



Children's Report Card

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

*Committed to
enriching the lives
of children and youth
in our community
by keeping them safe,
healthy, nurtured,
educated and happy*

SEPTEMBER 2006

Sacramento County is fortunate to have many agencies, foundations, community groups, and individuals who care deeply for our children. We thank them for the countless hours donated to work on this project.

The development of the *Children's Report Card* was made possible by financial support from:

First 5 Sacramento Commission

Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services

Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance

Catholic Healthcare West

Child Action, Inc.

Kaiser Permanente

Sierra Health Foundation

Sutter Health

Sacramento County Local Child Care and Development Planning Council

Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento, Inc.

The Honorable Robbie Waters, Sacramento City Council Member

CPS - Human Resources Services



The *Sacramento County Children's Report Card* is a project of the Sacramento County Children's Coalition. The Sacramento County Children's Coalition is an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors charged with assessing community needs, evaluating existing services and making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and other policy-making bodies in order to promote the health and well being of children and families in Sacramento County.

Staff services are provided by the Community Services Planning Council.

Cover photo courtesy of Denise Lee

To the People of Sacramento County:

Children hold our future in their hands. As a community, we hold their health, safety, education, and happiness in ours. The *Children's Report Card* is a project of the Sacramento County Children's Coalition. The Children's Coalition, an advisory body to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, is charged with assessing community needs, evaluating existing services, and making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and other policy-making bodies in order to promote the health and wellbeing of children and families in Sacramento County.

The *Sacramento County Children's Report Card*, first published in September 2000, was established to show how well the Sacramento community is fulfilling its promise to children. Every two years, the Coalition publishes the *Children's Report Card*, to reflect the changing conditions of children and families, highlight many of our community's successes and challenges, and provide a guide for policy development to improve the status of Sacramento's Children.

The 2006 *Sacramento County Children's Report Card* presents findings for 43 indicators in five result areas: economics, education, health, safety, and social and emotional well-being. The reader will note that the *Report Card* does not make recommendations, but rather portrays information about status of children and youth, in the belief that this will be a valuable basis for making strategic decisions.

The *Children's Report Card* is a community-wide undertaking and represents countless hours of work by members of the community as well as Children's Coalition members and staff. Many additional individuals and agencies were called upon to find and interpret data. In Sacramento County, we are fortunate that so many care about children and youth.

In 2005 Sacramento County was identified as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People by America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth, in recognition of the work done by the many people and organizations for whom children and youth are a priority. This includes many participants in the creation of the *Children's Report Card*.



Photo courtesy of Natalie Kuffel



Photo courtesy of Leticia Klein



The Children's Report Card is a living community document, and the reader will see some changes in this year's edition. This report contains five new indicators, added in response to community input gathered in the fall of 2005. More than 500 individuals, 36 percent of whom were youth under the age of 24, provided input on the current indicators in the *Report Card* and identified additional key issues for possible inclusion. Some indicators were combined, for example two of the indicators in Education, "School Enrollment" and "Children Who are Not in School," became a single indicator called School Enrollment and Attendance.

The reader also will notice the word "youth" included in the vision statement and used more throughout the *Report Card* in recognition of the youth development movement which has been growing in Sacramento County.

Our community has come together, working collaboratively to address the needs of children and youth. While we still have work to do, all who have tirelessly built partnerships to foster collaboration should take pride in the results that have been achieved. We invite you to consider the trends outlined in this report, and hope you will participate in the October 20, 2006 biennial Children's Summit. Please join us in our commitment to enhance the lives of our children and youth by keeping them safe, healthy, nurtured, educated and happy.

Sincerely,

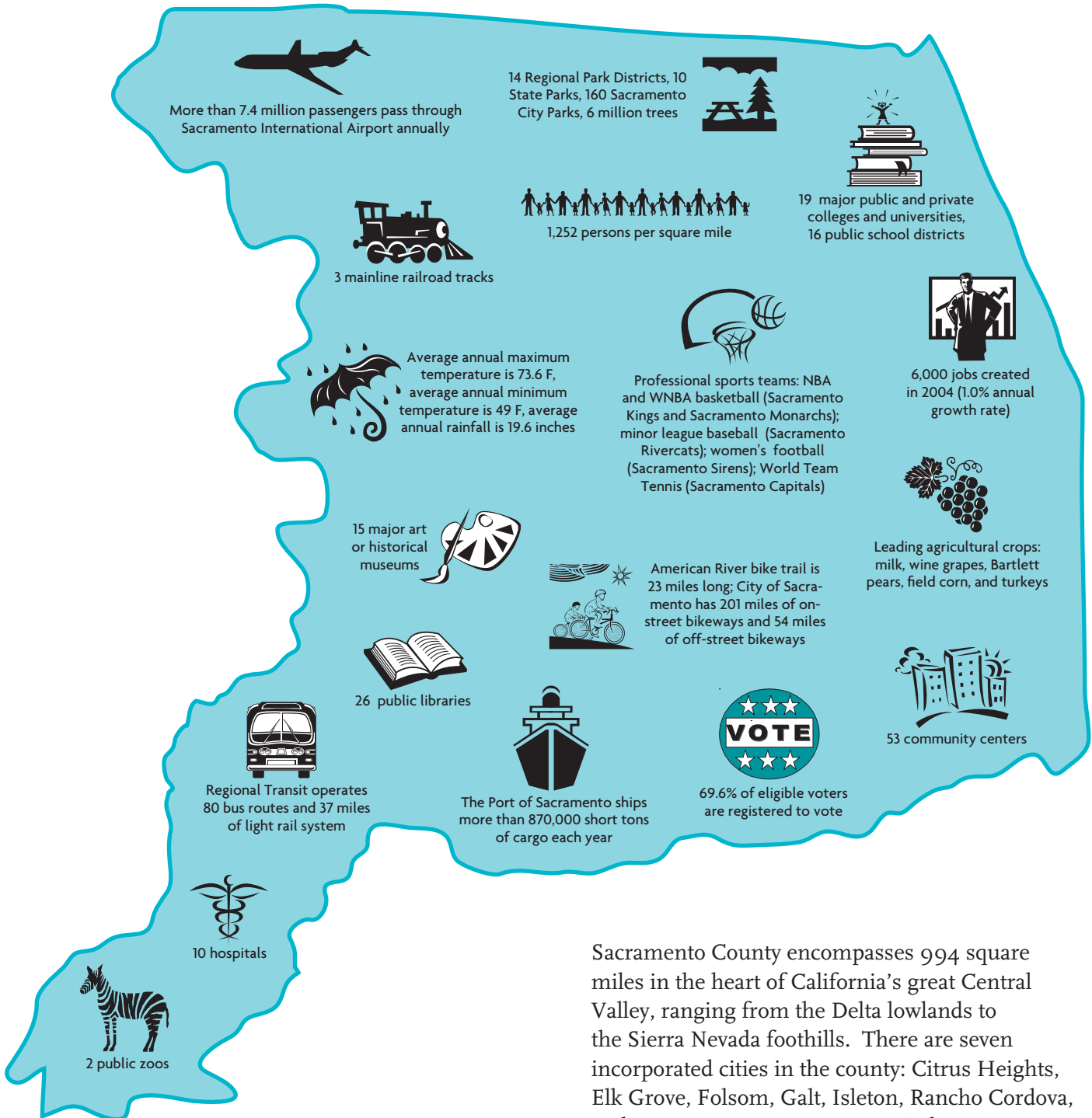
The Sacramento County Children's Coalition



Photo courtesy of Will Howard



Sacramento County



Sacramento County encompasses 994 square miles in the heart of California's great Central Valley, ranging from the Delta lowlands to the Sierra Nevada foothills. There are seven incorporated cities in the county: Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Rancho Cordova, and Sacramento (our State's Capitol).

Source: County of Sacramento



Introduction

PURPOSE

Children and youth occupy an important place in society. Their welfare is a concern both to parents and to the public at large. The Sacramento County Children's Coalition, in its capacity as an advisory body to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, developed the first biennial *Children's Report Card* in September 2000 to provide a comprehensive overview of the health and well-being of children and youth in our community. As such, the *Children's Report Card* is meant to serve as a foundation to help:

- Guide policy development;
- Set goals for improvement;
- Track changing conditions;
- Support allocation of resources;
- Promote community responsibility for positive change.

BACKGROUND & PROCESS

Creation of the *Children's Report Card* was, and continues to be, a community-wide process. The efforts to develop the first *Children's Report Card* were launched in September 1999 with a workshop attended by more than one hundred community leaders. This meeting was followed by a series of seventeen meetings in diverse neighborhoods throughout the county. These gatherings explored and evaluated important issue areas to determine what types of information would serve as good indicators. Nearly 300 people provided input, including ninety youth.

Everyone who participated in the community meetings was invited to join one of five subcommittees—family economics, education, health, safety, or social and emotional well-being. Nearly 100 people participated in the five sub-committees. Members of each committee painstakingly researched and analyzed hundreds of measurements of the welfare of children and youth. Some indicators were suggested by community members, while others came to light during the process. Each indicator describes a component of a child's well-being. In some cases, reliable and inclusive data was not available; however, participants decided it was important to include those indicators in hopes that it would result in future data collection.

For the 2006 *Children's Report Card*, we returned to the citizens of Sacramento County to ask their assistance in creating and updating this living community document. In the fall of 2005 more than 500 individuals, 36 percent of whom were youth under the age of 24, provided input on the relevance and importance of the indicators and identified additional key issues for possible inclusion. This input was gathered through a series of twenty-nine meetings in various neighborhoods that recognized the diversity in our county.

In response to the community input gathered, this report contains five new indicators:

Nutrition and Fitness

Youth Development Assets

Community Safety

Access to Technology

Special Needs



Photo courtesy of Sherri McFall



Also, some indicators were combined, for example two of the indicators in the Education section, School Enrollment and Children Who are Not in School, became a single indicator this year called School Enrollment and Attendance. The reader will also notice the word “youth” included in the vision statement and used more throughout the report card in recognition of the youth development movement in Sacramento County.

For the 2006 *Children’s Report Card*, more than 100 community members participated in the steering committee and the five subcommittees over the past year, contributing more than 800 hours of their time. The photos included in the report card reflect the children and young people who live in Sacramento County.



Photo courtesy of Julie Mier

The 2006 *Children’s Report Card* was made possible with the financial support of the following organizations:

First 5 Sacramento Commission

Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services

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ORGANIZATION OF DATA

The 2006 *Children’s Report Card* presents findings for 43 indicators in five result areas: economics, education, health, safety, and social and emotional well-being—and a section on demographics. Although the Report Card is organized into sections, and looks at each indicator separately, they are not isolated and independent issues. In fact, each and every indicator is interconnected in a resolute and essential way.

The 1.3 million people of the large and heterogeneous county represent diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. By the year 2050 the California Department of Finance estimates that the population of Sacramento County will reach more than 2.8 million people.

At the same time the racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the population in Sacramento County continues to increase. Spanish, Hmong and Russian make up the majority of the more than 45 languages spoken in our schools. More than 50 percent (23,000) of the English Language Learner students in Sacramento County speak Spanish. Sacramento County has 30 percent of the state's Hmong students, 46 percent of the state's Russian students, and 78 percent of the state's Ukrainian students.

Poverty impacts every area of a child's life—health, safety, education and social and emotional well-being. Although our economy in many ways is strengthening, many families are increasingly struggling in today's changing economic environment. The percentage of children 0 through 4 living in poverty increased from 19.1 percent in 2002 to 23.7 percent in 2005. In some county neighborhoods, the percentage of students receiving subsidized school meals—another barometer of poverty—is much higher. In 27 percent of our schools, more than 75 percent of the students are receiving free- and reduced-price meals.

Family structure in our contemporary society also is changing. Nationally, 15 percent of children were living in blended families in 2001. The American Community Survey estimates that in Sacramento County, 34.4 percent of children under 18 are living in single-parent family households. Six percent of children are being raised in households headed by grandparents. Single head-of-household families are more likely to live in poverty than two-parent families, and according to a U.S. Census Bureau report published in 2001, children who live with their grandparents are more likely to live in poverty, to be without health insurance, and to receive public assistance.

According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, most low-income parents are employed. Low-income parents who work are more likely to be employed in service occupations in retail trade, tourism, hospitality, and financial services industries. Workers in service occupations are not only likely to have lower earnings and fewer opportunities for full-time employment, but they are also less likely to receive benefits such as health insurance, paid vacation, or holidays.

Income level affects a family's ability to provide adequate housing, healthcare and childcare. The housing boom that has made the Sacramento area one of the fastest growing regions in the nation has priced many working families out of the home purchase market. In response, Sacramento County has committed itself to creating new opportunities for affordable housing.

Availability and affordability of childcare affects a parent's ability to work. For working families, the cost of childcare has to be balanced with the income realized by working. This balance becomes more difficult when considering that childcare costs for all ages of child have increased 20 percent since 2001.

As housing prices force families to move further from their place of work, traffic congestion and transportation issues are now at the top of the list of Sacramento region residents' quality of life concerns. Extended commute times increase the amount of time parents spend away from their child, impact child care and job-related expenses, and have a negative impact on air quality. The region's air quality has been associated with the high incidence of asthma and other respiratory problems in Sacramento area children.



Photo courtesy of Marty Young



Health is related to education, in that children and youth who are healthy are more likely to succeed in school. Although marked improvement has been made in the aerobic capacity of Sacramento County children and youth from 2000 to 2004, they still lag behind the optimum aerobic capacity as defined by medical experts.

In addition, the education that children and youth receive today affects the jobs they will hold tomorrow. More than 30 percent of kindergartners begin their educational journey with limited English proficiency compared with 20 percent ten years ago. At the other end of the spectrum, Sacramento County graduation rates have increased incrementally from 2000 to 2005.

Education is the foundation for success in a knowledge-driven economy, as evidenced by our increasing emphasis on students' access to technology. Receipt of a solid education and a high school diploma prepares students for post-secondary education and the workforce. Generally, earnings levels and professional opportunities rise proportionately with education levels.

Community safety is an ever-present concern. The safety of our community directly impacts the health, education and well-being of children and youth. An important measurement of community safety—felony arrest rates—has decreased. In addition, continued attention to, and participation with, area children and youth experiencing homelessness evidences our commitment to each and every child in our community.

USING THE REPORT CARD TO ENERGIZE AND MOBILIZE THE COMMUNITY

The reader will note that the report card does not make recommendations. Statistics help inform, but the decisions that need to be made and the actions that will be taken to improve the well-being of our children and youth, are not in the data presented here. Rather, they are in the hearts and minds of our collective community.

The Sacramento County Children's Coalition is sponsoring a Children's Summit in the October of 2006 to analyze the information in the *Children's Report Card* and develop further strategies at the policy and program level to improve outcomes for children and families.

In the years to come, it is our sincere hope that the *Children's Report Card* will continue to increase awareness of the needs of Sacramento County children and youth, provide a tool to better understand the assets they bring to our community, and build commitment to action.

Sincerely,

The Report Card Committee

A Committee of the Sacramento County Children's Coalition



Photo courtesy of Patty Neifer



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Demographics

65% of the region's children and youth ages 0 through 17 live in Sacramento County. Today there are more than 45 languages spoken in our schools, and the number of English Language Learner students in grade levels 1 through 8 make up 20.9% of the student population. Sacramento County is home to 46% of California's Russian speaking English Language Learner student population and is home to 78.2% of the state's Ukrainian speaking English Language Learner student population. More than half (57.8%) of single female head-of-household families with children younger than 18 reported poverty level income, as did nearly 19% of single male head-of-household families. In 27% of our schools, more than 75% of the students are receiving free- and reduced-price meals.

INDICATORS

- ✦ Population by Groups
- ✦ Population Diversity
- ✦ Special Needs
- ✦ Family Structure
- ✦ Children Living in Poverty

Population by Groups

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Projections prepared by the California Department of Finance, the American Community Survey, and the US Decennial Census were used to look at population by age group, ethnicity, and population growth.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Young children's earliest experiences and environments set the stage for future development and success in school as well as in life. Both population growth and the proportion

of children in the population have important implications for the community and resources provided to the community. Population growth places a greater demand on the community infrastructure: schools, housing, jobs, transportation, and public services.

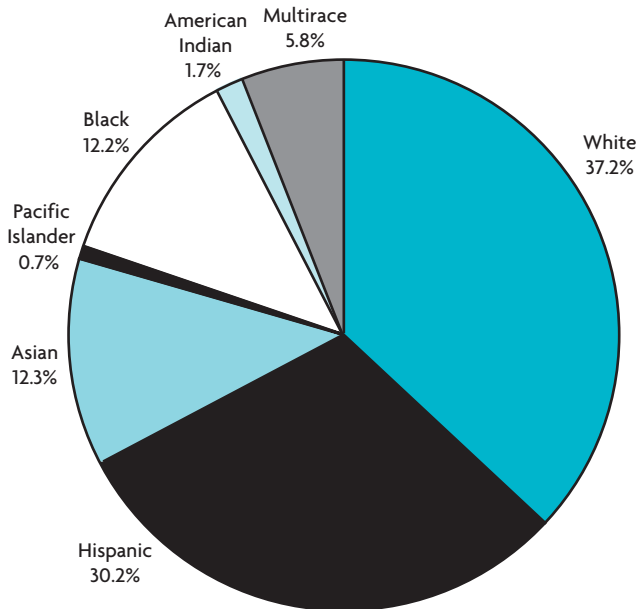
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Of the more than 1.3 million estimated people living in Sacramento County, 27.4 percent are under age 18 and 125,549 (9.2%) are ages 0 through 5.

Although the rate of population growth has slowed, Sacramento County is the eighth most populous county in the state and has more people than the surrounding counties of El Dorado, Placer, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba combined. Of the 2.2 million people who live in the six-county region, 62.5 percent live in Sacramento County. Sixty-five percent of the region's children and youth ages 0 through 17 live in Sacramento County. The City of Sacramento with a population of 445,287 is the seventh largest city in California. By the year 2050 the California Department of Finance estimates that the population of Sacramento County will reach more than 2.8 million people.

From 1990 to 2000 the number of children ages 0 through 17 increased nearly 20 percent, compared with a 17 percent increase in the county population as a whole for the same time period. During the years between 2000 and 2006, Sacramento County's 0 through 17 population increased from 337,602 to 375,345, an 11 percent increase, compared with a 4.3 percent increase in the state's population for the same time period.

Sacramento County Population Projections
Ages 0 through 5 by Race/Ethnicity
2006



Source: California Department of Finance

Population Projections for Ages 0 through 17 by Race/Ethnicity
Sacramento County, 2006

	White	Hispanic	Asian	Pacific Islander	Black	American Indian	Multirace	Total	% Change from 2004 Projections
0 through 3	32,496	28,046	11,161	606	10,503	1,510	3,111	87,433	10.69%
4 and 5	14,176	9,857	4,273	222	4,758	608	4,222	38,116	9.02%
6 through 11	41,483	32,017	14,111	805	17,761	2,849	7,029	116,055	-0.93%
12 through 17	46,128	34,150	20,894	1,204	21,364	3,376	6,625	133,741	3.73%
Total	134,283	104,070	50,439	2,837	54,386	8,343	20,987	375,345	4.25%
Percent of Population 0 through 17	35.8%	27.7%	13.4%	0.8%	14.5%	2.2%	5.6%		

Source: California Department of Finance

Population Diversity

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Diversity is broadly defined to include gender, age, race, ethnicity, language(s), economic status, faith, and persons with disabilities. Data on race and ethnicity were gathered from the California Department of Finance, and data on English Language Learner (ELL) students and their primary languages were gathered from the California Department of Education.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT

Variety of art, music, cuisine, faiths, and languages enriches a community. However, despite the positive benefits of diversity, there may be barriers to be bridged. Information about diversity in a community can help design and target programs, provide equitable distribution of resources and improve access to services. Community life

and services should be accessible to all children. Education, health, and safety, as well as adequate food and housing, should be available to all children regardless of race, ethnic background, economic status, or disability.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the population in Sacramento County continues to increase. Today, there are more than 45 languages spoken in our schools, and the number of English Language Learner (ELL) students in grade levels 1 through 8 make up 20.9 percent of the student population. More than 30 percent of kindergartners begin their educational journey with limited English proficiency, compared with 20 percent ten years ago.

Spanish is the most prevalent language of the ELL students; more than 23,000 students in Sacramento County speak Spanish.

There are 6,622 ELL students who speak Hmong. This is 14.3 percent of Sacramento County's ELL student population, but is 30.2 percent of California's ELL student population.

Although only 1.9 percent of Sacramento County's ELL student population speaks Mien, this represents 41.9 percent of California's ELL student population.

Sacramento County is home to 46 percent of California's Russian speaking ELL student population and is home to 78.2 percent of the state's Ukranian speaking ELL student population.

Public School K through 12 English Language Learner
Sacramento County by Grade Level and California Comparison Totals
2005-2006 School Year

Language	Sacramento County						California			
	Kindergarten		Grades 1 through 8		Grades 9 through 12		K through 12		Total California	
	ELL Students	Percent of Total	ELL Students	Percent of Total	ELL Students	Percent of Total	ELL Students	Percent of Total	ELL Students	Percent of Total
Spanish	2,891	16.7%	15,976	10.9%	4,327	5.8%	23,194	50.2%	1,341,468	1.7%
Hmong	542	3.1%	4,315	2.9%	1,765	2.4%	6,622	14.3%	21,907	30.2%
Russian	384	2.2%	2,309	1.6%	782	1.0%	3,475	7.5%	7,547	46.0%
Vietnamese	266	1.5%	1,171	0.8%	461	0.6%	1,898	4.1%	34,263	5.5%
Ukranian	239	1.4%	1,257	0.9%	430	0.6%	1,926	4.2%	2,464	78.2%
Cantonese	210	1.2%	937	0.6%	355	0.5%	1,502	3.2%	22,756	6.6%
Punjabi	112	0.6%	643	0.4%	260	0.3%	1,015	2.2%	9,138	11.1%
Hindi	89	0.5%	556	0.4%	274	0.4%	919	2.0%	3,859	23.8%
Mien (Yao)	75	0.4%	534	0.4%	271	0.4%	880	1.9%	2,101	41.9%
Filipino (Pilipino/Tag)	79	0.5%	444	0.3%	192	0.3%	715	1.5%	21,464	3.3%
All other (46 total)	462	2.7%	2605	1.8%	1027	1.4%	4094	10.4%	104,496	3.9%
Total ELL	5,349	30.9%	30,747	20.9%	10,144	13.6%	46,240	100%	1,571,463	2.9%

* Sacramento total includes ungraded students
Source: California Department of Education, 2006



Special Needs

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data from the U.S. Census and the California Department of Education on the number of students enrolled in Special Education were collected and reviewed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT

Information about the special needs of children can help design and target programs, help bridge barriers, provide equitable distribution of resources, and improve access to services. Community life and services should be accessible to all children.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The definition of disability set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) states: "The term 'disability' means a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of [an] individual."

According to data from the 2005 American Community Survey, 23,609, or 7.4 percent, of Sacramento County children and youth, ages 5 through 20, have a disability. In comparison, 14.9 percent of the population ages 21 through 64 have a disability, as do more than 41 percent of the population age 65 and above.

Special Education statistics from the California Department of Education indicate that in Sacramento County, 27,069 children ages 0 through 22 are enrolled in special education. This is 10.5 percent of the total public school enrollment. Of these children, 2,483 are ages 0 through 5 and 24,586 are ages 6 through 22.



Photo courtesy of Denise Lee

Special Education Enrollment
Ages 0 through 22
Sacramento County and California 2005-2006 School Year

	Sacramento County		California	
	Number Enrolled in Special Education	Percent of Special Education Enrollment	California Enrolled in Special Education	Percent of Special Education Enrollment
Specific Learning Disability	12,752	47.1%	314,817	46.1%
Speech or Language Impairment	6,868	25.4%	181,319	26.5%
Emotional Disturbance	2,108	7.8%	27,512	4.0%
Mental Retardation	1,794	6.6%	43,739	6.4%
Autism	1,105	4.1%	34,668	5.1%
Other Health Impairment	927	3.4%	40,081	5.9%
Orthopedic Impairment	646	2.4%	15,653	2.3%
Multiple Disability	258	1.0%	6,125	0.9%
Visual Impairment	217	0.8%	4,761	0.7%
Hard of Hearing	210	0.8%	8,150	1.2%
Deaf	120	0.4%	4,337	0.6%
Traumatic Brain Injury	55	0.2%	1,787	0.3%
Deaf-Blindness	9	0.0%	229	0.0%
Total	27,069	100.0%	683,178	100.0%

Source: California Department of Education, December 1, 2005

Family Structure

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

The report reflects the number of children living in single- and two-parent households in Sacramento County using data from the U.S. Census Bureau, and the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS is designed to provide annual estimates for housing and population in densely populated areas across the country. Data on the number of grandparents responsible for their grandchildren were also included.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Family as the core element in a child's life plays an important role in development and well-being. Family structure also can affect the resources available to rear a child. For example, children brought up in single head-of-household families are far more likely to live in poverty than those in two-parent households.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Family structure in our contemporary society is diverse; many children are growing up in blended families. Nationally, 15 percent of children, more than 10.6 million, were living in blended families in 2001.

In Sacramento County, 34.4 percent of children under 18 live in single-parent family households. For children living with their own families from 2002 to 2005, the American Community Survey estimates there was a decrease (from 67.3% to 65.6%)

in the percentage of households with children under age 18 living in married couple families. Single male head-of-households with children under 18 stayed steady at 7.3 percent, and single female head-of-household families increased from 25.4 percent in 2002 to 27.1 percent in 2005.

Single head-of-household families are more likely to live in poverty than two-parent families. According to the 2005 American Community Survey, more than half (57.8%) of single female head-of-household families with children younger than 18 reported poverty-level income, as did nearly 19 percent of single male head-of-household families, compared with 14 percent of married couple families with children the same age.

Increasingly, grandparents are taking responsibility for caring for their own grandchildren. According to *When Grandparents Become Parents*, 2006, there are many reasons, but the most common are: death of the parents, incarceration of the parents, unemployment and financial problems, substance abuse (drugs and alcohol), divorce, teen birth (grandparents raise the child as their own), family violence, and HIV/AIDS.



Photo courtesy of Sheila Enders

According to the 2004 American Community Survey, 6.3 percent (22,853) of children in Sacramento County under the age of 18 were being reared in households headed by grandparents. Of the 7,915 grandparents responsible for child rearing, 17 percent (1,326) had been responsible for their grandchildren for less than one year, while 4,439 (56%) had been responsible for their grandchildren for five years or more. According to a US Census Bureau report published in 2001, children who live with their grandparents are more likely to live in poverty, to be without health insurance, and to receive public assistance, than children who live with their own parents.



Families With Own Children Younger than 18 by Family Type
Sacramento County, 2002 and 2005

Family Households with Children Younger than 18	2002		2005	
	Number of Family Households with Children Younger than 18	Percent of Family Households with Children Younger than 18	Number of Family Households with Children Younger than 18	Percent of Family Households with Children Younger than 18
Married-couple family	107,471	67.3%	110,155	65.6%
Female Householder	40,616	25.4%	45,575	27.1%
Male Householder	11,650	7.3%	12,207	7.3%
Total Single-Parent Households	52,266	32.7%	57,782	34.4%
Total Family Households	159,792	100.0%	167,937	100.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2002 and 2005

Children Living in Poverty

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Estimates of children living in poverty were compiled from the 2000 U.S. Census Bureau and the 2002 and 2005 American Community Survey.

This report also measured students in kindergarten through twelfth grade receiving free and reduced-price meals at school each year since 2000. Data from the California Department of Education on free and reduced-price meals is available in the years between the censuses. Eligibility for free meals is determined by calculating 130 percent of Federal Poverty Guidelines based on household size. In 2006, 130 percent of poverty for a family of four was \$26,000. It should be noted that the number of students who qualify for meal assistance might be more than the number who received services, as the data reflect only those people who applied for assistance from the Department of Education.



Photo courtesy of Lynette Otis

Percent of Children Younger than 18 Living in Poverty Sacramento County and California 1995-2005

Sacramento County

	1995		1999		2002		2005	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Children Younger than 18 in Poverty	78,926	24.5%	65,901	20.2%	63,910	18.4%	71,971	19.7%
Children 0 through 4 in Poverty	27,189	28.5%	23,934	26.9%	17,260	19.1%	23,755	23.7%
Children 5 through 17 in Poverty	51,737	23.4%	41,967	19.9%	46,650	18.1%	48,216	18.2%

California

	1995		1999		2002		2005	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Children Younger than 18 in Poverty	2,214,535	24.3%	1,705,797	19.0%	1,668,384	18.2%	1,766,647	18.6%
Children 0 through 4 in Poverty	729,590	28.6%	489,256	19.7%	489,402	19.7%	517,509	19.6%
Children 5 through 17 in Poverty	1,484,945	23.4%	1,216,541	18.5%	1,178,982	17.6%	1,249,138	18.2%

Sources: U.S. Bureau of the Census; Children Now, California County Data Book

Children in Poverty, 1995: Estimates for number and percent of total children in poverty

Children in Poverty, 1999: Census 2000 Long Form poverty data was obtained for number and percent of children by age in poverty

Children in Poverty, 2002: American Community Survey 2002 Census Individuals in Poverty data was obtained for number and percent of children by age in poverty

Children in Poverty: 2005 American Community Survey 2005 Census Individuals in Poverty data

Children Living in Poverty

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The percentage of children living in poverty is a key indicator of how well a community is caring for its children. Children who grow up in poverty are more likely to lack the basics of daily living—food, clothing, adequate housing, and health care, as well as access to quality child care. They are more likely to start school with limited language skills, as well as health, social, and emotional problems that interfere with learning.

According to 2004 the National Health Interview Survey, twelve percent of children with a learning disability in the U.S. lived in families whose income was less than \$20,000, while eight percent were in families whose income was \$75,000 or more.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The percentage of Sacramento County children younger than 18 living in poverty increased from 18.4 percent in 2002 to 19.7 percent in 2005, and the percentage of children 0 through 4 increased from 19.1 percent to 23.7 percent during the same period.

California children are more likely to live in poverty than kids nationwide. Central Valley counties, including Sacramento, continue to have some of the highest child poverty rates in the state. Sacramento County has a higher percentage of children ages 0 through 17 living in poverty than 30 other counties in California.

Data on subsidized school meals shows the number of impoverished children in kindergarten through twelfth grade eligible for, and receiving free and reduced-price meals in Sacramento, has increased from 42.8 percent in 2001, to 47.7 percent for the 2005-2006 school year. The number of impoverished children in California increased from

47 percent to 50.8 percent in that same period of time.

In some neighborhoods of Sacramento county, the percentage of students receiving subsidized school meals is much higher. In 27 percent of our schools, more than 75 percent of the students are receiving free or reduced-price meals.

Students Receiving Free or Reduced-Price Meals Sacramento County and California 1999-2000 through 2005-2006 School Years				
	Sacramento County		California	
	Number	Percent of Total Enrollment	Number	Percent of Total Enrollment
2000	98,232	45.0%	2,829,787	46.8%
2001	100,159	42.8%	2,908,516	47.0%
2002	96,672	41.6%	3,006,877	48.2%
2003	97,370	42.5%	3,010,419	48.2%
2004	108,408	45.6%	3,078,644	48.9%
2005	108,943	46.3%	3,103,726	49.1%
2006	110,877	47.7%	3,127,670	50.8%

Source: California Department of Education



Photo courtesy of Erin Blount



Family Economics



Photo courtesy of Denise Lee

INDICATORS

For Sacramento County, the Self-Sufficiency Standard for a single parent with two children is \$17.92 per hour, or \$37,848 per year. ☒ There are an estimated 154,296 children ages 0 through 13 with parents in the labor force. ☒ 60% of women with children under six years of age are in the paid workforce. ☒ Childcare costs for all ages of children have increased 20% since 2001, with the average cost for a preschool child in a child center being \$7,397 per year (\$616.42/month). ☒ Between 1990 and 2000 there was a 76% increase in the number of workers in Sacramento County traveling an hour or more to work, substantially higher than California as a whole at 34%. ☒ According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, most low-income parents are employed. ☒ 79% of families with incomes at or below the self-sufficiency wage are paying more than 30% of income for rental housing.

- ✦ Self-Sufficiency Wage
- ✦ Employment
- ✦ Housing Affordability and Safety
- ✦ Affordable Care for Children and Youth
- ✦ Availability of Quality Care for Children and Youth
- ✦ Transportation

Self-Sufficiency Wage

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were reviewed from the US Census, 2004 American Community Survey, 2006 Federal Poverty Guidelines, and the Self-Sufficiency Standard for California 2003, prepared for Californians for Family Economic Self-Sufficiency, a project of the National Economic Development and Law Center.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

A stable source of adequate income is critical for families to lead healthy, secure, self-sufficient lives. Self-sufficiency is the income level at which a family can be sustained without relying on income supports or public assistance.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Even in the best of economic times, many working families struggle to make ends meet, especially those whose income is at the lower end of the wage scale. In California, the minimum wage is currently \$6.75 per hour, which is the pay rate for many entry-level positions, and the starting wage for many jobs in the retail and services sectors. Legislation was signed into law in 2006 to increase the state's minimum wage to \$7.50 an hour in January 2007 and to \$8 an hour in January 2008.

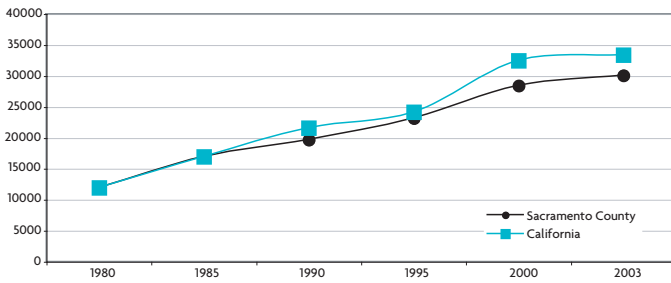
The Federal Poverty Guideline has traditionally been used to measure whether families have incomes high enough to enable them to meet basic needs, and to establish eligibility for many public programs such as Medi-Cal and Healthy Families. However, there are other measures to describe what it takes to make ends meet in California.

The Self-Sufficiency Standard for California calculates the income needed by California's working families to pay for the basic needs of rent, food, child care, health care, transportation, and taxes, on a county-by-county basis. For each county in California, the Self-Sufficiency Standard is calculated for 70 different family types, and is age- and geographically-specific where appropriate.

For Sacramento County, the Self-Sufficiency Standard for a single-parent with two children is \$17.92 per hour, or \$37,848 per year. The 2006 Federal Poverty Guideline for a family of three is \$16,600, less than half of the Self-Sufficiency Standard.

According to data from the 2004 American Community Survey, 59 percent of single parent households in Sacramento County earn less than \$35,000; 24 percent of these households earned less than \$15,000.

Per Capita Personal Income
Sacramento County and California 1980-2003



Definition: The annual total personal income of residents divided by the total resident population.

Source: California Department of Finance

Self-Sufficiency Standard for Selected Family Types
Sacramento County 2003
Monthly Expenses and Shares of Total Budget

Monthly Costs	One Adult, One Preschooler, One Schoolage		Two Adults, One Preschooler, One Schoolage	
	Costs	% of Total	Costs	% of Total
Housing	\$950	30%	\$950	26%
Child Care	\$930	29%	\$930	25%
Food	\$411	13%	\$565	15%
Transportation	\$241	8%	\$462	13%
Health Care	\$209	7%	\$247	7%
Miscellaneous	\$274	9%	\$315	9%
Taxes	\$421	13%	\$483	13%
Earned Income Tax Credit	\$0	0%	\$0	0%
Child Care Tax Credit	-\$115	-4%	-\$100	-3%
Child Tax Credit	-\$167	-5%	-\$167	-5%
Total Percent		100%		100%
Self-Sufficiency Wage Hourly	\$17.92		\$10.47	Per Adult
Monthly Wage Needed	\$3,154		\$3,686	
Annual Wage Needed	\$37,848		\$44,230	

Source: Self-Sufficiency Standard for California
National Economic Development & Law Center 2006

Employment

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were reviewed on the unemployment rate in Sacramento County and employment by critical industry in the Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area (Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado Counties) from the California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division. Information from the Sacramento Regional Research Institute (SRRI) and *The 2005 California Child Care Portfolio* was reviewed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Living in a community with a strong economic base presents opportunities for employment for both adults and youth. Employment of adults supporting a household raises the economic status of families and contributes to their well-being. Employment of youth increases the likelihood of continued employment and upward mobility.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

There are an estimated 154,296 children ages 0 through 13 with parents in the labor force according to *The 2005 California Child Care Portfolio*.

Most low-income parents are employed, according to the National Center for Children in Poverty. Despite low levels of unemployment, average household income in the country has declined substantially since 2000.

Low-income parents who work are more likely to be employed in service occupations such as retail trade, tourism, hospitality, and financial services industries. Workers in service occupations are not only likely to have lower earnings and fewer opportunities for full-time employment, but they are also less likely to receive benefits such as health insurance, paid vacation, or holidays.

In 2004 and 2005 Los Rios Community College District and Sacramento Works, Inc. commissioned research studies on Occupational and Educational Trends in the Sacramento region from the Sacramento Regional Research Institute (SRRI). Both studies were seeking to identify the skills that are important to employers in the region. SRRI conducted a quantitative and qualitative study of fifteen critical industries and interviewed approximately thirty chief executives from companies with, cumulatively, more than 40,000 employees. The study concluded that: “Soft skills, in particular, good work ethic, interpersonal skills, critical thinking, and analytical and problem-solving skills are becoming increasingly important to local employers.”

Many employers surveyed in the studies stated that soft skills were becoming a more important hiring criterion, often taking precedence over vocational training and previous work experience.

SRRI identified the most important skills for the critical industries in the region, which include jobs that show the highest growth and strongest wages. These skills include:

- Judgment and decision-making
- Writing
- Active listening
- Critical thinking
- Speaking
- Reading comprehension
- Service orientation (customer service)

**Annual Average Unemployment Rate
Sacramento County and California, 2000-2005**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Sacramento County	4.2%	4.2%	5.4%	5.6%	n/a	4.8%
California	4.9%	5.4%	6.7%	6.7%	6.2%	5.4%

Source: California Employment Development Department

**Employment by Critical Industry, Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area
Number and Percent of Total, 2002 – 2012 Averages**

Critical Industry Sector	2002		2012		Percent Change
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Administrative & Support Occupations	179,980	41.99%	215,870	40.57%	19.90%
Construction	52,040	12.14%	69,780	13.11%	34.00%
Healthcare & Support Services	38,690	9.03%	50,020	9.40%	29.20%
Information Technology & Telecommunications	22,070	5.15%	28,380	5.33%	28.60%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	20,170	4.71%	25,950	4.88%	28.70%
Tourism & Hospitality	58,040	13.54%	73,650	13.84%	26.90%
Transportation & Production	57,620	13.44%	68,420	12.86%	18.70%
Total	428,610	100%	532,070	100%	24.10%

Source: California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division



Housing Affordability and Safety

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were reviewed for Fair Market Rents from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as Gross Rent and Monthly Housing Cost as Percentage of Income from the 2004 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Housing affects a family's safety, comfort, and quality-of-life. For families in lower income brackets, the cost of housing is a major portion of the family budget. If housing costs for those families are more than 30 percent of the budget, those expenses are likely to divert resources away from other basic needs such as food, childcare, and health care.

Research has found that respiratory problems (resulting from inadequate heating, dust mites in old carpeting, mold from water damage, rats,

and other vermin) are common in children living in substandard housing conditions. Poorly maintained, older housing puts children at high risk for lead poisoning from contact with excessive amounts of lead-based paint.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The housing boom that has made the Sacramento area one of the fastest growing regions in the nation since 2002 has priced many working families out of the home purchase market. This has created a situation where many families cannot afford to live near where they work, and are forced to commute long distances to get to their jobs. Increasingly, families must allocate a greater percentage of the family income to housing, leaving fewer resources for other necessities such as food, transportation, health, and childcare. The lack of affordable housing severely affects low and very low-income children and families, increasing their risk of homelessness.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recommends that families spend no more than a third of their income on housing. The 2004 American Community Survey indicates that more than 79 percent of families with incomes at or below the self-sufficiency wage are paying more than 30 percent of income for housing rental. In Sacramento County the Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment in 2005 was \$971. For a single-parent making \$12 per hour, \$971 represents 70 percent of the wage earner's net monthly pay.

Thirty-nine percent of homeowners with a mortgage are paying more than 30 percent of income on housing.

In January of 2004, the California Budget Project published a study entitled, *Locked Out 2004: California's Affordable Housing Crisis*. It found that in the Sacramento region, the annual income needed to buy a median-priced home with a 5 percent down payment was \$53,792. An elementary school teacher earning \$48,535 per year, a firefighter earning \$41,600 per year, and a child care worker earning \$17,056 per year, all do not earn enough to afford homeownership.

The City and County of Sacramento are both committed to creating new opportunities for affordable housing as well as preserving the existing affordable housing stock. The City's mixed income ordinance and the County's affordable housing program require that new developments provide consideration for lower income residents.

Regional Snapshot Sacramento Area

Median Priced Home (Second Quarter 2003)	\$243,630
Income Needed to Purchase a Median-Priced Home with a 5% Down Payment	\$53,792
	Median Annual Wage (2002)
Median Income (2003)	\$59,800
Registered Nurse	\$58,302
Police Patrol Officer	\$56,992
Loan Officer	\$49,878
Elementary School Teacher	\$48,535
Low-Income (2003)	\$47,850
Emergency Dispatcher	\$42,120
Firefighter	\$41,600
Computer Support Specialist	\$40,539
Very Low Income	\$29,900
Medical Assistant	\$27,269
Delivery Truck Driver	\$23,504
Janitor	\$21,278
Retail Sales Person	\$17,659
Child Care Worker	\$17,056

Note: Income needed calculations based on a 30 percent income standard assuming a 5.71 interest rate on a 30 year conventional loan and a 5 percent down payment. Median annual wage assumes 40 hours of work per week, 52 weeks per year.

Home price data from the California Association of Realtors Sacramento region. Income limits data are for Sacramento County. Wage data are Sacramento, El Dorado, and Placer counties.

Source: *Locked Out 2004*, A publication of the California Budget Project

Affordable Care for Children and Youth

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were used from the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, 2005 California Child Care Portfolio, and the Sacramento Child Care and Development Planning Council, Child Care Plan 2003-2007.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Childcare continues to be one of the largest family expenditures. Sixty percent of women with children under six years of age are in the paid workforce. Affordable childcare is necessary for families to maintain self-sufficiency and financial stability.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

For working families, the cost of childcare has to be balanced with the income realized by working. When childcare costs begin to exceed a certain percentage of income, the purpose for working is compromised and there is a disincentive for parents to work.

In Sacramento County, more than \$300,000,000 is spent annually on childcare and early

learning services for children while their parents work or attend school. This represents both fees paid directly to childcare programs and State and federal subsidies.

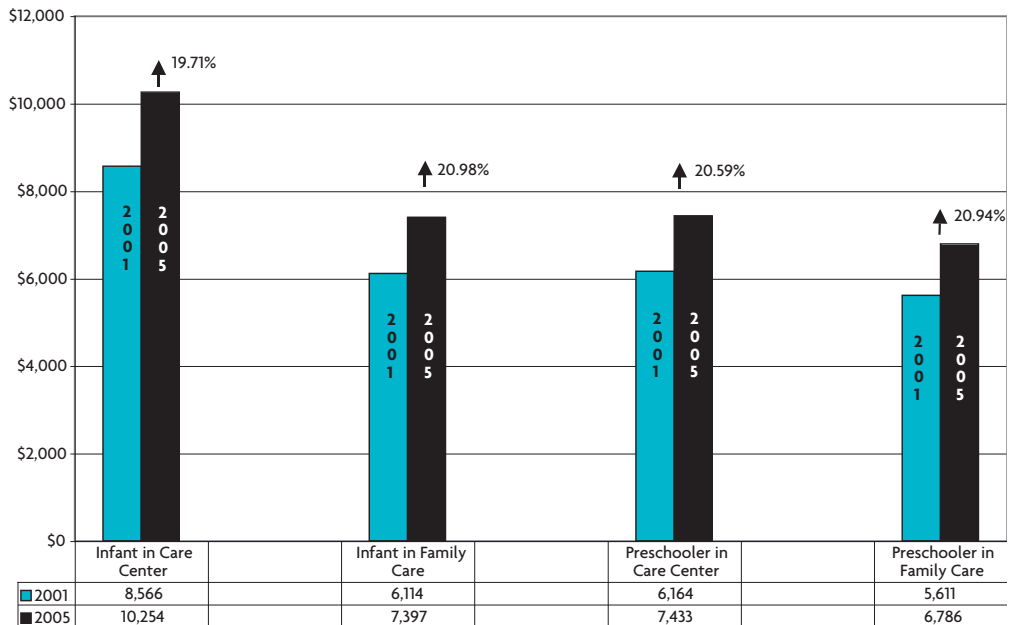
Childcare costs for all ages of children have increased 20 percent since 2001, with the average cost for a preschool child in a child care center being \$7,397 per year (\$616.42/month). This represents 26 percent of a family's income with two minimum

wage earners and one preschool age child.

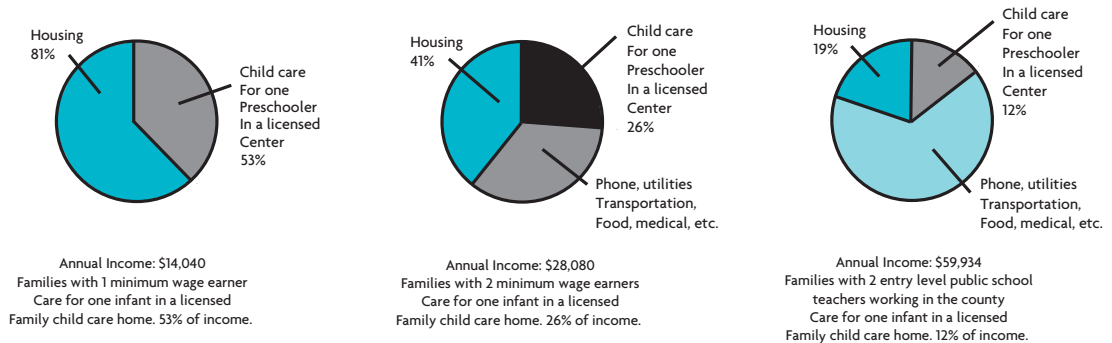
Subsidized childcare services, funded by the federal and state government, provide more than \$158,700,000 in childcare subsidies for 31,800 children in eligible families. These subsidies provide payment for all, or a portion of childcare costs, depending on the income of the family.



Comparison of Annual Average Cost of Licensed Child Care in Sacramento County, 2001 and 2005



How child care fits into a Sacramento County family's budget (Housing: \$11,400; Preschooler in a licensed center: \$7,433)



Source: 2005 California Child Care Portfolio, from the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network

Availability of Quality Care for Children and Youth



Photo courtesy of Teresa Potter (SIUSD)

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Reports and data from California Child Care Resource and Referral Network, Child Action, Inc., and Sacramento Area Council of Governments were reviewed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Children need adult supervision and quality care in a safe and nurturing environment.

When a parent or guardian works outside the home, *adequate* childcare ensures that a child's primary needs are met in a safe environment. *Quality* childcare goes beyond the basics, building a relationship with the child and family, contributing to the child's sense of security, and supporting the child's development. Research indicates that quality childcare is important for all children, but may be especially so for low income children who, according to researchers, are more likely to experience poor health, reduced verbal ability, and other characteristics associated with lower school achievement.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

There are an estimated 154,296 children ages 0 through 13 with parents in the labor force, according to *The 2005 California Childcare Portfolio*. There is a licensed child care capacity to serve 54,761 children or 35 percent of children with parents in the labor force. There are many families who use friends and relatives or programs for school-age children not licensed by the state to meet their childcare need.

Licensed Childcare Centers in Sacramento County
Changes from 2003 to 2005

	2003	2005	Change	% Chg
Childcare Centers				
Total Sites	455	478	23	5.05%
Total Slots	31,092	32,027	935	3.01%
Infant Slots	2,465	2,741	276	11.20%
Preschool Slots	19,725	20,268	543	2.75%
School-Age Slots	8,902	9,018	111	1.25%
Services Available				
Full- and Part-time	79%	81%		2%
Only Full-time	6%	4%		-2%
Only Part-time	14%	15%		1%
Non-traditional hours	1%	4%		3%
Reason Care Needed				
Employment	85%	77%		-8%
School/Training	8%	13%		5%
Looking for Work	6%	9%		3%

Source: California Child Care Portfolio, 2003 and 2005, Resource and Referral Network

Licensed Childcare Centers in Sacramento County
Changes from 2001 to 2005

	2000-2001	2005	Change	% Chg
Total Sites	1,828	2,982	1,154	63.13%
Centers	390	478	88	22.56%
Family Care	1,438	2,504	1,066	74.13%
Total Slots	37,516	54,761	17,245	45.97%
Infant Center Slots	1,508	2,741	1,233	81.76%
Preschool Center Slots	17,101	20,268	3,167	18.52%
School-Age Center Slots	5,609	9,018	3,409	60.78%

Source: California Child Care Portfolio, 2001 and 2005, Resource and Referral Network

Availability of Quality Care for Children and Youth

In 2000, there were 37,516 licensed childcare slots in Sacramento County to meet the needs of approximately 149,523 children. At face value, these data indicate that in 2000, only 25 percent of children were served in licensed child care and now, 35 percent are thus served.

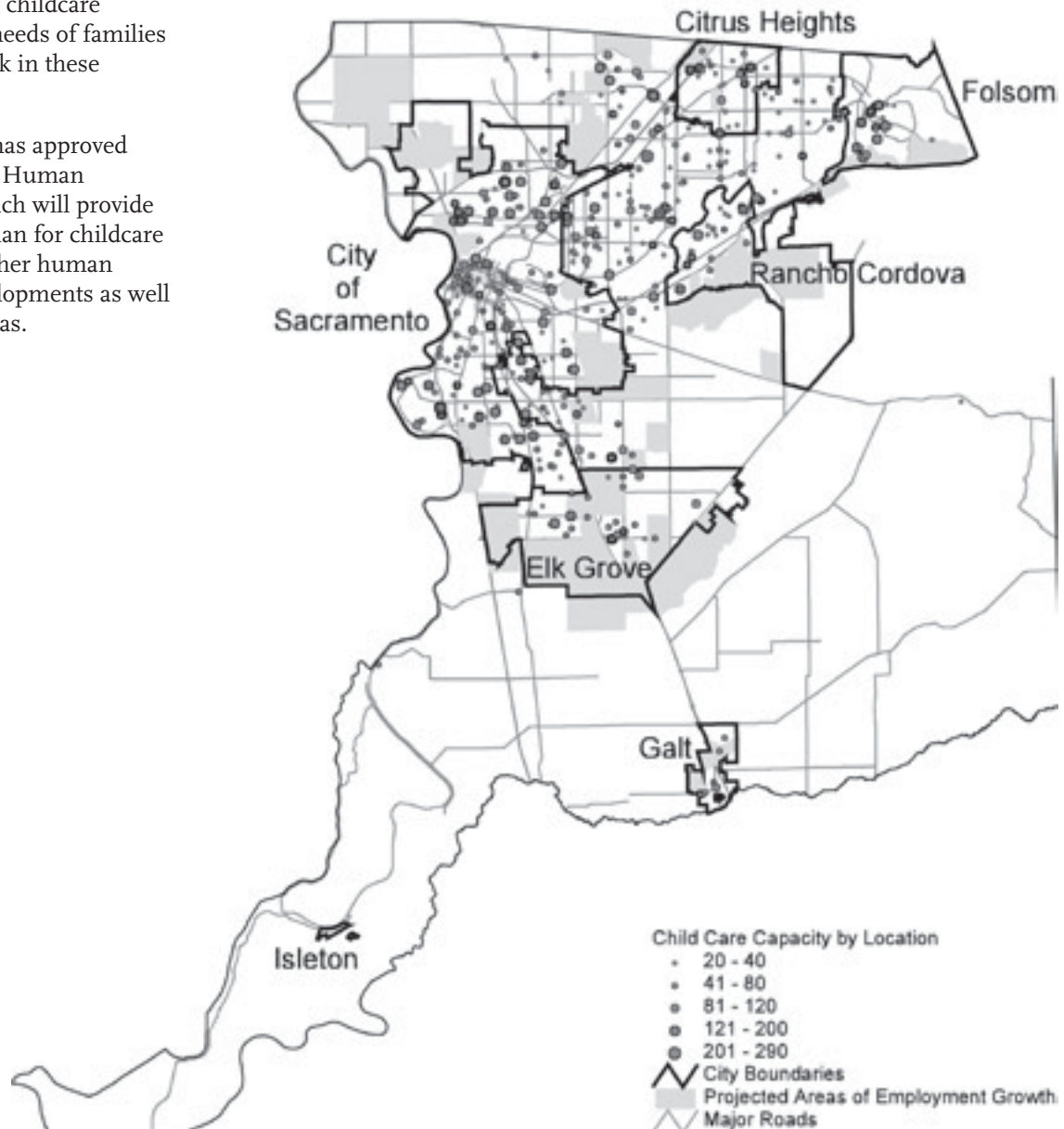
While significant progress has been made, Sacramento County is one of just 13 counties that has experienced a population increase of more than 10 percent between 2000 and 2004. The projected growth of residential housing and employment centers in the south, east, and northwest undeveloped areas of Sacramento, requires planning for childcare services to meet the needs of families who will live and work in these communities.

Sacramento County has approved the development of a Human Services Element which will provide a systematic tool to plan for childcare services, as well as other human services, in new developments as well as redevelopment areas.

Sacramento County Number of Licensed Childcare Slots				
	2000	2003	2005	% Change 2000 to 2005
Childcare Centers				
For Infants	1,508	2,465	2,741	82%
For Ages 2-5	17,101	19,725	20,268	19%
For Ages 6 and Older	5,609	8,902	9,018	61%
Total Childcare Centers	24,218	31,092	32,027	32%
Family Childcare Homes				
All Ages	13,298	21,678	22,734	71%
Total	37,516	52,770	54,761	46%

Source: California Child Care Portfolio, 2000, 2003, 2005, Resource and Referral Network

Licensed Full Day Childcare Services (Age 0 through 12) and Employment Growth 2000-2010 by Minor Zone



Transportation

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were examined from Sacramento Area Council of Governments and Western Economic Research.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Time spent traveling affects the quantity, and sometimes the quality, of time spent with one's family. Extended commute times can increase the cost of childcare and reduce the time available for leisure activities. Transportation is a critical element in maintaining employment. Highway congestion affects air quality. Transportation can affect one's job criteria or opportunity. Transportation that functions day and night and has broad routes and strategically located stops, increases the ability to work nontraditional hours and expands the geographical area in which one may seek employment. Times of non-service, route infrequency, or distance to/from a transit stop may make it hard, if not impossible, for an individual to work certain hours or at a certain location. Public transportation increases the ability to access health care, childcare, and school and out-of-school activities for youth. Use of public transportation can reduce congestion and improve air quality. It offers mobility to families that do not own cars.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

This issue continues to grow more challenging. Commutes are longer and more expensive by both public and private transportation modes.

The Institute of Transportation Studies of the University of California, Berkeley stated in their report, *Reverse Commuting and Job Access in California*, that the working poor often need access to cars because public transit is unable to adequately serve multi-legged trips or late-night work schedules. In remote locations and even semi-rural settings, private cars can be the only viable means of mobility.

Commuters are finding that it takes longer to get to and from their jobs as more and more vehicles use the highways. Extended commute times can increase vehicle maintenance, childcare, and job-related expenses.

Between 1990 and 2000 there was a 76 percent increase in the number of workers in Sacramento County traveling an hour or more to work, substantially higher than California as a whole at 34 percent. The implications for children are longer stays in childcare and less time with their parents.

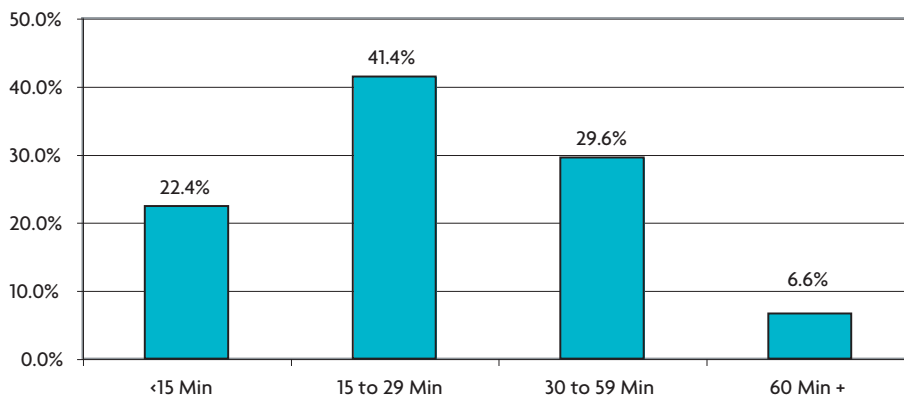
Traffic congestion and transportation issues rank very high on the list of Sacramento region residents' quality of life concerns; so high that 63 percent of respondents to the 2004 Central Valley Survey conducted jointly by the Great Valley Center and Public Policy Institute of California said they are willing to pay additional taxes to fund transportation improvement projects.

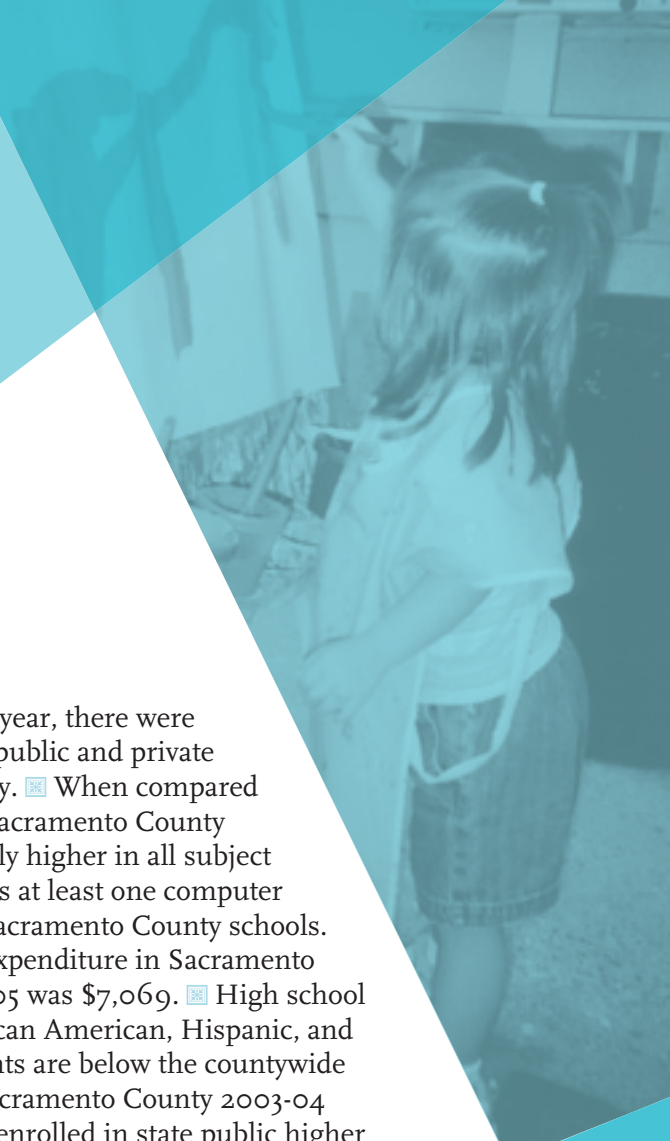
In the Sacramento Area Council of Governments' *Regional Transportation Plan for 2025*, it was noted that previously uncongested roads are becoming clogged because so much of the growth in both jobs and housing is in suburban locations.

According to the Sacramento Air Quality Management District, about 70 percent of Sacramento's ozone problem is caused by vehicle emissions. Chronic air pollution poses health risks and can cause or exacerbate lung conditions—especially asthma in children.

Developing and implementing policies for smart growth and livable communities are more important. The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) adopted the Preferred Blueprint Scenario in December 2005, a vision for growth that promotes compact, mixed-use development, and more transit choices as an alternative to low density development. The Preferred Blueprint Scenario will become part of SACOG's Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2030, the long-range transportation plan for the six-county region. It also will serve as a framework to guide local government in growth and transportation planning through 2050.

Travel Time to Work - One Way
Sacramento County, 2005





Education

During the 2005-06 academic year, there were 258,960 students enrolled in public and private schools in Sacramento County. When compared with state-level test results, Sacramento County students perform consistently higher in all subject areas. On average, there is at least one computer for every five students in Sacramento County schools.

The average per-pupil expenditure in Sacramento County schools in 2004-05 was \$7,069. High school graduation rates for African American, Hispanic, and American Indian students are below the countywide average. 66.4% of Sacramento County 2003-04 high school graduates enrolled in state public higher education institutions (CSU, UC, Community Colleges).

Language and speech services are most frequently listed on Individualized Education Programs for special needs students.

INDICATORS

- ✦ School Readiness
- ✦ School Enrollment and Attendance
- ✦ Academic Achievement
- ✦ Graduation Rates
- ✦ Post-Secondary Enrollment
- ✦ Education Funding
- ✦ Teacher Credential and Experience
- ✦ Student and Family Support Services
- ✦ Access to Technology

School Readiness

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

A wide range of school readiness programs is available for children and families in Sacramento County. Data from the Sacramento and California First 5 Commissions highlights services provided to children and families to support school readiness. Data on the rate of preschool participation in Sacramento also were obtained.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

During the first five years of life, children’s brains develop at a rapid pace. Current research on brain development cited in “Kids Can’t Wait to Learn” indicates 90 percent of growth occurs prior to when children start kindergarten. The early years of a child’s life are a critical window of opportunity to provide essential elements for school readiness, laying a solid foundation to develop skills necessary to succeed in kindergarten, become capable lifelong learners, and thrive as adults.

High-quality preschool is one major school readiness strategy. The RAND Corporation has predicted gains from one-year of high-quality universal preschool for four-year olds across three major categories, including improvement in educational processes and attainment, reduction in child maltreatment, and reduction in juvenile crime.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

School Readiness has been defined broadly by the National Education Goals Panel. At the state level, the Five Essential and Coordinated Elements of School Readiness utilized by First 5 California are derived from the national definition. As the definitions and data on services indicate, children in Sacramento County participate in a wide range of school readiness activities in a variety of settings due to the combined efforts of parents, community agencies, faith-based organizations, and school-based programs.

For Fiscal Years 2004-05 through 2009-10, the First 5 Sacramento Commission has committed more than \$20 million to its School Readiness Initiative, and will secure additional funds from First 5 California. Seven school districts receive funding now and three more will be added in the next few years. The School Readiness Initiative supports programs that take a comprehensive approach to preparing children for school. In addition, the Commission has convened a School Readiness Advisory Committee, composed of school readiness experts, to advise the Commission.

Preschool Enrollment
Sacramento County and California, 2000*

	Sacramento	California
All children ages 3-5 not in Kindergarten	43,942	1,166,112
Enrolled in preschool or nursery	19,146	550,234
Enrollment rate	44%	47%
Percent in private preschool or nursery	43%	47%
Percent in 2-parent home	73%	76%
Percent linguistically-isolated	13%	18%
Median family income	\$40,000	\$44,000

*Data based on 2000 Census
Source: California Research Bureau

Types of Services Funded in 2004-05 by
First 5 California and First 5 Sacramento

Services by Type	Number of Children and Families Served	
	California*	Sacramento
Element 1: Early Care and Education		
Early education programs	388,196	16,711
Element 2: Parenting & Family Support Services		
Parenting education	337,969	12,922
Parenting/caregiver support	222,136	5,256
Family literacy programs	115,874	6,440
Element 3: Health & Social Services		
Community referrals	363,923	5,479
Health insurance enrollment	116,464	907
Nutrition education and assessments	106,946	2,242
Recreational/physical activities	122,797	8,237
Element 4: Schools’ Readiness for Children/School Capacity		
Kindergarten transition programs	268,023	5,511
Element 5: Program Infrastructure, Administration & Evaluation		
Service coordination	228,347	779

* May include duplicate counts
Source: First 5 Sacramento Commission

School Readiness

NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS PANEL (NEGP) DEFINITION OF SCHOOL READINESS

CHILDREN'S READINESS FOR SCHOOL

Physical well-being and motor development: Health status, growth and disabilities/physical abilities: i.e., gross and fine motor skills/conditions before birth.

Social and emotional development: Social development: refers to children's ability to interact socially, i.e., ability to take turns and to cooperate/emotional development: includes a child's perception of him/herself, ability to understand emotions of other people, ability to interpret and express one's own feelings.

Approaches to learning: Inclination to use skills, knowledge, and capacities. Key components include enthusiasm, curiosity, and persistence on tasks, temperament, cultural patterns and values.

Language development: Verbal language, i.e., listening, speaking, and vocabulary/emerging literacy (e.g., assigning sounds to letter combinations), story sense (understanding that stories have a beginning, middle, and end) and writing process (representing ideas through drawing, letter-like shapes, or letters).

Cognition and general knowledge: Knowledge about properties of particular objects/knowledge derived from looking across objects, events, or people for similarities, differences, and associations/knowledge about societal conventions (assignment of particular letters to sounds), shapes and spatial relations, number concepts.

SCHOOLS' READINESS FOR CHILDREN

Smooth transition between home and school: Schools show sensitivity to cultural differences/have practices to reach out to parents and children as they transition to school.

Continuity between early care and education programs and elementary grades: A student-centered environment focused on helping children learn—i.e., they utilize high-quality instruction, appropriate pacing, and an understanding that learning occurs in the context of relationships.

A commitment to the success of every child: Aware of the needs of individual children, including effects of poverty and race/attempt to meet special needs within a regular classroom.

Approaches that have been shown to raise achievement for each student: introduce or expand such approaches, i.e., provide appropriate interventions to children who are falling behind, encourage parent involvement, and monitor different teaching approaches.

A willingness to alter practices and programs if they do not benefit children: Use assessments to help teachers and parents plan for individual students and for purposes of accountability/take responsibility for results.

Assuring that their students have access to services and supports in the community: Assure access to services and supports in the community.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTS AND SERVICES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO CHILDREN'S READINESS FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS

Access to high-quality and developmentally appropriate early care and education experiences: Appropriate preschool programs that help prepare children for school.

Access by parents to training and support that allows parents to be their child's first teacher and promotes healthy functioning families: Devote time each day to helping his/her preschool child learn.

Prenatal care, nutrition, physical and health care that children need to arrive at school with healthy minds and bodies and to maintain mental alertness: To this end, the number of low birth-weight babies should be significantly reduced through prenatal care.



School Enrollment And Attendance

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Information was obtained on public and private school enrollments from the California Department of Education for the 2005-2006 academic year. Information on children who were “home-schooled” is not included. Information on School Attendance Review Board (SARB) hearings was obtained from the Sacramento County Office of Education.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Education in the United States is compulsory and most children spend a substantial amount of time in a school environment. Elementary and secondary schools help prepare students for full civic participation,

for employment, and for higher education. Excessive absences have a negative impact on a child’s education, and a student’s ability to earn the credits required for graduation. Schools lose about \$30 per day in funding per student absence, impacting their ability to provide quality education for all children.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

During the 2005-2006 academic year, 258,960 children were enrolled in primary and secondary schools in Sacramento County. Of those, 239,026 (92.3%) were students in public schools and 19,934 (7.6%) were at private schools. 7.4 percent of public school students were enrolled

in Alternative Programs. Of the public school enrollments, 27,069 (10.5%) were Special Education students. Across all grade levels, the average class size in Sacramento County is 27 students, the same as for California statewide. This number has remained constant for at least five years.

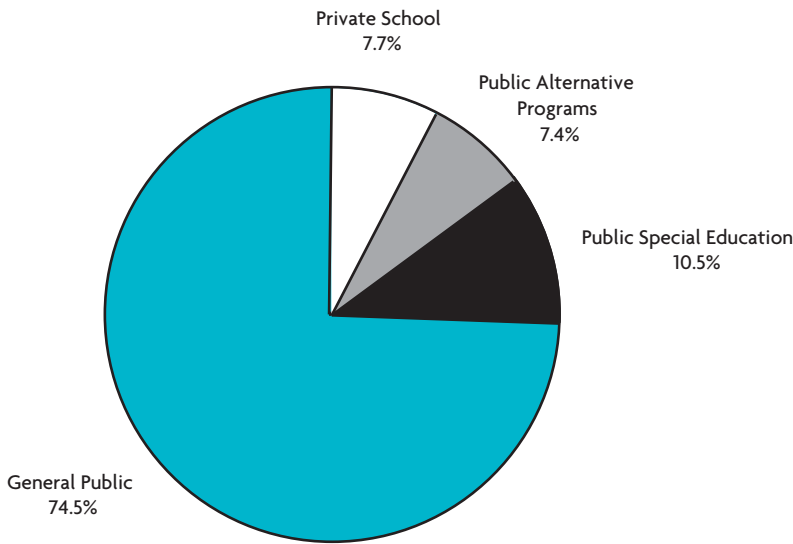
Students also may choose to attend a Charter School, an educational trend that is growing. Charter Schools are public schools that are created by a group of teachers, parents, community leaders or community-based organization that may provide instruction in any of the primary or secondary grades. Curricula at these schools range from military cadet training to vocational preparation, technology, and fine and performing arts.

For the 2005 academic year, there were 29 public Charter Schools active within Sacramento County, and another 3 schools with Charter applications pending. Twenty-four of the 29 schools reported a combined enrollment of 10,085 during the 2005 school year.

Sacramento County school districts report an average of 95 percent attendance on any given day. For students not in compliance with their school district attendance policies, districts in Sacramento County use the SARB process to enforce compulsory attendance laws. Countywide from 2004-05 to 2005-06, the number of cases referred to SARB decreased from 1,645 to 1,195. The typical SARB includes:

- District SARB Chairperson
- Probation Officer
- Department of Human Assistance – Eligibility worker/Social worker
- Child Protective Services Representative
- Community Resource Agency Representative
- School Nurse
- Local School District Staff
- Local Law Enforcement/School Safety Officer

Sacramento County Public and Private School Enrollment 2005-2006



Source: California Department of Education

Alternative Education Programs within Public Schools Sacramento County, 2004-05 and 2005-06

	2004-2005		2005-2006	
	K-8	9-12	K-8	9-12
Continuation Classes	0	2,593	0	2,574
Community/Experience-based	2	324	80	116
Opportunity	379	213	246	97
Magnet Program	4,012	1,493	2,332	4,628
Pregnant/Parenting	1	198	1	147
Independent Study	1,895	5,989	2,568	5,920
Other	109	738	33	310
Total	6,398	11,548	5,260	13,792

Source: California Department of Education

Academic Achievement

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data reported are the percent of students performing at or above the Proficient level in English Language arts and Mathematics according to criteria established under the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The assessments used were the California Standards Tests (CSTs),

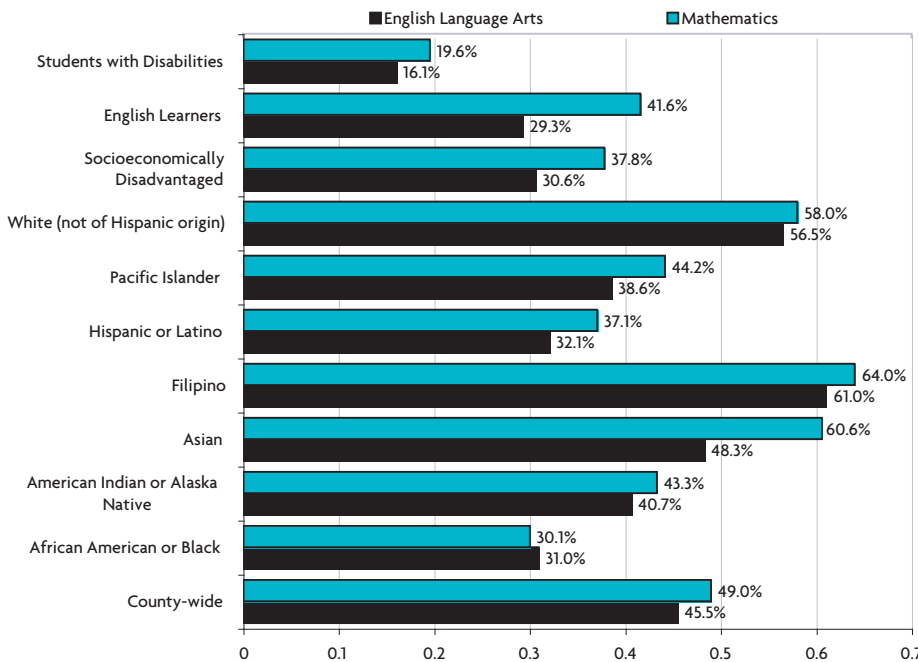
grades 2 through 8; California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA), grades 2 through 8 and grade 10; and the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE), grade 10.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The state assessments are important for several reasons. First, the results

are used to evaluate each school's progress. This helps assure that schools are held accountable for student learning, both at the state and national level, and provides important information for parents. Second, student performance on the tests helps districts and schools identify strengths in their educational programs, as well as areas that need improvement. Most important, the student scores provide information about a student's degree of mastery of the academic content standards. This helps parents and teachers know how they can work together to improve student learning.

Percentage of Students Grades 2 through 8, and Grade 10, in Subgroup Categories, Scoring At or Above Proficient in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Sacramento County 2005



Source: California Department of Education

HOW ARE WE DOING?

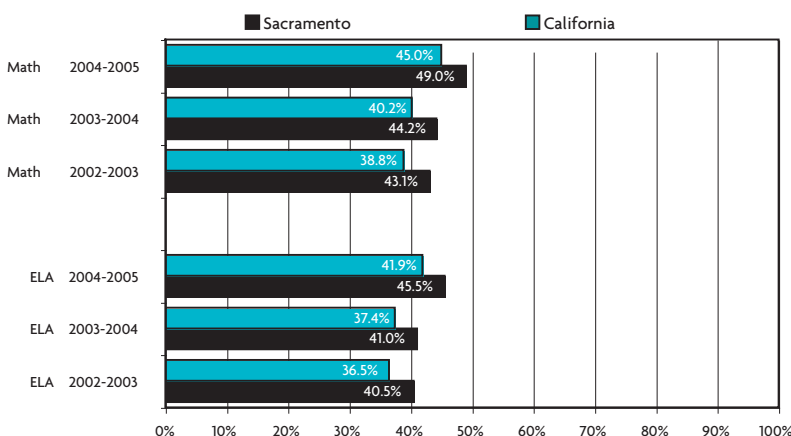
Test results show steady gains in the percent of Sacramento County students scoring at the *proficient* level or above. In 2004-05, 45.5 percent of students in the county scored at or above *proficient* in English language arts, an increase of 4.5 percent over the prior year. In mathematics, 49.0 percent of students scored at or above *proficient*, a 4.8 percent increase. Similar gains occurred on the CSTs in history and social science, while science performance remained relatively stable.

When compared with state-level test results, Sacramento County students perform consistently higher in all subject areas. For the past three years, Sacramento County had about 4 percent more students meeting state proficiency targets in English language arts and about 5 percent more meeting mathematics targets than the statewide average.

Despite these findings, countywide performance on the state standards assessments varied considerably for certain subgroups of students. For the 2004-05 academic year, only 31 percent of students from low-income families in Sacramento County met state standards in English language arts and only 38 percent met state standards in mathematics. Subgroups most heavily represented in the low-income (low SES) category include African Americans, Hispanics, and English Language Learners.



Percent of Students, Grades 2-8 and Grade 10 Scoring at or Above Proficient Level Sacramento County and California, 2002-03 through 2004-05



Note: ELA is English Language Arts
Source: California Department of Education

Graduation Rates

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

The Four-Year Graduation Rate was examined for academic years 2000-01 through 2004-05. The Four-Year Rate is based on the National Center for Education Statistics formula that takes the sum of high school graduates in a given year and divides that by the number of graduates plus dropouts for each of the previous four years.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Education is the foundation for success in a knowledge-driven economy. Obtaining a solid education and a high school diploma prepares students for post-secondary education and the work force. Possession of a high-school diploma or equivalent GED often is the minimum requirement for entry-level jobs. Generally, earnings levels

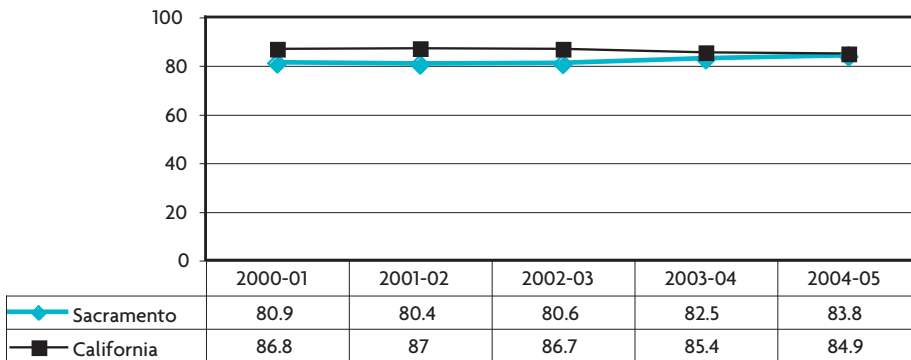
and professional opportunities rise proportionately with education levels. A study by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics found that the full-time workers with a high school diploma or GED are 37.5% less likely to be unemployed, and earn an average of \$554 a week, compared with \$396 a week earned by those without a diploma/GED.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The National Education Longitudinal Study shows the high school graduation rate is about 82 percent nationwide. Across California, the rate has decreased incrementally from 86.8 in 2000-01 to 84.9 in 2004-05. The Sacramento County rate has increased incrementally from 80.9 in 2000-01 to 83.8 in 2004-05, slightly lower than the California average.

The graduation rate in Sacramento County has increased over time. When data are presented by race/ethnicity from the perspective of who graduates and who drops out, differences exist. African Americans, Hispanics, Filipinos, and American Indians graduate at a rate below the 85.7 countywide average.

4-Year Graduation Rate, Sacramento County and California, 2000-01 through 2004-05



Notes: Graduation rate formula is based on the NCES definition: number of graduates (Year 4) divided by number of graduates (Year 4) + Gr. 9 dropouts (Year 1) + Gr. 10 dropouts (Year 2) + Gr. 11 dropouts (Year 3) + Gr. 12 dropouts (Year 4)
 Source: California Department of Education

Percent of 12th Grade Students Graduating by Race/Ethnicity Sacramento County and California 2003-04 and 2004-05

	Sacramento County		California	
	2003-2004	2004-2005	2003-2004	2004-2005
American Indian	88.4%	80.3%	82.68%	82.10%
Asian	90.5%	90.1%	93.65%	93.07%
Pacific Islander	94.0%	91.8%	88.22%	85.38%
Filipino	94.0%	84.5%	90.57%	90.98%
Hispanic	82.0%	83.3%	82.82%	82.60%
African American	77.2%	79.8%	80.42%	81.08%
White	88.7%	87.9%	89.83%	90.47%
Multiple/No Response	60.6%	63.3%	78.50%	81.87%
Total	86.3%	85.7%	86.68%	86.73%

Rate based on percent of enrolled 12th grade students graduating
 Source: California Department of Education

Post-Secondary Enrollment

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were collected on the number and ethnicity of Sacramento County public and private high school graduates who enrolled as freshmen in California public post-secondary institutions (University of California, California State University, and Community Colleges); does not include enrollments in private colleges, universities, or trade schools.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Keeping pace with rapidly changing and developing professional fields requires lifelong learning. In today's competitive employment arena, job candidates without at least some education beyond high school often find themselves at a disadvantage.

According to CollegeBoard, Inc., nationwide in 2003, full-time workers with a four-year college degree earned 62 percent more than those with only a high school diploma. Two-thirds of college graduates working at entry-level jobs had health benefits compared with only one-third of high school graduates in entry-level jobs. Twenty-seven percent of college graduates had employer-sponsored pension benefits compared with only 15 percent of high school graduates.

A report issued by the U.S. Census Bureau noted that over the course of a lifetime, those with a college degree earned roughly twice as much as those with a high school diploma.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

For the 2004-2005 college academic year, 66.4 percent of Sacramento County high school graduates (2003-2004 high school academic year) enrolled in state public higher education institutions.



Photo courtesy of Julie Mier

High School Graduates Meeting UC/CSU Entry Requirements
Sacramento County and California 2002-2005

	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Sacramento County			
Total Enrollment	232,612	235,269	238,385
Grade 12 Enrollment	15,372	15,080	15,917
High School Graduates	13,106	13,009	13,640
UC/CSU Requirements Met	4,505	4,270	4,264
% of Graduates Meeting Req's	34.4%	32.8%	31.3%
California			
Total Enrollment	6,244,732	6,298,774	6,322,098
Grade 12 Enrollment	386,379	396,272	409,568
High School Graduates	341,290	343,517	355,217
UC/CSU Requirements Met	114,194	115,686	124,984
% of Graduates Meeting Req's	33.5%	33.7%	35.2%

Source: California Department of Education

Enrollment of First-Time Freshmen Age 19 and Younger In Public Institutions
Who Graduated from Public or Private High Schools in Sacramento County

Year	Asian Pacific Islander	Black	Filipino	Latino	Native American	Other	White	Alien	Unknown	Totals
2004-2005	1,709	958	284	1,282	83	193	3,574	17	541	8,641
2003-2004	1,570	782	317	1,013	83	177	3,294	8	439	7,683
2002-2003	1,400	633	287	996	83	199	3,344	6	395	7,343
2001-2002	1,296	557	218	799	65	198	3,119	14	300	6,566
2000-2001	1,424	622	264	980	86	264	3,410	14	193	7,257

Source: California Post-Secondary Education Commission



HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Sacramento County and statewide data on the “Current Cost of Education” from the California Department of Education were reviewed for academic years 1998-99 through 2004-05. Information from the National Education Association also was reviewed. California utilizes Average Daily Attendance (ADA) as the denominator to estimate the cost of education based on total education expenditures. Total ADA is defined as the total days of student attendance divided by the total days of instruction. Expenses in each district for certificated and classified personnel salaries, benefits, books, supplies, equipment replacement, services and direct support are used to estimate per-pupil expenditures.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Education funding is a complex array of federal, state, and local public fund allocations, and public and private grants. Understanding how funds are invested in children can help assure that resources are used most effectively to meet student needs and provide them with a quality education.

Education Funding

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Countywide, Sacramento area schools generally have kept pace with the statewide average education expenditure since at least 1998, increasing yearly by about \$100 per student ADA.

Annually, EdSource utilizes National Education Association data to compile and release a report on nationwide rankings of education expenditures by state. For the 2003-2004 academic year, California was ranked 30th among all states, spending an average of \$7,244 per pupil compared with the national average of \$7,920.



Photo courtesy of Cathy O'Neil

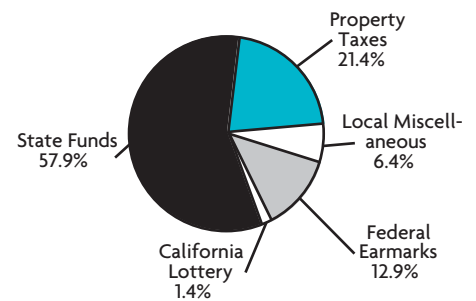
**Current Cost of Education (Per-Pupil Expenditure)
Sacramento County and California, 1998-99 through 2004-05**

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Sacramento	\$5,409	\$5,643	\$6,309	\$6,669	\$6,829	\$6,936	\$7,069
California	\$5,379	\$5,705	\$6,360	\$6,719	\$6,822	\$6,919	\$7,127

California Department of Education, School Fiscal Services Division

2004-2005 Estimated Revenues for California Public Schools

Source	Amount	Percent	Description
State Funds	\$34.1 billion	57.9	Primarily sales and income taxes
Property Taxes	\$12.6 billion	21.4	Local property taxes
Local Miscellaneous	\$ 3.8 billion	6.4	Community contributions, developer fees, interest income, community contribution
Federal Earmarks	\$ 7.6 billion	12.9	Nutrition, No Child Left Behind, Special Education
California Lottery	\$ 0.8 billion	1.4	About \$121 per Student ADA (\$12 to be used only for instructional materials)
Total Estimate	\$58.9 billion	100%	Estimated Revenue from All Sources



Source: EdSource, November 2004; funding data from California Department of Education ADA Projections; California Department of Finance

Teacher Credential And Experience

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data from the California Department of Education on the number of fully-credentialed classroom teachers, the average number of years of experience in the classroom, and the number of teachers in their first and second years teaching was reviewed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Studies have found there is a correlation between teacher experience and improved academic performance of students. Retention of experienced teachers helps assure quality in the education system and continuity of the learning experience. The credentialing process helps achieve increased teacher skill, experience, and capability to reach students through a variety of methodologies.

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires that all teachers in core academic subjects be “highly qualified” by the end of the 2005-2006 academic year or schools risk losing their federal funding. The heart of the NCLB highly-qualified teacher provision is the requirement that all teachers demonstrate that they are competent in the subject areas they teach. In general, the NCLB requires that to be designated as highly qualified, a teacher must meet the following three criteria:

- Possession of a Bachelor’s degree
- Possession of an appropriate California teaching credential
- Demonstrated core academic subject area competence by means of exam, coursework, advanced certification or completion of the California High Objective Uniform State Standard of Evaluation (HOUSSE) in the subject area being taught.

Currently, early childhood educators may apply for a Child Development Permit to teach children in preschool settings. Permits are issued at various competency levels by the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

During the 2005-06 program year, data regarding the demographics, education, training, tenure, turnover, and wages about Sacramento County’s early care and education workforce was gathered in a study conducted by the Child Care Resource and Referral Network. This study provides valuable information that identifies workforce development needs in the early childhood education profession, and will be a future resource for county-level provider data relative to licensed child care centers and family child care homes.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

California’s teacher workforce is the largest in the country with more than 300,000 teachers serving a K-12 student population of more than six million. In 2005-06 there were 11,998 teachers employed in Sacramento County.

For the 2004-2005 school year, there were 19,906 core academic subject classes throughout Sacramento County, and 10,210 teachers in the core academic subjects who met the NCLB criteria for “highly-qualified teachers.”

The 2005-2006 school year marked the first time in at least nine years that the number of second-year teachers in Sacramento County exceeded the number of first-year teachers.

Teacher credentialing in California was redesigned in 1998 to require that teachers complete a two-year induction program of support and assessment during the first two years of teaching in order to earn a Professional (Clear) Multiple and/or Single Subject Teaching Credential. The vehicle for the delivery of this program is BTSA, an acronym for “Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment,” which is a state-funded program designed to support the professional development of newly-credentialed, beginning teachers. In other communities across the nation, BTSAs have been shown to be effective in increasing teacher retention rates by as much as 26%.

Teacher Employment History
Sacramento County, 1999-2005

Sacramento County	Average Years Teaching	First Year Teachers	Second Year Teachers
2005-2006	12.2	643	816
2004-2005	11.9	965	557
2003-2004	12.4	733	580
2002-2003	12.4	690	666
2001-2002	12.3	961	789
2000-2001	12.9	717	614
1999-2000	12.5	919	811

Source: California Department of Education



Student And Family Support Services

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data on school-based counselor and nursing staff to student ratios in Sacramento County public schools was obtained from the California Department of Education. Information was obtained on the number and types of services provided to children with special education needs.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Federal and state policies including the No Child Left Behind Act, have focused on school, teacher, and student preparation and achievement. Invariably, high quality classroom instruction is not the only essential element for a student's academic success. A student's physical and emotional health, which often are directly related to family strengths, are key factors in student attendance and a student's academic success.

Children who have an eligible disability that causes them to need specialized educational services are entitled to receive special education and related services. Examples of eligible disabilities include: mental retardation; hearing, speech, or language impairments; visual impairments; emotional disturbances; orthopedic impairments; autism; traumatic brain injury; and specific learning disabilities. Special education eligibility categories require that a student's condition or disability "adversely affect educational performance." Courts have interpreted the phrase to mean that education is adversely affected if, without certain services, the child's condition would prevent him/her from performing academic or nonacademic tasks and/or from being educated with non-disabled peers.

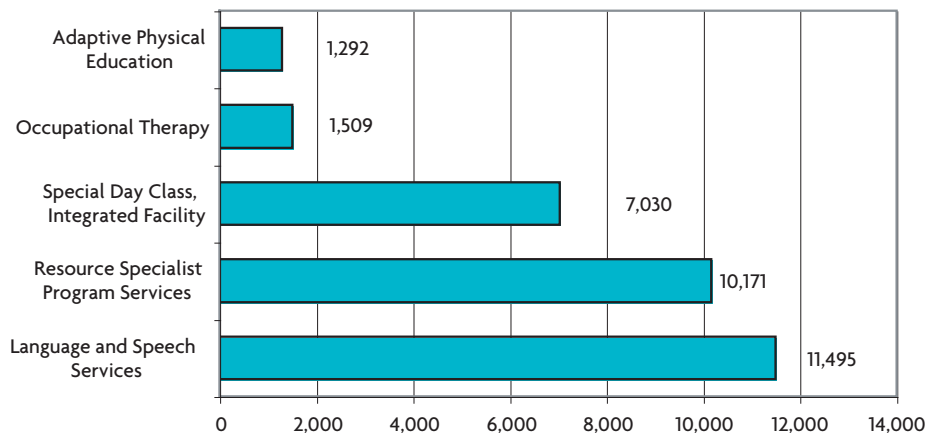
HOW ARE WE DOING?

Thousands of schools and school districts across the nation have chosen to create community school partnerships, which include health, social services, youth development, family support, and community building organizations over the last



Photo courtesy of Denise Lee

Most Frequently Listed Services on Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) Sacramento County Public Schools, 2004-05



Note: Students may have more than one service on their IEP

Source: California Department of Education CASEMIS 2004-2005 Data, reporting cycle 12/01/05

Student And Family Support Services

Student Support Services Counselor and Nurse Ratios Number and Ratio, 1997-98 to 2002-03

	Enrollment	Number of Counselors	Counselor to Student Ratio	Number of Nurses	Nurse to Student Ratio
1997-1998					
Sacramento County	205,000	215	1 : 953	98	1 : 2,092
California	5,727,303	6,028	1 : 950	2,389	1 : 2,397
1998-1999					
Sacramento County	209,598	230	1 : 911	99	1 : 2,117
California	5,844,111	6,394	1 : 914	2,528	1 : 2,312
1999-2000					
Sacramento County	213,713	231	1 : 925	105	1 : 2,035
California	5,951,612	6,623	1 : 899	2,630	1 : 2,263
2000-2001					
Sacramento County	222,224	251	1 : 885	110	1 : 2,020
California	6,050,895	6,942	1 : 872	2,726	1 : 2,220
2001-2002					
Sacramento County	228,122	255	1 : 895	118	1 : 1,933
California	6,147,375	6,995	1 : 879	2,695	1 : 2,281
2002-2003					
Sacramento County	232,612	261	1 : 891	80	1 : 2,908
California	6,244,403	7,224	1 : 864	2,725	1 : 2,292
2003-2004					
Sacramento County	235,269	270	1 : 871	121	1 : 1,944
California	6,298,774	7,170	1 : 878	2,791	1 : 2,257
2004-2005					
Sacramento County	238,385	278	1 : 858	117	1 : 2,037
California	6,322,098	6,977	1 : 906	2,821	1 : 2,241
2005-2006					
Sacramento County	239,026	266	1 : 899	119	1 : 2,009
California	6,312,103	7,461	1 : 846	2,835	1 : 2,226

Source: California Department of Education

decade. These collaborations are important student and family support services, which support student attendance and academic achievement.

Collaborative efforts in Sacramento County provide various services that support students and families. Supports may include such things as providing employment assistance, parent education, health and dental care, case management, referrals for mental health services, and immunizations.

Family support services for schools have seen an increase in pupil services personnel per 1,000 students within

the past years. Personnel may include counselors, school psychologists, librarians, social workers, nurses, speech/language/hearing specialists, and resource specialists.

Sacramento County utilizes the services of four Special Education Local Plan Areas (SELPAs) to serve 26,838 students between the ages of three and twenty-two. For each participating student, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is developed.

Special Education Students Ages 3-22 by Disability Sacramento County Public Schools, 2004-05

Specific Learning Disability	12,751	47.5%
Speech or Language Impairment	6,844	25.5%
Mental Retardation	2,108	7.9%
Emotional Disturbance	1,760	6.6%
Autism	1,105	4.1%
Other	2,270	8.5%
Total	26,838	100.0%

Note: Unduplicated count of students
Source: California Department of Education, CASEMIS 04-05 Data, Reporting Cycle 12/1/05)



Access To Technology

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Information was obtained on the average number of computers per pupil in Sacramento County schools.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

In October of 2003, the U.S. Department of Labor reported that 77 million people in the United States use a computer at their job, accounting for 55.5 percent of the workforce, and that 2 out of every 5 workers in the nation are connected to the internet or uses e-mail at their work. In 2005, the Department of Labor noted that 74 of every 1,000 private sector workers in California are employed by high-tech firms. In

California, high-tech industry workers earn an average of \$42,516 more per year than other private sector workers.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

As part of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, the “Enhancing Education Through Technology” (ED Tech) program seeks to improve achievement in elementary and secondary schools through the use of technology, to assist students to become technically literate by the eighth grade, and to ensure that teachers integrate technology into the curriculum to improve student achievement. There are also provisions in the act to provide funding for

schools to purchase technology resources.

Statewide, there are 5.8 students for every Internet-connected computer in California’s public schools; in high-poverty schools there are 6.2 students per connected computer (the national average is 4.1 and 4.5, respectively).

In Sacramento County schools, the average pupil to computer ratio is 5.4 in elementary school, 4.8 in middle school, and 4.3 at the high school level.

For students who do not have a home computer, the Sacramento Public library provides access to computers and the Internet. The Library has created home pages for children and teens that provide content and links to other websites that contain age appropriate information.



Photo courtesy of Lynette Otis

Students per Computer Public Schools, 2004-05 Sacramento County and California

	Sacramento	California
Elementary	5.4	5.2
Middle	4.8	5
High	4.3	4.2
Continuation	3.2	3
Alternative	5.8	5.3
Community Day	2.3	2.6

Source: California Department of Education

Health

Sacramento ranks among the most ozone-polluted counties in the nation. ☒ The number of uninsured children rose from 11,000 in 2001 to 15,000 in 2003. ☒ Sacramento County continues to exceed the statewide rates for reported cases of chlamydia. ☒ 60.7% of Sacramento County children are in the Aerobic Capacity Healthy Fitness Zone. ☒ In Sacramento County, birth rates for teenage mothers decreased slightly from 2003 to 2004. ☒ 74.4% of North Central Valley Region Children were fully immunized by 24 months in 2005. ☒ In 2003, an estimated 2,000 Sacramento County children missed between 5 and 10 days of school due to asthma. ☒ The rate of prenatal care received within the first trimester of pregnancy has remained relatively constant in Sacramento County since 2000 (81%). ☒ 11,169 children screened by volunteer dentists in 2004-2005 had visible tooth decay.

INDICATORS

- ✦ Health Care Access
- ✦ Breastfeeding
- ✦ Nutrition and Fitness
- ✦ Prenatal Care
- ✦ Birth Rates Among Teens
- ✦ Immunizations
- ✦ Sexually Transmitted Infections
- ✦ Dental Health
- ✦ Air Quality
- ✦ Childhood Asthma

Health Care Access

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data from the 2001 and 2003 California Health Interview Surveys (CHIS) were used to reflect health care coverage by type. Data from the 2005 CHIS were not available for inclusion in this report. Data for Medicaid (Medi-Cal) enrollment were obtained from the California Department of Health Services, Medical Care Statistics Section. Information on population in poverty and health insurance trends was taken from the 2004 American Community Survey.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Children with access to preventive and ongoing health care are more likely to be healthy, and are more likely to succeed in school. Access to regular health care helps avoid the “crisis management” form of care and reduces use of emergency medical systems for routine care.

HOW WE ARE DOING?

Nationally, there has been a trend to shift health care costs and insurance premiums to employees and public subsidy programs. For low- and middle- income workers,

it is becoming increasingly difficult to provide health care coverage for their families. There are no clear, reliable estimates of the number of children eligible for subsidized health insurance programs who are not enrolled. Eligibility for subsidized and low-cost health insurance programs varies by family size and income, or income relative to a percent of the Federal Poverty Level.

In California, numerous programs are in place to assure health care access for all children – especially those from low-income families. Therefore, no child should be without health coverage because of family socio-economic status.

Locally, the “Cover the Kids” Regional Children’s Health Project is part of a multi-county children’s health initiative that allows coverage to be transportable across county lines among participating counties. This effort has two primary goals: 1) maximize enrollment in existing health coverage such as Medi-Cal and Healthy Families, and 2) create a health coverage program for children who are uninsured and not eligible for existing programs. The effort has attracted broad-based support in the region.

Number of Children and Percentage of Total Enrollment in Medi-Cal by Age Groups for Sacramento County July 2001- July 2005

Age Groups	2001		2002		2003		2004		2005	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
0-5	41,944	17.3%	42,769	16.0%	44,178	17.1%	46,148	17.4%	49,857	17.8%
6-10	36,282	14.9%	36,000	14.3%	35,150	13.6%	34,876	13.1%	34,870	12.5%
11-15	31,595	13.0%	32,840	13.1%	33,985	13.1%	34,978	13.2%	35,837	12.8%
16-20	22,867	9.4%	24,396	9.7%	25,214	9.7%	26,253	9.9%	28,255	10.1%
Totals	132,688		136,005		138,527		142,255		148,819	

Source: California Department of Health Services, Medical Care Statistics Section

Type of Health Care Coverage by Source Ages 0 through 17 Sacramento County and California, 2001 and 2003

Coverage Source	Sacramento County		California	
	2001	2003	2001	2003
Uninsured	3.30%	4.20%	9.40%	7.10%
	11,000	15,000	871,000	672,000
Medicaid (Medi-Cal)	18.40%	26.50%	22.90%	26.10%
	63,000	93,000	2,132,000	2,478,000
Healthy Families	2.90%	5.20%	4.70%	6.10%
	10,000	18,000	435,000	577,000
Employment-based	72.60%	61.60%	59.00%	54.40%
	248,000	217,000	5,493,000	5,161,000
Privately Purchased	2.10%	2.10%	2.90%	4.90%
	7,000	8,000	273,000	468,000
Other Public	6.00%	3.00%	1.10%	1.40%
	2,000	1,000	101,000	133,000
Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	342,000	352,000	9,305,000	9,488,000

Source: 2003 California Health Interview Survey



Breastfeeding

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data on mothers who intend to initiate breastfeeding from the California Department of Health Services and available data on breastfeeding from the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program were reviewed. Breastfeeding data and objectives from “Healthy People 2010” were reviewed. County-level data on breastfeeding are not available for new mothers who do not participate in subsidized programs for low-income families.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Most medical associations acknowledge breastfeeding as the preferred method of infant feeding. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months, with gradual introduction of other foods combined with breastfeeding until at least 12 months of age, and breastfeeding thereafter as long as is mutually desired by mother and infant. The U.S. *Healthy People 2010* goal for breastfeeding is to increase the proportion of mothers who breastfeed their babies. Breastfeeding provides health and developmental benefits for infants and mothers, and has positive family, social, and economic benefits as well.

For infants, breast milk:

- provides complete nutrition and hydration for first six months of life;
- reduces infectious diseases;
- is associated with reduced risk for chronic disease;
- reduces the risk of baby bottle related tooth decay.

Mothers who breastfeed:

- have reduced risk for pre-menopausal breast cancer, ovarian cancer, and some chronic diseases;
- experience improved recovery from childbirth;
- enjoy higher self-esteem and reduced risk of depression.

Family and social/economic benefits of breastfeeding include:

- reduced health care costs;
- less time lost from work by mother because of decreased infant illness;
- lower food costs because formula can cost up to \$2,000 per year;
- reduction in incidents of child abuse and neglect.

The California Department of Health Services has listed some of the barriers to the initiation and continuation of breastfeeding. These include:

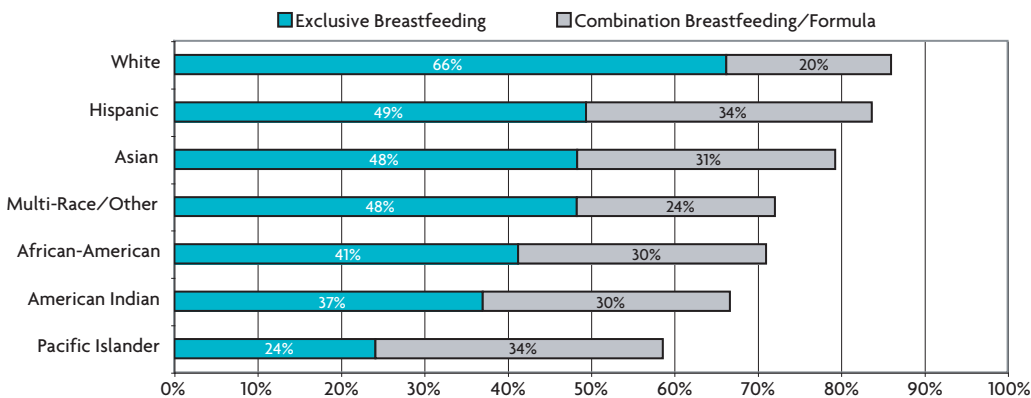
- lack of knowledge about breastfeeding among healthcare professionals, new mothers, and the general population;
- lack of consistent and accurate information about breastfeeding;
- hospital practices that are not supportive of breastfeeding, (e.g. formula discharge packets, hospital feeding schedules, early discharge, and unavailability of rooming-in);
- psycho-social and cultural barriers including negative attitudes, lack of confidence, and sexual connotations associated with the breast;
- lack of support in the work place.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

There is limited data on the number of mothers who breastfeed in Sacramento County. However, data from the 2005 Sacramento County Maternal Infant Health Assessment show that at least 16.75 percent of infants whose mothers participate in the WIC program were being breastfed to some extent.

WIC (Women, Infants, Children) is a federally-sponsored supplemental nutrition grant program that helps low-income pregnant women, new mothers, and young children up to age five, eat well to remain healthy.

Mothers Who Intend to Initiate Breastfeeding by Race/Ethnicity
Sacramento County, 2004



Data was gathered from expectant mothers in hospital for delivery and represents those who intend to initiate breastfeeding either exclusively or in combination with formula.

Source: California Department of Health Services

To overcome barriers to breastfeeding, California has enacted laws that permit new mothers to breastfeed in public and private locations, and that require employers to provide break time and reasonable accommodations for new mothers wishing to express breast milk. Promotional efforts are underway to make hospitals more “baby friendly” by encouraging breastfeeding.

Nutrition and Fitness

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data from the California Department of Education Physical Fitness Report relative to Sacramento County were reviewed. Also reviewed were Body Mass Index (BMI) data from a community hospital system in the Sacramento County Region. BMI is calculated from measurements of height and weight and often is used by health professionals to assess whether a child or adolescent is overweight or at risk of being overweight.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has noted that deaths attributable to inactivity and poor diet have increased by 33 percent over the last decade, and may overtake tobacco as the leading cause of preventable death nationwide. The American Academy of Pediatrics, as well as local pediatricians, are seeing a significant increase in diseases associated with childhood obesity.

The California Department of Health Services has noted that over the last two decades, the prevalence of overweight children in California has doubled, and among adolescents, the prevalence has tripled. Overweight adolescents have a 70 percent chance of becoming overweight adults. Being overweight in adulthood increases the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, coronary heart disease, and dental disease.

Research shows that a diet rich in fruits and vegetables can help reduce the risk of serious health problems and chronic diseases, including heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, and many common cancers. Access to healthy, affordable foods is an important aspect of healthy eating. In low-income households and neighborhoods, there is often easy access to fast foods, but not always good access to fresh produce and affordable healthy foods.

Aerobic capacity refers to the maximum rate that oxygen can be taken in and used by the body during



Photo courtesy of Erin Blount

exercise. Good aerobic capacity is critical to cardiovascular health.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

While children in Sacramento County showed improvement in aerobic capacity from 2000 through 2004 (52% to 60%), medical experts indicate their capacity should be closer to 80 percent.

Obesity in children can be seen through measurements of fitness and Body Mass Index (BMI). Children assessed between January of 2004 and December of 2005 in a major local community health system, show 26 percent of those ages 13 through

17 were considered overweight, and 14 percent were considered at risk of being overweight based on their BMI measurements. Of children ages 2 through 12, overweight children comprise 22 percent of the sample, and 16 percent were determined to be at risk of being overweight.

In each of the school districts in Sacramento County, there are School Meal programs for children in low-income families to help mitigate some food access barriers. In 2005, there were 110,877 children eligible for free or reduced-price meals in Sacramento County, nearly 48 percent of the total public school enrollment.

Nutrition and Fitness

Based on findings from the 2003 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), researchers at UCLA noted that two-thirds of California teens (more than 2 million) drink soda every day, and that nearly half (more than 1.5 million) eat fast food daily. By comparison, fewer than 25 percent of California teens eat five servings of fruits and vegetables each day. The report also noted that Latinos and Blacks consume more soda and fast food than other ethnic groups; soda consumption tends to increase as household income decreases; soda consumption increases with fast-food consumption; and the more fast food teens eat, the less likely they are to eat fruits and vegetables.

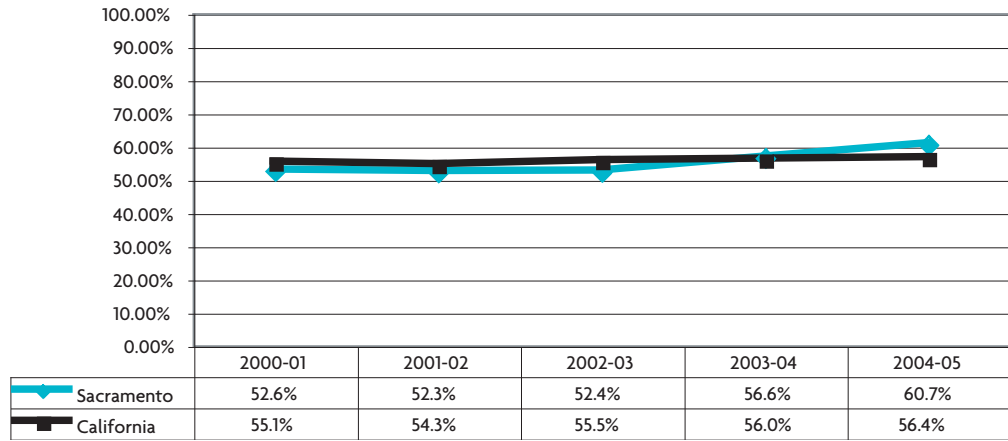
Three years ago, the California legislature acknowledged that an increased consumption of soda has an adverse affect on children's health. They passed a law to ban the sale of soda products at public elementary and middle schools. Beginning in July of 2007, the prohibition will expand to include high schools as well.

Sedentary lifestyles, including overindulgence in television and/or video or computer games, reduces physical activity and has an impact on children's health. Children in low-income sections of the community also may be hindered in their ability to exercise regularly due to safety issues in their neighborhoods.

In 2005, a California Department of Education report validated the strong relationship between physical fitness and academic achievement. However, the current trend in education is to de-emphasize Physical Education as an important part of the curriculum.

The First 5 Sacramento Commission has made nutrition one of its priority areas, and will be holding a nutrition summit in 2007.

Percentage of 5th, 7th and 9th Grade Students in Aerobic Capacity Healthy Fitness Zone Sacramento County and California, 2000-2004



Source: California Department of Education, Standards and Assessment Division



Photo courtesy of Erin Blount



Prenatal Care

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data from the California Department of Health Services on prenatal care during the first trimester were reviewed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Mothers who obtain prenatal care generally have better birth outcomes than those who do not. They are more likely to carry their babies to term, and their babies are more likely to have a healthy birth weight. Very low birth weight babies, who weigh 2.2 pounds or less, often suffer from major disabilities such as cerebral palsy, mental retardation, blindness, and deafness.

Accessing prenatal care early can help identify potential medical problems in both mother and baby and allow for the provision of effective intervention. Prenatal care is an opportunity to educate the expectant mother about issues such as drug use and nutrition that can have long-term effects on the baby and mother. The use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs during pregnancy is one of the leading factors contributing to preventable infant mortality.

Babies born exposed to alcohol and other drugs before birth have a higher risk of prematurity, low birth weight, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), birth defects, and behavioral and school difficulties.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The rate of prenatal care received within the first trimester of pregnancy has remained relatively constant in Sacramento County since 2000. With 81.5 percent of mothers receiving prenatal care during the first trimester, Sacramento County rates are just slightly below the statewide rate of 85.6 percent.

Currently there is no system in place in Sacramento County to regularly collect local data on perinatal

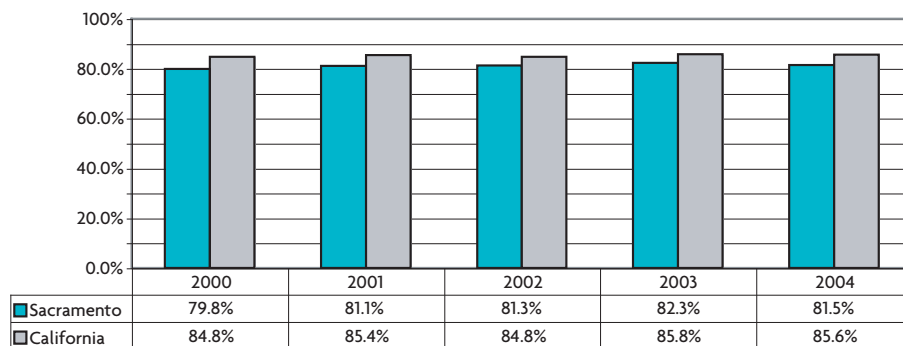
substance abuse. Perinatal describes the period from 28 weeks of gestation through the first week of life. Child Protective Services encourages hospitals to report both positive toxicology screens or history of perinatal substance abuse, but not all mothers are screened consistently.

The Sacramento County Child Death Review Team reported there were two infant deaths in 2004 due to intrauterine exposure to treatable communicable diseases and one death due to intrauterine drug exposure. One regional community healthcare system reports 20.1 of every 1,000 live births had documented drug exposure in 2004. In 2005, the rate was 14.6 for every 1,000 live births.

Through “presumptive eligibility,” there is 100 percent healthcare coverage for prenatal care in Sacramento County. Presumptive eligibility is a Medi-Cal program that provides immediate, temporary coverage for prenatal care to women at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. Women are not accessing prenatal care for a variety of reasons:

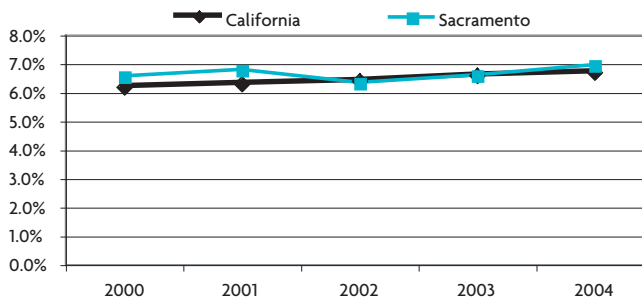
- Uninformed about programs and eligibility;
- Transportation;
- Limited providers, office hours;
- Immigration status.

Prenatal Care Received during First Trimester Measured as a Percent of Total Live Births Sacramento County and California, 2000-2004



Source: California Department of Health Services

Very Low Birth Weight: Percent of All Live Births Sacramento County and California 2000-2004



Note: Very low birth weight is 2.2 pounds (1 kg) or less

Source: California Department of Health Services



Birth Rates Among Teens

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Birth rates by age and ethnicity for teenage mothers in Sacramento County were reviewed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Numerous risk factors link early childbearing with poor outcomes for both the teen mother and the child. Parenting teens may have limited education and work experience opportunities prior to parenthood, therefore may be disadvantaged as adults in the labor market.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy reports that 25 percent of teen mothers have another child within two years of giving birth to their first child. Teen marriages are twice as likely to end in divorce as marriages in which the woman is at least 25 years old. Consequently, teen mothers spend more years as single parents, and are more likely to be the sole providers for their children than women who delay childbearing until adulthood.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In Sacramento County, birth rates for teenage mothers decreased slightly from 2003 to 2004 for all ages except females under age 15. It should be noted that there are very few births in Sacramento County to teenagers under age 15.

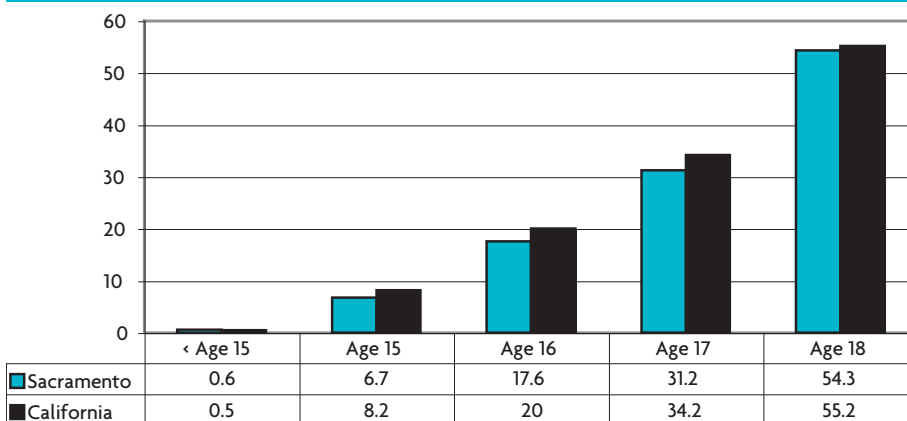


Photo courtesy of Julie Mier

HEALTH

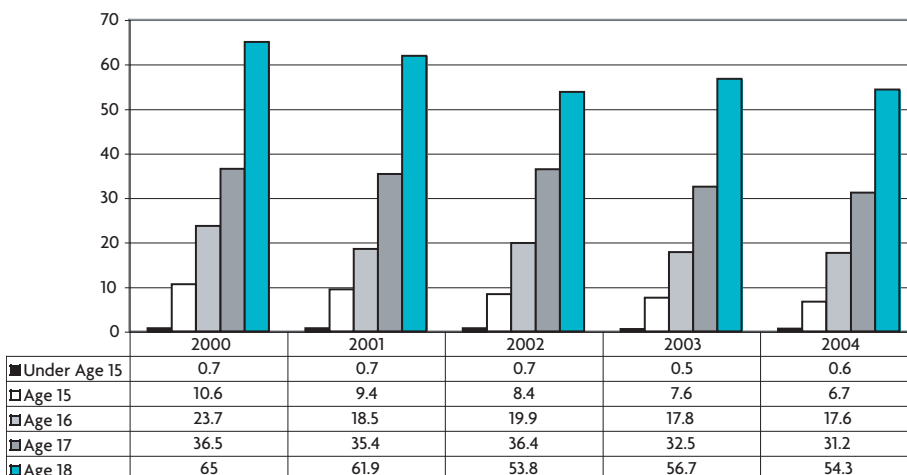


Teen Birth Rates by Age
Rate per 1,000 Female Population
Sacramento County and California, 2004



Source: California Department of Health Services

Birth Rates by Year and Age for Teenage Mothers
Rate per 1,000 Female Population by Age Group
Sacramento County, 2000 through 2004



Source: California Department of Health Services

Immunizations

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

The immunization rate was measured by the number and percentage of children in the North Central Valley region (Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Stanislaus Counties) who received all recommended immunizations by age 2. The immunization rate is measured by a retrospective review of a child's immunization record when he or she enters school. Missing, incomplete, or incorrect records may result in an inaccurate picture.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Many diseases are preventable by vaccination. Children who are not immunized are at risk for contracting preventable diseases, many of which are serious and can be fatal.

Common vaccine-preventable diseases include contagious diseases such as mumps, measles, chicken pox (varicella), and hepatitis, as well as sexually-transmitted diseases such as the human papilloma virus (HPV). New vaccines have been developed to help protect infants from rotavirus, adolescents against pertussis, and a newly-developed vaccine for the prevention of HPV has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use with females as young as 9 years of age.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

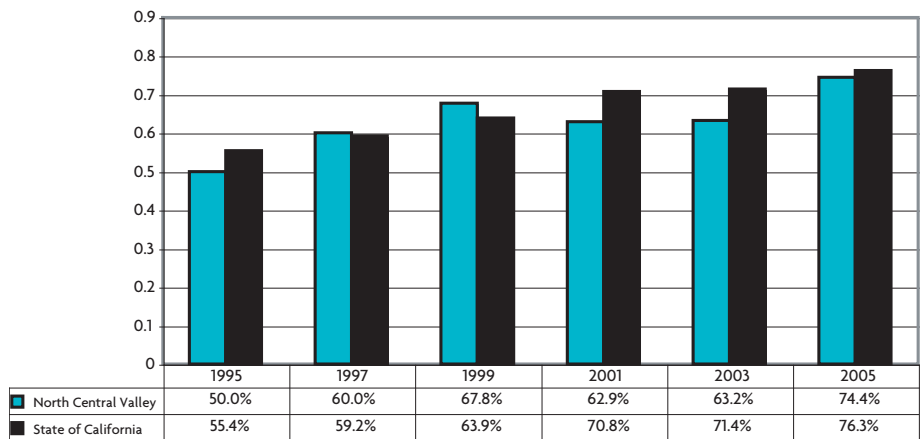
Healthy People 2010 objectives reflect those of the American Academy of Pediatrics to reduce or eliminate indigenous cases of vaccine-preventable diseases, and to increase the proportion of children and adolescents who receive all vaccines that have been recommended for universal administration for at least 5 years.

There has been a significant increase in the North Central Valley region rate of immunizations since 1995.



Photo courtesy of Sherri McFall

North Central Valley Region Children Fully Immunized at 24 Months
San Joaquin, Sacramento and Stanislaus Counties, 1995-2005



Source: California Department of Health Services, Immunization Branch, 2005 Kindergarten Retrospective Survey

Incidents of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Sacramento County, 2005

Hepatitis A	18
Hepatitis B, Acute and Carrier	631
Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Tetanus	0
Pertussis	136
Haemophilus Influenza, Invasive Disease	3
Total	788

Note: Incidents are reported for all ages.

Source: Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services

Sexually Transmitted Infections

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were collected on rates of gonorrhea and chlamydia by age and gender from the California Department of Health Services, STD Branch, and the Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) can have serious and long-term, even permanent, consequences, and have been known to cause infertility, chronic pain, poor pregnancy outcomes, cervical cancer, and death. It is estimated that 30-40 percent of pre-term births may be associated with STIs and vaginal infections. Sexually transmitted infections can be prevented by safe sex practices, and in some cases, by vaccines.

Development of non-invasive urinalysis testing for chlamydia and gonorrhea has the potential to increase screening rates—especially for sexually active adolescents.

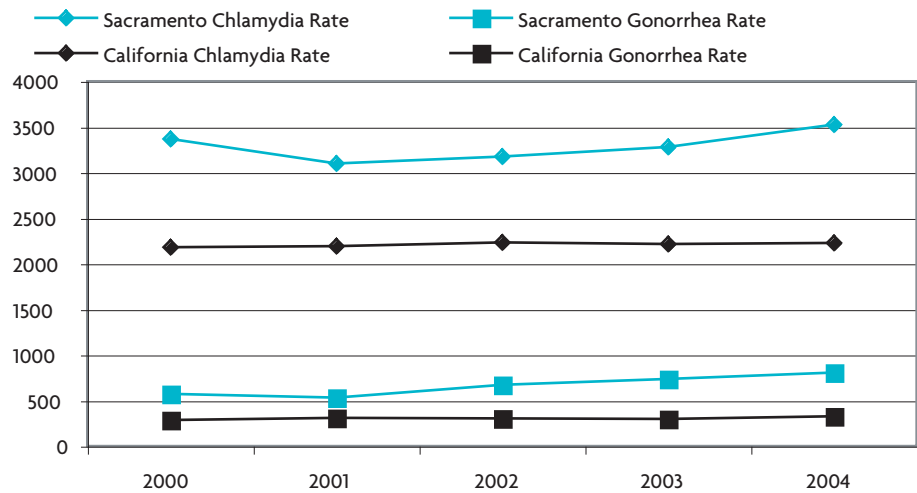


Photo courtesy of Michelle Good

HEALTH



Rates of Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Among 15-19 Year-Old Females Sacramento County and California, 2000-2004 (Rate per 100,000 population)



Source: California Department of Health Services, STD Surveillance Branch

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Sacramento County continues to exceed the statewide rates for reported cases of chlamydia. Using 2002-2004 data, the California Department of Health Services reported that Sacramento County had a crude rate of 406.8 cases of chlamydia per 100,000 population (all ages), compared with the statewide rate of 324.3 (Sacramento County Health Status Profile, 2006).

Dental Health

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

There are limited data available to measure the extent of dental disease among children in Sacramento County and the amount of remedial care given. Data from the Sacramento District Dental Society, the Sacramento County Healthy Start Collaborative, and from water districts that provide fluoridated water were reviewed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Oral disease continues to be the most prevalent untreated disease nationwide. The California Dental Association recognizes that early childhood caries are infectious and preventable. Dental caries have long-range consequences because they predispose the individual to a lifetime of dental, medical, and social problems that affect health, education, and quality of life.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

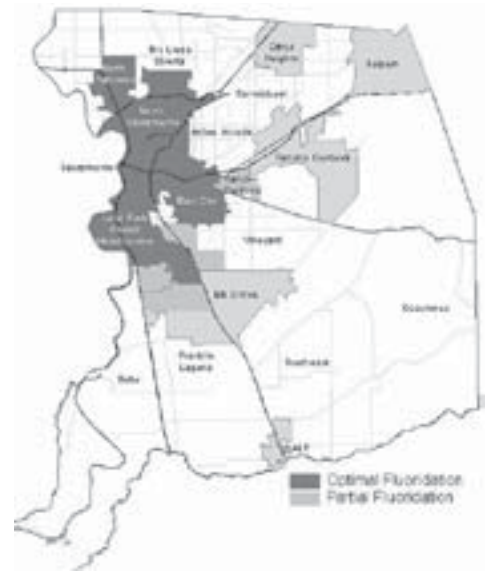
Lack of dental insurance coverage, and the high cost of dental care can make access to dental care challenging for working families of modest means. In 2006, a leading dental health insurance company noted that increasingly, employer-sponsored dental plans are requiring higher premium contributions from

employees, higher co-payments, and deductibles. Many employers are dropping this benefit altogether and families are challenged to secure private coverage.

While there has been improvement in the percentage of children needing urgent and routine dental care, the rate of children needing care remains high. There are several dental health programs for low-income children in Sacramento County. Children enrolled in Head Start, a pre-school education program, have access to a dental program which helps low-income families by providing funding for dental examinations and treatment when no other source of coverage is available.

Every year, volunteer dentists from Sacramento District Dental Society conduct dental screenings of low income children in Head Start pre-schools and Healthy Start elementary schools.

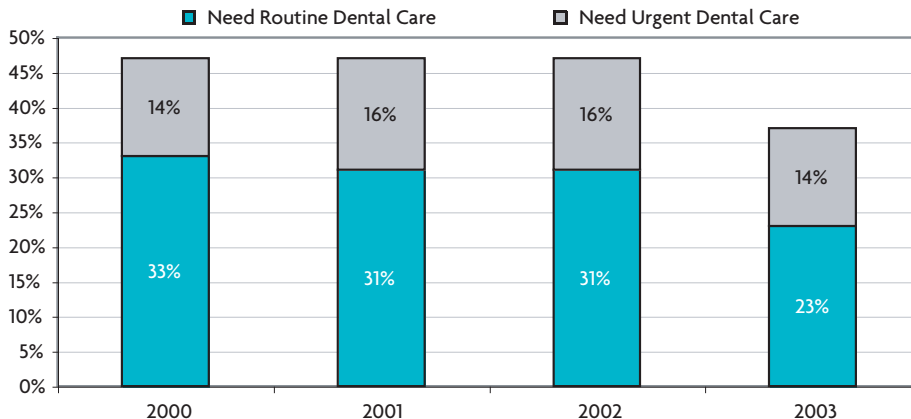
In Fiscal Year 2004-2005, volunteer dental hygienists provided 31,025 Sacramento County school children with dental education, screening and sealants. Of those children screened, 36 percent (11,169) had visible tooth decay. About 3 percent (915) were identified as having urgent dental care needs.



Federal Healthy People 2010 goals include increasing community water system fluoridation levels. In 2000, 65.8 percent of public water systems nationally were fluoridated. California's public water systems were 59.9 percent fluoridated. Proponents of community water system fluoridation cite studies that show children brought up in communities with fluoridated water can expect a 36-54 percent lifetime reduction in dental caries compared with children from non-fluoridated communities.

The Sacramento First 5 Commission has prioritized water fluoridation as one means of reducing tooth decay. The Commission has allocated \$19 million toward water fluoridation in Sacramento County for the period from July 2004 through June 2010. Community drinking water will be fluoridated in districts with the highest concentrations of children under 6 years of age. As of April 2006, three of nineteen water districts are optimally fluoridated. By June of 2007, three more districts will have implemented fluoridation. This will bring the percentage of Sacramento County homes receiving fluoridated water to 44 percent.

Sacramento Healthy Start Partnership
Children Needing Urgent and Routine Dental Care
Sacramento County 2000-2003



Source: Sacramento District Dental Society

Air Quality

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were obtained from the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Air pollution can cause or aggravate respiratory or other health conditions, especially in children. Children feel the effects of air pollution more strongly than adults because their lungs are still developing and their airways are smaller, and they breathe faster than adults, taking in more air per pound of body weight.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

While Sacramento County's air quality has been improving since 2000, the county still is ranked by the American Lung Association as among the most ozone-polluted counties in the nation.

Nearly 70 percent of the region's ozone problem comes from vehicles and other mobile sources including trucks, buses, agricultural equipment, construction equipment, recreational powerboats, and gas-powered lawn and garden equipment.

In 2005, Sacramento County's air quality exceeded the federal 8-hour ozone standard on 22 days.

In 2005, Sacramento County exceeded the state 1-hour ozone standard on 28 days, and the state's 24-hour PM₁₀ standard on 10 days.

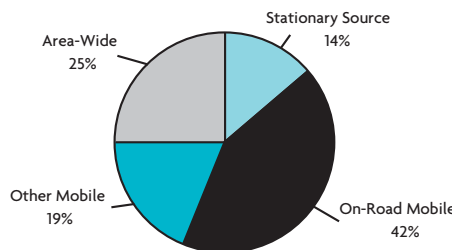
The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District coordinates the "Spare The Air" program to notify the public when air quality is expected to meet or exceed 127 on the Air Quality Index—the "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" category. "Spare The Air" advisories help people—especially those who have chronic respiratory conditions—know when to limit their outdoor activities. They also encourage people to improve air quality by limiting vehicle travel, carpooling, and using public or alternative transportation.

In 2005, Sacramento County recorded 43 days in the "Moderate" air quality

category, 18 days in the "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" category, and 4 days in the "Unhealthy" category. Emissions inventories are regularly updated to better reflect regional conditions and to better determine the contribution of various sources to air pollution. Two important emissions inventory measurements are NO_x (nitrogen oxides) and VOCs (volatile organic compounds).

In 2005, on-road mobile sources (primarily vehicles) accounted for 61 percent of NO_x emissions in Sacramento County. On-road mobile sources, coupled with other mobile sources, created 93 percent of all NO_x emissions in Sacramento County. A combination of on-road and other mobile sources accounted for 61 percent of all VOCs emissions in Sacramento County in 2005.

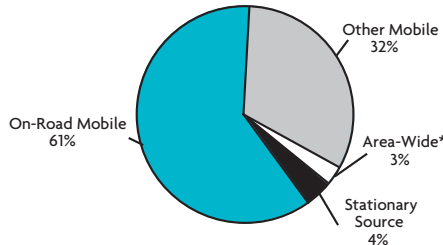
Sources of Volatile Organic Compounds Emissions (VOCs) Sacramento County, 2005



Note: area-wide includes consumer products, architectural coatings, pesticides, lawn mowers, etc.

Source: Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

Sources of Nitrogen Oxides Emissions (NO_x) Sacramento County, 2005



Note: area-wide includes consumer products, architectural coatings, pesticides, lawn mowers, etc.

Source: Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

Ozone Exceedance History California 1-Hour and U.S. 8-Hour Exceedances Sacramento County, 2001-2005

Year	State	Federal
2001	38	29
2002	35	27
2003	39	28
2004	19	9
2005	31	20

Source: Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

PM₁₀ Exceedance History Sacramento County, 2001-2005

Year	State	Federal
2001	8	0
2002	9	0
2003	7	0
2004	2	0
2005	10	0

Source: Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Air Quality Index (AQI) – Scale used to report actual levels of ozone and other common pollutants in the air. The higher the AQI, the greater the health concerns.

Exceedances – Number of days that the air quality exceeded state and federal standards.

NO_x – Nitrogen Oxides in the atmosphere

Ozone – Reactive toxic chemical gas consisting of three oxygen atoms

Ozone Standard (1-Hour, California) – 0.09 parts per million

Ozone Standard (8-Hour, Federal) – 0.08 parts per million averaged over an 8-hour period

PM (Particulate Matter) – Dust, carbon, smoke, and other pollutants

PM₁₀ (California) – Particulate Matter 10 Standard (50 micrograms of particulate matter per cubic meter of air)

PM₁₀ (Federal) – Particulate Matter 10 Standard (65 micrograms or more of particulate matter per cubic meter of air).

ROGs – Reactive Organic Gasses in the atmosphere

VOCs – Volatile Organic Compounds in the atmosphere



Childhood Asthma

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data on asthma symptom prevalence in Sacramento County and California in 2001 from California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, were reviewed. Additional data were reviewed from a major local hospital system.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Asthma is the leading serious chronic illness among children, and the one that causes them to miss the most school. Very young children are most likely to need emergency care because their symptoms often are more severe than those of older children.

When asthma is not well-controlled, it results in a life-threatening health crisis and often requires emergency medical attention.

Most children with asthma have mild to moderate symptoms, and their illness can be controlled with a good asthma plan set forth by their healthcare provider. Asthma is the number one cause of hospitalization among children under the age of 15. Nationwide, asthma accounts for 1 in 6 pediatric emergency visits. Emergency room visits and hospitalizations represent a failure or lost opportunity in outpatient care.



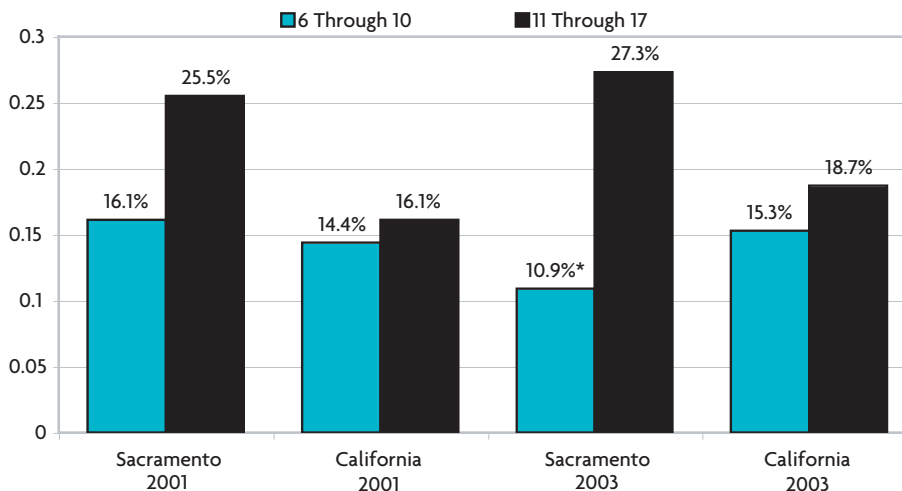
Photo courtesy of Teresa Potter (SIUSD)

Emergency Department Visits with a Principal Diagnosis of Asthma Local Major Hospital System

Age	2004			2005		
	Members	Asthmatics	Rate per 1,000 Members	Members	Asthmatics	Rate per 1,000 Members
< 18	53,194	326	6.1	52,945	333	6.3
18+	162,686	505	3.1	161,964	592	3.7
All	215,880	831	3.8	214,909	925	4.3

Source: Local Major Hospital System

Percent of Children Ever Diagnosed with Asthma Sacramento County and California, 2001 and 2003



Note: 10.9% figure (2003) is statistically unstable.

Source, California Health Interview Survey, 2001 and 2003

HOW ARE WE DOING?

An asthma attack can be triggered by many things including airborne irritants such as pollution or tobacco. The Sacramento region's air quality has been associated with the high incidence of asthma and other respiratory problems in Sacramento area children.

The California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) estimated that as many as 2,000 Sacramento County children under the age of 18 missed between 5 and 10 days of school or preschool in 2003 due to asthma.

One local community hospital system reports a rate of asthma incidence in children under the age of 18 at 6.3 per 1,000 of its members in Sacramento County.



Safety

The number of Sacramento County children with referrals to Child Protective Services decreased from 29,608 in 2004 to 24,991 in 2005. ☒ The rate of runaways reported to Sacramento County law enforcement agencies has remained steady since 2003 at 18 per 1,000 children. ☒ In 2003, there were 22.8 arrests per 1,000 population in Sacramento County for felony offenses. ☒ School districts in Sacramento County identified 4,774 homeless children during the 2005-06 school year. ☒ In 2004, there were 2,471 juvenile felony arrests in Sacramento County and 4,285 misdemeanor arrests. ☒ In 2004, the child death rate for Sacramento County was 48.9 per 100,000 children, a rate that has remained relatively unchanged for the last 5 years.

INDICATORS

- ✦ Child Abuse and Neglect
- ✦ Domestic Violence
- ✦ Child Deaths and Injuries
- ✦ Runaways
- ✦ Children Experiencing Homelessness
- ✦ Juvenile Crime
- ✦ Community Safety

Child Abuse and Neglect

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were obtained from the UC Berkeley Child Welfare Services Case Management Data System on child abuse and neglect referrals, substantiations, and first entries into foster care.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Child abuse and neglect are community problems that cross socio-economic boundaries. Children who have been maltreated may experience long-term effects such as fear, hostility, poor self-esteem, inappropriate sexual behavior, difficulty with close relationships, and physical disabilities/impairments. The *Adverse Childhood Experiences Study* showed a strong relationship between the breadth of exposure to abuse and multiple risk factors for several leading causes of death in adults, including obesity, alcoholism, drug abuse, smoking, depression, and suicide.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Sacramento County Child Protective Services is implementing system changes to improve outcomes in child safety, permanence and stability, and child and family well-being. A key component is the implementation of "Differential Response," a tiered response that focuses on early intervention and prevention services, and brings families together with community partnership agencies to mitigate the problems that brought the family to the attention of Child Protective Services (CPS). If these approaches fail, or children continue to be at risk, CPS has the option to remove children from their homes to ensure their safety and place them in foster care. Another significant facet of system improvements is an emphasis

on collection and analysis of data relative to child abuse and neglect.

The number of Sacramento County children with referrals to CPS decreased from 29,608 in 2004 to 24,991 in 2005. Each report to CPS of child maltreatment is opened as a referral and subsequently investigated. In 2005, there were 6,268 substantiated reports of child maltreatment compared with 6,972 in 2004.

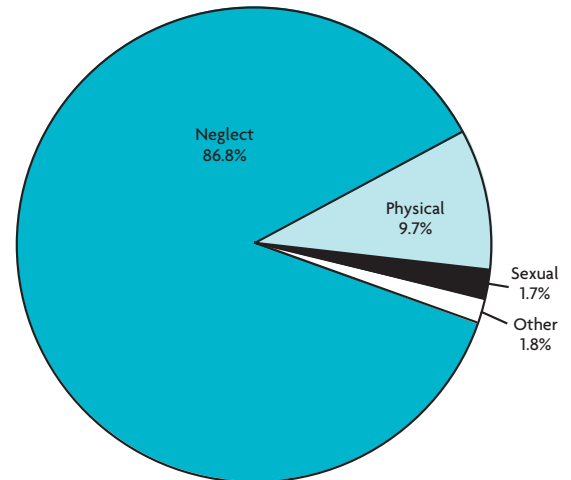
Neglect is the most frequently reported type of maltreatment, which is also the most prevalent reason for removal and entry into foster care. In 2005, 86.8 percent of children entering foster care for the first time for 5 days or more was due to neglect, an increase of 4.2 percent from 2004.

**Sacramento County CPS Referrals, Children <18
Number and Rate Per 1,000 Population**

	All CPS Referrals		Substantiated Referrals	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
2002	27,199	78.2	6,790	19.5
2003	28,464	80.5	6,623	18.6
2004	29,608	82.2	6,972	19.3
2005	24,991	67.9	6,268	17.0

Source: Center for Social Services Research, UC Berkeley

**First Entries to Foster Care by Removal Reason
Sacramento County 2005**



Source: Center for Social Services Research, UC Berkeley, 2005 4th Quarter Extract

**First Entries to Foster Care by Removal Reason and Entry Year
Children in Care 5 Days or More, Sacramento County, 2000-2005**

	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Neglect	1,407	77.2%	1,305	76.1%	1,198	79.0%	1,028	79.2%	1,308	82.6%	1,531	86.8%
Physical	262	14.4%	228	13.3%	205	13.5%	159	12.2%	152	9.6%	171	9.7%
Sexual	108	5.9%	125	7.3%	63	4.2%	77	5.9%	62	3.9%	30	1.7%
Other	46	2.5%	56	3.3%	50	3.3%	34	2.6%	62	3.9%	31	1.8%
Missing	2		2		0		0		0		0	
Total	1,825	100	1,716	100	1,516	100	1,298	100	1,584	100	1,763	100

Source: Center for Social Services Research, UC Berkeley, 2005 4th Quarter Extract

Domestic Violence

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

The number of domestic violence calls received by law enforcement agencies in Sacramento County was reviewed for the years 1999 through 2004.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Domestic violence has its worst impact on the most vulnerable members of society—children.

The basic California legal definition of domestic violence is “intentionally or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury to a family or household member or date, or placing a family or household member or date in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to himself or herself or another.” Even if a child is not the object of domestic violence, they are victimized by the violence and household or family dysfunction.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Since 2000, there has been a very slight decrease in domestic violence-related incidents involving law enforcement. In 2004, there were 2,410 arrests in Sacramento County for spousal abuse, and a total of 7,713 calls to law enforcement agencies for domestic-violence related assistance.



Photo courtesy of Erin Blount

SAFETY



Sacramento County Domestic Violence Arrests (Spousal Abuse)

Year	Number	% of State Total
1999	2,387	4.60%
2000	2,495	4.90%
2001	2,354	4.50%
2002	2,433	4.80%
2003	2,425	5.00%
2004	2,410	5.20%

Source: California Department of Justice

Domestic Violence Related Calls to Law Enforcement Agencies Number and Rate per 1,000 Population, 1999 - 2004

	Sacramento		California	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1999	7,680	6.4	186,406	5.5
2000	8,606	7.0	196,880	5.8
2001	8,432	6.6	198,031	5.7
2002	8,767	6.7	196,569	5.6
2003	9,722	7.3	194,288	5.4
2004	7,713	5.7	186,439	5.1

Source: California Department of Justice; rates based on California Department of Finance 2000-2004 population estimates

Child Deaths and Injuries

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

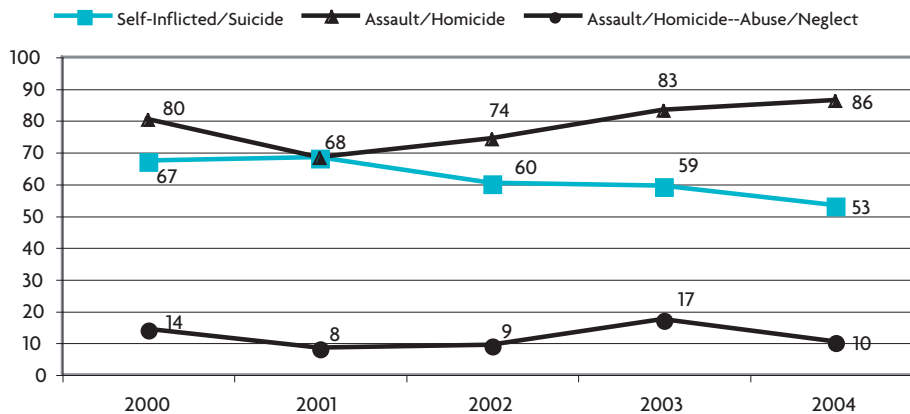
Information on causes of child death as compiled by the Sacramento County Child Death Review Team (CDRT) for the years 1998 through 2004 was reviewed. Hospital patient discharge data for children under the age of 18 were obtained from the California Office of Statewide Health

Planning and Development (OSHPD) for years 2000 through 2004, and reflects non-fatal injuries. Data were obtained from the UC Davis Medical Center Trauma Service for children admitted to the hospital for both fatal and non-fatal injuries.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Child injury and death rates track the overall health and safety status of the youngest members of our community. Death and injury rates also indicate the effectiveness of health and safety education, outreach, and prevention programs as well as provide guidance in targeting how resources can be used effectively in the future.

Non-fatal Hospitalized Injuries, Ages 0-17 Sacramento County Residents, 2000-2004



Source: California Department of Health Services, EPIC Branch

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 2004, the child death rate for residents of Sacramento County was 48.9 per 100,000 children, and has remained relatively unchanged for the last 5 years. In each of the last 5 years, the CDRT found that one-quarter of child deaths were preventable. Children under the age of 5 represent the largest age group of child deaths, even though they represent the smallest number of children in the population.

Children Ages 0 through 17 as a Percent of all Non-fatal Hospitalized Injuries Sacramento County Residents, 2000-2004

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
All injuries	13.1%	13.2%	12.4%	12.0%	12.0%
All Unintentional Injuries	13.1%	13.3%	12.7%	12.0%	12.3%
Assault/Homicide	11.1%	10.5%	9.9%	10.9%	10.0%
Assault/Homicide - Abuse and Neglect	38.9%	40.0%	31.0%	50.0%	27.8%
Most Common Unintentional Injuries					
Burns	39.5%	51.7%	40.0%	24.8%	39.6%
Drowning/Submersion	83.3%	90.9%	66.7%	91.3%	88.9%
Firearms	28.6%	26.1%	29.0%	21.3%	9.2%
Motor Vehicle Trauma: Bicyclist, Pedestrian, Other	19.7%	21.3%	19.2%	26.6%	29.6%
Bicyclist, Pedestrian, Other Transportation (non-motor vehicle trauma)	24.2%	21.9%	23.8%	24.4%	27.7%
Struck by Object	29.2%	27.9%	25.7%	25.9%	25.9%
Suffocation	18.4%	25.0%	23.7%	21.4%	18.4%

California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, Patient Discharge Data

Child Deaths and Injuries

Child deaths continue to show ethnic and racial disparities, especially among infants. The African-American infant death rate was 11.6 infants per 1,000 in 2004 and 9.6 per 1,000 in 2003. The 2004, death rates per 1,000 infants were 4.42 for Caucasians, 2.05 for Hispanics, and 4.39 for Asians.

The CDRT reports also show an important downward trend in child abuse and neglect homicides from 1998 through 2004. There has been no decrease in the other forms of violent child and adolescent deaths including third-party homicides and suicides.

Data from UCDMC and OSHPD demonstrate correlations between age groups and mechanisms of injury. Injuries from assaults occurred almost exclusively in infants and older adolescents. Injuries involving bicycles were more common among school children, including to pedestrians in a motor-vehicle crashes. These were most common among young children, and injuries as an occupant driver were most common in older adolescents.



Photo courtesy of Teresa Potter (SIUSD)

SAFETY



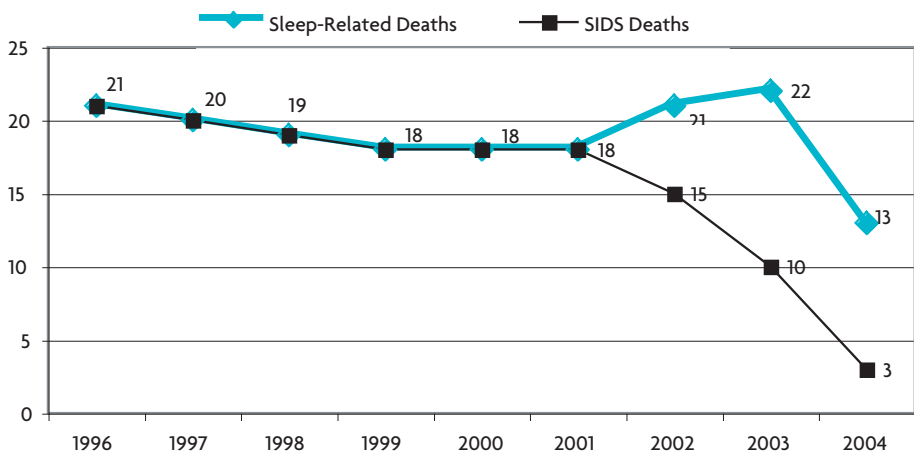
Admissions to UCDMC Trauma Service Fatal and Non-Fatal Result Patients Ages 0 through 17 Sacramento County Residents, 2003

Mechanism of Injury	Age Groups				Total
	<1	0 - 5	6 - 11	12 - 17	
Assault	5	3	3	14	25
Auto vs. Bicycle		2	9	19	30
Fall	4	15	18	10	47
Auto vs. Pedestrian		19	24	23	66
Motor Vehicle Collision	8	15	28	54	105
Total	17	54	82	120	273

Note: UCDMC is the only "level one" trauma center in inland northern California, and captures approximately 90percent of Sacramento area pediatric (child) trauma cases.

Source: UC Davis Medical Center

Sleep-Related Deaths, 1996 through 2004 with Break-Out of SIDS Deaths Sacramento County



Note: SIDS is a sub-category of Sleep-Related Deaths

Source: Sacramento County Child Death Review Team

Runaways

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were obtained from the California Department of Justice on the number of runaways reported in Sacramento County from 2001 through 2005.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Runaway youth are people younger than age 18 who are away from home at least one night without the permission of parents or guardians. Many youth run away to escape dysfunctional or abusive homes. In 2005, 27 percent of callers to the National Runaway Switchboard gave “family dynamics” as their reason for leaving home. California leads among the top five states for which the Switchboard handles calls.

Technically, runaway youth are not considered homeless until they have been away from home for a period of time, since they have a home to return to. While the majority of children reported as missing do return to their homes, youth who do not, often end up living on the streets where they suffer from exposure to violence, sexual exploitation, hunger, poor health, extreme weather, drugs, and alcohol. They may resort to crime or prostitution to obtain money, and are at high risk for contracting communicable diseases. Runaway youth often miss out on educational opportunities and may experience long-term negative effects.

Rate per 1,000 Population <18 Reported as Runaways Sacramento County, 2001 through 2005

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Sacramento County	14.8	16.1	18.1	18.1	18.0
California	9.7	11.1	11.2	11.5	11.6

Source: California Department of Justice



Photo courtesy of Michelle Good

HOW ARE WE DOING?

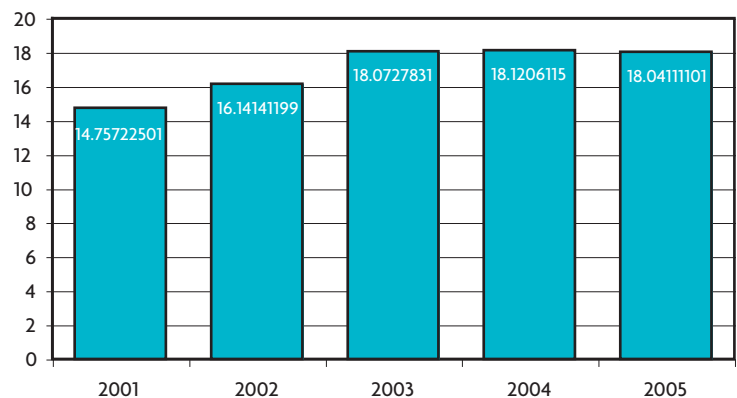
On average, Sacramento County law enforcement data show more than 500 reports per month of youth classified as “runaways.”

The exact number of runaways is difficult to determine because there is no common agreement on what constitutes runaway behavior; families fail to report their absences, they tend to be transient and difficult to track, and generally distrust and avoid social service systems that may be able to account for them.

Of runaways reported to law enforcement agencies in Sacramento County, the rate of 18 per 1,000 children has remained steady since 2003.

During the 2004-2005 fiscal year, a local agency that provides shelter and supportive services for runaway youth, reported 103 intakes including 61 females and 42 males. Eighty-eight of the youth were between the ages of 14 and 17.

Runaways Reported, Sacramento County 2001-2005 Rate per 1,000 Children <18



Source: California Department of Justice

Children Experiencing Homelessness

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data collection on children experiencing homelessness is mandated by the federal “No Child Left Behind Act of 2001,” and tracked by the Sacramento County Office of Education, Project TEACH, for children in Sacramento County. The education subtitle of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act states that the term ‘homeless child and youth’ means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. Additional information on the number of family emergency, transitional, and permanent/permanent supportive housing beds was obtained from the Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Children are powerless to affect the condition of homelessness, which negatively affects the health and well-being of all family members. The condition of homelessness may continue for several generations. Children experiencing homelessness may suffer from hunger, poor health, and developmental or mental health challenges. It may be difficult for them to attend school regularly, or to complete their homework assignments. Shelter availability or restrictions may cause families to be temporarily separated.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

During the 2005-06 academic year, Project TEACH reported that 5,582 children experienced homelessness in Sacramento County. During the 2005 calendar year, a local homeless youth shelter reported 165 intakes, including 83 females and 82 males. Fifteen of the youth were under the age of 12.

In 2000, the City of Sacramento passed a mixed-income housing ordinance requiring that new residential developments of 10 or more units within Sacramento City include an affordable component for low-income families. On December 8, 2004, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors passed an affordable housing ordinance requiring that all new residential development of five or more units in the unincorporated county area be affordable for low-income families.

SAFETY



Children in Homeless Situations Enrolled in School Districts
Sacramento County 2005-2006

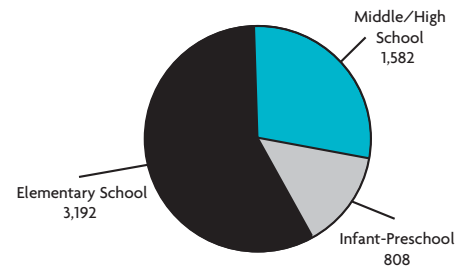
School District	Homeless Children Identified 2005-06	2005-06 District Enrollment	Homeless as % of 2005-06 Enrollment
Arcohe Union	0	559	0.0%
Center Unified	214	6,112	3.5%
Del Paso Heights	181	1,865	9.7%
Elk Grove Unified	325	60,735	0.5%
Elverta Joint	0	315	0.0%
Folsom-Cordova Unified	393	18,584	2.1%
Galt Joint Union (Elementary)	350	4,382	8.0%
Galt Joint Union High	25	2,251	1.1%
Grant Joint Union High	158	13,965	1.1%
Natomas Unified	180	10,398	1.7%
North Sacramento	588	4,862	12.1%
Rio Linda Union	527	10,586	5.0%
River Delta Unified	24	2,341	1.0%
Robla	23	2,074	1.1%
Sacramento City Unified	772	50,408	1.5%
San Juan Unified	925	48,325	1.9%
Other	89	1,264	N/A
Total	4,774	239,026	2.0%

Note: Above table does not reflect 808 infants and preschoolers identified as experiencing homelessness during 2005-06

Note: “Other” includes children identified by SCOE, but not reported by school districts (students enrolled in private or charter schools, and programs operated by SCOE)

Source: Sacramento County Office of Education, Project TEACH (homeless); California Department of Education (enrollment)

Children Experiencing Homelessness, Sacramento County Children by Grade Level 2005-2006 Academic Year



Source: Sacramento County Office of Education, Project TEACH

Juvenile Crime

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were obtained from the California Department of Justice on juvenile felony and misdemeanor arrests from 2000 through 2004, and for juvenile “driving under the influence” arrests from 1996 through 2004. Presently, there is no reliable data source for gang-related activity at the county or state level. Since juvenile criminal cases are handled differently from adult cases, felony and misdemeanor arrest rates were aggregated together to most accurately account for the nuances of juvenile court allegations and dispositions.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Youth involved in criminal activity harm their victims, their family, society, and themselves. Youth convicted of offenses in school, jeopardize their education, and potentially, their long-term economic, and social interests. Young offenders whose criminal allegations have been found true can be committed by the court to juvenile facilities and may suffer life-long adverse consequences as a result of their actions.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Generally, the rate of juvenile arrests for felony offenses, and violent offenses in particular, has been declining slowly since 2000. Nevertheless, during the first half of 2006, there had been 60 homicides in Sacramento County, and in fifteen of those cases, at least one juvenile had been arrested and charged as an adult for the crime. The nationwide average of juveniles suspected of homicide is about 10 percent annually.

Juveniles who perpetrate serious offenses represent only a fraction of the youth population in Sacramento County. In 2004, the California Department of Finance estimated there were nearly 170,000 Sacramento County children between the ages of 10 and 17. Point-in-time data provided by the Sacramento County Probation Department for the month of April 2006 showed there were 7,002 juveniles in the County Probation system for felonies. Of those, 1,858 had a “sustained” felony, and were found responsible for 2,700 crimes; 4,536 of the 7,002 (65%) were identified by the Probation Department as a gang member or a gang affiliate.



Photo courtesy of Julie Mier

Juvenile Felony Arrest Rate by Type of Offense
Rates per 1,000 Population Ages 10 through 17 by Type of Offense
Sacramento County, 2000-2004

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
All Felonies Arrest Rate per 1,000	17.7	16.6	15.0	14.4	14.5
Violent Offenses	4.9	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.6
Property Offenses	8.8	9.4	8.0	7.6	7.3
Drug Offenses	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3
Sex Offenses	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
Other Offenses	2.0	1.8	1.6	1.5	2.0

Source: California Department of Justice

Juvenile Weapons Offenses
Rate Per 1,000 Population <18
Sacramento County and California
2000 through 2003

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Sacramento	1.23	0.90	0.70	0.77
California	1.18	1.16	1.18	1.37

Source: California Department of Justice;
rates based on 2000 US Census

Juvenile Crime

Generally, Sacramento County has seen a decreasing rate of juvenile felony arrests from a high of nearly 23 per 1,000 population ages 10-17 in 1996, to 14.5 per 1,000 in 2004. This compares with the statewide rate, which also has decreased.

In 2004, property crimes accounted for half of all juvenile felony arrests, primarily for burglary and motor vehicle theft. Violent offenses accounted for approximately one-fourth of juvenile felony arrests.

In 2004, there was a significant drop in the number of youth arrested for driving under the influence. However, reckless driving remains a community concern. In 2004, ten teenagers died in motor vehicle accidents in Sacramento County. Five of them were motor vehicle occupants, all ages 15 through 17. Reckless behavior was a contributing factor in all five of the vehicle occupant deaths, and in three of the five deaths there was a finding of substance use.

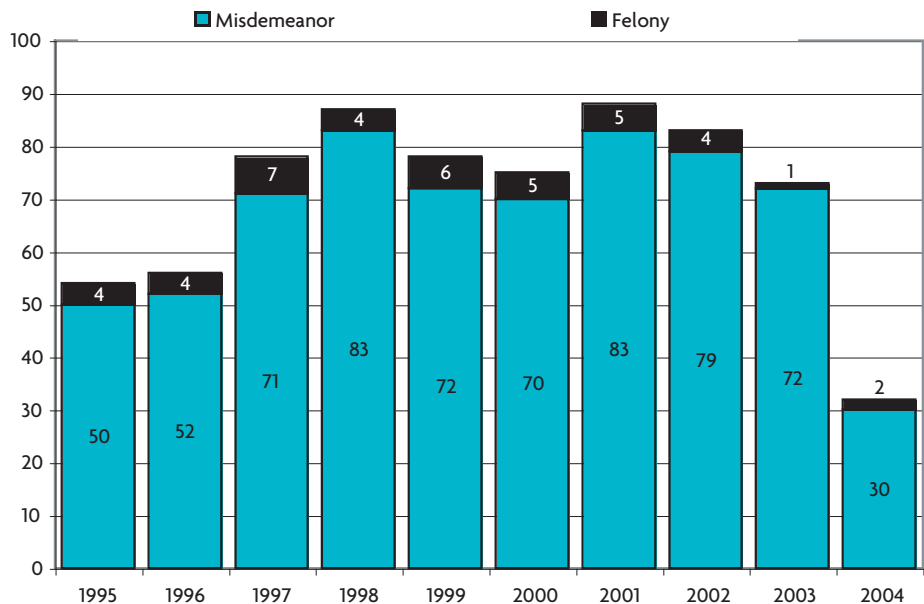
Sacramento County has seen a decrease in arrests for juvenile weapons offenses from a rate of 1.23 per 1,000 youth population in 2000 to .77 per 1,000 in 2003. Statewide, the rate per 1,000 was 1.37 in 2003.

Juvenile Felony and Misdemeanor Arrests Numbers and Rates per 1,000 Population 10 through 17 Sacramento County and California 2000-2004

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Sacramento County						
Felony Arrests	2,549	2,572	2,496	2,329	2,295	2,471
Felony Arrest Rate	18.1	17.7	16.6	15.0	14.4	14.5
Misdemeanor Arrests	5,012	5,362	5,078	4,439	4,670	4,285
Misdemeanor Arrest Rate	35.6	36.9	33.8	28.6	29.3	25.2
California						
Felony Arrests	68,503	63,889	63,993	61,539	60,878	59,817
Felony Arrest Rate	17.8	16.0	15.3	14.1	13.5	13.5
Misdemeanor Arrests	146,883	139,669	136,480	132,475	130,222	127,535
Misdemeanor Arrest Rate	38.1	34.9	32.6	30.3	28.8	28.7

Source: California Department of Justice

Juvenile Felony and Misdemeanor Arrests for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Sacramento County, 1996 through 2004



Source: California Department of Justice



Community Safety

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were obtained on Sacramento County adult and juvenile felony arrest rates, motor vehicle collisions and injuries, felony and misdemeanor driving under the influence arrest rates, and fatal injuries of all types.

In lieu of information from the California Safe Schools Assessment, which is no longer available, data was obtained from the California Department of Education on the number of students recommended for expulsion from school by type of offense.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Sacramento County residents are concerned about the issues of traffic safety, crime, violence, and gangs. Whether people feel safe in their environment establishes their perception about whether the community is a good place to nurture their children. Adult actions and behaviors have an impact on children and their quality of life. Children need to be safe at home, in school, and in their neighborhoods.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Felony arrest rates overall, including for violent crime, have decreased since 1998, however homicide rates have gone up. In 2001, there were 68 reported homicides. During the first half of 2006 alone, 60 homicides had been reported.

For the fifth consecutive year, 94 percent of Sacramento region residents surveyed cited traffic as their primary concern in the *CSU Sacramento Annual Quality of Life Survey*. In 2004, there were 1,060,714 registered motor vehicles in Sacramento County, compared with 896,887 in 2000. In 2000, there were 9,725 motor



Photo courtesy of Mustard Seed School

vehicle collisions in Sacramento County, resulting in 14,082 injuries. In 2004, 10,510 collisions injured 15,424 people. Felony driving under the influence (DUI) arrests decreased from 375 in 2001 to 306 in 2003; however, misdemeanor DUI arrests increased from 6,640 in 2000 to 7,751 in 2003.

Indicators of school crime and safety include bullying, threatened violence, alcohol and substance use, weapons at school, and gang activity.

Sacramento County Adult and Juvenile Felony Arrests Rate per 1,000 Population, 1994 through 2003

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Violent Offenses	7.1	7.2	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.4	5.9	5.8	5.7
Property Offenses	8.6	8.2	6.8	7.3	7.4	6.3	6.0	6.7	6.7	7.2
Drug Offenses	5.8	5.0	5.2	6.4	6.9	6.4	6.2	5.8	5.3	5.1
Sex Offenses	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
All Felonies	27.7	26.6	24.1	25.7	26.6	24.7	24.1	23.3	22.8	22.8

Source: California Department of Justice; rates based on California Department of Finance population estimates

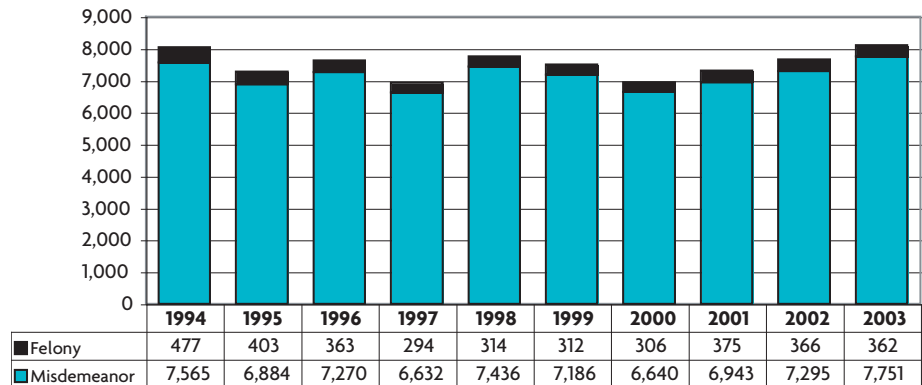
Community Safety

In Sacramento County during the 2003-2004 academic year, recommendations for expulsion were made against:

- 617 students for bringing a weapon, explosive, or imitation onto school grounds;
- 795 students for violence, hazing, or threats;
- 327 students for possession of alcohol or drugs;
- 20 students for terrorist threats.

Several school districts within Sacramento County maintain School Resource Officers at elementary, middle, and high schools. These individuals serve in a dual role as both mentor/teacher, and as a law enforcement presence on campus with a goal of preventing crime and violence on campus, and quickly dispatching for assistance when trouble occurs.

Adult and Juvenile Felony and Misdemeanor Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Arrests, Sacramento County, 1994 through 2003



Source: California Department of Justice

Sacramento County Public Schools Number of Students Recommended for Expulsion by Type of Offense 2000-01 through 2003-04 Academic Years

	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Crimes Involving								
Violence, Hazing or Threat of	588	27.1%	590	27.7%	644	28.0%	795	26.8%
Weapon, Explosive or Imitation	366	16.9%	402	18.9%	403	17.5%	617	20.8%
Sexual Assault or Threat of	19	0.9%	10	0.5%	17	0.7%	18	0.6%
Robbery/Extortion	15	0.7%	20	0.9%	18	0.8%	42	1.4%
Drugs and/or Alcohol	397	18.3%	386	18.1%	308	13.4%	327	11.0%
Tobacco Possession	14	0.6%	15	0.7%	9	0.4%	16	0.5%
Property	63	2.9%	67	3.1%	96	4.2%	91	3.1%
Ongoing Profanity/Vulgarity	44	2.0%	27	1.3%	46	2.0%	68	2.3%
Sexual Harassment	39	1.8%	19	0.9%	25	1.1%	27	0.9%
Hate Violence or Threat of	10	0.5%	3	0.1%	4	0.2%	9	0.3%
Terrorist Threat	27	1.2%	26	1.2%	23	1.0%	20	0.7%
Ongoing Disrupt/Defy/Disobey	584	27.0%	565	26.5%	705	30.7%	935	31.5%
TOTALS	2,166	100.0%	2,130	100.0%	2,298	100.0%	2,965	100.0%

Source: California Department of Education

Sacramento County Motor Vehicle Injuries and Collisions, 1995 through 2004

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Injury Collisions	9,564	8,728	8,453	8,456	8,428	9,275	9,720	10,197	9,646	10,510
Total Injured	14,749	13,457	12,965	12,877	12,735	14,082	14,621	15,321	14,591	15,424

Source: California Highway Patrol, SWITRS





Social and Emotional Well-Being

The number of children receiving public mental health services has increased 379% from 2,495 in 1995 to 11,825 in 2005. ☒ In the last five years there has been a 28.4 percent decrease in the rate of children in out-of-home placements. ☒ 30.4 percent of our nation's teenagers engage in volunteer work. ☒ 28% of eleventh graders and 22% of ninth graders report having driven after drinking. ☒ For Sacramento County youth, alcohol is the substance of choice. 35% of 11th graders indicated alcohol use in the last 30 days. ☒ The number of students in ninth grade who smoked at least once in the past 30 days decreased from 24 percent in 1998 to 7 percent in 2004.

INDICATORS

- ✦ Youth Development Assets
- ✦ Mental Health Services
- ✦ Out-of-Home Placement
- ✦ Youth Substance Abuse
- ✦ Tobacco Use and Youth
- ✦ Youth Programs and Volunteer Opportunities

Youth Development Assets

HOW IS THIS MEASURED?

Data were reviewed from the 2003-2004 California Healthy Kids Survey for Sacramento County.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

More than 40 years of youth development, resiliency, and asset development research has identified “developmental assets” that contribute to youth becoming self-sufficient, caring, and contributing adults. These supports and opportunities help youth meet their basic human needs (for love, feeling a sense of belonging, autonomy, power, competence, safety) in a positive way. Three key supports are:

- caring adult relationships;
- high expectations;
- meaningful participation.

The Search Institute has created a list of 40 assets that youth need in order to succeed. The more developmental assets or supports and opportunities a young person has, the lower the incidence of problem behaviors, and the more likely they are to thrive and be healthy. Each of these supports and opportunities is an important component of the whole experience that youth need to succeed. Children and youth are developing all the time and every environment can positively impact them. Families are essential to youth development, and research shows that schools and community agencies can be a positive influence to help youth develop successfully.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The California Healthy Kids Survey, administered by all schools in the state, provides statewide data on how well we are providing supports



Photo courtesy of Jaci White

Summary of External Assets Percent of Students Scoring High, Moderate, and Low in Assets Sacramento County 2003-2004 School Year

Student Sample Size	Grade 7			Grade 9			Grade 11		
	High	Mod	Low	High	Mod	Low	High	Mod	Low
External Assets									
Total	59%	37%	4%	50%	44%	6%	51%	45%	4%
Caring Relationships	57%	37%	6%	49%	42%	9%	53%	40%	7%
High Expectations	56%	40%	4%	43%	51%	6%	46%	49%	5%
Meaningful Participation	60%	34%	6%	56%	37%	7%	55%	40%	5%

Source: Sacramento County Technical Report-Module B: Resilience and Youth Development

and opportunities for youth in our state, our county, and our schools. It measures supports and opportunities at the school, community, family, and peer levels.

Organized support for the asset-based approach in youth development has been growing in Sacramento County since the late 1990s with the County

Office of Education promoting the Search Institute assets in schools. In 2000, the Youth Services Provider Network (YSPN) was created to increase awareness across sectors and provide training on the asset-based approach. In 2001, the Sacramento County Child and Family Policy Board adopted youth and family development principles to guide its work.



Mental Health Services

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

The number of youth receiving public mental health services was measured by Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Mental Health. No data are available to capture the number of children who receive privately funded mental health services.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The availability of mental health services ensures that children and youth have the necessary treatment for impairments that impede emotional growth and well-being. Untreated mental health conditions can lead to challenges with relationships, school, and the legal system.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The number of children receiving public mental health services increased 379 percent from 2,495 in 1995 to 11,825 in 2005. Using Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) funds, a part of Medi-Cal, Sacramento County has developed a system of care that includes serving children and youth in child welfare, probation, education, health, and alcohol and drug systems. Recently there has been a dramatic increase in the number of psychiatric inpatient bed days used, increasing from 2,879 bed days in 2001/02 to 3,833 bed days in 2004/05. In Sacramento County, like most counties in California, there are insufficient resources to provide outpatient mental health services to children who do not have Medi-Cal or private insurance.

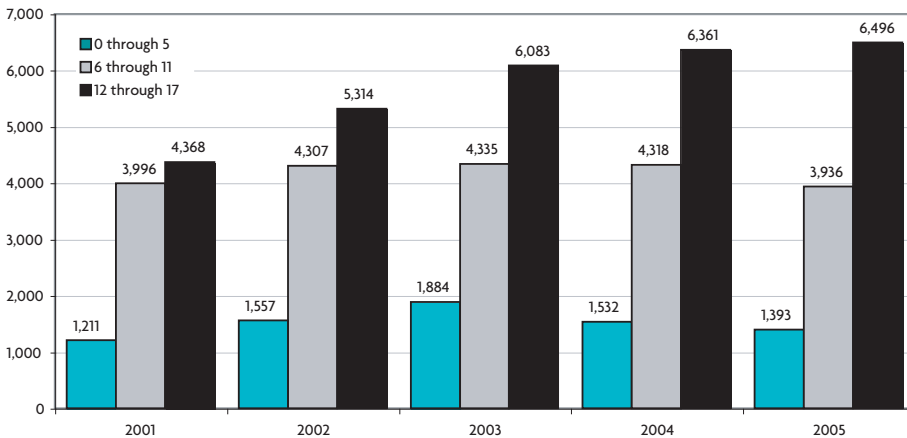
The mental health system currently has more than 1,500 dedicated Medi-Cal treatment slots for children involved with Children’s Protective Services. These children have 3 to 6 times the rate of emotional problems of non-CPS-involved children. National studies indicate a rate of two-thirds of boys and three-quarters of girls in juvenile detention centers have mental health needs.

Parental risk factors such as depression, substance abuse, involvement in domestic violence, homelessness, a history of psychiatric illness, parental abuse as a child, and exposure to repeated major life stresses, all increase a child’s risk of later emotional and behavioral difficulty. Maternal depression is a particularly strong risk factor. Studies have shown that parents with mental illness can significantly impact family life. It has been found that:

- Parents with mental illness have lower marriage and higher divorce rates than the general population;
- Some parents with mental illness may face problems with parent-child attachment due to repeated separations or family instability;
- Children living with a parent with serious mental health illness are adversely affected by the poverty that often accompanies the illness.

Unlike the treatment array of services available to children who have Medi-Cal, treatment options for patients without Medi-Cal are far more limited. The inability to treat the mental health problems of parents has a direct negative affect on children.

Number of Youth Receiving Mental Health Services by Age Group Sacramento County 2001-2005



Source: Sacramento County CATS system. The table indicates the number of children served in the specified year.

Out-of-Home Placement

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data for Sacramento County on number of children in Child Welfare Supervised Foster Care and Probation Supervision were provided by the statewide Child Welfare Services/Case Management Service data system. Data for out-of-home placements and out of state placements were provided by Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services and County of Sacramento Probation Department.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Children require safe and stable families to thrive; however, when a child is in danger, removal by Children’s Protective Services is necessary. The ideal plan for a child in out-of-home placement is early reunification with biological parent(s) when it is safe, and where the parent can meet the child’s developmental needs. However, not all parents are able to resume caregiving responsibility, and alternative permanent plans must be developed. Permanence for children residing in out-of-home care is critical to their



Photo courtesy of Janelle Okamoto

social and emotional well-being.

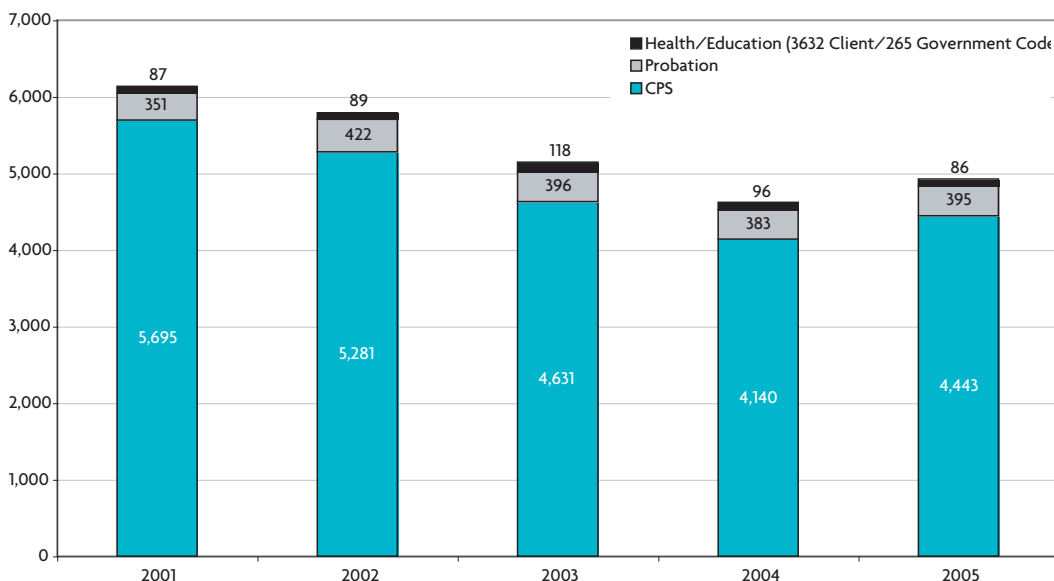
When a child is not able to return to the home of their parent, it is important to try to place sibling groups together and place with relatives when possible so they can retain a sense of family in their new environment.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Children may be placed out of their homes from one of three public systems: Children’s Protective Services (CPS), Probation, and Mental Health. The vast majority of children are placed out of the home by the

CPS system due to abuse and neglect. Mental Health places them out of the home when a child with a serious emotional disturbance needs placement in order to benefit from his/her education. Probation makes placements for community safety purposes. The process of removal of children from traumatic and disruptive circumstances and placement in out-of-home placement has the potential to result in substantial harm to a child.

Total Out of Home Placements, Sacramento County 2001-2005



Source: Probation: County of Sacramento, Probation Department; 3632 Clients: Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services; CPS: Numbers as of June 1st for each year. Source: Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services



Out-of-Home Placement

During the 2005 calendar year, 4,924 children in Sacramento County required out-of-home placement, an increase of 6.2 percent from 2004, as a means of protection from child abuse or neglect. However, over the last 5 years there has been a 28.4 percent decrease in the total percent of children in out-of-home placements. This reduction can be attributed to systemwide child welfare improvement efforts, including the strengthening of community, public and private partnerships to provide voluntary and early intervention child welfare services, a continual increase in the reunification rate of children who are removed from their families, and the intensified efforts of partners in the child welfare system to find permanency for children who cannot return home. During the year 2004-05, an average of 654 children and youth in out-of-home care were in placement with legal guardians. Approximately 300 children and youth per month resided in group home care; less than 3 percent are placed out-of-state.

CPS is often called upon to remove children from dangerous circumstances at a very young age. Of those children in out-of-home placements, 1,165 (23.7%) were between the ages of 0 through age 5. Because permanence is imperative to the young, developing child, it is important that multiple placements be kept to an absolute minimum in order to sustain the developing child's ability to attach to caregivers.

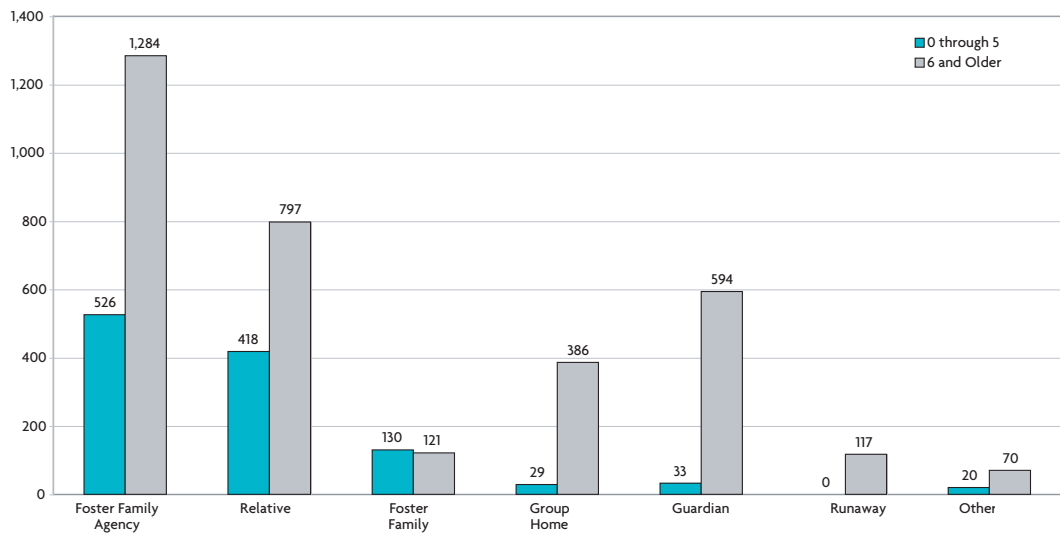
The average number of county licensed foster homes for 2004-05 was 448, which reflects an increase from 398 the previous year. Efforts in place to increase the availability of foster homes for children and youth in Sacramento County include:

- The implementation of Family-to-Family strategies for the recruitment and retention of resource families;
- Use of updated PRIDE (Parent Resources for Information, Development and Education) orientation and training curriculum in English and Spanish.

Sacramento County's reunification rate has increased by 18 percent from 2000-01 to 2004-05. However, an October 2005 report for Sacramento County indicates the subsequent re-entry rate of children within 12 months of reunification is 19.5 percent compared with a 12.6 percent statewide average. An analysis is underway through CWS improvement activities to identify what pre- and post-reunification services are needed to better support and stabilize reunified families.

In 2004-05, 245 children and youth exited foster care through adoption finalization. Although the data for the past 5 years shows an incremental decrease annually in adoptions since 2000-01 when 425 adoptions were finalized, the decrease is proportional to the annual decrease in the total number of children in placement.

Children in Child Welfare Supervised Foster Care by Placement Type and Age Sacramento County 2005



Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, School of Social Welfare, CWS/CMS July 1, 2005 data draw from the Quarter 2, 2005 extract.

Youth Substance Abuse

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data from the California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) 2000-2004 were reviewed, as well as *Changing the Landscape, A Study of the Impact of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse in our Community, 2005* report.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Approximately two-thirds of Sacramento County's youth engage in alcohol or other drug use. The issues associated with alcohol or other drug use are problematic and devastating. Recent national studies note that:

- Alcohol is a contributing factor in the three leading causes of death among 12–18-year-olds—accidents (vehicle and drowning), homicide, and suicide;
- Teens who use alcohol and other drugs are seven times more likely to engage in risky sexual activities and at an earlier age;
- They are five times more likely to drop out of school;
- They are 12 times more likely to be on juvenile probation; and
- They are twice as likely to think about killing themselves.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The percent of students who have used alcohol and other drugs at least once in their life has been declining since 2000; however, as young people age, larger proportions engage in these behaviors.

For Sacramento County youth, alcohol is the substance of choice. According to the CHKS survey, 19 percent of 7th graders, 43 percent of 9th graders and 64 percent of 11th graders report alcohol use in their lifetime while 12 percent of 7th graders, 25 percent of 9th graders and 35 percent of 11th graders indicate alcohol use in the last 30 days. The CHKS Survey data also reflects that youth feel they have easy access to alcohol, as well as other drugs, on their campuses and in their lives. According to the *Changing the Landscape* report, youth access to alcohol is particularly troubling as it is a primary gateway substance for youth and often has harmful effects.

Data from the 2001-02 CHKS noted that nearly one-fourth of 11th grade respondents reported using marijuana during the past 30 days but this percentage decreased to 18 percent

by 2004. In 2004, 25 percent of eleventh graders reported ever getting high from using drugs four or more times during the past 30 days while 10 percent reported binge drinking three or more days during the prior 30 days. Binge drinking is defined as five drinks for a male and four for a female in one sitting.

The CHKS asked students how they feel about frequent use of cigarettes, alcohol, and marijuana in order to measure their attitudes towards substance use. Interestingly, those who perceive these substances to be extremely harmful greatly decreased from 2002 to 2004. However, when taking into account all the responses (Somewhat Harmful, Harmful, and Extremely Harmful) more than 80 percent of all respondents, from year to year, reported frequent alcohol and other drug use as being harmful.

The CHKS also measures the extent to which youth are engaged in risky behaviors related to substance abuse. One such behavior is the prevalence of students driving while intoxicated or

Most Frequently Used Illicit Drugs by Grade Level
Sacramento County 2004

	Lifetime			30 Days		
	7th Grade	9th Grade	11th Grade	7th Grade	9th Grade	11th Grade
None	75%	52%	33%	85%	71%	61%
Any Use	25%	48%	67%	15%	29%	39%
Alcohol	19%	43%	64%	12%	25%	35%
Marijuana	8%	23%	41%	4%	11%	18%
Inhalants	9%	9%	9%	4%	2%	2%
Cocaine	na	2%	6%	na	1%	2%
Methamphetamine	na	3%	6%	na	1%	2%
LSD	na	3%	6%	na	1%	1%
Ecstasy	na	4%	9%	na	na	na
Heroin	na	2%	2%	na	na	n
Other	3%	7%	12%	na	na	na

Source: California Healthy Kids Survey, 2003-2004

Youth Substance Abuse

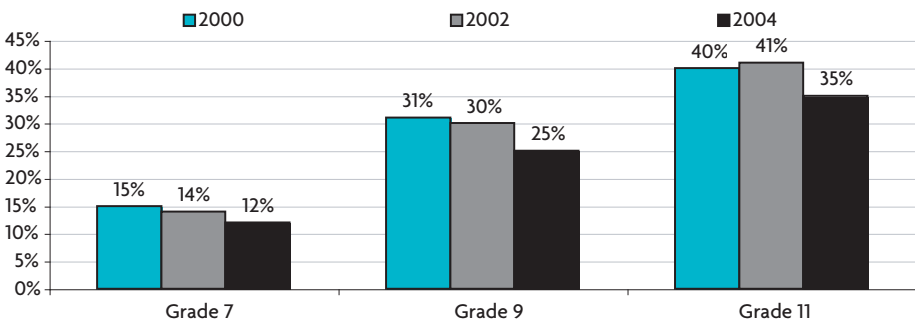
having driven in a car with someone who is intoxicated. Twenty-eight percent of eleventh graders and 22 percent of ninth graders report having driven after drinking while 39 percent of 7th graders report ever being a passenger in a car driven by someone who had been drinking.

Prevention efforts, totaling \$2 million, involve a range of approaches with an emphasis on mentoring, alternative activities, community process, and environmental strategies. A significant emphasis is placed on alcohol since it is a primary gateway drug for many youth. Sacramento County was recently awarded a state incentive grant that focuses on reducing high-risk and binge drinking among young people.

The Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Services Division, has significantly expanded alcohol and other drug prevention and treatment services during the past five years. On an annual basis, approximately \$3 million is dedicated to programs serving youth, with \$1 million dedicated to outpatient counseling.

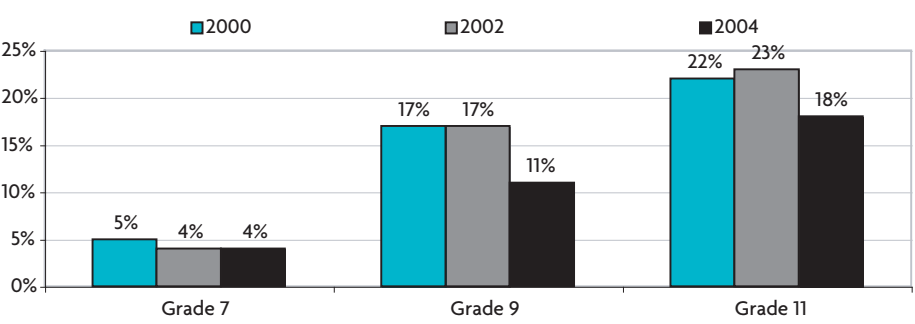
The County contracts with several agencies to provides services, including funding for advocates who assist with retention of youth in alcohol and drug services. The County has three innovative treatment efforts in place: (1) Juvenile Drug Court; (2) Recovery High School; and, (3) the California Access to Recovery Effort (CARE voucher program).

Percent of Students who used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days by Grade Level Sacramento County 2000, 2002 and 2004



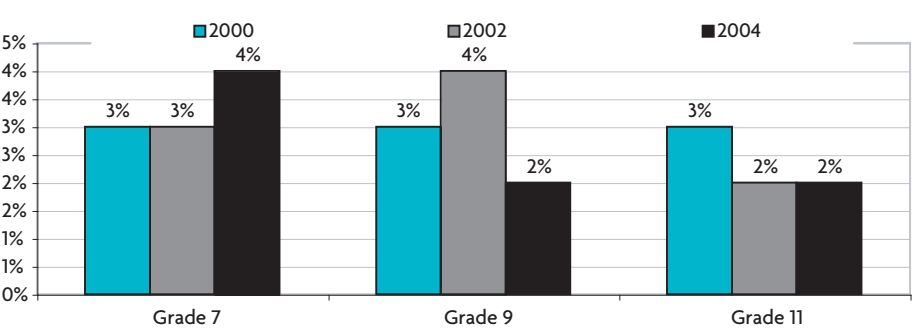
Source: California Healthy Kids Survey 2000, 2002, and 2004

Percent of Students who used Marijuana in the Past 30 Days by Grade Level Sacramento County 2000, 2002 and 2004



Source: California Healthy Kids Survey 2000, 2002, and 2004

Percent of Students who used Inhalants in the Past 30 Days by Grade Level Sacramento County 2000, 2002 and 2004



Source: California Healthy Kids Survey 2000, 2002, and 2004



Tobacco Use and Youth

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

Data were reviewed from the 2003-2004 California Healthy Kids Survey, key findings for Sacramento County.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in this country. It has been estimated that more Americans die from tobacco-related illnesses than from alcohol, car accidents, HIV/AIDS, firearms, and illegal drugs combined. Smoking is a major cause of heart disease, emphysema, and stroke.

Although these are diseases that primarily affect adults, the younger people are when they start smoking, the more likely they are to develop a long-term addiction.

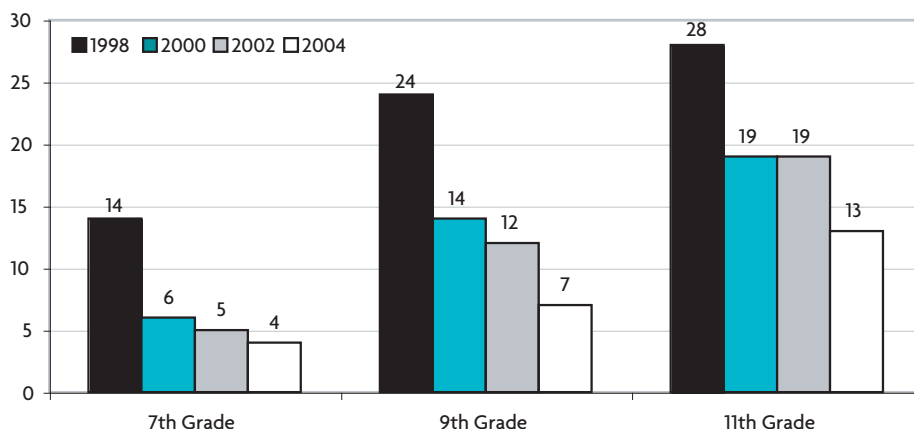
When it comes to youth smoking, research shows that the influence of peers is especially powerful in determining when and how cigarettes are first tried. The smoking rate among youth who have three or more friends who smoke is 10 times higher than the rate among youth who report that none of their friends smoke. Teenagers who don't smoke say one of the main reasons is their parents.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

According to the California Healthy Kids Survey, smoking among youth in Sacramento County has steadily declined over the past six years. The number of seventh graders who smoked a cigarette at least once in a 30-day time period decreased from 14 percent in 1998 to 4 percent in 2004. The number of students in ninth grade who smoked decreased from 24 percent to 7 percent, and the

number of eleventh grade students smoking during the 30-day period fell from 28 percent to 13 percent between 1998 and 2004. However, even though smoking among Sacramento County youth has declined, in 2004 approximately one in eight (2,192) high school juniors reported smoking at least one cigarette during the last 30 days, and 43 percent, more than 7,000, have tried smoking a least once during their lives.

Smoking Rates Among Youth
Percent Who Smoked at Least Once in the Past 30 Days
Sacramento County 1998 - 2004



Source: California Healthy Kids Survey 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004

Youth Programs and Volunteer Opportunities

HOW WAS THIS MEASURED?

An out-of-school-time program is any organized activity that youth participate in before or after school, on weekends, in the evening, or during school breaks. Currently, there is no comprehensive data on youth programs and participation, nor is there comprehensive data on the number of young people who are involved in community service and volunteering in Sacramento County.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

How youth spend their time when they are not in school can have a significant impact on their lives. Out-of-school-time programs offer opportunities to develop social, academic, civic, and athletic skills, and enrich cultural experiences. Research provides evidence that young people need positive opportunities to develop skills and experiences that prepare them for adulthood. A study by *Fight Crime: Invest in Kids*, showed that crime increases between the hours of 3 pm and 6 pm and that after-school programs reduce crime.

Volunteering and community service are ways for youth to have a useful role and become valued members of society. Youth who volunteer are more likely to do well in school and develop leadership skills. Community service can help youth improve academic performance, self-esteem, and learn the skills they will need to succeed on a job. Youth who donate their time are more likely to participate in service as adults.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

In 1998 California began to significantly fund school-based after-school programs for elementary and middle-school youth.



Photo courtesy of Julie Mier

According to the 2005 Current Population Survey, teenagers across the U.S. had a relatively high volunteer rate, 30.4 percent, perhaps reflecting an emphasis on volunteer activities in schools.

Providing youth leadership roles not only helps youth develop skills needed to succeed in future work, but it vests youth in their future and leads to programs and communities that are more relevant to youth.

There are multiple local and regional organizations that fund youth-led service projects. Examples of funded projects include youth setting up sports events at their schools, organizing multicultural days, developing community gardens, and working to reduce juvenile placement in jails.

Community agencies are integrating children and youth into their volunteer activities. Some youth organizations in Sacramento County offer youth leadership development opportunities. Many of these opportunities are for high-school-age youth. There are fewer leadership opportunities for middle- and elementary-age youth.

The Sacramento City Youth Commission was established by the City Council, in order to advise on youth-related policies and work on youth-related issues. The Sacramento County Youth Commission is appointed by the Board of Supervisors as a voice for youth in local government. The Sacramento County Youth Commission has sponsored or participated in a variety of events that connect youth to community resources, created “Activities for Youth” and “Volunteer Opportunities for Youth” brochures, and sponsored sober graduation events.



APPENDIX

- ✦ Acknowledgements
- ✦ Data Appendix
- ✦ Report Card Evaluation

THE CHILDREN'S REPORT CARD COMMITTEE

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SACRAMENTO COUNTY CHILDREN'S COALITION STAFF

Sara Wolf
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Data Appendix

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population by Groups

Population projections for age and ethnicity from the California Department of Finance. Population projections are made for the State and the counties for 50 years into the future with age, sex, and race/ethnic detail. For additional information visit: www.dof.ca.gov.

Population Diversity

Diversity is broadly defined to include gender, age, race, ethnicity, languages, economic status, faith and persons with disabilities. For more information on English learners visit: <http://data.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/>. Source: California Department of Education, Educational Demographics Unit, Dataquest 2005-06 School Year.

Special Needs

Special education statistics from the California Department of Education; population from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Family Structure

The number of children younger than 18 years of age living in families with their own parents by married-couple and single-parent (male householder and female householder) families from U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2002 and 2005. For additional information visit: www.census.gov.

Children Living in Poverty

Estimates for the number of children living in poverty from 1995 through 2005 from the 2000 U.S. Census and from the U.S. Census American Community Survey 2002 and 2005. Federal Poverty Guidelines updated annually by the federal government. 2005 Guidelines Source: Federal Register, Vol. 70, No 33, February 18, 2005, pp. 8373-8375. A two-parent family of four earning \$19,350 or less annually is considered to be living in poverty. For more information visit: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/05poverty.shtml>. "Free and Reduced-Price Meals" is a federal program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Program participation is by application and is based on the income of the child's parent or guardian. 130% of Federal Poverty Guideline qualifies for free meals, 130-185% of Federal Poverty Guideline qualifies for reduced price meals. Data source: California Department of Education. For more information visit: www.cde.ca.gov/ds/.

FAMILY ECONOMICS

Self-Sufficiency

Source: US Census, 2004 American Community Survey, the 2006 Federal Poverty Guidelines, and the Self-Sufficiency Standard for California 2003, prepared for Californians for Family Economic Self-Sufficiency, a project of the National Economic Development and Law Center: www.nedlc.org

Employment

The unemployment rate in Sacramento County and employment by critical industry in the Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area (Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado Counties) from the California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division. For more information visit: www.calmis.ca.gov.

Housing Affordability and Safety

Fair Market Rents from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as well as Gross Rent and Monthly Housing Cost as Percentage of Income from the 2004 American Community Survey, US Census Bureau. Housing costs compared with income from Locked Out 2004, a publication of the California Budget Project: www.cbpp.org.

Availability of Quality Care for Children and Youth

California Child Care Portfolio 2000, 2003, and 2005, California Child Care Resource and Referral Network (www.rrnetwork.org/ and Child Action, Inc. (www.childaction.org))

Affordability of Care for Children and Youth

Data was used from the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network 2005 California Child Care Portfolio and the Sacramento Child Care and Development Planning Council, Child Care Plan 2003-2007.

Transportation

Travel Time to Work, Sacramento Area Council of Governments, Regional Transportation Plan for 2025 can be viewed at www.sacog.org.

EDUCATION

School Readiness

School readiness information on services funded provided by the First 5 Sacramento Commission. The Commission has enumerated the *Five Essential and Coordinated Elements of School Readiness*:

- Early Care and Education.
- Parenting and Family Support Services
- Health and Social Services
- Schools' Readiness for Children/School Capacity
- Program Infrastructure, Administration, and Evaluation

For more information: www.sackids.sacounty.net.

Student Enrollment and Attendance

The number of students enrolled in public school as measured on "Information Day," a Wednesday in early October. Private school enrollment represents only the number of students enrolled in private schools with six or more students. Source: California Department of Education, California. For more information visit: <http://data.cde.ca.gov/dataquest>.

Information on students referred to School Attendance and Review Boards provided by the Sacramento County Office of Education, www.scoe.net

Academic Achievement

Most students in grades two through eleven take California Standards Tests (CSTs) in English-language arts, mathematics, science, and history-social science. California uses five performance levels to report student scores on the CSTs: *Advanced*, *Proficient*, *Basic*, *Below Basic*, and *Far Below Basic*. The state goal on these tests is for every student to score at "proficient" or above. Proficiency information was calculated by the Center for Student Assessment and Program Accountability, Sacramento County Office of Education based on data obtained from the California Department of Education.

Graduation Rates

Graduation rate formula is based on the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) definition: number of graduates (Year 4) divided by number of graduates (Year 4) + 9th grade dropouts (Year 1) + 10th grade dropouts (Year 2) + 11th grade dropouts (Year 3) + 12th grade dropouts



(Year 4). For more information: <http://nces.ed.gov/>.

Post-Secondary Enrollment

UC/CSU eligible graduates determined by the number of twelfth-grade graduates, for the school year indicated, completing all the courses required for University of California (UC) and/or California State University (CSU) entrance with a grade of “C” or better (representing only a portion of the entrance requirements for UC or CSU). Recent public high school graduates in the county enrolled at public higher education institutions as first-time freshman (19 years of age and younger). 2004-2005 post-secondary enrollments based on 2003-2004 high school graduations. Sources: California Post-Secondary Education Commission and California Department of Education. Specific admissions requirements can be viewed at www.californiacolleges.edu.

Education Funding

The current cost of education (per-pupil expenditure) is the direct cost of educational services per Average Daily Attendance (ADA) for students. Source: California Department of Education; School Fiscal Services Division. Additional information on how ADA is used to calculate the current cost of education can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/fd/ec/>. California’s national ranking provided by EdSource, January 2005. California public school revenues compiled by EdSource, November 2004, using ADA projections from the California Department of Finance.

Classroom Teacher Credential and Experience

Fully-credentialed classroom teachers have completed a teacher preparation program and hold a credential. Teacher Employment History for 1999-2005 average years teaching and number and percent of total teachers who are first year and second year teachers. Source: California Department of Education.

Student and Family Support Services

The 26,838 special education/special needs students are an unduplicated count. Students may have more than one service listed on their Individualized Education Program. Counselor/Student Ratio and Nurse/Student Ratio: The total enrollment by school year in Sacramento County and California divided by the number of counselors employed and the number of nurses employed in each

geography. Source: California Department of Education.

Access to Technology

Computers used by staff for instructional activities are also included when counting computers at schools. This count is divided by student enrollment to arrive at a students-per-computer figure.

HEALTH

Health Care Access

Total enrollment in Medi-Cal by age groups and percentage of total enrollment for Sacramento County and California as reported by the California Department of Health Services, Medical Care Statistics Section. Type of health care coverage by source based on California Health Interview Survey conducted by telephone every two years by the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research: www.chis.ucla.edu/about.html.

Nutrition and Fitness

Percent of students in Aerobic Capacity Healthy Fitness Zone, Grades 5, 7 and 9, 2000-2004, California Department of Education, Standards and Assessment Division. www.cde.ca.gov/ds/.

Breastfeeding

Data was gathered from expectant mothers in hospital for delivery and captured on the Newborn Screening Form, and represents those who intend to initiate breastfeeding either exclusively or in combination with formula. California Department of Health Services, Epidemiology and Evaluation Section, Maternal and Child Health Branch. For more information visit: www.fns.usda.gov/wic/.

Prenatal Care

Prenatal care received during first trimester of pregnancy as a percentage of total live births, Sacramento County and California, 2000-2004, California Department of Health Services. www.dhs.ca.gov/hisp/chs/OHIR/tables/.

Very low birth weight as a percent of all live births, Sacramento County and California, 2000-2004, California Department of Health Services, Vital Records. Low birth weight is defined as anything less than 2,500 grams (5 pounds, 8 ounces). Currently there is no system in place in Sacramento County to collect local data on perinatal substance use consistently. Perinatal describes the period from 28 weeks of gestation through the

first week of life. Child Protective Services (CPS) encourages hospitals to report both positive toxicology screens or history of perinatal substance abuse, but not all mothers are screened for drugs. Each hospital has discretion regarding who is screened and reported to CPS.

Birth Rates Among Teens

Teen birth rates by age and teen birth rates by year based on total female population per age group reported. Compiled by California Department of Health, Vital Statistics Section.

Immunizations

This data is based on a retrospective examination of kindergarteners. The immunization rate is measured by reviewing a child’s immunization record when he or she enters school. As part of the North Central Valley Region survey area, Sacramento County data is aggregated along with that for Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties. Data reflects the percentage of kindergarteners who had received three doses of polio vaccine, four doses of diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis, and one dose of mumps/measles/rubella by their second birthday. Missing, incomplete, or incorrect records may result in an inaccurate picture. Source: California Department of Health Services, Immunization Branch, Kindergarten Retrospective Survey, 2005. Additional information can be found at: www.shots4tots.org and www.immunizationinfo.org. Incidents of **vaccine-preventable diseases**, Sacramento County, 2005, Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, Epidemiology Section.

Sexually Transmitted Infections

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea cases diagnosed in 15-19 year old females, rate per 100,000 population, Sacramento County and California, 2000-2004, California Department of Health Services, STD Surveillance Branch; California Department of Finance, County Population Estimates and Components of Change by Year, July 1, 2000-2005, published March, 2006. For more information visit: www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/STD/stdindex.htm.

Dental Health

There is little data available to measure the extent of **dental disease** among children in Sacramento County and the amount of remedial care given. Data

from the Sacramento County Healthy Start Collaborative was used. Children Needing Dental Care or Children Needing Urgent Dental Care based on visual exams of Sacramento County students in various school districts throughout Sacramento County. Source: Sacramento District Dental Society *Healthy Start* and Sacramento County Healthy Start Collaborative, <http://www.sdds.org>. Information for **fluoridation** map provided by First 5 Sacramento Commission. www.sackids.saccounty.net/

Air Quality

Information provided by Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District on Nitrous Oxides (NO_x) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) emissions inventories (VOCs also called Reactive Organic Gasses). Source: From 18% Rate-of-Progress Emission Data (final December 2005), using California Emissions Forecasting System (CEFS version 2.12, June 30, 2004) for Stationary/Area/Off-road. Emissions presented were projected from the 1999 base year inventory using growth and control factors in the CEFS. Motor vehicle emissions came from Emfac 2002 v2.2 (April 2003) with June 2005 adjustment. In addition, motor vehicle emissions were adjusted for emission benefits from SECAT, CARB Inspection & Maintenance changes and Land Use. See www.SpareTheAir.com.

Childhood Asthma

Local and state data on asthma diagnosis from the 2001 and 2003 California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) is reported. For information on the number of adults interviewed, by race/ethnicity, and on county sample counts, visit www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu. Additional information on asthma can be found on the Breathe California of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails' website: www.sacbreathe.org. Further information can be found at the American Lung Association's website: www.lungusa.org

SAFETY

Child Abuse and Neglect

Monthly statistics on child abuse and neglect are collected from County Child Protective Services and reported to the State of California. Data is updated Quarterly by UC Berkeley, Center for Social Services Research and is accessible to the public at <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/cwscmsreports/>.

Conducted by Kaiser Permanente Health Appraisal Clinic, San Diego, in collaboration with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2003.

Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Related Calls Received by Law Enforcement Agencies is shown as a total number of calls and as a yearly rate per 1,000 population for Sacramento County and California. Annual population estimates are calculated by the California State Department of Finance. The Office of the California State Attorney General has stated that domestic violence includes violence between spouses, individuals in dating relationships, and former partners or spouses, and can occur inside or outside the home. For more information visit: <http://ag.ca.gov/>.

Child Deaths and Injuries

Numbers reported represent deaths of county resident children, ages 0 through 17 as compiled by the Sacramento County Child Death Review Team, Annual Reports 1998 through 2004. Hospital patient discharge data for children ages 0 through 17, California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) for the years from 2000 through 2004, reflects non-fatal injuries for which the victim was hospitalized. Data obtained from the UC Davis Medical Center Trauma Service for children ages 0 through 17 admitted to the hospital due to injuries in 2003. Children were alive when admitted, but may have died subsequently due to injuries. UCDCM is the only level one trauma center in inland northern California, and captures approximately 90 percent of Sacramento area pediatric (child) trauma cases.

Sacramento County Child Death Review Team 2004 Annual Report. (The 2005 Report will not be released until after publication of the 2006 Children's Report Card.)

Runaways

A runaway is defined as a child younger than age 18 who is away from home at least one night without the permission of parents or guardians. The rate per 1,000 population of Sacramento County residents younger than age 18 was calculated by the California Department of Justice based on annual population estimates provided by the California Department of Finance.

2005 National Runaway Switchboard Mid-Year Statistics (www.nrscrisisline.org/news_events/p4.html)

Children Experiencing Homelessness

The number of non-duplicated children identified by individual school districts in Sacramento County as homeless by school year. Source: Sacramento County Office of Education, Project TEACH. For a description of the program visit: <http://www.scoe.net/projectteach/>.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act has been reauthorized and incorporated into the No Child Left Behind Act (Title X, Part C). The reauthorization ensures educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness. The Act requires school districts to ensure homeless students have access to education and other services they need to meet the same high academic achievement standards as all students. All local school districts must designate a Homeless Liaison who must ensure that:

- Homeless children and youth are identified;
- Homeless students enroll in, and have full and equal opportunity to succeed in, the school districts;
- Homeless families, children, and youth receive educational services.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act defines a homeless person as anyone who: Lacks a regular, fixed and adequate nighttime residence (substandard housing), or is sharing housing due to economic struggles; living in a shelter, hotel or motel; living in a public place not designated for sleeping (cars, parks); an unaccompanied youth; a child or youth awaiting foster care placement; a child or youth abandoned in a hospital; a migrant child who qualifies under any of the above

Juvenile Crime

Data from the California Department of Justice was used to show the number of felony arrests by type of offense per 1,000 juveniles (ages 10-17). Population estimates by year based on number of Sacramento County residents ages 10 through 17 from the California Department of Finance. A felony is a crime that is punishable by death or imprisonment in a state prison for one or more years if committed by an adult. Source: California Department



of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center. For more information visit: <http://caag.state.ca.us/cjsc/datatabs.htm>. Data from the California Department of Justice was used to show the number of felony and misdemeanor arrests over time by type of offense per 1,000 juveniles (ages 10-17). Population estimates by year based on number of Sacramento County residents ages 10 through 17 from the California Department of Finance. Driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (DUI) misdemeanor and felony arrests of youth ages 10-17 tracked by the California Department of Justice, Criminal Justice Statistics Center. A felony DUI charge involves serious injury to another human being. Juvenile weapons offenses data from the California Department of Justice, rate per 1,000 was calculated using population data from the 2000 U.S. Census for Sacramento County residents younger than 18.

The juvenile probation population ranges from age 12-19. Those offenders on juvenile probation that are age 18 or 19 would have been placed on juvenile probation prior to reaching the age of majority (18); however, many, even after reaching age 18, continue to be supervised under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court until they have completed the terms and conditions of probation.

In juvenile court, a sustained felony is essentially the equivalent of a felony conviction for adults. Under California law, juvenile justice processes and sentencing operate differently from those for adults. Juveniles tried and convicted as an adult are subject to the same processes and sentencing as would otherwise apply to an adult.

Community Safety

Recommendations for student expulsions provided by local school districts and compiled by California Department of Education. Upon recommendation for expulsion, a hearing process is initiated and final resolution may or may not result in suspension or expulsion of the student. Juvenile and adult felony arrest rates were combined by major classification based on California Department of Justice Statistics, with estimated population rates per 1,000 county residents provided by the California Department of Finance.

In the 2006 CSU Sacramento Annual Quality of Life in the Sacramento Region Survey, Sacramento region residents cited traffic as their primary concern.

Number of driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (DUI) misdemeanor and felony arrests were combined for all ages where the arrest took place in Sacramento County. Numbers of motor vehicle injuries and collisions information compiled by the California Highway Patrol for incidents that occurred within Sacramento County.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Youth Development Assets

Source: Sacramento County Technical Report-Module B: Resilience and Youth Development, California Healthy Kids Survey, 2003-2004. The California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) is a district-level comprehensive survey of youth health, risk and resiliency taken at least once every two years.

Mental Health Services for Children

The number of youth receiving publicly funded mental health services by age groups in Sacramento County 2001 through 2005. No data is available to capture the number of children who receive mental health services privately. Source: Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, Research and Evaluation Division, CATS System. *Strengthening Families Fact sheet*. "When a Parent Has a Mental Illness: Issues and Challenges" retrieved on 12/12/05 from www.nmha.org/infoctr/factsheets/index.cfm.

Out of Home Placement

Total out of home placements for Sacramento County from 2001-2005 supplied by Sacramento County Probation Department, and Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services. Total number of youth served as of June 1st for each year. Children in Child Welfare Supervised Foster Care by Placement Type and Age. Children in Foster Care: Child Welfare and Probation Supervision, Sacramento County. Source: Center for Social Services Research, University of California at Berkeley, School of Social Welfare, CWS/CMS July 1, 2005 Quarter 2 Extract. For further information visit: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu>.

Youth Substance Abuse

Alcohol and Drug Usage of 11th grade youth in Sacramento County. Source: California Healthy Kids Survey 2003-04.

Tobacco Use and Youth

The percent of students in grades 7, 9, and 11 who have smoked at least one cigarette in the past 30 days was measured using 1998, 2000, 2002, and 2004 California Healthy Kids Survey results. Source: California Healthy Kids Survey. For more information visit: www.wested.org/hks.

Youth Programs and Volunteer Opportunities

There is no comprehensive data on the number of children who are involved in volunteering in Sacramento County. Community service requirements in high schools (and in some middle schools) are individualized by both class level and district. The Current Population Survey is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics and focuses on obtaining information on employment and unemployment among the nation's civilian non-institutional population age 16 and over. The purpose of the 2005 supplement "Volunteering in the United States" was to obtain information on the incidence of volunteering and the characteristics of volunteers in the United States.



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Sacramento County Child Death Review Team
Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services
Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance
Sacramento County Office of Education
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Sacramento County Probation Department
Sacramento County WIC Program
Sacramento District Dental Society
Sacramento Employment & Training Agency
Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency
Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
Sacramento Regional Research Institute
Search Institute
Shots 4 Tots Regional Coalition
The College Board
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U.S. Department of Education
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Western Economic Research





Children's Report Card Evaluation

The Sacramento County Children's Coalition is interested in learning how the *Children's Report Card* is utilized to benefit the Community. Could you please take a moment to answer the following questions? Please circle or write your responses. Thank you.

1. Was information in the *Children's Report Card* presented in a clear format?

1 Very Clear 2 Clear 3 Somewhat Clear 4 Not Clear

2. Was the information presented useful to your organization?

1 Very Useful 2 Useful 3 Somewhat Useful 4 Not Useful

3. How have you/your agency used the *Children's Report Card*?

Grant Proposal

Program Planning

Resource Allocation

Special Report

Other: _____

4. What was the impact?



5. The Children's Coalition is interested in tracking how the *Children's Report Card* helps bring funding and other resources into our community. If you used the 2004 *Children's Report Card* for a grant proposal:

- a) What was the proposal for? _____ Funding Source? _____

- b) Was the proposal funded? Yes No Approximate Award? _____

- c) What was the impact on the community? How many people were/are served?

6. Which information did you find most useful?

7. What indicators would you like to see added to the *Report Card*?

8. How do you suggest future editions of the *Children's Report Card* be improved?

9. If you want to volunteer to help with the next *Report Card*, please identify yourself:

Name: _____ Agency: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

10. Other comments about the *Children's Report Card*:

Please return this survey to the Sacramento County Children's Coalition
909 12th Street, Suite 200 • Sacramento, CA 95814 • Fax: 916.447.7052

Thank You!

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The Sacramento County Children's Coalition is an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors charged with assessing community needs, evaluating existing services and making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and other policy-making bodies in order to promote the health and well being of children and families in Sacramento County.

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