

# First 5 LA Best Start Metro LA Community Data

**\*\*INTERNAL WORKING DRAFT \*\***  
**NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION**

July 2014

*This “Data Deck” has been designed for internal planning use by Best Start Learning teams (DE team, Best Start staff, facilitators, ROCs and PST). It provides an overview of available demographics and relevant data for each Best Start Community and is organized by Core Result Area. We suggest that learning teams work together (with Community Partnerships members as appropriate) to determine how and when to share various data elements at the community level.*

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## Data sources inventory

Purpose What's the purpose of this study?	Unique Features How is it different from other studies?
<b>California Health interview Survey (CHIS)</b>	
To paint a detailed picture of health and healthcare needs of California's diverse population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Random-dial telephone survey that asks questions on a wide range of health topics affecting California's adults, adolescents and children.</li> <li>• Conducted on a continuous basis.</li> </ul>
<b>Healthcity.org</b>	
To provide maps of community-specific information including: demographic, housing, economic, health and safety data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific data is available for each of the 14 Best Start communities.</li> <li>• Visual data is provided using hot spot analysis for each community, creating maps as data sources.</li> </ul>
<b>Best Start Community Capacity Assessment (2014)</b>	
To assess Best Start community capacity and connections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-probability convenience sample of parents and caregivers living within the Best Start boundaries.</li> <li>• Respondents were recruited through local service organizations and at family "hubs" like parks, Laundromats and community events.</li> </ul>
<b>Best Start Family Survey (2014)</b>	
To better understand the needs of families with children 0-5 around childcare, health care, eating habits and physical activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Randomized sample of BS communities; can be compared with LA County Health Survey and WIC Parent Survey.</li> <li>• Data collection being conducted by NORC (National Opinion Research Center @ University of Chicago) &amp; Harder+Company. Data available in July 2014.</li> </ul>
<b>Para Los Niño's (2013)</b>	
Rooted in the Protective Factors, the Para Los Niños Evaluation Framework is focused on exploring how participation in the Best Start initiative strengthens families and supports sustainable community and leadership development of its Partnership. This evaluation looks at three specific themes; 1) Empowerment; 2) Engagement; and 3) Capacity building.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlike traditional evaluation studies that often measure product-focused outcomes, this evaluation employs data analysis, surveys and focus groups to explore how processes of connecting with others around shared concerns and solutions increases individual senses of strength, resilience and empowerment.</li> <li>• It is these changes in participants that support sustainable communities marked by parents who can use coping strategies and find resources that allow them to more effectively raise their children and improve their community.</li> </ul>

## Data sources inventory

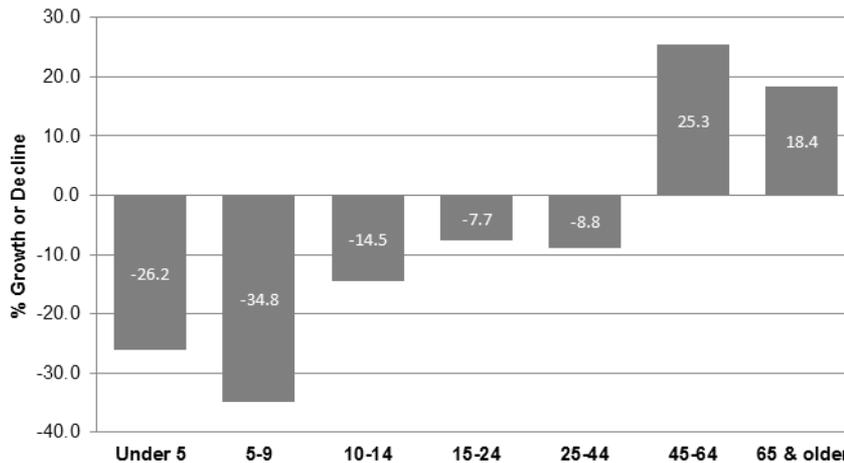
Purpose What's the purpose of this study?	Unique Features How is it different from other studies?
<b>Community Based Action Research (CBAR) (2013-14)</b>	
To involve community members as researchers in gathering information about their communities. To provide local community with some tools and information necessary to enact positive social change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members participate in all phases of research, from design of a research project to data sharing and use.</li> <li>• Conducted in El Monte/South El Monte, East LA, and Metro only.</li> </ul>
<b>Best Start Community Assessments (2012)</b>	
To identify community assets and needs for supporting young children and their families.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collected about needs around social support, services, physical and economic resources.</li> <li>• Focus groups, interviews, surveys, asset mapping (“community wisdom”) and secondary sources.</li> </ul>
<b>Best Start Implementation Evaluation (iEval) (2012)</b>	
To provide ongoing, formative analyses and feedback to First 5 LA. To yield time-sensitive information and lessons learned about Best Start and place-based community change efforts over time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided a real-time learning model that allowed Best Start to chart progress and provide continuous improvements and adjustments.</li> <li>• Combined Partnership observations and focus groups with interviews with Best Start personnel.</li> </ul>
<b>Los Angeles County Health Survey (LACHS) (2011)</b>	
To gather information about access to health care, health care utilization, health behaviors, health status and knowledge and perceptions of health-related issues among the L.A. County population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telephone survey used to collect data on the health of Los Angeles County residents.</li> </ul>
<b>Los Angeles Mommy and Baby Project (LAMB) (2011)</b>	
To better understand the causes of poor birth outcomes in Los Angeles County. To improve the health and human services of future mothers and babies in Los Angeles County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A population-based mailed-in survey that collects information concerning the health of Los Angeles County mothers.</li> <li>• Asks mothers who recently delivered a baby about events that happened before, during, and after their pregnancy.</li> </ul>

# Profile of Metro LA

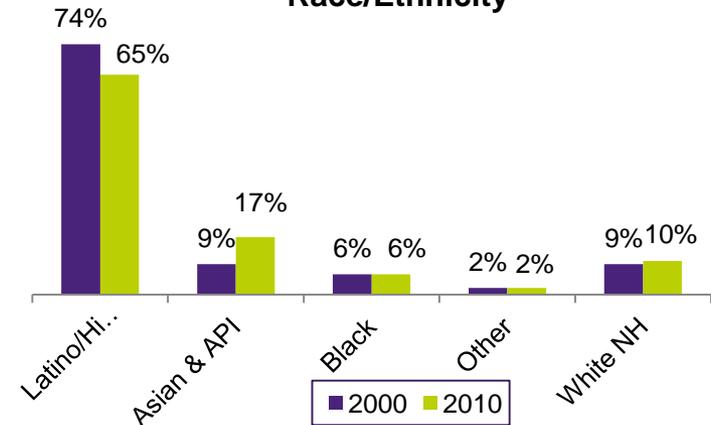
**Total Population and Number of Children Under 5 2010**

	Metro LA		Los Angeles County	
	N	%	N	%
Total Population	82,563	100.0	9,818,605	100.0
Children Under 5	5,387	6.5	645,793	6.6

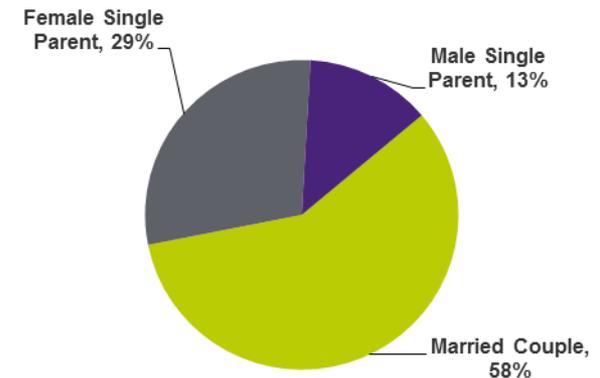
**Percent Change in Number of Residents at Each Age Group, 2000-10, Metro LA**



**Race/Ethnicity**



**Composition of Families with Children - 2010**



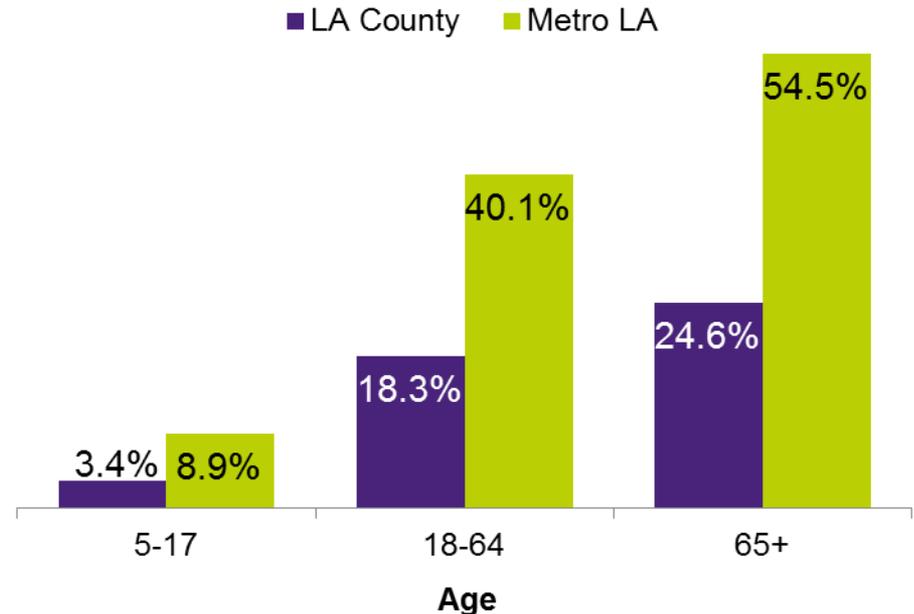
# Profile of Metro LA

## Language Spoken at Home – 2007 Mid-Year Estimate\*

	N	%
Total	24,696	100.0
English-Only Household	3,960	16.0
Bilingual Household	9,727	39.4
Limited English Household	11,009	44.6

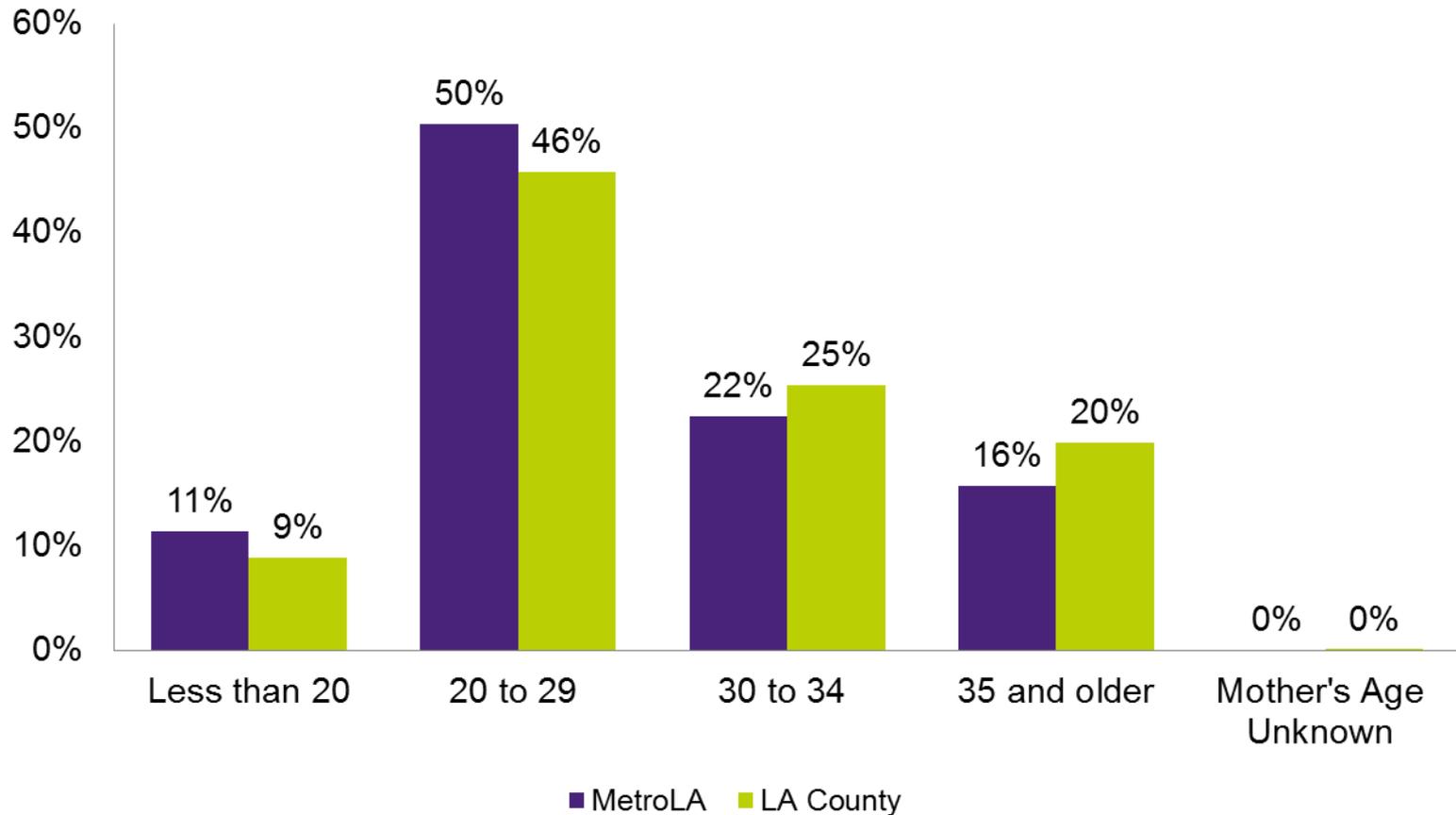
*\*Mid-year estimate refers to the midpoint year of the five-year period between 2005 and 2009, 2007.*

**English Proficiency:** Percent of people who don't speak English at all or don't speak it well.



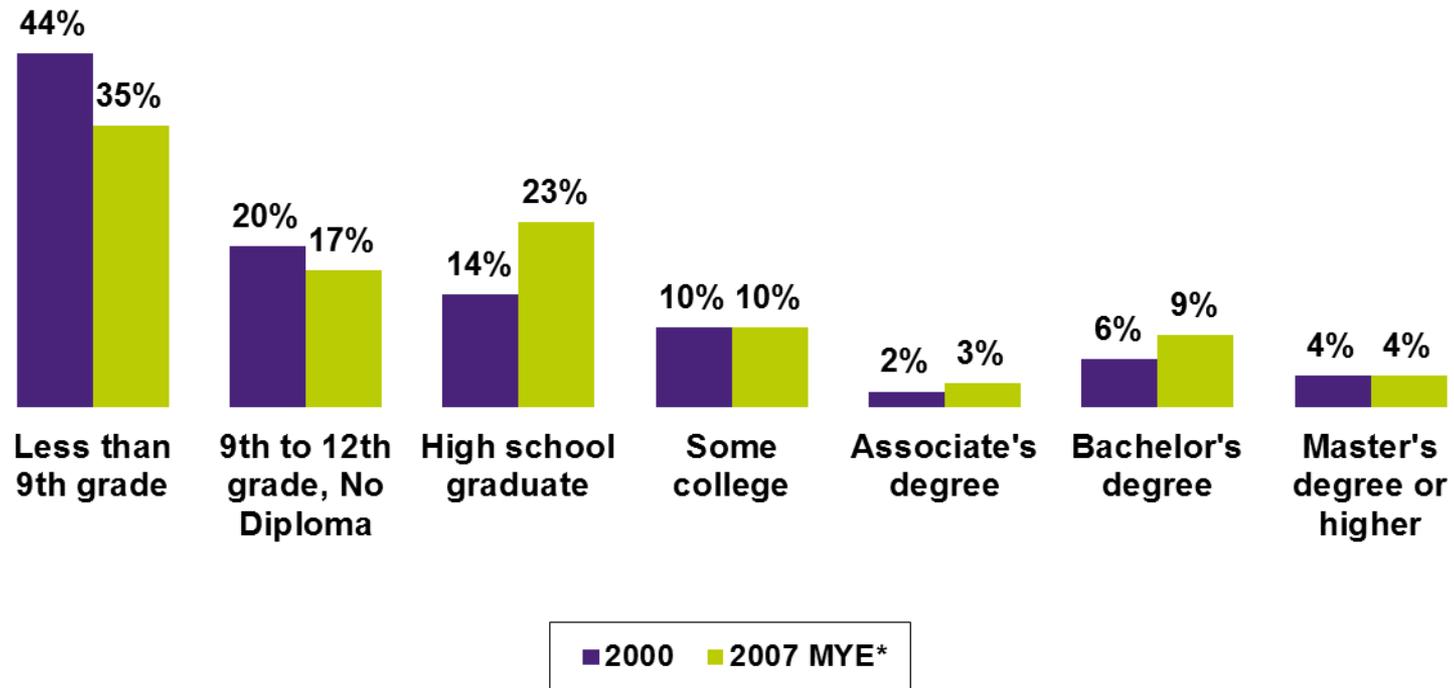
# Profile of Metro LA

Births by Mother's Age (2010) (N=1,713)



# Profile of Metro LA

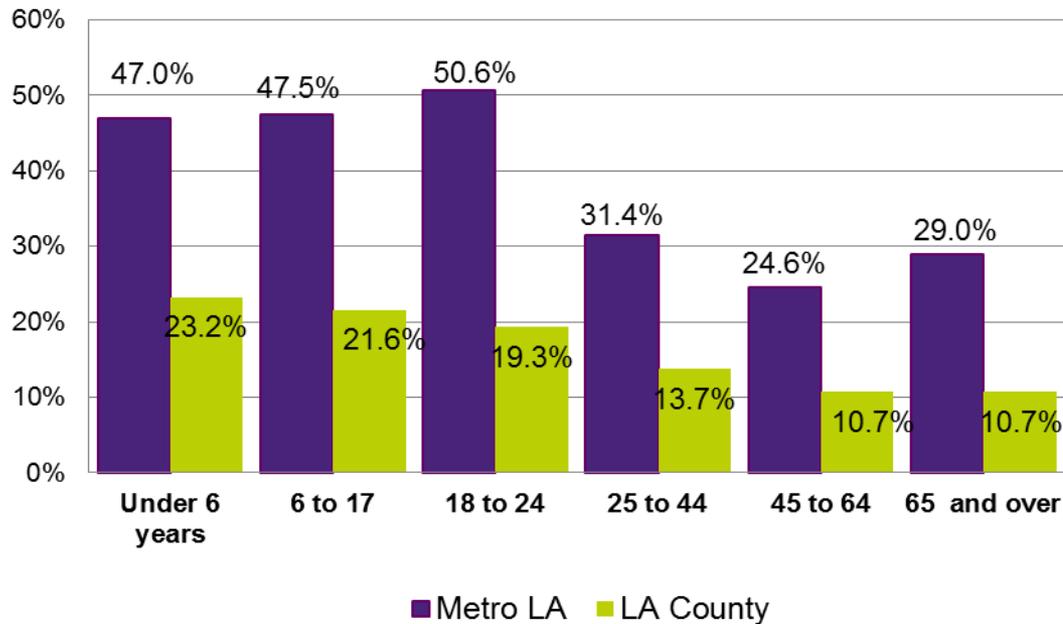
## Educational Attainment



\*Mid-year estimate refers to the midpoint year of the five-year period between 2005 and 2009, 2007.

# Profile of Metro LA

Percentage of People Living Below Poverty Level in Metro LA by Age, 2007 MYE\*



2007 MYE*	Metro LA	LA County
Unemployment rate (%)	9.1	7.7
Labor force participation rate (%)	61.5	65.2
Employment-to-Population Ratio	55.9	60.1
2007 MYE*	Metro LA	LA County
Median household income (estimate)	\$24,099	\$54,828
Families in Poverty (%)	37.3	15.4

\*Mid-year estimate refers to the midpoint year of the five-year period between 2005 and 2009, 2007.

# Family Capacities

## Core result description:

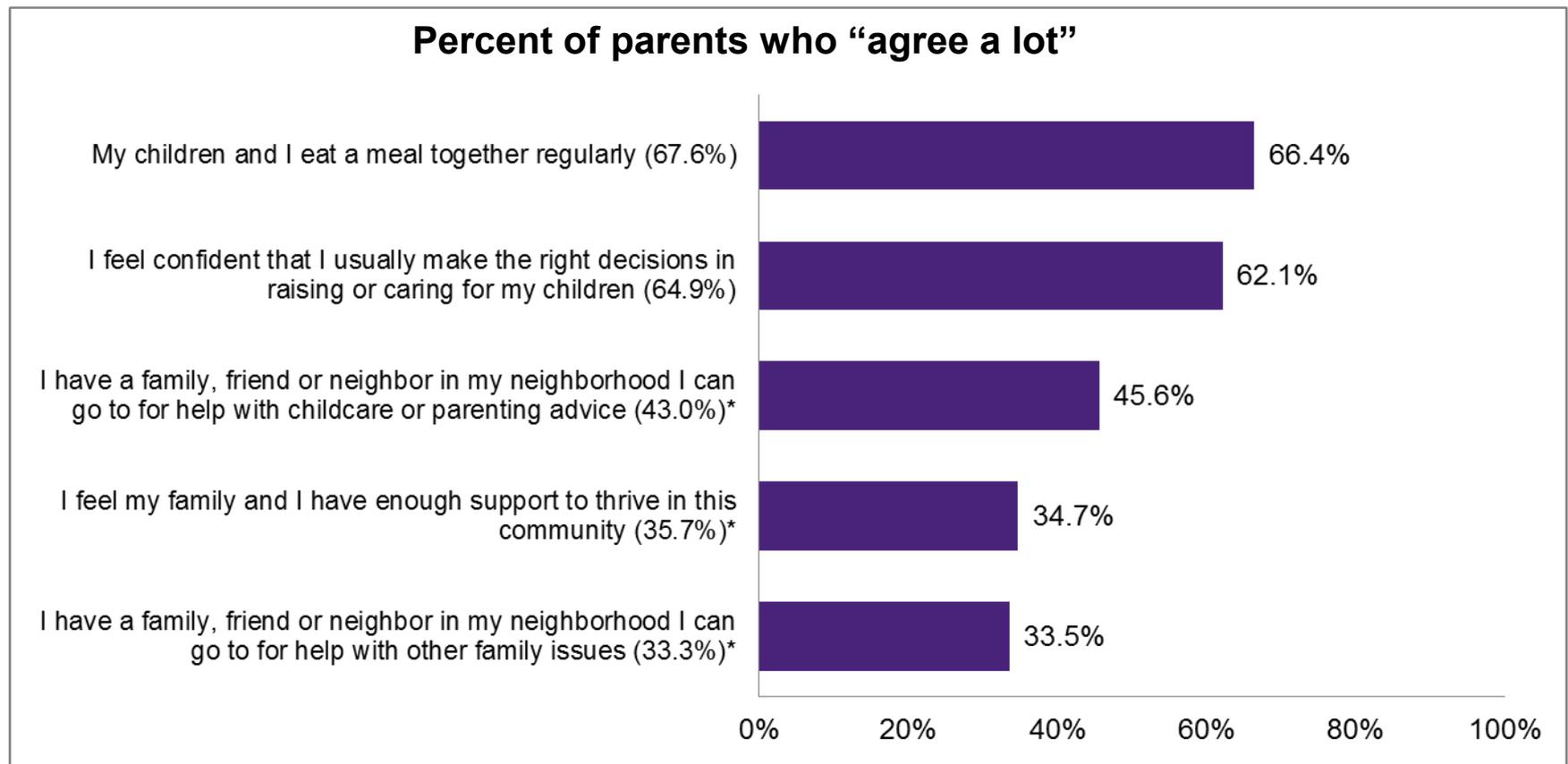
- Parents understand stages of child development and are able to help their children at each stage
- Parents can manage everyday stress and have a more nurturing relationship with their child

Indicators	Family Survey	LACHS	CCA Survey
1. % of women who exclusively breastfeed their infants for at least the first 6 months	X*	X	
2. % of families who read to their children every day	X*	X	
3. % of parents who report feeling confident in their parenting skills			X
4. % of families who regularly eat meals together			X
5. % of parents who praise their child every day	X*	X	
6. % of parents (including pregnant women) who are at risk for depression		X	
7. % of parents who experience frequent aggravation with their children		X	

\*Data is expected to be available by Fall 2014

# Family Capacities

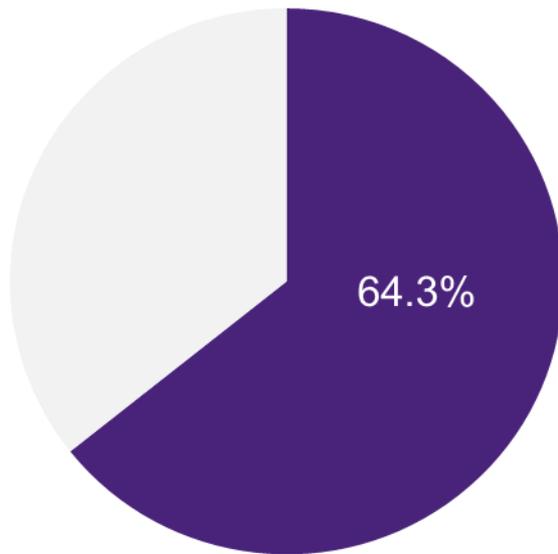
Community Capacity Assessment: Completed by **271 parents** living within Best Start Metro LA boundaries between December 2013 - February 2014. The percentages in parenthesis indicate composite % for the 14 Best Start Communities. A total of 2327 surveys were completed.



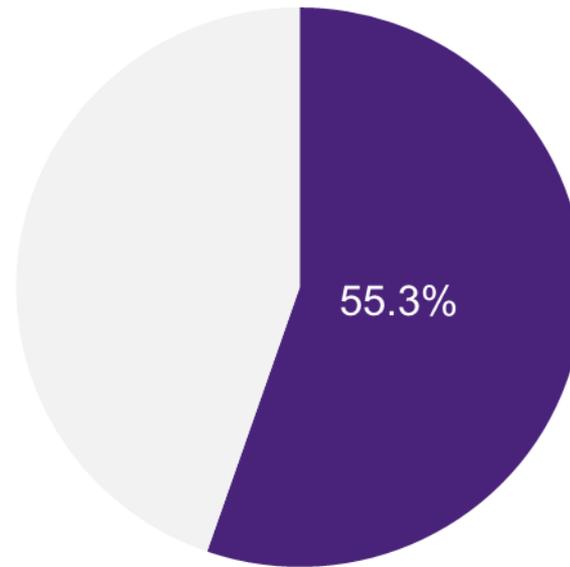
*\*Items are found in another core result*

# Family Capacities

**Children (0-5 years old) who were breastfed at least 6 months**



Metro LA

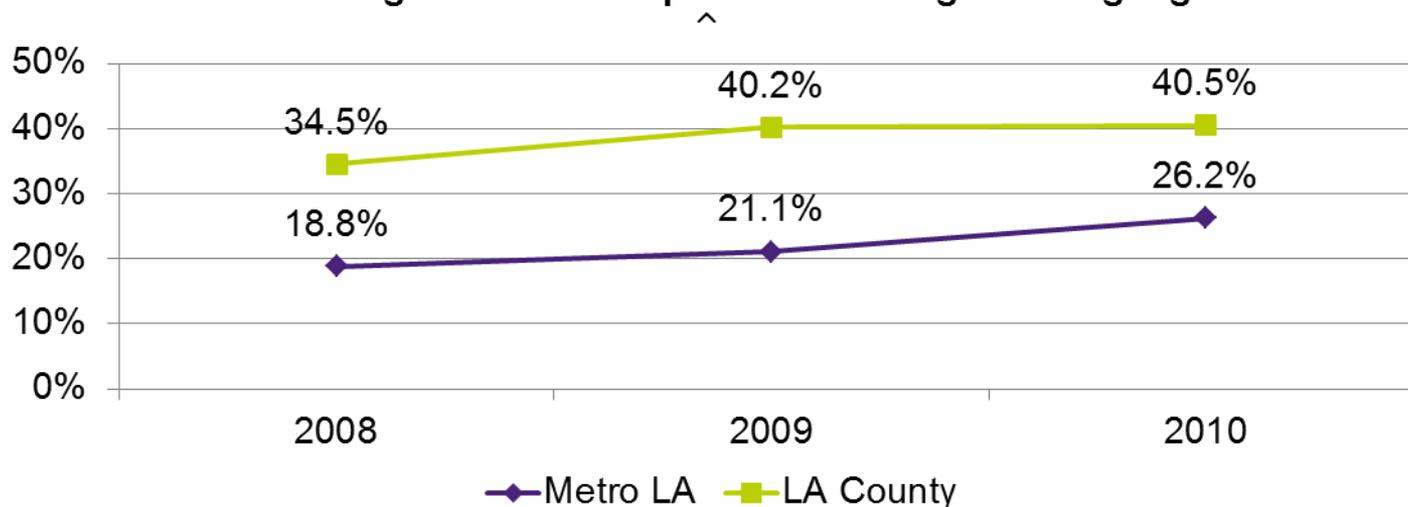


LA County

# Family Capacities

Early Learning & Education		
	Metro LA	LA County
Children (0-5 years old) who are read to every day by their parents or family.*	37.0% (n=99)	47.2% (n=5,575)
Children (0-5 years old) who are told stories every day by their parents or family.** ,‡	39.6% (n=66)	41.1% (n=3,619)
Children (0-5 years old) who sing songs or play music every day with their parents or family.**	70.6% (n=66)	70.2% (n=3,637)

Percent of 3rd grade students proficient at English Language Arts



\*Source: LACHS 02, 05, 07

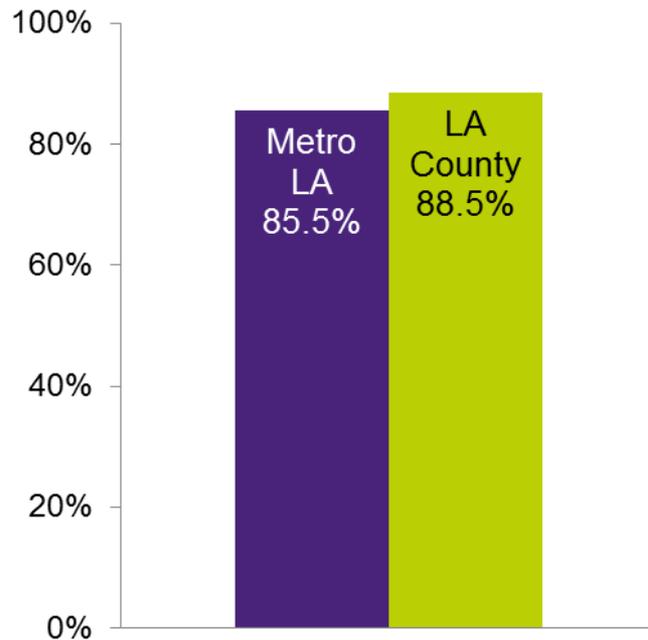
\*\*Source: LACHS 05, 07

‡ The estimate is statistically unstable (relative standard error >23%) and therefore may not be appropriate to use for planning or policy purposes.

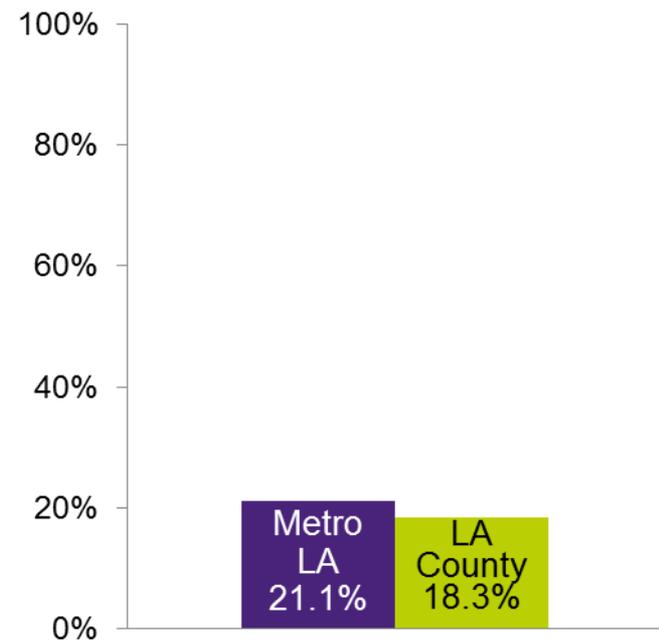
^ Source: 2008-2010, California Department of Education (CDE)

# Family Capacities

**Children (0-5 years olds) whose parents rate low to moderate on the Parent Aggravation Scale**

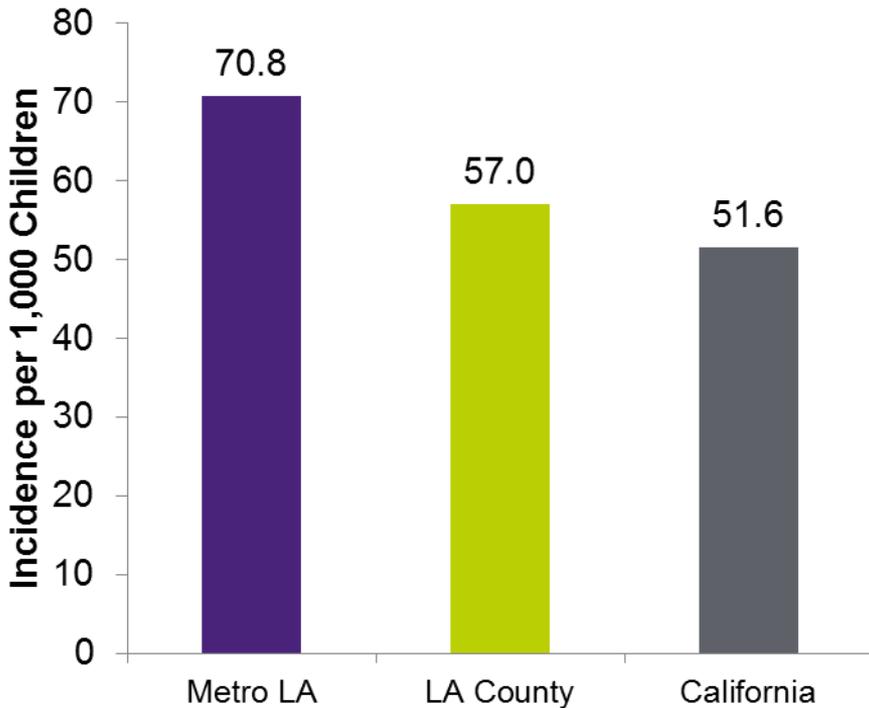


**Children (0-17 years old) whose parents reported being at risk for depression**

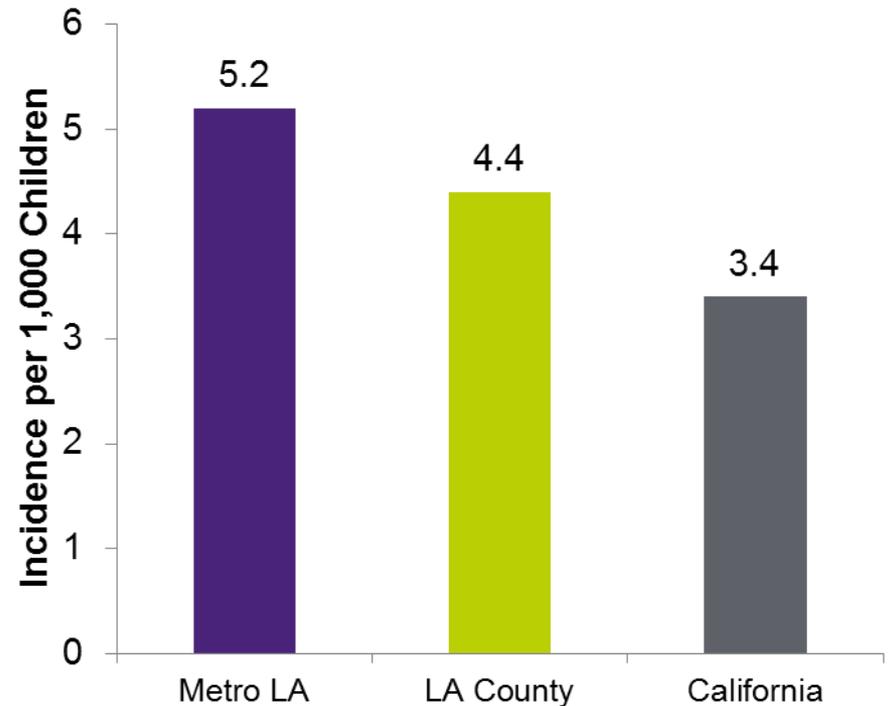


# Family Capacities

**Children (0-17) with Maltreatment Allegations, 2013**



**Children (0-17) with Entries to Foster Care, 2013**



Source: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Williams, D., Yee, H., Hightower, L., Mason, F., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2013) CCWIP reports. Retrieved [April 16, 2014], from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: <[http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb\\_childwelfare/](http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/)>

# Family Capacities

Healthy Eating		
	Metro LA	LA County
Children and adolescents (0-17 years old) who eat fast food at least once per week.*	39.5% (n=88)	47.7% (n=5,699)
Children and adolescents (0-17 years old) who drink soda or other sweetened beverages at least once per day.*	38.6% (n=83)	43.3% (n=5,595)
Children and adolescents (2-17 years old) who eat breakfast daily.**	82.5% (n=152)	80.7% (n=10,498)

\*Source: LACHS 02, 05, 07

\*\*Source: LACHS 05, 07

‡ The estimate is statistically unstable (relative standard error >23%) and therefore may not be appropriate to use for planning or policy purposes.

# Family Capacities

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + Metro LA has 86,437 residents according to the 2010 Census. It is located in central Los Angeles, bounded by Olympic Boulevard to the north, Jefferson Boulevard to the south, San Pedro Street to the east, and Normandie Avenue to the west. Metro LA does not represent a single community but encompasses parts of four different Los Angeles neighborhoods: Pico-Union, Koreatown, the Byzantine-Latino Quarter, and USC North/South LA. The Metro LA area is predominantly Latino, and Spanish is the dominant language. There is a strong sense of culture and identity among residents in Metro LA. Its population experienced a decline from 2000 to 2010. Similar to LA County, children under age 5 represent 6.7% of the population in Metro LA. The school enrollment rate for children age 3 to 4 was lower than LA County average but increased significantly since 2000.\*
- + Parents could be supported with training on how to support their children's education (CBAR 2011 Key Points).\*\*

*\*Sources: 2012 Community Assessment conducted by Harder+Company & SSG*

*\*\*Sources: Community Based Action Research (CBAR), Metro 2011*

# Social Connections

## Core result description:

- Parents need relatives, friends and neighbors they can turn to when they want to share concerns, solve problems and seek advice
- Parents connect with other parents for support

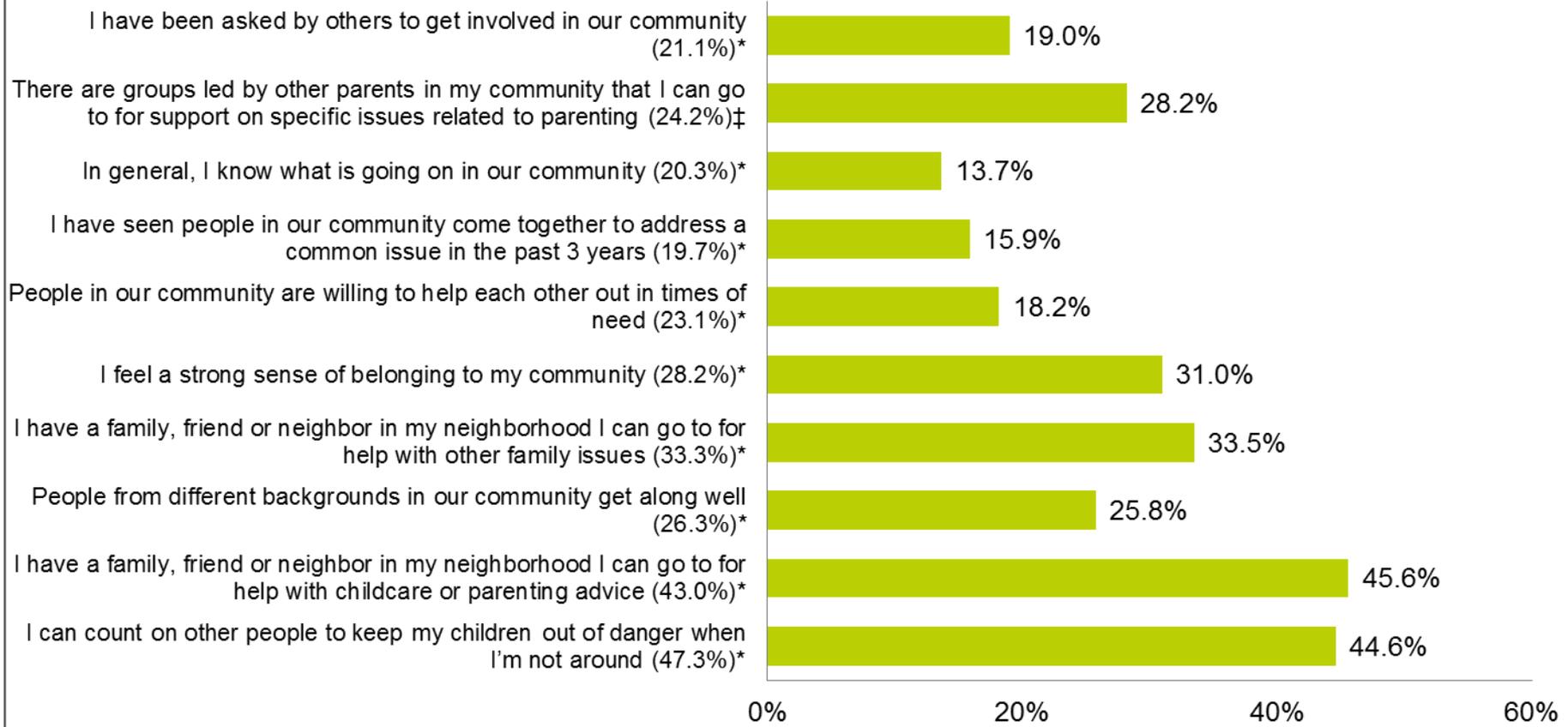
Measures	Family Survey	LACHS	CCA Survey	CHIS
1. % of parents who feel that they have someone to talk to when they need advice on how to raise their child	X*	X	X	
2. % of residents who have moved within the last five years		X	X	
3. % of parents who report that people in their neighborhood help each other out	X*		X	X
4. % of residents who feel a strong sense of belonging to their community			X	
5. % of residents who indicate seeing people in their community come together to address a common issue in the past 3 years (e.g., health, safety, crime, immigration)			X	

\*Data is expected to be available by Fall 2014

# Social Connections

**Community Capacity Assessment:** Completed by **271 parents** living within Best Start Metro LA boundaries between December 2013 - February 2014. The percentages in parenthesis indicate composite % for the 14 Best Start Communities. A total of 2327 surveys were completed.

## Percent of parents who “agree a lot”



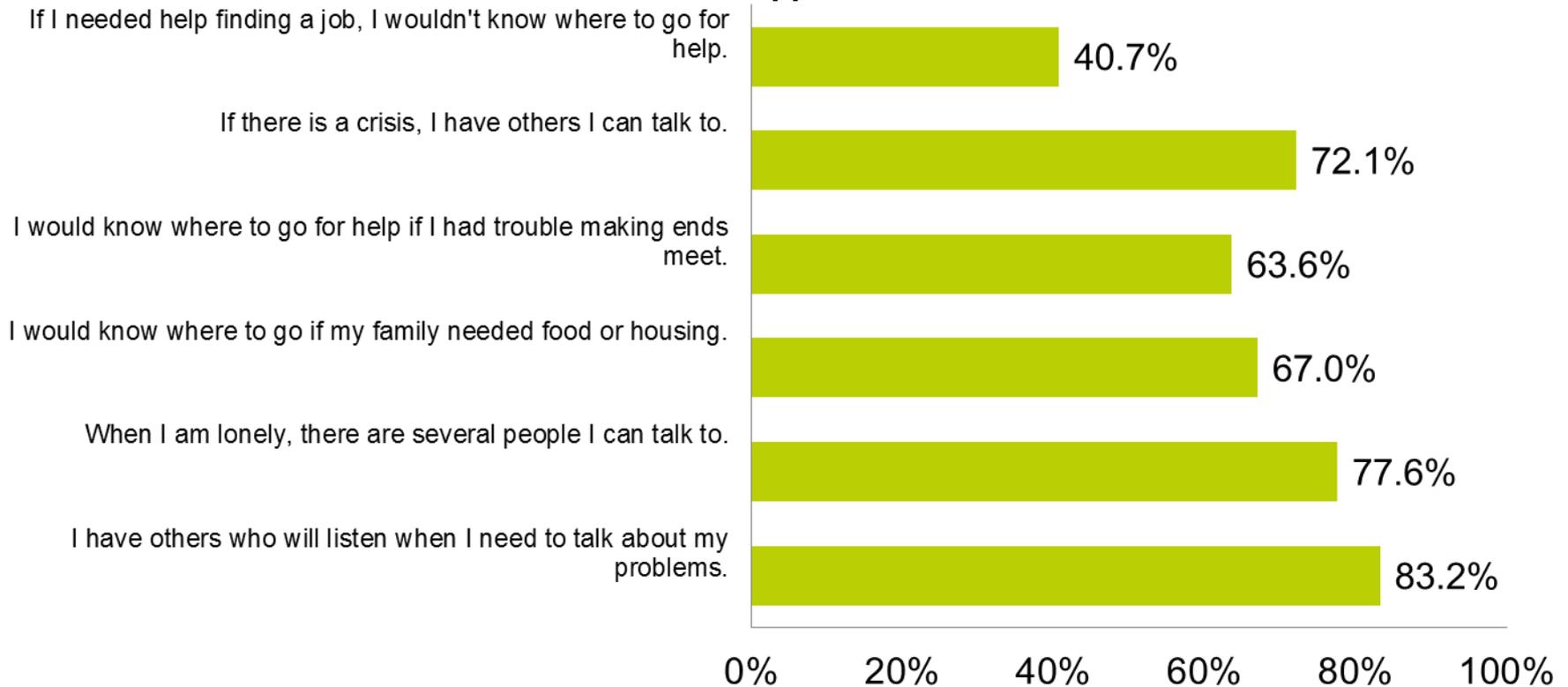
\*Items are found in another core result

‡ 15% or more of all respondents for the 14 BSC said they were “not sure”

# Social Connections

**Protective Factors Survey:** Completed by **109 residents** living within Best Start Metro LA boundaries between November 2013-December 2013. The percentages indicate composite scores for the 6 Neighborhood Leadership Groups.

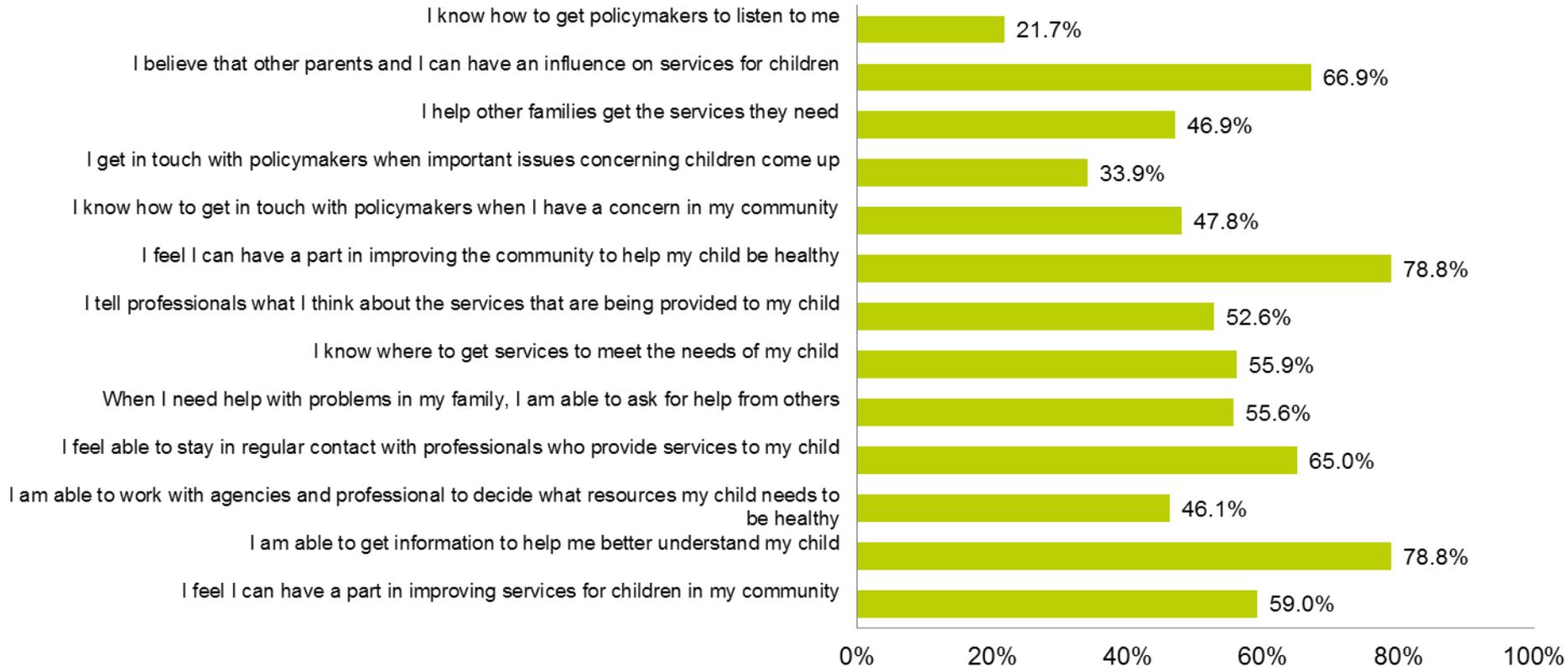
## "Percentage of people who have people to turn to when they need support"



# Social Connections

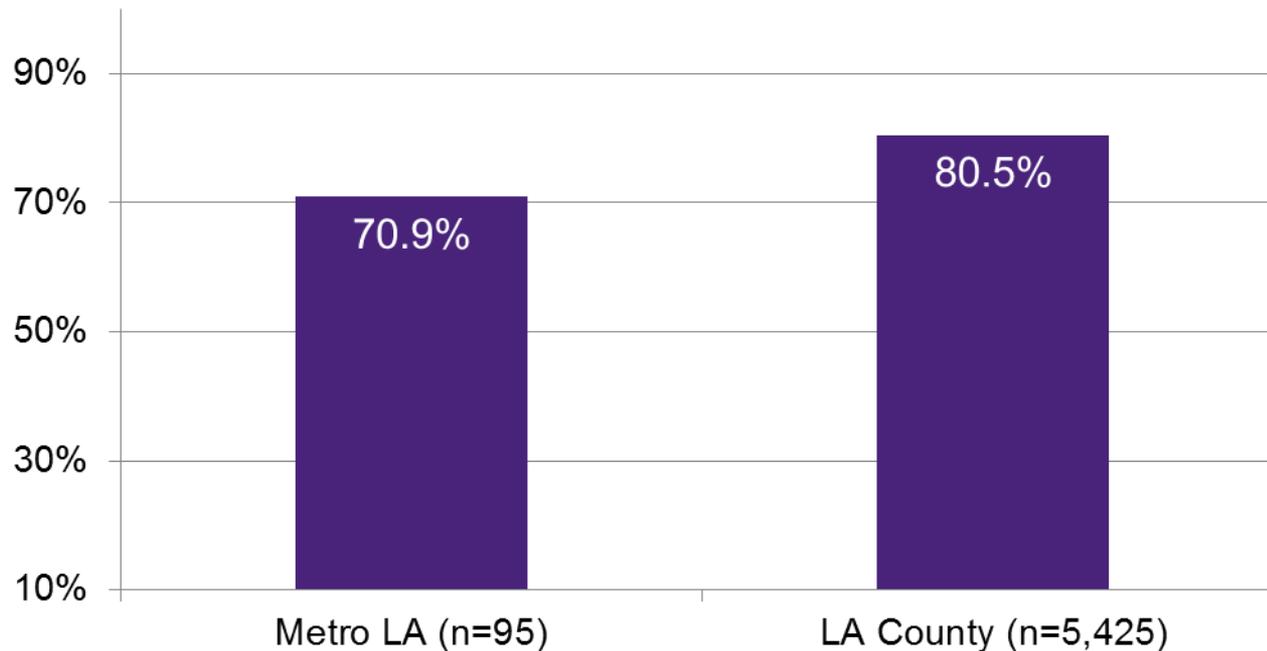
**Empowerment Scale Survey:** Completed by **118 residents** living within Best Start Metro LA boundaries between November 2013 - December 2013. The percentages indicate composite scores for the 6 Neighborhood Leadership Groups.

## "Percentage of parents who feel they can play an important role in the health of their children and their community"



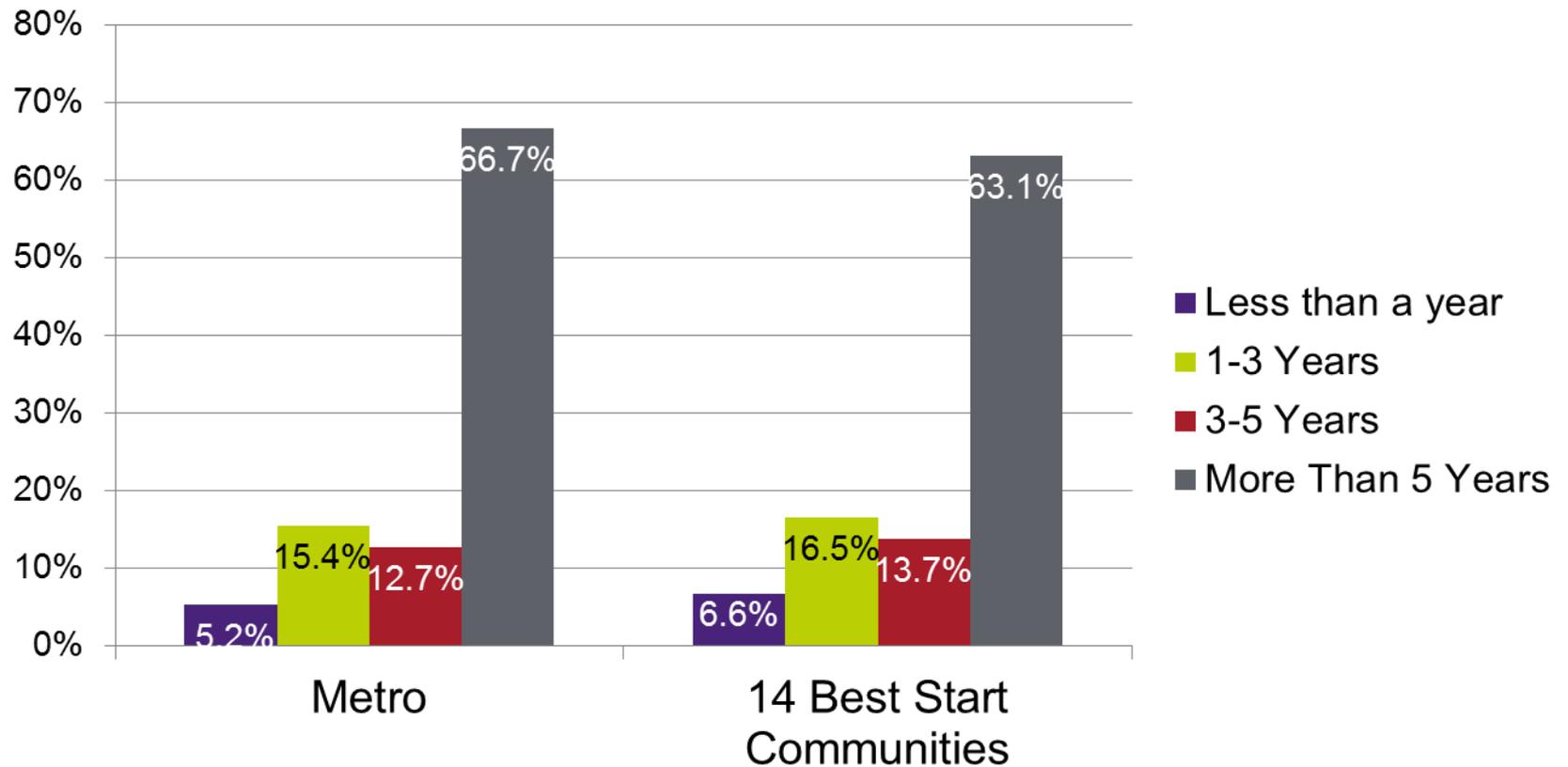
# Social Connections

Children (0-5 years old) whose parents say it is easy/very easy to find someone to talk to for advice on how to raise their child



# Social Connections

How long have you lived in this community?



# Social Connections

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + The community congregates in local churches and schools. According to community members and residents, churches and schools are the places where the community tends to congregate. The churches mentioned include St. Vincent Church and St. Agnes Church. Community residents indicated that some of the local churches distribute food, have fairs or festivals that are open to the whole community, and are places for community gatherings. Community-based organizations, libraries, private homes, and community centers were also mentioned by community residents. Parks are also considered important gathering places but many residents expressed concerns about safety. The parks mentioned by residents are Hoover Park, Toberman Park, Trinity Park, Richardson Family Park, Ardmore Park, and Estrella Park.
- + Many events and community activities bring people together. Community members noted many large and small community events and fairs throughout the year, such as the Latino Book Festival, annual festival in Little Tokyo, Chinatown's annual festival, and Korean festival and parade. In addition to these festivals, the community has a large number of health fairs hosted by local schools, community-based organizations, and USC. Other community events mentioned by community members and residents are job fairs and holiday festivals.

# Social Connections Cont.

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + **Sense of community is neighborhood-specific** rather than the larger Metro LA community. Some community members reported that the Metro LA area lacks a sense of community because the boundary is artificial. Metro LA consists of several distinct neighborhoods with their own history and culture. Residents felt a sense of community at the neighborhood level where there are strong social networks and people know each other. Similar to the community residents, the community members expressed that Metro LA encompasses many distinct communities and tended to speak about the specific neighborhoods where they work.
- + **Opinions vary about the level of racial and ethnic tensions.** Many community members were not able to assess how people of different backgrounds get along in the community. Those who were able to speak on this issue reported minimal conflict among people of different backgrounds. While most community residents did not report any specific tensions between people of different backgrounds, some residents reiterated the lack of trust and weak connections between different ethnic and racial groups. They reported the presence of racism, discrimination, and hyper-sensitivity between people of different cultures. The isolation of the Korean American community was also noted by community residents.

# Concrete Supports

## Core result description:

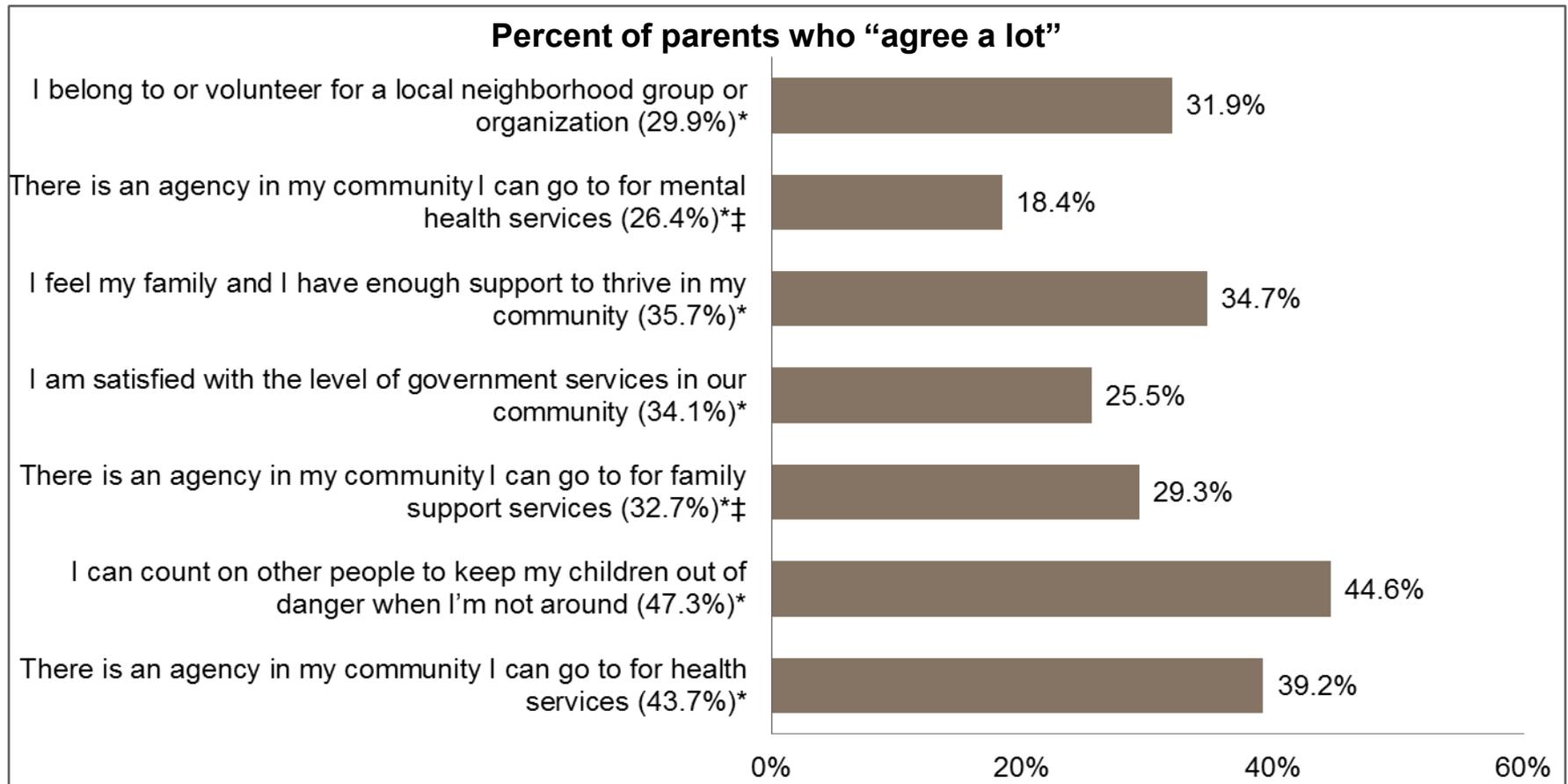
- Parents are able to obtain help when they need it
- Parents know how and where to obtain services needed for their family

Indicators	Family Survey	LACHS	CCA Survey	CHIS	CDPH
1. % of parents who know where to go when they feel they need assistance helping their child learn		X	X		
2. % of women who received prenatal care beginning in the first trimester					X
3. % of children 0-5 with a regular source of medical care	X*	X		X	
4. % of parents who needed childcare and who found it very or somewhat easy to obtain		X			

\*Data is expected to be available by Fall 2014

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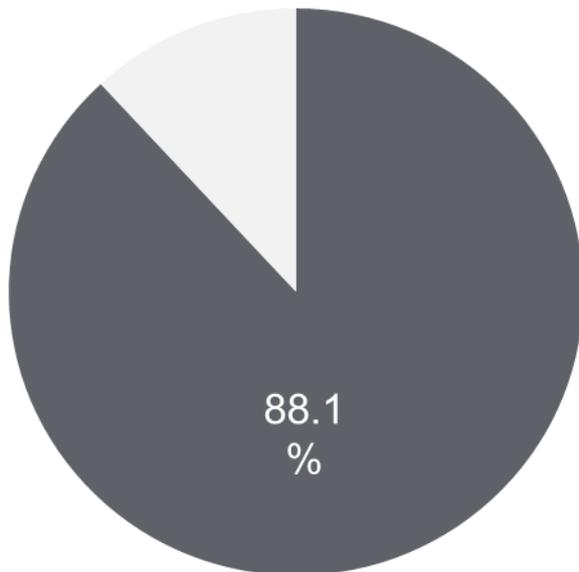


\*Items are found in another core result

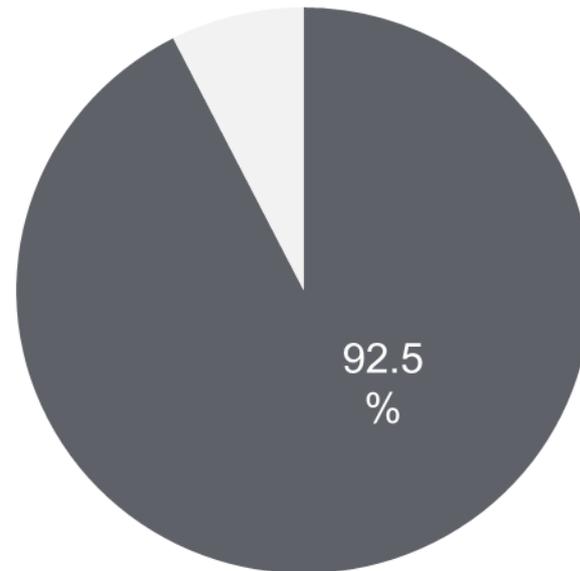
‡ 15% or more of all respondents for the 14 BSC said they were “not sure”

# Concrete Supports

Children (0-17 years old) who have a regular source of medical care



Metro LA



LA County

# Concrete Supports

Prenatal Care Concrete Supports		
	Metro LA	LA County
Women of reproductive age (18-49 years) who reported not having insurance (at the time of the interview).*	52.0% (n=94)	23.2% (n=7,351)
Women of reproductive age (18-49 years) who reported access to Medical was very/somewhat difficult.**	65.2% (n=113)	33.4% (n=10,644)
Women of reproductive age (18-49 years) who reported their health as excellent, very good or good.***	71.4% (n=119)	77.2% (n=14,227)
Children (0-5 years) whose mothers reported receiving information about multivitamin or folic acid supplements before becoming pregnant.****	78.7% (n=30)	82.3% (n=1,644)
Children (0-5 years) whose mothers reported receiving information about dangers of tobacco smoke exposure before becoming pregnant.****	81.1% (n=32)	82.9% (n=1,641)

\*Source: LACHS 02, 05, 07

\*\*Source: LACHS 99, 02, 05, 07

\*\*\*Source: LACHS 97, 99, 02, 05, 07

\*\*\*\*Source: LACHS 07

† The estimate is statistically unstable (relative standard error >23%) and therefore may not be appropriate to use for planning or policy purposes.

# Concrete Supports

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + **Various sources of information exist but not everyone knows about them.** Community members and some residents identified community-based organizations, churches, schools, and ethnic media as the community's main sources of information about community events and issues. Some schools have Healthy Start programs which provide information to parents. Ethnic media, including TV, radio, and newspaper also disseminate information about community events and issues. Nonetheless, community residents indicated that there is a lack of information about what is happening in their community and sometimes misinformation generates tensions and confusion. For example, residents mentioned misconceptions about the impact of immigrants on jobs and the community.
- + **The stigma around mental health services prevents people from accessing services.** Several community members indicated that there is a significant gap in services for mental health especially for those who do not have insurance. Assessment and treatment of young children with special needs is especially lacking. Also, the stigma around mental health services prevents many families from accessing services.

# Concrete Supports Cont.

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + **Community-based organizations and schools are trusted sources of information and support.** Community residents had little difficulty identifying places to seek advice and to access resources and support. Overall, they identified community-based organizations and schools most frequently. Most residents depend on family and neighbors for childcare and parent support due to the difficulty of finding childcare. As mentioned previously, a higher percentage of parents in Metro LA (41.1%) reported that it is very or somewhat difficult to find childcare compared to LA County (35.9%). Banks, community organizations, and USC have been a source of support for financial or legal advice. \*
- + More training of childcare workers is needed.\*\*
- + Schedule of daycare needs to be extended to coincide with the work schedules of parents.\*\*
- + Better training of childcare providers-they should be patient, and flexible.\*\*
- + Childcare quality: many are below average or expensive.\*\*

*\*Sources: 2012 Community Assessment conducted by Harder+Company & SSG*

*\*\*Sources: Community Based Action Research (CBAR), Metro 2011*

# Systems of Service & Supports

Core result description:

- Communities offer a variety of services and supports that meet the needs of families with young children.

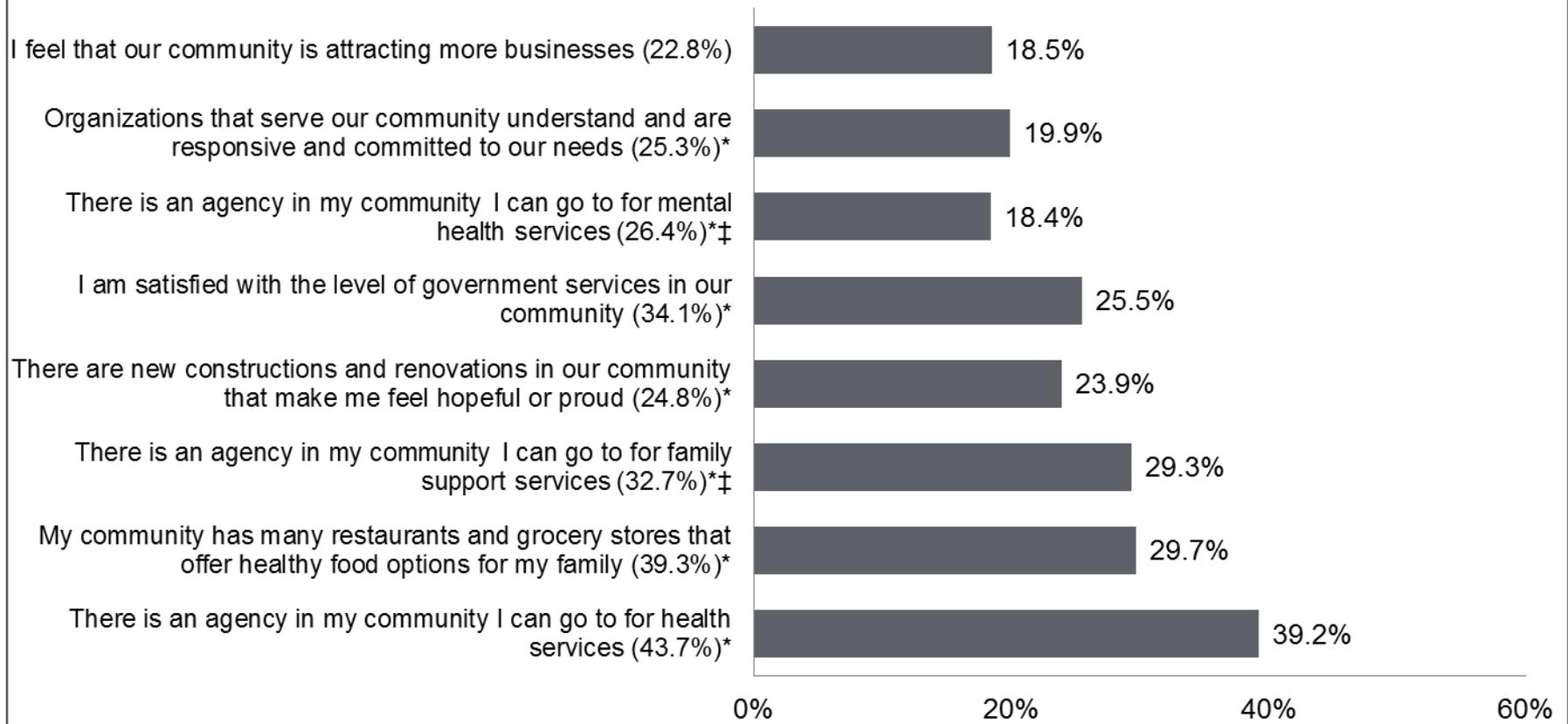
Indicators	Family Survey	LACHS	CCA Survey	CHIS	CDPH
% of parents who needed childcare and who found it very or somewhat easy to obtain.	X*				

\*Data is expected to be available by Fall 2014

# System of Service and Supports

**Community Capacity Assessment:** Completed by 271 living within Best Start Metro LA boundaries between December 2013 - February 2014. The percentages in parenthesis indicate composite % for the 14 Best Start Communities. A total of 2327 surveys were completed.

**Percent of parents who “agree a lot”**

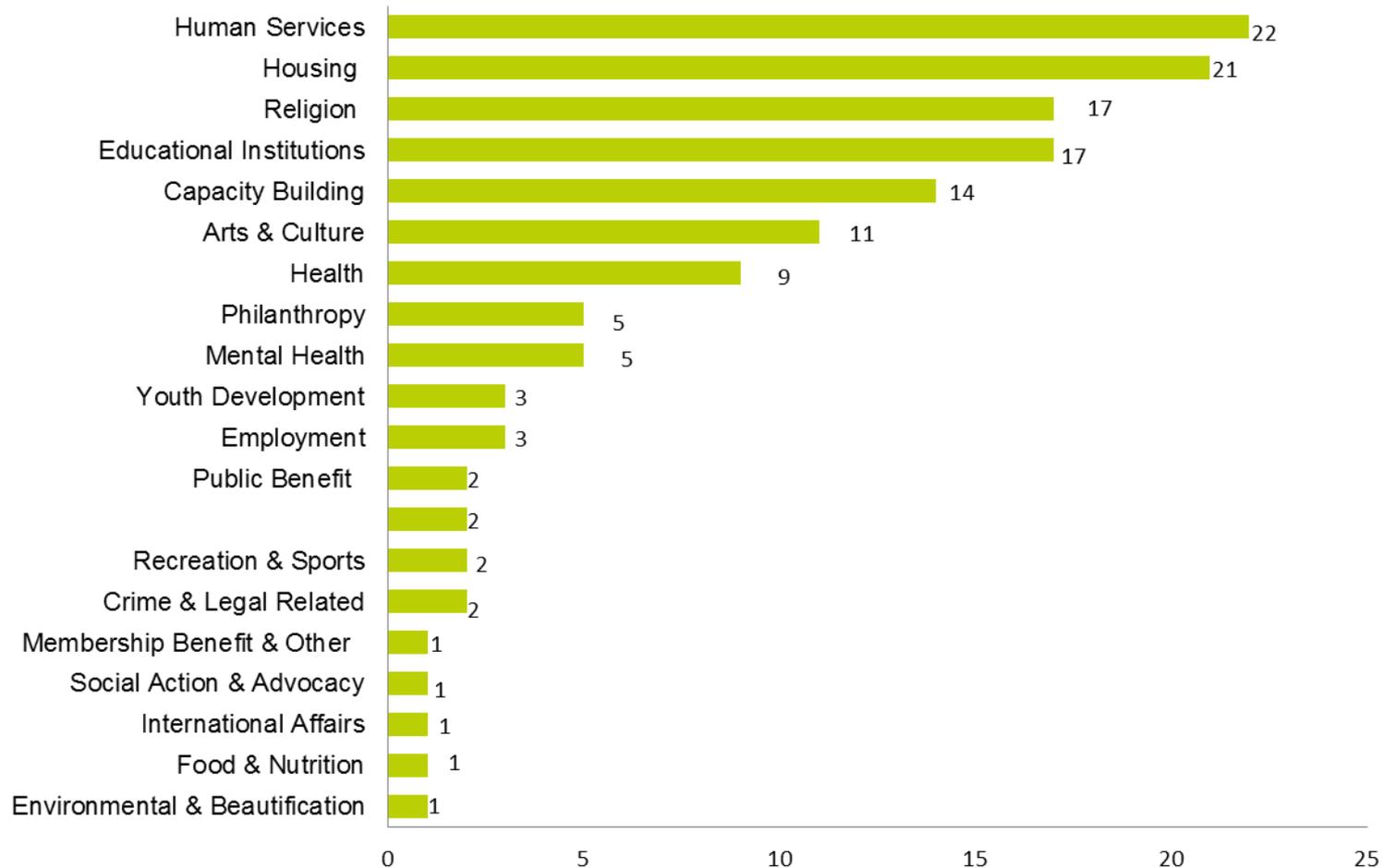


\*Items are found in another core result

‡ 15% or more of all respondents for the 14 BSC said they were “not sure”

# System of Service and Supports

Non-Profit Type (2006) (N=139)



# System of Service and Supports

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + **The major catalyst for community mobilization has been parks, childcare/early education, and programs for children.** Both community members and residents reported the community has rallied around issues of safety at local parks, park closures, parks that were planned but not completed, and park beautification. At the asset mapping session, residents indicated a strong need in Metro LA for more parks and community centers where residents of all ages can gather and engage in recreation and physical activities. The community has also mobilized around programs for children, including affordable childcare, closure of family literacy programs, closure of Heart Start programs, child neglect, and need for more recreational activities for children. Additionally, the community has been concerned and involved with issues related to healthcare, closing of an orthopedic hospital, affordable housing, expansion of USC, jobs and local hiring at LA Live and the convention center, public safety, nutrition, equality, and illegal drugs.\*
- + **There are a number of preschools and childcare providers, but most are unaffordable and inaccessible.** Community residents identified a number of childcare providers and preschools in the Metro LA area. However, providers that serve low-income families are usually full, and those with available spaces are unaffordable. At the asset mapping session, community residents indicated that there is a long waitlist, and preference was given to families who are on welfare or probation. Additionally, undocumented families find it difficult to access childcare and preschool programs. Residents expressed that the community is not providing children the services they really need, including resources needed to improve afterschool programs and more accessible childcare services.\*
- + There is a lack of day care for children with special needs.\*\*
- + Parents cannot find childcare slots, because people from other communities bring their children into areas for work.\*\*

\*Sources: 2012 Community Assessment conducted by Harder+Company & SSG

\*\*Sources: Community Based Action Research (CBAR), Metro 2011

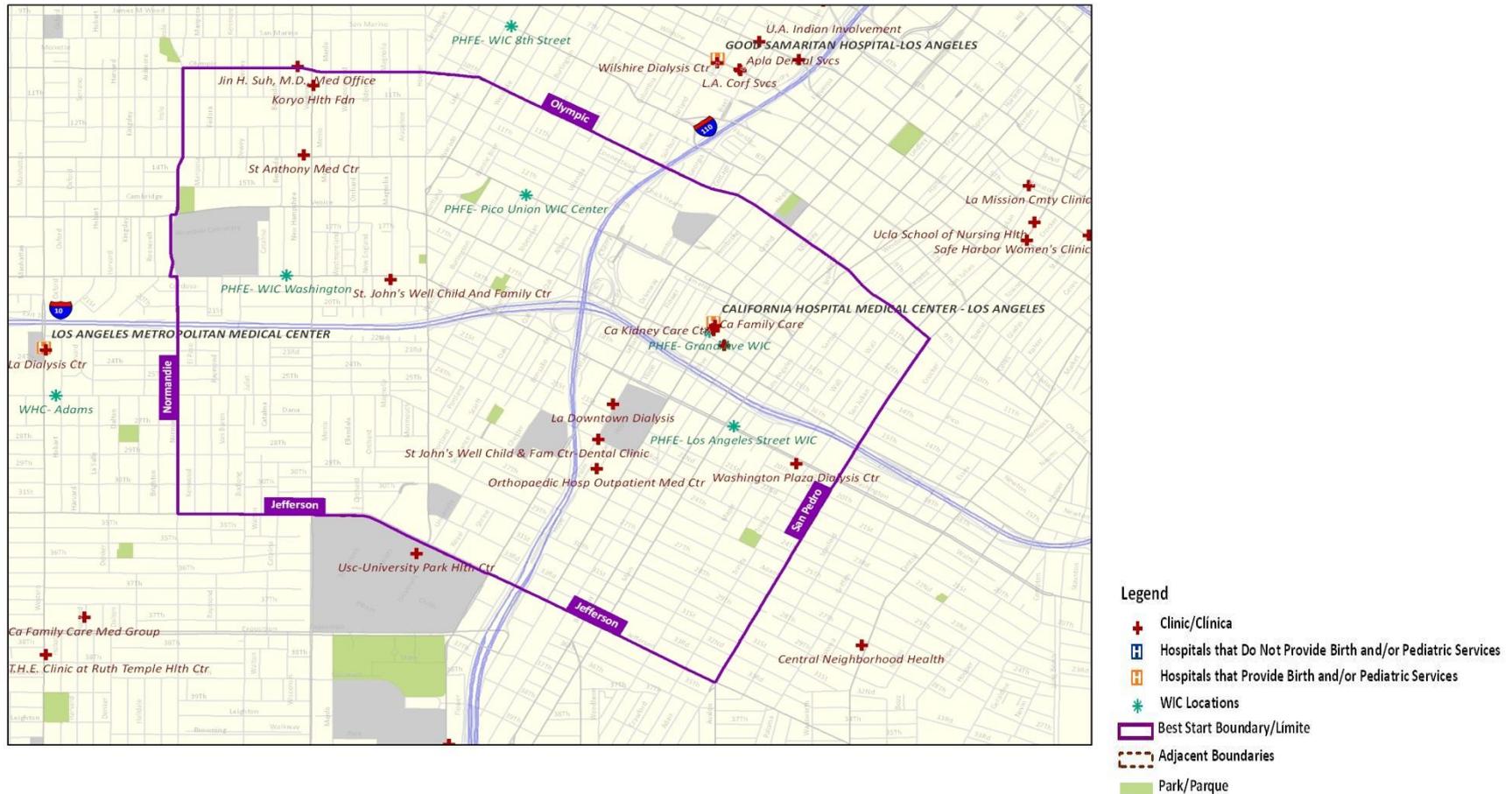
# System of Service and Supports Cont.

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + **Language is also a significant barrier to accessing services.** In addition to transportation and cost of services, language barriers and communication challenges are additional barriers to accessing services. As described previously in the report, a large portion of households (45%) in Metro LA are limited English households. As such, community residents indicated that there is a need for more bilingual staff, doctors, and therapists that can provide services in Spanish or other languages.
- + **Services and supports for community residents who are undocumented are limited.** Both community members and residents reported that residents who are undocumented are reluctant to access services and sign documents due to fear of deportation. Additionally, certain organizations require social security numbers to receive services, which further prevents those who are undocumented from accessing and receiving needed services.
- + **Healthcare services are available, but many residents find them difficult to access.** Many healthcare facilities were identified in the Metro LA area by community residents. Some of the healthcare facilities identified by residents include St. John's Community Clinic, Queens Care Community Clinic, H. Claude Hudson Comprehensive Health Center, Eisner Medical Center, and LA County+ USC Hospital. Despite the number of healthcare facilities in the community, some residents have difficulty accessing these services, and many of them travel outside of the Metro LA area to access low-cost medical services. One of the main barriers to access is the high cost of healthcare for those without insurance, and many residents do not have insurance because they are undocumented. Some community residents reported that people with the right connections receive prompt services at healthcare facilities, while others are forced to wait in long lines. Some of them indicated that they rely on "shady places" in the black market to buy medications and to receive needed medical treatments.

# System of Service and Supports

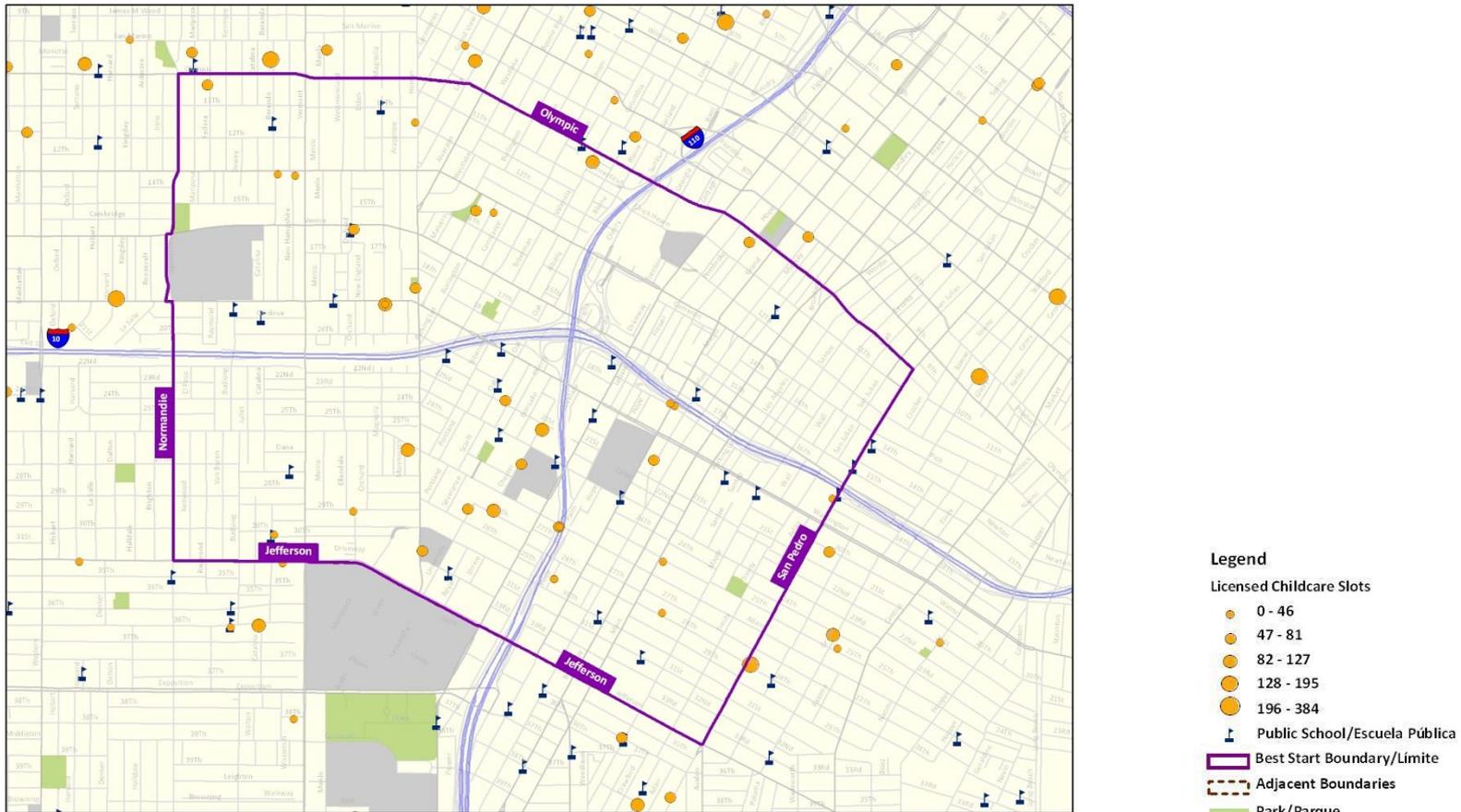
## Health Services



Sources: Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), 2009  
 WIC, Research and Evaluation, September 2011  
 TeleAtlas, 2010

# System of Service and Supports

## Early Child Education



Sources: California Department of Education, 2010  
California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, 2011  
TeleAtlas, 2010

# System of Service and Supports

## Community Institutions



### Legend

#### Community Institutions

-  College / University
-  Library
-  Museum
-  Best Start Boundary/Limit
-  Adjacent Boundaries
-  Park/Parque

Sources: TeleAtlas, 2010

# Community Spaces & Places

## Core result description:

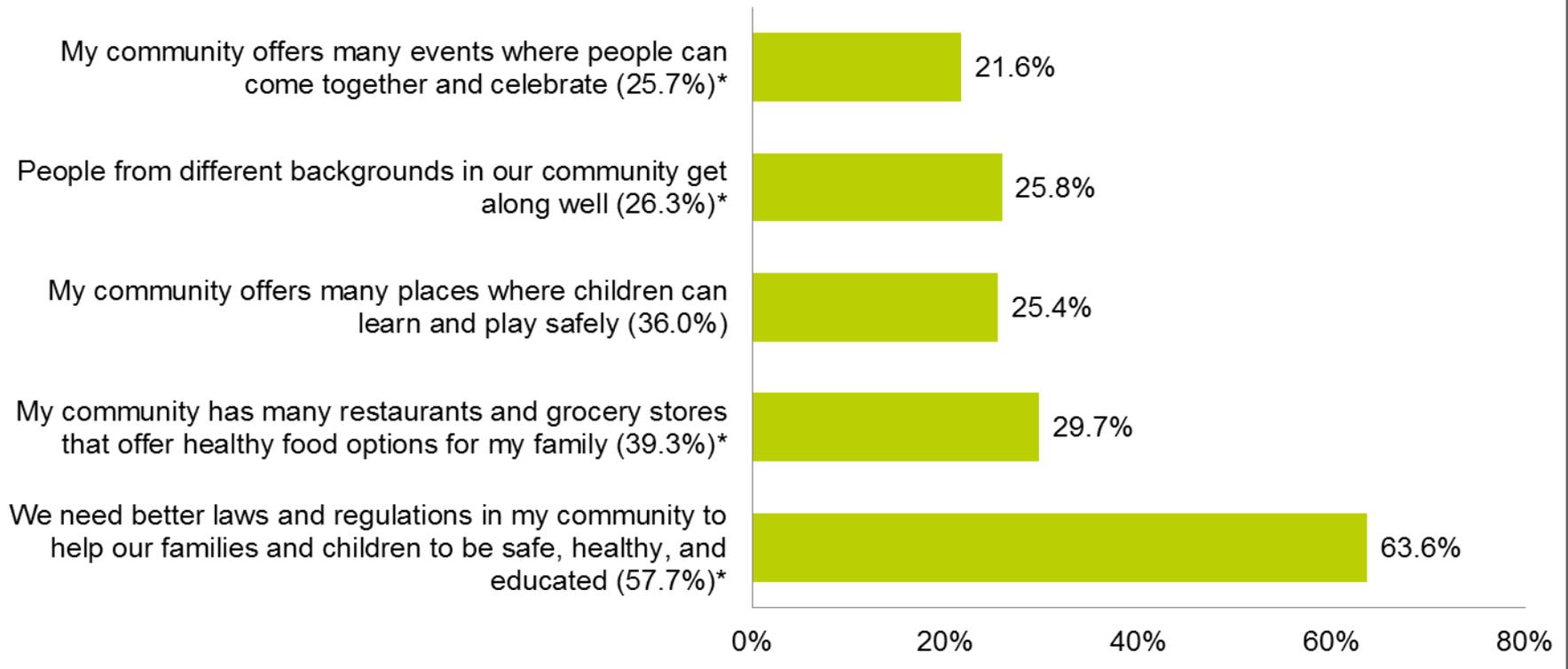
- Communities have safe places for families to interact and have fun.

Measures	Family Survey	LACHS	CCA Survey	CHIS	CDPH
% of parents who indicate having fresh fruits and vegetable that are affordable and high quality in their community	X*		X		
% of parents who report using a nearby park, playground or other safe place to play at least once in the previous two weeks	X*	X		X	
% of parents who often feel that their child is safe in their community or neighborhood.	X*	X			
% of parents who feel that their community offers many places where children can learn and play safely (e.g. libraries, parks, schools, community centers, etc.)			X		

# Community Spaces & Places

**Community Capacity Assessment:** Completed by **271 parents** living within Best Start Metro LA boundaries between December 2013 - February 2014. The percentages in parenthesis indicate composite % for the 14 Best Start Communities. A total of 2327 surveys were completed.

**Percent of parents who “agree a lot”**

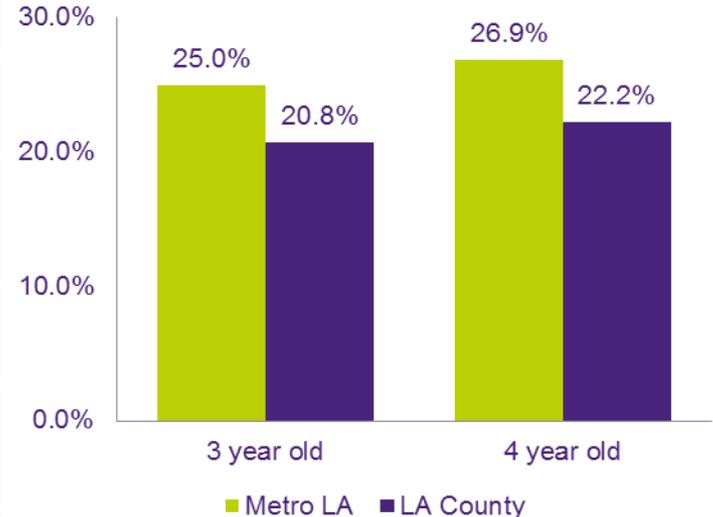


*\*Items are found in another core result*

# Community Spaces & Places

	Metro LA	LA County
Children and adolescents (0-17 years old) who eat fast food at least once per week.*	39.5% (n=88)	47.7% (n=5,699)
Children and adolescents (1-17 years old) with a park or other safe place to play available to them.**	65.8% (n=239)	81.9% (n=16,124)
Children and adolescents (6-17 years old) NOT meeting standards for physical activity.*, †	82.8% (n=45)	62.4% (n=3,551)
Children and adolescents (0-17 years old) who drink soda or other sweetened beverages at least once per day.*	38.6% (n=83)	43.3% (n=5,595)
Children and adolescents (2-17 years old) who eat breakfast daily.***	82.5% (n=152)	80.7% (n=10,498)
Children and adolescents (0-17 years old) who have NOT gone to a park, playground, or other safe place to play in the past two weeks.*	38.0% (n=48)	30.1% (n=4,479)
Children (0-17 years old) whose parents think that their community is a pleasant place to be physically active.*	57.1% (n=86)	83.4% (n=5,535)

**Percent of WIC children 3 and 4 years old that are overweight (2010)**



Source: PHFE WIC Data Mining Project, LA County WIC Data, 2010

\*Source: LACHS 07

\*\*Source: LACHS 02, 05, 07

\*\*\*Source: LACHS 05, 07

† Not exercising at least one hour a week on at least 5 days/week or not participating in any physical activity.

‡ The estimate is statistically unstable (relative standard error >23%) and therefore may not be appropriate to use for planning or policy purposes.

# Community Spaces & Places

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + **More recreational, educational and entertainment options for children, youth, and adults are needed.** Recreational options for young children and youth emerged as a service gap in the Metro LA community. Many community residents expressed a need for more community activities, recreational programs and other extracurricular options for children, youth, and adults.
- + **Colleges and universities are assets in the community.** There are three colleges and universities within the Metro LA area: Los Angeles Trade Tech College, St. Mary's College, and Hebrew Union College. Also, University of Southern California is located just south of the Metro LA boundary. Some of these schools have hosted community events, such as health fairs and book fairs. They also hosted community programs and provided other resources to the community.
- + **Threats to public safety undermine community life.** Community residents repeatedly identified safety and security concerns as a pervasive problem that undermines the community. The presence of gangs as well as individuals using drugs and alcohol, homeless, and incidents of vandalism create a continuing sense of insecurity for community residents. At the asset mapping session, residents identified gang activity along Magnolia Avenue and violence and theft along Normandie Avenue.

# Community Spaces & Places Cont.

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + **Local parks are described as dangerous.** Although parks were seen as assets and places where the community can congregate, they are also seen by many residents as dangerous, especially at night, because of the presence of local gangs, vandalism, and drugs. Community residents also commented that the parks are dirty because of poor maintenance and graffiti. Residents indicated that more lighting is needed to increase safety in well-utilized park. Because of the poor conditions of the parks, some residents reported going to parks outside the Metro LA area, as far as El Monte, Commerce, and Lynwood.
- + **There is inadequate community infrastructure.** Community residents expressed a need for a range of community facilities and infrastructure. This included not only larger, more usable parks, but also recreation centers, libraries, and community centers. These facilities are needed to provide a variety of educational and recreational activities for children, teenagers, adults and seniors. There is no public library and very few green space within the Metro LA boundary. Residents reported utilizing the Central Library, located outside of the Metro LA area. They also reported that there is a general lack of maintenance in the community, including trash in the streets, graffiti, lack of traffic lights at certain dangerous intersections, and inadequate street lighting.



# Shared Vision/Collective Action

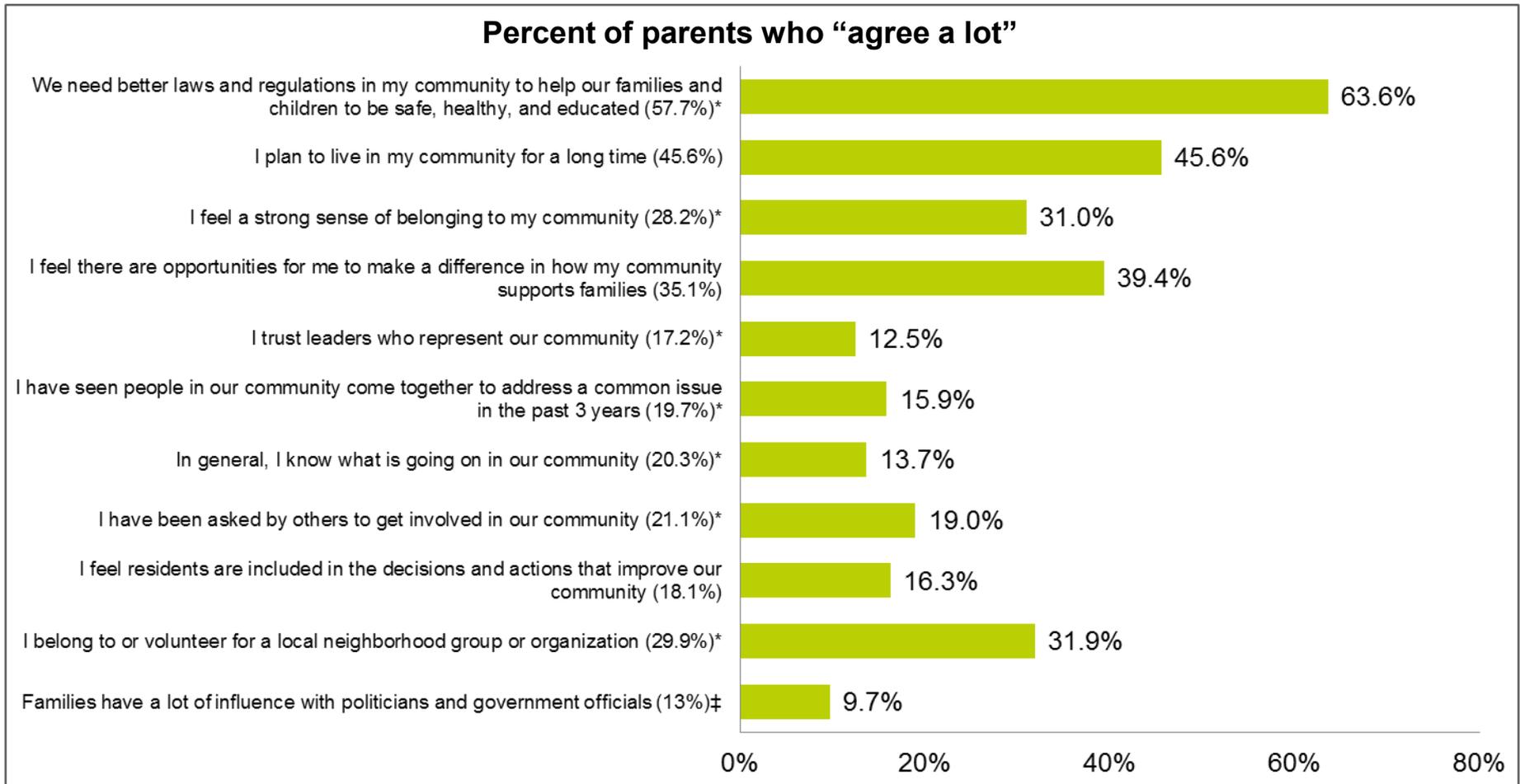
## Core result description:

- Communities have active participation from families in community networks
- Communities have members that share vision and act collectively to improve the policies, services and environments that impact families.

Indicators	Family Survey	LACHS	CCA Survey	CHIS	CDPH
% of residents who give their community a positive rating in how well people work together to improve their community	X*		X	X	

# Shared vision/collective action

**Community Capacity Assessment:** Completed by **271 parents** living within Best Start Metro LA boundaries between December 2013 - February 2014. The percentages in parenthesis indicate composite % for the 14 Best Start Communities. A total of 2327 surveys were completed.



\*Items are found in another core result

‡ 15% or more of all respondents for the 14 BSC said they were “not sure”

# Shared vision/collective action

## Community Wisdom | Resident Voices

- + **Opportunities for advocacy exist, but community needs to be organized and connected.** According to community members, the fragmentation of Metro LA into several distinct neighborhoods makes it more difficult to unify and mobilize the community. For example, residents in the downtown area are more concerned about beautification, whereas the residents of Koreatown are concerned about schools, safety at night, and the number of liquor stores in the neighborhood. However, community members and residents alike identified a number of shared issues that cut across neighborhood-specific concerns, such as early education and childcare, prenatal care, school improvement, park improvement, availability of green space, budget cuts to health services and social services, immigration, parent leadership, and safety. Community members said that education is the first and most important step for mobilizing the community. They suggested organizing workshops to educate the community about the importance of civic engagement, provide opportunities for parents to collaborate with other parents and agencies, and identify community members who can help implement grassroots strategies.
- + **Parent involvement has been on the rise mostly in the school context.** There has been an increase in parent engagement and the number of parent leaders due to the renewed efforts of community-based organizations (including Best Start). The engagement is strongest among parent groups working on issues of early education and childcare, children and youth programs, and neighborhood groups. Community residents named a number of neighborhood groups, church groups, local schools, and organizations as opportunities for leadership development. Despite the increased level of engagement, some felt parents needed to be more involved in decision making.

## Additional local data sources

American Community Survey, 2005-2009 <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/>

California Department of Education (CDE), 2008-2010 <http://www.cde.ca.gov/index.asp>

California Department of Public Health (CDPH), 2009 <http://www.healthycity.org/>

California Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division, 2011 <http://cclid.ca.gov/>

California Women, Infants and Children Association (WIC), Research and Evaluation, September 2011 <http://www.calwic.org/index.php>

Early Development Instrument (EDI) Community Profile: Magnolia Community Initiative Los Angeles County, California. UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families and Communities. Contact: [TECCS@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:TECCS@mednet.ucla.edu)

Hill, I., & Benatar, S. (2011). Best Start LA pilot community evaluation case study report 2: Implementing Best Start LA: Momentum Grows in Metro LA. Urban Institute: Washington, D.C.

Hill, I., Benatar, S., Adams, F., & Sandstrom, H. (2011). Best Start LA pilot community evaluation case study report 1: Implementing Best Start LA in Metro LA – slow but steady progress from the place-based community initiative. Urban Institute: Washington, D.C.

Los Angeles County Health Survey (LACHS) 97, 99, 02, 05, 07  
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/phcommon/public/reports/rptspubdisplay.cfm?unit=ha&ou=ph&prog=hae>

Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, 2008 <http://dcfs.co.la.ca.us/>

Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD), 2009 <http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/>

Public Health Foundation Enterprise Women, Infants and Children Program (PHFE WIC) Data Mining Project, LA County WIC Data, 2010  
<http://www.phfewic.org/projects/DataMining.aspx>

Statewide Database at the University of California Berkeley, 2010 <http://www.healthycity.org/>

TeleAtlas, 2010 <http://www.esri.com/>

U.S. Decennial Census, 2000 & 2010 <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>

## Other useful data and data sources:

USC State of Neighborhood: Discussion of Analysis. In an address delivered March 26, 2014 at the Community Advisory Board and Faculty Task Force. Contact: hamaro@usc.edu

Population Zero to Five and Licensed Childcare Space, 2011 <http://www.healthycity.org/>

Number of WIC Families, 2011 and Age-Specific Fertility Rates, 2010

Contact F5LA's Research & Evaluation Department

Statewide Database at the University of California Berkeley, 2010 <http://www.healthycity.org/>