
2010 NEEDS & ASSETS REPORT
NORTHWEST MARICOPA REGION
August 27, 2010



FIRST THINGS FIRST

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August 20, 2010

Message from the Chair:

The past two years have been rewarding for the First Things First Northwest Maricopa 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.

The First Things First Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council will continue to advocate and provide opportunities as indicated throughout this report.

Our strategic direction has been guided by the Needs and Assets reports, specifically created for the Northwest Maricopa Region in 2008 and the new 2010 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 Northwest Maricopa Regional Council would like to thank our Needs and Assets vendors, MGT of America, Inc. and Children's Action Alliance for their knowledge, expertise and analysis of the Northwest Maricopa region. The new report will help guide our decisions as we move forward for young children and their families within the Northwest Maricopa region.

Going forward, the First Things First Northwest Maricopa 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,

Jannelle Radoccia, Chair
Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

Introductory Summary and Acknowledgments

First Things First Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

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 is crucial to our ability to foster each child's optimal development and thus, in turn, is fundamental to all aspects of wellbeing of our communities, society and the State of Arizona.

This Needs and Assets Report for the Northwest Maricopa geographic region provides a clear statistical 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 young children and families face are outlined in the executive summary and documented in further detail in the full report.

Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council 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 basic data points that will aid the Council's decisions and funding allocations; while building a true comprehensive statewide early childhood system.

Acknowledgments:

The First Things First Northwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council owes special gratitude to the agencies and key stakeholders who participated in numerous work sessions and community forums throughout the past two years. 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 Northwest Maricopa 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 Arizona Department of Economic Security and the Arizona Child Care Resource and Referral, the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Arizona State Immunization Information System, the Arizona Department of Education and School Districts across the State of Arizona, the Arizona Head Start Association, the Office of Head Start, and Head Start and Early Head Start Programs across the State of Arizona, and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System for their contribution of data for this report.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2010, MGT of America, Inc. (MGT), was awarded a contract by the Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board, also known as First Things First (FTF), to provide a Regional Needs and Assets Report for the Northwest Maricopa Region. MGT teamed with the Children’s Action Alliance for this important engagement. The report synthesizes relevant community data to help inform the FTF Regional Council in decision making.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology used to prepare the Regional Needs and Assets Report is described in this section.

The focus of the report is a collection and meaningful analyses of informative data indicators. The Needs and Assets Report includes an increased emphasis on the Council’s existing “assets,” that is the institutions or organizations within the region that can be strengthened, expanded, and/or partnered with to support early childhood activities.

Primary Data Collection and Analysis

Local regional data have been of the utmost importance to the success of this project. The 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. Telephone interviews.
3. Stakeholder meetings.

Web-based Stakeholder Surveys

The team worked closely with FTF staff, including Regional Coordinators and Managers, to collect contact information from compiled lists of early care and development stakeholders in the region. The team supplemented these stakeholders with information obtained from key organizations, such as medical centers, school principals, food banks, libraries, and WIC centers.

FTF provided MGT with 2,360 email addresses for early care and development stakeholders in Maricopa County. Emails were sent to each contact seeking participation in the survey portion of this study. Respondents were asked to indicate the communities that they serve, and many respondents indicated that they serve communities across multiple regions.

The survey was initiated in April 2010 following revisions based on input from Regional Council Members. The surveys focused on qualitative data from stakeholders about early childhood needs and assets in their local community. Survey respondents were asked to provide information and/or data sources that will contribute further to the reports. Results of the survey are located in **Appendix A** of this report.

Telephone Interviews

The team conducted individual telephone interviews with stakeholders in the region to obtain additional information and perspectives on early childhood needs and assets. In addition to early childhood professionals, the team interviewed parents and neighborhood leaders. Some interviewees provided input in written form if requested.

A summary of the responses is located in **Appendix B** of this report.

Stakeholder Group Interviews

Group meetings were held with community stakeholders. These group interviews involved organizations providing relevant services in the region and other select community members.

These group meetings provided additional relevant information, perceptions, and opinions of services considered assets as well as potential barriers or unmet needs of the community.

A summary of the responses is located in **Appendix B** of this report.

Secondary Data Collection and Analysis

The team worked with FTF and other Arizona and national data sources for indicators in the Regional Needs and Assets Report template provided in the FTF solicitation. The team worked closely with Regional Coordinators and Managers to identify local sources of documented information. Examples of national and regional sources included in this report are as follows:

- Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System.
- Arizona Department of Economic Security.
- Arizona Department of Health Services.
- Arizona Department of Education.
- American Community Survey.

Report Overview

Diversity in the region is strong and growing. The Glendale and Pendergast Elementary School Districts have high rates of young children who are African American and Hispanic compared to Maricopa County. Although the other parts of the region have

lower rates of Hispanic young children compared to Maricopa County, this population has been growing. Thirty-seven percent of young children in Maricopa County have at least one foreign born parent. The rate is higher in the Glendale and Pendergast Elementary School Districts and lower in other parts of the region. Fewer than 3.5 percent of young children in all areas of the region were born in another country. Approximately 10 percent of households in the city of Glendale have no one over the age of fourteen who speaks English well, compared to 7.5 percent in Maricopa County.

The region has some economic strengths. The number of homeless children (birth to age five) in transitional or emergency shelters who have previously lived in the region declined from 67 in 2007 to 62 in 2009, while this population in all First Things First regions grew by 64 percent. The poverty rates for young families in the region are generally below the rate in Maricopa County.

Families in the region face economic challenges. The unemployment rate in the cities of El Mirage, Glendale, and Peoria more than doubled between 2005 and 2010, as it did for Maricopa County. In March 2010, the city of Glendale's unemployment rate was 9 percent, slightly higher than Maricopa County at 8.7 percent. The number of very poor, young children receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (welfare) rose more than twice as fast in the region between 2007 and 2010 than the increase statewide.

The poverty rate for young, white children living in two-parent families in Glendale was 16 percent, significantly higher than the 10 percent rate countywide. The median income for two-parent families with young children in the region is below the median income in Maricopa County, which is \$78,381. The median income for these families ranges from \$58,199 in the city of El Mirage to \$84,751 in the city of Peoria.

The region has notable strengths. In 2010, fourteen percent of the licensed and certified childcare providers in the region were accredited or recognized by a national organization—an increase over the rate in 2008 and higher than many First Things First regions in Maricopa County. The number of school-based clinics in the region rose from eight to 10 between 2002 and 2009, while the number statewide declined. The percentage of children in the region who have no health insurance is below the countywide rate of 15.5 percent. However, access to primary care in much of the region is limited. Although the region's immunization rates are similar to Maricopa County rates, the rates have decreased in recent years.

The Northwest Maricopa Region had 363 foster homes available to care for abused and neglected children in 2009 – the highest number of any First Things First region in Maricopa County. Despite this asset, a shortage of foster homes remained compared to the number needed.

The need for access to high quality, affordable childcare is strong throughout the region. In the Dysart and Pendergast School Districts (similar to Maricopa County), more than two out of three households with children younger than 18 had all parents in the labor force – indicating a large need for childcare. Preschool enrollment in most of the region

is comparable to the rate in Maricopa County, with lower enrollment for families in the Dysart School District and the City of El Mirage.

State budget cuts are weakening the early childhood infrastructure in the region. In 2010, 754 four year old students were enrolled in preschool in the region through the state-funded Early Childhood Block Grant program. Due to budget cuts, that funding is no longer available. The number of children receiving subsidies for childcare dropped by 42 percent between 2009 and 2010, reflecting the state budget cuts that closed the door to any qualified, low-income working families who applied.

The input from the community through the online survey, stakeholder meetings, and telephone interviews all overwhelmingly point to a great demand for quality improvements in childcare and financial assistance for parents needing childcare. Forty-one percent of the respondents to the online survey said that childcare services are not meeting the needs of families in the community, and 80 percent identified cost as the single most important barrier in childcare. More than half of respondents said that childcare subsidies are a service that is missing in the region. The number one priority for First Things First funding indicated by respondents was increased access to quality early childhood and health programs.

The rate of young children living with their grandparents is high in much of the region compared to 9 percent in Maricopa County. Just over half of the respondents said that support for grandparents raising grandchildren is a missing service in the region. Thirty-seven percent of respondents said that social services are not meeting the needs of the community and 65 percent said social services have suffered greatly from budget cuts. Participants in the stakeholder meetings identified a need for better access to mental health services.

The city of Glendale has a very high rate of young children with a disability: 3.5 percent compared to only 0.8 percent of young children in Maricopa County. Thirty percent of the respondents to the online survey said that services for children with special needs were not meeting the needs of the community.

Community members greatly value services for young children in the region, including Head Start, parent coaching Quality First, childcare scholarships, and home visiting services. They identified organizational assets, including libraries, Phoenix Children's Hospital, Glendale Community College, Southwest Human Development, and area food banks.

Twenty-nine percent of the respondents to the online survey identified parent support and education as the number one priority for First Things First funding in the region.

Community members also emphasized a need to improve awareness among parents about early education needs and available services. Both formal reports and stakeholder meetings identified the value of making information available in a more systematic way to both parents and providers.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview of the Northwest Maricopa Region

The Northwest Maricopa Region is composed of metropolitan and rural areas, encompassing approximately 20 percent of Maricopa County. The area includes the large communities of Glendale, Peoria, and Surprise, along with nine smaller communities: Aguila, El Mirage, Morristown, Sun City, Sun City West, Waddell, Wickenburg, Wittmann, and Youngtown. The Northwest Maricopa Region includes the following ZIP codes: 85301, 85303, 85305, 85307, 85308, 85310, 85345, 85381, 85382, 85374, 85379, 85320, 85335, 85342, 85351, 85373, 85355, 85358, 85361, 85363, 85375, 85383, 85387, 85388, and 85390.

The Northwest Maricopa Region is home to over 500,000 culturally-diverse residents, 7 to 10 percent of whom are children ages birth through five years. Although the region does include an assortment of retirement communities, including Sun City and Sun City West, the region is primarily a destination for young, growing families. The majority of the families living in the Northwest Maricopa Region are two-parent, middle to lower income families who commute each weekday to Phoenix for employment.

To meet the leisure and recreational needs of the many families of the Northwest Maricopa Region, the region is home to a variety of diverse family focused attractions and destinations. Local attractions and destinations include: the Wildlife World Zoo, the Challenger Space Center, the West Valley Art Museum, the *Hassayampa River Preserve*, the Lake Pleasant Regional Park, and the White Tank Mountain Regional Park. In addition, the region is home to the Arizona Cardinals, the Phoenix Coyotes, and four Cactus League Spring Training Teams.

To meet the educational needs of the region's residents, the communities are served by 11 school districts: Aguila Elementary, Alhambra Elementary, Deer Valley Unified, Dysart Unified, Glendale Elementary, Glendale Union High School, Morristown Elementary, Nadaburg Unified, Pendergast Elementary, Peoria Unified, and Wickenburg Unified. In addition, the region is home to two Maricopa Community College Campuses, the Rio Salado College Lifelong Learning Center, and the Glendale Community College North Campus.

1.2 Preliminary Analyses

As part of the Needs and Assets data collection, Children's Action Alliance reviewed multiple reports, databases, and environmental scans related to children and families in Maricopa County and in the region. This section presents highlights of relevant information from these reports that is not covered elsewhere.

1.2.1 Assets

As the region's population has grown, there has been great growth in the number of early childcare facilities that accept DES vouchers, thereby supplying services to more of the low-income families of the region. Even with this growth, many parents continue to rely on kith and kin support for childcare. The Kith and Kin Project of the Association for Supportive Childcare is addressing this reality by providing training in topics, such as CPR and early education to home childcare providers. This training allows families to receive higher quality, non center-based childcare when they are on wait lists for certified childcare.

The Head Start Programs in the region are able to link 94.5 percent of participating children with medical insurance. They also provide necessary early prevention screening services through a partnership with the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AZEIP), which help identify learning disabilities at an early age. For the population of migrant and seasonal farm workers near the Surprise/Dysart area, attaining healthcare for their children and themselves is a challenge. Chicanos por la Causa works with migrant families who do not qualify for free medical services at free or reduced-fee clinics.

There are approximately 15 social service centers, offering counseling, family support, and adoption/foster care services available within the region, as well as eight public libraries. There are also six resources that address early childhood professional development, providing further education for childcare providers and preschool teachers. Many communities are working to provide family literacy programs, specifically for English Language Learning (ELL) parents who have children enrolled in either Head Start or local public schools. Family literacy centers work with the entire family to encourage reading to children before bed and promoting dual-language learning so children with Spanish-speaking parents can become proficient in both languages.

1.2.2 Needs

There is a significant number and variety of services available in the Northwest Maricopa Region. However, difficulty arises in providing services for families in the region due to the rural and unincorporated nature of many communities, as well as pressure on existing services from the sheer number of families living at or below the poverty level. It is often difficult for rural families to find information about programs available in their area and to access those services once they are identified. Although Head Start offers many children necessary early education and connects them with health insurance, the wait list for the programs is too long to serve many of the families who need it most.

Low-income families who are not enrolled in Head Start have a difficult time finding quality and affordable childcare and health coverage for their children. Many families with uninsured children must drive 20 to 70 miles to reach a free or reduced-cost health clinic to obtain treatment for their children. Often these clinics are open for only limited hours and are closed certain days of the week.

The AZEIP provides crucial screening tests for all children enrolled in Head Start, as well as through the public school system. However, even when a child is identified as having a disability, there is often a lack of follow-up of care either due to the parents' or the school's inability to provide proper attention to the disability.

Overall, there is a general lack of information available regarding family and children services, and there is no central body that acts as a forum where organizations can publicize their services. Increased communication and resource sharing among agencies, including referrals for families and co-use of facilities, has been proposed in community forums conducted in the region. This would insure that various agencies are providing services that address actual needs in the community. Even with this increase in communication between agencies, there are still not enough services to reach all the families who need them in the region.

References

After the Scan: West Valley Human Services Alliance Summit, Executive Summary, 2006.
Chicanos Por La Causa: Arizona Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Program Comprehensive Community Assessment, 2007-08.
Project LAUNCH: TAPESTRY, Arizona's Local Environmental Scan, May 29, 2009.
Steps Toward Caring Communities, Valley of the Sun United Way, December 2007 Report.
West Valley Community Scan Report, Valley of the Sun United Way.
West Valley Children and Domestic Violence Resource List.

1.3 Methodology

The methodology used to prepare the Regional Needs and Assets Report is described in this section.

The focus of the report is a collection and meaningful analyses of informative data indicators. The Needs and Assets Report includes an emphasis on the Council's existing "assets," that is the institutions or organizations within the region that can be strengthened, expanded, and/or partnered with to support early childhood activities.

1.3.1 Primary Data Collection and Analysis

Local regional data have been of the utmost importance to the success of this project. The 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. Telephone interviews.
3. Stakeholder meetings.

Web-based Stakeholder Surveys

The team coordinated with First Things First staff and Regional Coordinators and Managers to develop the survey instruments and to collect survey respondent contact information. A master list of potential respondents was created that consisted of early care and development stakeholders in each region. A draft survey was presented for approval to two focus groups on March 25 and 26, 2010 during meetings that were accessible through teleconferencing and “Live Meeting” format. Input was synthesized and incorporated into the survey design and the final version was converted into a web-based application in late March and early April.

FTF provided MGT with 2,360 email addresses for early care and development stakeholders in Maricopa County. Emails were sent to each contact seeking participation in the survey portion of this study. Respondents were asked to indicate the communities that they serve, and many indicated that they serve communities across multiple regions.

Pilot testing began in early April and the online survey was provided to all respondents on April 22, 2010. Some key features of the survey include the ability for respondents to: provide information about multiple communities, edit responses as needed up until the final closing deadline, and review their survey completion status using a “completion matrix.” The survey period was extended for an additional week following a request for extension. The survey period ended on May 25, 2010. Eighty-five (85) respondents provided survey input about the Northwest Maricopa Region. Survey responses can be found in **Appendix A**.

Telephone Interviews

The team conducted individual telephone interviews with stakeholders in the region to obtain additional information and perspectives on early childhood needs and assets. In addition to early childhood professionals, the team interviewed parents and neighborhood leaders. Some interviewees provided input in written form if requested.

A summary of the responses is located in **Appendix B** of this report.

Stakeholder Group Interviews

Group meetings were held with community stakeholders. These group interviews involved organizations providing relevant services in the region and other select community members.

These group meetings provided additional relevant information, perceptions, and opinions of services considered assets as well as potential barriers or unmet needs of the community.

A summary of the responses is located in **Appendix B** of this report.

1.3.2 Secondary Data Collection and Analysis

The team worked with FTF and other Arizona and national data sources for indicators in the Regional Needs and Assets Report template provided in the FTF solicitation. The team worked closely with Regional Coordinators and Managers to identify local sources of documented information. Examples of national sources included in this report are as follows:

- Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System.
- Arizona Department of Economic Security.
- Arizona Department of Health Services.
- Arizona Department of Education.
- American Community Survey.

Many of the analyses included in the successive chapters of this report rely on American Community Survey (ACS) data published by the U.S. Census Bureau. The information presented for each topic area reflects the most current and geographically comprehensive data available through this source. More specifically, three particular databases were used to generate the tables: 1) three-year average estimates covering the 2006-08 period, 2) single-year estimates for the year 2008, and, 3) single year estimates for the year 2005 (used as a historic reference point to calculate change). Items noted as “Most Recent Estimates” reflect either the three-year average estimate for the demographic statistic over the 2006-08 period or, if unavailable, the single-year estimate for the year 2008. Alternately, items denoted as "3-Year Trend" indicate the percentage change in the demographic component between the single-year estimates for the years 2005 and 2008.

As noted, data from ACS are presented for the most specific geographies available for each data element. ACS will not publish results when population totals are insufficient (too small) to allow for reliable estimation; therefore, localities depicted for respective analyses will vary from exhibit to exhibit.

In addition to national-, state-, and county-level data, geographies available through the ACS at the sub-FTF regional level include cities and towns and school districts. Note that the data shown for school districts does not refer to the students enrolled in school there, it covers all residents living within the geographic boundaries of the school districts. Because the boundaries of the cities and school districts do not match the First Things First regional boundaries, the exhibits include several geographies to best reflect the characteristics of the region. Some of these geographies overlap and some include residents outside the region.

2.0 THE FAMILIES AND CHILDREN LIVING IN THE NORTHWEST MARICOPA REGION

This chapter presents data and analyses regarding families and children in the Northwest Maricopa Region.

2.1 General Population Trends

Exhibit 2-1 presents an analysis of the population of children age five and under. As shown:

- The young child population has grown significantly in much of the region in recent years, with the exception of the Glendale School District.
- The percentage of young children in the overall population ranges from less than 1 percent in Sun City, to 7 percent in the Peoria School District, to 11 percent in the Dysart School District, and to 14 percent in the city of El Mirage.

**EXHIBIT 2-1
PERCENTAGE, NUMBER, AND CHANGE IN POPULATION
AGE 0 TO 5 YEARS**

AREA	POPULATION AGE 5 AND UNDER		
	Most Recent Data	Percent of Total Population (All Ages)	3-Year Trend
Dysart Unified District	17,662	11.0%	58.3%
Peoria Unified School District	15,018	7.4%	18.0%
Glendale Elementary District	10,529	10.2%	-18.4%
Pendergast Elementary District	6,869	9.8%	*
El Mirage City	4,952	14.0%	*
Glendale City	21,011	8.9%	-4.9%
Peoria City	11,576	7.6%	19.7%
Sun City Census Designated Place	293	0.7%	*
Surprise City	11,549	10.3%	13.1%
Maricopa County	324,159	8.4%	11.3%
Arizona	500,031	7.9%	12.1%
United States	20,672,826	6.9%	3.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

Exhibit 2-2 presents data relevant to the diversity of the population for children age 3 five and under. As shown:

- Rapid growth in Hispanic, young child populations occurred in the Dysart Unified District and the cities of Glendale, Peoria, and Surprise.

- The percentage of young children in the region who are Hispanic ranges from 30 percent in the city of Surprise to 72 percent in the Glendale Elementary School District.
- The Glendale and Pendergast School Districts have much higher percentages of young children who are African American than Maricopa County.

**EXHIBIT 2-2
RACE AND ETHNICITY OF CHILDREN AGE FIVE AND UNDER**

AREA	PERCENT AGE FIVE AND UNDER (MOST RECENT DATA)					PERCENT CHANGE (3-YEAR TREND)			
	Race				Ethnicity	Race			Ethnicity
	White	African American	Native American	Other -OR- Unable to Estimate	Hispanic or Latino (Any Race)	White	African American	Native American	Hispanic or Latino (Any Race)
Dysart Unified District	66.7%	3.6%	*	29.8%	35.8%	41.5%	*	*	132.7%
Peoria Unified District	79.3%	3.2%	*	17.6%	32.3%	24.4%	*	*	7.4%
Glendale Elementary District	65.4%	10.8%	*	23.8%	72.3%	-19.3%	*	*	8.8%
Pendergast Elementary District	70.7%	9.4%	*	20.0%	67.5%	*	*	*	*
El Mirage City	55.3%	*	*	44.7%	45.7%	*	*	*	*
Glendale City	73.7%	6.1%	*	20.2%	55.0%	12.7%	*	*	26.3%
Peoria City	78.8%	4.1%	*	17.1%	35.8%	18.3%	*	*	32.1%
Surprise City	72.8%	2.5%	*	24.7%	30.4%	-8.9%	*	*	101.4%
Maricopa County	73.4%	4.9%	2.4%	19.3%	47.2%	20.9%	61.3%	-12.4%	19.4%
Arizona	69.3%	4.2%	5.5%	21.1%	45.7%	20.8%	59.8%	-13.6%	19.4%
United States	66.9%	13.6%	0.9%	18.6%	24.6%	4.9%	-3.8%	6.5%	16.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates that the sample size was too small to estimate specific demographic components.

Exhibit 2-3 presents data relevant to children with potential cultural and linguistic challenges. As shown:

- The percentage of children under six who were born outside the U.S. in the majority of the localities in the region is similar to rates in Maricopa County (2.8%) and Arizona (2.2%). Dysart Unified District had a much lower rate at 0.9 percent.

**EXHIBIT 2-3
CHILDREN UNDER SIX WHO ARE FOREIGN BORN**

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6
	Most Recent Data
Dysart Unified District	0.9%
Peoria Unified School District	3.2%
Glendale Elementary District	3.0%
Pendergast Elementary District	2.3%
El Mirage City	1.4%
Glendale City	2.5%
Peoria City	3.3%
Maricopa County	2.8%
Arizona	2.2%
United States	1.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Exhibit 2-4 also presents data relevant to children with potential cultural and linguistic challenges. As shown:

- The percentage of children under six with at least one foreign born parent in the Pendergast and Glendale Elementary Districts (49% and 54.9%, respectively) was higher than those of Maricopa County (37.6%) and Arizona (32.7%).
- The rates for the remaining localities in the region are similar to or lower than the countywide rate.

**EXHIBIT 2-4
CHILDREN UNDER SIX WITH AT LEAST ONE FOREIGN BORN PARENT**

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 6
	Most Recent Data
Dysart Unified District	26.8%
Peoria Unified School District	22.7%
Glendale Elementary District	53.9%
Pendergast Elementary District	49.0%
El Mirage City	35.3%
Glendale City	40.4%
Peoria City	24.2%
Surprise City	22.6%
Maricopa County	36.6%
Arizona	31.7%
United States	24.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

2.2 Additional Population Characteristics

Exhibit 2-5 presents data on the age and ethnicity of mothers giving birth in Maricopa County and Arizona. As shown:

- The proportion of births in Maricopa County to teen mothers stayed the same between 2005 and 2008 (11.6%).
- The proportion of births to teens was much higher for non-White mothers than for White non-Hispanic mothers.

**EXHIBIT 2-5
BIRTHS BY AGE AND ETHNICITY**

AREA		2005						2008					
		Total	Mother's Age Group					Total	Mother's Age Group				
			<15	15-17	18-19	20+	Unknown		<15	15-17	18-19	20+	Unknown
Maricopa County	Total	62,232	0.2%	4.1%	7.3%	88.4%	0.0%	62,667	0.15%	4.1%	7.3%	88.5%	0.0%
	White Non-Hispanic	26130	0.0%	1.5%	4.2%	94.2%	0.0%	26,201	0.02%	1.6%	4.5%	93.8%	0.0%
	Hispanic or Latino	28318	0.4%	6.5%	9.9%	83.2%	0.0%	28,319	0.26%	6.5%	9.8%	83.4%	0.0%
	Black or African American	2697	0.1%	5.9%	10.1%	83.8%	0.0%	3,272	0.28%	4.8%	10.1%	84.8%	0.0%
	American Indian or Alaska Native	1,817	0.4%	6.3%	11.8%	81.5%	0.0%	1,940	0.21%	5.4%	10.2%	84.3%	0.0%
	Asian or Pacific Islander	2133	0.0%	1.0%	1.9%	97.0%	0.0%	2,605	0.04%	0.5%	2.2%	97.2%	0.0%
	Other/Unknown	1137	0.0%	3.0%	7.1%	89.9%	0.0%	330	0.00%	3.9%	4.2%	91.2%	0.6%
Arizona	Total	95,798	0.2%	4.4%	7.9%	87.5%	0.0%	99,215	0.16%	4.2%	7.9%	87.7%	0.0%
	White Non-Hispanic	39,657	0.0%	1.8%	5.1%	93.1%	0.0%	41,925	0.04%	1.8%	5.3%	92.9%	0.0%
	Hispanic or Latino	42,156	0.3%	6.5%	10.3%	82.9%	0.0%	42,639	0.26%	6.4%	10.2%	83.2%	0.0%
	Black or African American	3,450	0.2%	5.8%	10.5%	83.5%	0.0%	4,301	0.28%	4.7%	10.3%	84.7%	0.0%
	American Indian or Alaska Native	6,293	0.3%	7.6%	11.2%	80.9%	0.0%	6,362	0.35%	6.4%	11.9%	81.4%	0.0%
	Asian or Pacific Islander	2,805	0.0%	1.0%	2.4%	96.6%	0.0%	3,425	0.03%	0.8%	2.5%	96.7%	0.0%
	Other/Unknown	1,437	0.1%	2.9%	6.2%	90.8%	0.0%	563	0.00%	3.7%	4.4%	91.5%	0.4%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services.

Exhibit 2-6 presents data relevant to the diversity of the population being served. As shown:

- Young children living in the Dysart School District, Peoria, and Surprise are more likely to live in two-parent families than children countywide.
- The percentage of young children living with single mothers has been decreasing in much of the region.

**EXHIBIT 2-6
TYPES OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER FIVE BY RACE AND ETHNICITY**

AREA	PERCENT OF FAMILIES W/ CHILDREN UNDER 5 (MOST RECENT DATA)						PERCENT CHANGE IN TYPES OF FAMILIES (3-YEAR TREND)					
	All Races & Ethnicities			Hispanic or Latino (Any Race)			All Races & Ethnicities			Hispanic or Latino (Any Race)		
	Two-Parent	Single Parent (Male)	Single Parent (Female)	Two-Parent	Single Parent (Male)	Single Parent (Female)	Two-Parent	Single Parent (Male)	Single Parent (Female)	Two-Parent	Single Parent (Male)	Single Parent (Female)
Dysart Unified District	77.5%	6.9%	15.6%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Peoria Unified School District	*	*	*	*	*	*	15.2%	*	-45.1%	*	*	*
Glendale Elementary District	55.3%	10.9%	33.8%	*	*	*	*	*	-18.0%	*	*	*
Pendergast Elementary District	60.2%	17.9%	22.0%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Glendale City	61.4%	8.0%	30.6%	*	*	*	-28.9%	*	-12.0%	*	*	*
Peoria City	81.5%	8.4%	10.1%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Surprise City	80.5%	6.9%	12.6%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Maricopa County	71.3%	8.5%	20.3%	66.5%	10.8%	22.7%	-10.0%	4.6%	-2.6%	-9.2%	-6.3%	17.2%
Arizona	68.4%	9.0%	22.6%	63.9%	10.4%	25.7%	-8.4%	2.8%	2.0%	-12.1%	-4.5%	17.2%
United States	69.6%	7.5%	22.9%	65.3%	11.1%	23.7%	-0.8%	4.1%	2.7%	3.7%	4.1%	6.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates that the sample size was too small to estimate specific demographic components.

Exhibit 2-7 presents data relevant to children being raised by their grandparents. These families often have challenges due to the health and financial needs of grandparents and the circumstances that led to the children living with them. As shown:

- The rates of young children living with their grandparents are high in most of the region, compared to 9 percent observed countywide. The exceptions are Surprise and the Dysart Unified District, which have lower rates of young children living with their grandparents.

EXHIBIT 2-7
CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SIX LIVING WITH GRANDPARENTS

AREA	PERCENT OF TOTAL CHILDREN UNDER 6
	Most Recent Data
Dysart Unified District	8.5%
Peoria Unified School District	13.3%
Glendale Elementary District	9.7%
Pendergast Elementary District	10.5%
El Mirage City	11.7%
Glendale City	9.4%
Peoria City	14.0%
Surprise City	7.9%
Maricopa County	9.0%
Arizona	11.2%
United States	9.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Exhibit 2-8 presents data on the educational level of mothers who gave birth in the past 12 months. As shown:

- A high percentage of women giving birth in the region have some college education or a bachelor's degree.
- Nearly two out of three babies born in the city of Glendale had mothers who had a high school education or less, compared to just over half the babies born countywide.

EXHIBIT 2-8
EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF WOMEN WHO GAVE BIRTH IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

AREA	EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT RATES OF WOMEN WHO GAVE BIRTH IN LAST 12 MONTHS									
	Less than High School		High School or Equivalent		Some College or AA Degree		Bachelor's Degree		Graduate/ Professional Degree	
	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend
Dysart Unified District	26.8%	*	14.3%	*	43.4%	-2.7%	*	*	5.1%	*
Peoria Unified School District	14.3%	*	30.4%	-7.2%	36.8%	*	16.5%	*	*	*
Glendale Elementary District	43.9%	15.1%	31.7%	-40.0%	19.9%	40.3%	*	*	*	*
Pendergast Elementary District	26.1%	*	42.4%	*	17.1%	*	11.5%	*	*	*
El Mirage City	36.7%	*	26.6%	*	28.1%	*	*	*	*	*
Glendale City	35.9%	97.5%	28.0%	-28.2%	24.7%	-12.2%	8.0%	*	3.4%	*
Peoria City	12.8%	*	30.6%	-10.0%	36.1%	*	16.7%	*	*	*
Surprise City	21.7%	*	6.2%	*	52.6%	30.5%	*	*	*	*
Maricopa County	27.5%	13.3%	24.2%	-23.8%	26.7%	1.4%	14.7%	17.2%	6.8%	11.6%
Arizona	25.3%	-1.6%	26.1%	-20.9%	30.0%	13.8%	12.4%	15.1%	6.3%	15.4%
United States	17.8%	-7.6%	25.9%	-8.3%	29.2%	11.5%	18.2%	-2.1%	9.0%	9.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

Exhibit 2-9 presents the percent of households in which all parents are in the labor force. As shown:

- More than two out of three families with children in the region and Maricopa County had all parents in the labor force, indicating a high need for childcare.

**EXHIBIT 2-9
PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN IN WHICH ALL
PARENTS ARE IN THE LABOR FORCE
2006-08**

AREA	PERCENT OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18**	
	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend
Dysart Unified District	69.8%	*
Pendergast Elementary District	69.1%	*
Surprise City	72.2%	*
Maricopa County, Arizona	66.9%	5.3%
Arizona	67.2%	7.9%
United States	71.0%	6.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

** Represents all households with all parents employed or seeking employment as a proportion of total households with children under the age of 18.

Single mothers who work or are seeking employment are shown in **Exhibit 2-10**:

- In Maricopa County, 55 percent of single mothers were in the workforce or looking for work.
- Rates in the region varied from 48 percent in the Glendale Elementary District to 63 percent in the Dysart Unified District.

EXHIBIT 2-10
SINGLE MOTHERS IN THE WORKFORCE

AREA	PERCENT OF SINGLE MOTHERS IN THE WORKFORCE**
	Most Recent Data
Dysart Unified District	63.2%
Peoria Unified School District	58.8%
Glendale Elementary District	48.0%
Pendergast Elementary District	57.0%
Glendale City	54.1%
Peoria City	58.0%
Surprise City	60.7%
Maricopa County	55.0%
Arizona	56.0%
United States	60.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

** Single mothers (age 20-64) of children under the age of six that are employed or seeking employment as a proportion of total single mothers (age 20-64) of children under the age of six.

As defined by the Census Bureau, a linguistically isolated household is one in which no member 14 years old and over (1) speaks only English, or (2) speaks a non-English language and speaks English "very well." In other words, all members 14 years old and over have at least some difficulty with English. As shown in **Exhibit 2-11**:

- Glendale has high rates of linguistically isolated households compared to Maricopa County; the rest of the region has lower rates.

**EXHIBIT 2-11
LINGUISTIC ISOLATION OF HOUSEHOLDS**

AREA	PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS LINGUISTICALLY ISOLATED	
	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend
Dysart Unified District	4.0%	*
Peoria Unified School District	3.5%	0.2%
Glendale Elementary District	18.8%	*
Glendale City	10.1%	0.6%
Peoria City	3.3%	*
Maricopa County	7.5%	-0.4%
Arizona	6.7%	-0.2%
United States	4.8%	0.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

Note: Data presented in this exhibit are based on available figures for total households, not only households with children.

2.3 Economic Circumstances

Children in families with unemployed parents may face additional stresses. As shown in Exhibit 2-12:

- From January-June 2007 to January-June 2009, the number of unemployment insurance claimants in Maricopa County and the Northwest Maricopa Region more than tripled.

**EXHIBIT 2-12
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS CLAIMING UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**

AREA	JANUARY-JUNE 2007	JANUARY-JUNE 2009	PERCENT CHANGE
Northwest Maricopa	6,139	19,360	215.4%
Maricopa County	40,890	130,251	218.5%
Arizona	87,083	231,628	166.0%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2007, 2009). DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010 from Database (Unpublished Data).

- Unemployment rates in Northwest Maricopa more than doubled between 2005 and 2010, as they did for Maricopa County.
- In March 2010, much of the region had an unemployment rate higher than the Maricopa County rate of 8.7 percent.

**EXHIBIT 2-13
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

AREA	TOTAL EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS MARCH 2010	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MARCH 2005	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MARCH 2010	UNEMPLOYMENT PERCENT CHANGE
El Mirage	10,962	6.4%	13.1%	104.7%
Glendale	132,418	4.3%	9.0%	109.3%
Peoria	63,723	2.9%	6.3%	117.2%
Sun City	6,882	4.9%	10.2%	108.2%
Sun City West	2,845	5.1%	10.6%	107.8%
Surprise	31,035	5.2%	10.8%	107.7%
Wickenburg	2,512	1.8%	4.0%	122.2%
Youngtown	1,077	7.1%	14.5%	104.2%
Maricopa County	1,822,752	4.1%	8.7%	112.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Exhibit 2-14 presents data on the number of children (birth to five) who are homeless and living in transitional or emergency shelters. The exhibit shows the number of homeless children whose last permanent address was in the Northwest Maricopa Region. As shown:

- The number of children living in homeless shelters in the Northwest Maricopa Region declined by 7.5 percent between 2007 and 2009.
- This trend is contrary to what was observed elsewhere in Maricopa County; the sum of all nine FTF Regions in the county experienced a 64 percent increase over the same period.

**EXHIBIT 2-14
HOMELESS CHILDREN LIVING IN SHELTERS**

AREA	HOMELESS CHILDREN AGE 0 TO 5		
	2007	2009	Percent Change
Northwest Maricopa	67	62	-7.5%
Sum of FTF Maricopa Regions**	724	1,188	64.1%

Source: Maricopa Homeless Management Information System.

**Includes all data reported for ZIP codes encompassed by Central Phoenix, South Phoenix, North Phoenix, Central Maricopa, Northeast Maricopa, Northwest Maricopa, Southeast Maricopa, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community and Southwest Maricopa FTF regions.

Exhibit 2-15 indicates the median income of families with children under 18 in the area. As shown:

- Besides Peoria, the median income for two-parent families with young children in the region is below the median income in Maricopa County of \$78,381.
- Median income for married couples in the region range from \$55,724 in the Glendale Elementary District to \$84,751 in the city of Peoria.

EXHIBIT 2-15
MEDIAN INCOME OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 BY FAMILY TYPE

AREA	MEDIAN PERSONAL INCOME, FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18					
	Married Couples		Single Parent, Male		Single Parent, Female	
	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend
Dysart Unified District	\$71,183	3.5%	\$41,045	-11.5%	\$36,747	6.7%
Peoria Unified School District	\$80,703	8.9%	\$56,923	15.4%	\$41,415	56.1%
Glendale Elementary District	\$55,724	13.2%	\$39,416	32.3%	\$22,446	25.4%
Pendergast Elementary District	\$66,750	*	\$37,120	*	\$45,344	*
El Mirage City	\$58,199	*	\$27,110	*	\$32,031	*
Glendale City	\$72,371	16.1%	\$40,278	5.1%	\$27,316	22.8%
Peoria City	\$84,751	3.9%	\$61,221	18.3%	\$39,607	32.1%
Sun City Census Designated Place	\$80,538	*	*	*	*	*
Surprise City	\$77,122	16.2%	\$54,679	14.0%	\$40,756	-1.1%
Maricopa County	\$78,381	12.4%	\$42,272	12.0%	\$31,333	25.2%
Arizona	\$73,039	13.3%	\$39,197	11.3%	\$27,091	11.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

Federal poverty guidelines vary by size of family and are adjusted each year for inflation. As issued by the Department of Health and Human Services for 2009, the threshold for a single person is \$10,830 per year, and increases by \$3,740 with each individual family member. Families are considered to be living in poverty if their income is below \$14,570 for a family of two; \$18,310 for a family of three; and \$22,050 for a family of four.

Exhibit 2-16 shows poverty rates for families with young children. As shown:

- Families with young children in the city of Glendale and Glendale Elementary District have higher rates of poverty than the county and statewide averages, particularly among two-parent households.
- Poverty rates for two-parent families in the rest of the region are below the 11 percent countywide rate.

**EXHIBIT 2-16
POVERTY STATUS OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER FIVE AND UNDER**

AREA	PERCENT OF TWO PARENT HOUSEHOLDS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL (MOST RECENT DATA)						PERCENT OF SINGLE PARENT HOUSEHOLDS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL (MOST RECENT DATA)					
	Race of Householder			Ethnicity	All Races/Ethnicities		Race of Householder			Ethnicity	All Races/Ethnicities	
	White	African American	Native American	Hispanic or Latino (Any Race)	Total, Two Parents	Percent Change 3-Year Trend	White	African American	Native American	Hispanic or Latino (Any Race)	Total, One Parent	Percent Change 3-Year Trend
Dysart Unified District	4.1%	*	*	10.7%	6.0%	*	*	*	*	*	36.9%	*
Peoria Unified School District	7.2%	*	*	*	8.0%	35.0%	*	*	*	*	*	*
Glendale Elementary District	23.5%	*	*	30.1%	22.9%	*	*	*	*	*	46.6%	*
Pendergast Elementary District	5.7%	*	*	*	6.2%	*	*	*	*	26.9%	26.1%	*
El Mirage City	*	*	*	*	9.2%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Glendale City	16.2%	*	*	27.5%	16.3%	-29.3%	*	*	*	*	46.2%	*
Peoria City	6.0%	*	*	*	7.2%	*	20.0%	*	*	*	20.3%	*
Surprise City	3.9%	*	*	*	5.6%	*	*	*	*	*	35.7%	*
Maricopa County	10.3%	7.0%	16.5%	21.3%	10.9%	-0.9%	37.5%	45.6%	38.1%	43.4%	37.4%	-4.5%
Arizona	10.1%	6.0%	24.0%	20.7%	11.2%	-11.5%	40.4%	44.5%	48.6%	47.6%	41.6%	-2.4%
United States	7.4%	10.9%	18.8%	19.4%	8.7%	-3.4%	39.8%	50.6%	50.4%	45.7%	43.4%	-3.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates that the sample size was too small to estimate specific demographic components.

Section Summary

There is significant and growing diversity in the region that calls for strategies and grantees with cultural competence. The region has high rates of young children living with their grandparents, indicating that the region could benefit from family support strategies that focus on grandparents, such as the Healthy Steps for Young Children program. The region has a mix of economic strengths and weaknesses. The March 2010 unemployment rate was high in most of the region compared to the countywide rate, and median incomes in most of the region are below the median in Maricopa County. Alternately, poverty rates for families with young children are quite low in most of the region, and many babies are born to mothers with some college education. While the city of Glendale has a lower unemployment rate than much of the region, it also has much higher poverty rates for families with young children and very low median incomes.

2.4 Educational Indicators

Exhibit 2-17 shows the academic achievement among schools in the region. As shown:

- The distribution of AZ Learns ratings for schools in the region closely match the distribution statewide.
- About 29 percent of schools in the region were labeled as “Performing” or “Underperforming” in 2008-09 compared to 25.9 percent statewide.

**EXHIBIT 2-17
AZ LEARNS PROFILE**

AREA	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SCHOOLS BY AIMS RATING 2008-09					
	Excelling	Highly Performing	Performing Plus	Performing	Underperforming	Failing to meet Academic Standards
Northwest Maricopa	19.4%	16.7%	34.7%	20.8%	6.9%	1.4%
Arizona	22.0%	14.2%	37.9%	22.8%	1.9%	1.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Education, 2010. AZ's Instrument to Measure Standard (AIMS) Results. Retrieved March 31, 2010, from Arizona Department of Education. <http://www.ade.state.az.us/researchpolicy/AIMSResults/>.

Charter schools are not included in the analysis.

AZ LEARNS is the Arizona Department of Education's school accountability system. Each school is labeled based on students AIMS test scores, state baseline goals, and yearly progress.

3.0 THE EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM IN THE NORTHWEST MARICOPA REGION

3.1 Early Care and Education

Exhibit 3-1 shows data related to childcare providers included in the Child Care Resource and Referral program in the region. As shown:

- From 2008 to 2010, the number of providers increased by 10 percent and the total capacity grew by 67 percent.

**EXHIBIT 3-1
CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL SUMMARY STATISTICS**

NORTHWEST MARICOPA	2008	2010	PERCENT CHANGE
Number of Providers	289	317	9.7%
Total Capacity	13051	21751	66.7%
Capacity per Provider	45.16	68.62	51.94%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2007, 2009. DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010, from Database (Unpublished Data).

Exhibit 3-2 presents the availability of state regulated childcare providers in the region. The Department of Health Services (DHS) licenses and inspects childcare centers, and also certifies home-based childcare businesses with five to ten children, called “childcare group homes.” The Department of Economic Security (DES) certifies and monitors home-based childcare businesses with four or fewer children that participate in the childcare subsidy program. There are many home-based childcare providers that are not certified by DES or DHS and are not included here. As shown:

- The number of homes certified by DES declined dramatically between 2008 and 2010.
- The number of licensed childcare centers rose slightly.

**EXHIBIT 3-2
NUMBER OF LICENSED/CERTIFIED CENTERS/HOMES**

AREA	DHS LICENSED CENTERS	DES CERTIFIED HOMES	GROUP HOMES	TOTAL
Northwest Maricopa 2008	170	131	22	323
Northwest Maricopa 2010	181	20	19	220
2008-10 Change	11	-111	-3	-103

Source: Child Care Resource and Referral, May 2010.

Many schools participate in the Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG) Program to assist families in need. State funding for the ECBG preschool was eliminated in January 2010. Therefore, no more preschool students can enroll through this funding source. As shown in **Exhibit 3-3**:

- Overall ECBG enrollments for the Northwest Maricopa Region have declined from 2005 to 2010. In 2010, four school districts in the region relied on ECBG funds for preschool classrooms.

**EXHIBIT 3-3
EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL
ENROLLMENTS**

AREA	ECBG ENROLLMENT LEVELS				PERCENT CHANGE
	2005		2010		2005-10
	Number Enrolled in Preschool	Percent of Total Enrollment	Number Enrolled in Preschool	Percent of Total Enrollment	
Aguila Schools	50	63.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Dysart Unified District	125	34.2%	75	11.5%	-40.0%
Glendale Elementary District	337	70.4%	380	95.0%	12.8%
Pendergast Elementary District	60	100.0%	60	24.0%	0.0%
Peoria Unified School District	298	51.9%	239	23.7%	-19.8%
SUM, Regional Districts	870	55.9%	754	32.6%	-13.3%

Source: Arizona Department of Education: Student Services, 2008, 2010. Early Childhood Block Grant Reports: ECBG Enrollment Report data pulled on April 2, 2010 (Unpublished Report).

N/A indicates that the data were not available.

Exhibit 3-4 presents data related to the number of children that benefit from being enrolled in nursery school, preschool, or kindergarten. As shown:

- Dysart Unified District and the cities of El Mirage and Surprise have lower enrollment rates than the county or statewide averages. The remainder of the region had rates similar to Maricopa County.

EXHIBIT 3-4
NUMBER OF CHILDREN (AGES THREE TO SIX) AND OVER ENROLLED IN
NURSERY/PRESCHOOL OR KINDERGARTEN PER 1,000 CHILDREN

AREA	ENROLLMENTS PER 1,000 CHILDREN**
	Most Recent Data
Dysart Unified District	222
Peoria Unified School District	309
Glendale Elementary District	317
Pendergast Elementary District	316
El Mirage City	161
Glendale City	308
Peoria City	337
Surprise City	256
Maricopa County	308
Arizona	314
United States	383

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

** Total enrollments by children age three to six in nursery, preschool, or kindergarten per 1,000 children.

Exhibit 3-5 presents data related to the percentage of children enrolled in preschool or kindergarten who live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level. Federal poverty guidelines vary by the size of the family and are adjusted each year for inflation. As issued by the Department of Health and Human Services for 2009, families are considered to be living in poverty if their income is below \$14,570 for a family of two; \$18,310 for a family of three; and \$22,050 for a family of four. As shown:

- More than one out of four children enrolled in preschool in the Glendale Elementary District lives in a poor family.

EXHIBIT 3-5
PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN (AGES THREE AND OVER) ENROLLED IN
PRESCHOOL/NURSERY SCHOOL OR KINDERGARTEN WHO FALL BELOW
THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL (FPL)

AREA	PERCENT ENROLLED BELOW FPL	PERCENT CHANGE
	Most Recent Data	3-Year Trend
Dysart Unified District	8.1 %	412.9 %
Peoria Unified School District	9.1 %	-25.2 %
Glendale Elementary District	28.8 %	28.7 %
Pendergast Elementary District	19.2 %	*
El Mirage City	11.2 %	*
Glendale City	19.8 %	3.7 %
Peoria City	8.9 %	0.4 %
Surprise City	7.6 %	277.9 %
Maricopa County	16.9 %	14.6 %
Arizona	19.1 %	-0.5 %
United States	17.6 %	-2.2 %

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* Indicates that the sample size was too small to estimate specific demographic components.

Exhibit 3-6 provides information about childcare providers in the region who have earned accreditation or recognition from a national organization, indicating that they meet specified quality standards. As shown:

- The National Association of Child Care Professionals (NAC) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) had the largest share of accredited/recognized area providers with eleven each.
- Fourteen percent of regulated providers in the region have a national recognition—a substantial increase since 2008 and a higher rate compared to most other regions in Maricopa County.

**EXHIBIT 3-6
RECOGNIZED AREA PROVIDERS**

ACCREDITATION/ RECOGNITION	NUMBER OF ACCREDITED/RECOGNIZED AREA PROVIDERS								ACCREDITED PROVIDERS PER APPROVED PROVIDER**
	AMI	AMS	ACSI	NAC	NAEYC	NECPA	NAFCC	TOTAL	
2008	1	0	0	8	16	1	0	26	0.08
2010	1	0	6	11	11	2	0	31	0.14
2008-10 Change	0	0	6	3	-5	1	0	5	-

Source: Association Montessori Internationale (AMI), American Montessori Society (AMS), Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI), National Association of Child Care Professionals (NAC), National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA) National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), 2010.

** Number of licensed centers per **Exhibit 3-2**.

Exhibit 3-7 provides data related to the number of children and pregnant women that benefit from being enrolled in Head Start. As shown:

- In the Northwest Maricopa Region, 1,351 children and 14 pregnant women were enrolled in the Head Start Program.

**EXHIBIT 3-7
HEAD START NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN SERVED**

AREA	NAME	TYPE	NUMBER OF CHILDREN	PREGNANT WOMEN	TOTAL ENROLLMENT
Northwest Maricopa	Catholic Charities Community Services - Westside Head Start	Head Start	1,237	0	1237
	Catholic Charities Community Services - Westside Head Start	Early Head Start	114	14	128

Source: Head Start Program Information Report, 2007-08. Profile Report-Individual Program Level (Unpublished Data).

In spring 2010, MGT administered a web-based stakeholder survey completed by early care and development stakeholders in Northwest Maricopa. The survey was designed to identify the extent to which community needs are being met, impacts of budget cuts on service provision, services that may be lacking, and barriers to services. Survey topics included childcare, education, literacy development, special needs, health services, and social services. **Appendix A** provides survey response rates for each survey item within each section of the survey. Group meetings and personal interviews were also conducted throughout the Northwest Maricopa Region which provided supplemental data to further

explore the topic areas. Summaries of the group meetings and personal interviews as well as the meeting and interview questionnaires can be found in **Appendix B**. A summary of key survey findings and group meetings and interview findings directly related to early care and education are presented in this section of the report.

Respondents rated (on a scale from Excellent to Very Poor) the extent to which services met the needs of children (birth through age five) and their families within their community for four areas specifically related to early care and education. **Exhibit 3-8** shows the percentage of responses within the region indicating that needs were well met (provided a rating of Good to Excellent) and the percent reporting that needs were not well met (provided a rating of Poor or Very Poor). Approximately 44 percent to 66 percent of respondents felt the services within educational related service areas did a good job of meeting the needs of children and families. Needs were least met in the area of childcare services. Interview participants also indicated that affordable and quality childcare were lacking.

**EXHIBIT 3-8
MEETING EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION NEEDS**

SERVICE AREAS	GOOD TO EXCELLENT	POOR OR VERY POOR
Childcare	45.3%	40.7%
Educational Services	62.8%	14.2%
Child/Family Literacy Development	66.1%	7.4%
Special Needs	44%	30.3%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.
Total number of responses ranged from 109 to 157.

3.1.1 Barriers

Survey respondents were also asked to select the single most important barrier to children and families receiving services. The single most important barriers reported in these survey sections included awareness of services, cost of services, and not having enough services. **Exhibit 3-9** shows the most frequent responses. The cost of childcare services was also mentioned as a barrier by interview and meeting participants.

**EXHIBIT 3-9
SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION BARRIERS**

SERVICE AREAS	SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER
Childcare	Cost (80.3%)
Educational Services	Cost (32.0%)
Child/Family Literacy Development	Awareness (59.6%)
Special Needs	Not Enough Services (35.8%)

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.
Total number of responses ranged from 109 to 157.

3.1.2 Budget Cuts

Survey respondents rated the effect of budget cuts on early care and education services from having no impact to having a very high impact. Budget cuts were a significant factor within each educational service areas surveyed. As depicted in **Exhibit 3-10**, budget cuts were reported to have the most substantial impact on childcare services.

EXHIBIT 3-10 IMPACT OF BUDGET CUTS TO EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION AREAS

SERVICE AREAS	HIGH/VERY HIGH IMPACT
Childcare	89.8%
Educational Services	64.1%
Child/Family Literacy Development Services	44.4%
Special Needs	60.2%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses ranged from 109 to 157.

3.1.3 Missing Services

Survey respondents indicated which early care and education services were missing from their community. As shown in **Exhibit 3-11**, the most frequently cited missing service was childcare subsidies. Other missing services mentioned by interview and group meeting participants included families having food, shelter, clothing, and nutritional education.

EXHIBIT 3-11 MISSING EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES

MISSING EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AREAS	PERCENT MISSING
Early childhood literacy programs	39.0%
High quality childcare	24.4%
High quality childcare that provides alternative hours of operation	48.8%
Childcare subsidies	56.1%
Pre-Kindergarten	24.4%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses was 41.

Organizations providing leadership and services within Northwest Maricopa serve as assets within the community. Survey participants and interviewees identified assets in the form of key organizations providing strong leadership within their community for provision of Early Care and Education services. These organizations include those listed in **Exhibit 3-12**.

EXHIBIT 3-12
ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF
EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES

A Stepping Stone Foundation	Maricopa County Public Health
AHCCCS Health Care	Immunization
Arizona Department of Education	Maricopa County Safety Nutrition,
Arizona Language and Literacy Center	Activity and Care for Kids Program
Association for Supportive Child Care	(SNACK)
(ASCC)	NICU
AZEIP	Peer Counseling for Lactating Parents
AZA United	Public Libraries
AZAAP	Peoria Unified School District
Blake Foundation	Quality First
Central AZ College	Raising Special Kids
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	Reach Out and Read
Child and Family Services	Reading Is Fundamental
City of Avondale	Rio Salado Community College
Department of Economic Security	Rise
Early Childhood Education	Saint Luke's Health Initiatives
Early Head Start	Saint Mary's Food Bank
Elementary School	Salvation Army
Emergency Scholarship Program	SARRC
First Things First	SEEK
Guthrie Mainstream	Southwest Human Development
H.O.P.E. Group	Special Kids
Head Start	United Cerebral Palsy of Central
Healthy Steps	Arizona
KidsCare	Unlimited Potential in South Phoenix
Kith and Kin Grand-parenting Program	Valley of the Sun United Way
LIFE	WIC
Literacy Program for Child and Parent	Women Refugee Centers
Maricopa County	YMCA

Sources: Stakeholder survey responses, stakeholder interview responses, 2010.

3.1.4 Section Summary

The high rate of young families with all parents in the workforce indicates a high need for childcare in the region. The early education system shows some strength with a relatively high and growing number of childcare providers achieving national recognition. Regional strategies for professional development and the Quality First classroom coaching project will continue to promote quality improvement in the region. Overall, preschool enrollment is average in the region. The number of home-based childcare businesses certified by the Department of Economic Security dropped dramatically between 2008 and 2010. Community input indicates a high need for additional quality childcare services, especially services that help families afford the cost

of childcare. The new pre-Kindergarten expansion strategy in the region will help to address his need.

3.2 Supporting Families

This section of the report displays information about children and families receiving a variety of support services.

Exhibit 3-13 shows the number of children and families receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, known as TANF. This benefit is monthly cash assistance (welfare) for parents and children who have extremely low incomes. The benefits are time-limited and parents must meet specific requirements to obtain the benefits:

- Between 2007 and 2010, Northwest Maricopa saw a 31 percent increase in the number of young children receiving TANF benefits – double the statewide increase.

EXHIBIT 3-13 TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

AREA	TANF CHILDREN (AGE 0 - 5)			TANF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN (AGE 0 - 5)		
	January 2007	January 2010	Percent Change	January 2007	January 2010	Percent Change
Northwest Maricopa	1,437	1,886	31.25%	1,120	1,437	28.30%
Arizona	20,867	23,866	14.37%	16,511	18,129	9.80%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2007, 2009). DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010 from Database (Unpublished Data).

Exhibit 3-14 shows the number of children and families who qualify for and receive childcare assistance. The assistance, which functions like a voucher, is available to parents with children (12 and younger) who need childcare and meet certain income and other requirements. Parents can use the voucher to pay for childcare of their choice. Parents have to pay an amount in addition to the voucher which depends on their income and their childcare selection. The value of the voucher, however, is still based on the actual costs of childcare in 2000, therefore, parents and providers have to pay the difference. Since February 2009, no qualified, low-income, working parents have been able to sign up for the subsidy because of budget cuts. This has led to a 38 percent decrease in the number of children receiving assistance statewide between 2007 and 2010. As shown:

- The number of Northwest Maricopa families and children who received childcare assistance decreased 42 percent between 2009 and 2010, slightly higher than the statewide decrease.

**EXHIBIT 3-14
CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE**

AREA	JANUARY 2009				JANUARY 2010			
	Number Of Families Eligible	Number Of Children Eligible	Number Of Families Who Received Assistance	Number Of Children Who Received Assistance	Number Of Families Eligible	Number Of Children Eligible	Number Of Families Who Received Assistance	Number Of Children Who Received Assistance
Northwest Maricopa	1,956	2,905	1,635	2,262	1,082	1,621	942	1,313
Arizona	26,257	38,126	21,377	29,089	15,833	23,244	13,014	17,891

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security.

Exhibit 3-15 depicts the number of children removed from their homes by Child Protective Services due to abuse and neglect, and shows the concentration of CPS cases in certain areas. When children are removed from their own homes, the goal is to place them with relatives or with foster families who live in the same or nearby neighborhoods. This helps to promote stability in school, more familiarity, less stress for the child, and the ability to visit with parents and siblings. This exhibit compares by ZIP code the number of children removed from their homes and the availability of foster homes. Each ZIP code is labeled as having a shortage or balance of foster homes. As shown:

- The region has a very high number of foster homes, but still has a shortage of available foster homes for the number of children removed in the region.
- The 85301 ZIP code in the city of Glendale has by far the largest number of removals in the region. It also has few foster homes and the largest shortage of available foster homes for children. This is the area near Glendale High School, near Glendale Avenue and 59th Avenue.

EXHIBIT 3-15
AVAILABILITY OF FOSTER HOME PLACEMENTS AS RELATED TO CHILD
REMOVALS IN THE NORTHWEST MARICOPA REGION, 2009

ZIP CODE	NUMBER OF REMOVALS	NUMBER OF FOSTER HOMES	NUMBER OF REMOVALS (EXCLUDING CHILDREN PLACED WITH RELATIVES)	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FOSTER HOMES AND REMOVALS (EXCLUDING CHILDREN PLACED WITH RELATIVES)	DESCRIPTION
85301	149	14	101	-87	Greatest shortage of foster homes
85303	72	21	59	-38	Very large shortage of foster homes
85305	21	8	18	-10	Shortage of foster homes
85307	14	2	8	-6	Shortage of foster homes
85308	51	48	37	11	Foster homes exceed children
85310	15	15	11	4	Foster homes exceed children
85335	71	25	42	-17	Large shortage of foster homes
85342	0	1	0	1	No children removed
85345	60	25	43	-18	Large shortage of foster homes
85351	4	2	1	1	Balance of foster homes and children
85355	1	11	1	10	Foster homes exceed children
85361	11	5	3	2	Balance of foster homes and children
85363	13	1	4	-3	Shortage of foster homes
85373	8	11	7	4	Foster homes exceed children
85374	38	19	24	-5	Shortage of foster homes
85375	3	0	1	-1	Balance of foster homes and children
85379	29	51	23	28	Foster homes exceed children
85381	21	21	11	10	Foster homes exceed children
85382	28	19	26	-7	Shortage of foster homes
85383	27	28	21	7	Foster homes exceed children
85387	10	9	5	4	Foster homes exceed children
85388	14	25	12	13	Foster homes exceed children
85390	9	2	7	-5	Shortage of foster homes
Northwest Maricopa Total	669	363	465	-102	

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2007, 2009). DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010 from Database (Unpublished Data).

Exhibit 3-16 shows the number of mothers, babies, and children participating in the Women, Infants, and Children nutrition program, known as WIC. This federally funded service is available to pregnant women and mothers with their children from birth through age four who meet specific income guidelines. As shown:

- There was insufficient data available for 2005. Therefore, it was not possible to see the growth or decline of WIC participation in this region.

**EXHIBIT 3-16
WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN (WIC) PARTICIPATION**

AREA	2005		2009		PERCENT CHANGE 2005-09	
	Women	Children	Women	Children	Women	Children
Northwest Maricopa	N/A	N/A	4,696	8,543	N/A	N/A

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2005, 2007, 2009). Arizona Women, Infants & Children data pulled April 22, 2010 Database (Unpublished Data).

N/A indicates that the data were not available.

A summary of key survey findings related to family support services is presented in this section of the report. Survey respondents rated (on a scale from Excellent to Very Poor) the extent to which family support services met the needs of children (birth through age five) and their families within their community for three related areas. **Exhibit 3-17** shows the percent of responses within the region indicating that needs were well met (provided a rating of Good to Excellent) and the percent reporting that needs were not well met (provided a rating of Poor or Very Poor). Needs were least met in the area of social services.

**EXHIBIT 3-17
MEETING NEEDS FOR FAMILY SUPPORT**

SERVICE AREAS	GOOD TO EXCELLENT	POOR OR VERY POOR
Parenting Support/Education	47.7%	21.8%
Child/Family Literacy Development	66.1%	7.4%
Social Services	36.4	37.2%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses ranged from 121 to 147.

3.2.1 Barriers

Survey respondents were also asked to select the single most important barrier to families receiving support services. The single most important barriers reported across service areas related to family supports included awareness of services and not having enough services. **Exhibit 3-18** shows the most frequent responses.

EXHIBIT 3-18
SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER TO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

SERVICE AREAS	SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT BARRIER
Parenting Support/Education	Awareness (42.9%)
Child/Family Literacy Development	Awareness (59.6%)
Social Services	Not enough services (38.0%)

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses ranged from 121 to 147.

3.2.2 Budget Cuts

Survey respondents rated the effect of budget cuts on family support services from having no impact to having a very high impact. Budget cuts were a significant factor within each family support area surveyed. As shown in **Exhibit 3-19**, budget cuts were reported to have the most substantial impact on social services.

EXHIBIT 3-19
IMPACT OF BUDGET CUTS TO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

SERVICE AREAS	HIGH/VERY HIGH IMPACT
Parenting Support/Education	57.1%
Child/Family Literacy Development	44.4%
Social Services	65.3%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses ranged from 121 to 147.

3.2.3 Missing Services

Survey respondents indicated which family support services were missing from their community. As shown in **Exhibit 3-20**, the most frequently cited missing service was support for grandparents raising grandchildren.

EXHIBIT 3-20
MISSING FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

MISSING FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE AREAS	PERCENT MISSING
Support for grandparents raising grandchildren	51.2%
Parent coaching/education	43.9%
Support and education programs for parent and parenting teens	43.9%
Accessibility to resources that support families with young children	34.1%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses was 41.

Organizations providing leadership and services within Northwest Maricopa serve as assets within the community. Survey participants identified assets in the form of key organizations providing strong leadership within their community for provision of family support services. These organizations include those listed in **Exhibit 3-21**.

**EXHIBIT 3-21
ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF
FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES**

Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	NASW
Black Child and Family Services	PAFCO
Catholic Charities- Head start	Parent University (Mesa Public Schools)
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	Parenting Arizona
Child Crisis Center	Peoria Unified School District Preschool Program
Children's Action Alliance	Quality First
City of Avondale Care First Resource Center	Raising Special Kids
Child Protective Services	SARRC
CSS Head Start Program	School District Parenting Support Education
Elementary School	Southwest Human Development
First Things First	Stepping Stones Foundation Preschool
GALA	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
Glendale Elementary School District	University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
John C Lincoln, Desert Mission Programs	Valley of the Sun United Way
Maricopa County	YMCA
Maricopa County Department of Public Health	

Sources: Stakeholder survey responses, stakeholder interview responses, 2010.

3.2.4 Section Summary

The region experienced a high rate of growth for very poor young children receiving TANF welfare benefits, indicating a high need for family support. The region is pursuing a variety of family support strategies that will help to address this issue. The results of the online survey highlight a lack of sufficient social services in the region, so family support strategies could be designed to link families with services. More than half the respondents said that support for grandparents raising grandchildren is a missing service. A strength in the region is a large number of foster homes for children who are removed from their families due to suspected abuse or neglect.

3.3 Health

Additional information is available in **Appendix C** related to data from the 2008 Arizona Health Survey. This survey was completed by St. Luke’s Health Initiatives and is an additional informative tool for decision-makers.

Exhibit 3-22 presents the percentage of children under 18 with and without health insurance coverage. Research has shown that children with health insurance:

- Have greater access to healthcare, particularly preventative and primary care.
- Are more likely to have well-child visits and vaccinations than uninsured children.
- Are less likely to receive their care in the emergency room.
- Do better in school.

As shown in the exhibit:

- The region has rates of uninsured children that are similar to or below the countywide rate of 15.5 percent.
- More than one out of three children in the Glendale and Pendergast School Districts and the city of Glendale rely on public health coverage, compared to just over one out of four countywide.

**EXHIBIT 3-22
HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18**

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 BY INSURANCE COVERAGE/TYPE (MOST RECENT DATA)		
	Insured-Private	Insured-Public	Not Insured
Dysart Unified District	64.3%	22.6%	14.5%
Peoria Unified School District	72.3%	16.3%	12.3%
Glendale Elementary District	41.3%	44.2%	15.1%
Pendergast Elementary District	55.6%	31.5%	15.4%
Glendale City	51.5%	36.8%	12.5%
Peoria City	73.3%	19.0%	8.9%
Surprise City	70.3%	21.1%	10.1%
Maricopa County	59.6%	26.3%	15.5%
Arizona	56.5%	29.1%	16.2%
United States	64.1%	28.3%	9.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Note: Total in excess of 100percent due to overlap between public/private insurance segments.

Exhibit 3-23 indicates the percentage of births paid for by sources other than private insurance. As shown:

- In Maricopa County, just over half of all births are paid by public health coverage. This rate is higher in much of the Northwest Maricopa Region.

EXHIBIT 3-23
BIRTHS PAID BY HEALTH INSURANCE

AREA	PERCENT OF PUBLIC PAYER BIRTHS**		
	2006	2008	Percent Change
Aguila	90.7%	89.7%	-1.1%
El Mirage	51.0%	54.2%	6.4%
Glendale	59.0%	61.8%	4.7%
Morristown	53.3%	75.0%	40.6%
Peoria	34.3%	38.4%	11.9%
Sun City	34.8%	24.2%	-30.4%
Sun City West	100.0%	83.3%	-16.7%
Surprise	30.5%	31.4%	3.0%
Waddell	34.1%	19.5%	-42.8%
Wickenburg	69.3%	60.0%	-13.4%
Wittmann	66.0%	57.8%	-12.4%
Youngtown	47.0%	50.9%	8.3%
Maricopa County	52.0%	53.0%	2.0%
Arizona	53.8%	54.4%	1.1%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services. Arizona Primary Care Area Program Data Sets. <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/datasets.html>. ** Percent of total births paid for by Arizona Health Care Costs Containment System (AHCCCS) or Indian Health Service (IHS).

Adequate prenatal care promotes healthy births. As shown in **Exhibit 3-24**:

- The percentage of women in the county receiving more than five prenatal visits improved slightly between 2005 and 2008.

**EXHIBIT 3-24
NUMBER OF PRENATAL VISITS**

AREA	TOTAL BIRTHS			NO VISITS			1-4 VISITS			5+ VISITS		
	2005	2008	Percent Change	2005 Percent of Total	2008 Percent of Total	Percent Change	2005 Percent of Total	2008 Percent of Total	Percent Change	2005 Percent of Total	2008 Percent of Total	Percent Change
Maricopa County	62,232	62,667	0.7%	1.9%	1.5%	-21.5%	3.5%	2.7%	-20.4%	94.5%	95.6%	1.2%
Arizona	95,798	99,215	3.6%	2.3%	1.8%	-24.6%	4.2%	3.6%	-14.5%	93.3%	94.5%	1.3%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, Arizona Primary Care Area Program Data Sets. <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/datasets.html>.

Children who have health problems early in life are more likely to face additional challenges. As shown in **Exhibit 3-25**:

- From 2005 to 2008, the total number of newborns admitted to newborn intensive care units in the state of Arizona increased from 5,479 to 5,931, an increase of 8.2 percent. There was also an increase in the number of newborns admitted in Maricopa County.

**EXHIBIT 3-25
NUMBER RECEIVING NEONATAL INTENSIVE SERVICES**

AREA	2005			2008			PERCENT CHANGE		
	Total	Gestational Age		Total	Gestational Age		Total	Gestational Age	
		Preterm, <37 Weeks Percent of Total	37 Weeks or More Percent of Total		Preterm, <37 Weeks Percent of Total	37 Weeks or More Percent of Total		Preterm, <37 Weeks Percent of Total	37 Weeks or More Percent of Total
Maricopa County	3,525	60.4%	39.6%	3,768	58.1%	41.9%	6.9%	-3.7%	5.6%
Arizona	5,479	60.5%	39.5%	5,931	59.1%	40.9%	8.2%	-2.2%	3.4%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, Arizona Primary Care Area Program Data Sets. <http://www.azdhs.gov/hsd/profiles/datasets.html>.

Children receiving proper immunizations are more likely to be in better health than those children who do not receive the required immunizations. As shown in **Exhibit 3-26**:

- Immunization rates in the region are very similar to rates countywide.
- Overall, immunization rates dropped substantially in the region between 2005 and 2009. However, over the same time period, there was a significant increase in the immunization rates with the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine to prevent blood infections, meningitis, and ear infections in young children.

**EXHIBIT 3-26
IMMUNIZATION RECORDS**

AREA	VACCINATIONS 12-24 MONTHS (3:2:2:2)		
	2005	2009	Percent Change
Northwest Maricopa	74%	66%	-10%
Maricopa County	68%	65%	-4%
Arizona	70%	67%	-6%
United States	73%	68%	-7%
AREA	VACCINATIONS 19-35 MONTHS (4:3:1:3:3:1)		
	2005	2009	Percent Change
Northwest Maricopa	46%	38%	-17%
Maricopa County	43%	39%	-7%
Arizona	46%	42%	-8%
United States	75%	72%	-4%
AREA	VACCINATIONS 19-35 MONTHS (4:3:1:3:3:1:4)		
	2005	2009	Percent Change
Northwest Maricopa	25%	35%	41%
Maricopa County	23%	35%	54%
Arizona	26%	38%	48%
United States	N/A	65%	N/A

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2005, 2007, 2009). Arizona State Immunization Information System Data Base (ASIIS) data pulled on May 4, 2010 (Unpublished Data).

Notes: CDC data is from July 2005 to June 2006 and July 2008 to June 2009. CDC data covers all vaccinations 24 months and prior. The smallest rate of vaccinations was used as the U.S. rate.

3:2:2:2 is 3 DTaP, 2 Polio, 2 Hib, and 2 Hepatitis B vaccines.

4:3:1:3:3:1 includes 4 doses diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis vaccines, 3 doses poliovirus vaccine, 1 dose measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine, 3 doses *Haemophilus influenzae* type B vaccine, 3 doses hepatitis B vaccine, 1 dose varicella.

4:3:1:3:3:1:4 is 4:3:1:3:3:1: plus ≥ 4 doses of pneumococcal conjugate vaccine.

N/A indicates that the data were not available.

Exhibit 3-27 presents the percentage of children five and under with disabilities and those with disabilities who live in families with incomes below the Federal Poverty Level. Federal poverty guidelines vary by the size of the family and are adjusted each year for inflation. As issued by the Department of Health and Human Services for 2009, families are considered to be living in poverty if their income is below \$14,570 for a family of two; \$18,310 for a family of three; and \$22,050 for a family of four. As shown

- The rate of young children living in Glendale who have disabilities is more than four times the rate in Maricopa County.
- Fewer than half the young children with disabilities are living in poor families.

**EXHIBIT 3-27
CHILDREN UNDER FIVE WITH DISABILITIES, TOTAL PERCENT AND PERCENT LIVING IN POOR FAMILIES**

AREA	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 WITH DISABILITIES	PERCENT OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 WITH DISABILITIES, BELOW FPL
	Most Recent Data	Most Recent Data
Dysart Unified District	1.8%	*
Glendale City	3.5%	1.5%
Maricopa County	0.8%	0.3%
Arizona	0.8%	0.2%
United States	0.7%	0.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

* indicates sample size too small to estimate specific demographic component.

Children with disabilities who receive an early diagnosis fare better than those children who receive a late or no diagnosis. As shown in **Exhibit 3-28**:

- From 2006-07 to 2008-09, the number of children served by the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AZEIP) in the Northwest Maricopa Region increased from 158 to 409, an increase of more than 158 percent, triple the statewide increase.

**EXHIBIT 3-28
ARIZONA EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM (AZEIP) DEVELOPMENT SCREENINGS AND SERVICES TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES/AT RISK FOR DISABILITIES**

AREA	AZEIP COUNTS		PERCENT CHANGE
	2006-07	2008-09	2007-09
Northwest Maricopa	158	409	158.9%
Arizona	3,450	5,078	47.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security, 2007, 2009. DES Multidata pulled on May 4, 2010, from Database (Unpublished Data).

Dental care can improve a child's health. As shown in **Exhibit 3-29**:

- The majority of children under five in this region have regular visits with the same dental provider.
- Nearly 65 percent of parents in this region drive 10 miles or less for their child's dental care.

EXHIBIT 3-29
ORAL HEALTH CARE CHILDREN (0 - 5)

My child/children age 5 and under have regular visits with the same dental provider.	NORTHWEST MARICOPA	STATEWIDE	DIFFERENCE
Strongly agree	67.5%	62.5%	8.0%
Somewhat agree	10.2%	9.1%	11.8%
Somewhat disagree	3.4%	5.6%	-38.8%
Strongly disagree	6.5%	13.1%	-50.5%
Not sure	12.4%	9.8%	27.5%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	.0%
How many miles do you have to go to get dental care for your children age 5 and under?	NORTHWEST MARICOPA	STATEWIDE	DIFFERENCE
Less than 5 miles	37.8%	39.8%	-5.0%
5-10 miles	27.0%	23.6%	14.4%
10-20 miles	18.5%	13.5%	37.2%
More than 20 miles	5.5%	12.8%	-57.3%
None available	11.2%	10.3%	8.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	.0%

Source: First Things First: Medical Questions (FY 2008). Community Survey in Data Base (Unpublished Data).

Exhibit 3-30 presents the number of services available to those families who have children that do not have health insurance. As shown:

- Arizona has a total of 659 Sliding Fee Clinics available, with 264 clinics residing in Maricopa County.
- Northwest Maricopa reported a total of 30 clinics in 2010.

**EXHIBIT 3-30
NUMBER OF SLIDING FEE SCALE CLINICS**

AREA	2008	2010	PERCENT CHANGE
Northwest Maricopa	N/A	30	N/A
Maricopa County	247	264	6.9%
Arizona	N/A	659	N/A
U.S.	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services.

Note: N/A indicates data were unavailable.

Exhibit 3-31 presents the number of school-based clinics available to those families who have children that do not have health insurance. As shown:

- In 2009, there were 10 school-based clinics in the Northwest Maricopa Region, up from eight in 2002.

**EXHIBIT 3-31
NUMBER OF SCHOOL-BASED CLINICS**

AREA	2002	2009	PERCENT CHANGE
Northwest Maricopa	8	10	25.0%
Arizona	97	82	-15.5%
Percent of State Total	8.2%	17.1%	107.0%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, 2009, University of Arizona Rural Health Office, 2002.

Note: Caution should be exercised in comparing 2002 numbers with 2009 numbers, as they were assembled by two different entities, and the criteria for inclusion were not apparent.

Exhibit 3-32 depicts the number of hospitals located in the Northwest Maricopa Region. As shown:

- There are six hospitals in the Northwest Maricopa Region.

**EXHIBIT 3-32
AREA HOSPITALS**

HOSPITAL	CITY	ZIP CODE
Arrowhead Hospital	Glendale	85308
Banner Boswell Medical Center	Sun City	85351
Trillium Specialty Hospital - West Valley	Sun City	85351
Banner Del E. Webb Medical Center	Sun City West	85375
Kindred Hospital - North Phoenix	Phoenix	85381
Wickenburg Regional Health Center	Wickenburg	85390

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services, Licensed Hospitals as of April 2009.

Exhibit 3-33 shows the medically underserved areas and health professional shortage areas in the region. Note that the names associated with Primary Care Areas may not be instructive as to the precise geographies that are encompassed. In order to determine the appropriate Primary Care Areas for inclusion, maps of FTF regions and Primary Care Areas were overlaid to determine all overlapping jurisdictions. As shown:

- Several areas within the region are considered medically underserved areas and have health professional shortages.

**EXHIBIT 3-33
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^
El Mirage	38	Geographic (El Mirage)	Geographic (El Mirage)	MUA	53.7
Glendale	38	Population Group Low Income (Glendale)	Population Group Low Income (Glendale)	MUA	54.9
Peoria	14	No	No	MUA (El Mirage)	53.7
Wickenburg	34	Geographic (Wickenburg)	Geographic (Wickenburg)	MUA (Wickenburg)	61.1

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services.

*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%), percent of uninsured births, ratio of hospital admissions with ambulatory sensitive condition's per 1000 population less than age 65, percentage of low birth rates, the sum of the percentage of births receiving no prenatal care or prenatal care in the second or third trimester, and the percentage of births reporting four or less prenatal care visits, premature mortality, infant mortality, percent minority, and the percent elderly, and 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>.

**Higher MUA/P scores indicate greater levels of medical service (or less severe underservice). The MUA/P score is based on four variables: ratio of primary medical care physicians per 1,000 population, infant mortality rate, percentage of the population with incomes below the poverty level, and percentage of the population age 65 or over. For more on the MUA/P scores, see: <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/shortage/muaguide.htm>.

A summary of key survey findings related to health services is presented in this section of the report. Survey respondents rated (on a scale from Excellent to Very Poor) the extent to which services met the health needs of children (birth through age five) and their families within their community. Almost 30 percent (29.3%) of the respondents reported that their health needs were well met (provided a rating of Good to Excellent). Forty percent reported that their needs were not well met (provided a rating of Poor or Very Poor). Meeting and interview participants agreed that health related needs are not being fully met in the Northwest Maricopa Region.

Survey respondents were also asked to select the single most important barrier to children and families receiving health related services. The single most important barrier cited was cost of health services (46.3%). Those attending the group meetings also expressed barriers including families not knowing what health services are being offered in their area, limited services, and not having transportation to get to health services.

Survey respondents indicated which health services were missing from their community. **Exhibit 3-34** shows the percentage of respondents reporting health services to be missing or unavailable within the community for the two health service areas surveyed. Specific health services mentioned by group participants and interviewees were services for people with disabilities, special needs services, and mental health services.

**EXHIBIT 3-34
MISSING HEALTH SERVICES**

MISSING HEALTH SERVICE AREAS	PERCENT MISSING
Access to free or low cost health services	46.3%
Health promotion and disease prevention education	29.3%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.
Total number of responses was 41.

Organizations providing leadership and services within Northwest Maricopa serve as assets within the community. Survey participants and interviewees identified assets in the form of key organizations providing strong leadership within their community for provision of health services. These organizations include those listed in **Exhibit 3-35**.

**EXHIBIT 3-35
ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF
HEALTH SERVICES**

AHCCCS Health Care	NICU
Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	Phoenix Children’s Hospital
Banner Health	Quality First
Children’s Action Alliance	SNACK
First Things First	Southwest Human Development
Maricopa County	St. Josephs Hospital
Maricopa County Public Health	St. Luke’s Health Initiatives
MIHS	TOPS Teen Outreach Parenting Services
	Valley of the Sun United Way

Sources: Stakeholder survey responses; stakeholder interview responses, 2010.

Section Summary

The early childhood health system in the Northwest Maricopa Region relies heavily on public health coverage compared to Maricopa County. A very large portion of births in the region are paid for with public health coverage, indicating very low income levels and high needs for families with newborns. In 2005, immunization rates were above the countywide rates. They have since decreased in the region and are now similar to

countywide rates. This decrease reveals weaknesses developing regarding healthcare access. Parts of the region have low access to primary healthcare and shortages of health professionals. The large number of hospitals in the region offers opportunities for partnership for health outreach and promotion. There is an extremely high rate of young children with disabilities in the city of Glendale, and there has been a dramatic increase in the number of young children with disabilities served through the Arizona Early Intervention Program. Both of these findings indicate the value of focusing on this population for First Things First strategies; the current Injury Prevention/Nutrition Outreach Strategy reaches out specifically to families with special needs and several of the Family Resource Center and Parent Education strategies include support to help families with children's health.

3.4 Public Awareness and Collaboration

A summary of key survey findings directly related to the provision of coordinated services is presented in this section of the report. Survey respondents rated (on a scale from Excellent to Very Poor) the extent to which coordinated services within their community met the needs of children (birth through age five) and their families. Forty-nine percent of respondents reported that needs were well met (provided a rating of Good to Excellent) through coordinated services. Thirty-three percent reported that needs were not well met through coordinated services (provided a rating of Poor or Very Poor). Meeting participants shared that there is a lack of communication and collaboration among agencies which causes a gap in coordinated services.

Survey respondents were asked to report on two barriers related to coordinated services: eligibility differences among service providers and the lack of communication between service providers. The percentage of respondents indicating that these were, in fact, barriers in their community was 29 percent for "eligibility differences among service providers" and 61 percent for "lack of communication between service providers." The single most important barrier to families getting coordinated services within the community was awareness (54%). Interviewees and meeting participants agreed that the lack of communication and awareness of services posed great barriers on children and their families getting the needed coordinated services.

Survey respondents rated the effect of budget cuts for providing coordinated services from having no impact to having a very high impact. Approximately 82 percent of responses indicated that budget cuts had a high or very high impact on coordinated services.

Respondents also reported on the quality, accessibility, convenience, timeliness, comprehensiveness, and responsiveness of services across all service areas regarding the degree to which services met the needs of children and families. The percentage of respondents indicating services were well met and the percentage indicating services were not well met are shown in **Exhibit 3-36**.

EXHIBIT 3-36
QUALITY, ACCESSIBILITY, COMPREHENSIVENESS, AND
RESPONSIVENESS IN MEETING EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION NEEDS

SERVICE TOPICS	GOOD TO EXCELLENT	POOR OR VERY POOR
Quality of Information	40.7%	21.6%
Accessibility of Information	25.9%	35.2%
Convenience of Services	16.1%	24.1%
Quality of Services	51.8%	1.4%
Timeliness of Services	29.9%	27.7%
Cultural Responsiveness of Services	39.9%	14.4%
Comprehensiveness of Services	34.9%	21.6%
Early Identification of Problems	23.7%	25.9%
Family Centered Practice	27.7%	16.9%
Client Focus	35.6%	20.5%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Total number of responses was 278.

Survey participants and interviewees also identified assets in the form of key organizations providing strong leadership within their community for coordination of services. These organizations include those listed in **Exhibit 3-37**.

EXHIBIT 3-37
ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF
COORDINATED SERVICES

AHCCCS	FitTots
Alhambra School District	Head Start
Arizona Autism Coalition	John C. Lincoln, (Desert Mission Programs)
Arizona Child Care Association	Litchfield Elementary School District
Arizona Children's Association	Maricopa County
Arizona Department of Education	Maricopa County Public Health
Arizona Literacy and Learning Center	New Directions Institute
Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	Northwest Maricopa Regional Scholarship Program
AzAAP	Peoria Unified School District Preschool Program
Care 1 st Avondale Resource and Housing Center – Avondale	Quality First
Central Arizona College	South Phoenix Healthy Start
Child & Family Resources, Inc.	Southwest Human Development
Child Care Resource and Referral	Southwest Network (Don Erickson)
Child Crisis Center	T.E.A.C.H. AZ
Children's Action Alliance	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
Churches	United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona (0-3)
City of Phoenix	Valley of the Sun United Way
Community Center – Gila Bend	WIC
Elementary School	YMCA
Family Development Center	
First Things First	

Sources: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010; stakeholder interview responses, 2010.

3.5 Stakeholder Priority for Services

Understanding which service areas are viewed by early care and development stakeholders as most critical for focusing resources will guide FTF's decisions about how best to use their resources to help children and families within the Northwest Maricopa Region. To gather this important information, survey respondents were asked to indicate the number one priority area for FTF to focus resources. **Exhibit 3-38** shows the percentage of survey respondents reporting that a given priority area was the number one priority for focusing FTF resources. The top two highest priority areas were increasing the access to quality early childhood developmental and health programs and offering parent and family support and education concerning early childhood development and literacy.

**EXHIBIT 3-38
PRIORITY FOR FOCUS OF FTF RESOURCES**

AREA	NUMBER ONE PRIORITY
Improve the quality of early childhood development and health programs	14.6%
Increase the access to quality early childhood developmental and health programs	36.6%
Increase access to preventative health and health screenings for children through age 5	2.4%
Offer parent and family support and education concerning early childhood development and literacy	29.3%
Provide professional development and training for early childhood development and literacy	0.0%
Increase coordination of early childhood development and health programs	4.9%
Increase public awareness about the importance of early childhood development and health	12.2%

Source: Stakeholder survey responses, 2010.

Interview participants indicated that FTF should focus their funding efforts in the following areas:

- Affordable and quality childcare.
- Early childhood education.
- Parent and child education.

The online survey also asked respondents in the Northwest Maricopa Region about what changes they have seen in services for families with young children over the past two years. Thirty-seven percent of respondents reported that they believe there are fewer services, which is not surprising given the budget cuts from state and local governments. Alternately, 26 percent of the respondents said they believe there are more services, which may reflect the impact of First Things First funding. On a positive note, 20 percent of the respondents said they believe that services are now of higher quality and only 3 percent said services are now of lower quality.

The online survey included a question that asked respondents if they could describe at least one positive pregnancy outcome and/or health promotion program funded by First Things First in the Northwest Maricopa Region. Forty-six percent of the respondents said yes and 30 percent said no. This shows a fairly high engagement level for stakeholders regarding the presented priorities and strategies in the region.

4.0 SUMMARY AND FUTURE DIRECTION

Diversity in the region is strong and growing. The Glendale and Pendergast Elementary School Districts have high rates of young children who are African American and Hispanic compared to the county. Although, other parts of the region have lower rates of Hispanic, young children compared to Maricopa County, this population has been growing. Thirty-seven percent of young children in Maricopa County have at least one foreign born parent. The rate is higher in the Glendale and Pendergast Elementary School Districts and lower in other parts of the region. Fewer than 3.5 percent of young children in all areas of the region were born in another country. Approximately 10 percent of households in the city of Glendale have no one over the age of fourteen who speaks English well, compared to 7.5 percent in Maricopa County.

The region has some economic strength. The number of homeless children (birth to age five) in transitional or emergency shelters who had previously lived in the region declined from 67 in 2007 to 62 in 2009, while the total number in all of the First Things First regions in Maricopa County grew by 64 percent. The poverty rates for young families in the region are generally below the countywide rate.

Families in the region face economic challenges. The number of very poor, young children receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (welfare) rose more than twice as fast in the region between 2007 and 2010 than the increase statewide. Also, the unemployment rate in the cities of El Mirage, Glendale, and Peoria more than doubled between 2005 and 2010, as it did for Maricopa County. The unemployment rate in much of the region was above the Maricopa County rate of 8.7 percent. The median income for two-parent families with young children in the region is below the median income in Maricopa County of \$78,381; median incomes for these families range from \$58,199 in the city of El Mirage to \$84,751 in the city of Peoria.

The region has notable strengths. In 2010, fourteen percent of the licensed and certified childcare providers in the region were accredited or recognized by a national organization—an increase over the rate in 2008. The number of school-based clinics in the region rose from eight to 10 between 2002 and 2009, while the number statewide declined. The percentage of children in the region who have no health insurance is below the countywide rate of 15.5 percent. However, access to primary care in much of the region is limited. Although immunization rates are similar to rates for Maricopa County, these rates have decreased in recent years.

The Northwest Maricopa Region had 363 foster homes available to care for abused and neglected children in 2009 – the highest number of any First Things First region in Maricopa County. Despite this asset, a shortage of foster homes remained compared to the number needed.

The need for access to high quality, affordable childcare is strong throughout the region. In the Dysart and Pendergast School Districts (similar to Maricopa County), more than two out of three households with children younger than 18 had all parents in the labor

force – indicating a large need for childcare. Preschool enrollment in most of the region is comparable to the rate in Maricopa County, with lower enrollment for families in the Dysart School District and the city of El Mirage.

State budget cuts are weakening the early childhood infrastructure in the region. In 2010, 754301 four year old students were enrolled in preschool in the region through the state-funded Early Childhood Block Grant program. Due to budget cuts, that funding is no longer available. The number of children receiving subsidies for childcare dropped by 42 percent between 2009 and 2010, reflecting the state budget cuts that closed the door to any qualified, low-income working families who applied.

The input from the community through the online survey, stakeholder meetings, and telephone interviews all overwhelmingly point to a great demand for quality improvements in childcare and financial assistance for parents needing childcare. Forty-one percent of the respondents to the online survey said that childcare services are not meeting the needs of families in the community, and 80 percent identified cost as the single most important barrier in childcare. More than half of respondents said that childcare subsidies are a service that is missing in the region. The number one priority for First Things First funding indicated by respondents on the online survey is increased access to quality early childhood and health programs.

The rate of young children living with their grandparents is high in much of the region compared to 9 percent in Maricopa County. Just over half of the respondents said that support for grandparents raising grandchildren is a missing service in the region. Thirty-seven percent of respondents to the online survey said that social services are not meeting the needs of the community, and 65 percent said social services have suffered greatly from budget cuts. Also, participants in the stakeholder meetings identified a need for better access to mental health services.

The city of Glendale has a very high rate of young children with disabilities: 3.5 percent compared to only 0.8 percent of young children in Maricopa County. Thirty percent of the respondents to the online survey said that services for children with special needs were not meeting the needs of the community.

Community members greatly value services for young children in the region, including Head Start, parent coaching Quality First, childcare scholarships, and home visiting services. They identified organizational assets, including libraries, Phoenix Children's Hospital, Glendale Community College, Southwest Human Development, and area food banks.

Twenty-nine percent of the respondents to the online survey identified parent support and education as the number one priority for First Things First funding in the region.

Community members also emphasized a need to improve awareness among parents about early education needs and available services. Both formal reports and stakeholder meetings identified the value of making information available in a more systematic way to both parents and providers.

Future Direction

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

The current efforts to improve access to quality childcare through Quality First classroom coaching and professional development strategies are valued and will help to meet key needs in the region. The data and input from the region point to a need for access to quality preschool and childcare, including the education of childcare providers. The pre-Kindergarten expansion strategy will help address this need for improved access.

Because the cost of childcare was identified as a major barrier, current strategies can be supplemented with childcare scholarships and other affordability strategies.

There is also a strong need for more information for parents and coordination among providers. Community input suggested the creation of a central hub for resources and information. There can also be a focus on increasing awareness of existing services that are available to all families, such as the Birth to 5 Helpline operated by Southwest Human Development, and offering additional support, such as parent groups that can meet in public places, such as libraries. Current family resource strategies include a focus on parent education and awareness.

There is an opportunity for the region to build on current plans to create a resource directory and facilitate collaboration among the school districts to identify children with disabilities.

Notable needs in the region include high rates of young children with a disability and high rates of young children living with their grandparents. Family support strategies can be designed to reach families with these particular needs.

Conclusion

Regional strategies for family support are well-positioned to meet the needs of the community and can be tailored to reach out specifically to grandparents and families with special needs – two areas of need indicated by the community. Stakeholders in the region greatly value quality improvement which can be addressed through professional development strategies. The community places an equal emphasis on access and affordability. Regional strategies can be developed to meet this need, in addition to the pre-Kindergarten expansion strategy.

APPENDIX A NORTHWEST MARICOPA REGION



FIRST THINGS FIRST

NEEDS AND ASSETS SURVEY WEB SITE

DIRECTIONS:

Everyone must complete SECTION ONE: Coordinating Services and SECTION TWO: Questions Specific to Your Community.

Complete SECTIONS 3 through 9 of the survey if you feel you have sufficient knowledge to share your opinions. For those sections of the survey that you **do not feel knowledgeable**, please mark the checkbox provided.

If you serve people in multiple communities, you MAY provide different answers for each community. The [Survey Completion Chart](#) indicates when you have completed a survey section for each of the communities you serve.

Listed below are the sections of the survey:

- [Edit Your Organization's Service Area](#)
- [Section 1: Coordinated Services in Your Community for Children Birth through Age 5 and Their Families](#)
- [Section 2: Questions Specific to Your Community](#)
- [Section 3: Parenting Support/Education Services](#)
- [Section 4: Child Care](#)
- [Section 5: Education](#)
- [Section 6: Literacy Development for Children and Parents](#)
- [Section 7: Services for Children with Special Needs](#)
- [Section 8: Health Services](#)
- [Section 9: Social Services](#)

Web Site ©MGT of America, Inc. E-Mail Technical Support

Section 1:

Coordinated Services in Your Community for Children Birth Through Age 5 and Their Families

1. Thinking about the **Coordinated Services in your Community** for children birth through age 5 and their families, please rate how well the coordination currently meets families' needs.

AREA	How well the coordination of services currently meets families' needs (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	2.8	7.0	40.8	16.9	21.1	7.0	4.2
Peoria	3.5	8.8	38.6	17.5	22.8	7.0	1.8
Surprise	4.3	6.4	36.2	17.0	23.4	8.5	4.3
El Mirage	4.7	4.7	39.5	11.6	20.9	14.0	4.7
Wickenburg	6.5	3.2	38.7	9.7	32.3	6.5	3.2
Youngtown	6.9	3.4	34.5	13.8	31.0	10.3	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	4.3	6.1	38.5	15.1	24.1	8.6	3.2
Total percent within Maricopa County	4.0	4.9	37.8	17.3	24.9	9.2	1.9

2. What are the barriers to families getting Coordinated Services in your Community for children birth through age 5? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	Barriers to families getting coordinated services in their community (Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity)												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Services not wanted	Immigration status	Eligibility differences among service providers	Lack of communication between service providers	Other
Glendale	67.6	57.7	45.1	81.7	42.3	23.9	32.4	47.9	11.3	42.3	32.4	53.5	4.2
Peoria	63.2	63.2	45.6	84.2	45.6	29.8	35.1	47.4	14.0	43.9	29.8	56.1	1.8
Surprise	59.6	70.2	46.8	85.1	51.1	31.9	29.8	42.6	17.0	42.6	34.0	66.0	4.3
El Mirage	58.1	67.4	46.5	76.7	51.2	32.6	32.6	41.9	16.3	46.5	32.6	60.5	2.3
Wickenburg	54.8	77.4	45.2	77.4	45.2	38.7	38.7	48.4	19.4	54.8	41.9	67.7	3.2
Youngtown	55.2	75.9	44.8	79.3	51.7	37.9	31.0	51.7	20.7	48.3	41.4	72.4	3.4
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	61.2	66.5	45.7	81.3	47.1	30.9	33.1	46.4	15.5	45.3	34.2	60.8	3.2
Total percent within Maricopa County	63.6	68.6	44.1	82.9	50.8	29.8	31.8	48.3	15.3	45.2	35.0	59.1	4.0

3. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting Coordinated Services in Your Community for children birth through age 5? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	Single Most important Barrier (Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity)												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Services not wanted	Immigration status	Eligibility differences among service providers	Lack of communication between service providers	Other
Glendale	1.4	15.5	1.4	50.7	9.9	2.8	1.4	2.8	0.0	7.0	2.8	0.0	4.2
Peoria	1.8	17.5	0.0	52.6	10.5	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	3.5	0.0	3.5
Surprise	2.1	12.8	0.0	57.4	10.6	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.3	4.3	0.0	4.3
El Mirage	2.3	11.6	0.0	55.8	14	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	7	2.3	0.0	2.3
Wickenburg	3.2	16.1	0.0	54.8	12.9	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	3.4	13.8	0.0	55.2	13.8	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.9	3.4	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	2.2	14.7	0.4	54.0	11.5	4.0	0.4	0.7	0.0	6.5	2.9	0.0	2.9
Total percent within Maricopa County	3.5	13.2	0.6	53.8	12.7	2.6	0.3	2.1	0.2	5.6	2.6	0.2	2.6

4. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on **Coordinated Services in Your Community** for children birth through age 5 and their families.

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	Very High	High	Little	None	Don't Know
Glendale	56.3	25.4	8.5	0.0	9.9
Peoria	57.9	24.6	8.8	0.0	8.8
Surprise	55.3	25.5	8.5	0.0	10.6
El Mirage	53.5	23.3	9.3	0.0	14.0
Wickenburg	67.7	19.4	9.7	0.0	3.2
Youngtown	65.5	24.1	6.9	0.0	3.4
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	58.3	24.1	8.8	0.0	9.0
Total percent within Maricopa County	56.5	26.0	6.1	0.5	11.0

5. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP for **Coordinated Services in the Community** for children birth through age 5 and their families. List this organization(s) in the box below.

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Glendale	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC) Southwest Human Development WIC
Peoria	First Thing First Arizona Child Care Association
Surprise	Association for supportive Child Care AZAAP Care 1 st Avondale Resource and Housing Center
El Mirage	Head Start None
Wickenburg	Southwest Huan Development United Ways of Arizona Central Arizona College
Youngtown	Children Action Alliance

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

6. Thinking about **ALL SERVICES** currently available for children birth through 5 and their families in **YOUR COMMUNITY**, please rate the degree to which services currently meet families' needs in the areas below.

AREA	Quality of information (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	4.2	12.7	32.4	32.4	8.5	9.9
Peoria	1.8	17.5	29.8	33.3	8.8	8.8
Surprise	2.1	19.1	34.0	29.8	8.5	6.4
El Mirage	7.0	20.9	27.9	25.6	11.6	7.0
Wickenburg	3.2	22.6	19.4	32.3	12.9	9.7
Youngtown	3.4	20.7	24.1	27.6	13.8	10.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	3.6	18.0	29.1	30.6	10.1	8.6
Total percent within Maricopa County	4.5	15.4	34.1	27.1	8.7	10.2

AREA	Accessibility of information (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	8.5	25.4	32.4	19.7	4.2	9.9
Peoria	8.8	24.6	31.6	22.8	3.5	8.8
Surprise	12.8	27.7	27.7	19.1	6.4	6.4
El Mirage	16.3	23.3	27.9	20.9	4.7	7.0
Wickenburg	9.7	19.4	32.3	22.6	6.5	9.7
Youngtown	17.2	17.2	27.6	20.7	6.9	10.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	11.5	23.7	30.2	20.9	5.0	8.6
Total percent within Maricopa County	11.9	21.9	34.0	18.8	4.5	8.9

AREA	Convenience/accessibility of services (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	5.6	19.7	52.1	12.7	2.8	7.0
Peoria	3.5	17.5	57.9	14.0	1.8	5.3
Surprise	4.3	19.1	55.3	10.6	4.3	6.4
El Mirage	9.3	18.6	48.8	11.6	4.7	7.0
Wickenburg	6.5	19.4	48.4	16.1	3.2	6.5
Youngtown	6.9	13.8	55.2	13.8	3.4	6.9
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	5.8	18.3	53.2	12.9	3.2	6.5
Total percent within Maricopa County	6.0	19.6	51.0	13.6	3.6	6.2

AREA	Quality of services (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	0.0	2.8	32.4	36.6	16.9	11.3
Peoria	0.0	1.8	33.3	29.8	22.8	12.3
Surprise	0.0	0.0	36.2	29.8	21.3	12.8
El Mirage	0.0	2.3	37.2	27.9	20.9	11.6
Wickenburg	0.0	0.0	38.7	32.3	19.4	9.7
Youngtown	0.0	0.0	37.9	27.6	24.1	10.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	0.0	1.4	35.3	31.3	20.5	11.5
Total percent within Maricopa County	0.1	2.4	35.2	32.1	19.6	10.7

AREA	Timeliness of services (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	5.6	19.7	35.2	21.1	8.5	9.9
Peoria	5.3	21.1	31.6	26.3	8.8	7.0
Surprise	6.4	23.4	38.3	17.0	10.6	4.3
El Mirage	7.0	20.9	37.2	16.3	11.6	7.0
Wickenburg	6.5	22.6	41.9	12.9	12.9	3.2
Youngtown	6.9	24.1	34.5	20.7	10.3	3.4
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	6.1	21.6	36.0	19.8	10.1	6.5
Total percent within Maricopa County	5.5	22.5	36.2	18.3	10.0	7.6

AREA	Cultural responsiveness of services (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	0.0	14.1	32.4	29.6	12.7	11.3
Peoria	0.0	12.3	31.6	31.6	12.3	12.3
Surprise	0.0	12.8	36.2	25.5	14.9	10.6
El Mirage	0.0	14.0	37.2	25.6	14.0	9.3
Wickenburg	0.0	19.4	38.7	22.6	9.7	9.7
Youngtown	0.0	17.2	37.9	20.7	13.8	10.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	0.0	14.4	34.9	27.0	12.9	10.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	0.4	14.1	36.9	24.1	13.3	11.2

AREA	Comprehensiveness of services (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	2.8	19.7	32.4	25.4	7.0	12.7
Peoria	1.8	19.3	26.3	33.3	7.0	12.3
Surprise	2.1	19.1	36.2	23.4	10.6	8.5
El Mirage	2.3	18.6	37.2	25.6	9.3	7.0
Wickenburg	3.2	19.4	35.5	22.6	9.7	9.7
Youngtown	3.4	17.2	34.5	24.1	10.3	10.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	2.5	19.1	33.1	26.3	8.6	10.4
Total percent within Maricopa County	2.8	17.9	37.8	24.6	6.5	10.4

AREA	Early identification of problems (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	5.6	19.7	39.4	16.9	5.6	12.7
Peoria	5.3	19.3	36.8	22.8	5.3	10.5
Surprise	6.4	23.4	40.4	19.1	4.3	6.4
El Mirage	7.0	16.3	46.5	18.6	2.3	9.3
Wickenburg	3.2	22.6	48.4	19.4	3.2	3.2
Youngtown	3.4	24.1	41.4	20.7	3.4	6.9
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	5.4	20.5	41.4	19.4	4.3	9.0
Total percent within Maricopa County	6.0	21.4	37.9	19.6	3.7	11.3

AREA	Family centered practice (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	1.4	18.3	38.0	18.3	7.0	16.9
Peoria	0.0	15.8	38.6	19.3	8.8	17.5
Surprise	0.0	17.0	44.7	19.1	8.5	10.6
El Mirage	0.0	14.0	46.5	23.3	7.0	9.3
Wickenburg	0.0	16.1	41.9	19.4	9.7	12.9
Youngtown	0.0	17.2	41.4	17.2	10.3	13.8
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	0.4	16.5	41.4	19.4	8.3	14.0
Total percent within Maricopa County	0.7	17.7	39.0	19.2	10.4	13.1

AREA	Client focus (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)					
	Very poor 1	2	3	4	Excellent 5	Don't Know
Glendale	5.6	15.5	25.4	25.4	7.0	21.1
Peoria	3.5	17.5	24.6	26.3	8.8	19.3
Surprise	4.3	14.9	29.8	29.8	6.4	14.9
El Mirage	4.7	14.0	27.9	30.2	7.0	16.3
Wickenburg	6.5	12.9	29.0	32.3	6.5	12.9
Youngtown	6.9	17.2	24.1	31.0	6.9	13.8
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	5.0	15.5	26.66	28.4	7.2	17.3
Total percent within Maricopa County	4.8	16.2	28.8	26.1	7.4	16.7

Section 2:

Questions Specific to Your Community

1. Please rate your level of knowledge of **programs supported by First Things First** in **YOUR COMMUNITY**.

AREA	Level of knowledge of programs supported by First Things First (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	15.0	20.0	45.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Peoria	11.1	44.4	44.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Surprise	0.0	20.0	40.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
El Mirage	0.0	60.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wickenburg	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	9.8	31.7	41.5	17.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Maricopa County	18.0	21.4	35.3	19.7	5.5	0.0	0.0

2. What is the number one priority area for First Things First to focus resources to help children birth through age five and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	Number one priority area for FTF to focus resources (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Improve the quality of early childhood development and health programs	Increase the access to quality early childhood developmental and health programs	Increase access to preventive health and health screenings for children through age 5	Offer parent and family support and education concerning early childhood development and literacy	Provide professional development and training for early childhood development and literacy	Increase coordination of early childhood development and health programs	Increase public awareness about the importance of early childhood development and health
Glendale	20.0	30.0	5.0	30.0	0.0	5.0	10.0
Peoria	22.2	33.3	0.0	44.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Surprise	0.0	60.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	20.0
El Mirage	0.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	40.0
Wickenburg	0.0	50.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	14.6	36.6	2.4	29.3	0.0	4.9	12.2
Total percent within Maricopa County	24.0	26.0	4.1	19.7	2.9	9.9	13.5

3. What services are missing in **YOUR COMMUNITY** for families with children birth through age 5? **CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.**

AREA	Services that are missing in the Community (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)											
	Support for grandparents raising grandchildren	Parent coaching/education	Access to free or low cost health services	Early childhood literacy programs	High quality child care	High quality child care that provides alternative hours of operation	Child care subsidies	Pre-Kindergarten	Health promotion and disease prevention education	Support and education programs for pregnant and parenting teens	Accessibility to resources that support families with young children	Other
Glendale	50.0	50.0	45.0	45.0	30.0	55.0	55.0	30.0	30.0	35.0	45.0	0.0
Peoria	55.6	44.4	55.6	44.4	33.3	33.3	44.4	0.0	44.4	55.6	11.1	0.0
Surprise	40.0	40.0	40.0	20.0	0.0	20.0	60.0	40.0	0.0	40.0	20.0	0.0
El Mirage	60.0	20.0	40.0	40.0	20.0	60.0	60.0	40.0	40.0	60.0	60.0	0.0
Wickenburg	50.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	51.2	43.9	46.3	39.0	24.4	48.8	56.1	24.4	29.3	43.9	34.1	0.0
Total percent within Maricopa County	51.7	45.2	49.3	35.6	41.6	39.9	50.2	28.8	32.9	36.5	50.5	3.4

Section 2:

Questions Specific to Northwest Maricopa

1. How have services for families with children birth through age 5 in **YOUR COMMUNITY** changed over the past two years? **CHECK ONLY ONE.**

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts on Educational Services for children birth through age 5 (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	More services	Higher quality services	Fewer services	Lower quality services	Other
Glendale	26.3	22.8	35.1	1.8	14.0
Peoria	25.5	23.4	36.2	2.1	12.8
Surprise	23.3	18.6	39.5	4.7	14.0
El Mirage	27.0	16.2	40.5	5.4	10.8
Wickenburg	29.6	18.5	33.3	3.7	14.8
Youngtown	29.2	12.5	37.5	4.2	16.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	26.4	19.6	37.0	3.4	13.6

2. Can you describe at least one program receiving funding from First Things First that supports positive pregnancy outcomes and/or health promotion for young children and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY?

AREA	Can you describe at least one positive pregnancy outcome and/or health promotion program funded by FTF in Northwest Maricopa?		
	Yes	No	Not Sure
Glendale	47.4	31.6	21.1
Peoria	51.1	27.7	21.3
Surprise	42.9	31.0	26.2
El Mirage	43.2	29.7	27.0
Wickenburg	44.4	25.9	29.6
Youngtown	41.7	29.2	29.2
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	45.7	29.5	24.8

Section 3:

Parenting Support/Education Services for Families with Children Birth Through Age 5

1. Thinking about **Parenting Support/Education Services** for families with children birth through age 5, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	How well Parenting Support/Education Services currently meet families' needs (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	5.3	13.2	31.6	26.3	18.4	0.0	5.3
Peoria	9.4	12.5	28.1	25.0	21.9	0.0	3.1
Surprise	8.0	8.0	28.0	24.0	24.0	0.0	8.0
El Mirage	9.5	9.5	23.8	19.0	28.6	0.0	9.5
Wickenburg	6.3	12.5	31.3	25.0	18.8	0.0	6.3
Youngtown	6.7	13.3	26.7	26.7	20.0	0.0	6.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	7.5	11.6	28.6	24.5	21.8	0.0	6.1
Total percent within Maricopa County	4.0	14.7	22.9	26.1	23.7	1.7	6.9

2. Are there waiting lists or families being turned away due to a shortage of Parenting Support/Education Services for families with children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Are there waiting lists? (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)		
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Glendale	26.3	21.1	52.6
Peoria	25.0	21.9	53.1
Surprise	24.0	28.0	48.0
El Mirage	28.6	19.0	52.4
Wickenburg	31.3	31.3	37.5
Youngtown	40.0	26.7	33.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	27.9	23.8	48.3
Total percent within Maricopa County	28.0	19.2	52.8

3. What are the barriers to providing Parenting Support/Education Services for families with children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	Barriers to providing Parenting Support/ Education Services (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)														
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Services not wanted	No child	Immigration status	Eligibility differences among service providers	Lack of communication between service providers	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	55.3	44.7	31.6	68.4	42.1	18.4	21.1	31.6	18.44	39.5	23.7	0.0	0.0	39.5	5.3
Peoria	62.5	50.0	31.3	65.6	37.5	15.6	18.8	34.4	21.9	37.5	18.8	0.0	0.0	40.6	6.3
Surprise	56.0	56.0	36.0	72.0	36.0	20.0	20.0	32.0	24.0	44.0	16.0	0.0	0.0	52.0	8.0
El Mirage	57.1	52.4	33.3	61.9	33.3	19.0	19.0	33.3	23.8	42.9	23.8	0.0	0.0	42.9	9.5
Wickenburg	62.5	56.3	31.3	75.0	25.0	18.8	25.0	37.5	37.5	43.8	18.8	0.0	0.0	43.8	6.3
Youngtown	60.0	60.0	33.3	66.7	33.3	20.0	20.0	40.0	33.3	46.7	13.3	0.0	0.0	33.3	6.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	58.5	51.7	32.7	68.0	36.1	18.4	20.4	34.0	24.5	41.5	19.7	0.0	0.0	42.2	6.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	62.7	49.2	36.8	71.2	39.8	17.5	23.5	38.4	21.5	42.6	26.9	0.0	0.0	44.1	5.6

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to providing **Parenting Support/Education Services** for families with children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? **CHECK ONLY ONE.**

AREA	Single Most important Barrier (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)														
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Services not wanted	Immigration status	No childcare provided	Eligibility differences among service providers	Lack of communication between service providers	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	7.9	15.8	0.0	44.7	7.9	2.6	0.0	0.0	5.3	7.9	2.6	0.0	0.0	2.6	2.6
Peoria	9.4	18.8	0.0	40.6	6.3	3.1	0.0	0.0	6.3	6.3	3.1	0.0	0.0	3.1	3.1
Surprise	12.0	20.0	0.0	44.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	4.0
El Mirage	14.3	19.0	0.0	42.9	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8	4.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8
Wickenburg	12.5	25.0	0.0	43.8	0.0	6.3	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0	6.3	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0
Youngtown	13.3	26.7	0.0	40.0	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	10.9	19.7	0.0	42.9	5.4	2.7	0.0	0.0	4.8	4.1	4.1	0.0	0.0	4.1	2.7
Total percent within Maricopa County	9.3	14.7	1.4	47.4	8.7	1.9	0.4	0.4	2.2	2.4	4.9	0.0	0.0	4.9	4.0

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on providing Parenting Support/ Education Services for families with children birth through 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts on providing Parenting Support/Education Services (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	Very High	High	Little	None	Don't Know
Glendale	23.7	31.6	7.9	0.0	36.8
Peoria	28.1	28.1	6.3	0.0	37.5
Surprise	24.0	28.0	12.0	0.0	36.0
El Mirage	23.8	33.3	9.5	0.0	33.3
Wickenburg	18.8	43.8	6.3	0.0	31.3
Youngtown	20.0	46.7	6.7	0.0	26.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	23.8	33.3	8.2	0.0	34.7
Total percent within Maricopa County	25.9	30.6	6.7	0.4	36.4

6. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for Parenting Support/Education Services for families with children birth through 5.

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Glendale	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Black child and family services
	Catholic Charities- Head start
	Child & Family Resources, Inc.
	Child Crisis Center
	Children's Action Alliance
	City of Avondale Care First Resource Center
	CSS Head Start Program
	First Things First
	Glendale Elementary School District
	John C Lincoln, Desert Mission Programs
	Maricopa County
	Maricopa County Department of Public Health
	Parenting Arizona
	Peoria Unified School District Preschool Program
	Quality First
	Raising Special Kids
	SARRC
	School District Parenting Support Education
	Southwest Human Development
Stepping Stones Preschool	
SWHD	
Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services	
United Way of Arizona	
University of Arizona Cooperative Extension	

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Peoria	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Black child and family services
	Catholic Charities- Head start
	Child & Family Resources, Inc.
	Child Crisis Center
	City of Avondale Care First Resource Center
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Maricopa County Department of Public Health
	Parenting Arizona
	Peoria Unified School District Preschool Program
	Quality First
	Raising Special Kids
	SARRC
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
United Way of Arizona	
University of Arizona Cooperative Extension	
Surprise	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	City of Avondale Care First Resource Center
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Maricopa County Department of Public Health
	Parent University (Mesa Public Schools)
	Quality First
	Raising Special Kids
	SARRC
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
	United Way of Arizona
	University of Arizona Cooperative Extension

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership	
El Mirage	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)	
	City of Avondale Care First Resource Center	
	First Things First	
	Maricopa County	
	Maricopa County Department of Public Health	
	Quality First	
	Raising Special Kids	
	SARRC	
	Southwest Human Development	
	SWHD	
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services	
	United Way of Arizona	
	University of Arizona Cooperative Extension	
	Wickenburg	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
City of Avondale Care First Resource Center		
Elementary School		
First Things First		
Maricopa County		
Quality First		
Raising Special Kids		
SARRC		
Southwest Human Development		
SWHD		
United Way		
United Way of Arizona		
Youngtown		Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
		City of Avondale Care First Resource Center
	First Things First	
	Maricopa County	
	Quality First	
	Raising Special Kids	
	SARRC	
	Southwest Human Development	
	SWHD	
	United Way of Arizona	

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

Section 4:

Child Care for Children Birth Through Age 5

1. Thinking about **Child Care** for children birth through age 5, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	How well Child Care for children birth through age 5, currently meet families' needs (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	2.3	9.3	37.2	11.6	25.6	14.0	0.0
Peoria	0.0	15.6	31.3	9.4	21.9	15.6	6.3
Surprise	0.0	18.5	29.6	11.1	25.9	14.8	0.0
El Mirage	0.0	20.8	20.8	12.5	25.0	16.7	4.2
Wickenburg	6.3	18.8	18.8	12.5	25.0	18.8	0.0
Youngtown	0.0	13.3	20.0	20.0	26.7	20.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	1.3	15.3	28.7	12.1	24.8	15.9	1.9
Total percent within Maricopa County	2.3	11.9	26.5	14.2	27.9	15.2	1.9

2. Are there waiting lists or children birth through age 5 being turned away due to a shortage of **Child Care** their parents prefer in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Are there waiting lists? (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)		
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Glendale	46.5	30.2	23.3
Peoria	40.6	31.3	28.1
Surprise	40.7	37.0	22.2
El Mirage	41.7	29.2	29.2
Wickenburg	50.0	25.0	25.0
Youngtown	46.7	20.0	33.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	43.9	29.9	26.1
Total percent within Maricopa County	46.8	23.3	29.9

3. What are the barriers for parents to get the **Child Care** they prefer for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? **YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.**

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity										
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	Immigration status	Other
Glendale	32.6	93.0	30.2	32.6	18.6	4.7	11.6	14.0	46.5	23.3	7.0
Peoria	43.8	93.8	31.3	40.6	15.6	6.3	12.5	18.8	53.1	28.1	6.3
Surprise	33.3	88.9	25.9	40.7	22.2	3.7	11.1	14.8	55.6	18.5	7.4
El Mirage	41.7	91.7	29.2	37.5	16.7	4.2	12.5	16.7	50.0	25.0	8.3
Wickenburg	37.5	87.5	25.0	43.8	25.0	6.3	6.3	12.5	62.5	18.8	12.5
Youngtown	46.7	86.7	33.3	46.7	26.7	6.7	6.7	13.3	60.0	20.0	13.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	38.2	91.1	29.3	38.9	19.7	5.1	10.8	15.3	52.9	22.9	8.3
Total percent within Maricopa County	39.0	89.4	30.2	36.5	21.2	6.2	11.8	16.1	45.0	24.0	8.0

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier for parents to get the **Child Care** they prefer for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? **CHECK ONLY ONE.**

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity										
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	Immigration status	Other
Glendale	4.7	83.7	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	2.3
Peoria	6.3	78.1	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.3	0.0	3.1
Surprise	3.7	77.8	3.7	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	0.0	3.7
El Mirage	4.2	79.2	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3	0.0	4.2
Wickenburg	6.3	81.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	6.7	80.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	5.1	80.3	2.5	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.6	0.0	2.5
Total percent within Maricopa County	4.8	76.8	1.9	3.1	1.7	0.0	0.7	0.0	7.2	0.2	3.5

5. Please rate the impact of budget cuts to state child care subsidies for parents to get the Child Care they prefer for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts to state child care subsidies for parents to get the Child Care they prefer for children birth through age 5 (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	Very High	High	Little	None	Don't Know
Glendale	67.4	23.3	2.3	0.0	7.0
Peoria	68.8	21.9	3.1	0.0	6.3
Surprise	66.7	22.2	3.7	0.0	7.4
El Mirage	62.5	20.8	4.2	0.0	12.5
Wickenburg	68.8	25.0	0.0	0.0	6.3
Youngtown	66.7	26.7	0.0	0.0	6.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	66.9	22.9	2.5	0.0	7.6
Total percent within Maricopa County	65.8	23.0	3.0	.1	8.1

6. Please identify recent changes to Child Care for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY due to the economy and budget cuts. YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting child care changes within each geographic entity							
	Closed child care centers	Fewer child care classrooms	Children of different ages combined in single classroom	Child care teachers laid off	Children staying home alone	Children staying with family, friends, and/or neighbors	Reduced quality or variety of child care	Other
Glendale	62.8	44.2	37.2	65.1	65.1	76.7	58.1	4.7
Peoria	68.8	40.6	31.3	68.8	65.6	71.9	62.5	3.1
Surprise	63.0	40.7	29.6	70.4	70.4	81.5	59.3	3.7
El Mirage	66.7	37.5	33.3	62.5	70.8	75.0	75.0	4.2
Wickenburg	68.8	31.3	37.5	62.5	75.0	75.0	93.8	0.0
Youngtown	66.7	40.0	33.3	66.7	80.0	80.0	86.7	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	65.6	40.1	33.8	66.2	69.4	76.4	68.2	3.2
Total percent within Maricopa County	60.0	40.8	33.3	62.9	67.0	77.5	61.1	6.1

7. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for **Child Care** for children birth through age 5. List these organization(s) in the box below.

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Glendale	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Blake Foundation
	CAZColleges
	Central AZ College
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	Stepping Stones Preschool
	SWHD
	United Way
	VSUW
	YMCA
Peoria	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Blake Foundation
	CAZColleges
	Central AZ College
	Child and Family Services
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	United Way
	VSUW
	YMCA

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Surprise	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Blake Foundation
	CAZColleges
	Central AZ College
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	United Way
	VSUW
El Mirage	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Blake Foundation
	CAZColleges
	Central AZ College
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	United Way
	VSUW
	YMCA
Wickenburg	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Blake Foundation
	CAZColleges
	Central AZ College
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	United Way
	VSUW
Youngtown	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Blake Foundation
	CAZColleges
	Central AZ College
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	United Way
VSUW	

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

Section 5:

Education for Children Birth Through Age 5

1. Thinking about **Educational Services** for children birth through age 5, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

Regions:

AREA	How well Educational Services for children birth through age 5, currently meet families' needs (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	0.0	15.4	41.0	20.5	12.8	2.6	7.7
Peoria	0.0	23.3	43.3	16.7	10.0	3.3	3.3
Surprise	0.0	20.0	44.0	24.0	12.0	0.0	0.0
El Mirage	0.0	21.7	39.1	21.7	17.4	0.0	0.0
Wickenburg	0.0	25.0	43.8	18.8	12.5	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	0.0	26.7	40.0	20.0	13.3	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	0.0	20.9	41.9	20.3	12.8	1.4	2.7
Total percent within Maricopa County	0.6	18.3	35.3	21.3	16.7	2.6	5.1

2. Are there waiting lists or families being turned away due to a shortage of Educational Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Are there waiting lists? (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)		
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Glendale	23.1	20.5	56.4
Peoria	20.0	23.3	56.7
Surprise	16.0	32.0	52.0
El Mirage	21.7	21.7	56.5
Wickenburg	6.3	18.8	75.0
Youngtown	13.3	20.0	66.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	18.2	23.0	58.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	23.9	18.0	58.1

3. What are the barriers to families getting Educational Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity											
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	43.6	61.5	23.1	51.3	33.3	10.3	17.9	23.1	35.9	28.2	20.5	5.1
Peoria	53.3	70.0	26.7	53.3	33.3	10.0	13.3	20.0	43.3	23.3	16.7	6.7
Surprise	44.0	60.0	24.0	52.0	28.0	8.0	12.0	16.0	48.0	20.0	16.0	8.0
El Mirage	47.8	56.5	30.4	52.2	34.8	8.7	13.0	17.4	43.5	26.1	13.0	8.7
Wickenburg	50.0	50.0	18.8	62.5	25.0	0.0	12.5	25.0	62.5	31.3	18.8	6.3
Youngtown	53.3	53.3	26.7	60.0	33.3	0.0	6.7	13.3	60.0	26.7	6.7	6.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	48.0	60.1	25.0	54.1	31.8	7.4	13.5	19.6	45.9	25.7	16.2	6.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	49.5	59.9	28.9	57.2	35.5	9.5	14.1	21.7	37.8	24.6	15.6	7.2

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting **Educational Services** for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? **CHECK ONLY ONE.**

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity											
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	5.1	30.8	0.0	28.2	12.8	2.6	5.1	0.0	5.1	5.1	0.0	5.1
Peoria	6.7	36.7	0.0	30.0	6.7	3.3	3.3	0.0	6.7	3.3	0.0	3.3
Surprise	8.0	36.0	0.0	32.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	8.0	0.0	0.0	4.0
El Mirage	8.7	26.1	4.3	30.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	0.0	8.7	0.0	0.0	8.7
Wickenburg	12.5	31.3	0.0	31.3	0.0	0.0	6.3	6.3	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	13.3	33.3	0.0	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	8.1	32.4	0.7	31.1	6.1	2.7	4.1	0.7	8.1	2.0	0.0	4.1
Total percent within Maricopa County	8.2	30.1	0.5	29.7	11.2	3.6	1.7	0.4	7.3	1.9	0.9	4.5

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Educational Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts on Educational Services for children birth through age 5 (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	Very High	High	Little	None	Don't Know
Glendale	38.5	25.6	2.6	0.0	33.3
Peoria	43.3	20.0	3.3	0.0	33.3
Surprise	44.0	24.0	4.0	0.0	28.0
El Mirage	39.1	21.7	4.3	0.0	34.8
Wickenburg	37.5	25.0	12.5	0.0	25.0
Youngtown	40.0	26.7	6.7	0.0	26.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	40.5	23.6	4.7	0.0	31.1
Total percent within Maricopa County	39.8	22.6	4.1	0.5	32.9

6. List of key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for Educational Services for children birth through 5. List this organization(s) in the box below.

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Glendale	AEA
	Arizona Child Care Association
	Arizona Department of Education
	Association for Supportive Child Care
	Catholic Charities Head Start
	Child and Family Resources, Inc.
	Children' Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Quality First
	Glendale Elementary School District
	Head Start
	Quality First
	SARRC reverse integrated toddler preschool and pre K. programs
	School Districts
	Southwest Human Development
	Southwest Human Services
United Way	
United Ways of Arizona	
Peoria	AEA
	Arizona Child Care Association
	Arizona Department of Education
	Association for Supportive Child Care
	Catholic Charities Head Start
	Child and Family Resources, Inc.
	Children' Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Quality First
	Head Start
	PUSD ECCEL Program.
	Quality First
	SARRC reverse integrated toddler preschool and pre K. programs
	School Districts
	Southwest Human Development
	Southwest Human Services
United Ways of Arizona	

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Surprise	AEA
	Arizona Child Care Association
	Arizona Department of Education
	Association for Supportive Child Care
	Child and Family Resources, Inc.
	Children' Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Quality First
	Head Start
	Quality First
	SARRC reverse integrated toddler preschool and pre K. programs
	School Districts
	Southwest Human Development
	Southwest Human Services
United Way	
United Ways of Arizona	
El Mirage	AEA
	Arizona Child Care Association
	Association for Supportive Child Care
	Child and Family Resources, Inc.
	Children' Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Quality First
	Head Start
	SARRC reverse integrated toddler preschool and pre K. programs
	School Districts
	Southwest Human Development
	Southwest Human Services
	United Ways of Arizona
	Wickenburg
Arizona Child Care Association	
Association for Supportive Child Care	
Child and Family Resources	
Children' Action Alliance	
First Things First	
Quality First	
Head Start	
SARRC reverse integrated toddler preschool and pre K. programs	
School Districts	
Southwest Human Development	
Southwest Human Services	
United Ways of Arizona	

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Youngtown	AEA
	Arizona Child Care Association
	Association for Supportive Child Care
	Child and Family Resources
	Children' Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Quality First
	Head Start
	SARRC reverse integrated toddler preschool and pre K. programs
	Southwest Human Development
	Southwest Human Services
United Ways of Arizona	

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

Section 6:

Literacy Development Services for Children Birth Through Age 5 and Their Families

1. Thinking about **Literacy Development Services** for children birth through age 5 and their families, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	How well Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 and their families, currently meet families' needs (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	6.7	10.0	40.0	23.3	6.7	3.3	10.0
Peoria	4.5	13.6	50.0	13.6	4.5	4.5	9.1
Surprise	5.6	16.7	44.4	22.2	0.0	5.6	5.6
El Mirage	6.7	13.3	46.7	13.3	0.0	13.3	6.7
Wickenburg	0.0	25.0	50.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	8.3
Youngtown	0.0	25.0	50.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	8.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	4.6	15.6	45.9	18.3	2.8	4.6	8.3
Total percent within Maricopa County	4.1	10.8	41.5	19.3	7.9	6.4	10.0

2. Are there families being turned away due to a shortage of Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Are there families turned away? (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)		
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Glendale	16.7	16.7	66.7
Peoria	13.6	18.2	68.2
Surprise	16.7	22.2	61.1
El Mirage	20.0	13.3	66.7
Wickenburg	8.3	25.0	66.7
Youngtown	16.7	16.7	66.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	15.6	18.3	66.1
Total percent within Maricopa County	21.2	14.1	64.7

3. What are the barriers to families getting **Literacy Development Services** for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY? **YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.**

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	No child care provided	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	33.3	30.0	26.7	73.3	30.0	3.3	16.7	43.3	13.3	10.0	13.3	16.7	0.0
Peoria	50.0	31.8	31.8	68.2	22.7	0.0	13.6	45.5	9.1	9.1	13.6	13.6	0.0
Surprise	38.9	33.3	22.2	77.8	16.7	0.0	16.7	44.4	11.1	11.1	11.1	5.6	0.0
El Mirage	40.0	26.7	33.3	66.7	20.0	0.0	20.0	53.3	6.7	13.3	13.3	6.7	0.0
Wickenburg	50.0	33.3	16.7	75.0	8.3	0.0	16.7	58.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	50.0	33.3	25.0	75.0	16.7	0.0	16.7	58.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	42.2	31.2	26.6	72.5	21.1	0.9	16.5	48.6	10.1	10.1	11.9	9.2	0.0
Total percent within Maricopa County	37.9	29.4	25.6	69.4	26.3	1.4	21.9	46.8	8.8	9.5	14.6	14.1	0.9

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	No child care provided	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	6.7	6.7	0.0	53.3	16.7	0.0	0.0	6.7	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7
Peoria	9.1	4.5	4.5	54.5	13.6	0.0	0.0	9.1	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Surprise	5.6	5.6	0.0	66.7	5.6	0.0	0.0	11.1	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
El Mirage	6.7	0.0	6.7	60.0	6.7	0.0	0.0	13.3	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wickenburg	8.3	0.0	0.0	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	8.3	0.0	0.0	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.7	8.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	7.3	3.7	1.8	59.6	9.2	0.0	0.0	11.0	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	6.9	4.6	1.7	52.8	15.1	0.3	0.5	10.5	2.4	0.0	1.4	1.0	2.6

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts on Literacy Development Services for children birth through age 5 (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	Very High	High	Little	None	Don't Know
Glendale	20.7	24.1	3.4	6.9	44.8
Peoria	13.6	22.7	4.5	9.1	50.0
Surprise	16.7	33.3	5.6	5.6	38.9
El Mirage	13.3	33.3	6.7	0.0	46.7
Wickenburg	8.3	33.3	8.3	8.3	41.7
Youngtown	8.3	41.7	0.0	8.3	41.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	14.8	29.6	4.6	6.5	44.4
Total percent within Maricopa County	20.2	28.8	5.2	3.1	42.7

6. List of key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for Literacy Development Services for children birth through 5. List this organization(s) in the box below.

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Glendale	A Stepping Stone Foundation Arizona Department of Education Arizona Language and Literacy Center Arizona Literacy and Learning Center AZAAP City of Avondale First Things First Phoenix Public Library Public Libraries Quality First Reach Out and Read Reading is Fundamental Southwest Human Development SWHD- Reach Out and Read. United Way Unlimited Potential in South Phoenix Valley of the Sun United Way
Peoria	Arizona Department of Education Arizona Language and Literacy Center AZAAP City of Avondale First Things First Quality First Reach Out and Read Reading is Fundamental Southwest Human Development SWHD- Reach Out and Read. Unlimited Potential in South Phoenix
Surprise	A Stepping Stone Foundation Arizona Department of Education Arizona Literacy and Learning Center AZAAP City of Avondale First Things First Quality First Reach Out and Read Reading is Fundamental Southwest Human Development SWHD- Reach Out and Read. United Way Unlimited Potential in South Phoenix Valley of the Sun United Way

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
El Mirage	AZAAP
	City of Avondale
	First Things First
	Quality First
	Reach Out and Read
	Reading is Fundamental
	Southwest Human Development
	Unlimited Potential in South Phoenix
Wickenburg	City of Avondale
	Elementary School
	First Things First
	Quality First
	Reading is Fundamental
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD- Reach Out and Read.
Youngtown	AZAAP
	City of Avondale
	First Things First
	Quality First
	Reach Out and Read
	Reading is Fundamental
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD- Reach Out and Read.

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

Section 7:

Services for Children Birth Through Age 5 with Special Needs and Their Families

1. Thinking about services for children birth through age 5 with **Special Needs** and their families, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	How well services for children birth through age 5 with Special Needs and their families, currently meet families' needs (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	0.0	12.9	25.8	16.1	19.4	6.5	19.4
Peoria	4.5	18.2	27.3	13.6	13.6	9.1	13.6
Surprise	0.0	16.7	22.2	22.2	16.7	11.1	11.1
El Mirage	0.0	17.6	23.5	5.9	23.5	11.8	17.6
Wickenburg	0.0	30.0	30.0	0.0	30.0	10.0	0.0
Youngtown	0.0	27.3	27.3	.0	27.3	18.2	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	0.9	18.3	25.7	11.9	20.2	10.1	12.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	1.1	18.2	25.5	13.9	19.2	9.1	13.0

2. Are there waiting lists or families being turned away due to a shortage of services for children through age 5 with **Special Needs and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY?**

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Are there waiting lists or families turned away? (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)		
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Glendale	41.9	9.7	48.4
Peoria	40.9	4.5	54.5
Surprise	44.4	0.0	55.6
El Mirage	52.9	0.0	47.1
Wickenburg	70.0	0.0	30.0
Youngtown	72.7	0.0	27.3
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	49.5	3.7	46.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	44.8	7.4	47.9

3. What are the barriers to families getting services for children through age 5 with Special Needs in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	No child care provided	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	48.4	48.4	45.2	61.3	54.8	29.0	25.8	29.0	29.0	12.9	25.8	25.8	0.0
Peoria	63.6	59.1	54.5	68.2	59.1	36.4	27.3	36.4	36.4	9.1	22.7	27.3	0.0
Surprise	61.1	61.1	55.6	66.7	61.1	38.9	27.8	33.3	44.4	11.1	22.2	22.2	0.0
El Mirage	58.8	58.8	58.8	58.8	70.6	35.6	29.4	35.3	41.2	11.8	23.5	23.5	0.0
Wickenburg	70.0	80.0	70.0	50.0	90.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	60.0	20.0	30.0	30.0	0.0
Youngtown	72.7	81.8	72.7	54.5	90.9	45.5	36.4	45.5	63.6	18.2	27.3	27.3	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	59.6	60.6	56.0	61.5	66.1	35.8	29.4	34.9	41.3	12.8	24.8	25.7	0.0
Total percent within Maricopa County	54.6	54.6	49.9	58.8	62.8	29.1	26.8	36.3	31.1	14.1	26.8	25.4	1.7

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting services for children through age 5 with Special Needs in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	No child care provided	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	3.2	9.7	3.2	32.3	32.3	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	3.2	3.2	6.5
Peoria	4.5	13.6	4.5	36.4	31.8	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Surprise	5.6	11.1	5.6	33.3	33.3	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
El Mirage	5.9	11.8	5.9	23.5	41.2	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wickenburg	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	40.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Youngtown	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	45.5	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	5.5	11.0	5.5	27.5	35.8	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	0.9	0.9	1.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	5.2	13.3	5.6	26.1	34.4	2.3	0.5	0.2	0.3	5.3	1.6	1.1	4.1

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on services for children through age 5 with Special Needs and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts on services for children birth through age 5 with Special Needs and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	Very High	High	Little	None	Don't Know
Glendale	33.3	23.3	6.7	0.0	36.7
Peoria	22.7	27.3	13.6	0.0	36.4
Surprise	27.8	27.8	11.1	0.0	33.3
El Mirage	29.4	29.4	11.8	0.0	29.4
Wickenburg	40.0	40.0	10.0	0.0	10.0
Youngtown	36.4	45.5	9.1	0.0	9.1
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	30.6	29.6	10.2	0.0	29.6
Total percent within Maricopa County	24.0	32.0	8.0	4.0	32.0

6. List of key organization(s) that is providing STRONG LEADERSHIP within YOUR COMMUNITY for services for children through age 5 with Special Needs and their families.

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Glendale	Arizona Department of Education
	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	AZ EIP
	AZA United
	Child & Family Resources, Inc.
	Department of Economic Security
	First Things First
	Guthrie Mainstream
	H.O.P.E. Group
	Healthy Steps
	LIFE
	Maricopa County
	PUSD
	Quality First
	Raising Children with Special Needs
	Raising Special Kids
	Rise
	SARRC
	SEEK
	Southwest Human Development
	Special Kids
SWHD	
United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona	
United Way	
VSUW	
Peoria	Arizona Department of Education
	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	AZ EIP
	AZA United
	Child & Family Resources, Inc.
	Department of Economic Security
	First Things First
	Guthrie Mainstream
	H.O.P.E. Group
	Healthy Steps
	LIFE
	Maricopa County
	PUSD

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Peoria	Quality First
	Raising Special Kids
	Rise
	SARRC
	SEEK
	Southwest Human Development
	Special Kids
	SWHD
	VSUW
Surprise	Arizona Department of Education
	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	AZA United
	First Things First
	Guthrie Mainstream
	H.O.P.E. Group
	Healthy Steps
	LIFE
	Maricopa County
	Quality First
	Raising Special Kids
	SARRC
	SEEK
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
United Way	
VSUW	
El Mirage	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	AZA United
	First Things First
	Guthrie Mainstream
	H.O.P.E. Group
	Healthy Steps
	LIFE
	Maricopa County
	Quality First
	Raising Special Kids
	SARRC
	SEEK
	Southwest Human Development
SWHD	
VSUW	

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Wickenburg	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	AZA United
	First Things First
	Guthrie Mainstream
	H.O.P.E. Group
	Healthy Steps
	LIFE
	Maricopa County
	Quality First
	Raising Special Kids
	SARRC
	SEEK
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
VSUW	
Youngtown	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	AZA United
	First Things First
	First Things First
	Guthrie Mainstream
	H.O.P.E. Group
	Healthy Steps
	LIFE
	Maricopa County
	Quality First
	Raising Special Kids
	SARRC
	SEEK
	Southwest Human Development
SWHD	
VSUW	

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

Section 8:

Health Services for Children Birth Through Age 5

1. Thinking about **Health Services** for children birth through age 5, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	How well Health Services for children birth through age 5 and their families, currently meet families' needs (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	0.0	12.5	31.3	18.8	21.9	9.4	6.3
Peoria	0.0	17.4	30.4	17.4	17.4	8.7	8.7
Surprise	0.0	15.8	26.3	21.1	26.3	5.3	5.3
El Mirage	0.0	15.8	31.6	15.8	26.3	5.3	5.3
Wickenburg	0.0	7.7	30.8	23.1	30.8	7.7	0.0
Youngtown	0.0	7.7	30.8	23.1	30.8	7.7	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	0.0	13.4	30.3	19.3	24.4	7.6	5.0
Total percent within Maricopa County	1.3	13.3	27.9	21.6	24.1	4.5	7.3

2. Are there waiting lists or children birth through age 5 turned away due to a shortage of Health Services in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Are there waiting lists or children turned away? (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)		
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Glendale	28.1	25.0	46.9
Peoria	34.8	21.7	43.5
Surprise	42.1	26.3	31.6
El Mirage	42.1	21.1	36.8
Wickenburg	46.2	23.1	30.8
Youngtown	53.8	15.4	30.8
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	38.7	22.7	38.7
Total percent within Maricopa County	34.7	20.6	44.7

3. What are the barriers to children birth through age 5 getting Health Services in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	No child care provided	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	46.9	71.9	50.0	65.6	37.5	25.0	34.4	40.6	21.9	12.5	56.3	21.9	3.1
Peoria	56.5	73.9	52.2	60.9	34.8	34.8	34.8	56.5	26.1	17.4	52.2	26.1	4.3
Surprise	52.6	63.2	42.1	63.2	36.8	36.8	42.1	47.4	31.6	15.8	52.6	21.1	5.3
El Mirage	47.4	63.2	42.1	57.9	36.8	36.8	36.8	47.4	31.6	15.8	57.9	15.8	5.3
Wickenburg	61.5	76.9	46.2	69.2	38.5	46.2	46.2	53.8	46.2	15.4	53.8	23.1	0.0
Youngtown	53.8	69.2	38.5	61.5	46.2	38.5	38.5	53.8	46.2	15.4	53.8	23.1	7.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	52.1	69.7	46.2	63.0	37.8	34.5	37.8	48.7	31.1	15.1	54.6	21.8	4.2
Total percent within Maricopa County	55.5	69.2	39.4	56.9	40.6	28.9	34.3	43.8	23.9	16.5	52.3	26.1	4.8

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to children birth through age 5 getting Health Services in YOUR COMMUNITY? CHECK ONLY ONE.

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	No child care provided	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	3.1	34.4	6.3	25.0	6.3	3.1	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	0.0	6.3
Peoria	4.3	34.8	4.3	21.7	8.7	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.0	0.0	8.7
Surprise	5.3	26.3	5.3	21.1	10.5	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.8	0.0	10.5
El Mirage	5.3	26.3	5.3	15.8	10.5	5.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.1	0.0	10.5
Wickenburg	7.7	23.1	0.0	15.4	15.4	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.1	0.0	7.7
Youngtown	7.7	15.4	0.0	15.4	15.4	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.1	0.0	15.4
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	5.0	28.6	4.2	20.2	10.1	5.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.8	0.0	9.2
Total percent within Maricopa County	6.1	31.1	4.1	20.4	13.4	2.5	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	14.7	0.3	5.8

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Health Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts on Health Services for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	Very High	High	Little	None	Don't Know
Glendale	53.1	18.8	12.5	0.0	15.6
Peoria	56.5	17.4	8.7	0.0	17.4
Surprise	57.9	21.1	15.8	0.0	5.3
El Mirage	63.2	15.8	10.5	0.0	10.5
Wickenburg	69.2	15.4	7.7	0.0	7.7
Youngtown	69.2	15.4	7.7	0.0	7.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	59.7	17.6	10.9	0.0	11.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	52.7	18.2	9.9	0.4	18.7

6. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing **STRONG LEADERSHIP** within **YOUR COMMUNITY** for **Health Services** for children birth through age 5. List this organization(s) in the box below.

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Glendale	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Children's Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	MIHS
	Phoenix Children's Hospital
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	St. Josephs Hospital
	SWHD
	United Way
	VSUW
Peoria	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Children's Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	MIHS
	Phoenix Children's Hospital
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	St. Josephs Hospital
	SWHD
	VSUW
	Surprise
Children's Action Alliance	
First Things First	
Maricopa County	
Phoenix Children's Hospital	
Quality First	
Southwest Human Development	
St. Josephs Hospital	
SWHD	
United Way	
VSUW	

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
El Mirage	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Children's Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Phoenix Children's Hospital
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	St. Josephs Hospital
	SWHD
	VSUW
Wickenburg	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Children's Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Phoenix Children's Hospital
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	St. Josephs Hospital
	SWHD
	VSUW
Youngtown	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	Children's Action Alliance
	First Things First
	Maricopa County
	Phoenix Children's Hospital
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	St. Josephs Hospital
	SWHD
	VSUW

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

Section 9:

Social Services Support for Children Birth Through Age 5 and Their Families

1. Thinking about **Social Services Support** for children birth through age 5 and their families, please rate how well these services currently meet families' needs throughout YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	How well Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 and their families, currently meet families' needs (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)						
	Excellent	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor	Not sure
Glendale	0.0	12.1	30.3	21.2	15.2	15.2	6.1
Peoria	0.0	8.3	29.2	20.8	16.7	16.7	8.3
Surprise	0.0	10.0	25.0	20.0	25.0	20.0	0.0
El Mirage	0.0	11.1	22.2	16.7	22.2	22.2	5.6
Wickenburg	0.0	15.4	15.4	30.8	23.1	15.4	0.0
Youngtown	0.0	15.4	15.4	30.8	23.1	15.4	0.0
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	0.0	11.6	24.8	22.3	19.8	17.4	4.1
Total percent within Maricopa County	0.6	9.0	25.3	23.4	22.3	14.7	4.7

2. Are there waiting lists or children birth through age 5 turned away due to a shortage of Health Services in YOUR COMMUNITY?

If you answered YES, please provide a specific example(s) in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Are there Waiting lists or families turned away? (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)		
	Yes	No	Don't Know
Glendale	30.3	18.2	51.5
Peoria	33.3	12.5	54.2
Surprise	40.0	15.0	45.0
El Mirage	38.9	11.1	50.0
Wickenburg	30.8	15.4	53.8
Youngtown	38.5	7.7	53.8
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	34.7	14.0	51.2
Total percent within Maricopa County	38.0	9.8	52.2

3. What are the barriers to families getting Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU MAY CHECK MORE THAN ONE.

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	No child care provided	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	42.4	39.4	45.5	84.8	45.5	18.2	18.2	24.2	24.2	15.2	33.3	9.1	3.0
Peoria	50.0	50.0	50.0	83.3	50.0	16.7	16.7	29.2	25.0	16.7	33.3	8.3	4.2
Surprise	45.0	50.0	45.0	80.0	60.0	15.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	15.0	35.0	5.0	5.0
El Mirage	44.4	55.6	44.4	77.8	61.1	11.1	22.2	27.8	27.8	16.7	44.4	5.6	5.6
Wickenburg	53.8	61.5	38.5	84.6	53.8	15.4	23.1	30.8	38.5	23.1	46.2	7.7	0.0
Youngtown	46.2	61.5	46.2	84.6	61.5	15.4	15.4	23.1	38.5	23.1	38.5	7.7	7.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	46.3	50.4	45.5	82.6	53.7	15.7	19.8	26.4	28.1	17.4	37.2	7.4	4.1
Total percent within Maricopa County	45.1	50.1	43.1	76.6	56.7	18.0	21.7	29.1	24.5	16.0	38.8	8.8	5.3

4. From the selections you made above, what is the SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT barrier to families getting **Social Services Support** for children birth through age 5 in YOUR COMMUNITY? **CHECK ONLY ONE.**

AREA	Percentage of respondents selecting barrier within each geographic entity												
	Transportation	Cost	Location(s)	Awareness	Not enough services	Difficult to enroll	Culture	Language	Quality	No child care provided	Immigration status	Difficult to take time off from work/school	Other
Glendale	3.0	6.1	3.0	36.4	33.3	0.0	3.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	6.1	0.0	3.0
Peoria	4.2	8.3	4.2	33.3	37.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.2	0.0	4.2	0.0	4.2
Surprise	5.0	10.0	5.0	20.0	45.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0
El Mirage	5.6	11.1	5.6	16.7	44.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	0.0	11.1	0.0	0.0
Wickenburg	7.7	15.4	0.0	23.1	30.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.0	7.7	0.0	7.7
Youngtown	7.7	15.4	0.0	15.4	38.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.0	7.7	0.0	7.7
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	5.0	9.9	3.3	26.4	38.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	5.8	0.0	6.6	0.0	4.1
Total percent within Maricopa County	5.0	10.4	2.5	24.8	40.5	0.6	0.3	0.2	4.8	0.6	7.3	0.3	2.8

5. Please rate the impact of recent budget cuts on Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY.

If you rated this question Very High or High, please provide specific examples in YOUR COMMUNITY.

AREA	Impact of recent budget cuts on Social Services Support for children birth through age 5 and their families in YOUR COMMUNITY (Percentage of respondents within each geographic entity)				
	Very High	High	Little	None	Don't Know
Glendale	33.3	24.2	12.1	0.0	30.3
Peoria	37.5	20.8	8.3	0.0	33.3
Surprise	50.0	15.0	15.0	0.0	20.0
El Mirage	50.0	16.7	11.1	0.0	22.2
Wickenburg	61.5	15.4	7.7	0.0	15.4
Youngtown	61.5	23.1	0.0	0.0	15.4
Total percent within Northwest Maricopa Region	45.5	19.8	9.9	0.0	24.8
Total percent within Maricopa County	46.0	24.4	7.0	0.3	22.4

6. Please identify if there is a key organization(s) that is providing **STRONG LEADERSHIP** within **YOUR COMMUNITY** for **Social Services Support** for children birth through age 5 and their families. List this organization(s) in the box below.

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
Glendale	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	CPS
	First Things First
	GALA
	Maricopa County
	NASW
	PAFCO
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
	United Way
	VSUW
YMCA	
Peoria	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	CPS
	First Things First
	GALA
	Maricopa County
	NASW
	PAFCO
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
	VSUW
Surprise	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	First Things First
	GALA
	Maricopa County
	NASW
	PAFCO
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
	United Way
	VSUW

AREA	List of key organization(s) that are providing strong leadership
El Mirage	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	First Things First
	GALA
	Maricopa County
	NASW
	PAFCO
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
	VSUW
Wickenburg	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	First Things First
	GALA
	Maricopa County
	NASW
	PAFCO
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
	VSUW
Youngtown	Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC)
	First Things First
	GALA
	Maricopa County
	NASW
	PAFCO
	Quality First
	Southwest Human Development
	SWHD
	Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
	VSUW

Note: Some responses may indicate the same organization yet are referred to in the report per the individual responses.

APPENDIX B NORTHWEST MARICOPA REGION STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS AND PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

SECTION I. STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Introduction

Meetings were held on June 10th at Peoria City Hall, and June 17th at the Benevilla Family Resource Center in Surprise, AZ. There were a total of 14 participants in attendance, including Health educators, case managers, a director of a Head Start, a clinical supervisor from Arizona Child Care Association, owners of childcare and preschool facilities, a nurse and representative from Maricopa Public Health, a homeless liaison, a Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services (TOPS) health educator, and a community outreach specialist.

Assets

A variety of programs and services were mentioned as assets in the Northwest Maricopa Region, including WIC, childcare, early childhood education (Head Start and Early Head Start), the Literacy Program for Child and Parent, the Maricopa County Safety, nutrition, Activity & Care for Kids program (SNACK), ACCESS Health Care, Peer Counseling for Lactating Parents, the NICU, Parenting Programs, and the Emergency Scholarship Program.

However, some of the attendees also mentioned such agencies as the Quality First Program, St. Mary's Food Bank, the Grand-parenting program (Kids and Kin), Maricopa County Public Health Immunizations, parent coaching and education programs, agency partnership and collaborations, and the service provided to families with disabled and special needs children as community efforts that are working well in the communities.

In regards to key organizations that provide effective leadership in serving children five and under and their families in the Northwest Maricopa Region, participants mentioned such agencies as the Valley of the Sun United Way, St. Luke's Health Initiatives, Rio Salado Community College, the Salvation Army, Kids Care, Southwest Human Development, Healthy Start, Head Start, Glendale Community College, women refugee centers, and different food banks.

Participants thought it would be possible to build on these assets if there were a better referral process used for more outreach among agencies toward families, and parent education. Participants also suggested mobile units, satellite offices, a centralized hub for

resources (preferable an online link to services in various regions), and making the emergency scholarships available across the board instead of just one area or region.

Needs

In regards to needs not being met in the community, the majority of participants agreed that childcare, mental health services, social services, and healthcare were not being met. The participants also mentioned issues, such as families not having food, shelter, nutrition education, and clothing. Parent and child education, staff and providers not aware of the different language and cultural barriers, health screenings, scholarships, and services for disabled and special needs children and their families were all considered areas of need among participants.

Along with the above mentioned areas of need, there were a number of barriers discussed including the need to support the development, health, and education of their children for the following: communication, transportation, the failing economy (no money, jobs, or homes), language and cultural barriers, lack of childcare services, families not knowing what services are available, lack of knowledge on the providers' behalf, a lack of trust by the families (fear factor), the application process being too cumbersome, sensitivity to overworked employees trying to assist families.

Children and their families are being turned away from a variety of services due to the DES and Kids Care waiting lists, unaffordable childcare, no money or jobs, Immigration Laws (families do not know their rights), and parents' lack of education and low skill levels.

There is a need for more advertising related to FTF and commercials about available services. More pamphlets and information need to be made available at childcare centers, health clinic, and schools. Families need transportation and/or mobile units to get to available services. Also, gaps in services can be addressed through programs that train and educate the childcare providers. People from other organizations and agencies should have training together to educate each other on best practices and available services. In an effort to address mental health issues, participants suggested increasing the screening efforts, along with speeding up the screening process so that funding can be granted, and completing assessments earlier to get orders in.

In order to improve the lack of knowledge of services being offered and where to find them, a directory is currently being created in the Northwest Maricopa Region as a resource for families.

Information and Coordination

The participants agreed that families were not aware of the available services being provided in their communities and that there is a lack of outreach between the providers and the families. Navigating resources is difficult for families and they do not know where to go to get the information. According to the participants, the families do not

knowing the process for qualifying for services and the resource directory for the most part is not bilingual.

When it comes to the communication and the collaboration among agencies and organizations in the community, the opinion of the two groups differed. One group felt that collaboration is lacking and agencies are not familiar with each other due to the lack of networking. However, the other group felt that the organizations were working together well. Though both group opinions differed, they both agreed that continued and improved communication among the agencies and organizations can only help in the effort to serve children five and under and their families effectively.

Suggestions and Ideas

Childcare, healthcare services, mental health services were all mentioned universally among both meeting groups in regards to the FTF funding priorities. Additional funding priorities mentioned were social services, Head Start programs, early childhood education, scholarship programs, Preconception and prenatal education, as well as collaboration efforts between agencies to prevent overlapping services.

SECTION II. PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

Introduction

During the month of June, personal telephone interviews were conducted within the Northwest Maricopa Region in an effort to encourage core neighborhood leaders to share insights and opinions about services for children five and under and their families in their perspective community. The targeted population included parents, faith leaders, neighborhood activists and leaders of community groups. After numerous attempts to contact the stakeholders provided by FTF (e-mail and phone), 19 responses were provided for this report. The towns and cities from which interview participants were drawn included: Glendale, Peoria, Surprise, El Mirage, Wickenburg and Youngtown. Some of the interviewees were located in other cities or towns but provided services in the FTF Northwest Maricopa Region. Several interviewees chose to provide their responses to the interview questions in written form. Written responses were reviewed and follow-up e-mails or calls were needed for clarification. There was a broad range of interviewees from parents, childcare center owners, grant writers, and community groups. Attachment B is the interview protocol.

Assets

When asked about services and community efforts that are working well in their communities, interviewees described a number of programs and organizations. Examples given by interviewees include:

- The Quality First program.

- Preschool programs.
- The Library Story Time program.
- Childcare scholarships for low-income families. Interviewees feel that these scholarships are truly the only way many families can get by. The scholarships are needed to stabilize families in the current economy.
- Home visitation programs, developmental screening services and developmental playgroups are working well and are reaching the most at-risk populations, ensuring that young children have opportunities for healthy development. These programs are also empowering parents by increasing their knowledge, which will have a benefit for generations to come.

Interviewees were also queried about key organizations providing leadership concerning early childhood services in their areas. The following organizations were reported:

- Scottsdale Human Development
- Southwest Human Development
- First Things First
- Quality First
- Arizona Children's Association
- Phoenix Children's Hospital – developmental playgroups; home visiting
- TOPS – Teen Outreach Parenting Services
- Peoria Unified School District – Community Preschool Program
- Valley of the Sun United Way
- Association for Supportive Child Care
- Banner Health (East Valley)

Needs

Interviewees were asked to describe unmet needs within their communities for children five and under and their families. In this context, they discussed services from which this group may have been turned away or denied as well as the barriers to receiving needed services. The list of unmet needs provided in the interviews is as follows:

- Community education.
- Families do not know how to get information on available services.
- Affordable and quality childcare. The interviewees expressed that it is incredibly challenging for parents to find childcare situations that meet the needs of their children while working within family financial constraints.
- Services for special needs children and their families.

- Enough providers in the service area.
- Preschool programs for families that are not low-income families.

As mentioned, barriers were also discussed both in the context of families being denied services and effectively prevented from receiving them. Most of the interviewees did not know of any reasons families were being denied or turned away, but they did share some of what they considered as barriers. At the top of the list was the Department of Employment Security (DES) childcare waiting list. Families being able to find affordable childcare were mentioned, along with parents' education and skill levels, and the need for transportation.

A lack of awareness that services exist, as well as a lack of awareness about healthy child development, was also stated as a barrier preventing families from receiving services.

Information and Coordination

Interviewees were asked how well do they think organizations are working together to serve young children and their families as well as how this can be improved.

An interviewee stated that the collaboration among agencies is starting to improve with the agencies working more closely with each other. The interviewee gave an example by stating that organizations are beginning to co-locate services and work with partners who have the expertise to provide programming for specific target populations. The interviewee also suggested that the organizations need opportunities to connect and to see where there is an overlap in services.

Interviewees were asked to comment on how well families in their community are aware of or know how to find services or resources from which they could benefit. The primary response to this question was that families are not aware of the available services provided or where to locate the services or information that may give them insight on how to qualify for services.

The interviewees suggest that families are becoming more aware slowly. They also expressed that most of the information families are receiving is travelling through word of mouth and that FTF has to continue to blanket the area to ensure families are aware.

Suggestions and Ideas

Throughout the interviews, the participants were asked to suggest how to improve services for children five and under and their families and how to address these families' unmet needs in their community. Many of them said they did not know or were not sure, but one interviewee made the following suggestions:

- The Northwest Council's concept of developing a Child Find Coalition will help significantly in improving the system for special needs children.

- As for affordable and quality childcare, it is going to take significant resources, along with communication and education efforts. The interviewee expressed her concern that many community members have no idea about some of the situations children are being left in due to their parents' inability to find affordable childcare, as well as of the long-term impacts this can have on the child.

Lastly, interview participants were asked to identify what they felt to be the top priority for FTF funding in their community. The responses are below:

- FTF needs to work on sustainable solutions to increasing access to affordable and quality childcare.
- FTF needs to focus on early childhood education.
- FTF should focus their funding efforts on parent and child education.

APPENDIX C

ST. LUKE'S HEALTH INITIATIVES SURVEY RESULTS

In 2008, the Arizona Health Survey was completed by St. Luke's Health Initiatives. The survey included more than 4,000 households, which makes it one of the most extensive surveys ever undertaken in the state. The purpose of the survey was to help researchers, community leaders, and policy makers understand the health and well-being of Arizona citizens. The results can be used to create new opportunities for Arizona-specific policies, grants, planning, community engagement, and program development.

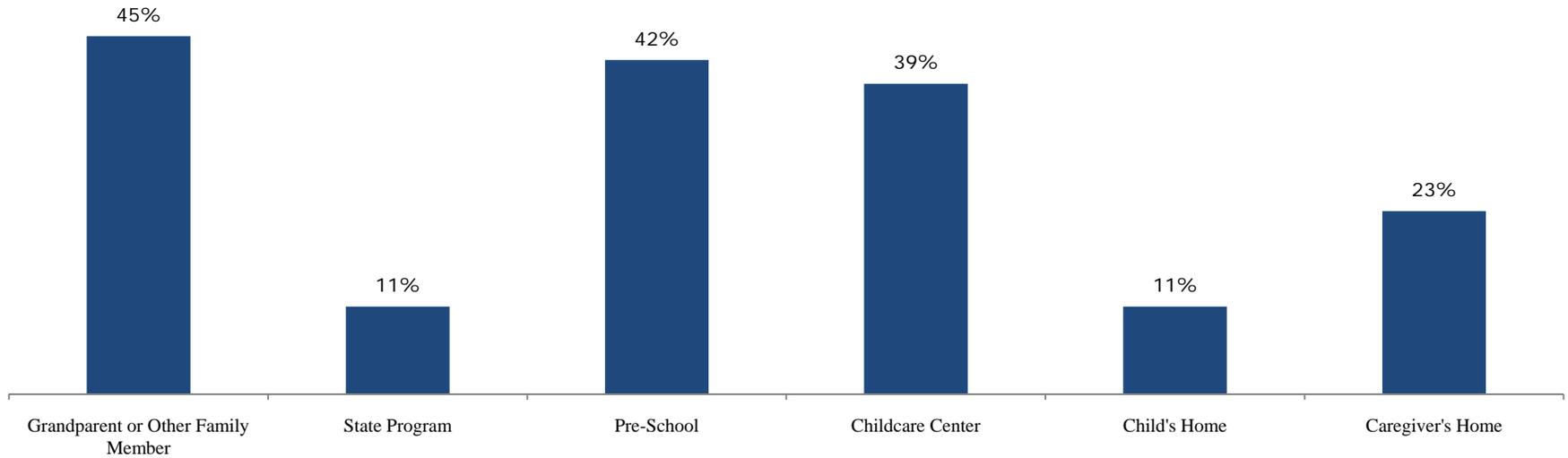
Our area of focus for this report is the child survey, which screened children between the ages of 0 and 12 years old. The adult member of the household with the most knowledge of the child's health was given the survey via telephone. Nearly 650 respondents answered this survey, primarily consisting of Maricopa County residents.

This section highlights a few of the survey questions and responses from these households with children.

Childcare Providers for a Child in a Typical Week

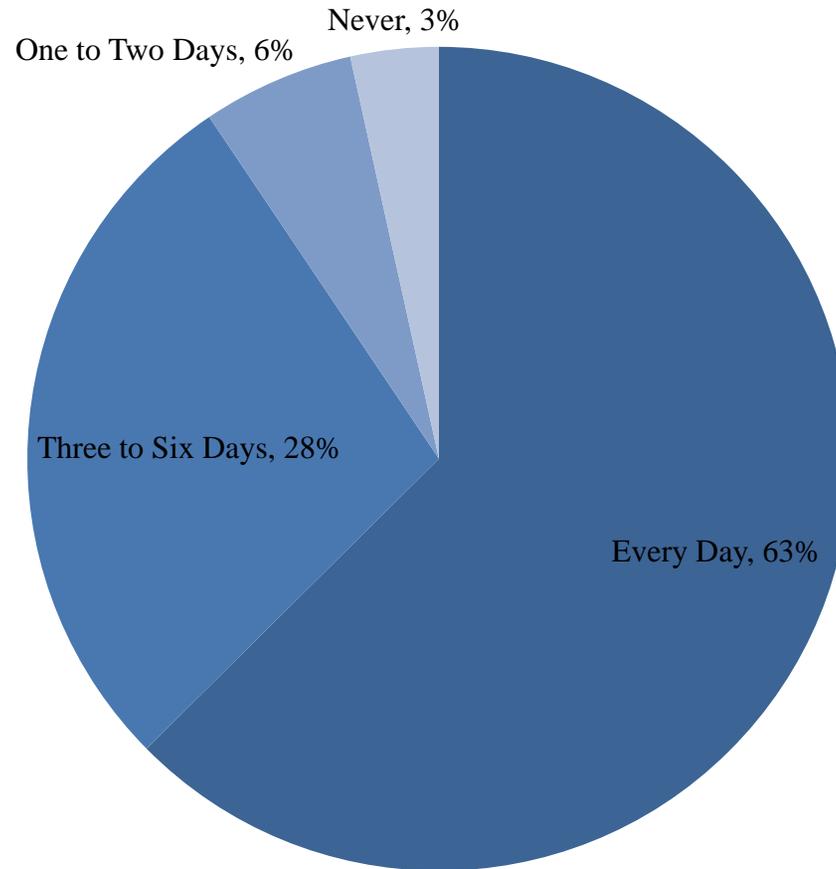
Respondents may choose more than one provider, so these numbers add to more than 100%.

Based on these survey results, the most common child care provider in a typical week was the child's grandparent or other family member. Close behind is the number of children who received care from a pre-school.



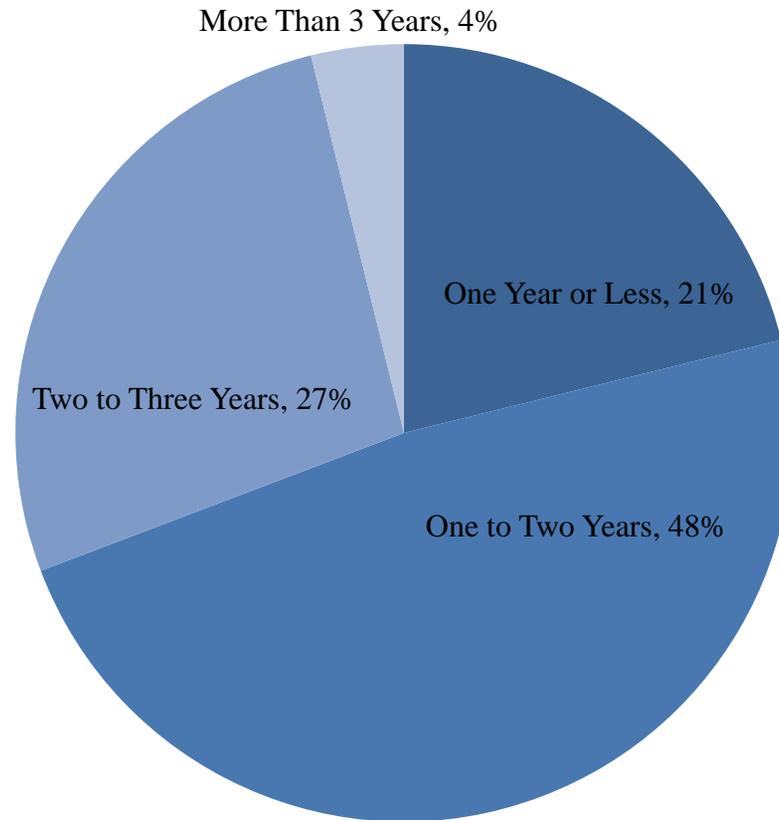
Days Per Week You Read with Your Child

Studies have shown that reading to a child on a frequent basis is an important factor in their literary development. A majority of respondents reported reading to their child on a daily basis.



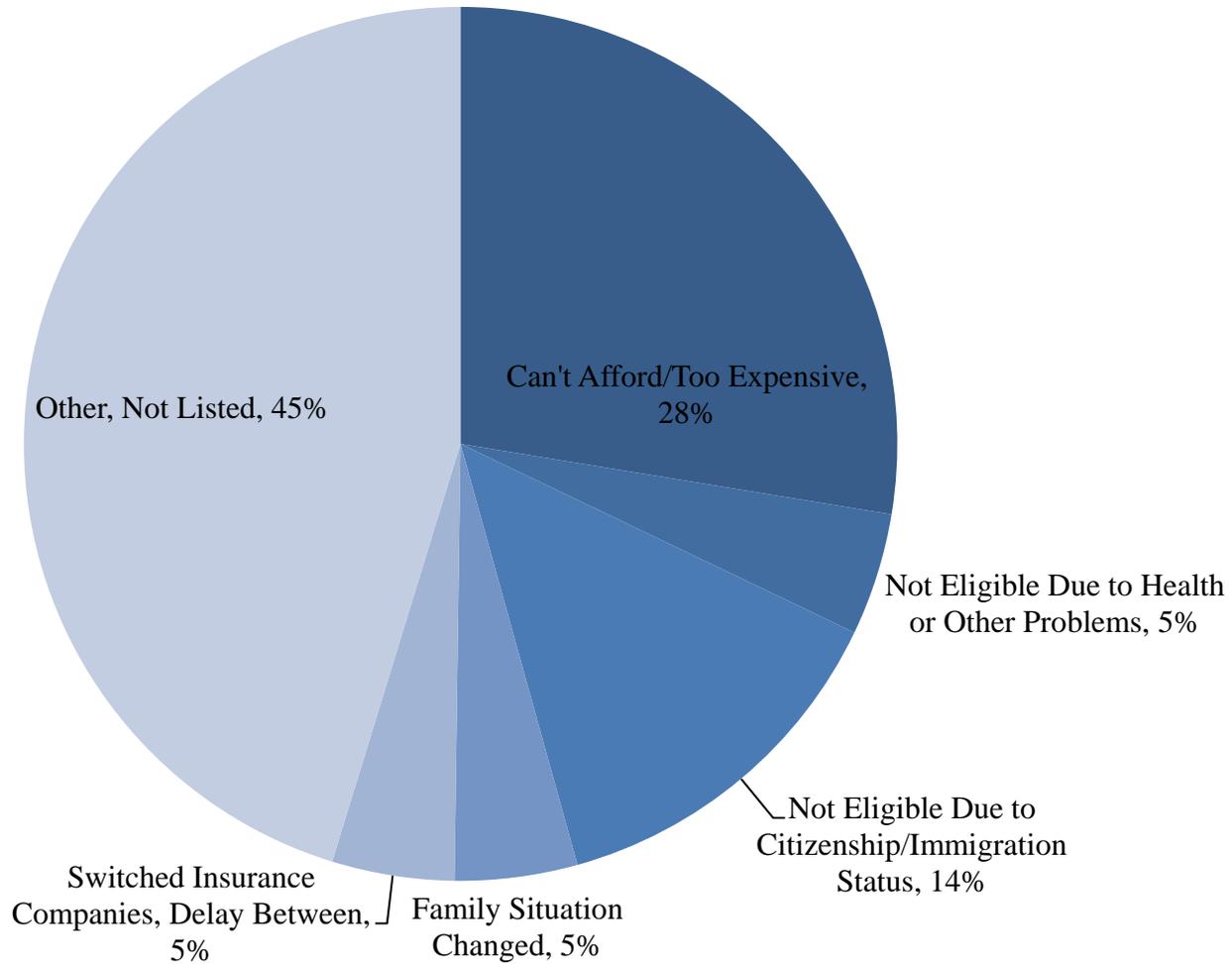
Time Since Last Medical Doctor Visit

Slightly disturbing is the relatively high percentage of children who have not visited a medical doctor within the last two years. A yearly check up is important in identifying health problems the child may have developed.



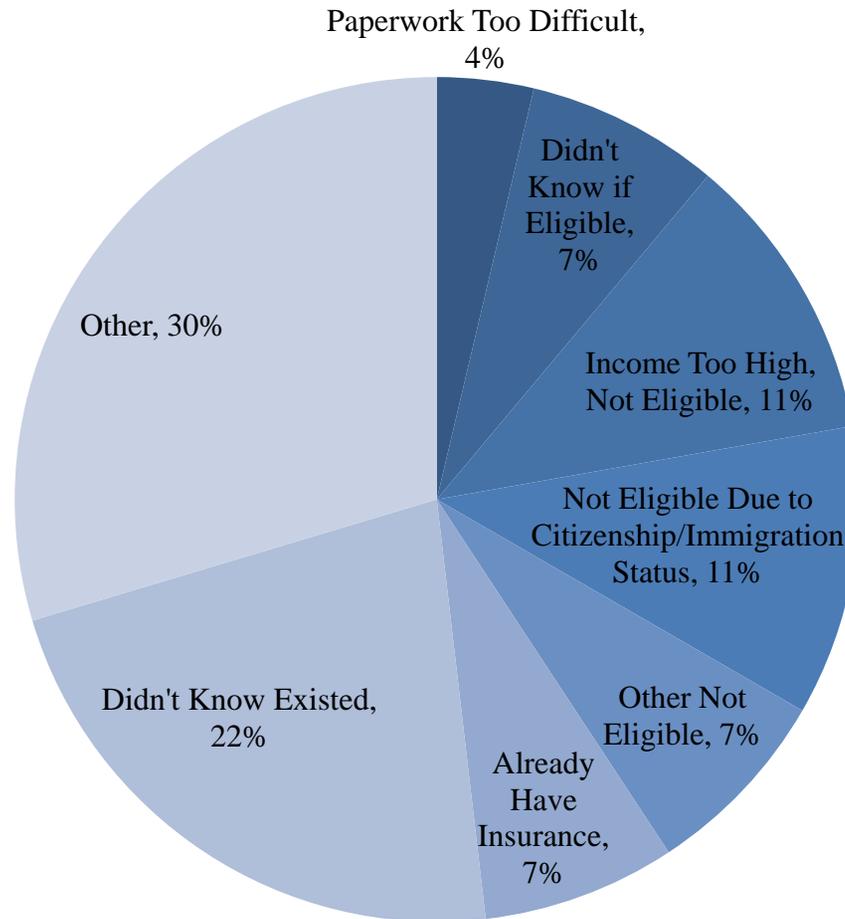
Reason Child Does Not Have Health Insurance

One of the most common reasons for a child not being covered by some type of health insurance was that it was too expensive. This is important because it highlights the need for affordable health insurance options, like KidsCare.



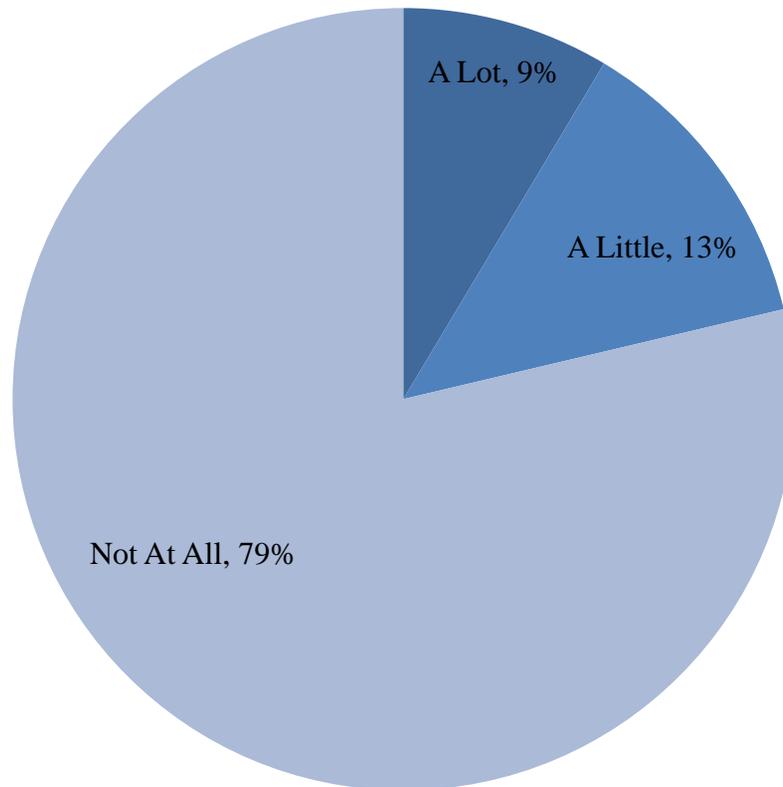
Reason Child is Not Enrolled in KidsCare

A relatively large percentage of children who were not enrolled in KidsCare had not been enrolled because their parent(s) didn't know the program existed. If the KidsCare program starts accepting applications again, this statistic verifies the importance of educating the public about this coverage.



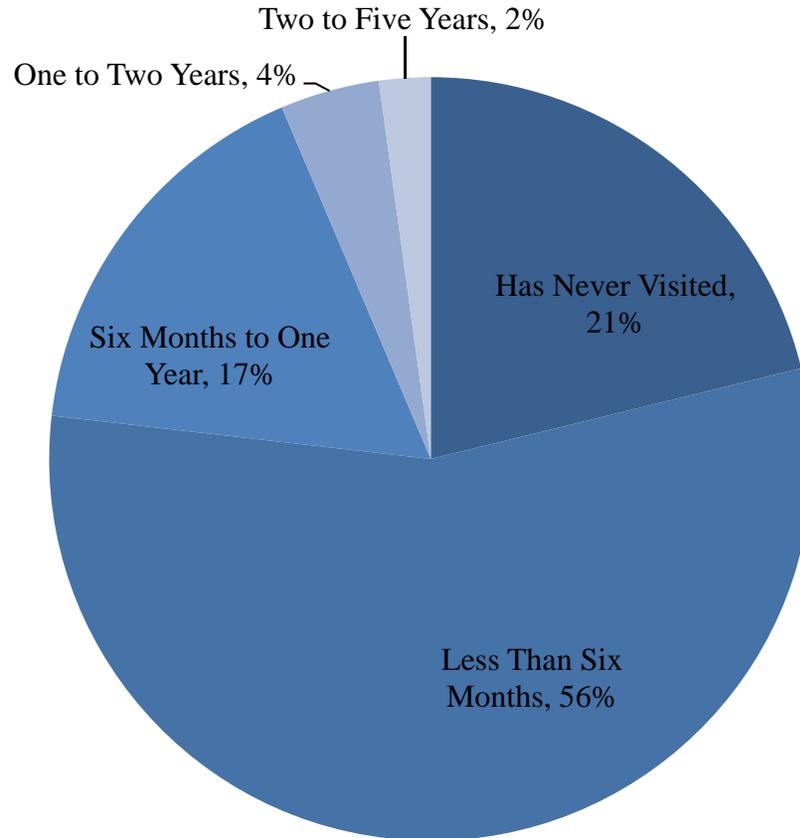
Parents Concern About Their Child's Abilities Compared to Other Children Their Age

Most parents were not concerned at all about their child's abilities compared to other children their age. This does not necessarily mean all of those children are without problems; their parents may not recognize signs of developmental, behavioral or learning delays.



Time Since Last Dental Clinic Visit

The majority of respondents stated that their child had visited the dentist in the last six months. A good sign considering that good dental care is important for overall child health. However, one out of five respondents said their child has never been to the dentist, putting those children at risk for a range of health problems.



Reasons for Not Visiting the Dental Clinic

Of some concern is the rather large percentage of children who have not gone to the dentist because parents said their child was not old enough. The American Dental Association recommends that a child see the dentist for the first time within six months of the appearance of their first tooth or by their first birthday, whichever comes first.

