughout the Community and is located on the eastern boundary. The sight of the mountain symbolizes the home of the Pima and Maricopa people.

Exhibit 1
Regional Partnership Council Area Map



Source: Data retrieved from the First Things First website (<http://www.azftf.gov/pages/yourlocalcouncil.aspx>); exhibit created by MGT of America, Inc., 2012.

With two distinct backgrounds and cultures, the SRPMIC is comprised of two Native American tribes: the Pima, "Akimel O'Odham" (River People) and the Maricopa, "Xalychidom Piipaash"



(people who live toward the water). Today, nearly 9,500 individuals are enrolled tribal members. Comprised of the President, Vice President, and seven elected Council members, the Community Council governs the SRPMIC. Approximately 12,000 acres are under cultivation in a variety of crops including cotton, melons, potatoes, onions, broccoli, and carrots. Commercial development is reserved along the Community's western boundary. The SRPMIC proudly owns and operates several successful enterprises, including, but not limited to, the Salt River Materials Group, Talking Stick Golf Club, Talking Stick Casino and Resort, Salt River Fields at Talking Stick, Salt River Financial Services, Saddleback Communications, Salt River Devco, Casino Arizona at Salt River, and Salt River Landfill.

Methodology

The methodology used to prepare the First Things First (FTF) SRPMIC Regional Needs and Assets Report is described in this section. The focus of the report is on the collection and meaningful analysis of informative data indicators.

Primary Data Collection and Analysis

Local data have been of the utmost importance to the success of this project. The Needs and Assets Report Team (Team) collected qualitative primary data to reflect the personal views of regional participants and the unique features of the Region.

The Team used three methods of primary data collection as described below:

1. Web-based stakeholder surveys.
2. Hard copy survey distributed to parents.
3. Focus groups with stakeholders and parents from the Community.

Web-based Stakeholder Surveys

The Team worked closely with FTF staff to develop an online survey that was delivered to a compiled list of 81 early care and education stakeholders in the Region, as identified by the SRPMIC Regional Partnership Council (RPC) representatives. Following revisions based on input from Council representatives, an email invitation to participate in the survey was distributed on October 3, 2011 by Council Chair, Toni Harvier. Thirty-four responses were collected, providing qualitative data about early childhood and health needs and assets in the Community. Results of the survey are included in the section entitled, **Stakeholder and Parent Priorities for Services**.

Parent Survey

A separate survey was also designed for, and administered to, parents in the Region, and distributed via hard copy to an assortment of local contacts for children's programs and services for dissemination among parents. A total of 110 of these surveys were completed and returned to MGT for analysis. These provide another helpful perspective on perceptions of the



users of services regarding needs and assets in the Region, and are presented alongside the stakeholder input found in the section, **Stakeholder and Parent Priorities for Services**.

Focus Groups

Stakeholder and parent focus groups were also utilized to collect qualitative data about the Region. Team members facilitated a stakeholder meeting on September 22, 2011 to gather further insights into local needs and assets, as well as to identify additional potential data sources to utilize for the report. Successively, on November 10, 2011, Team members conducted two focus groups at a previously scheduled Community parents' meeting. Parents were invited to share their opinions and observations regarding topics related to early childhood and health needs and assets in the Community. In both focus group venues, SRPMIC Regional Partnership Council representatives provided assistance with logistics and facilitated the gatherings. Summaries of the findings from both of these efforts are also included in the section entitled **Stakeholder and Parent Priorities for Services**.

Secondary Data Collection and Analysis

The Team worked with FTF to obtain Arizona-state agency indicators for the Regional Needs and Assets Report template as one source of information to document local circumstances. A second source of information utilized in the report was the U.S. Census Bureau, from which both decennial Census data and American Community Survey estimates were obtained at the Census tract, county, state, and national levels to provide context and comparison on a variety of demographic characteristics, including trend data as available.

As a final, critical element of secondary data collection, the Team also worked closely with the SRPMIC FTF Regional Director and the Regional Partnership Council Members to identify many additional, local sources of information. Examples of Community sources included in this report are as follows:

- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Education Division
- Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona

The geographies utilized for the analyses vary by data source, though the best approximations for the SRPMIC Region were utilized in each instance, along with broader geographical regions, as available, for comparison purposes. Data for Maricopa County, Arizona (statewide), and the United States are also included where available to provide context. For Census-based data, specific tracts were selected to most closely approximate the Region's boundaries.¹

¹ SRPMIC Region most closely approximated by Maricopa County Census Tract 202.02 for all 2000-based Census products and Maricopa County Census Tract 9413 for all 2010-based Census products.



Stakeholder and Parent Priorities for Services

This section includes summaries from several data collection activities that were conducted with local representative groups to gather sentiments, concerns, and general perceptions about early childhood and health services in the SRPMIC Region. The information summarized includes findings from a Community stakeholder meeting, an online survey of stakeholders, focus groups with parents, and a written survey of parents. Both the stakeholders and parents recognize strong assets in the Community for families with young children, including a wide array of quality services.

Stakeholder Focus Group

Stakeholders were invited to participate in a meeting with the FTF and the needs and assets consultants in September 2011 to share their opinions about varying aspects of the early childhood support system in SRPMIC. As summarized below, opinions and perceptions expressed during these meetings are divided between three categories – effective programs and services; gaps or barriers in the system; and top priorities for funding or resources investment.

Sentiments regarding the **effective or successful programs and services** identified by stakeholders included:

- The SRPMIC breast feeding policy allows tribal employees to breast feed their children at the workplace.
- The clubhouse and park provide avenues for parents to exchange information and knowledge about available services.
- The Tribe promotes health and wellness, especially awareness of what causes diabetes. School meals are nutritious and healthy for all, which helps prevent the spread of diabetes.
- The Fire Department Prevention Division has good programs for kids that involve singing and story-telling. The topics of the prevention education activities all center on safety.
- The Fire Department also has classes to teach parents about safety, including CPR and first aid courses.
- The Child Safety program through the Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) is informative for children and their families. This First Things First-funded classroom serves 24 children in the Community.
- The Student Parent Academy continues to provide instruction. Last year, 20 parents participated and several more are signed up for classes this year.
- The Youth Services Department integrates a variety of resources.
- There are cultural awareness programs to help children learn about their Native American heritage and customs.
- The "Child Find" screening process exists to identify young children with special needs and has a very good outreach program.



- Diapers, food boxes, and formula are available at the Food Bank, which is also funded by FTF resources.
- The car seat program through the Health and Human Services Department has been successful in the Community. ECEC has five child passenger safety technicians on site who provide car seat consultations by appointment. The program coordinates public health announcements about the importance of car seats and distributes free car seats to Community members whenever possible.
- The Home Visitation program through FACE assists parents within their own homes and allows for one-on-one help for up to 34 families. This program is a part of Salt River Elementary School and uses the Parents as Teachers curriculum with two parent educators who are certified by the Parents as Teachers organization.
- The Family Advocacy Center assists children who have been removed from their homes. They also meet twice monthly with other Community departments to share information.
- A local pediatrician also serves children at ECEC, which allows better access to medical care.

Gaps or barriers in the system were also discussed with stakeholders. Some of the key thoughts shared in this regard identified the following as significant needs to be addressed in the community:

- Parenting skills for fathers.
- Dental services.
- Vision care.
- More behavioral health specialists and counselors.
- Therapy resources and communication devices to help kids who have Autism.
- Respite for grandparents raising their grandchildren.
- Transitional housing for fathers who have been displaced.
- Capacity in the Early Childhood Education Center.
- Increased communication about available services – possibly to include mailings to homes on services available, especially in homes where TV and Internet are not accessible. The use of Public Service Announcements might also be beneficial.
- Follow-up with parents is needed to ensure services are being maintained and to determine whether additional help is needed.
- Meetings between providers are needed to encourage more coordination of efforts for services available within the Community. These meetings need to include the capacity to allow transfer of users/cases between service providers. There is a general lack of data being shared among providers to better serve the Community.
- Background checks that are too strict (i.e. past domestic violence charges can prevent parents from participating in programs that could be valuable to them and their children).
- Internet is not widely available, and, when available, may not be affordable.
- Childcare needs.
- Stipends for children who do not qualify for the certificate program.



- Many children and non-Community members (including parents and grandparents) who are not eligible to receive services as part of the federal program.
- Poverty.
- Substance abuse.
- Transportation.
- Literacy of Parents.

Considering these relative strengths and weaknesses, the **top priorities** for First Things First funding identified by stakeholders included:

- Screening all children at infancy for developmental delays and other critical needs, and continuing the screening process for children as they age into toddlerhood, as well as through the rest of their early childhood.
- Coordination of services among providers for the purpose of avoiding duplication and having the information to refer families to other available services.
- Parenting classes.
- Increased cultural education and awareness.
- Proper nutrition – for example, using a community garden to not only teach Native Americans about their traditional agricultural practices, but also to teach people about proper nutrition for their children.
- More music therapy opportunities for children.
- Early intervention, especially access to special therapy and earlier testing for special needs.
- More education for prospective parents, expectant moms, and other parents about the perils of substance abuse.
- Expansion of the Social Services Family Preservation Program.
- Making childcare and preschool affordable and accessible to all. This includes expanded hours for child care, so that parents who are working non-traditional hours can have access to these services.
- Create a resource center where early childhood programs could deliver a range of services.
- Improved transportation - extended hours (beyond 9am-to-5pm) and days (weekends) available.
- Support groups and training for fathers, as well as housing for those that have been displaced and have few options for shelter.
- More in-home services.
- Personalized case plans that treat all families based on their specific strengths and needs.
- More space is needed for ECEC programs.
- Handbooks are needed on services available and should be provided to pediatrician offices, public agencies, local stores, and on a website for easier access.
- Dental services.

The general conclusions that can be drawn from these observations are that services are strong for families who get them, but too many families are falling through the proverbial cracks, and



not engaged in any services. Secondly, it is perceived that there is a very substantial need for more child care and preschool availability. Further, it is believed that even providers are not aware of all of the services available in the Community, pointing towards the need for more coordination to facilitate referrals and thereby strengthen access to services.

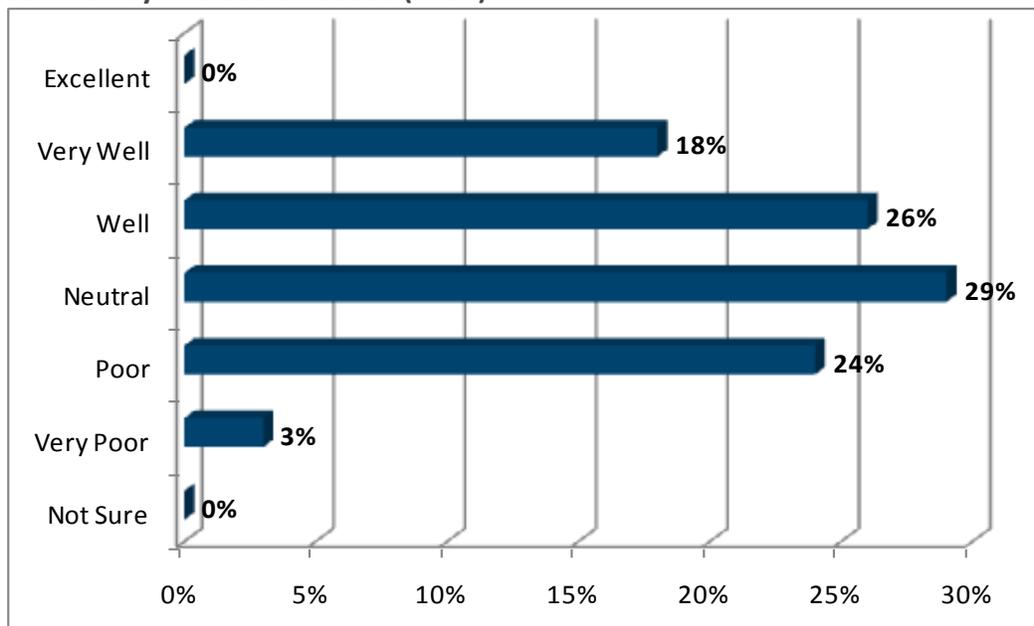
Stakeholder Survey

Stakeholders in the Salt River Pima–Maricopa Indian Community were also provided with an online survey to share their opinions about the services available in the Community to support young children and their families. The survey was available in October 2011 and 34 stakeholders in the Region responded. The results are included and discussed in this section of the report.

Approximately 44 percent of survey respondents stated that services for children ages 0-5 and their families in the Community are coordinated well or very well, as shown in **Exhibit 2**. However, more than one-quarter (27%) rate the coordination of these services as poor or very poor.

Exhibit 2

How Well Do You Feel Programs and Services For Children Ages 0-5 And Their Families in the Community Are Coordinated? (n=34)



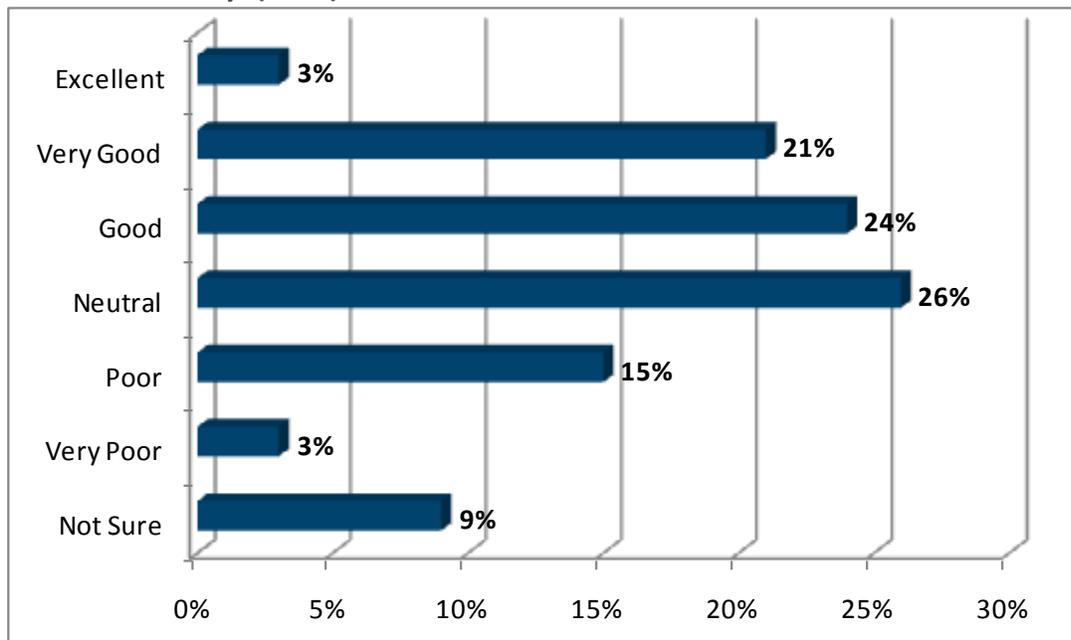
Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.

Nearly half of all survey respondents (48%) stated that they have good, very good or excellent knowledge of the programs and services supported by First Things First in the Community (see **Exhibit 3**). Only 18 percent of respondents indicated that their knowledge level was poor or very poor.



Exhibit 3

Please Rate Your Level of Knowledge of Programs And Services Supported By First Things First In the Community. (n=34)

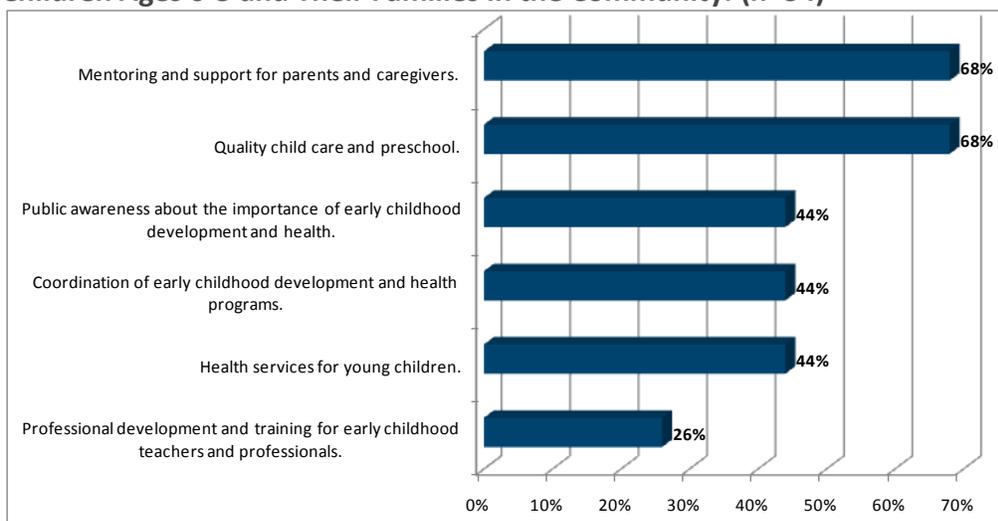


Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.

Respondents were asked to indicate the top three priorities for allocating First Things First funding. As shown in **Exhibit 4**, 23 people identified *mentoring and support for parents and caregivers* and *quality child care and preschool*. Fifteen people identified *public awareness about the importance of early childhood development and health*, *coordination of early childhood development and health programs*, and *health services for young children*.

Exhibit 4

Please Select the Top Three Priorities for First Things First to Direct Resources to Help Children Ages 0-5 and Their Families in the Community. (n=34)



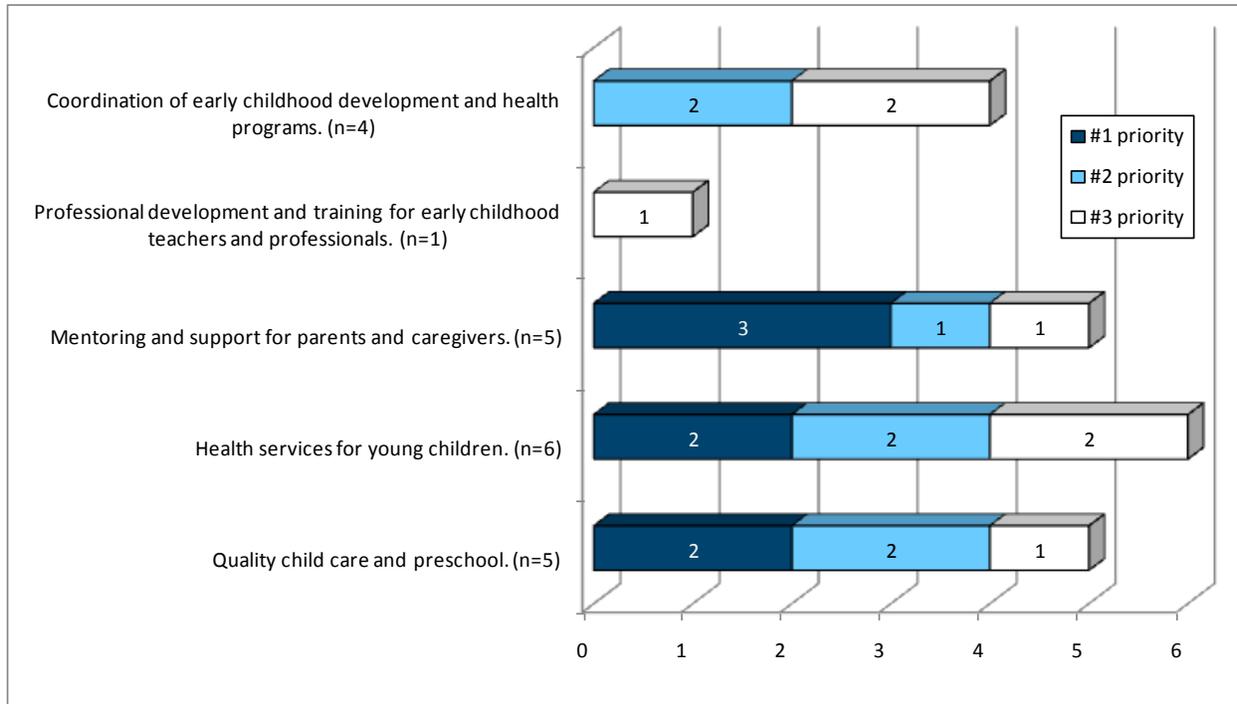
Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.



Stakeholders were asked to rank order priorities previously identified, and the results are shown in **Exhibit 5**. As shown, *mentoring and support for parents and caregivers* was most frequently ranked as the number one priority.

Exhibit 5

Please Rank Order the Priorities You Identified in the Previous Question.



Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.

Respondents also were asked to indicate, for the priorities they identified, whether the need was primarily for *more services*, *better access to services*, *higher quality of services*, or all three are equally important. As shown in **Exhibit 6**, a plurality of respondents indicated that more services were needed in the areas of:

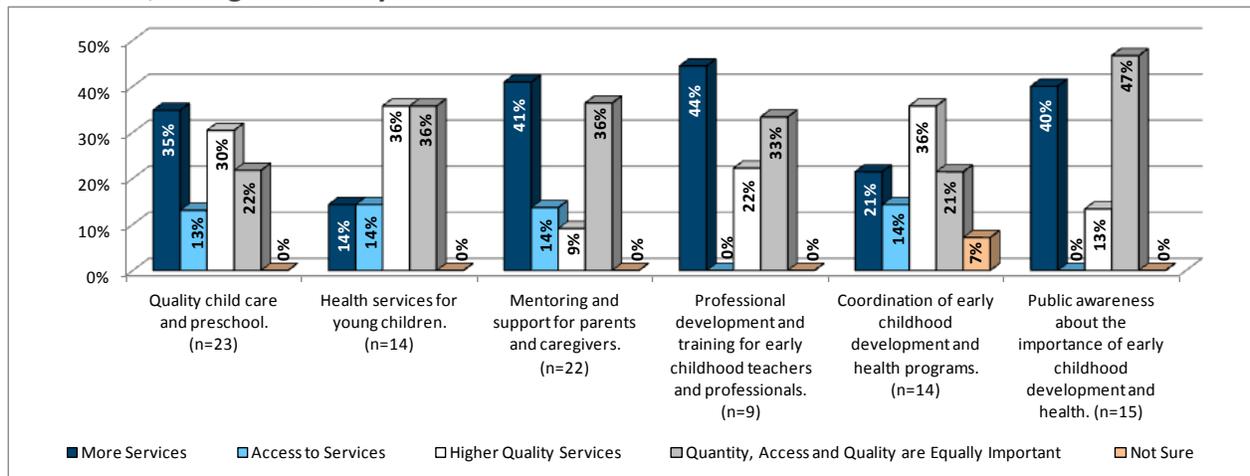
- Quality child care and preschool.
- Mentoring and support for parents and caregivers.
- Professional development and training for early childhood teachers and professionals.
- Public awareness about the importance of early childhood development and health.

Higher quality services were indicated by a plurality of respondents in the area of:

- Coordination of early childhood development and health programs.

Additionally, while 36 percent of respondents indicated that higher quality services were needed for *health services for young children*, an additional 36 percent noted that quantity, access and quality are equally important.

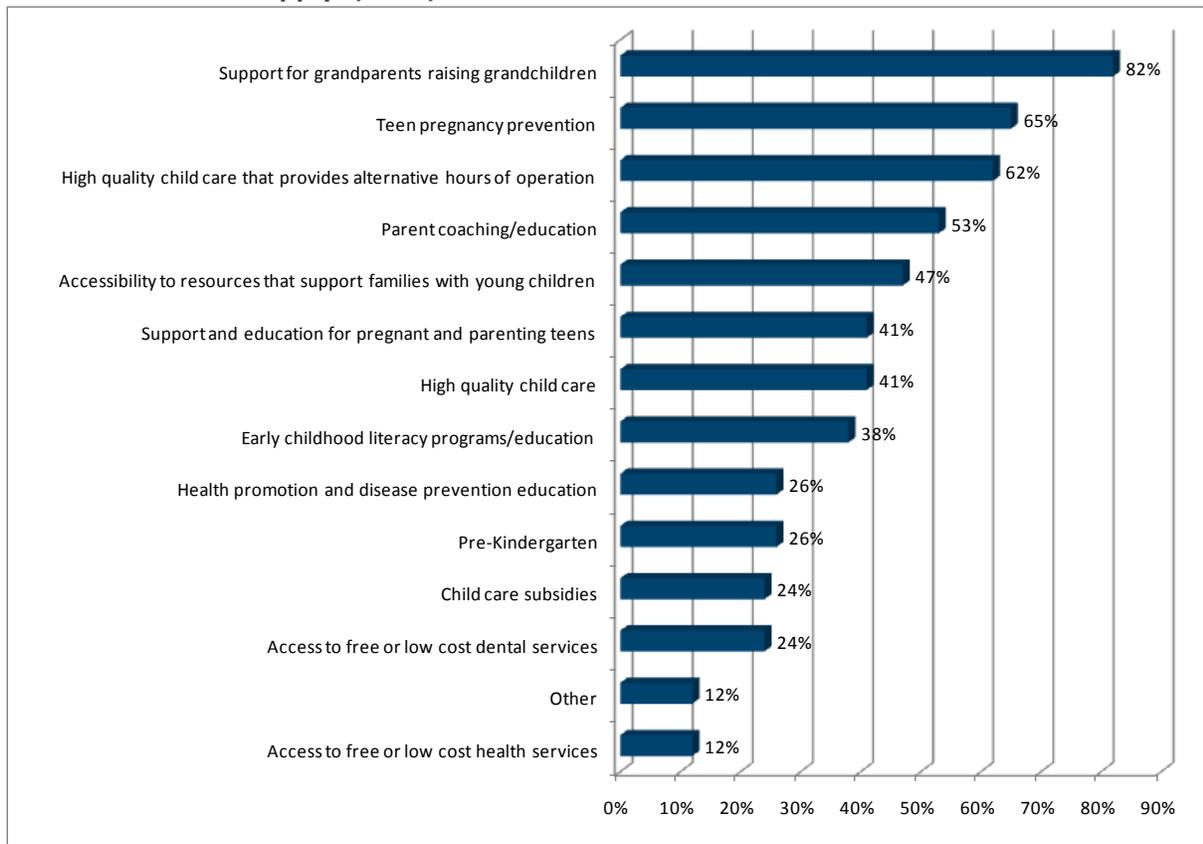


Exhibit 6**For The Top Three Priorities You've Identified, Is The Need Primarily for More Services, Access to Services, or Higher Quality Services?**

Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.

When asked to indicate what programs and services are missing in the Community for families with young children (**Exhibit 7**), an overwhelming majority indicated *support for grandparents raising their grandchildren* (82%). Other frequent responses to this question were *teen pregnancy prevention* (65%), *high quality child care that provides alternative hours of operation* (62%), *parent coaching/education* (53%), and *accessibility to resources that support families with young children* (47%).



Exhibit 7**What Programs and Services Are Missing in the Community for Families with Children Ages 0-5? Check All That Apply. (n=34)**

Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.



Stakeholders were asked to indicate how well programs and services are meeting the needs of families with young children in the Region and the results are shown in **Exhibit 8** (response categories have been collapsed). Many respondents indicated that the needs of young families are being met through programs related to:

- Early childhood education/literacy development
- Health services
- Social Services

Areas in which services/programs are **not** meeting the needs of local families included:

- Parenting support
- Services for children with special needs
- Behavioral health services

Exhibit 8

Please Rate How Well Each of The Following Types of Programs or Services Currently Meet Needs of Families with Children Ages 0-5 in The Community.

	Excellent, Very Well, or Well	Neutral	Poor or Very Poor	Not sure
Parenting Support (n=33)	27%	27%	30%	15%
Child Care (n=33)	36%	39%	21%	3%
Early Childhood Education/Literacy Development (n=34)	59%	18%	15%	9%
Services for Children with Special Needs (n=34)	18%	35%	35%	12%
Health Services (n=34)	68%	18%	6%	9%
Behavioral Health Services (n=34)	29%	26%	32%	12%
Social Services (n=34)	41%	29%	24%	6%

Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.

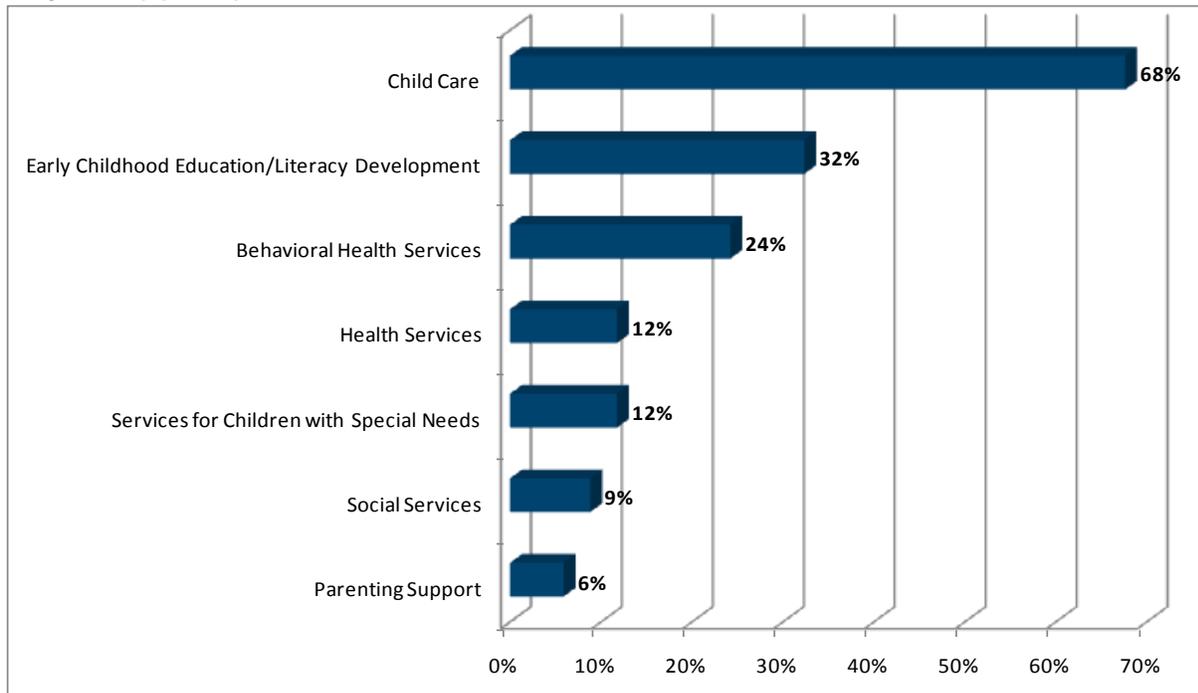
Note: Turquoise cells indicate the most frequent rating for each item.

Stakeholders were asked about their awareness of waiting lists or children who had been turned away as a result of service/program shortages, and the results are shown in **Exhibit 9**. Two-thirds of respondents indicated that a shortage of *child care* opportunities exists in the Community. Program shortages for *early childhood education/literacy development* were indicated by nearly one-third of survey respondents, while *behavioral health services* shortages were indicated by 24 percent of respondents.



Exhibit 9

Please Indicate If You Are Aware of Waiting Lists or Families In The Community Who Have Been Turned Away Due to a Shortage of These Programs and Services. (Percentage of “Yes” Responses) (n=34)



Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.

Respondents were asked to provide the reason(s) why there is a waiting list for services in the question above. The most common response was *lack of capacity/staff/facilities* available in the Region. *Lack of capacity/staff/facilities* issues were mentioned particularly frequently in reference to waiting lists for *child care, early childhood education/literacy development, and health services*.



Respondents were asked to indicate the barriers for young families to their participation in programs and services in the Region. In the area of child care services, *insufficient programs and services* was the most frequently cited barrier. For every other service, *lack of awareness* was cited most frequently, as shown in **Exhibit 10**.

- Transportation and insufficient services were also a commonly mentioned barriers for all types of services

Exhibit 10

What Are The Barriers for Families with Children Ages 0-5 in The Community to Benefitting From These Programs and Services? You May Check More Than One Barrier For Each Program/Service Type Listed.

	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Lack of Awareness	Insufficient Programs and Services	Difficult to Enroll	No Child Care Provided	Difficult To Take Time Off From Work/ School	Low Literacy Parent/ Caregiver	Other
Parenting Support (n=88)	18%	3%	6%	26%	18%	1%	5%	9%	13%	1%
Child Care (n=78)	17%	18%	8%	6%	26%	12%	4%	4%	6%	0%
Early Childhood Education/Literacy Development (n=53)	15%	6%	4%	38%	25%	6%	0%	0%	8%	0%
Services for Children with Special Needs (n=77)	12%	5%	6%	30%	25%	1%	5%	8%	6%	1%
Health Services (n=54)	22%	0%	6%	28%	19%	4%	2%	15%	6%	0%
Behavioral Health Services (n=61)	16%	0%	7%	30%	15%	8%	3%	11%	8%	2%
Social Services (n=54)	15%	0%	7%	31%	13%	4%	2%	13%	7%	7%

Black cells represent the top choice for the category.

Charcoal cells represent the second most popular choice for the category.

Pale grey cells represent the third most popular choice for the category.

Source: First Things First Stakeholder Survey, October 2011.



Parent Focus Groups

Parents residing in the region were also engaged in data collection via focus groups and a written survey. The focus groups were conducted by the consulting team in November 2011 and revealed some important perceptions regarding area needs and assets. As with the stakeholder input, opinions and perceptions expressed during these meetings are divided between three categories – effective programs and services; gaps or barriers in the system; and top priorities for funding or resources investment.

Sentiments regarding **effective or successful** programs and services identified by parents included:

- Children with Lice Policy – children identified as having an issue are sent home to avoid spreading this ailment. This is one straight-forward example of a preventative policy that saves time and effort to broader audiences through early identification and intervention.
- Provision of breakfast to children every day is beneficial since many families either do not have time or money to provide a nutritious breakfast to their children every morning.
- Even Start Program – noting specifically that it helps with access problems in that it does not require background checks that could prohibit some families from participating.
- Clubhouse, which includes after-school programs, tutoring, and field trips. Parents would like the clubhouse to offer even more services, because they like the programs they currently offer.
- The healthcare, mental health-related, and special needs services in the area are perceived by some as being sufficient for the Community's needs.
- The Home-Based Infant-Toddler program is working very well.
- The Community provides a great deal of help in the areas of parenting, education, healthcare, and child care, and has programs for positive skills and behavior for both parents and children.
- The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community provides a “Motherhood and Fatherhood is Sacred” program that is a 12-step curriculum/training class to promote parent-child relationships.
- The TANF program works well and it is designed to help the entire family, offering adult education, help finding jobs, child care, and pre-school services.
- ECEC offers great parenting education and Childcare Certificate programs.
- The on-site health care providers are working very well. Immunizations, flu shots, and other preventative treatments are made easy and convenient to local families.

The **gaps or barriers** in the system were also discussed with parents. Some of the key sentiments expressed in this regard identified the following as significant holes to be addressed in the Community:

- Transportation, both for those families that live on the Reservation, since it is so geographically dispersed that it can be difficult at times to take children to school, as



well as for those families that live outside of the Reservation. Contrary to some sentiments that this was a positive aspect, others expressed that sending children home due to lice was a problem, particularly with respect to the ECEC emphasis on attendance.

- Also, with regard to lice, the policy that girls are not allowed to have their hair pulled up in school was a concern. This is for purposes of inspection for lice, but some parents feel that this does not allow them to maintain a proper appearance for school.
- Access to the internet and computers at home. As an example, access would allow for more frequent and effective communication with teachers by e-mail. Many parents have trouble calling during the day and it is hard to contact teachers during the school day as well.
- Increased/expanded diaper supplies at the Food Bank. The Food Bank often has a limited selection of diapers and/or sizes and never has pull-up diapers available.
- More milk and other types of food at the Food Bank. There is little variety in the kind of food available at the food bank, with meat selections being particularly scarce.
- Family literacy programs for parents who don't have kids enrolled at the ECEC. If parents are not literate themselves it will be that much more difficult for their children to do well in school.
- Awareness about the programs available and events happening. This could be improved through use of fliers in front of the ECEC, on poles, or displays in other public gathering places. Community members see helpful programs going unused or not used to their full potential.
- Allow transfer/placement of older/replaced school furniture and books to families in need of them. Many families on the Reservation are living in impoverished conditions and have noticed that the school and other tribal facilities sometimes donate items to charities or throw things out when tribal members might be able to use them.
- Expanded selection of children's books available at the library.
- Increased recreational activities such as music, dance, martial arts, gymnastics, or other lessons. Recreational programs are limited on the Reservation.
- Open the Recreational Center for children when it is not being used. Parents are confused as to why the Recreation Center is not being used.
- Establishment of another recreation center near the southern edge of the Reservation. A center in this location would be more accessible to families who live just outside the boundaries of the Reservation.
- More pediatricians: parents perceive that current providers are only available once or twice a week, and the need far exceeds this capacity.
- Free housing applications (elimination of application fees). Some parents feel that they should not have to pay a fee to apply for housing due to economic circumstances sometimes facing the families that are applying.
- Not enough spots are available at the ECEC; many participants expressed the sentiment that it is not fair for teenage mothers to get priority over all other mothers, particularly when other mothers may be just a year or two older.
- Flexible hours at the ECEC are needed to accommodate working parents and their children (parents working night shifts have difficulty getting their children to school on time). The school punishes the children whose parents don't get them there on time.



This is difficult because there are parents who can only find decent paying jobs at odd hours and it is insensitive to expect these parents to get their children to school on time while parents who aren't even working or work traditional hours are able to get their children to school on time more easily.

- Circumstances where a parent is an enrolled Community member but the child is not are causing difficulties for families. For example, these families cannot have their child at ECEC full-time (only from 9am-1pm), which is a significant challenge with work schedules and the lack of alternative childcare options. The same circumstance is a problem for children living off the Reservation.
- An ECEC section is needed in the Community newspaper to provide information about programs and services and parenting topics (such as age-appropriate TV programs).
- Prevention/awareness to promote more positive TV viewing (parent education about age-appropriate programs and topics).
- The Community would like to have access to programs, education, or information on teaching children what is appropriate and inappropriate touching and behaviors.
- There is a housing shortage for families in need.
- Again, contrary to some parents' perceptions about strengths, other parents suggested that more resources are needed for special needs children, special education programs, and physical therapy providers in the Community.
- Flexible hours for many services are needed. Many parents are full-time students or workers and cannot take advantage of services through current delivery models.
- Not having adequate childcare assistance is a barrier for parents seeking parenting programs but cannot attend due to lack of childcare options.

Considering these relative strengths and weaknesses, the **top priorities for allocating First Things First funding** identified by parents included:

- Parents would like to see more spots open for families to participate in the Even Start Program, and specifically were interested in whether expanding the classroom size would expand the capacity of the program.
- Many parents feel there are not enough health care resources available on the Reservation.
- The parents would like to see expanded provisions at the Food Bank, including healthier options and larger quantities for those families struggling to feed their children. Children who do not get proper nutrition may suffer the effects into adulthood.
- Increased investments in Education.
- More books for classes.
- Expanded services for children with special needs.
- Expanded transportation systems.
- Expansion of the ECEC.
- An increase in the services offered to those tribal members who do not live on the Reservation, including access to the ECEC.

The sentiments expressed in the focus groups with Community parents revealed both positive aspects of Community programs and services targeting young children, as well as opportunities



for improvement. Programs such as those offered through the ECEC were greatly appreciated, but there were also concerns about limited access to these potentially beneficial opportunities. Besides capacity, other barriers to access included limited available transportation, scheduling that could not accommodate working parents, and qualification standards that prevented participation.

Parent Survey

The written survey of SRPMIC parents also provided sentiments regarding various aspects of the early childhood systems that operate in the area, drawing from a very large sample of individuals in the Community – 110 respondents from an area with a population of under 2,000 children (per 2010 Census estimates) indicates that at least five percent of the total population of parents (and likely much greater, considering households with multiple children) were included in the sample. These survey results help to describe the relative demands/concerns with particular aspects of the early childhood support system in the Community.

Exhibit 11 displays some information regarding the individuals who completed surveys. About 60 percent were aware of FTF programs and services in the area. This may actually reflect a lack of awareness of FTF as a funding source even when caregivers are familiar with the specific programs that it supports. About 82 percent of respondents were the primary caregivers for the children in their households – mostly comprised of the children’s parents, though some grandparents and other guardians were included as well.

Exhibit 11 **Parents Survey Sample Characteristics**

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS	RESPONSE DATA	
	Value	n=
Percent aware of FTF programs/services in the area	59.6%	109
Average number of children <u>under 18</u> living in household	2.9	110
Average number of children <u>under 6</u> living in household	1.7	110
Percent of respondents who are primary caregivers	81.9%	105
Relationship of respondent to children in household under 6:		109
Parent	73.4%	
Grandparent	6.4%	
Guardian	3.7%	
Relative	5.5%	
Other	0.9%	
N/A	10.1%	

Source: First Things First Parents Survey, Fall 2011.

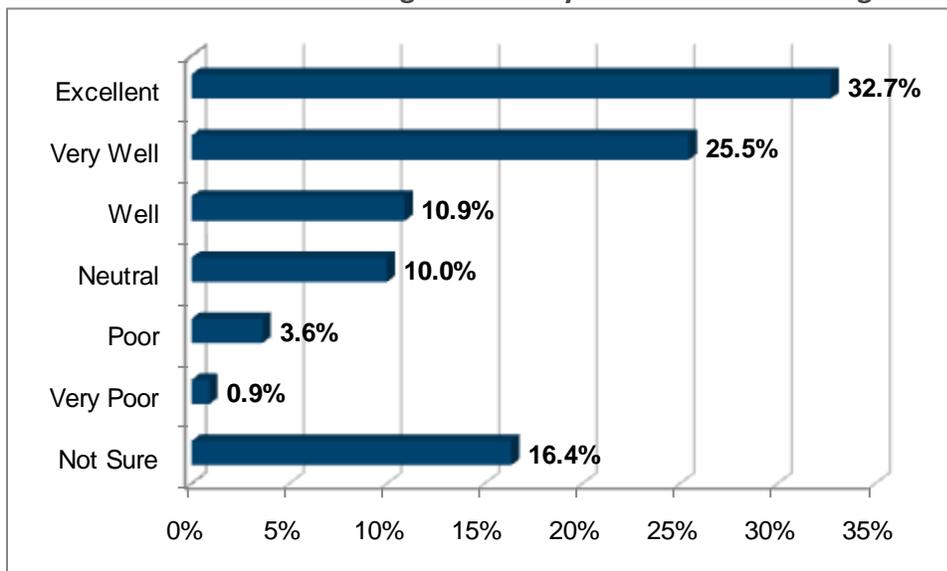
Among those that were familiar with the programs and services in the Region, a strong majority felt that they did “very well” or an “excellent” (58% combined) job of meeting Community



needs (**Exhibit 12**). However, the third largest individual segment of respondents was not familiar enough with the services to make an assessment (16% were “Not Sure”).

Exhibit 12

How Well Services Are Meeting Community Needs for Children Ages 0 to 5 (n=110)

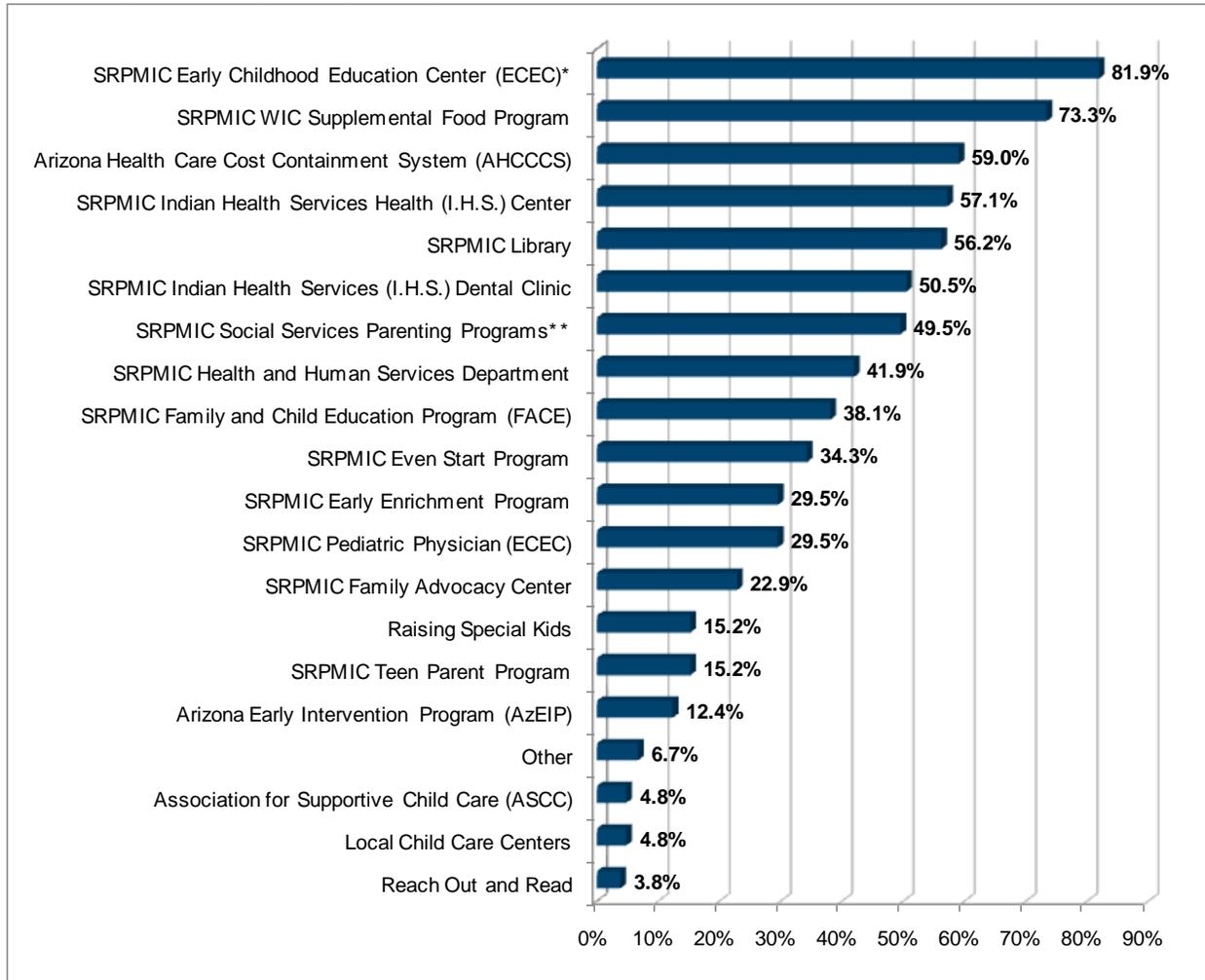


Source: First Things First Parents Survey, Fall 2011.

When respondents were asked to identify familiarity with specific programs (**Exhibit 13**), there was significant variation. Six programs were recognized by at least half of the respondents (ECEC, Women, Infants and Children (WIC), AHCCCS, Indian Health Center (IHS) Health Center, SRPMIC Library, and IHS Dental Clinic). Thirteen other programs were not familiar to most of the parents surveyed. At the bottom of this spectrum, six programs were familiar to less than 20 percent of respondents (Raising Special Kids, SRPMIC Teen Parent Program, Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP), Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC), Local Child Care Centers, and Reach Out and Read). With more than four out of five parents not familiar with these services, this validates concerns that awareness may indeed be an issue with regard to parents utilizing the resources that are available to them.



Exhibit 13 Familiarity with Programs (n=105)



Source: First Things First Parents Survey, Fall 2011.

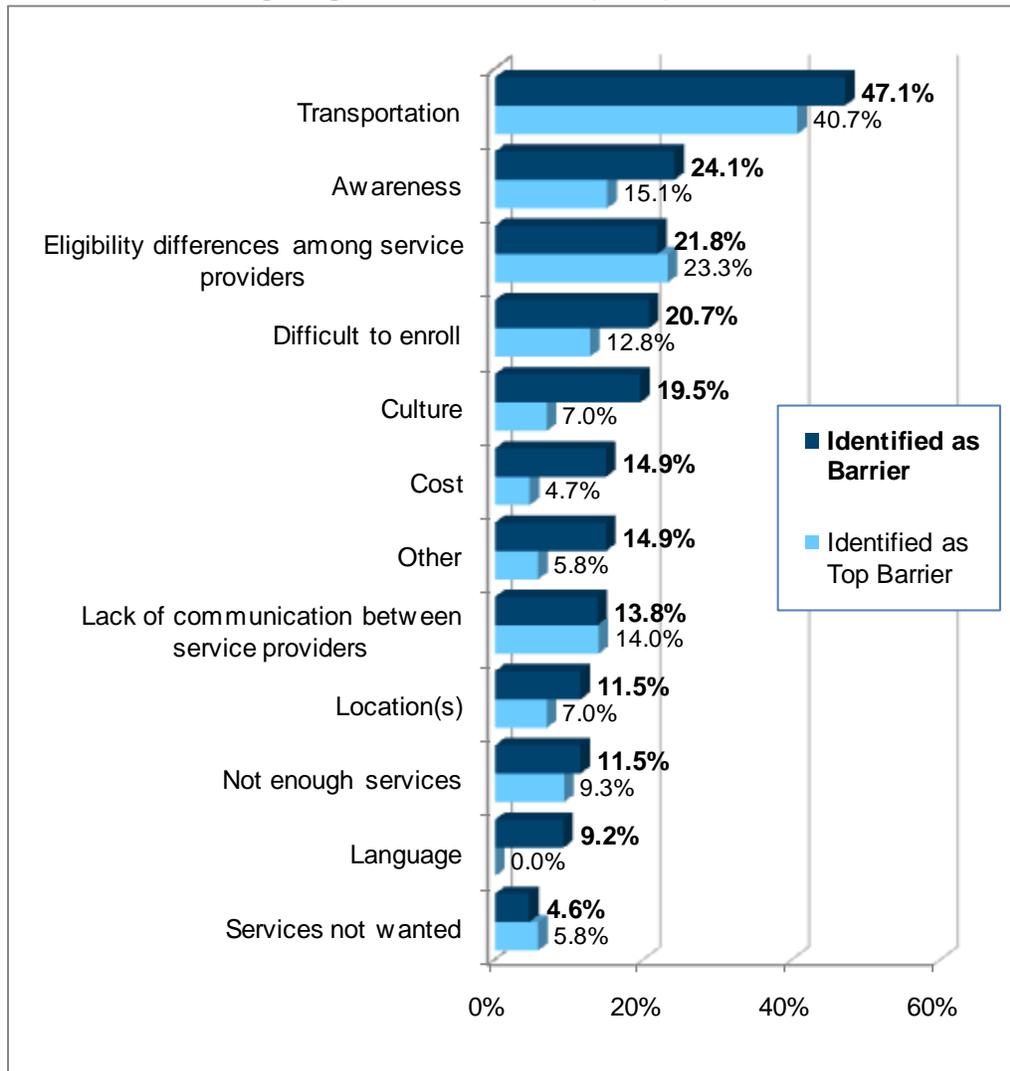
*Including SRPMIC Head Start/Early Head Start Program.

**Includes Fatherhood/Healthy Relationships programs.



As depicted in **Exhibit 14**, transportation was cited most frequently as a barrier to accessing services (47%). Awareness was also cited as a significant issue, as well as eligibility differences among service providers, and difficulty enrolling. A range of other issues was noted by 10 percent or more of respondents. Respondents were queried in a follow-up question as to the “biggest” overall barrier, and transportation was again referenced by the largest proportion (41%).²

Exhibit 14
Barriers to Accessing Programs and Services (n=87)



Source: First Things First Parents Survey, Fall 2011.

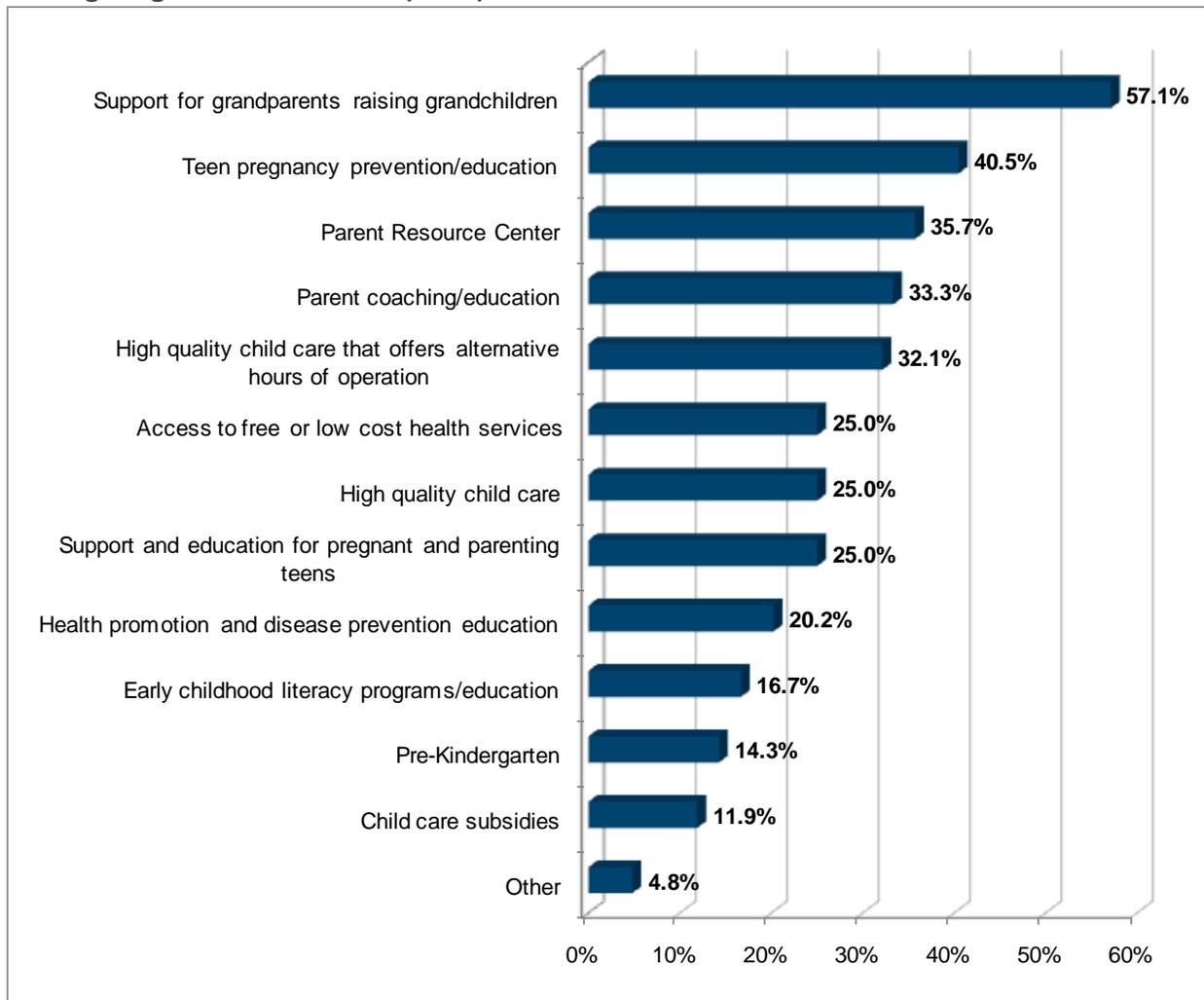
As a final question, parents were asked to identify what programs or services might be missing from the Community, as displayed in **Exhibit 15**. Support for grandparents raising grandchildren (57%), teen pregnancy prevention and education (41%), and a parent resource

² It should be noted that, while respondents were asked to indicate a single category as the “biggest” barrier, many actually indicated multiple responses, all of which were recorded and included in the analysis. Therefore, as with the initial question that allowed multiple selections, the sum of these responses also exceeds 100 percent.



center (36%) were the most frequently selected options. Parent coaching/education (33%) and high quality child care offered during alternative hours of operation (33%) also were selected by more than 30 percent of respondents.

Exhibit 15
Missing Programs and Services (n=84)



Source: First Things First Parents Survey, Fall 2011.

The focus groups and surveys revealed strong reliance on, and confidence in, many existing services in the Community. The findings from parents and Community stakeholders largely reinforced each other. Families being unaware and not connected to current services were identified as a major issue. Lack of transportation and exclusive program rules were also identified as significant barriers. Both stakeholders and parents mentioned four types of services as largely missing in the Community: help for grandparents raising grandchildren; teen pregnancy prevention and education; parent coaching; and high quality child care with alternative hours.



THE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN LIVING IN THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY

This chapter presents data and analyses regarding families and children living in the Community.

General Population Trends

As depicted in **Exhibit 16**, the proportions of children living in the SRPMIC Region are greater than that of Maricopa County and Arizona. According to the 2010 Census, SRPMIC has experienced a decrease in the number of young children living in the Region since 2000. The adult population in the region grew during the ten-year period, but at a smaller rate than growth in the county and the state.

Exhibit 16
Percentage, Number, and Change in Population

	DECENNIAL CENSUS POPULATIONS BY AGE					
	2000 CENSUS		2010 CENSUS		CHANGE	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	Percent
SRP-MIC Region						
Under 6 Years of Age	713	11.1%	626	9.9%	-87	-12.2%
6 to 17 Years of Age	1,612	25.2%	1,250	19.9%	-362	-22.5%
18 Years of Age and Older	4,078	63.7%	4,417	70.2%	339	8.3%
Total Population	6,403	100.0%	6,293	100.0%	-110	-1.7%
Maricopa County						
Under 6 Years of Age	289,759	9.4%	339,217	8.9%	49,458	17.1%
6 to 17 Years of Age	538,244	17.5%	668,644	17.5%	130,400	24.2%
18 Years of Age and Older	2,244,146	73.0%	2,809,256	73.6%	565,110	25.2%
Total Population	3,072,149	100.0%	3,817,117	100.0%	744,968	24.2%
Arizona						
Under 6 Years of Age	459,141	8.9%	546,609	8.6%	87,468	19.1%
6 to 17 Years of Age	907,806	17.7%	1,082,405	16.9%	174,599	19.2%
18 Years of Age and Older	3,763,685	73.4%	4,763,003	74.5%	999,318	26.6%
Total Population	5,130,632	100.0%	6,392,017	100.0%	1,261,385	24.6%
United States						
Under 6 Years of Age	23,140,901	8.2%	24,258,220	7.9%	1,117,319	4.8%
6 to 17 Years of Age	49,152,911	17.5%	49,923,247	16.2%	770,336	1.6%
18 Years of Age and Older	209,128,094	74.3%	234,564,071	76.0%	25,435,977	12.2%
Total Population	281,421,906	100.0%	308,745,538	100.0%	27,323,632	9.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 and 2010 Decennial Censuses.

Note: Data representing FTF Region comprised of Census tracts approximating the ZIP code boundaries, as defined in methodology section of this report.



Exhibit 17 displays the tribal membership of SRPMIC by age as compared to the data reported by the 2010 Census for the region. The Census count is based on the population living on the Reservation and includes enrolled members and non-enrolled members of the tribe. Conversely, the SRPMIC membership counts include all enrolled members living on and off the Reservation. According to the tribal membership figures, the number of children under six has decreased slightly since October 2010, while the older child and adult populations grew.

Exhibit 17

SRPMIC Membership by Age Compared to 2010 Census Data

	2010 Census		SRPMIC MEMBERSHIP BY AGE					
			October 2010		April 2012		Change	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 6 Years of Age	626	9.9%	1,166	12.6%	1,128	11.9%	(38)	-3.3%
6 to 17 Years of Age	1,250	19.9%	2,432	26.3%	2,461	26.0%	29	1.2%
18 Years of Age and Older	4,417	70.2%	5,649	61.1%	5,889	62.1%	240	4.2%
Total Membership	6,293	100.0%	9,247	100.0%	9,478	100.0%	231	2.5%

Source: Age Demographic Report from the Enrollment Office's former database TEAMS (Total Enrollment Administration Management System), 2012.



Exhibit 18 shows the racial and ethnic composition of the SRPMIC Region and comparison regions. Nine out of 10 young children are American Indian, compared to six out of 10 of the adult population in the region. Separate from these racial categories, 20% of young children in the region are Hispanic. This compares to 46% of young children countywide.

Exhibit 18
Race and Ethnicity

	DECENNIAL CENSUS POPULATIONS BY AGE AND RACE/ETHNICITY																	
	White Only		Black/African American		American Indian/ Alaska Native		Asian		Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander		Some Other Race		Two or More Races		TOTAL, All Races		Hispanic or Latino	
	Number	% of Total, by Age	Number	% of Total, by Age	Number	% of Total, by Age	Number	% of Total, by Age	Number	% of Total, by Age	Number	% of Total, by Age	Number	% of Total, by Age	Number	% of Total, by Age	Number	% of Total, by Age
SRP-MIC Region																		
Under 5 Years of Age	10	2.0%	2	0.4%	461	90.6%	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	9	1.8%	25	4.9%	509	100.0%	104	20.4%
5 to 17 Years of Age	29	2.1%	1	0.1%	1,233	90.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	27	2.0%	77	5.6%	1,367	100.0%	279	20.4%
18 Years of Age and Older	1,374	31.1%	16	0.4%	2,802	63.4%	14	0.3%	7	0.2%	89	2.6%	115	2.6%	4,417	100.0%	504	11.4%
Total Population	1,413	22.5%	19	0.3%	4,496	71.4%	14	0.2%	9	0.1%	125	2.0%	217	3.4%	6,293	100.0%	887	14.1%
Maricopa County																		
Under 5 Years of Age	173,388	61.3%	15,928	5.6%	7,661	2.7%	9,309	3.3%	641	0.2%	53,783	19.0%	22,060	7.8%	282,770	100.0%	128,894	45.6%
5 to 17 Years of Age	465,670	64.2%	41,921	5.8%	18,211	2.5%	22,717	3.1%	1,707	0.2%	131,006	18.1%	43,859	6.0%	725,091	100.0%	305,698	42.2%
18 Years of Age and Older	2,147,723	76.5%	132,670	4.7%	52,457	1.9%	100,199	3.6%	5,442	0.2%	304,916	10.9%	65,849	2.3%	2,809,256	100.0%	694,149	24.7%
Total Population	2,786,781	73.0%	190,519	5.0%	78,329	2.1%	132,225	3.5%	7,790	0.2%	489,705	12.8%	131,768	3.5%	3,817,117	100.0%	1,128,741	29.6%
Arizona																		
Under 5 Years of Age	279,668	61.4%	20,835	4.6%	28,034	6.2%	11,599	2.5%	934	0.2%	79,478	17.4%	35,167	7.7%	455,715	100.0%	204,765	44.9%
5 to 17 Years of Age	745,890	63.6%	55,463	4.7%	70,521	6.0%	28,943	2.5%	2,493	0.2%	198,898	17.0%	71,091	6.1%	1,173,299	100.0%	499,181	42.5%
18 Years of Age and Older	3,641,563	76.5%	182,710	3.8%	197,974	4.2%	136,153	2.9%	9,221	0.2%	483,340	10.1%	112,042	2.4%	4,763,003	100.0%	1,191,203	25.0%
Total Population	4,667,121	73.0%	259,008	4.1%	296,529	4.6%	176,695	2.8%	12,648	0.2%	761,716	11.9%	218,300	3.4%	6,392,017	100.0%	1,895,149	29.6%
United States																		
Under 5 Years of Age	12,795,675	63.3%	2,902,590	14.4%	244,615	1.2%	898,011	4.4%	44,991	0.2%	1,917,696	9.5%	1,397,784	6.9%	20,201,362	100.0%	5,114,488	25.3%
5 to 17 Years of Age	35,622,674	66.0%	7,938,726	14.7%	643,757	1.2%	2,353,625	4.4%	112,613	0.2%	4,538,098	8.4%	2,770,612	5.1%	53,980,105	100.0%	12,016,403	22.3%
18 Years of Age and Older	175,134,916	74.7%	28,088,003	12.0%	2,043,876	0.9%	11,422,616	4.9%	382,409	0.2%	12,651,574	5.4%	4,840,677	2.1%	234,564,071	100.0%	33,346,703	14.2%
Total Population	223,553,265	72.4%	38,929,319	12.6%	2,932,248	0.9%	14,674,252	4.8%	540,013	0.2%	19,107,368	6.2%	9,009,073	2.9%	308,745,538	100.0%	50,477,594	16.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Censuses.

Note: Data representing FTF Region comprised of Census tracts approximating the ZIP code boundaries, as defined in methodology section of this report.



Additional Population Characteristics

Exhibit 19 depicts family structures. Just over half of the families in SRPMIC with children under six are headed by a single mom -- more than twice the rate in Maricopa County and throughout Arizona. Families with young children in the Region are just as likely to be headed by single dads as families across the state, but far less likely to be headed by married parents.

Exhibit 19 Types of Families³

	TYPES OF FAMILIES							
	SRP-MIC Region		Maricopa County		Arizona		United States	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Total families	1,386	100.0%	932,814	100.0%	1,576,520	100.0%	77,538,296	100.0%
Husband-wife family:	688	49.6%	675,057	72.4%	1,146,036	72.7%	56,510,377	72.9%
With own children under 18 years:	213	15.4%	296,698	31.8%	465,120	29.5%	23,588,268	30.4%
Under 6 years only	25	1.8%	66,583	7.1%	102,434	6.5%	5,324,564	6.9%
Under 6 years and 6 to 17 years	55	4.0%	73,967	7.9%	115,936	7.4%	5,112,604	6.6%
6 to 17 years only	133	9.6%	156,148	16.7%	246,750	15.7%	13,151,100	17.0%
No own children under 18 years	475	34.3%	378,359	40.6%	680,916	43.2%	32,922,109	42.5%
Other family:	698	50.4%	257,757	27.6%	430,484	27.3%	21,027,919	27.1%
Male householder, no wife present:	166	12.0%	82,206	8.8%	134,171	8.5%	5,777,570	7.5%
With own children under 18 years:	60	4.3%	44,358	4.8%	71,914	4.6%	2,789,424	3.6%
Under 6 years only	13	0.9%	12,370	1.3%	19,953	1.3%	774,258	1.0%
Under 6 years and 6 to 17 years	9	0.6%	8,315	0.9%	13,274	0.8%	421,826	0.5%
6 to 17 years only	38	2.7%	23,673	2.5%	38,687	2.5%	1,593,340	2.1%
No own children under 18 years	106	7.6%	37,848	4.1%	62,257	3.9%	2,988,146	3.9%
Female householder, no husband present:	532	38.4%	175,551	18.8%	296,313	18.8%	15,250,349	19.7%
With own children under 18 years:	241	17.4%	102,915	11.0%	169,397	10.7%	8,365,912	10.8%
Under 6 years only	31	2.2%	20,273	2.2%	32,970	2.1%	1,704,292	2.2%
Under 6 years and 6 to 17 years	75	5.4%	20,168	2.2%	33,607	2.1%	1,518,105	2.0%
6 to 17 years only	135	9.7%	62,474	6.7%	102,820	6.5%	5,143,515	6.6%
No own children under 18 years	291	21.0%	72,636	7.8%	126,916	8.1%	6,884,437	8.9%
All Families with Children Under 6*	208	100.0%	201,676	100.0%	318,174	100.0%	14,855,649	100.0%
Husband-wife family:	80	38.5%	140,550	69.7%	218,370	68.6%	10,437,168	70.3%
Male householder, no wife present:	22	10.6%	20,685	10.3%	33,227	10.4%	1,196,084	8.1%
Female householder, no husband present:	106	51.0%	40,441	20.1%	66,577	20.9%	3,222,397	21.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census.

Note: Data representing FTF Region comprised of Census tracts approximating the ZIP code boundaries, as defined in methodology section of this report.

*Data reflect all families with children under 6, including those with additional older children (between 6 and 17).

³ Census Bureau reporting standards entail that "families" consist of a householder and one or more other people related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. They do not include same-sex married couples even if the marriage was performed in a state issuing marriage certificates for same-sex couples. Same-sex couples are included in the families category if there is at least one additional person related to the householder by birth or adoption. Responses of "same-sex spouse" were edited during processing to "unmarried partner."



Exhibit 20 shows that only 59% of children (under age 18) in SRPMIC live in households headed by their parents -- a rate one third lower than children in Arizona overall. More than one out of four children in the Region live in a household headed by a grandparent and one out ten lives in a household headed by another relative.

Exhibit 20 Children under the Age of 18 Living With Grandparents

	CHILDREN BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE							
	SRP-MIC Region		Maricopa County		Arizona		United States	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Total population under 18 years in households*	1,858	100.0%	1,001,412	100.0%	1,607,647	100.0%	73,734,001	100.0%
Parents are householder	1,088	58.6%	891,511	89.0%	1,404,657	87.4%	65,675,100	89.1%
Grandparents are householder	492	26.5%	59,924	6.0%	122,774	7.6%	4,965,602	6.7%
Grandparent householder responsible for own grandchildren under 18 years:								
Parent present	394	21.2%	32,775	3.3%	69,896	4.3%	2,701,685	3.7%
No parent present	70	3.8%	9,110	0.9%	20,187	1.3%	955,492	1.3%
Grandparent householder not responsible for own grandchildren under 18 years	98	5.3%	27,149	2.7%	52,878	3.3%	2,263,917	3.1%
Other relatives are householder	186	10.0%	32,540	3.2%	50,231	3.1%	1,832,823	2.5%
Foster child or other/unrelated to householder	92	5.0%	17,437	1.7%	29,985	1.9%	1,260,476	1.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census.

*Excludes the householders themselves, spouses, and unmarried partners. Also excludes children living in group quarters.

Note: Data representing FTF Region comprised of Census tracts approximating the ZIP code boundaries, as defined in methodology section of this report.



Exhibit 21 displays the educational level of women who have given birth within the last year, shown as averages of all counts between 2006 and 2010. The education level of women giving birth is far lower in SRPMIC than in the county or the state. On average, nearly one out of three of these women in the region had not yet earned a high school diploma – compared to fewer than one out of four in Maricopa County and Arizona. No women giving birth in the region had earned more than an associate’s degree – compared to 22 percent throughout Maricopa County.

Exhibit 21
Educational Level of Women Who Gave Birth in the Last 12 Months

	EDUCATION LEVEL	
	2006-2010 ACS	
	Number	% of Total
SRP-MIC Region		
Total Giving Birth in Last 12 Months	95	100.0%
Less than High School	31	32.6%
High School or GED	19	20.0%
Some College or Associate's	45	47.4%
Bachelor's	0	0.0%
Graduate	0	0.0%
Maricopa County		
Total Giving Birth in Last 12 Months	58,762	100.0%
Less than High School	14,001	23.8%
High School or GED	14,271	24.3%
Some College or Associate's	17,384	29.6%
Bachelor's	8,989	15.3%
Graduate	4,117	7.0%
Arizona		
Total Giving Birth in Last 12 Months	93,740	100.0%
Less than High School	21,871	23.3%
High School or GED	23,562	25.1%
Some College or Associate's	29,902	31.9%
Bachelor's	12,517	13.4%
Graduate	5,888	6.3%
United States		
Total Giving Birth in Last 12 Months	4,308,790	100.0%
Less than High School	762,569	17.7%
High School or GED	1,077,297	25.0%
Some College or Associate's	1,275,384	29.6%
Bachelor's	784,994	18.2%
Graduate/Professional	408,546	9.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey estimates.

Note: Data representing FTF Region comprised of Census tracts approximating the ZIP code boundaries, as defined in methodology section of this report.



Women giving birth in SRPMIC are much more likely to have less than 12 years of education than American Indian women in other parts of Arizona. Over time, however, the rate in SRPMIC has improved, as shown in **Exhibit 22**. The trend is also positive but less dramatic among American Indians on all Reservations in Arizona, among off-Reservation residents in Maricopa County, and in Maricopa County as a whole.

Exhibit 22

Years of Education Completed for Women Who Gave Birth in the Last 12 Months

AREA	2005			2009			PERCENT CHANGE		
	Total Births	Years of Education Completed		Total Births	Years of Education Completed		Total Births	Years of Education Completed	
		less than 12	12 or more		less than 12	12 or more		less than 12	12 or more
Total American Indian Residents In Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	87	57%	38%	120	45%	52%	38%	-21%	36%
Total American Indian Residents On All Reservations In Arizona	3,622	34%	65%	3,914	31%	69%	8%	-9%	5%
Total American Indian Residents Off Reservation In Maricopa County	1,656	29%	71%	1,596	26%	74%	-4%	-11%	4%
Maricopa County	62,232	30%	69%	57,663	25%	74%	-7%	-17%	8%

Source: Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona: 2005 and 2009 Data Books, Department of Health Services; Arizona Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics, 2005.



Exhibit 23 shows that two out of three households with children in the region had all caregivers in the labor force—this mirrors the rate in the county and the state and indicates a significant need for child care. In the SRPMIC Region, the number and percent of households with all caregivers in the labor force grew significantly over the time period, while the percent in the rest of the state remained stable.

Exhibit 23

Households With Children and All Caregivers Are In the Labor Force

	HOUSEHOLDS BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF PARENTS					
	2005-2009 ACS		2006-2010 ACS		CHANGE	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	Percent
SRP-MIC Region						
Total Households with Children	339	100.0%	416	100.0%	77	22.7%
All Caregivers in Labor Force	188	55.5%	275	66.1%	87	46.3%
Maricopa County						
Total Households with Children	438,211	100.0%	441,964	100.0%	3,753	0.9%
All Caregivers in Labor Force	291,605	66.5%	298,180	67.5%	6,575	2.3%
Arizona						
Total Households with Children	690,517	100.0%	699,571	100.0%	9,054	1.3%
All Caregivers in Labor Force	461,753	66.9%	474,423	67.8%	12,670	2.7%
United States						
Total Households with Children	34,883,550	100.0%	34,990,015	100.0%	106,465	0.3%
All Caregivers in Labor Force	24,703,553	70.8%	25,056,674	71.6%	353,121	1.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-09 and 2006-10 American Community Survey estimates.

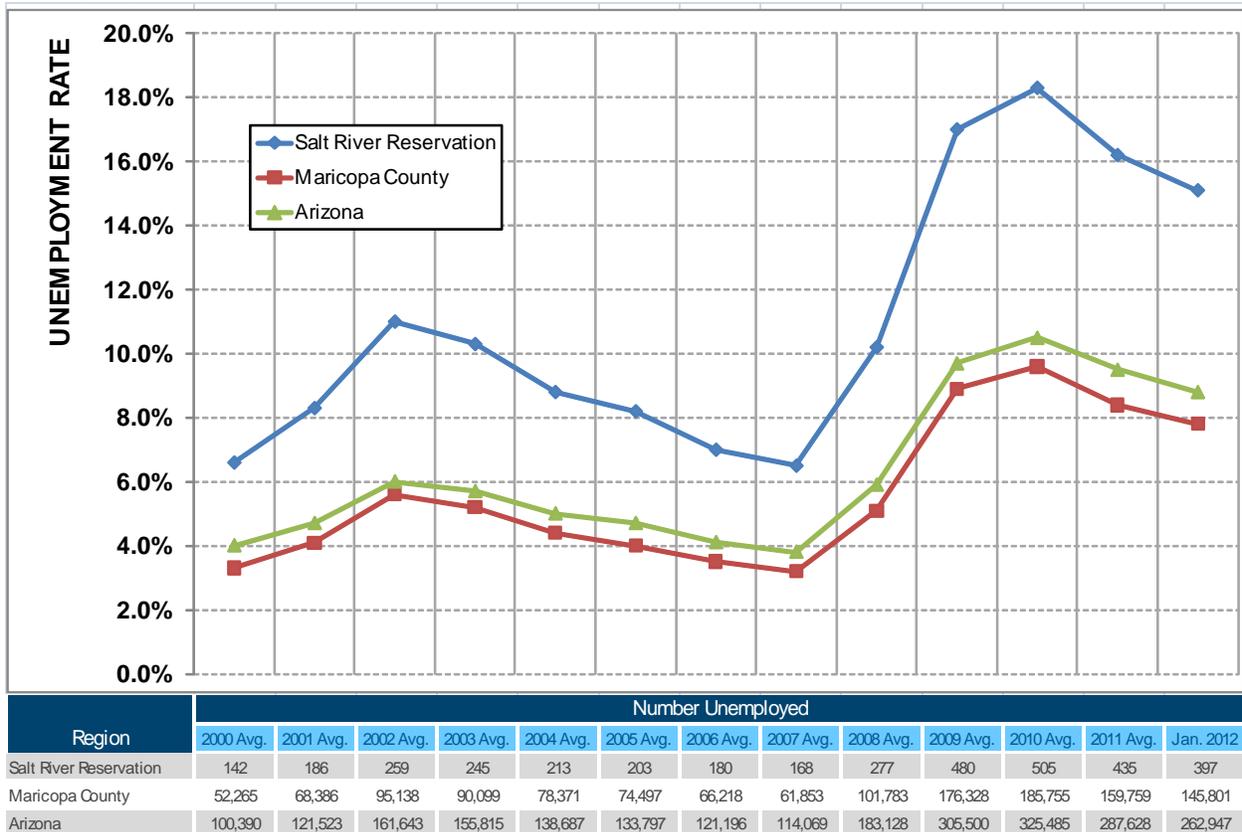
Note: Data representing FTF Region comprised of Census tracts approximating the ZIP code boundaries, as defined in methodology section of this report. "All Caregivers in Labor Force" defined as all households with all parents employed or seeking employment.



Economic Circumstances

The unemployment in the area has been declining since 2010, though the rate remains nearly double the comparison geographies (**Exhibit 24**). The unemployment rate goes down when more people find jobs and also when people give up looking for jobs and drop out of the labor force. In January 2012, estimates show the regional unemployment rate at 15.1 percent versus approximately eight (8) percent for the county and state.

Exhibit 24
Unemployment Rates



Source: Arizona Department of Administration, Office of Employment and Population Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics.



Exhibit 25 depicts median income data for households of various types. There is extremely wide variation in the data for the region. Due to small sample sizes, it is likely that some of the variation shown is due to statistical error. There is no good explanation for the median income of single mom families multiplying more than five-fold over the time span shown.

The data show that overall household income for the SRPMIC Region falls well below county, state, and national benchmarks highlighting depressed economic circumstances. Median incomes for families headed by single dads are particularly low. However the regional median income of married households with children is significantly above median incomes in the county and the state. Multi-generational family structures may influence these figures, where several generations may live together in one married household with many people relying on that income.

Exhibit 25 Median Income of Households by Type

	MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME					
	2005-2009 ACS		2006-2010 ACS		CHANGE	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	Percent
SRP-MIC Region						
All Households	\$36,219	100.0%	\$37,400	100.0%	\$1,181	3.3%
Married Householders, with Children	\$85,833	237.0%	\$91,875	245.7%	\$6,042	7.0%
Single Male Householder, with Children	\$18,125	50.0%	\$20,750	55.5%	\$2,625	14.5%
Single Female Householder, with Children	\$4,872	13.5%	\$24,583	65.7%	\$19,711	404.6%
Maricopa County						
All Households	\$65,242	100.0%	\$65,438	100.0%	\$196	0.3%
Married Householders, with Children	\$77,400	118.6%	\$78,241	119.6%	\$841	1.1%
Single Male Householder, with Children	\$40,887	62.7%	\$41,227	63.0%	\$340	0.8%
Single Female Householder, with Children	\$29,629	45.4%	\$29,390	44.9%	(\$239)	-0.8%
Arizona						
All Households	\$59,231	100.0%	\$59,840	100.0%	\$609	1.0%
Married Householders, with Children	\$72,049	121.6%	\$72,316	120.8%	\$267	0.4%
Single Male Householder, with Children	\$38,414	64.9%	\$38,509	64.4%	\$95	0.2%
Single Female Householder, with Children	\$26,754	45.2%	\$26,377	44.1%	(\$377)	-1.4%
United States						
All Households	\$62,363	100.0%	\$62,982	100.0%	\$619	1.0%
Married Householders, with Children	\$78,245	125.5%	\$79,557	126.3%	\$1,312	1.7%
Single Male Householder, with Children	\$37,267	59.8%	\$37,157	59.0%	(\$110)	-0.3%
Single Female Householder, with Children	\$24,244	38.9%	\$24,383	38.7%	\$139	0.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2006-2010 American Community Survey estimates.

Note: Data representing FTF Region comprised of Census tracts approximating the ZIP code boundaries, as defined in methodology section of this report. Median Income for FTF Region calculated as a simple average across all encompassed census tracts.

Exhibit 26 displays the poverty status of families with children in the Region as compared to broader geographies. The most recent data show that one in four households with children in the region lived in poverty. Seven out of 10 of these families were headed by a single parent. The SRPMIC poverty rate for two-parent households is more than twice the county and state poverty rates. On the other hand, the SRPMIC poverty rate for single parents is slightly less than the county and statewide rates.



The percentage of single parent families with children in SRPMIC living below the poverty level decreased dramatically during the time period, contrary to the trend in the county, state, and nation (**Exhibit 26**).

The large variance in household income for married families with children described in **Exhibit 25** and the high rates of poverty detailed in **Exhibit 26** seem to be at odds. One possible explanation for the deviance between the statistics would be a prevalence of very large (multi-generational) households, which could lead to high summed household incomes but still high poverty rates, since poverty income thresholds are adjusted based on the number of persons residing in the household. Another possible explanation could be a wide stratification of actual household incomes – that is, a circumstance where a number of households have extremely high incomes juxtaposed with a large number of very low income households, which could result in a high average income despite high incidences of poverty. Alternatively, the inconsistency could simply be a result of the high error rates associated with the small sample sizes used to estimate these statistics. Taken in context with other indicators, however, it would seem to be evident that the incidence of poverty is genuine. So, whether or not the high average income levels for households are real (due to statistical or population anomalies or some other circumstance), it should not diminish the associated concerns of poverty.

Exhibit 26

Poverty Status of Families with Children

	FAMILY TYPE AND POVERTY STATUS					
	2005-2009 ACS		2006-2010 ACS		CHANGE	
	Number	Poverty Rate (%)	Number	Poverty Rate (%)	Number of Families	Poverty Rate (Change in %)
SRP-MIC Region						
Total Households with Children	461	27.5%	586	24.6%	125	-3.0%
Below Poverty Level	127		144		17	
Single Parent	114	39.3%	101	27.4%	-13	-11.9%
Two Parents	13	7.6%	43	19.8%	30	12.2%
Maricopa County						
Total Households with Children	472,751	14.4%	478,991	15.5%	6,240	1.0%
Below Poverty Level	68,218		74,101		5,883	
Single Parent	42,057	27.2%	46,059	28.8%	4,002	1.6%
Two Parents	26,161	8.2%	28,042	8.8%	1,881	0.6%
Arizona						
Total Households with Children	756,708	16.3%	770,288	17.2%	13,580	0.9%
Below Poverty Level	123,494		132,852		9,358	
Single Parent	78,451	30.4%	84,783	31.6%	6,332	1.2%
Two Parents	45,043	9.0%	48,069	9.6%	3,026	0.5%
United States						
Total Households with Children	38,008,435	15.3%	38,237,101	15.7%	228,666	0.5%
Below Poverty Level	5,802,201		6,015,198		212,997	
Single Parent	4,095,461	32.8%	4,237,224	33.3%	141,763	0.5%
Two Parents	1,706,740	6.7%	1,777,974	7.0%	71,234	0.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 and 2006-2010 American Community Survey estimates.

Note: Data representing FTF Region comprised of Census tracts approximating the ZIP code boundaries, as defined in methodology section of this report.



In 2010-11, 361 children received subsidized child care services according to the annual Child Care Development Fund report, as shown in **Exhibit 27**. Of these, the majority receive services because a parent is working, while more than one-quarter (28%, or 101 children) receive services because a parent is in a training or education program. Approximately seven percent receive subsidized services because the child receives or is in need of protective services. The 361 children represent 287 families who benefit from these subsidized child care services. The data reflect the tribal child care program and includes both ECEC child care services, as well as the tribal certificate program that serves eligible low income families.

Exhibit 27

Families and Children Receiving Subsidized Child Care Services

REASON	NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE SERVICES
	2010-11
Because parent is working	235
Because parent is in a training/education program	101
Child is receiving or in need of protective services	25
Total children receiving child care services	361
Total families receiving child care services	287

Source: Child Care and Development Fund Annual Report on Services provided from 10/01/2010 through 9/30/2011.

Note: All care is provided by child care centers rather than homes or group homes.



Educational Indicators

As shown in **Exhibit 28**, 875 children were enrolled in school in the Region in 2010-11. This does not include the larger number of students living in SRPMIC who were enrolled in Mesa Public Schools. (During the 2010-2011 school year, there were 1,014 children living in SRPMIC who were enrolled in Mesa Public Schools, according to the Title VIII-Impact Aid student count reported by the SRPMIC Education Division, School and Community Relations.) Attendance rates at SRPMIC schools remained relatively stable at all entities, except for a large drop in the ECEC.

SRPMIC Community Schools were certified as having made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in both 2009-10 and 2010-11.

Exhibit 28

School Enrollment, Attendance, and Adequate Yearly Progress Determination

ENROLLMENT			
Institution	2009-10	2010-11	Percent Change
Early Childhood Education Center	189	257	36.0%
Salt River Elementary School	319	359	12.5%
Salt River High School	235	224	-4.7%
Accelerated Learning Academy	40	40	0.0%
ATTENDANCE			
Institution	2009-10	2010-11	Percent Change
Early Childhood Education Center	80.2%	69.0%	-11.3%
Salt River Elementary School	92.9%	93.3%	0.4%
Salt River High School	84.6%	87.6%	3.0%
Accelerated Learning Academy	83.2%	81.5%	-1.7%
ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS (AYP) DETERMINATION			
Institution	2009-10	2010-11	
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Community Schools	Met	Met	
Salt River Elementary School	Met	Met	
Salt River High School	Met	Met	
Accelerated Learning Academy	Met	Met	

Source: Data received from the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community Education Division, 2012.

Note: The Bureau of Indian Education is the AYP evaluator for the Salt River Elementary School; the Arizona Department of Education is the AYP evaluator for Salt River High School and the Accelerated Learning Academy.

The five-year high school graduation rates in SRPMIC and the state of Arizona are displayed in **Exhibit 29**. High school graduation rates for 2011 are incomplete and have not been published by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). They are presented here for reference only. As



shown, prior to 2010, the percentage of all students in SRPMIC who graduate high school in five years ranged from 52 to 59 percent compared to 77 percent to 81 percent statewide. Further, the five-year graduation rates for Native Americans across Arizona have been significantly higher than that of SRPMIC each year prior to 2010 (between 9 and 11 percentage points higher).

A 70 percent graduation rate was reported for the 2010 cohort in SRPMIC. This is due to the establishment of the Accelerated Learning Academy that recruited and graduated a significant number of students that year who were only a few credits short of graduation.



Exhibit 29

Five-Year High School Graduation Rates

FIVE YEAR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES BY RACE/ETHNICITY													
	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011*		1-year Trend (2009-2010)	4-Year Trend (2007-2010)	
	# in cohort	% graduated											
ALL													
SRPMIC	35	52%	43	57%	60	59%	78	70%	42	42%	11%	18%	
Arizona	56,447	77%	59,771	79%	61,465	81%	63,558	79%	62,577	78%	-2%	2%	
ASIAN													
SRPMIC	1	100%	0	0%							n/a	n/a	
Arizona	1,700	88%	1,841	90%	1,999	92%	1,990	89%	1,955	88%	-3%	1%	
AFRICAN AMERICAN													
SRPMIC	0	0%	1	100%			1	100%			n/a	n/a	
Arizona	2,928	76%	3,326	77%			3,786	78%	3,600	76%	n/a	2%	
HISPANIC													
SRPMIC	0	0%	2	40%	3	60%	4	57%	3	25%	-3%	57%	
Arizona	17,516	70%	19,570	73%	20,763	75%	22,391	73%	22,814	73%	-2%	3%	
MULTIPLE RACES													
SRPMIC							1	100%			n/a	n/a	
Arizona							18	100%			n/a	n/a	
NATIVE AMERICAN													
SRPMIC	33	53%	38	57%	55	58%	69	70%	37	44%	12%	17%	
Arizona	3,207	62%	3,224	66%	3,433	69%	3,419	65%	3,157	61%	-4%	3%	
NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER													
SRPMIC											n/a	n/a	
Arizona							12	100%	104	82%	n/a	n/a	
WHITE													
SRPMIC	1	100%	2	100%	2	100%	3	60%	2	40%	-40%	-40%	
Arizona	31,096	84%	31,810	85%	31,798	86%	31,581	85%	30,385	85%	-1%	1%	

*Beginning in 2009, African American category name became Black/African American, Native American became American Indian/Alaska Native, and Hispanic became Hispanic or Latino.

*2011 data are incomplete and provided for reference only.

Source: Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Education Division, 2012.

Note: Years depicted as column labels in exhibit represent the 5th year that the cohort of students would be enrolled in high school (e.g., the column labeled “2007” represents students initially enrolled in 2002-03 who graduated within five years, by 2006-07). Data presented for 2011 are four-year graduation rates, as ADE has not posted the graduation information for 2011.



THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM IN THE SALT RIVER PIMA MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY REGION

Early Care and Education

Current enrollment in the ECEC is 202 children, as depicted in Exhibit 34. Early Head Start and Head Start enrollment stand at 100 and 102 children, respectively.

The certificate program through ECEC is subsidized through the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF). The program offers child care options to eligible families. Parents must be working or in school full-time and children must be under age 13 (the program currently serves children five and under, with plans to expand) and enrolled in any federally recognized tribe. The service area is Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale, and Phoenix. Eligible parents choose a state licensed child care provider or a state certified family home or group home caregiver. Based upon their total family size and income, the parents pay a co-payment and the ECEC program pays a portion of the remaining child care fees, up to what DES pays for comparable child care. The certificate program began operating in April 2010.

Exhibit 30 Early Childhood Education Center Enrollments

	ECEC Enrollment		
	2006-2007	2010-2011 as of 7/8/10	2011-2012 as of 2/14/12
Early Head Start	N/A	73	100
Head Start	102	102	102
Pre-school	N/A	55**	81**
Certificate Program*	N/A	48 (12/29/10)	77 (12/31/11)
TOTALS	102	175	202

*Note: Certificate program enrollees are served at a different site from other ECEC students.

**Excluding Head Start.

Source: Salt River Education Division, 2012.



As shown in **Exhibit 31**, 112 children are on the waiting lists for Early Head Start and Preschool, up from 37 last year.

Exhibit 31
Early Childhood Education Center Waiting Lists

	ECEC Waiting Lists	
	2010-2011	2011-2012 as of 2/13/12
Early Head Start	17	51
Head Start	N/A	N/A
Pre-school	20	61
Certificate Program	0	0
TOTALS	37	112

*Note: Certificate program enrollees are served at a different site from other ECEC students.

Source: Salt River Education Division, 2012.

The DIBELS early literacy assessment shows the positive educational impact of the ECEC. Kindergarten students at Salt River Elementary School were assessed for literacy skills. Only 39% of those who had attended the ECEC needed intensive literacy intervention, compared to 53% of those students who had not attended ECEC (see **Exhibit 32**).

Exhibit 32
Literary Intervention Needs for Kindergarten Students at Salt River Elementary School

	DYNAMIC INDICATOR OF BASIC EARLY LITERACY SKILLS	
	ECEC Participants	Non-ECEC Participants
Children needing intensive literacy intervention	39%	53%

Source: 2011-2012 Early Childhood Education Center Comparison Performance Profile.



Supporting Families

In the SRPMIC Region, the number of young children receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash benefits rose more than 24 percent from 2007 to 2011, reflecting growing economic needs (**Exhibit 33**). The number of participating children countywide and statewide dropped significantly during that time period due to program changes that limited eligibility. SRPMIC administers its own tribal TANF program, called Life Enhancement and Resource Network (LEARN), which did NOT cut eligibility and did not experience the drop in participation.

Exhibit 33

Children Receiving TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Benefits

	CHILDREN AGE 0-5 RECEIVING TANF BENEFITS					
	January 2007	January 2009	January 2010	January 2011	1-Year Trend	4-Year Trend
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community	87	84	104	108	3.8%	24.1%
Maricopa County	11,784	15,083	15,452	8,723	-43.5%	-26.0%
Arizona	20,867	24,273	23,866	13,450	-43.6%	-35.5%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Note: Data refer to the number of children receiving applicable benefits at single point in time (January of each year).

A similar pattern is seen in the number of families with young children who receive TANF funds (**Exhibit 34**), with a 25 percent increase since 2007.

Exhibit 34

TANF Recipients with Children Age 0-5

	FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGE 0-5 RECEIVING TANF					
	January 2007	January 2009	January 2010	January 2011	1-Year Trend	4-Year Trend
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community	52	50	65	65	0.0%	25.0%
Maricopa County	9,252	11,323	11,603	6,606	-43.1%	-28.6%
Arizona	16,511	18,477	18,129	10,289	-43.2%	-37.7%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Note: Data refer to the number of children receiving applicable benefits at single point in time (January of each year).

Child-only cases are defined as those TANF cases in which no adult recipient is included in the TANF cash grant. The number of child-only cases has increased in SRPMIC in recent years, from eight in 2007 to 12 in 2011, as shown in **Exhibit 35**. The number of countywide and statewide child-only cases fell due to program eligibility changes.



Exhibit 35 TANF – Child Only Cases

	CHILD ONLY TANF CASES					
	January 2007	January 2009	January 2010	January 2011	1-Year Trend	4-Year Trend
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community	8	5	3	12	300.0%	50.0%
Maricopa County	9,852	11,000	10,827	3,134	-71.1%	-68.2%
Arizona	15,262	16,034	15,430	4,676	-69.7%	-69.4%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Note: Data refer to the number of children receiving applicable benefits at single point in time (January of each year).

Exhibit 36 provides details of the court wards, referrals to CPS, and home removals since 2007 in SRPMIC. As shown, the number of wards of the court increased 14 percent between 2007 and 2011, while the number of referrals and removals decreased by 25 and 11 percent, respectively.

Exhibit 36 Court Wards, CPS Referrals and Removals

SRPMIC	2007	2009	2011	2-Year Trend		4-Year Trend	
				#	%	#	%
Number of Court Wards	242	274	277	3	1%	35	14%
Number of CPS Referrals	458	486	344	(142)	-29%	(114)	-25%
Number of CPS Removals	99	96	88	(8)	-8%	(11)	-11%

Source: SRPMIC Department of Social Services.

The number of young children benefitting from SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) increased in SRPMIC and the broader geographies between 2007 and 2011 (see **Exhibit 37**). SRPMIC experienced a nearly 120 percent increase in SNAP participation, while Maricopa County and Arizona child participation rates increased 55.0 and 51.5 percent, respectively.

Similarly, the number of families with young children participating in SNAP increased between 2007 and 2011 in both SRPMIC and the broader geographies. The number of families in SRPMIC more than doubled, from 99 in 2007 to 230 in 2011, while the county and state realized smaller, but still significant increases.



Exhibit 37**Children and Families Participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Age 0-5, January 2007 through January 2011**

	CHILDREN AGE 0-5 PARTICIPATING IN SNAP					FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGE 0-5 PARTICIPATING IN SNAP				
	January 2007	January 2010	January 2011	1-Year Trend	4-Year Trend	January 2007	January 2010	January 2011	1-Year Trend	4-Year Trend
Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community	178	337	390	15.7%	119.1%	99	193	230	19.2%	132.3%
Maricopa County	76,565	129,566	118,639	-8.4%	55.0%	49,457	87,169	80,377	-7.8%	62.5%
Arizona	134,697	215,837	204,058	-5.5%	51.5%	88,171	145,657	138,687	-4.8%	57.3%

Source: Arizona Department of Health.

Note: Data refer to the number of children receiving applicable benefits at single point in time (January of each year).

The number of women and children in the SRPMIC Region who participated in the WIC program both more than doubled between 2005 and 2009, as shown in **Exhibit 38**. The overall number of participants remained very low.

Exhibit 38**WIC Participation**

	Number of WIC participants							
	January 2005		January 2009		4-Year Certification Trend		4-Year Participation Trend	
	Certified	Participants	Certified	Participants	#	%	#	%
Women	7	2	12	6	5	71%	4	200%
Children	6	4	16	10	10	167%	6	150%
Total	13	6	28	16	15	115%	10	167%

Source: Arizona Department of Health.

Three out of four births in the region were paid for by AHCCCS in both 2005 and 2009 -- a much higher percentage than other tribal communities and the county as a whole.



Exhibit 39
Public Payer Births, 2005 and 2009

AREA	2005					2009					PERCENT CHANGE (2005-2009)				
	Total Births	Source of Payment				Total Births	Source of Payment				Total Births	Source of Payment			
		AHCCCS	IHS	Private	Self		AHCCCS	IHS	Private	Self		AHCCCS	IHS	Private	Self
Total American Indian Residents In Salt River Pima-Maricopa	87	74.7%	6.9%	12.6%	4.6%	120	76.7%	9.2%	13.3%	0.8%	37.9%	2.6%	32.9%	5.5%	-81.9%
Total American Indian Residents On All Reservations In Arizona	3,622	48.1%	37.8%	7.1%	1.0%	3,914	55.4%	34.3%	6.0%	0.4%	8.1%	15.2%	-9.2%	-15.4%	-61.0%
Total American Indian Residents Off Reservation In Maricopa County	1,656	65.7%	10.1%	22.0%	1.4%	1,596	62.8%	10.2%	25.3%	1.2%	-3.6%	-4.4%	0.1%	15.2%	-17.9%
Maricopa County	62,232	51.8%	0.3%	44.8%	2.6%	57,663	53.1%	0.4%	43.5%	2.4%	-7.3%	2.5%	13.0%	-3.0%	-7.5%

Source: Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona: 2005 and 2009 Data Books, Arizona Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics, 2008 and 2009.



Exhibit 40 shows that, in 2009, expecting mothers in the SRPMIC lagged behind peers in other tribal communities in terms of the number of prenatal visits. Over 19 percent of the Region's American Indian mothers had four or fewer prenatal visits, as compared to only 12 percent with this few visits across all Tribal areas in the state. The rate of women in the region with at least five visits improved slightly since 2005.

Exhibit 40
Number of Prenatal Visits, 2005 and 2009

AREA	2005			2009			PERCENT CHANGE (2008-2009)		
	Number of Births	Prenatal Care		Number of Births	Prenatal Care		Number of Births	Prenatal Care	
		0-4 Visits	5+ Visits		0-4 Visits	5+ Visits		0-4 Visits	5+ Visits
Total American Indian Residents In Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	87	21.8%	78.2%	120	19.2%	80.8%	37.9%	-12.2%	3.4%
Total American Indian Residents On All Reservations In Arizona	6,293	12.5%	87.3%	3,914	11.8%	87.7%	-37.8%	-5.9%	0.5%
Total American Indian Residents Off Reservation In Maricopa County	1,656	8.7%	91.2%	1,596	8.3%	91.6%	-3.6%	-4.2%	0.4%
Maricopa County	62,232	5.4%	94.5%	57,663	4.1%	95.7%	-7.3%	-23.7%	1.2%
Arizona	95,798	6.5%	93.3%	92,616	5.3%	94.5%	-3.3%	-19.1%	1.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics (previous source was Arizona Department of Health Services, Arizona Primary Care Area Program); (<http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/report/ahs/ahs2009/pdf/9a.pdf>).

In 2009, the overwhelming majority of women in SRPMIC who had given birth reported that they did not smoke or drink during their pregnancies (95.8%), as shown in **Exhibit 41**, down slightly from 100 percent in 2005.

Exhibit 41
Substance Use during Pregnancy, 2005 and 2009

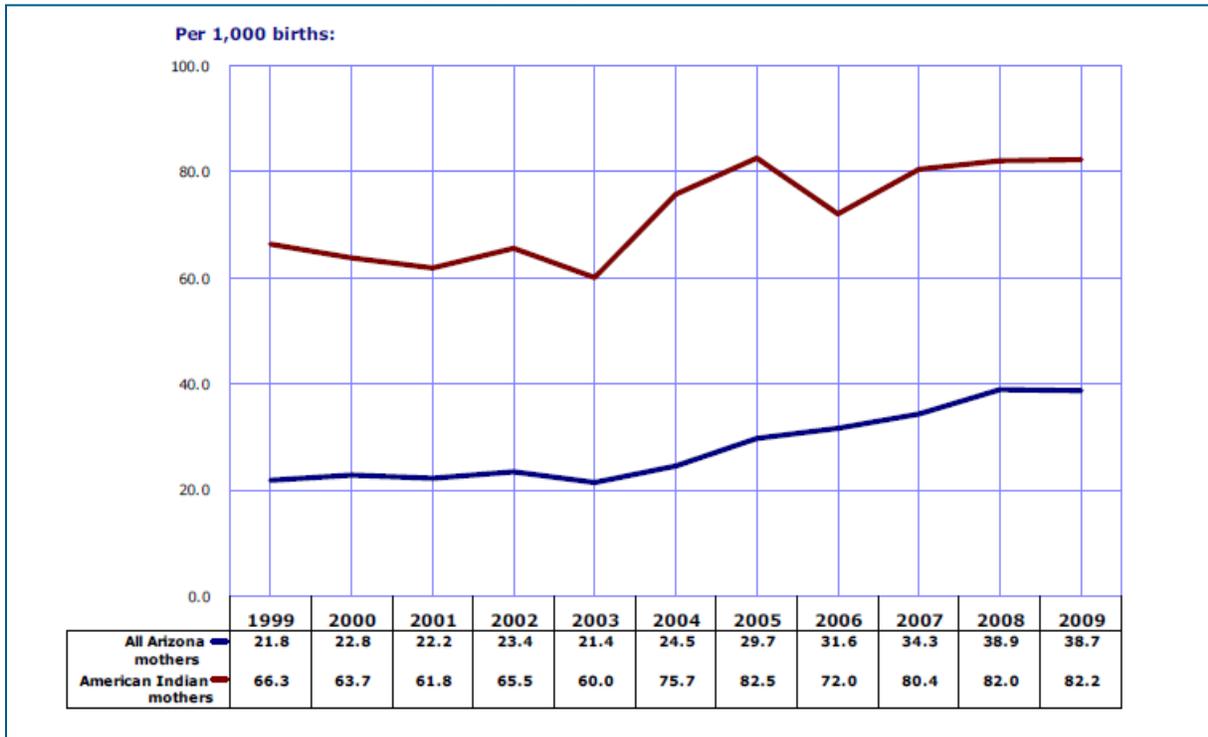
AREA	TOTAL BIRTHS 2005	SUBSTANCE USE - 2005				TOTAL BIRTHS 2009	SUBSTANCE USE - 2009			
		Drinker, nonsmoker	Smoker, nondrinker	Smoker and drinker	Nonsmoker and nondrinker		Drinker, nonsmoker	Smoker, nondrinker	Smoker and drinker	Nonsmoker and nondrinker
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	87	0	0	0	87	120	0	4	1	115
% Distribution	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	3.3%	0.8%	95.8%
ALL TRIBAL AREAS	3,622	57	57	40	3,468	3,914	45	50	22	3,797
% Distribution	100.0%	1.6%	1.6%	1.1%	95.7%	100.0%	1.1%	1.3%	0.6%	97.0%

Source: Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona, 2005 and 2009 Data Books.



Exhibit 42 displays the incidence of diabetes during pregnancy among all Arizona mothers and all American Indian mothers from 1999 through 2009. Throughout that 10-year period, the rate of diabetes among American Indian mothers in Arizona was more than twice the rate of all mothers in the state. In 2009, more than eight percent of American Indian mothers contracted diabetes during pregnancy, double the rate for all mothers in the state.

Exhibit 42
The Incidence of Diabetes during Pregnancy, 1999-2009



Source: Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona, 2009 Data Book.



The overwhelming majority of children (about 90%) born in SRPMIC in 2009 were born after 37 weeks of gestation (see **Exhibit 43**). This is comparable to rates observed in other Tribal areas of the state, and a slight improvement from 2005 (89.7%).

Exhibit 43 Length of Gestation, 2005 and 2009

AREA	TOTAL BIRTHS 2005	LENGTH OF GESTATION - 2005				TOTAL BIRTHS 2009	LENGTH OF GESTATION - 2009			
		<37 weeks	37-41 weeks	42+ weeks	Unknown		<37 weeks	37-41 weeks	42+ weeks	Unknown
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	87	9	77	1	0	120	12	104	4	0
% Distribution	100.0%	10.3%	88.5%	1.1%	0.0%	100.0%	10.0%	86.7%	3.3%	0.0%
ALL TRIBAL AREAS	3,622	349	3,221	41	11	3,914	389	3,483	37	5
% Distribution	100.0%	9.6%	88.9%	1.1%	0.3%	100.0%	9.9%	89.0%	0.9%	0.1%

Source: Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona, 2009 Data Book.

As shown in **Exhibit 44**, the percentage of babies born in the Region weighing less than 2,500 grams (considered to be “low birthweight” and therefore susceptible to associated risk factors) rose between 2005 and 2009. The low birthweight rate in SRPMIC remained below the rate in other tribal communities and throughout the county in 2009.

Exhibit 44 Weight at Birth, 2005 and 2009

AREA	2005		2009		PERCENT CHANGE (2008-2009)	
	Total Births	Low Birth Weight**	Total Births	Low Birth Weight**	Total Births	Low Birth Weight**
Total American Indian Residents In Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	87	4.6%	120	6.7%	37.9%	45.0%
Total American Indian Residents On All Reservations In Arizona	3,622	6.8%	3,914	7.0%	8.1%	1.9%
Total American Indian Residents Off Reservation In Maricopa County	1,656	6.9%	1,596	5.1%	-3.6%	-26.3%
Maricopa County	62,232	6.8%	57,663	7.1%	-7.3%	4.4%

Source: Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona: 2005 and 2009 Data Books; Arizona Department of Health Services.

Note: Estimates are per 1,000 births. Babies born weighing less than 2500 grams are considered to have low birth weight.

Exhibit 45 presents data regarding the age of mothers who gave birth in 2005 and 2009. The percentage of births to teen moms in SRPMIC dropped but remained significantly higher than the percentages for other American Indian communities and the county.



Exhibit 45 Births by Maternal Age, 2005 and 2009

AREA	2005				2009				PERCENT CHANGE			
	Total Births	Maternal Age			Total Births	Maternal Age			Total Births	17 and under	18-19	20-29
		17 and under	18-19	20-29		17 and under	18-19	20-29				
Total American Indian Residents In Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	87	14%	20%	48%	120	12%	14%	59%	38%	-17%	-29%	23%
Total American Indian Residents On All Reservations In Arizona	3,622	9%	11%	54%	3,914	8%	13%	56%	8%	-17%	22%	4%
Total American Indian Residents Off Reservation In Maricopa County	1,656	6%	11%	59%	1,596	5%	10%	59%	-4%	-10%	-9%	0%
Maricopa County	62,232	4%	7%	54%	57,663	4%	7%	53%	-7%	-8%	2%	-2%

Source: Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona, 2005 and 2009 Data Books.

Exhibit 46 shows that more than eight out of ten births in the Region were to single moms. This is an increase since 2005 and a rate that is higher than the rate in other American Indian communities in Arizona. The percentage of births that were to unmarried mothers in SRPMIC was nearly twice the rate in Maricopa County overall.

Exhibit 46 Births By Mother's Marital Status, 2005 and 2009

AREA	2005			2009			PERCENT CHANGE (2005-2009)		
	Total Births	Marital Status		Total Births	Marital Status		Total Births	Marital Status	
		Married	Unmarried		Married	Unmarried		Married	Unmarried
Total American Indian Residents In Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	87	17%	76%	120	13%	87%	38%	-26%	14%
Total American Indian Residents On All Reservations In Arizona	3,622	22%	76%	3,914	19%	80%	8%	-13%	5%
Total American Indian Residents Off Reservation In Maricopa County	1,656	29%	70%	1,596	26%	73%	-4%	-11%	4%
Maricopa County	62,232	n/a	41%	57,663	55%	44%	-7%	n/a	7%

Source: Health Status Profile of American Indians in Arizona, 2005 and 2009 Data Books.

Exhibit 47 displays the rate of immunization among young children for various vaccine series. The rate of immunization within the SRPMIC Region decreased between 2005 and 2010, but remained significantly higher than the countywide rates.



Exhibit 47

Immunization Records

	VACCINE COMPLETIONS				
	2005	2009	2010	1-Year Point Difference	5-Year Point Difference
Salt River Pima - Maricopa Indian Community					
3:2:2:2 vaccine series - age 12-24 months	85%	76%	83%	6.4%	-2.6%
4:3:1:3:3:1 vaccine series - age 19-35 months	66%	65%	64%	-0.5%	-1.7%
4:3:1:3:3:1:4 vaccine series - age 19-35 months	55%	60%	43%	-17.1%	-11.7%
Maricopa County					
3:2:2:2 vaccine series - age 12-24 months	68%	65%	66%	1.0%	-2.0%
4:3:1:3:3:1 vaccine series - age 19-35 months	43%	39%	42%	3.0%	-1.0%
4:3:1:3:3:1:4 vaccine series - age 19-35 months	23%	35%	29%	-6.0%	6.0%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 2011.

Incidences of disability among children under five are isolated in both Maricopa County and the state as a whole (less than 1 percent in all cases). Estimates suggest a pronounced decline in these figures between 2008 and 2009, though this may be attributable to the margin of error given the excessively small sample sizes.

Exhibit 48

Children under Five with Disabilities

	CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES					
	2008 ACS		2009 ACS		CHANGE	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	Percent
Maricopa County						
Total Children Under 5 Years	332,316	100.0%	332,348	100.0%	32	0.0%
With a Disability	2,707	0.8%	1,645	0.5%	-1,062	-39.2%
No Disability	329,609	99.2%	330,703	99.5%	1,094	0.3%
Disability Rate/Under 18 Years		3.6%		3.1%		
Arizona						
Total Children Under 5 Years	515,321	100.0%	516,430	100.0%	1,109	0.2%
With a Disability	3,989	0.8%	3,543	0.7%	-446	-11.2%
No Disability	511,332	99.2%	512,887	99.3%	1,555	0.3%
Disability Rate/Under 18 Years		3.6%		3.6%		
United States						
Total Children Under 5	20,907,477	100.0%	21,206,523	100.0%	299,046	1.4%
With a Disability	155,766	0.7%	158,593	0.7%	2,827	1.8%
No Disability	20,751,711	99.3%	21,047,930	99.3%	296,219	1.4%
Disability Rate/Under 18 Years		3.9%		3.9%		

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2008 and 2009 American Community Survey estimates.

Note: School districts represent the most specific, most current regional geographies applicable to the Region for which ACS estimates are available.



The number of children screened for disabilities increased substantially (102%) in Maricopa County from 2007 to 2010, as shown in **Exhibit 49**. The number of these screenings also increased statewide, though to a lesser degree. Regional data were suppressed on this measure due to low counts.

Exhibit 49

Arizona Early Intervention Program Development Services to Children with Disabilities/At Risk for Disabilities

AREA	CHILD COUNTS FOR AZEIP				
	2007	2009	2010	2-Year Trend	4-Year Trend
Maricopa County	1,686	2,953	3,413	16%	102%
Arizona	3,450	5,078	6,280	24%	82%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2011.

Exhibit 50 shows the number of young children in the county and state receiving disability services/support from the Arizona Department of Economic Security. Regional data were suppressed on this measure due to low counts.

Exhibit 50

Division of Developmental Disabilities Service/Support

AREA	COUNT OF CONSUMERS RECEIVING DDD							
	Ages 0-2.0				Ages 3-5.9			
	2007	2009	2010	3-Year Trend	2007	2009	2010	3-Year Trend
Maricopa County	2,023	2,895	3,362	66%	2,046	2,144	2,570	26%
Arizona	4,983	5,203	5,051	1%	3,579	3,773	3,787	6%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2011.

The number of children participating in behavioral health services in SRPMIC varied significantly between 2009 and 2011 due to capacity issues in the Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Division. In July 2009, reduced revenues from the economic recession resulted in a Voluntary Separation Package (VSP), elimination of tribally funded vacant positions, and a continued hiring freeze on tribally funded positions that remained in effect into 2011. BHS initiated a waiting list for the first time for the Adult and Family Services Program in June 2010 that lasted for nearly a year and a half. As staffing levels rose in 2011, the number of children served also increased.

Exhibit 51

Children Under 18 Receiving Services from BHS Division in Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

CHILDREN IN SERVICES WITH THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Number of cases/year	772	147	539

Source: Salt River Pima - Maricopa Indian Community Behavioral Health Services Division, 2012.



The SRPMIC Region is considered an Arizona Medically Underserved Area (AZMUA) based on its Arizona Department of Health Services Primary Care Score, as shown in **Exhibit 52**. Additionally, per the Arizona Department of Health Services, no accredited hospital is located within the SRPMIC Region. Instead, area residents (tribal members) rely on the Salt River Health Center, administered by Indian Health Services (IHS), for outpatient care within the local region. For more severe needs, the Phoenix Indian Medical Center (accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and also administered by IHS) is the provider of choice.

Exhibit 52

Medically Underserved Areas and Health Professional Shortage Areas

PRIMARY CARE AREA	PRIMARY CARE SCORE*	ARIZONA MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREA (AZMUA)	HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA (HPSA)	FEDERAL MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED AREA/POPULATION (MUA/P)	MUA/P SCORE
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	64	Yes	No	No	-

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, (<http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/maricopapcas.htm>).

*Higher Primary Care Scores indicate more severe levels of medical underservice. The primary care score is the sum of the values for a given area in terms of the following components: population to provider ratio; travel time to the nearest primary care facility; percent of the population with income less than 200 percent of poverty level (and 100-200%); percentage of uninsured births; ratio of hospital admissions with ambulatory sensitive condition's per 1,000 population less than age 65; percentage of low birth rates, sum of the percentage of births receiving no prenatal care or prenatal care in the second or third trimester; percentage of births reporting four or less prenatal care visits; premature mortality; infant mortality; percent who are minority; percent who are elderly; and an unemployment rate above the statewide average. The values for the components of the Primary Care Score can be found at: <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/pcuindex.pdf>.

As depicted in **Exhibit 53**, the majority of all tribal respondents (including SRPMIC) to the 2008 Family and Community Survey indicated that their children have regular visits at the same doctor's office (85.3% agree or strongly agree), have regular visits at the same dentist's office (69.4% agree or strongly agree), and that their medical provider knows their family well and helps them make healthy decisions (73.4% agree or strongly agree).

Exhibit 53

Family and Community Survey Responses Regarding Medical Visits and Providers – All Tribal Regions

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure
My child/children age 5 and under have regular visits at the same doctor's office.	75.3%	10.0%	4.8%	9.2%	0.6%
My regular medical provider knows my family	55.1%	18.3%	9.7%	14.3%	2.6%
My child/children age 5 and under have regular visits with the same dental	52.5%	16.9%	8.9%	16.3%	5.4%

Source: 2008 Family & Community Survey data received from First Things First, 2012.



CONCLUSION AND FUTURE DIRECTION

The SRPMIC is a small community with many strengths, but one that also faces many challenges. The Community enjoys significant assets, with culturally relevant and high quality services available for young children and their families. However, local residents also face significant barriers preventing access to services, including lack of awareness, lack of transportation, service hours that don't match families' needs, and program rules that inhibit access. This report identifies many of the factors at play in the region and provides the data needed to support five potential priority areas for future First Things First funding and leadership in the region:

- The first is a focus on strengthening awareness and information about existing programs and services for families with young children. Lack of awareness was frequently cited as a barrier preventing families from getting needed services.
- The second is expansion of facilities and operations for child care and preschool services, including child care for parents who work alternative hours. The long waiting list for ECEC indicates the high need for these services.
- The third is growth of services for grandparents who are raising their grandchildren. “Grandfamilies” are more common in the Community than statewide and parents and stakeholders noted that there are very limited services available for them.
- The fourth is enhancing mentoring and parenting education for new moms who are young, single, and uneducated. These moms and their babies face tremendous challenges throughout their lives together and linking them early with resources, education, and early childhood services can have significant and long lasting benefits.
- The fifth is strengthening public transportation options, especially on weekends and evenings, to improve access to services. Lack of transportation was frequently cited by stakeholders and parents as a major barrier for families.

The consultant team gratefully acknowledges the generous access, assistance, and hospitality extended to us by First Things First, the SRPMIC Regional Council, and various agencies in the SRPMIC region. It has been a pleasure to serve the Community in this engagement.

