



First 5 Monterey County Early Learning Opportunities

Fiscal Year 2012-13
Client & Service Delivery Data Report

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prepared for



prepared by

harder+company
community research

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Introduction

In 2012-13, First 5 Monterey County (F5MC) funded 26 partners to provide early childhood services that were driven by the three broad community visions of its Early Learning Opportunities (ELO) Strategic Plan: 1) Parent Development, 2) Early Care and Education, and 3) Child Health. These community visions are further defined in the box on the right.

Services were offered throughout the county, but were targeted toward families who need them the most. This report presents data that have been collected by F5MC-funded partners to better understand the populations they serve and determine to what extent they are reaching their target communities. The first section of the report provides data on total numbers served throughout fiscal year (FY) 2012-13, as well as a breakdown of the numbers of children, parents, and providers served for each of the three vision areas. The second section contains client-level demographic data, including parent level of education, language, gender, age, race/ethnicity, insurance status, and regions served. To further examine trends, historical data from previous years are presented where they are relevant and available.

Community Visions for ELO-Funded Partners

I. Parent Development

- Parents use child development information in parenting practice
- Literate parents
- Comprehensive information and referral to community resources
- Family participation in local decision-making about child related issues

II. Early Care and Education

- Higher education and ongoing professional development for childcare providers
- Sufficient centers and childcare spaces in a variety of affordable settings
- Equal access to childcare regardless of income or legal status

III. Child Health

- Mentally healthy and stable families
- Parents use nutrition and health information in parenting practice
- Childcare providers are capable and competent in supporting children with special needs

Service Delivery: Programs Offered

F5MC-funded programs fall under three distinct community visions

This section presents an overview of the number and types of services that were provided by F5MC-funded partners in FY 2012-13. The specific evaluation questions this section seeks to address are:

- How many people are being served?
- What services are being offered by ELO-funded partners?

Programs in the first vision area include the following service types: case management; home visitation; playgroups; general parenting education; community resources and referrals; and family literacy programs. Programs in the second vision area provide early child care and education services, and support early educators in maximizing development of children ages 0 to 5. Programs in the third vision area offer services including health screenings and health insurance enrollment; home visitation; in-person consultation; screening and counseling services and programs for children with special needs; and provider training and support. Exhibit 1 details the specific programs funded in FY 2012-13.

E1. Funded Programs by Community Vision FY 2012-13

I. Parent Development	Action Council of Monterey County; Alisal Community Family Resource Center; Centro Binacional; Dads in Action; Easter Seals Central Coast; King City Family Resource Center; Kinship Center; Mexican American Opportunity Foundation; Monterey County Health Department – Nursing; Monterey Peninsula Unified School District - Cabrillo Family Resource Center; North Monterey County Unified School District - Castro Plaza Family Resource Center; Pajaro Valley Unified School District – Healthy Start Children’s Resource Center; Salinas Public Libraries; Soledad Unified School District – Adult School
II. Early Care and Education	Child Development Inc. – Technical Assistance; Community Action Partnership: CAPSLO; Comprehensive Approaches to Raising Educational Standards (CARES) program; Gonzales Unified School District; Greenfield Union School District; Mexican American Opportunity Foundation – Technical Assistance; Hartnell College; Hartnell College Foundation; Monterey Peninsula College; Monterey Peninsula College Foundation; Transition to Kindergarten grants; Go Kids – Family, Friend and Neighbor; North Monterey County Unified School District – Technical Assistance; McCourt & Calvo
III. Child Health	Go Kids – Special Needs Initiative; Door to Hope – MCSTART; Monterey County – Behavioral Health; Monterey County Probation Department – Child Advocate Program; Kinship Center & Behavioral Health; Pajaro Valley Prevention

Service Delivery: Numbers Served

In FY 2012-13, F5MC provided services to more than 40,000 children, parents, and providers

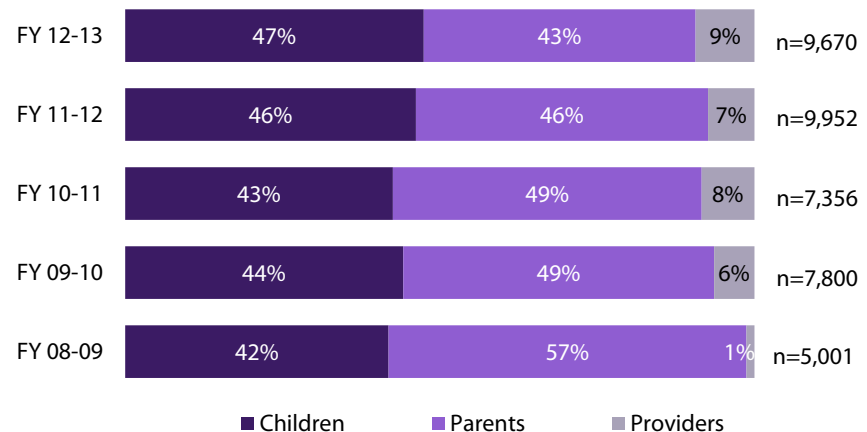
F5MC-funded programs served a total of 40,244 children, parents, and providers in FY 2012-13, up four percent from the previous year (see Exhibit 2). This represents year-over-year increases in the numbers of children and providers served (30 percent and 66 percent, respectively), and a slight decrease in the number of parents served (15 percent).

E2. Total Numbers Served by Year

	FY 08-09	FY 09-10	FY 10-11	FY 11-12	FY 12-13	FY 11-12 to FY 12-13 (% Change)
Children	8,621	9,845	16,034	14,254	18,535	+30.0%
Parents	9,026	18,423	20,231	23,491	20,025	-14.8%
Providers	971	2,134	1,531	1,015	1,684	+65.9%
Unknown	17,685	-	-	-	-	-
Total Served	36,303	30,402	37,796	38,760	40,244¹	+3.8%

Exhibit 3 demonstrates that, in FY 2012-13, F5MC provided services to a total of 9,670 unduplicated/consented clients. Just under half (47 percent) were children, 43 percent were parents, and the remaining nine percent were providers.

E3. Percentage of Unduplicated/Consented Clients Served



Source: Persimmony; data available for Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients), Group 2 (aggregate data/non-consented clients) & Group 3 (community events/sponsorships and parent kits).

¹In FY 12-13, seminar participants were not included in the total numbers served since there were no other demographic data about them and they were largely duplicated across seminars and with other programs. In FY 12-13, there were 489 seminar participants.

Service Delivery: Numbers Served

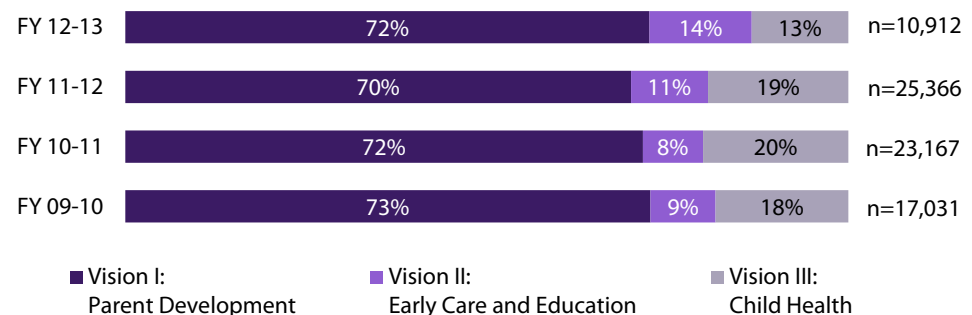
Over two-thirds of clients served for Community Vision Areas participated in Parent Development services

Exhibits 4 and 5 show that, of the 9,263 clients that were served intensively for each of the three ELO Community Vision Areas in FY 2012-13, over two-thirds (72 percent) were served by programs in the first Vision Area, parent development. Less than one-fifth (14 percent) received services from funded programs in Vision Area Two, early care and education, and the remaining 13 percent were served by Vision Area Three, child health.

E4. Total Clients Served by Community Vision

Community Visions	FY 09-10		FY 10-11		FY 11-12		FY 12-13	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Vision I: Parent Development	5,664	73	5,266	72	6,961	70	6,714	72
Vision II: Early Care and Education	703	9	611	8	1,058	11	1,311	14
Vision III: Child Health	1,433	18	1,479	20	1,933	19	1,238	13
Total Served	7,800		7,356		9,952		9,263	

E5. Percentage of Clients Served by Vision Areas



Source: Persimmony; data available for Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients).

Service Delivery: Numbers Served

In FY 2012-13, F5MC-funded programs delivered 78,603 units of service across all service types, representing an increase of 15 percent over the prior year, as seen in Exhibit 6. Service units are defined as per occurrence per participant. Much of this increase can be attributed to the expansion of playgroups, which was the service type with the highest service count. There were also fairly large increases in the number of services delivered for high-intensity consultations, information and referral, and screening or assessment services.

E6. Service Units by Service Type

Service Type	FY 11-12	FY 12-13	FY 11-12 to FY 12-13 (% Change)
Playgroups	26,207	33,172	+26.6%
High-intensity consultations and interventions	14,800	17,278	+16.7%
Home visits	8,158	8,540	+4.7%
Information and referral	6,014	6,930	+15.2%
Community capacity building	4,068	3,988	-2.0%
Parent group series	4,242	3,804	-10.3%
Transition and other family support	3,206	3,058	-4.6%
Screening or assessment	1,586	1,833	+15.6%
Total	68,281	78,603	+15.1%

Source: Persimmony; data available for Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients) & Group 2 (aggregate data/non-consented clients).

Client Demographics

Demographic data provide a perspective for understanding the specific populations that F5MC targets

F5MC-funded programs collect demographic information to obtain an accurate representation of the characteristics of children, parents, and providers they serve. These demographic characteristics help provide a background for F5MC staff and the Commission to understand its progress toward meeting targets and the impact of funded services on Monterey County communities that they hope to reach.

More specifically, the data that are collected aim to address the following questions:

- Who is being served?
- Are funded partners reaching the appropriate target populations?

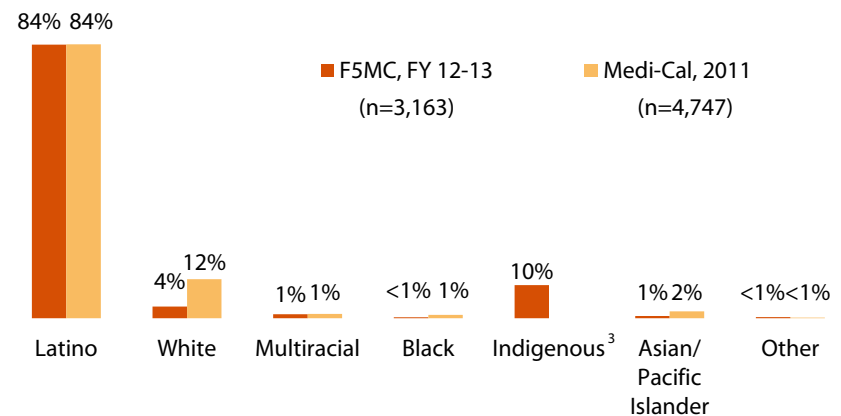
This section describes characteristics of the families and providers who received F5MC-funded services in FY 2012-13, along with comparison data from all past fiscal years since FY 2008-09.

Client Demographics: Population Served

F5MC utilizes Medi-Cal data for Monterey County to target its services

F5MC and its funded partners utilize several data sources, including Census and Medi-Cal funded birth data, to help target services to families in need in Monterey County. Exhibit 7 compares the distribution of race/ethnicity of mothers served by F5MC in FY 2012-13 to that of mothers with Medi-Cal funded births in Monterey County in 2011. In FY 2012-13, 84 percent of mothers served by F5MC were Hispanic/Latino, which was identical to the proportion of Hispanic/Latino mothers in Monterey County with Medi-Cal births.

E7. Race/Ethnicity of Mothers Served in FY 2012-13 Compared to Race/Ethnicity of Mothers with Medi-Cal Funded Births in Monterey County in 2011²



Source for F5MC data: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients) & Group 2 (aggregate data/non-consented clients). These data were pulled at a later point in time compared to gender data and some partners were likely to have inputted data. As a result, the number of mothers varies slightly.

Source for Medi-Cal data: California Department of Public Health, Health Information and Research Section, Birth Statistical Master Files 2011; statistical analyses performed by Monterey County Health Department, Surveillance and Epidemiology Unit.

² Percentages are adjusted; they omit participants reported as having missing or unknown data and only portray characteristics of participants for whom data were reported. There were 22 Medi-Cal funded births for which the mother's race/ethnicity was unknown. Of parents served by F5MC, there were missing or unknown data for 12 mothers.

³ Medi-Cal funded birth data do not include an Indigenous/Native American category. As a result, Medi-Cal funded birth data do not provide a point of comparison.

Client Demographics: Parent Level of Education

F5MC mostly serves parents with less than a high school education

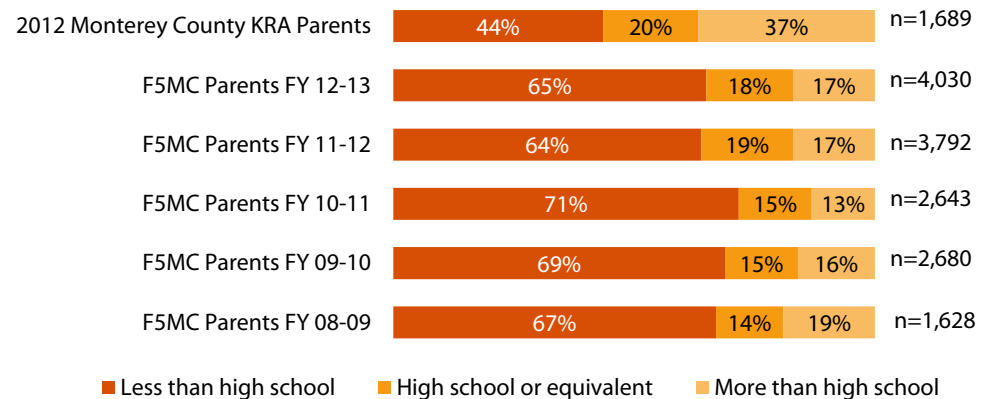
In general, the distribution in level of education of parents served by F5MC has remained consistent over the years. Most parents served by F5MC have usually had less than a high school education. As Exhibit 8 demonstrates, 65 percent of parents served in FY 2012-13 had attained less than a high school education, while only seven percent had obtained at least a college education.

Exhibit 9 compares the level of education of parents served by F5MC-funded programs over the past five years to the level of education reported in the 2012 Monterey County Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA), which included a representative sample of Monterey County parents whose children entered kindergarten in fall 2012. This fiscal year, 65 percent of parents served by F5MC-funded programs possessed less than a high school education, compared to 44 percent of parents who participated in the 2012 KRA. These findings suggest that F5MC-funded programs are serving parents with lower levels of education than Monterey County parents as a whole.

E8. Level of Education of Parents Served in FY 2012-13

	Count	Adjusted % ⁴
Less than 6 th Grade	1,205	30
Between 6 th Grade and High School	1,401	35
Finished High School/GED	734	18
More than High School	389	10
Finished College	202	5
More than College	99	2
Total	4,030	100
<i>Missing/Unknown</i>	923	

E9. Level of Education of Parents Served by F5MC Compared to Parents of Incoming Kindergartners in Monterey County



Source: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/ consented clients).

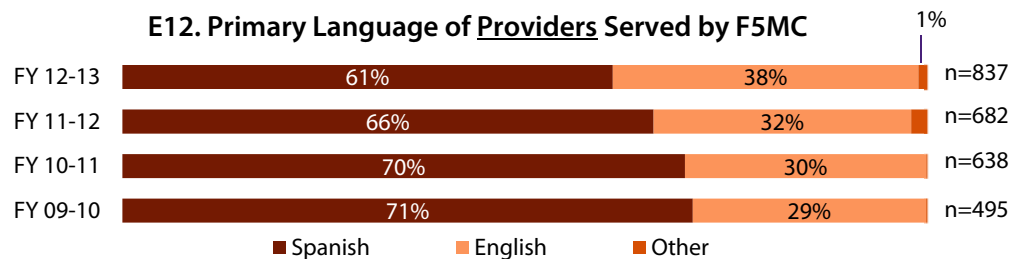
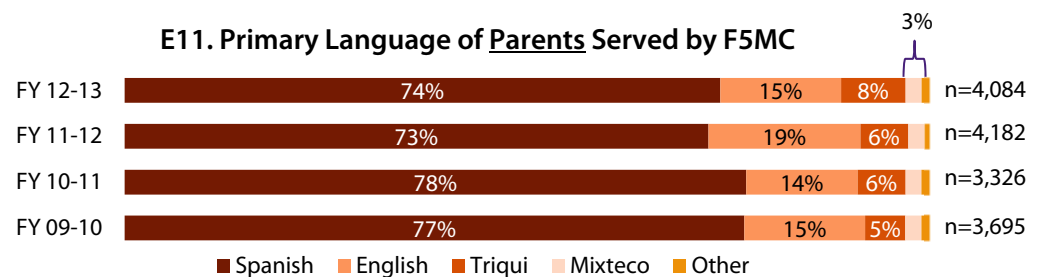
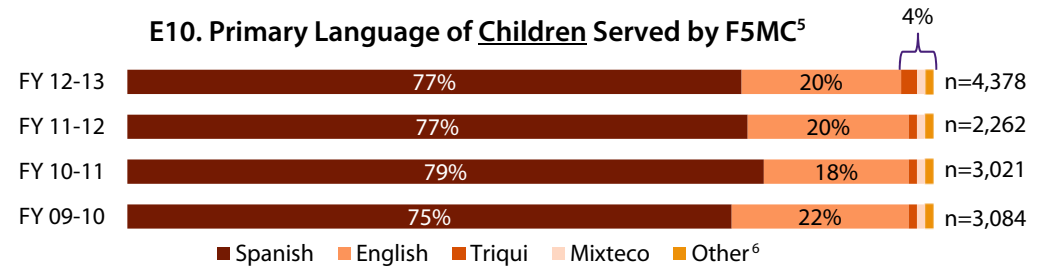
⁴All percentages are adjusted; they omit participants reported as having missing or unknown data and only portray characteristics of participants for whom data were reported. There were missing or unknown parent level of education data in FY 08-09 (n=1,221), FY 09-10 (n=1,175), FY 10-11 (n=687), FY 11-12 (n=399), and FY 12-13 (n=923). In FY 11-12, there were an additional 328 parents for whom there were no education data.

Client Demographics: Primary Language

Spanish continues to be the most common language spoken by F5MC service recipients

In FY 2012-13, funded programs reported that most children (79 percent), parents (74 percent), and providers (61 percent) spoke Spanish as their primary language, with English as the second most common language spoken for each these groups. Exhibits 10-12 display the distribution of languages spoken by children, parents and providers served.

The trends in languages spoken by children and parents have remained consistent. However, there has been some fluctuation in the distribution of Spanish-speaking and English-speaking providers over the last several years, with the latter showing a gradual decrease since FY 2009-10.



Source: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients).

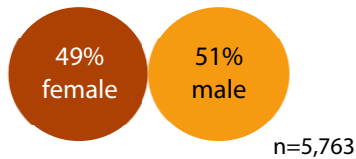
⁵ All percentages are adjusted; they omit participants reported as having missing or unknown data and only portray characteristics of participants for whom data were reported. There were missing or unknown race/ethnicity data for children in FY 09-10 (n=431), FY 10-11 (n=59), FY 11-12 (n=39), and FY 12-13 (n=17). In FY 12-13, there were an additional 192 children for whom there were no language data. There were missing or unknown race/ethnicity data for parents in FY 09-10 (n=1,706), FY 10-11 (n=5,386), FY 11-12 (n=95), and FY 12-13 (n=54). In FY 12-13, there were an additional 68 parents for whom there were no language data. There were missing or unknown race/ethnicity data for providers in FY 09-10 (n=407), FY 10-11 (n=3), FY 11-12 (n=58), and FY 12-13 (n=9). In FY 12-13, there were an additional 57 providers for whom there were no language data.

⁶ "Other" languages spoken by children, parents, and providers include Tagalog, Chinese, Zapotec, and Vietnamese.

Client Demographics: Gender and Age of Children

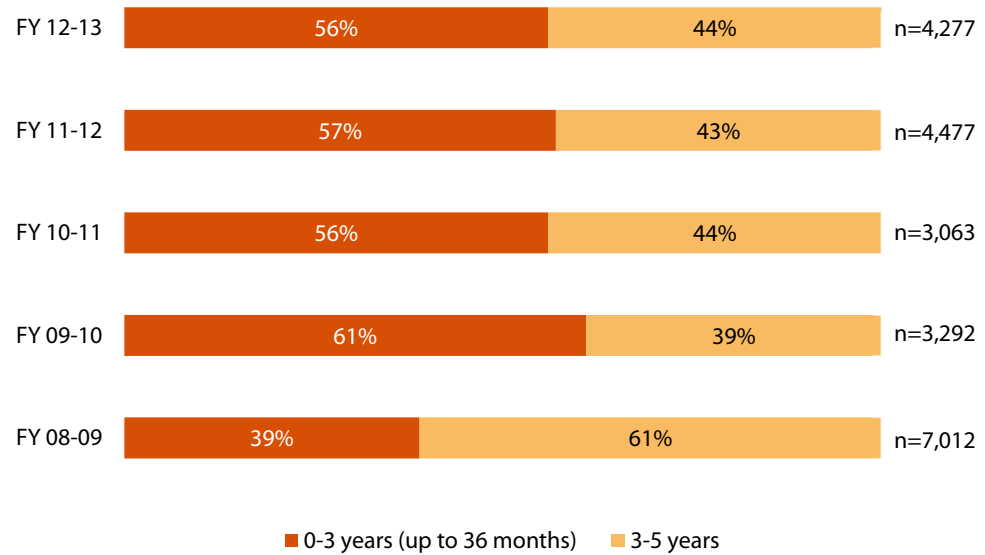
Boys and girls are equally represented by children served by F5MC, over half of whom are ages 0-3

Gender. In FY 2012-13, there was nearly an equal representation of males (51 percent) and females (49 percent) among children served. This distribution was similar to that of previous years.



Age. The F5MC ELO Strategic Plan prioritizes providing services to families with children ages 0-3. Exhibit 13 shows the age breakdown of children served by F5MC over the last five years. In FY 12-13, the age distribution of children served was consistent with that of previous years. Fifty-six percent of children served were between 0 to 3 years old, and the remaining 44 percent were children ages 3 to 5.

E13. Age of Children Served by F5MC⁷



Source for age data: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients).

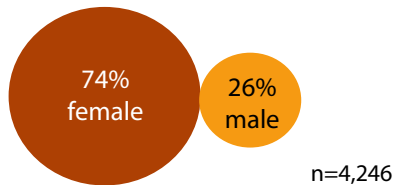
Source for gender data: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients) & Group 2 (aggregate data/non-consented clients).

⁷ Percentages are adjusted; they omit participants reported as having missing or unknown data and only portray characteristics of participants for whom data were reported. There were missing or unknown age data for children in FY 08-09 (n=1,609) and FY 09-10 (n=154). In FY 11-12, although there were no missing/unknown data reported specifically for age of children, there were an additional 16 children for whom there were no age data. In FY 12-13, although there were no missing/unknown age data for children, there were an additional 310 children for whom there were no age data.

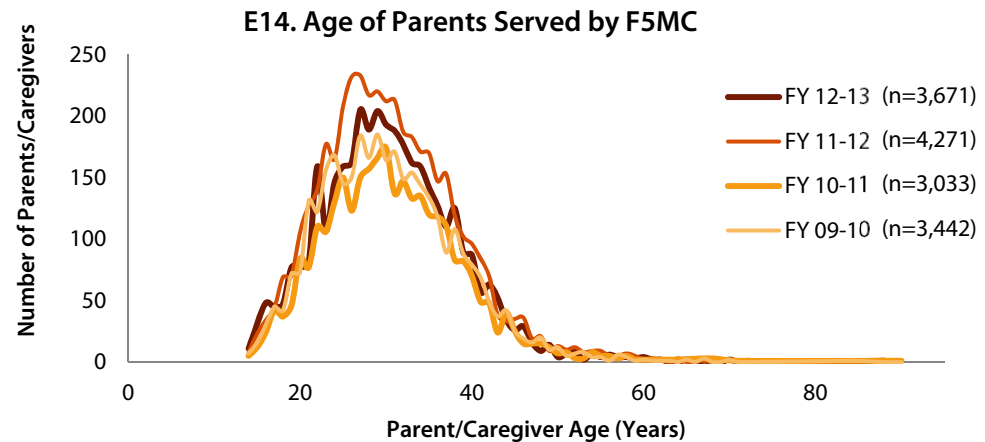
Client Demographics: Gender and Age of Parents

F5MC primarily serves parents who are female and 21 to 40 years old

Gender. While the gender of children served by F5MC has primarily been equally distributed between males and females, the large majority of parents served have typically been female. Similar to previous years, nearly three-fourths of parents (74 percent) who received services from funded programs in FY 2012-13 were female.



Age. The age distribution of parents has been nearly identical over the past few years. As seen in Exhibits 14 and 15, parents between the ages of 21 and 40 years comprise the largest proportion of parents served by F5MC (81 percent). In FY 2012-13, parents/caregivers' ages ranged from 14 years (n=11) to 72 years old (n=1).



E15. Age Ranges of Parents Served by F5MC

	FY 09-10		FY 10-11		FY 11-12		FY 12-13	
	Count	Adjusted % ⁸	Count	Adjusted %	Count	Adjusted %	Count	Adjusted %
14 – 20 years	285	8	250	8	354	8	336	9
21 – 30 years	1,571	46	1,343	44	1,931	45	1,605	44
31 – 40 years	1,234	36	1,136	32	1,542	36	1,366	37
41 – 50 years	299	9	250	8	358	8	304	8
50+ years	53	2	54	2	86	2	60	2
Total	3,442		3,033		4,271		3,671	
Missing/Unknown	413		298		328		441	

Source for age data: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients).

Source for gender data: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients) & Group 2 (aggregate data/non-consented clients).

⁸ Percentages are adjusted; they omit participants reported as having missing or unknown data and only portray characteristics of participants for whom data were reported. In FY 10-11, there were an additional 280 parents for whom there were no age data. In FY 11-12, there were an additional 23 parents for whom there were no age data. In FY 12-13, there were an additional 68 parents for whom there were no age data.

Client Demographics: Race/Ethnicity

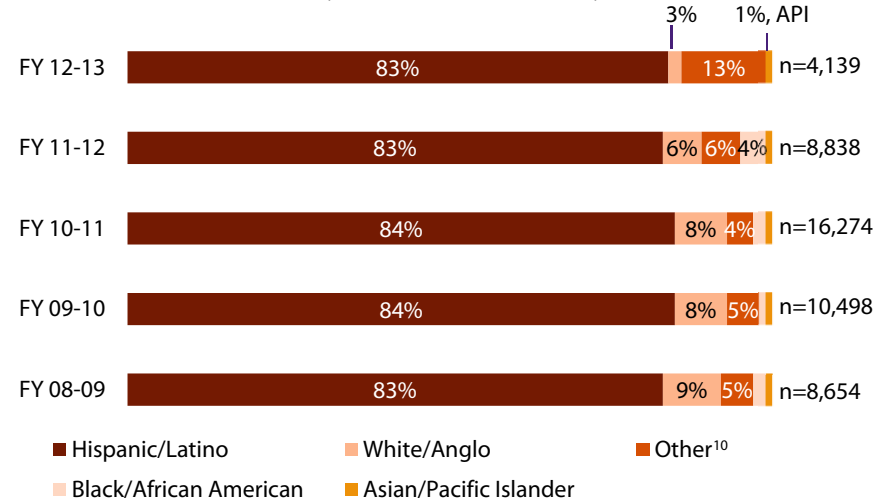
The overwhelming majority of people served by F5MC historically are Latino/Hispanic

As in previous years, the large majority of parents served by F5MC in FY 2012-13 were Hispanic/Latino (83 percent), as shown in Exhibit 16. Parents of Indigenous/Native American descent comprised a somewhat greater share in this fiscal year compared to previous years (11 percent versus 3-5 percent, respectively), as shown in Exhibit 17. Most children and providers that F5MC served this fiscal year were also Hispanic/Latino (90 percent and 80 percent, respectively), which is consistent with past trends.

E16. Race/Ethnicity of Parents Served in FY 2012-13

	Count	Adjusted % ⁹
Hispanic/Latino	3,422	83
Indigenous/Native American	478	12
White/Anglo	134	3
Multiracial	41	1
Asian	26	1
Black/African American	16	<1
Pacific Islander	9	<1
Other	13	<1
Total	4,139	100
Missing/Unknown	39	

E17. Race/Ethnicity of Parents Served by F5MC



Source: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients) & Group 2 (aggregate data/non-consented clients).

⁹Percentages are adjusted; they omit participants reported as having missing or unknown data and only portray characteristics of participants for whom data were reported. There were missing or unknown race/ethnicity data for parents in FY 08-09 (n=372), FY 09-10 (n=174), FY 10-11 (n=298), FY 11-12 (n=120), and FY 12-13 (n=39). In FY 10-11, there were an additional 238 parents for whom there were no race/ethnicity data. In FY 12-13, there were an additional 68 parents for whom there were no race/ethnicity data.

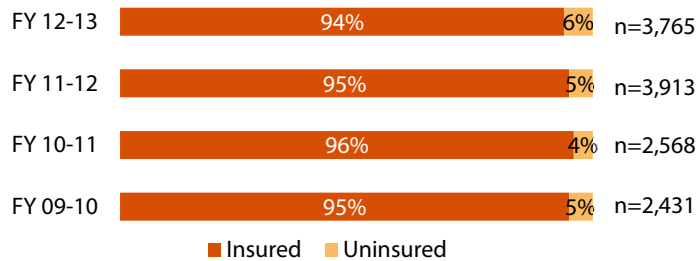
¹⁰"Other" includes Indigenous/Native American, Multiracial, and other racial/ethnic categories.

Client Demographics: Health Insurance Status

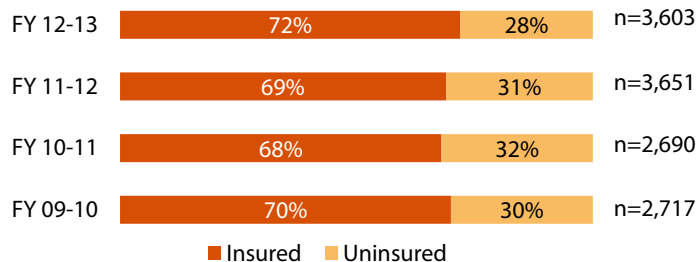
Medi-Cal is the most common form of health insurance that covers F5MC children and parents

Exhibits 18 and 19 show that, while the vast majority of children were covered by some form of health insurance in FY 2012-13 (94 percent), 28 percent of parents were reported as having no insurance coverage, compared to six percent of children. These distributions were similar to previous years' data.

E18. Health Insurance Status of Children Served by F5MC



E19. Health Insurance Status of Parents Served by F5MC



E20. Health Insurance Types of Children and Parents Served in FY 2012-13

	Children		Parents	
	Count	Adjusted % ¹¹	Count	Adjusted %
Medi-Cal	2,524	67	1,337	37
Healthy Families	485	13	116	3
Employer Provided	296	8	495	14
Emergency Medi-Cal	115	3	559	16
Parent Purchased	25	1	17	<1
Other	108	3	74	2
None	212	6	1,005	28
Total	3,765		3,603	
Missing/Unknown	630		509	

As shown in Exhibit 20, Medi-Cal was the most common form of health insurance reported for both children and parents served by F5MC-funded programs in FY 2012-13 (67 percent and 37 percent respectively). For children, other common forms of insurance were Healthy Families (13 percent), and employer-provided insurance plans (8 percent). For parents, 15 percent reported that they had Emergency Medi-Cal, followed by 14 percent that indicated they were covered through their employer. These distributions have remained relatively stable over the past several years.

Source: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients).

¹¹ Percentages are adjusted; they omit participants reported as having missing or unknown data and only portray characteristics of participants for whom data were reported. In addition to missing/unknown data reported for this variable, there are an additional 192 children and 68 parents for whom there were no health insurance status data.

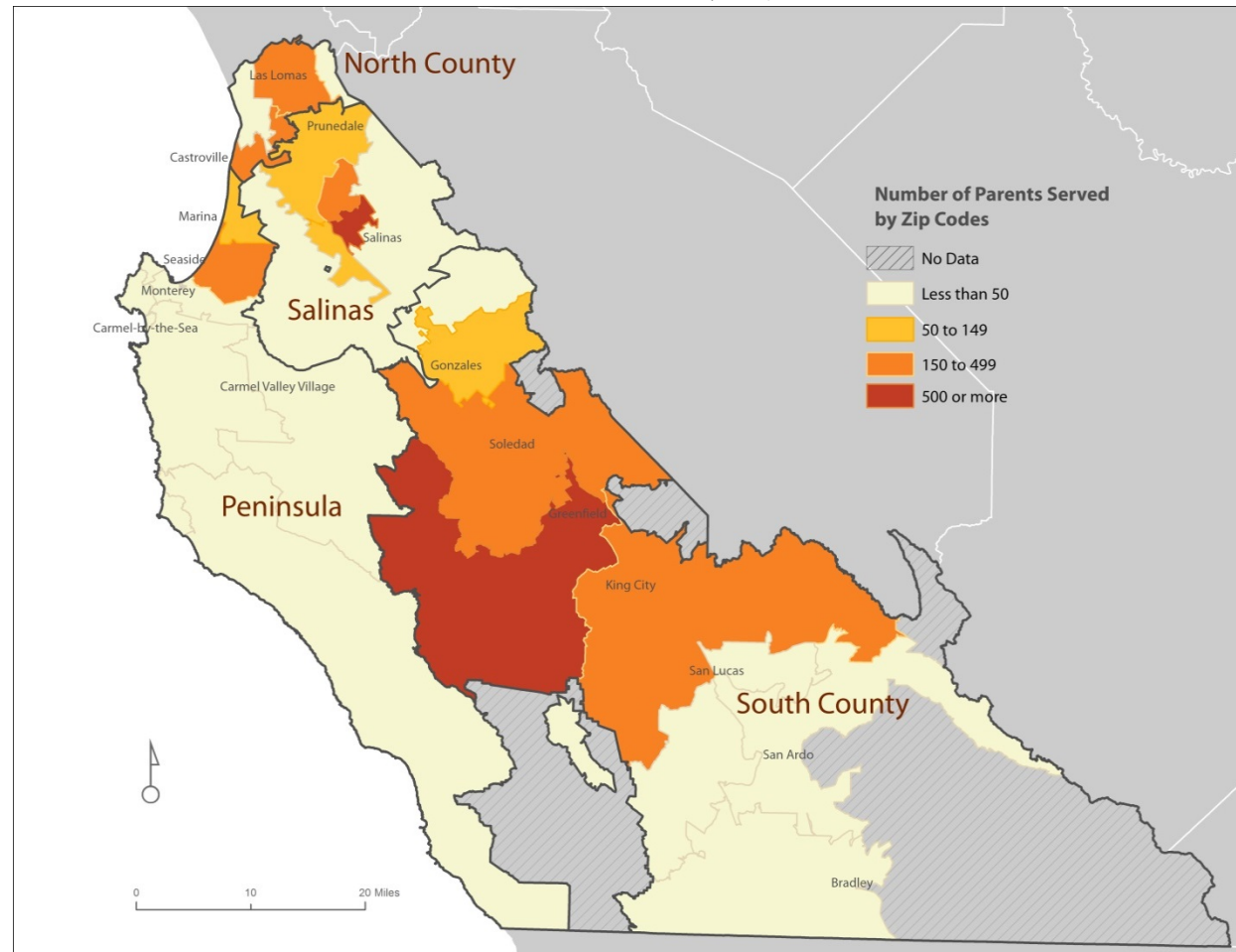
Client Demographics: Regions Served

As with previous years, F5MC clients largely come from Salinas, especially East Salinas

The F5MC ELO Strategic Plan prioritizes the following zones within each region of Monterey County: Salinas (East Salinas); South County (Chualar; Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield, King City, San Ardo, and San Lucas); Peninsula (Seaside); and North County (Pajaro, Castroville). The map and tables on the following pages represent the breakdown of parents served by F5MC according to their zip code and corresponding city and region of Monterey County.

In this fiscal year, a slightly smaller share of parents resided in Salinas (down seven percent) and a slightly greater share of parents resided in South County (up six percent) compared to the previous fiscal year.

E21. Parents Served in FY 2012-13, by Region and Zip Code

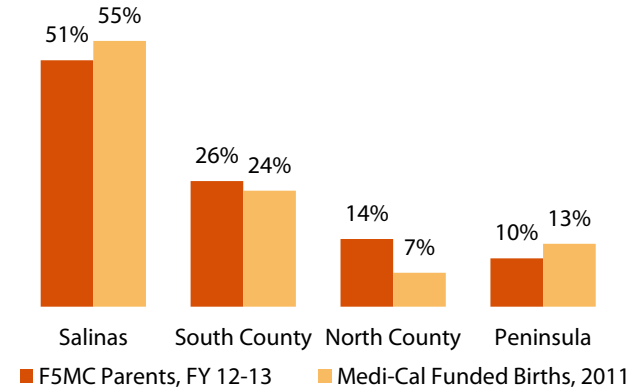


Client Demographics: Regions Served

Similar to previous years, the majority of parents that F5MC served this fiscal year resided in Salinas (51 percent), as shown in Exhibits 22 and 23. About a third of all parents came from East Salinas (35 percent). Like the distribution of race/ethnicity, the geographic distribution of F5MC parents also reflects that of the Medi-Cal population in Monterey County. However, parents from North County represent a slightly higher proportion of parents served by F5MC than among mothers with Medi-Cal funded births (seven percentage points higher).

Exhibit 23 displays more detailed data comparing geographic distribution of F5MC parents to Medi-Cal funded births, including ratio and percentage point difference, by region and city. Areas in which the ratio is higher (i.e., greater than 1.0) have been identified as priority areas.

E22. Geographic Distribution of Parents Served in FY 2012-13 and 2011 Medi-Cal Funded Births in Monterey County^{12,13}



Source for F5MC data: Persimmony, Data from Group 1 (unduplicated/consented clients) & Group 2 (aggregate data/non-consented clients)

¹² Percentages are adjusted; they omit participants reported as having missing or unknown data, as well as those who reported as being from out of the county. An additional 23 parents served by F5MC in FY 12-13 were reported from out of county.

¹³ Source: Monterey County Health Department, Public Health Bureau. 2011 Monterey County Birth Outcomes Report. http://www.mtyhd.org/images/stories/Public_HealthBureau/Epi/2011_MC_Birth_Outcomes_Report.pdf, Accessed on June 20, 2013.

Client Demographics: Regions Served

E23. Parents Served in FY 2012-13, by Region and Zip Code, Compared to 2011 Medi-Cal Funded Births in Monterey County

Region	City	Zip Code	A. F5MC Parents Served (Count)	B. F5MC Parents Served (Adjusted %)	C. Medi-Cal Funded Births, 2011 (Count)	D. Medi-Cal Funded Births, 2011 (Adjusted %)	E. Ratio (Column A/ Column C)	F. Percentage Point Difference (Column B - Column D)
Salinas			2,113	51	2,259	55	0.9	-4
	East Salinas ¹⁴	93905	1,467	35.2	1,258	30.8	1.2	+4.4
	North Salinas	93906	384	9.2	619	15.2	0.6	-6.0
	South Salinas	93901	149	3.6	235	5.8	0.6	-2.2
	North of Salinas	93907	74	1.8	114	2.8	0.6	-1.0
	River Road	93908	17	0.4	26	0.6	0.7	-0.2
	Other zip codes ¹⁵		22	0.5	7	0.2	3.1	+0.3
Peninsula			416	10	531	13	0.8	-3
	Seaside	93955	321	7.7	290	7.1	1.1	+0.6
	Marina	93933	57	1.4	111	2.7	0.5	-1.3
	Monterey	93940	28	0.7	81	2.0	0.3	-1.3
	Other zip codes		10	0.2	49	1.2	0.2	-1.0
South County			1,066	26	986	24	1.1	+2
	Greenfield	93927	501	12.0	355	8.7	1.4	+3.3
	King City	93930	243	5.8	269	6.6	0.9	-0.8
	Soledad	93960	223	5.3	225	5.5	1.0	-0.2
	Gonzales	93926	79	1.9	97	2.4	0.8	-0.5
	Other zip codes		20	0.5	40	1.0	0.5	-0.5
North County			574	14	302	7	1.9	+7
	Pajaro	95076	337	8.1	105	2.6	3.2	+5.5
	Castroville	95012	226	5.4	174	4.3	1.3	+1.1
	Moss Landing	95039	11	0.3	11	0.3	1.0	0
	Aromas	95004	0	0.0	12	0.3	0	-0.3
Total			4,169	100	4,078	100	1.0	
	Missing/Unknown		54		22			

¹⁴ Cities and zip codes highlighted in blue represent those with the greatest number of parents served by F5MC.

¹⁵ Some zip codes were aggregated in order to protect client confidentiality.

Closing

F5MC and its funded partners continue to serve tens of thousands of high-need families throughout Monterey County. Over time, the demographic portrait has stayed consistent; F5MC programs serve a majority Latino, Spanish-speaking population with less than a high school education. These families closely mirror the Medi-Cal funded birth population in Monterey County, an indicator of low-income status, as shown by the race/ethnicity and geographic distribution data. This level of detailed data remains critical for capturing the numbers and types of people receiving services to further strengthen early childhood services and refine strategies that address each community-identified vision area.

Technical Notes

In 2008, F5MC-funded partners began utilizing the Persimmony computerized client-level data system. This advanced system allowed for greater levels of consistency by ensuring accuracy in data collection and reporting. Furthermore, Persimmony has allowed for an efficient way to track those clients who continue to utilize funded services from year to year. While the transition to Persimmony introduced new challenges to data collection, the benefits provided by the Persimmony data system have allowed funded programs to make efficient progress toward collecting unduplicated counts and producing data that is not only accurate, but reliable.

It is important to note that in general the percentage of missing and unknown data has decreased compared with data collected during Persimmony's first year of implementation, suggesting funded partners are able to collect more complete data on the parents, children and providers they serve. For certain characteristics (e.g., level of education and health insurance status) the large number of missing or unknown data comes from services with a one-time interaction (e.g., an event or screening) where it is deemed too intrusive to ask participants for a complete demographic profile.

Client and service delivery information available in this report are derived from the three distinct groups:

Group 1: provides information on *unduplicated/consented clients*. Generally, these data are collected for clients receiving intensive services (e.g., playgroups, home visits, intensive consultations and therapy, technical assistance) that lend themselves to systematic and ongoing collection of unduplicated, client-level data. Group 1 data are considered the most accurate available since clients that fall into this group are consented to the evaluation by funded partners who regularly collect standardized client and service delivery data.

Group 2: provides information on *aggregate data/non-consented clients*. Programs within this group collect aggregate versus individual data because they tend to provide less intensive, one-time services (e.g., emergency funding, etc.) that may not lend themselves to systematic and ongoing collection of data at the client level.

Group 3: provides basic information estimated at F5MC-*sponsored community events* and through the dissemination of *First 5 Parent Kits*.