



April 27, 2017

<p><b>SUBJECT</b></p> <p>California Health Interview Survey Report – Families with Young Children</p> <p><b>Strategic Priority Area 1. Children and Families</b> Support children prenatal through age 5 and their families by providing culturally and linguistically effective<sup>1</sup> resources, knowledge, and opportunities for them to develop the skills</p> <p><b>Goal 1.1. Child Health</b> Children prenatal through age 5 and their families access the full spectrum of health and behavioral health services needed to enhance their well-being.</p> <p><b>Strategic Priority Area 2. System and Network</b> Provide leadership to the First 5 movement and the development of a support system serving children prenatal through age 5, their families, and communities that results in sustainable and collective impact.</p> <p><b>Goal 2.1. Leadership as a Convener and Partner</b> Work with First 5 county commissions, state agencies, and other stakeholders to convene, align, collaborate on, support, and strengthen statewide efforts and initiatives to facilitate the creation of a seamless system of integrated and comprehensive programs and services to improve the status and outcomes for children prenatal through age 5 and their families.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Action</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information</p>
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**SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE**

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Researchers from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research will summarize a report on the characteristics of families with young children in California. First 5 California (F5CA) funded this study in its contract for the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

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This is an information-only item. F5CA staff is not requesting action at this time.

## **BACKGROUND OF KEY ISSUES**

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The presentation summarizes key points of a UCLA report provisionally entitled, *Families with Young Children in California: Findings from the California Health Interview Survey, 2011-2014, by Geography and Home Language*. The study describes families based on 6,600 survey responses by adults with young children (infants through 5 years of age). The report summarizes socio-economic characteristics of these families within three frames of analysis: 1) a statewide overview; 2) regional differences by urban, suburban, and rural residence; and 3) families speaking a language other than English in the home (i.e., families with a dual language learner child).

## **SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

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At the April 2015 Commission meeting, commissioners approved funding of \$1.7 million over a two-year period to continue fiscal support of CHIS. This report on families of young children addresses a topic suggested by commissioners and is a deliverable in the current contract. Since 2001, F5CA has provided funding for CHIS to collect data related to California's diverse population of children ages 0 to 5, including childcare and preschool participation, positive parenting activities, social-emotional development, developmental screenings, and health. Data from CHIS are critical to First 5 county commissions, state agencies, advocates, and researchers for activities such as needs assessment, program development, public health surveillance, policymaking, and research.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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- A. Families with Young Children in California: Findings from the California Health Interview Survey, 2011-2014, by Geography and Home Language

Families with Young Children in California:  
Findings from the California Health Interview Survey, 2011-2014  
by Geography and Home Language

Highlights from an upcoming report

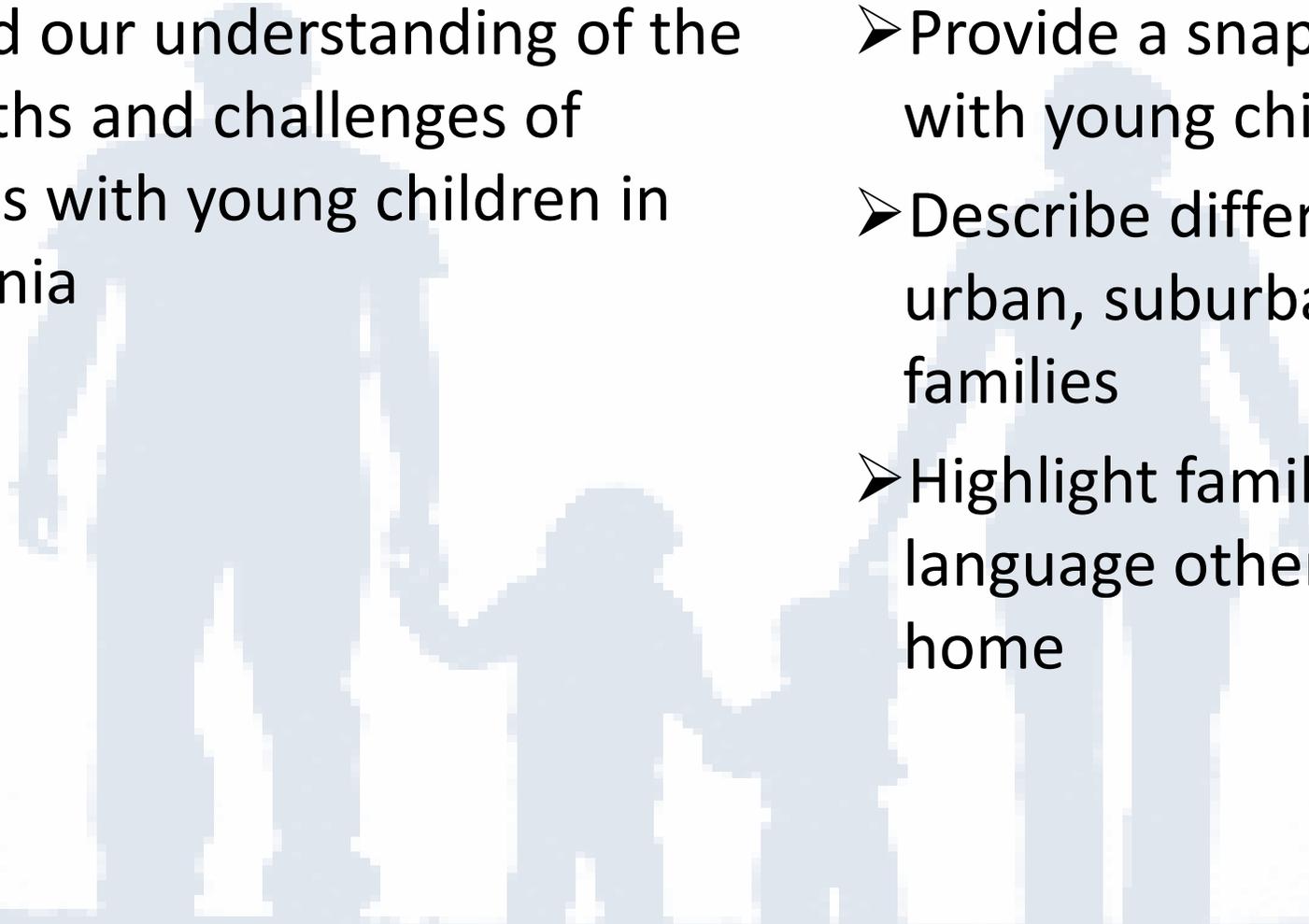
Sue Holtby, MPH, Nicole Lordi, MSc, Royce Park, Ninez Ponce, PhD

## Purpose

- Expand our understanding of the strengths and challenges of families with young children in California

## Content

- Provide a snapshot of families with young children
- Describe differences between urban, suburban and rural families
- Highlight families who speak a language other than English in the home



# Data Source and Characteristics

## Sample Population (n=6,600)

Adult CHIS respondents who were the parent or legal guardian of at least 1 child age 0-5 years

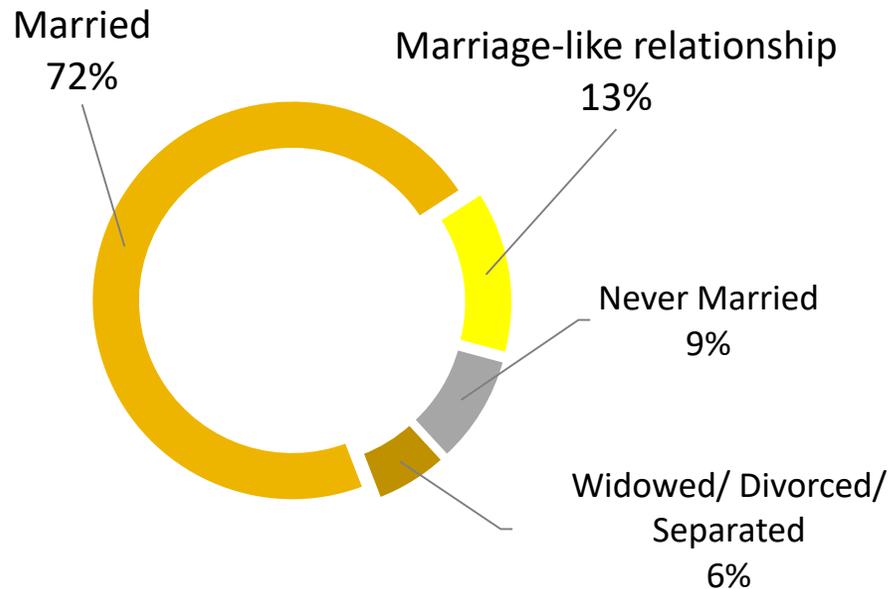
## Characteristics

- Marital status
- Family size
- Education
- Income (% Federal Poverty Level (FPL))
- Race/Ethnicity
- Immigration status
- Languages spoken in the home
- Area of residence (urban, suburban, rural)
- Neighborhood cohesion & Civic engagement

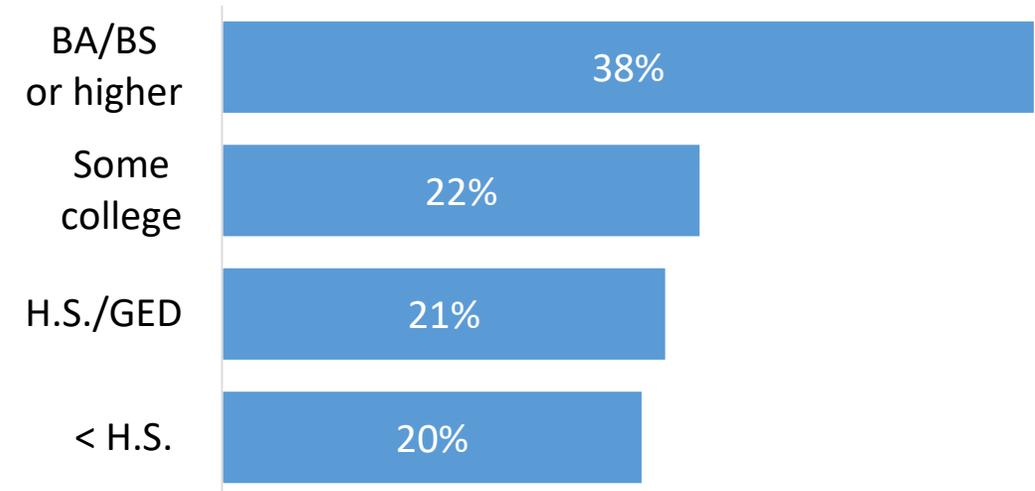
# Characteristics of Young Families

## Marital Status

- Two adult households predominate
  - 85% of parents are married or living with a partner
  - Average family size = 4



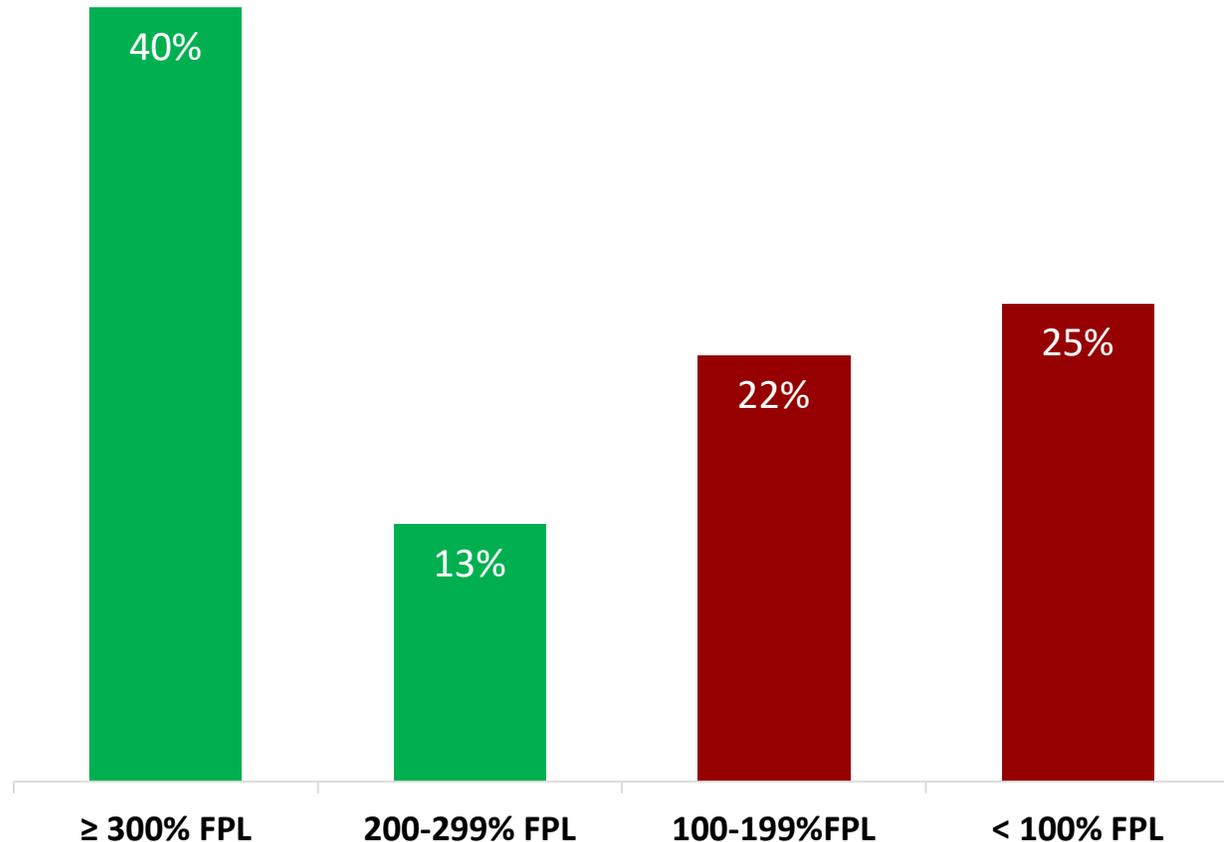
## Education



- Most parents have high educational attainment
  - 60% have greater than a high school education
- 20% have less than a high school education

# Characteristics of Young Families

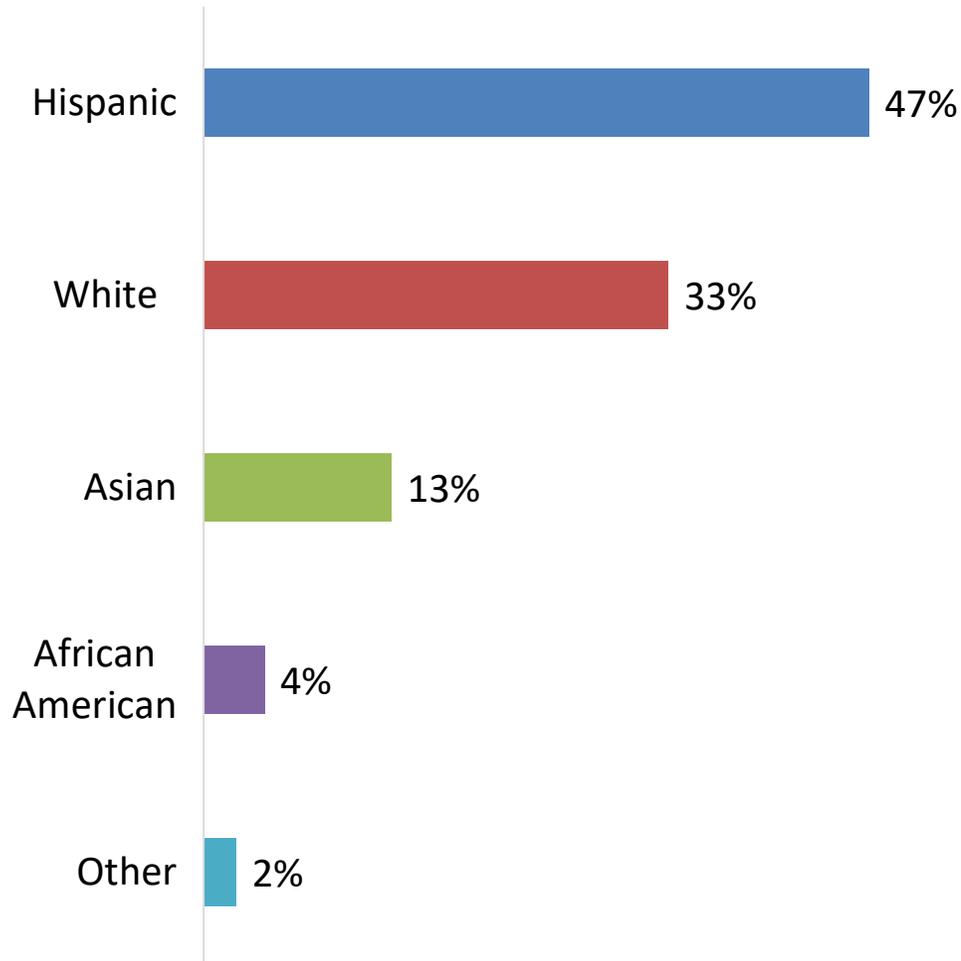
## Household Income (% Federal Poverty Level (FPL))



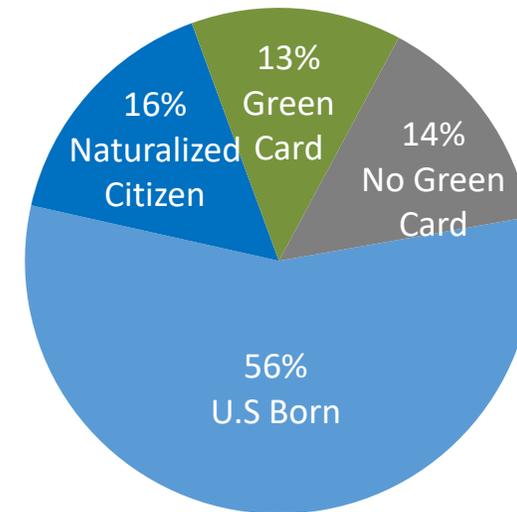
- Households are evenly divided between those above and below 200% FPL
  - 53% live above 200% FPL
  - 47% live below 200% FPL
    - 25% live below the poverty line
  
- Public Program Participation (among those living below 200% FPL)
  - 47% Medi-Cal
  - 38% Foodstamps
  - 67% WIC (women only)

# Characteristics of Young Families

## Race/Ethnicity



## Immigration Status



- Half of parents were born in the U.S.
- 29% are naturalized citizens or permanent legal residents
- 14% are neither citizens nor permanent legal residents

# Characteristics of Young Families

## Area of residence



76%

Urban



14%

Suburban

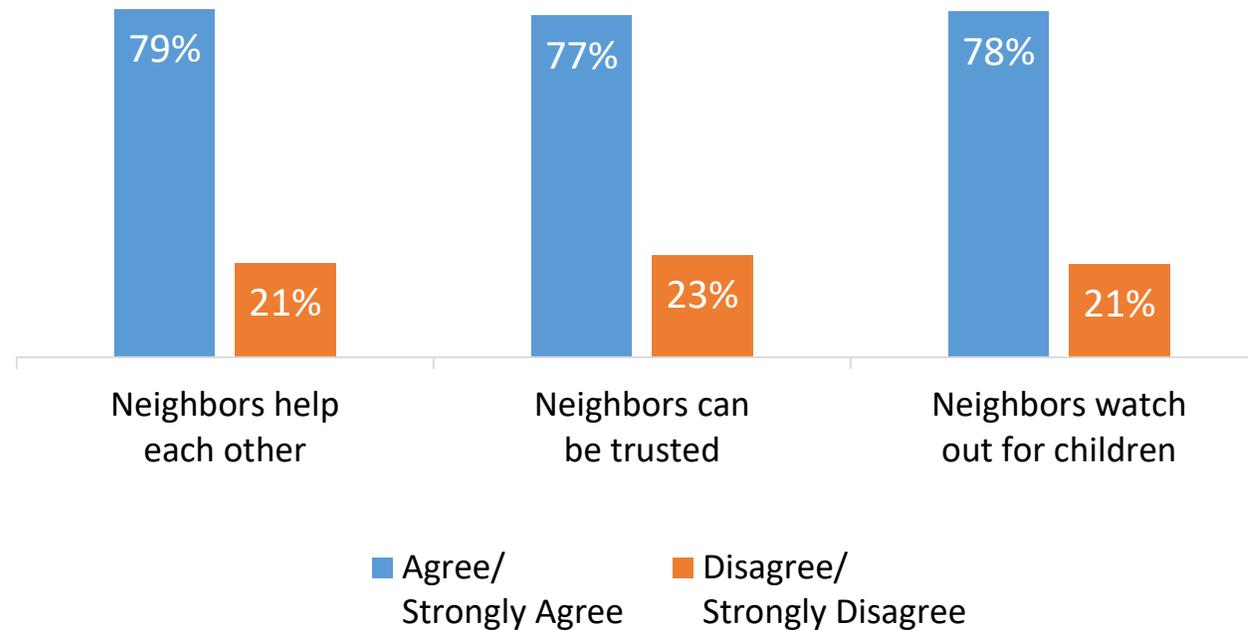


10%

Rural

## Neighborhood cohesion

➤ Strong perceived neighborhood cohesion



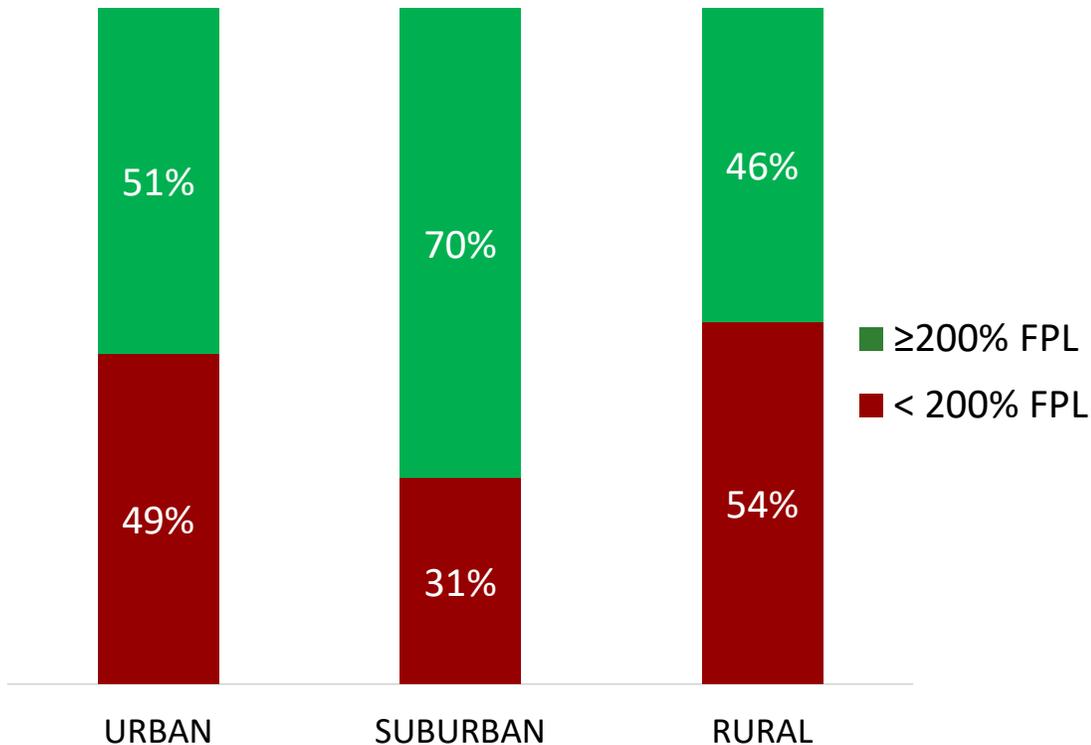
**Neighborhood Safety**  
83% feel safe all or most of the time

**Civic Engagement**  
37% volunteered in past 12 months

# Urban, Suburban & Rural Families

## Household Income

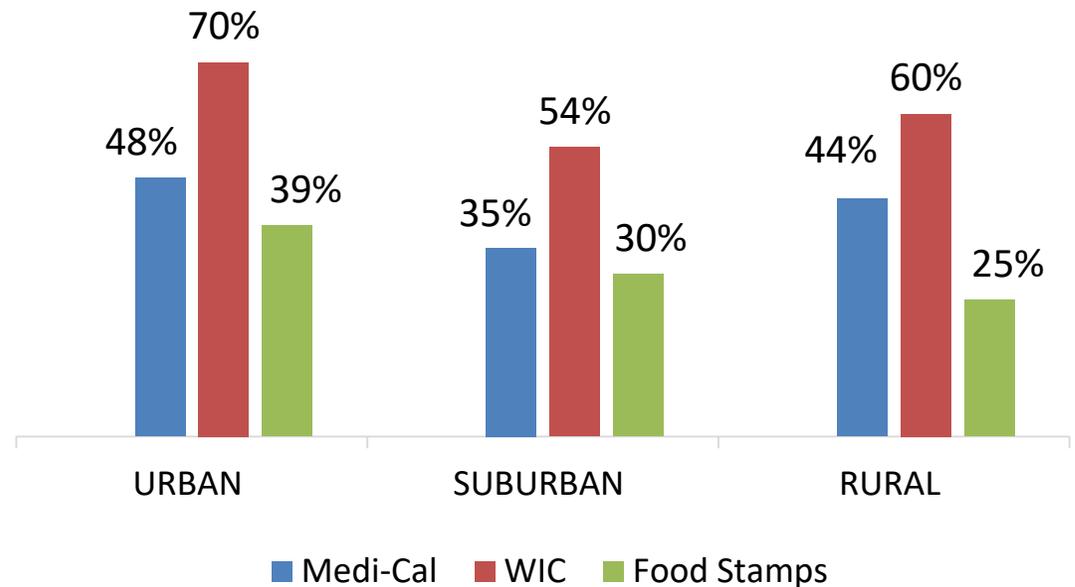
(% Federal Poverty Level (FPL))



## Public Program Participation

(among those living below 200% FPL)

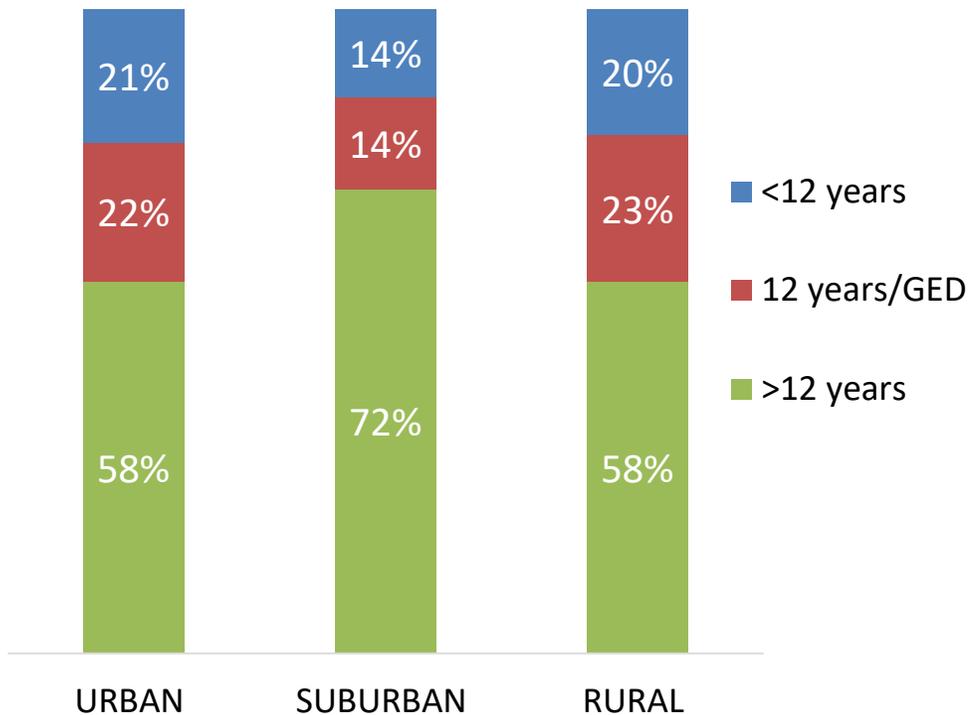
➤ Suburban households below 200% FPL have lower Medi-Cal and WIC enrollment than urban households



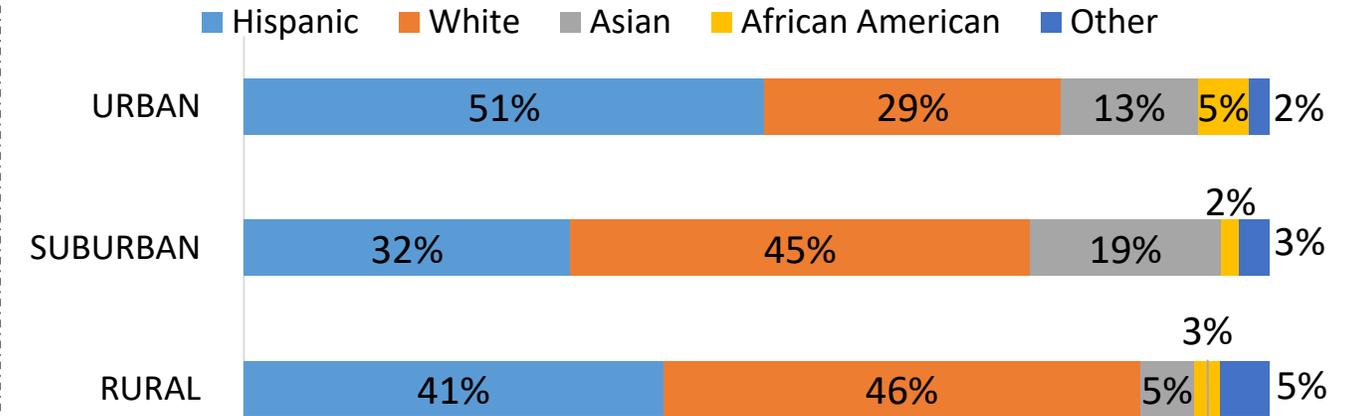
# Urban, Suburban & Rural Families

## Education

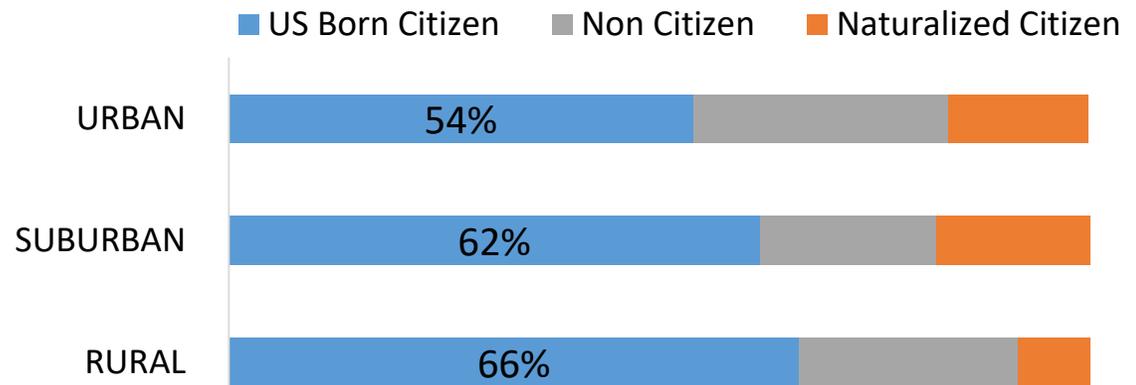
➤ Suburban parents have higher educational attainment



## Race/Ethnicity

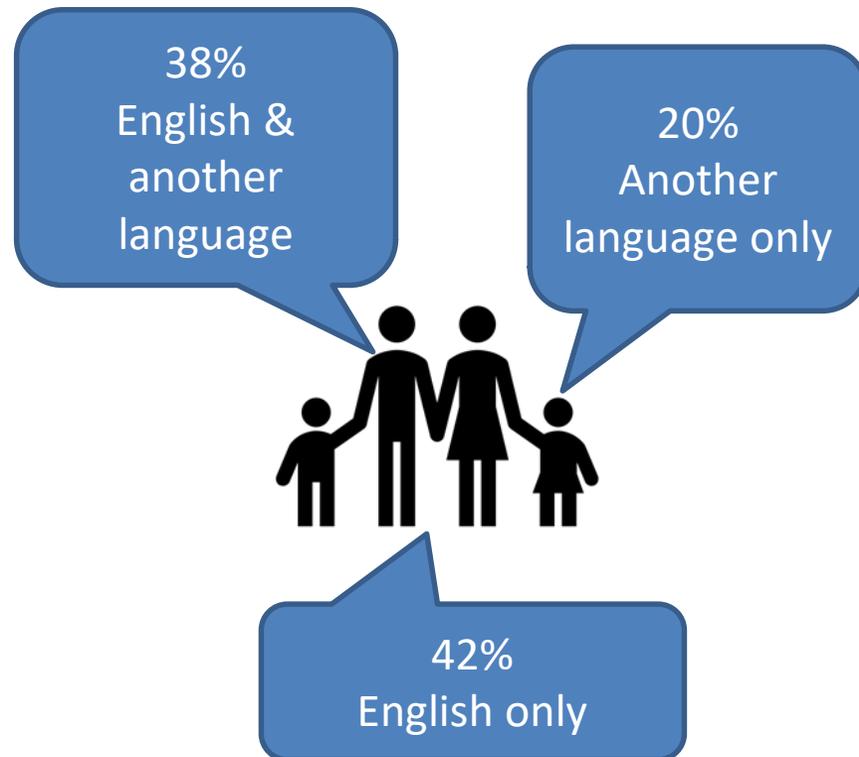


## Immigration Status



# Dual Language Learner Families

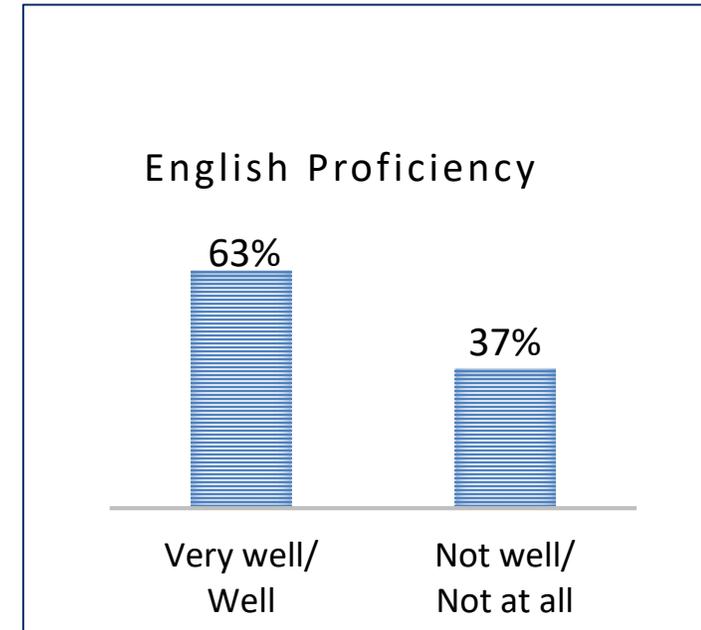
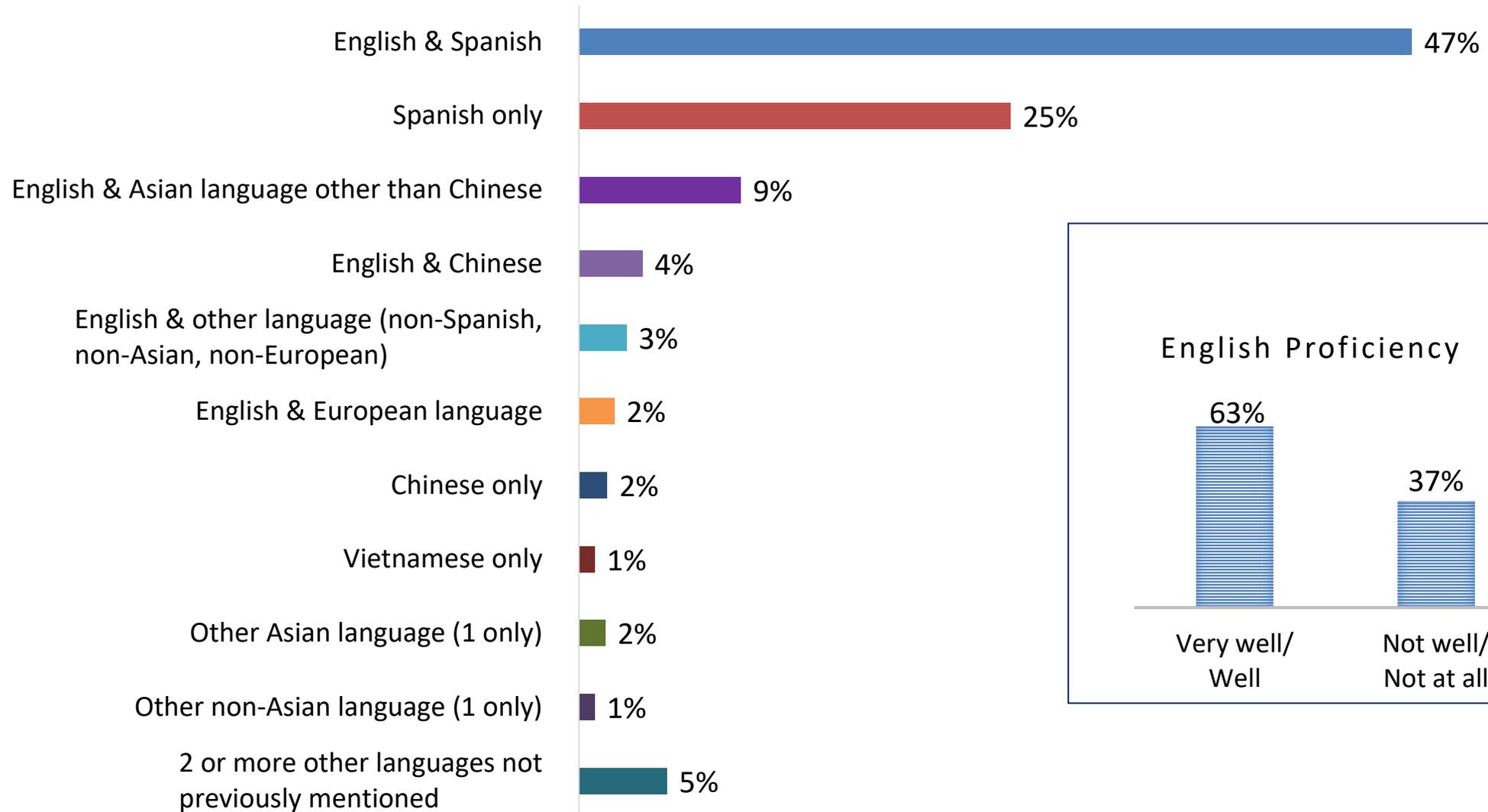
➤ 58% of young families speak a non-English language in the home



➤ Children whose families speak only another language or English and another language in the home are considered dual language learners. Either...

- These children are learning English and another language in the home, or
- These children are learning only another language in the home and will learn English outside the home

# Dual Language Learner Families – Languages spoken at home



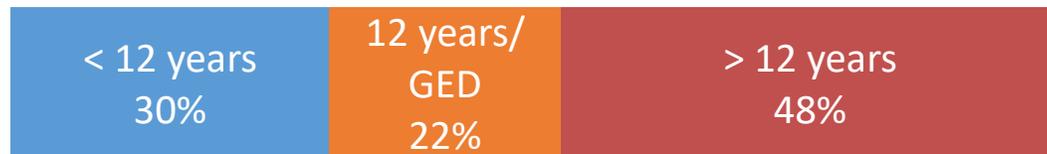
# Dual Language Learner Families

## Immigration Status

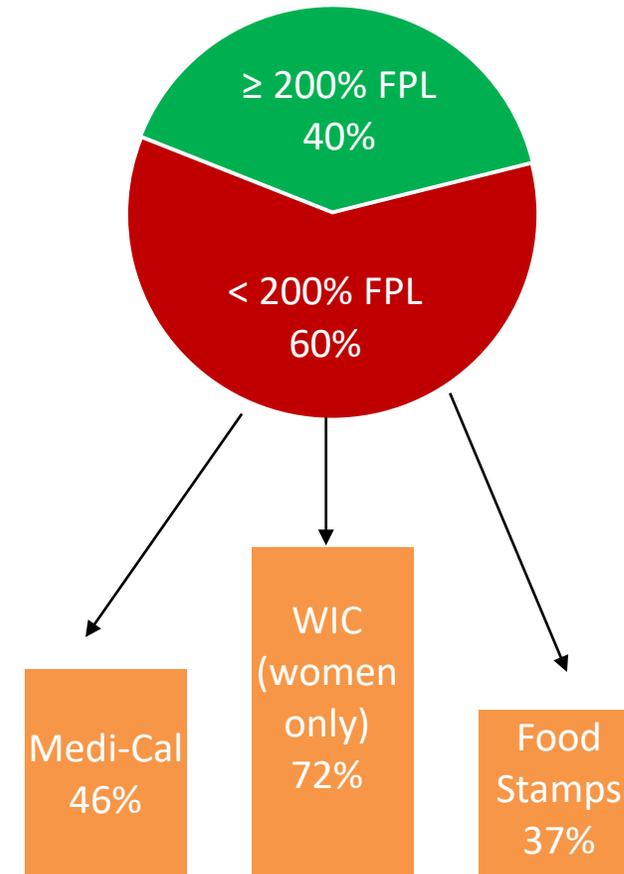
- Two thirds of parents in dual language learner families were born outside the U.S



## Education



## Household Income (% Federal Poverty Level (FPL))



# Strengths and Challenges-Young Families in California

## Strengths

- Two adult households predominate
- High educational attainment among parents
  - 60% have more than a high school education
- 53% of young families live at or above 200% FPL
  - 40% live at or above 300% FPL
- Strong perceived neighborhood cohesion
- Considerable foreign language capability

## Challenges

- 47% have household income below 200% FPL
  - 25% live below the poverty line
- 20% of parents have not finished high school
- Dual language learners are not a homogenous group