


San Mateo County
Immigrant Inclusion
Survey

Briefing

create
knowledge.
ignite
change.

john w. gardner
center for youth and their communities
@gardnercenter



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
IMMIGRANT SERVICES

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Background

The County of San Mateo's Office of Community Affairs convened a steering committee and 5 engagement teams as part of a Gateways for Growth grant:

- Community Connectedness & Engagement
- Economic Development
- Education Opportunities & Outcomes
- Equitable Access to Services
- Safe Communities

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Survey Overview

Teams collaborated on a survey instrument to solicit input from immigrants who live, work, or attend school in SMC.

Over 2,700 immigrants, representing all of SMC, responded to a survey administered in 12 languages. The survey instrument included seven sections:

- Demographics
- Educational Opportunities and Outcomes
- Economic Development
- Equitable Access to Services
- Community Connectedness
- Safe Communities
- Outreach

The Gardner Center analyzed survey results.

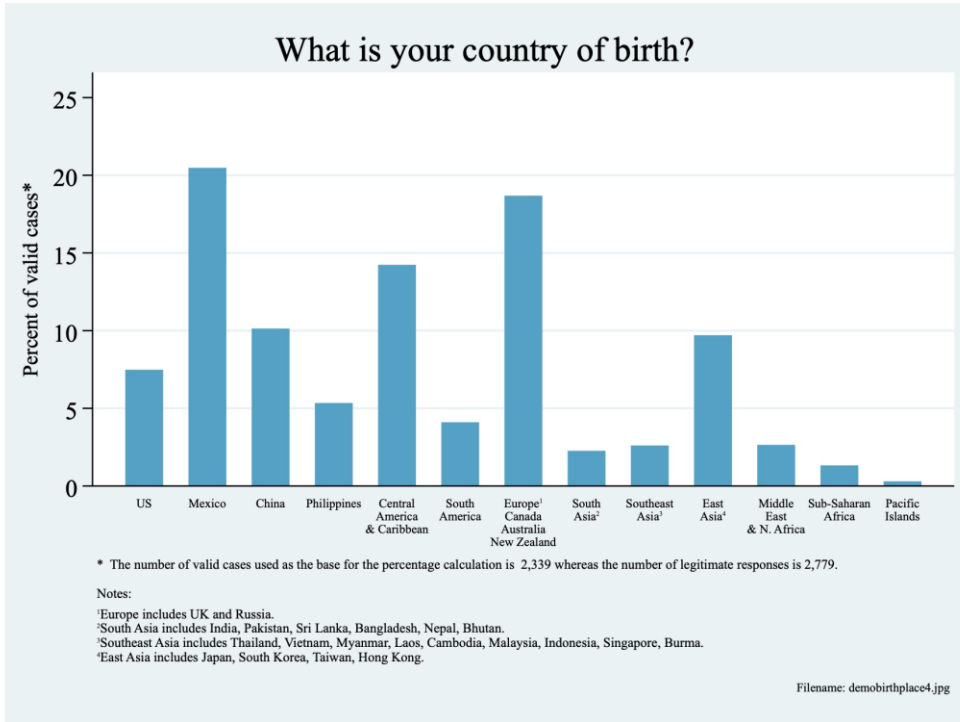
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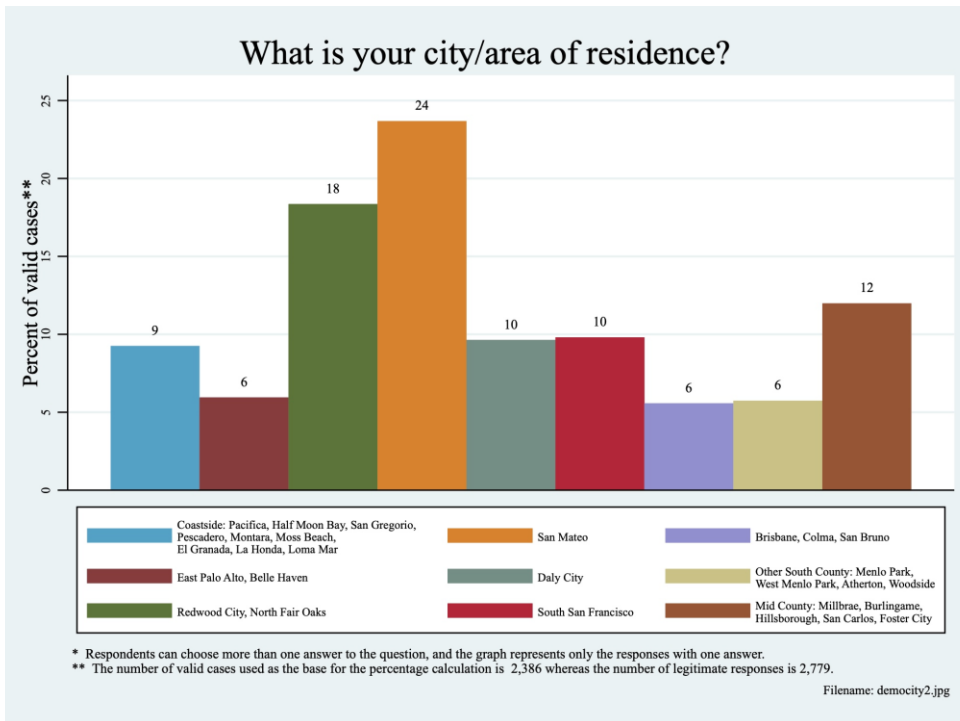


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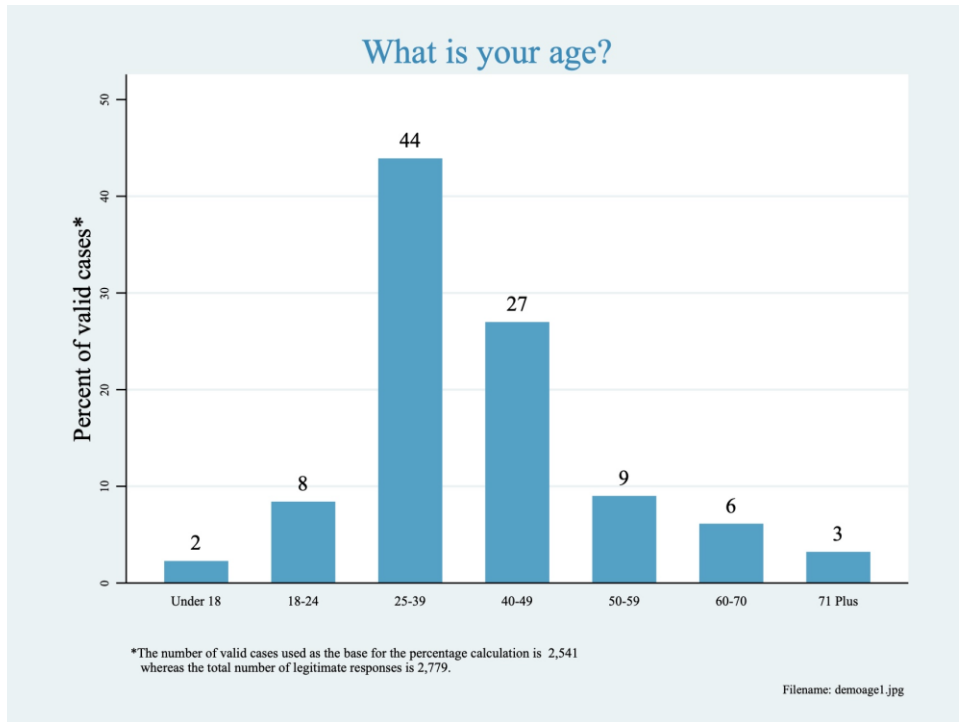
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Demographics of Respondents

- Represented entire county. Largest response rates were from residents of:
 - San Mateo
 - Redwood City
 - North Fair Oaks
- Ranged in age from under 18 to over 71 years old.
- Most have lived in U.S. for multiple years.
- Education level varied.
- 45% reported moving to U.S. to flee hardship
- Nearly 75% speak English and another language.

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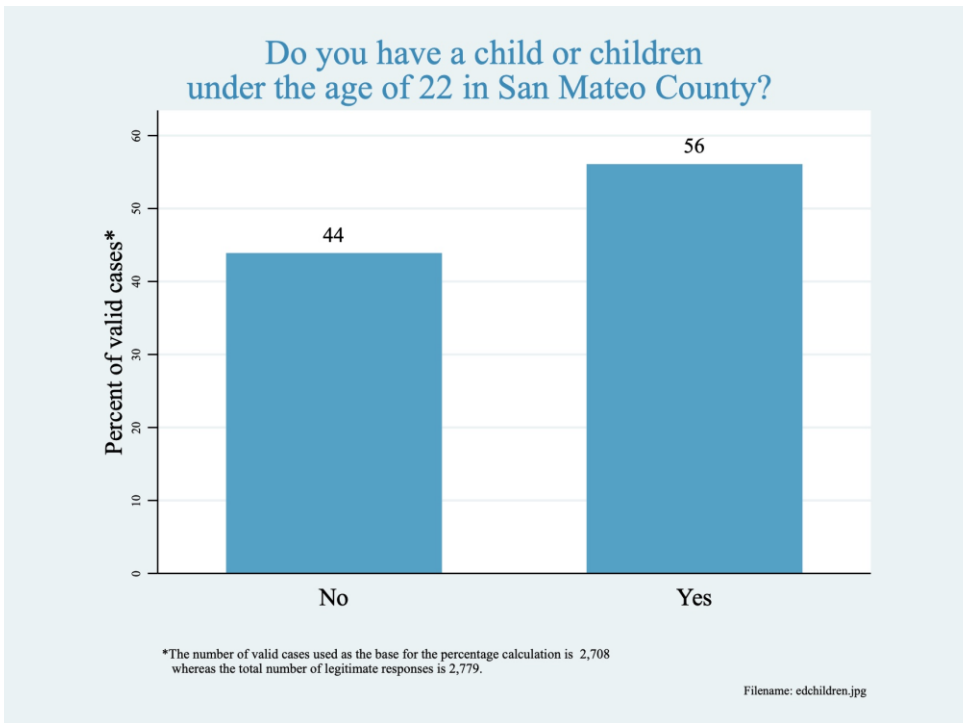
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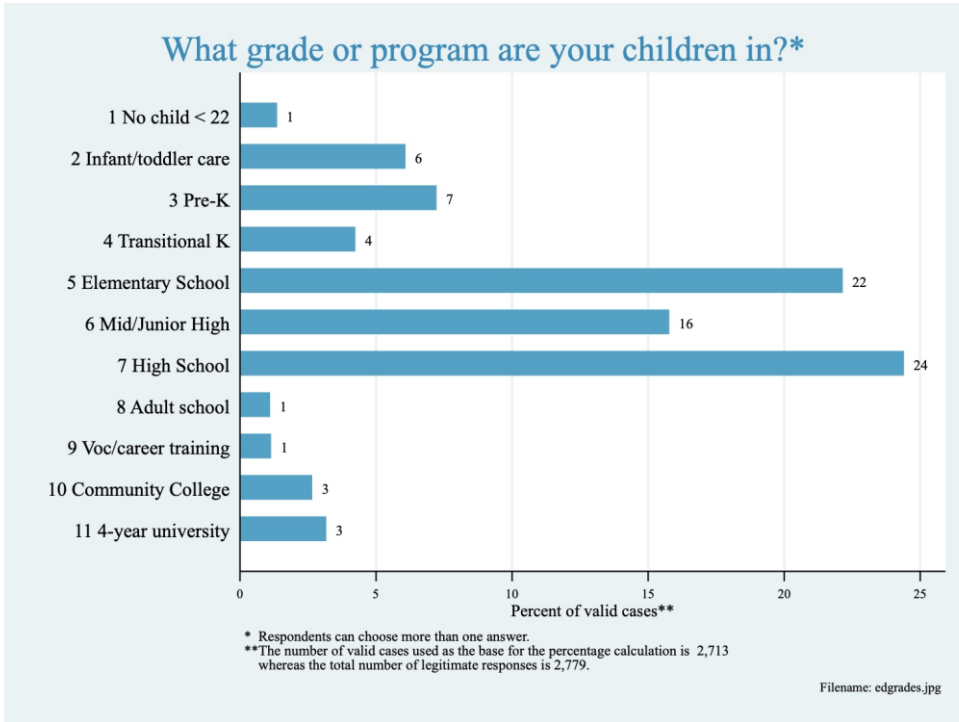
Educational Opportunities
and Outcomes

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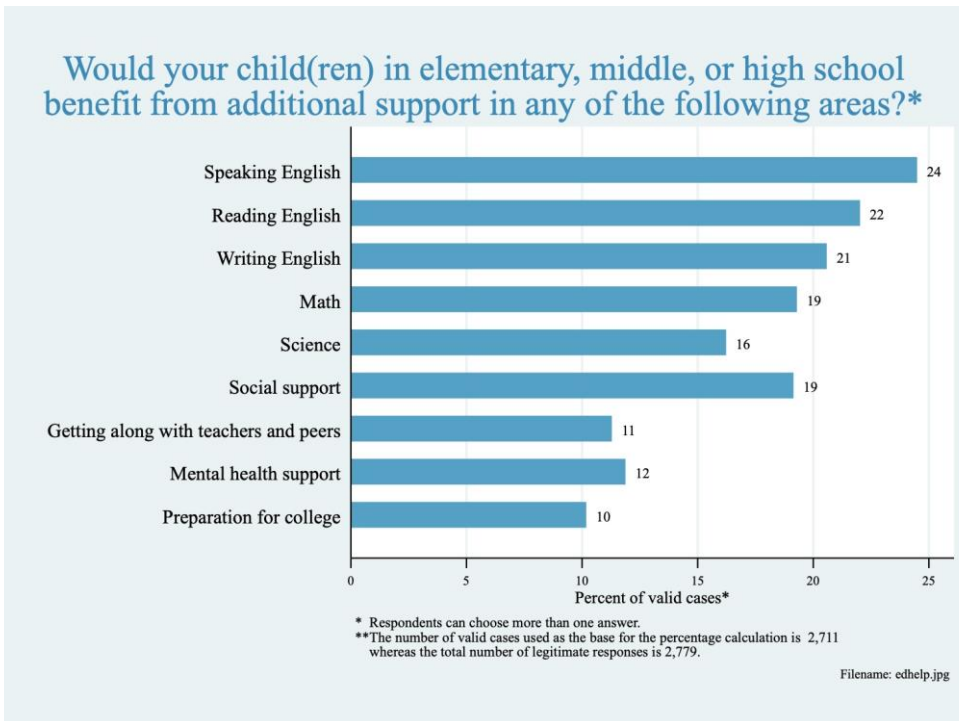
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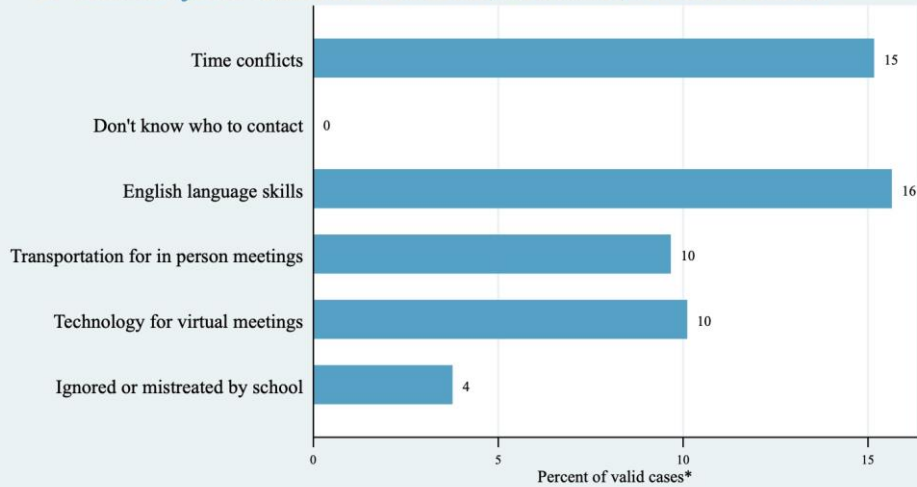


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Do any of these reasons make it difficult for you to contact your children's school, teachers, or counselors?*



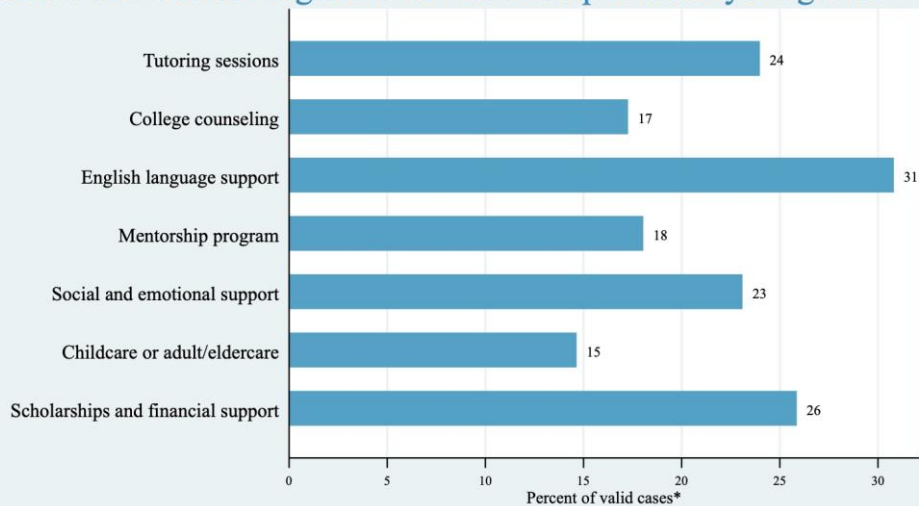
* Respondents can choose more than one answer.

**The number of valid cases used as the base for the percentage calculation is 2,710 whereas the total number of legitimate responses is 2,779.

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If you are in or considering an educational program, which of the following services would help achieve your goals?*



* Respondents can choose more than one answer.

**The number of valid cases used as the base for the percentage calculation is 2,710 whereas the total number of legitimate responses is 2,779.

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Educational Opportunities and Outcomes

- More than half (56%) reported having a child or children under age 22.
 - 62% are in grades K-12
- English language support cited as most useful
- English language skills & time conflicts impede seeking support for children @ schools
- Primary areas for support:
 - English language;
 - scholarships/financial;
 - tutoring;
 - social & emotional

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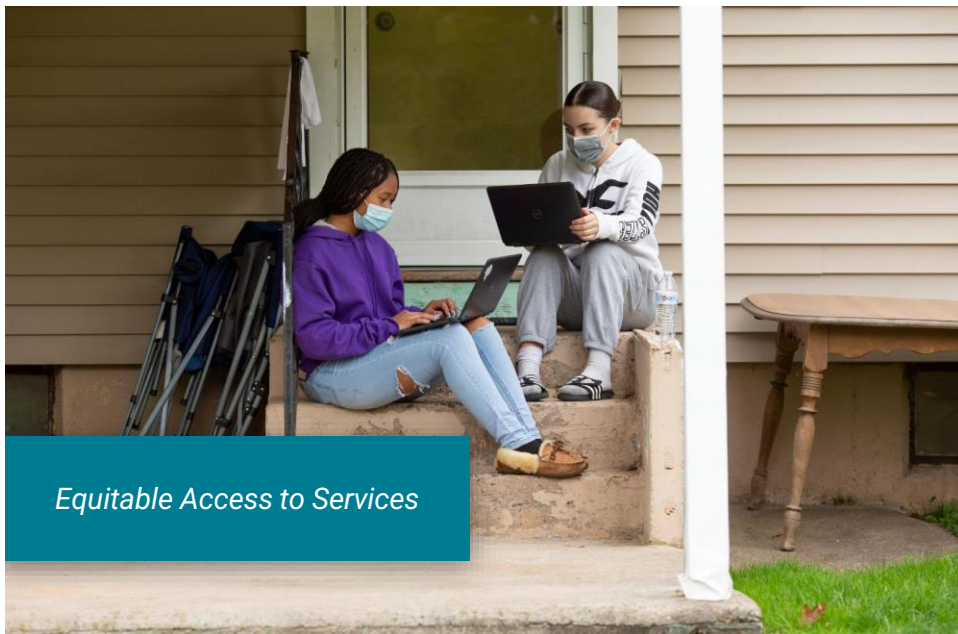
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Economic Development

- 70% of respondents reported being employed;
- 50% of respondents said they were not overqualified for their current job.
- Factors preventing job searches:
 - needing to pay bills,
 - English language,
 - credential from home was not recognized
- Support needs:
 - skills training;
 - resume, cover letter, interview preparation;
 - leadership training & development.

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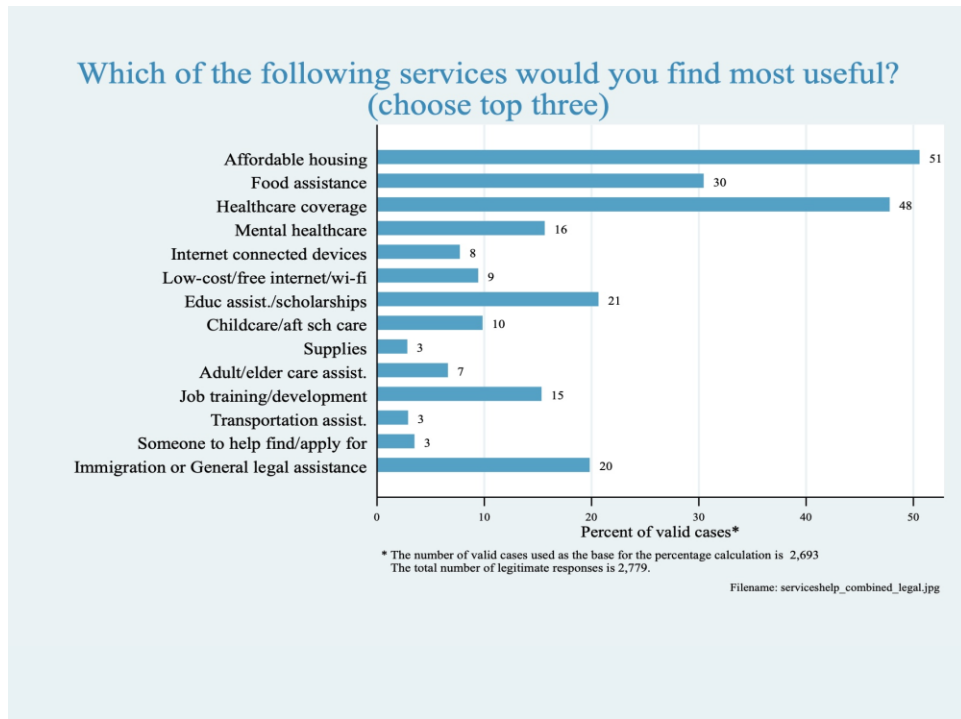
Services Most Useful

1. Affordable Housing
2. Healthcare Coverage
3. Food Assistance
4. Educational assistance/scholarships
5. Legal assistance (general and immigration)
6. Mental Healthcare

**No significant differences across the various demographic categories.

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"Perhaps we can pay [the rent] with the salary that we have, but there's not enough for the other expenses, so we're basically just working for our rent."

"I've also heard people say, 'I'm sick, but no, it's better for me to die, because if the illness doesn't kill me, the bill will.' Because since the regulations aren't in that person's favor, that bill is going to be very high, so what can the person do? It's better to just live with it. I've heard many, many cases like that."

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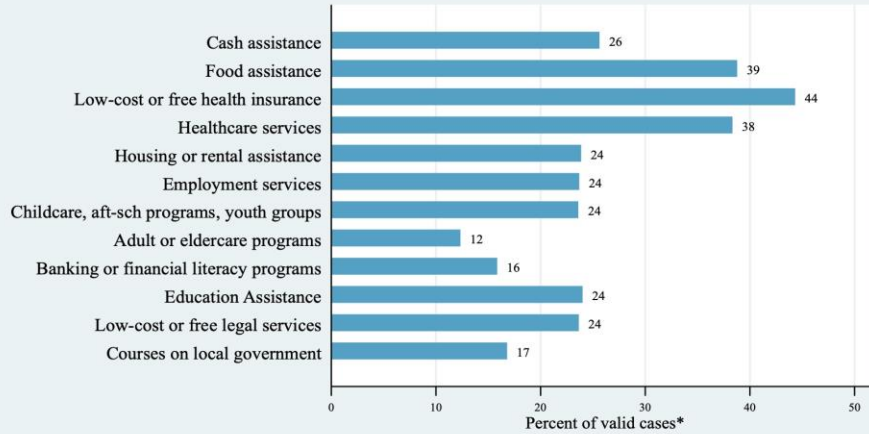
"Giving them that tool I think would be a great push, since they could be the first or second generation, in order to break that cycle of always returning to the same thing. They have to get out. And I think that giving them scholarships and educational help would be a good step."

"I think that almost all of us sometimes use some help because sometimes with what we earn it doesn't stretch to cover food shopping..."

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Which of the following types of programs are you aware of or have used at least once?



* The number of valid cases used as the base for the percentage calculation is 2,392
The total number of legitimate responses is 2,779.

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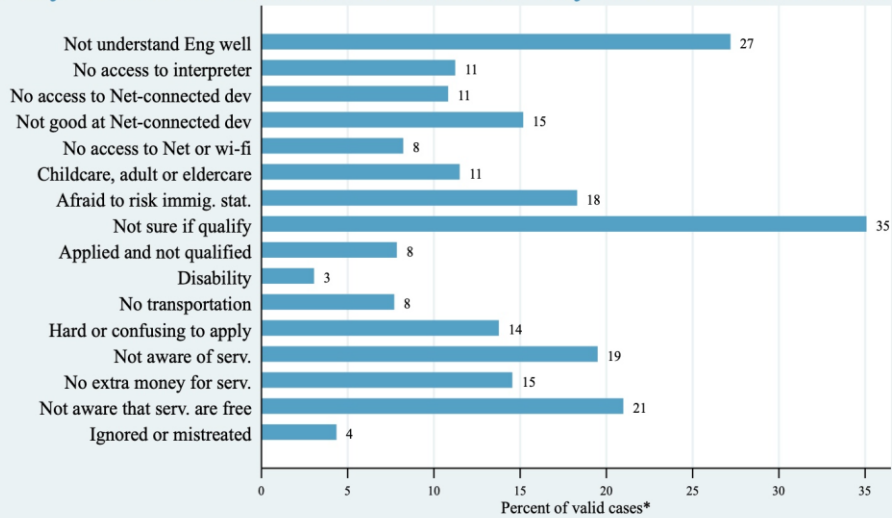
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Barriers to Accessing Services: Most Frequent

1. Not sure if I qualify
2. Do not understand English well
3. Not aware services are free
4. Not aware of services
5. Afraid to risk immigration status

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Do any of these reasons make it difficult for you to access services?*



* Respondents can choose more than one answer.

**The number of valid cases used as the base for the percentage calculation is 2,688 whereas the total number of legitimate responses is 2,779.

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Barriers to Access: Variation by Subgroup

- Most respondents who cited barriers were most likely **fleeing hardship**, had no formal education, and were **non-English speakers**.
- These respondents also had most barriers (4+).
- Little variation based on country of origin, city of residence, gender (women rated some things higher but only slightly).

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Perspectives on Barriers to Access

"...the barriers, well, to tell you, that I have as an immigrant, is the language, not being able to talk or communicate correctly in English. Because our... Maybe we could communicate well, but sometimes the words don't come out like they're supposed to be pronounced."

"If when you go to the doctor, the doctor talks to you in Spanish, you feel more confident...when the doctor sits with you and starts chatting with you in Spanish, you say: oh, yes... But when they put the machine on, then I can't even understand, sometimes you can't even understand what they're saying to you."

"First question when applying for programs: 'Are you a citizen? Are you a resident?' And we don't know what to answer, out of fear... the first thing they ask: 'Are you legal?' And what do you do...You're scared."

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"I think part of being in this community is like we need to be able to express what it is that we need in order to get it whereas I think sometimes we're a little hesitant because you know the whole immigration status or whatnot or some in our community just think like "hey I am undocumented, so I already know that I'm not going to get approved" you know what I mean? Those kind of things can really put a dent on the way you think and how you actually react to your community because one can be so scared and say "I'm not going to go there because they might catch me, and something might happen to me" like those kinds of things. It's almost like you're just kind of guessing and hoping and praying that something new will come up to help you but little do you know that it's available you're just not asking the right questions or you're not talking to the right people."

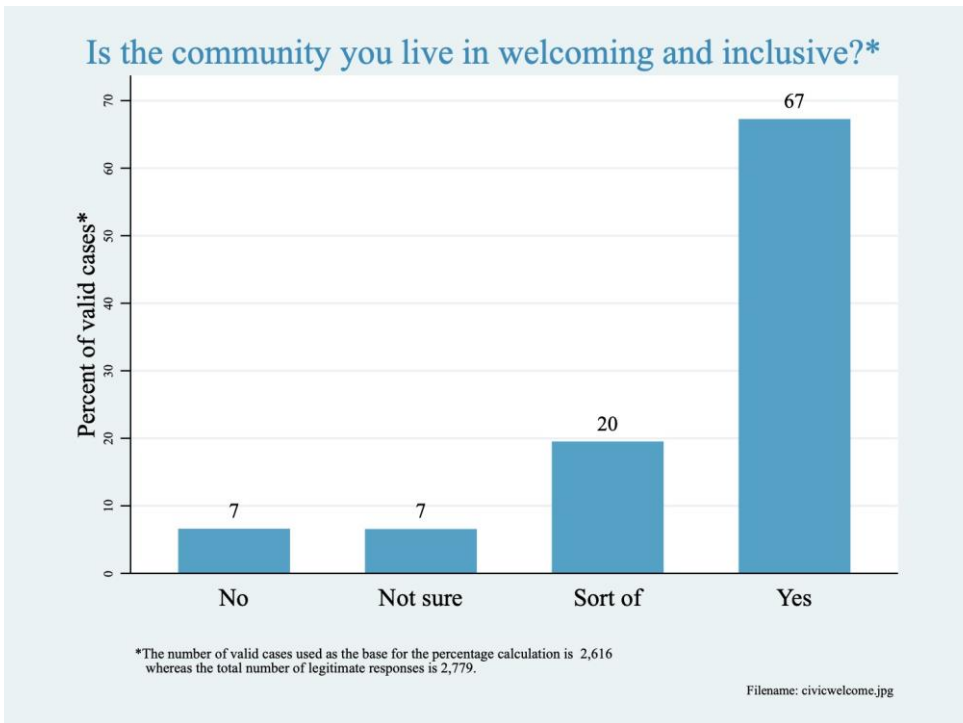
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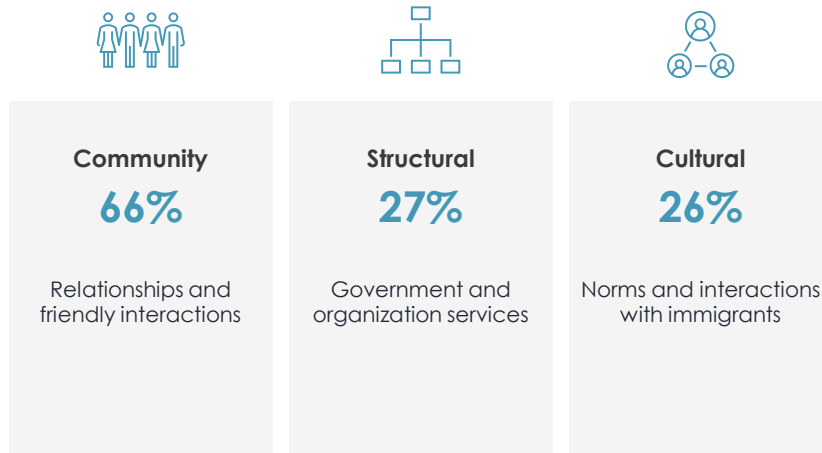
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Welcoming Community: Key Factors



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Civic Participation

- 1/3 of respondents participated in public meetings hosted by a local organization; 20% participated in parent teacher association meetings and/or school board meetings
- Not participating in public meetings:
 - lack of knowledge that they could participate
 - lack of information
- During last 5 years:
 - 37% reported voting
 - 39% reported not voting
 - 24% were not eligible to vote

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"I've come across a lot of very friendly people, and they've always helped me when I needed it. And I've also learned from those who've referred me somewhere else, to other things that I wasn't aware of, to other programs. So I've learned here, from this community."

"For example, this center being opened up is one of the biggest things that make me feel welcome. You can come here to learn different things and meet new friends. You can also come here to seek all sorts of assistance. As long as you ask, we are all very loving. We'll help you, as long as you ask for help."

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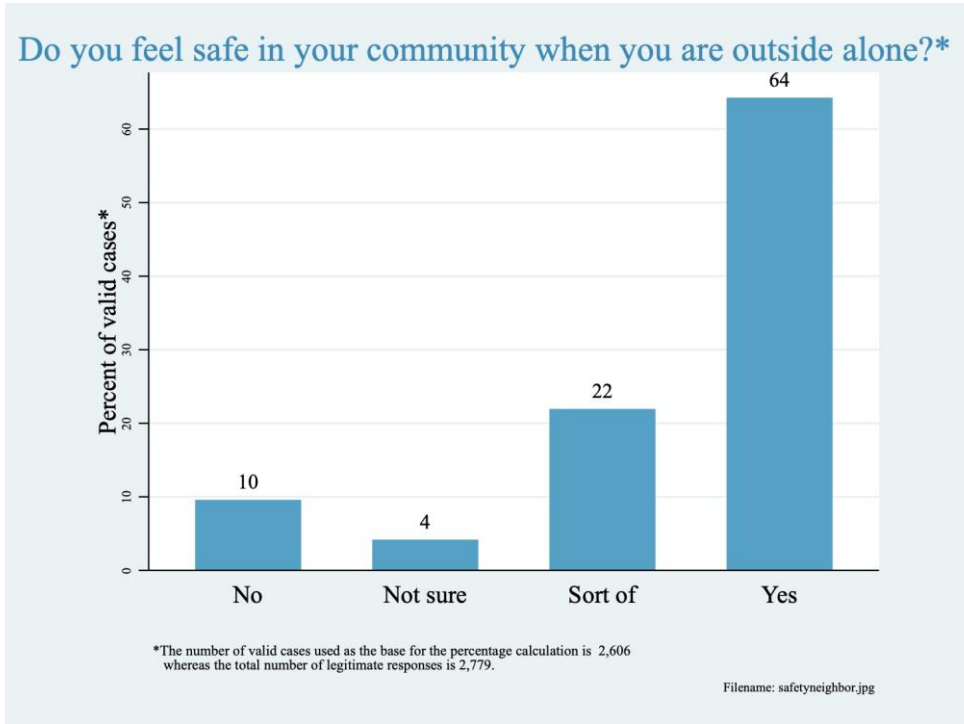
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Safe Communities

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Community Safety: Key Factors



Structural
66%

Law enforcement and government infrastructure



Community
43%

Connected Neighbors



Cultural
12%

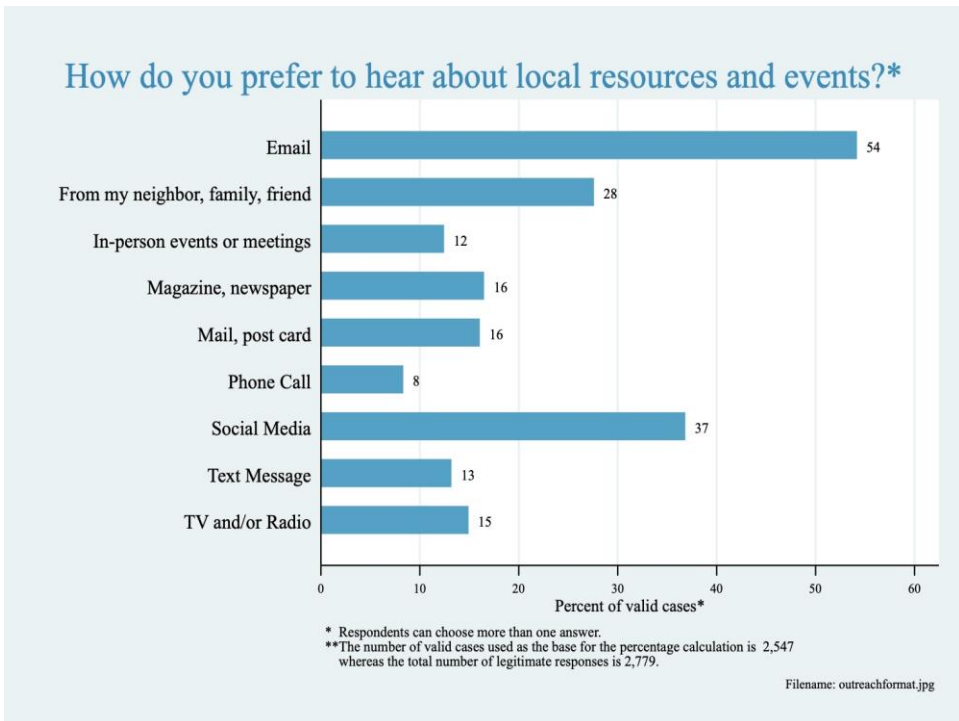
Valuing diversity and living with immigrants

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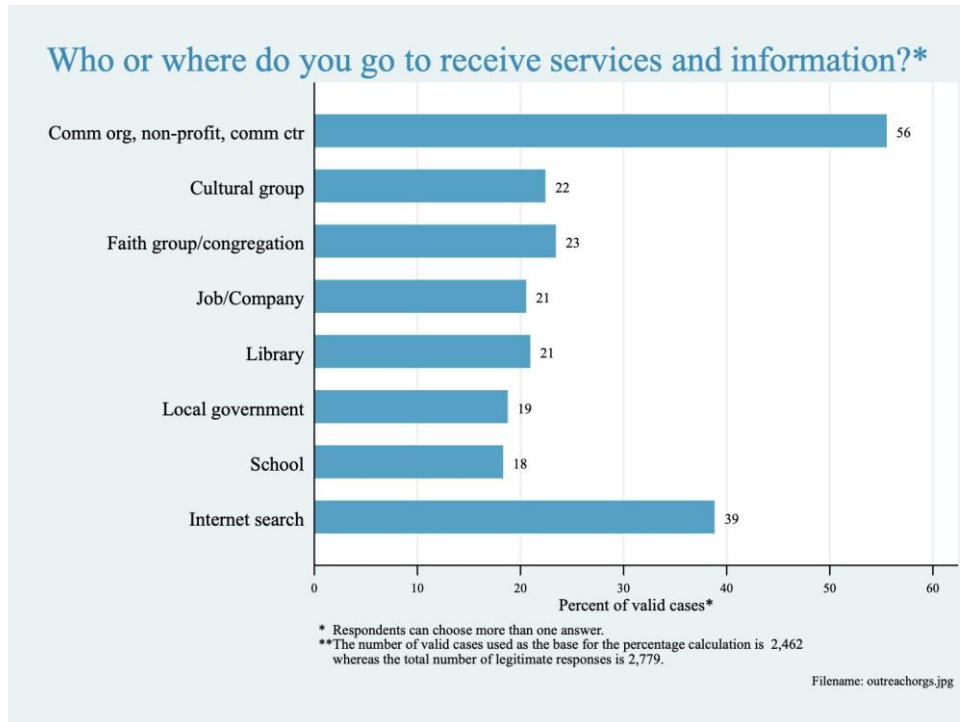


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Outreach

- Email preferred to learn about local resources and events.
- Community-based organizations as places to seek services and information.

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Thank You!



First 5 California

Annual Report for
FY 2021-22

1

Review of the 2021-22 F5 California Annual Report

- It is a requirement of Prop 10 that each year's First 5 California Annual Report is reviewed in a public hearing by each First 5 County Commission
- The full F5CA 2021-22 report can be accessed online at:
https://www.cfc.ca.gov/pdf/about/budget_perf/annual_report_pdfs/Annual-Report-21-22.pdf



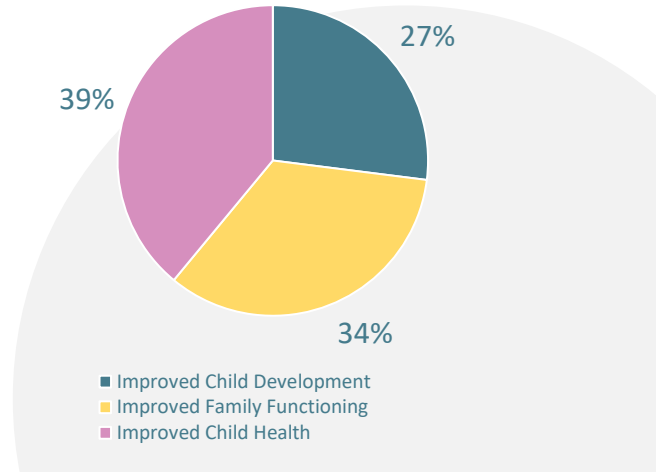
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Investments



Total Expenditures by Result Area

In FY 2021-22, First 5 County Commissions invested **\$277 million** in Services and **\$93 million** in Systems Change



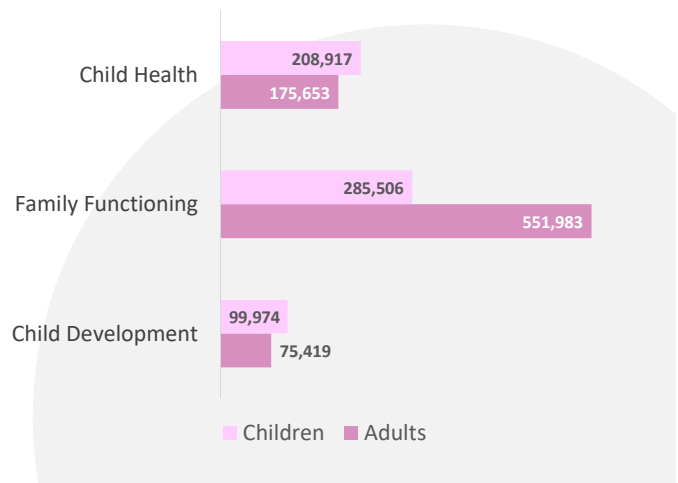
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Clients Served



Services by Result Area & Recipient

In FY 2020-21, First 5 County Commissions provided **594,397** child services, **803,055** adult services, and distributed over **83,000** Kits for New Parents



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Quality Counts California & Impact 2020

- Over 9,100 sites participate across the state, an increase of 8% from the prior fiscal year
- 46% of these sites are Centers, 36% are Family Child Care Homes, 12% are Family/Friend/Neighbor providers, and 6% are alternative sites such as libraries, home visiting programs, or Family Resource Centers
- The Shared Services Alliance Networks pilot leveraged regional partnerships to streamline local operations, such as billing, enrollment, fund management, and reporting, which will allow for increased service capacity
- In total, 343,269 California children ages 0 to 5 benefitted from the quality improvement support provided by QCC

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California's Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children

- Provides kinship and foster caregivers with emergency child care
 - ❖ Caregivers receive vouchers and navigation support to identify appropriate care
 - ❖ Providers receive training and coaching on trauma-informed care
- Evaluation Results
 - ❖ Decreased economic and emotional stress of caregivers
 - ❖ 90% of providers stated that the training and coaching helped them support the children in their care
 - ❖ Administrators highlighted the importance of collaboration and communication between partner agencies

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Dual Language Learner Program Expansion

DLL program activities were expanded to 44 of the 58 California counties

- Counties offered more than 90 training sessions to nearly 2,400 providers
- Over 80,000 books in multiple languages were distributed to more than 12,5000 families

Recommendations for Policy & Practice

- Disseminate messaging to encourage families, programs, and communities to prioritize children's bilingual development
- Expand access to professional development focused on working with DLLs and their families.
- Support development and use of culturally and linguistically responsive tools and assessments



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Social Media

F5CA social media followers receive regular posts that highlight simple, actionable tips and ideas related to early brain development, nutrition, family engagement, and healthy development:

- Facebook: 213,000 followers
- Instagram: 13,200 followers
- Pinterest: 2,000 followers
- Twitter: 19,400 followers

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Questions and Comments

Check out the full report at:

https://www.cafc.ca.gov/pdf/about/budget_perf/annual_report_pdfs/Annual-Report-21-22.pdf