

FAMILY SURVEY: A SUMMARY OF RESULTS AT GRAIL FAMILY SERVICES/ALUM ROCK AREA

A product of the Family Engagement Impact Project, February 2014

This report contains a summary of findings generated by the Family Engagement Impact Project (FEIP) family survey, conducted by the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities at Stanford University and funded by the Heising-Simons Foundation. The survey was developed in September and October 2013 as part of the FEIP effort to improve educational outcomes for low-income immigrant children in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties through increased family engagement. Please see the accompanying cover letter for a complete description of the project.

The family survey was designed to provide information on local demographics, needs, parenting practices, perceptions of family engagement, and experiences related to coordination and transitions among primary caregivers of children ages 0-8. Families participated in the survey by invitation via FEIP lead agency or partner organizations.

This report is organized into multiple sections. The first several sections discuss participant demographics, household composition, and parental supports and resources. The latter sections provide detailed information about participant parenting practices, resources, childcare arrangements, family involvement, and experiences related to transitions.

Survey Participants

This section of the report details the demographic characteristics of survey participants. The survey asked about the primary caregiver's relationship to the child (Q4), as well as their age, gender, education level, race/ethnicity, nationality, language, and mobility (Q7-18).

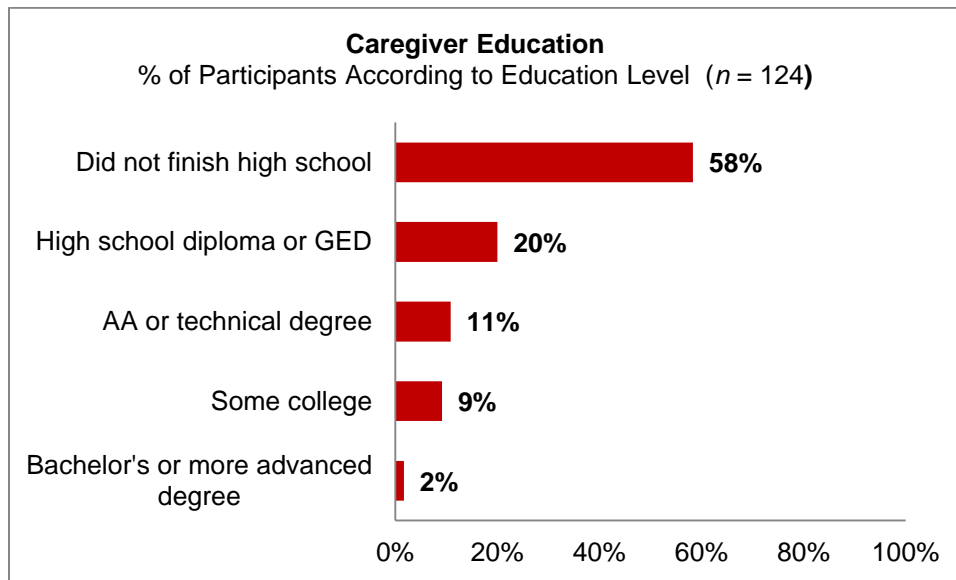
A total of 124 primary caregivers completed the Grail survey distributed across community organizations and schools pertaining to the Alum Rock area. Families participated in surveys administered by the following entities: Grail Family Services ($n = 37$), Somos Mayfair ($n = 25$), San Antonio Elementary/Lucha Charter ($n = 21$), Kidango ($n = 16$), Lady of Guadalupe ($n = 12$), Alum Rock Unified School District ($n = 5$), Yes We Can Read ($n = 4$), and Choices for Children ($n = 4$).

One hundred and five (85%) of the surveys were completed in Spanish and nineteen (15%) in English. Sixty nine percent of the participants reported that they live in zip code 95116. This

proportion was 16% for 95122, and 15% for other zip codes.

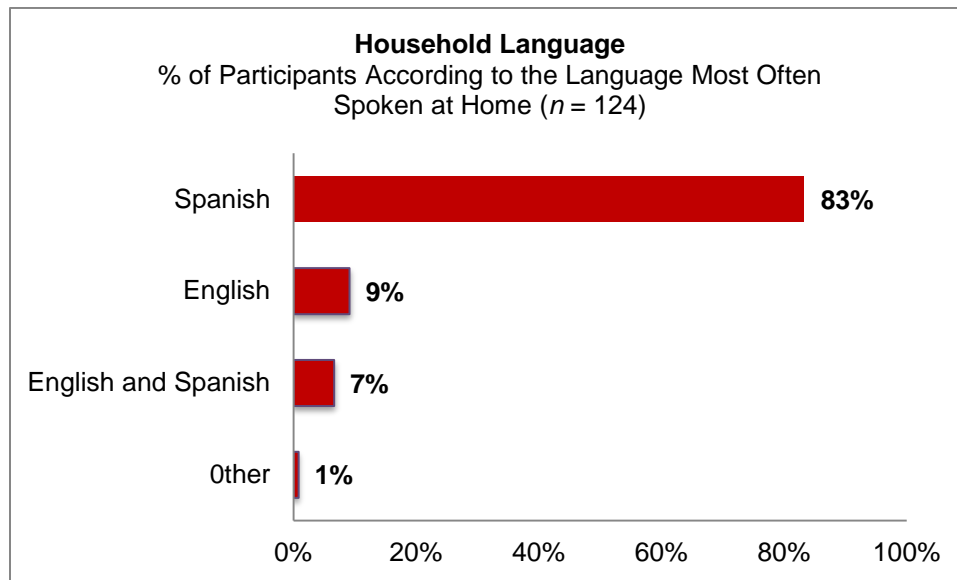
The great majority of the caregivers who completed the survey were mothers (89%), seven percent were step-parents and 4% non-family members. Almost all the participants identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino/a (96%). The age of the participants ranged between 20 and 65 ($M = 34$, $SD = 8$).

The figure below shows the distribution of participants according to their level of education:



Twelve percent of the caregivers were born in the United States, 84% in Mexico, and 3% in other countries. Among those who were foreign-born, six percent had lived in the United States for five years or less; 39% between five and 10 years; 39% between 10 and 20 years; and 17% for more than 20 years. In addition, 53% of those foreign born had received at least some schooling in another country.

The following figure shows the distribution of participants according to the language spoken in their households:



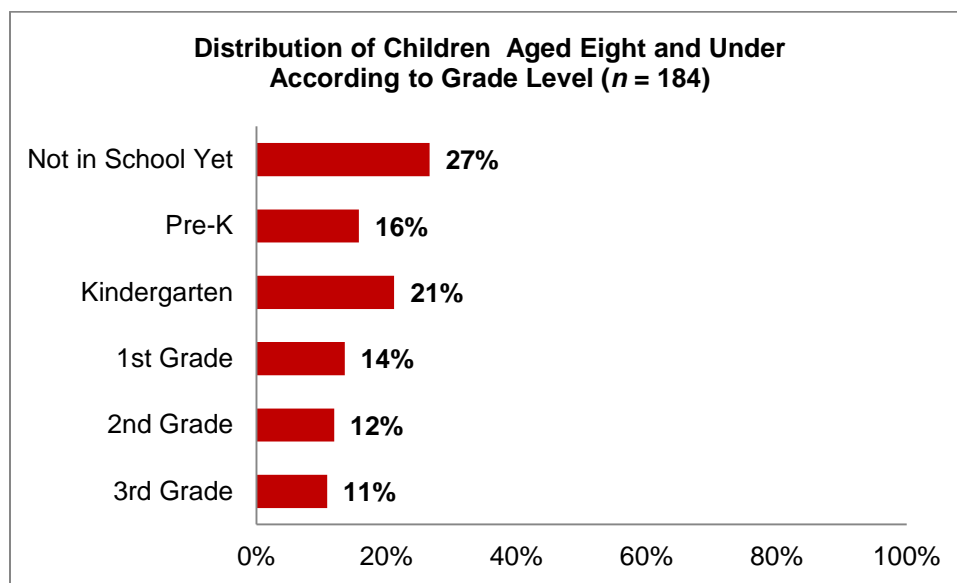
When asked about the extent to which they feel comfortable **READING** in their primary language on a scale from 1 (Not at all comfortable) to 7 (Very comfortable), the average for the foreign-born participants was 6.64 ($SD = 1.08$). The average rating was 3.02 ($SD = 2.00$) with regard to **SPEAKING** in English and 2.84 with regard to **READING** in English.

Eighty three percent of participants indicated that they had not moved in the previous year. Ten percent indicated that they had moved once, and 8% two times or more.

Household Composition

This section of the report highlights household composition of survey participants. The survey asked about the number of children ages 0-8 in the household (Q2) and the grade levels of each of those children, as well as the number of older children (Q5) and adults (Q6) in the house.

Combined, the survey participants reported a total of 184 children **aged 8 and under**. Forty six percent of the participants had only one child in that age range. This percentage was 36%, 16%, and 2% for two, three, and four children in that age range respectively. The following graph shows the distribution of children according to their grade level:



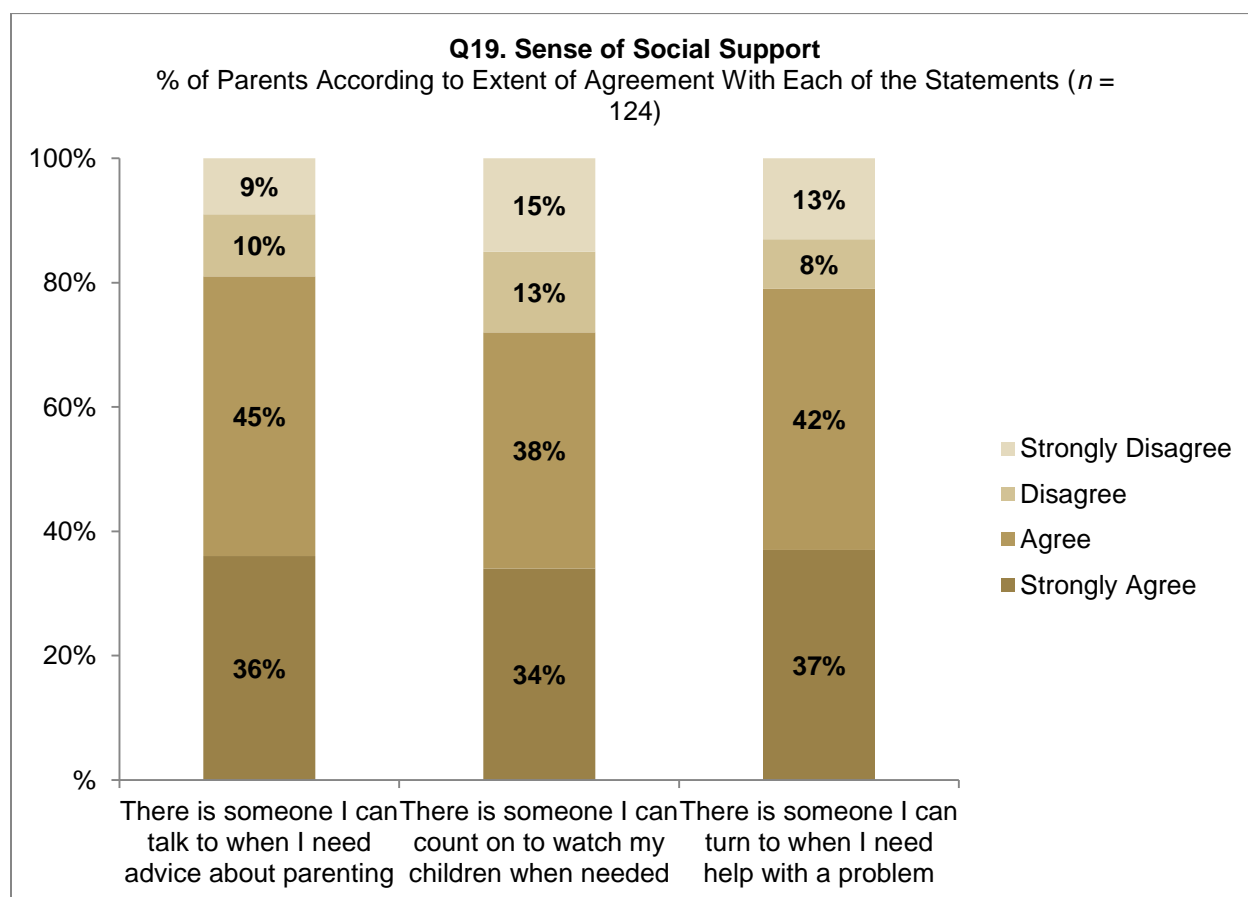
Sixty nine percent of the participants reported having at least one older child **between the ages of 9 and 18** living in the household. Five percent of participants said there are no adults living in the household **aged 19 or older**. Eleven percent indicated they live in households with only one adult **age 19 or older**. This proportion was 58% for households with two adult members. The remaining of the participants (26%) reported three or more adults aged 19 or older in their households.

Supports & Resources as a Parent

This section details the supports and resources parents¹ currently count on and have interest in accessing. The survey asked about parental sense of social support and resilience (Q19), who parents count on for advice about raising their children (Q20), and barriers parents experience to supporting their children’s learning (Q21). It also elicited parents’ interest in specific forms of support offered by some of the evidence-based programs listed in the Heising-Simons grant proposal (Q22) and parental interest in specific “modes of delivery” (e.g. classes, support groups, with or without bringing children) (Q23).

The last two questions in the section speak to parents’ familiarity with and use of local resources and eligibility programs (Q24-24b). The data from these questions offers information on points of contact between families, providers, and key resources, potentially informing local agencies about connections to strengthen.

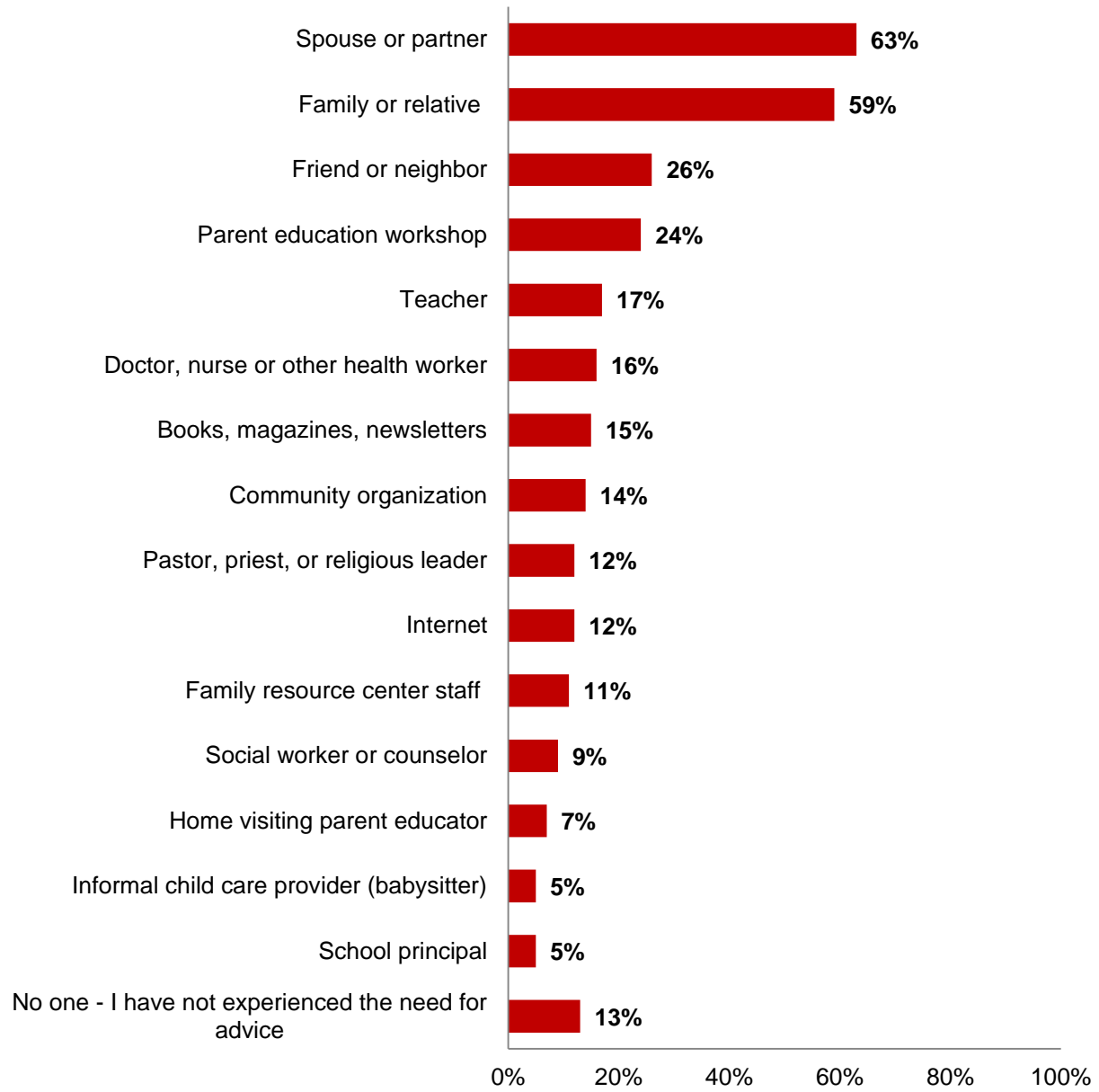
This section’s information is presented in the following series of charts:



¹ Unless otherwise indicated, we use the word “parent” throughout the rest of the report to designate the person who is primary caregiver for a child or children.

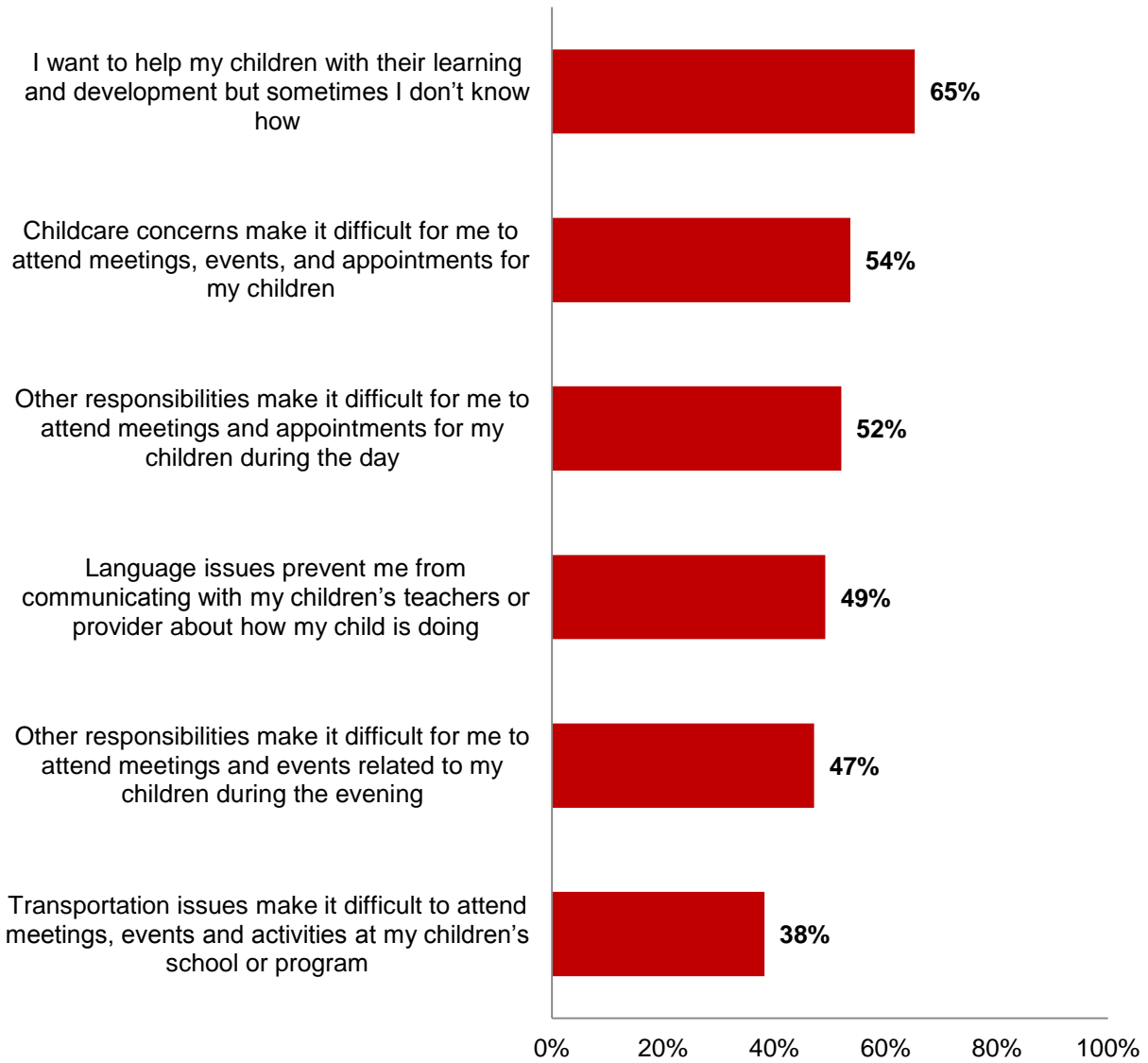
Q20. Sources of Advice About Raising Children

% of Parents Who Relied on Each Source of Advice in the Past Month (*n* = 124)

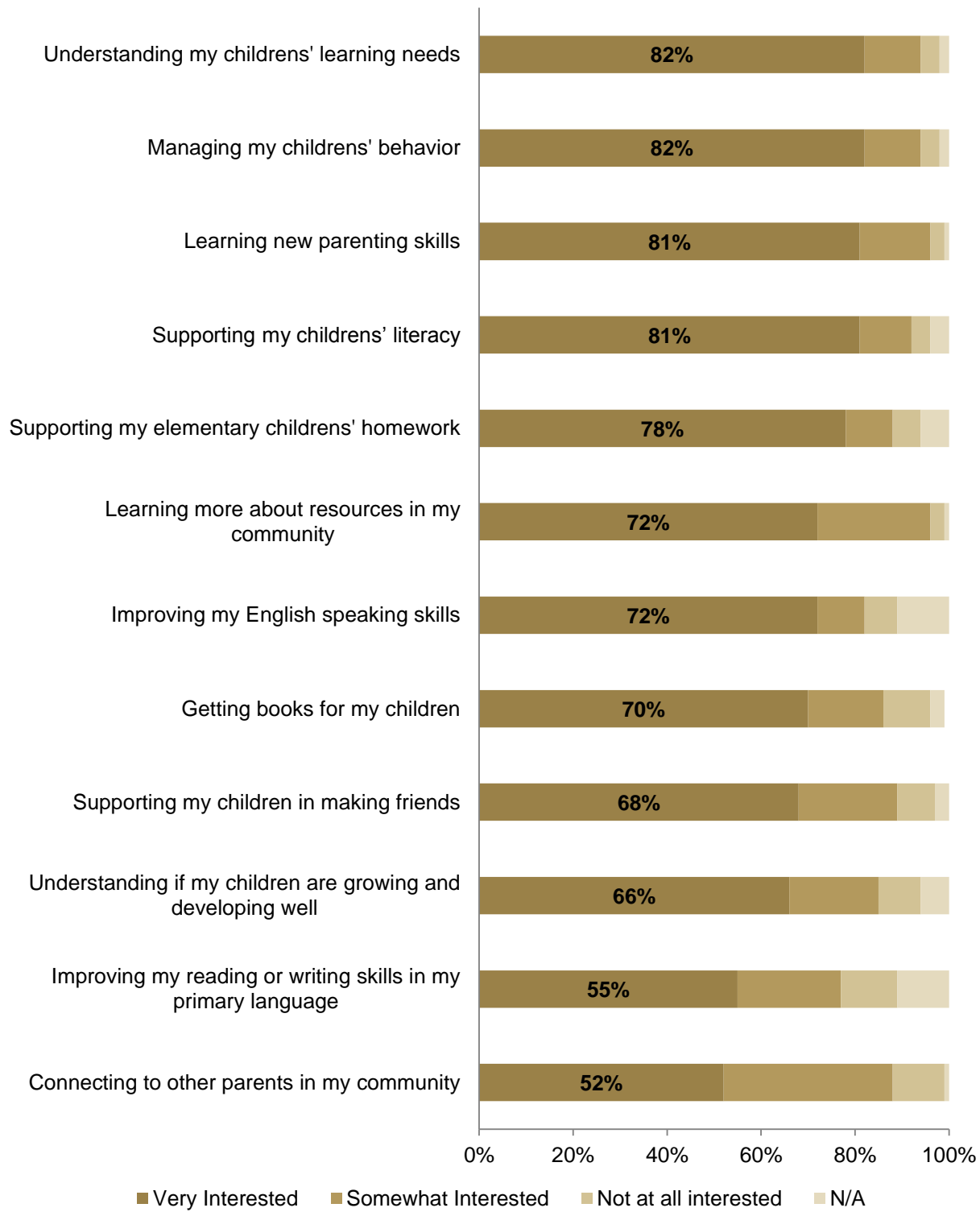


Q21. Barriers to Supporting Children's Learning

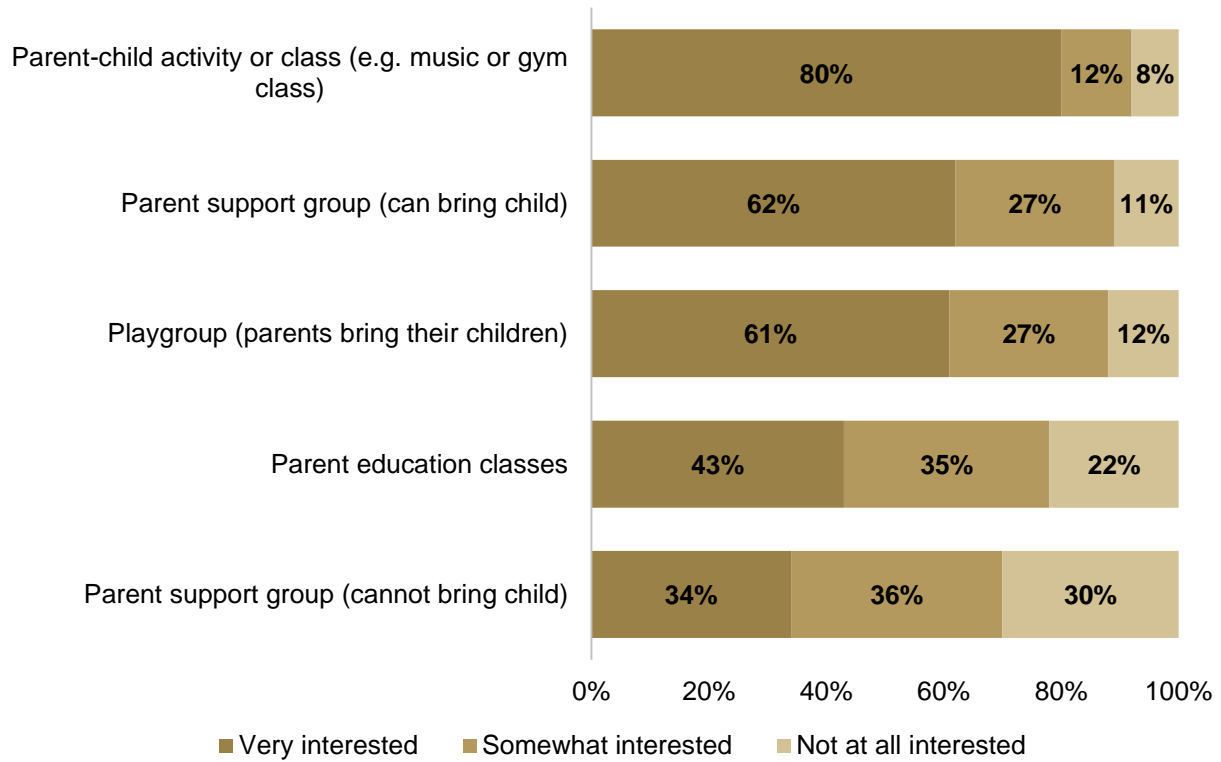
% of Parents Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed With Statement (*n* = 124)



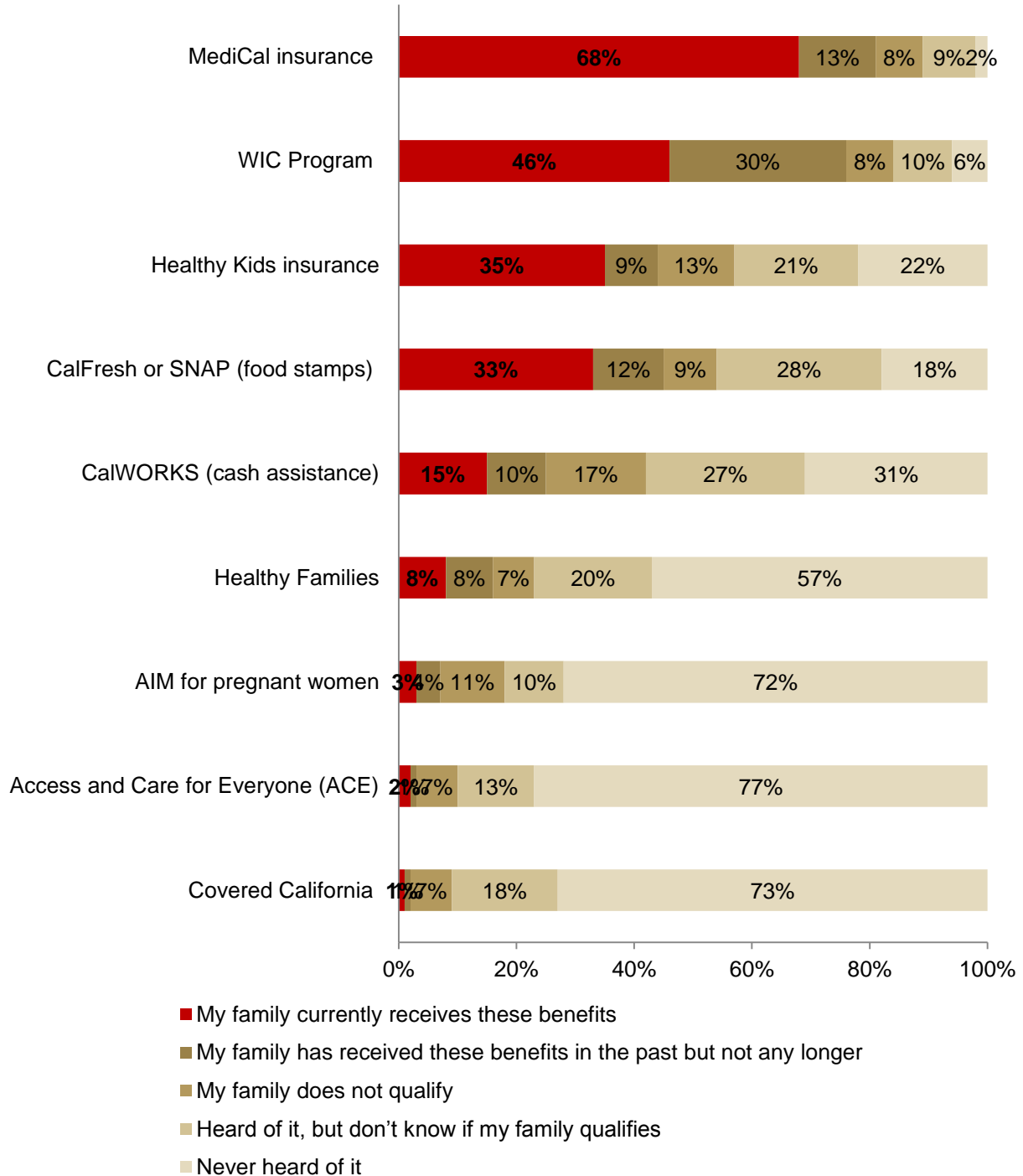
Q22. Parent Interest in Supports and Resources
 % of Parents According to Their Level of Interest (n = 124)



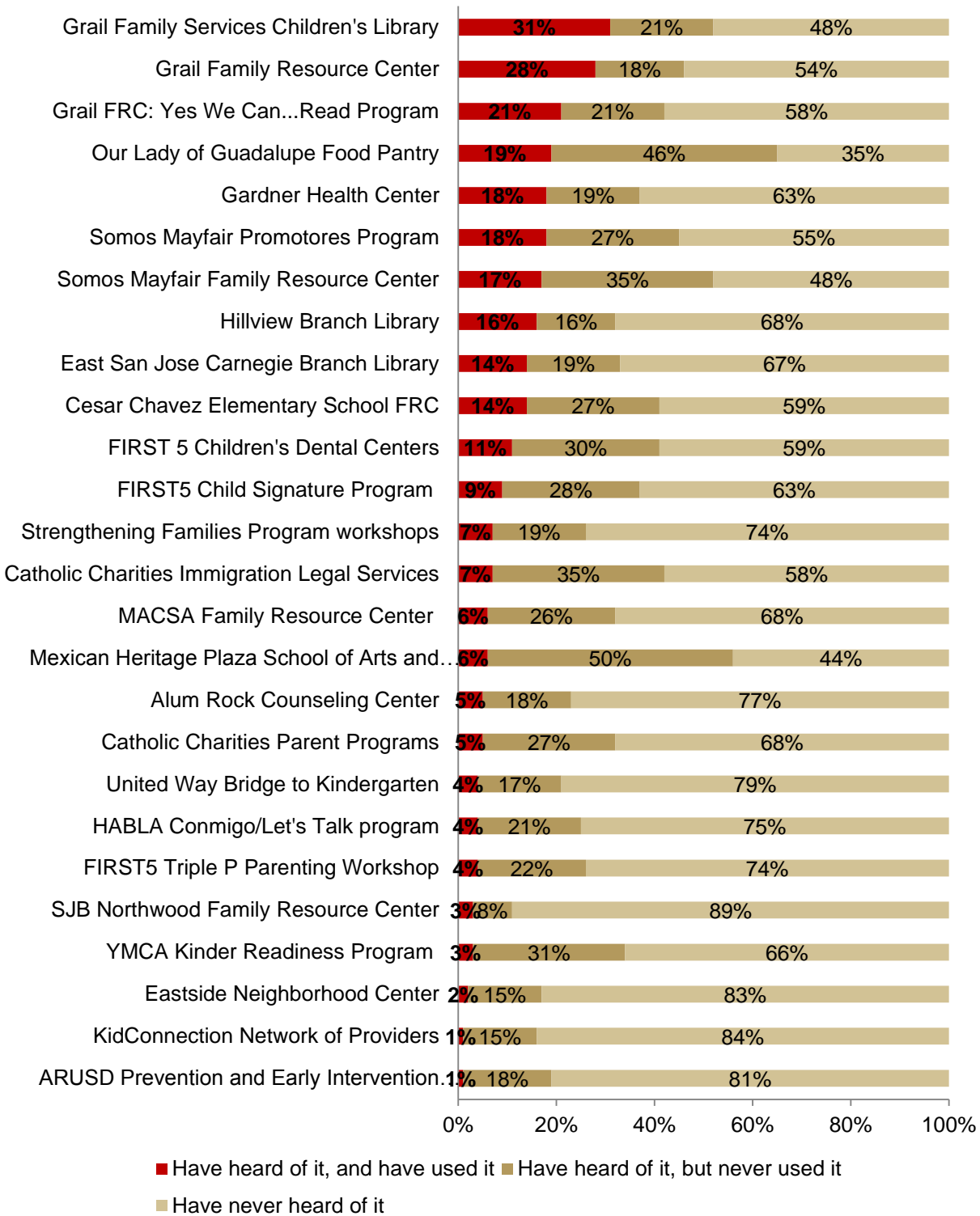
Q23. Supports and Resources: Preferred Types of Activity
 % of Parents According to Degree of Interest in Each Type of Activity



Q24. Useage of and Familiarity with Eligibility Programs and Resources
 % of Parents According to their Usage of and Familiarity with Each Program



Q24b. Usage of and Familiarity with Local Programs and Resources
 % of Parents According to Their Usage of and Familiarity with Each Program



About 0-2 Year Old Children

This section discusses the experience of families with children ages 0-2. The section provides information on health care facilities families use (Q25-26), parental experiences with home-visiting programs (Q27-29), and family childcare arrangements (Q30).

Thirty six caregivers in the sample reported having at least one child ages 0-2. Of those, 34 identified themselves as the children's biological mothers. All the biological moms indicated they had received some form of prenatal care. The following table summarizes mothers' responses when asked where they had received prenatal care:

MEDICAL PROVIDER FOR PRENATAL CARE	# OF PARTICIPANTS
Valley Health Center Bascom	9
Kaiser	7
O'Connor Hospital	5
Gardner Health Center	1
East Valley Health Center	1
Coastside Clinic (Half Moon Bay)	1
Other	11

As to where caregivers take their 0-2 year old children for health care, the following table summarizes their responses:

MEDICAL PROVIDER FOR 0-2 YEAR OLD CHILDREN	# OF PARTICIPANTS
Kaiser	9
Valley Health Center Bascom	4
East Valley Health Center	2
Tully Valley Health Center	2
Other	12

Of the 36 caregivers with at least one 0-2 year old child, four reported that a nurse or health care worker had visited their home in the previous six months to talk about their 0-2 year old child's growth, learning, and development. Three was the number of caregivers who indicated that a parent educator had come to their home in the previous six months. Overall, parents who received home visits, either from a nurse or home educator, indicated that those visits had been very helpful. For those parents ($n = 32$) who had not received a home visit from a nurse or parent educator, 50% said they would be interested in this type of support, 25% said they would not be interested and 25% said they were not sure.

To the question, "When your child is not with you, who **regularly provides child care** for your **0-2 year old**?" 29 of the 36 parents (81%) indicated that they have at least one type of childcare arrangement in place. The table below summarizes parents' responses:

TYPE OF CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENT	# OF PARTICIPANTS
Child care center	13
Relative	12
Friend or Neighbor	3
Babysitter	3
In-home child care provider	1
Other	3

Among the caregivers who reported that their 0-2 year old children attend a Child Care Center, 11 indicated a frequency of 4-5 days a week for a period of four hours or less daily. One caregiver indicated that his/her child attends a Child Care Center five days a week for more than eight hours.

Among the caregivers who reported that a relative cares for their 0-2 year old children, the reported frequency with which they use this form of child care arrangement was two days a week (three caregivers), and three, five, and seven days a week (one caregiver each). Three of the caregivers indicated four hours per day or less and three caregivers indicated five or more hours per day.

About 3-4 Year Old Children

This section discusses the experience of families with children ages 3-4. The section provides information on parental experiences with home visiting programs (Q31-33), family childcare arrangements (Q34), preschool enrollment decisions (Q35), preschool transitions (Q36), how parents get information on preschool programs (Q37), perception of preschool quality (Q38), and family engagement experiences at the child's preschool (Q39).

Forty five caregivers in the sample reported having at least one child ages 3-4. Of those, only four reported having received a home visit in the previous six month from a nurse or health care worker to talk about their 3-4 year old child's growth, learning, and development. Five caregivers reported that a parent educator have paid them a home visit to talk about their 3-4 year old child. Overall, parents who received home visits, either from a nurse or home educator, indicated that those visits had been very helpful. For those parents ($n = 39$) who had not received a home visit from a nurse or parent educator, 44% said they would be interested in this type of support, 28% said they would not be interested and 28% said they are not sure.

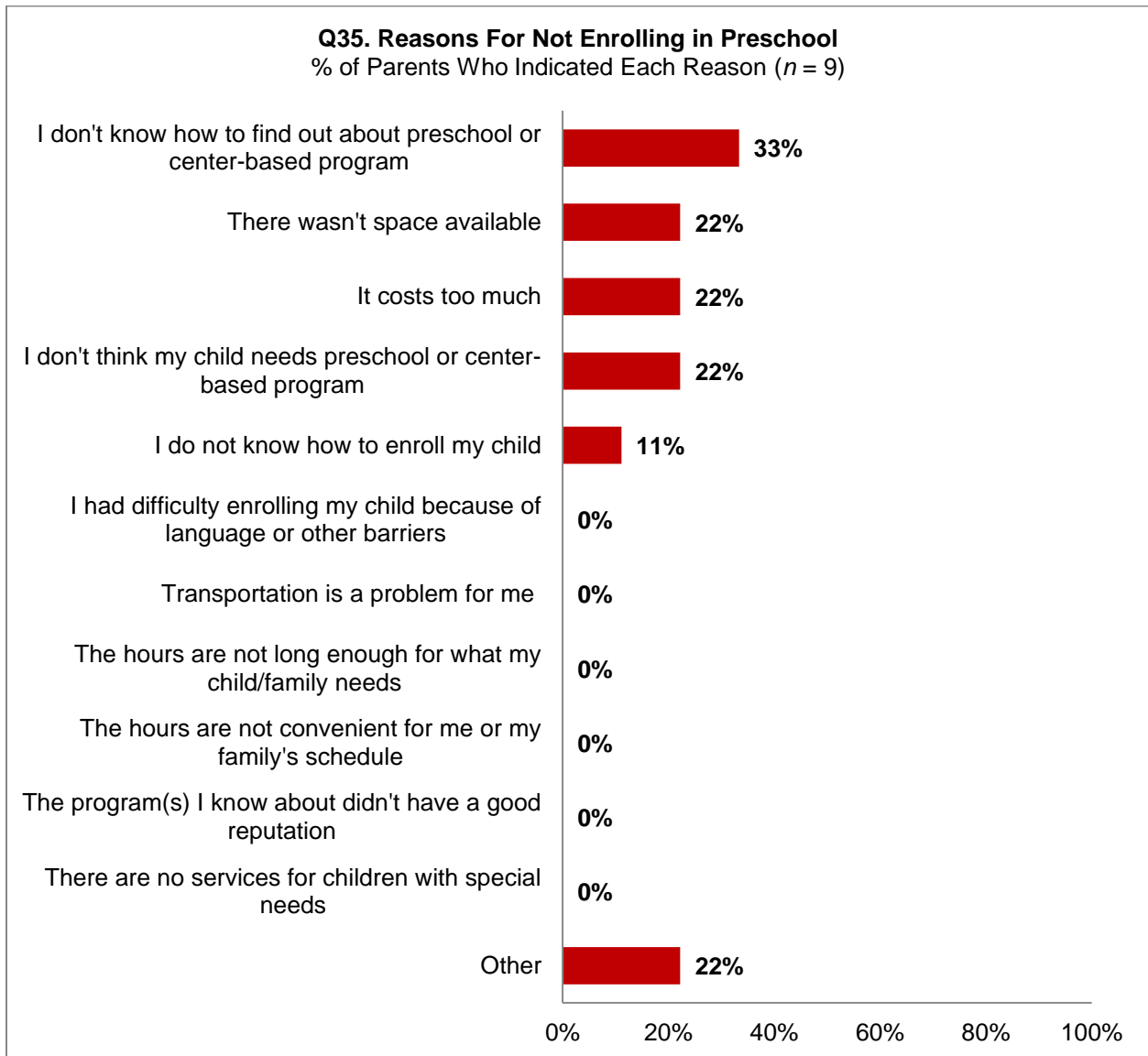
To the question, "When your child is not with you, who **regularly provides child care** for your **3-4 year old**" 36 out of the 45 parents (80%) indicated that they have at least one type of childcare arrangement in place. The table below summarizes parents' responses:

TYPE OF CHILD CARE ARRANGEMENT	# OF PARTICIPANTS
Preschool program or child care center	31
Relative	9
Babysitter	3
In-home child care provider	2
Friend or neighbor	1
Other	2

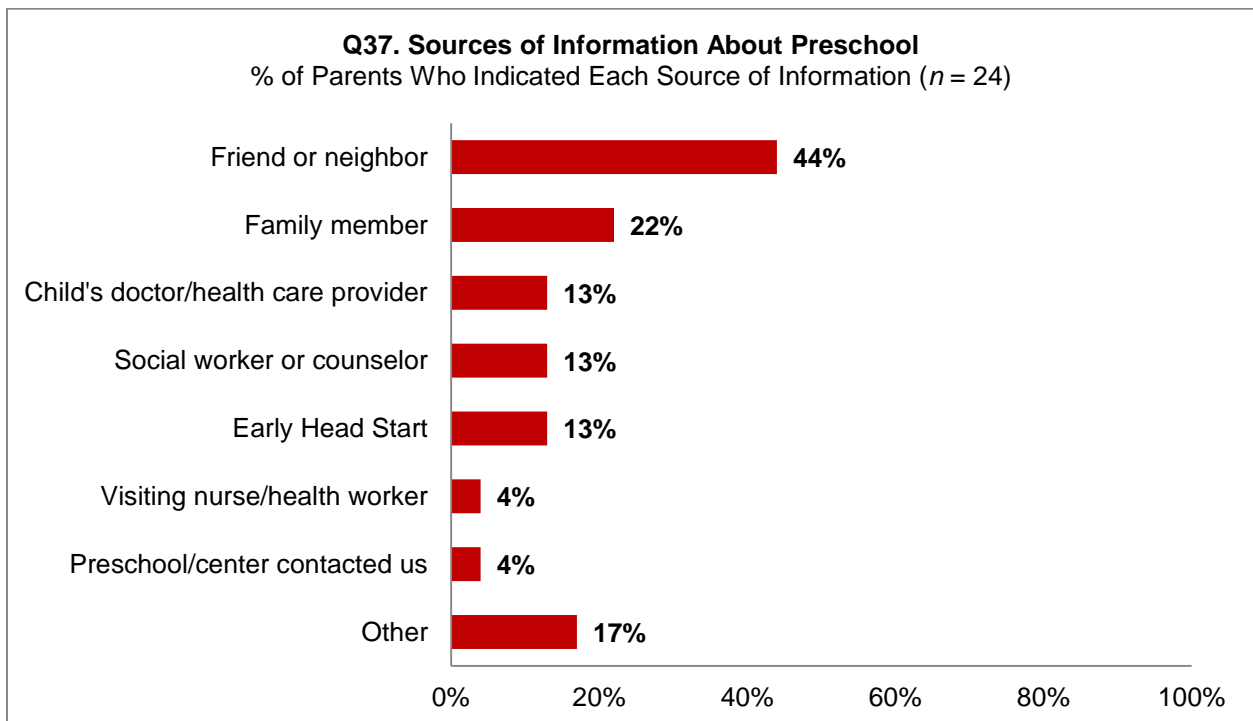
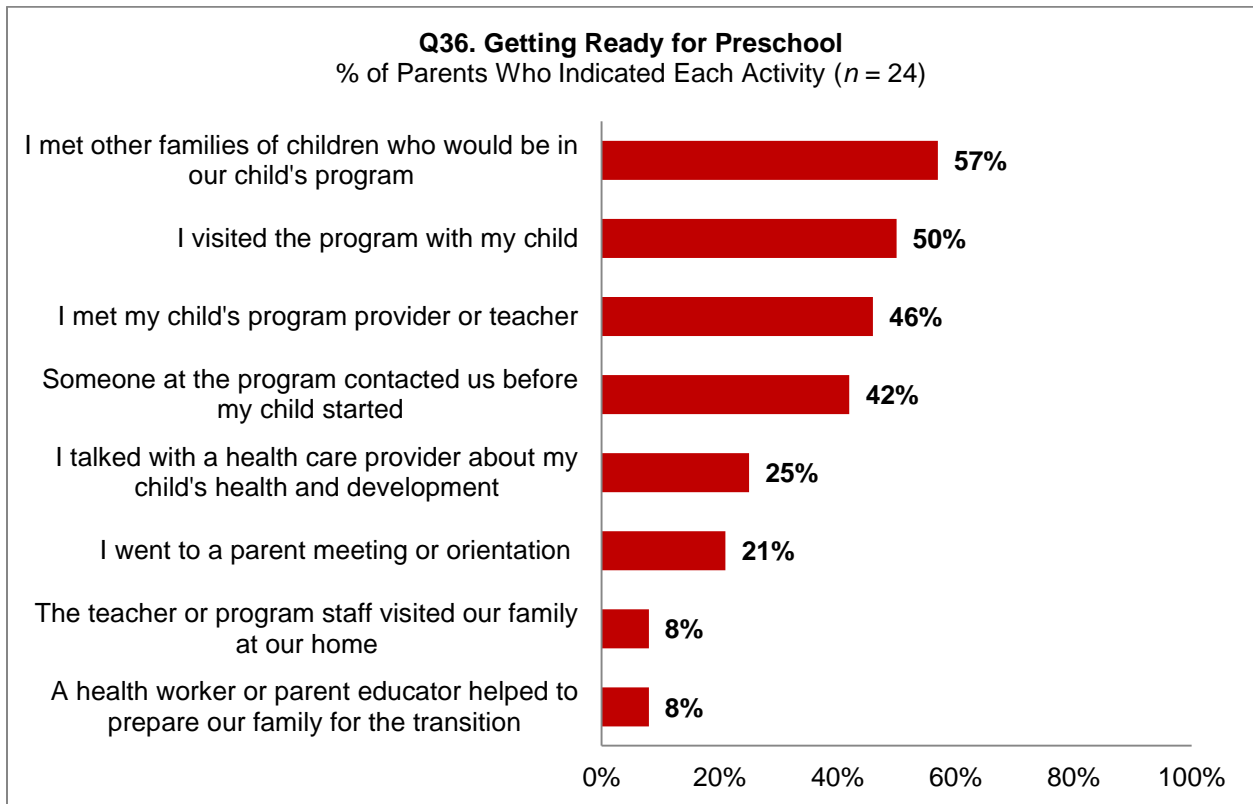
Among the caregivers who reported that their 3-4 year old children attend a preschool program or child care center, 22 indicated that a frequency of 3-5 days a week for a period of four hours or less daily. Two caregivers indicated a frequency of 5 days a week for a period of 5-8 hours daily.

Among the caregivers who reported that a relative takes care of their 3-4 year old children, the reported frequency was 4-5 days a week for a duration of less than four hours daily in the case of four of the caregivers and 5-8 hours daily for one of the caregivers.

Q35 elicited responses only from parents with a 3-4 year old NOT enrolled in preschool. A total of 9 parents answered the question.

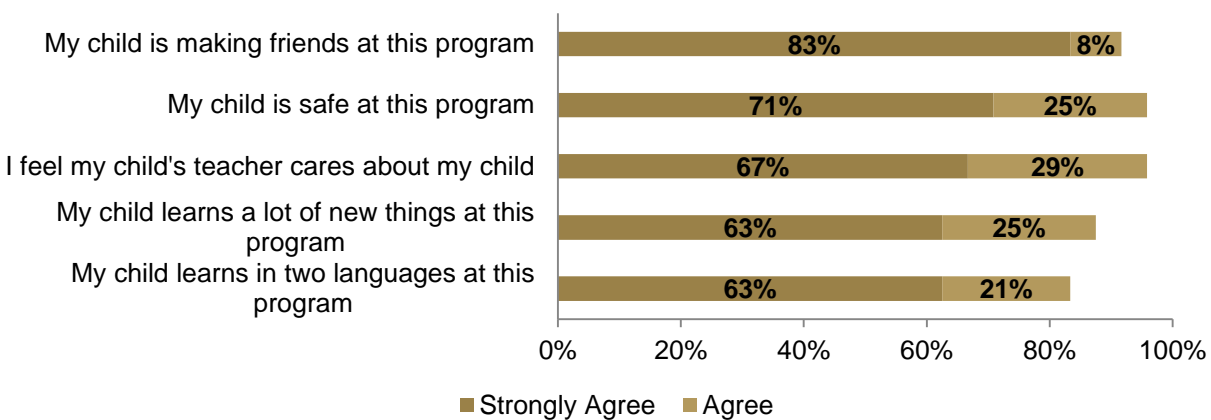


Questions 36-39 elicited responses only from parents with a 3-4 year old enrolled in preschool. A total of 24 parents answered those questions.



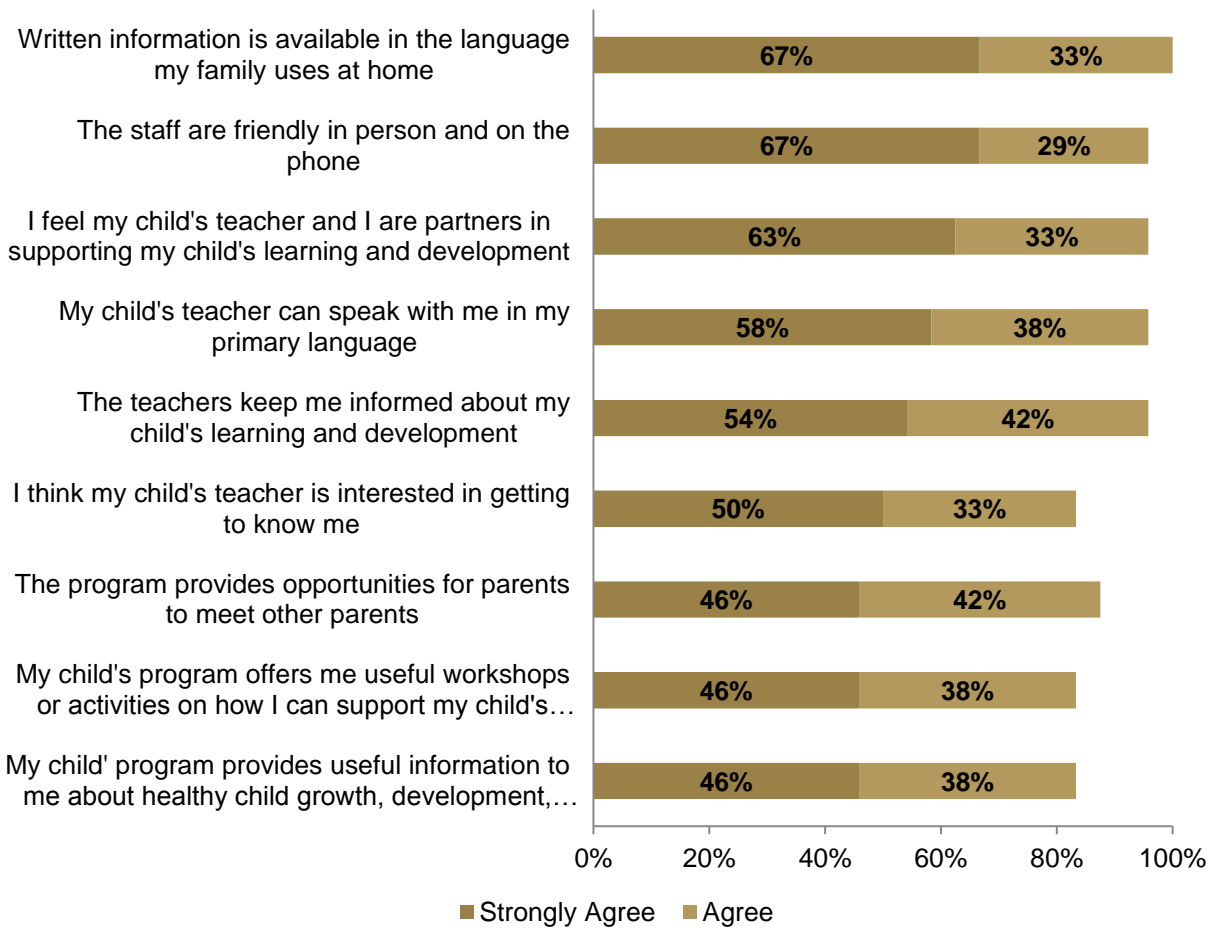
Q38. Perceptions of Preschool Program Quality

% of Parents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed
With Each of the Statements (n = 24)



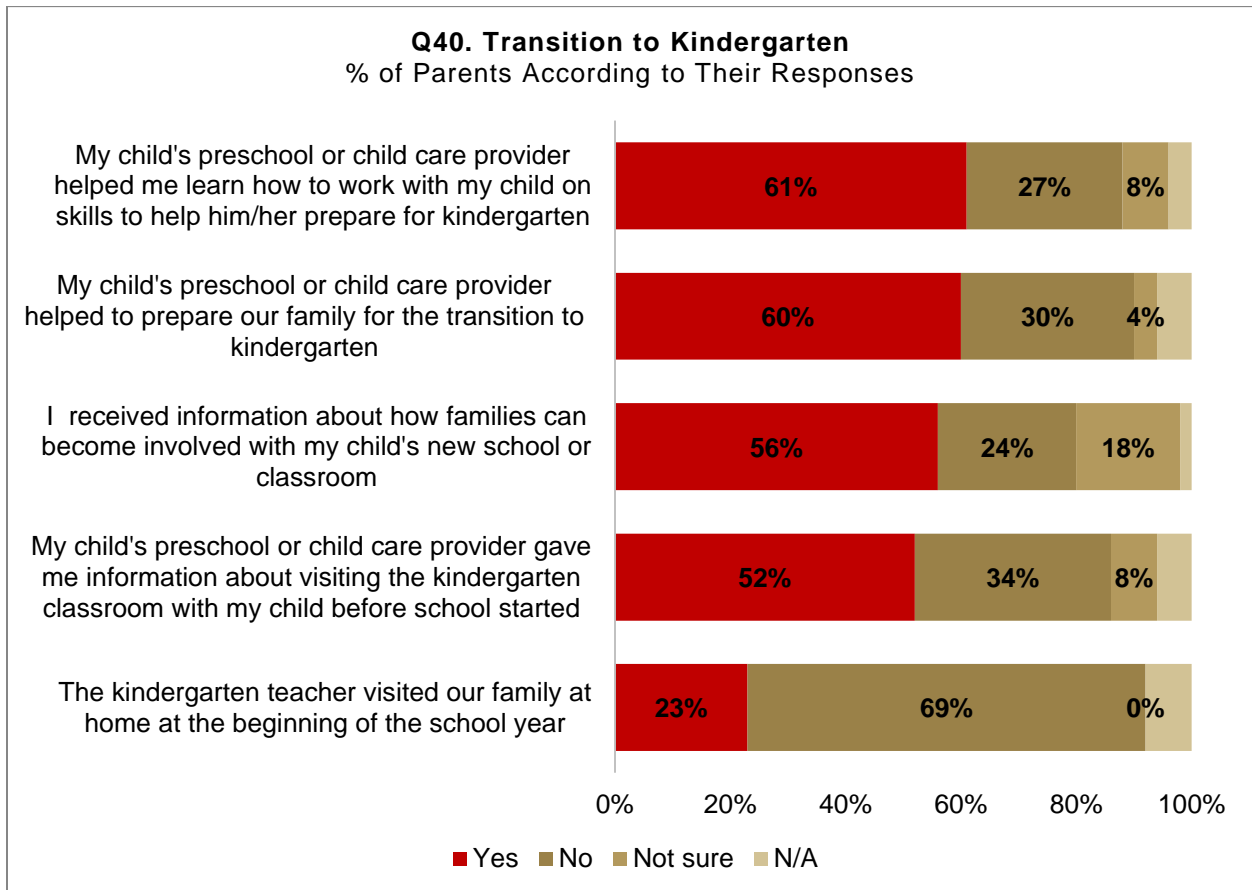
Q39. Interaction with Preschool and Teacher(s)

% of Parents who Agreed or Strongly Agreed with Each Statement (n = 24)

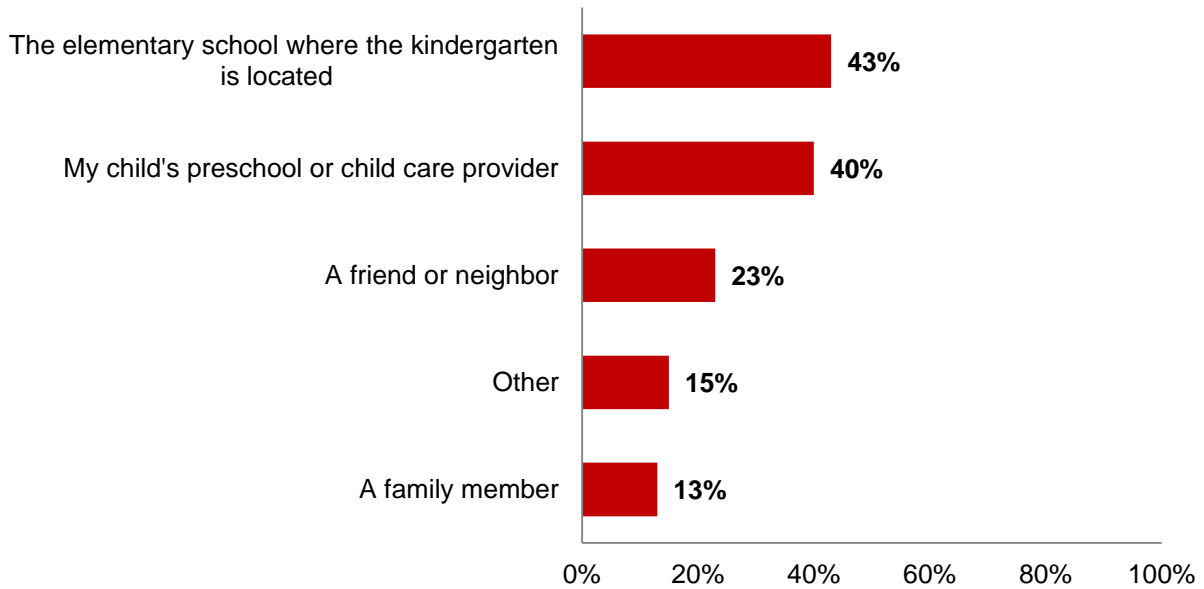


Transition to Kindergarten

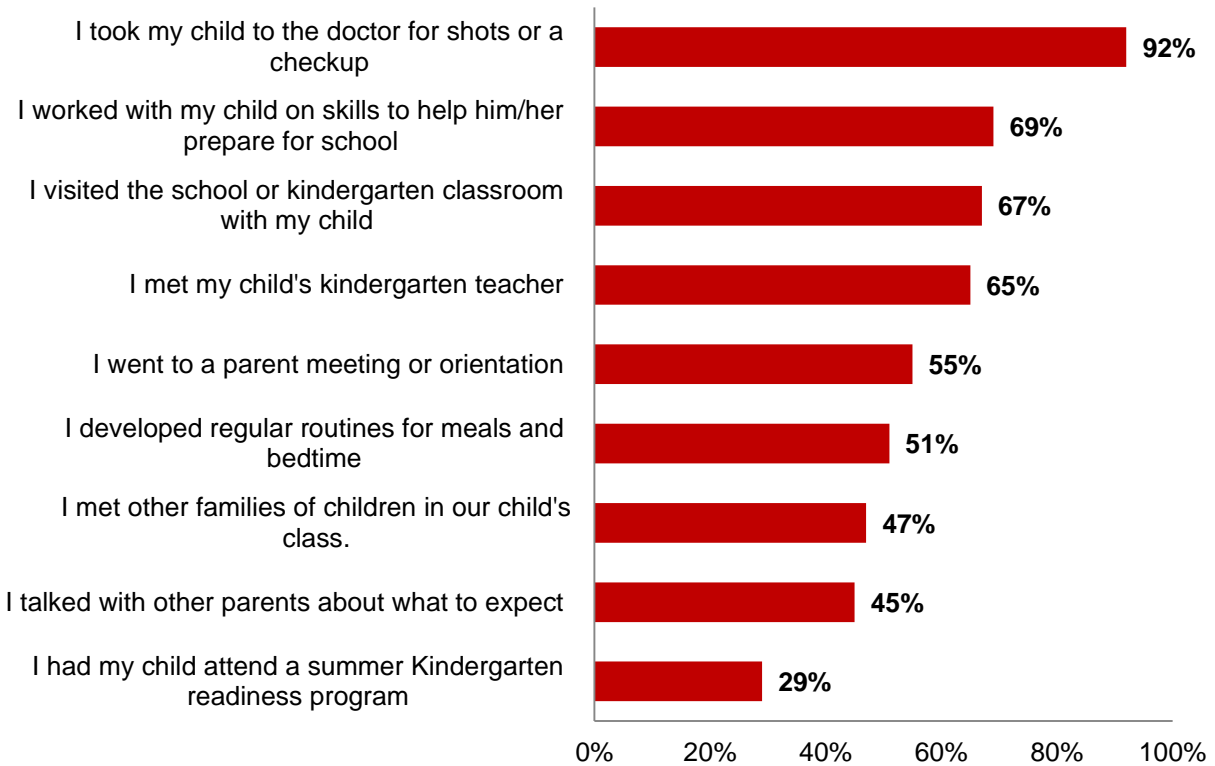
This section was answered by parents whose children were currently in kindergarten. The section discusses kindergarten transition practices by providers (Q40), where families get information on transitions (Q41), parental transition practices (Q42), and parental perceptions of what would have made the transition easier (Q43). Fifty parents responded to this set of questions.



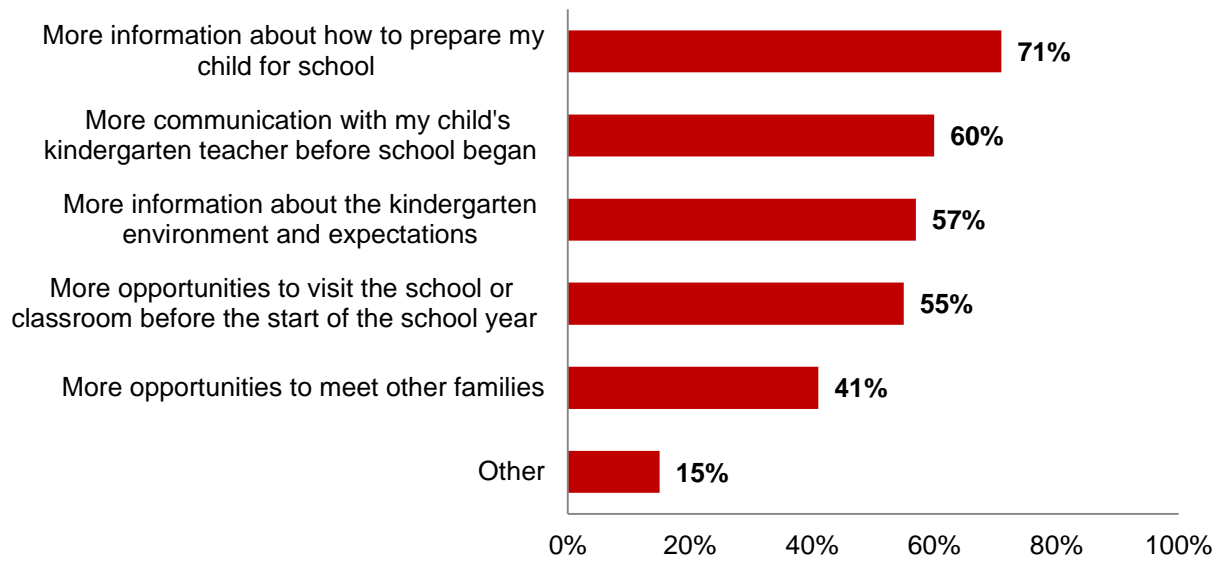
Q41. Sources of Information about Kindergarten
 % of Parents who Indicated Each Source of Information (n = 50)



Q42. Getting My Child Ready for Kindergarten
 % of Parents Who Engaged in Each Activity (n = 50)

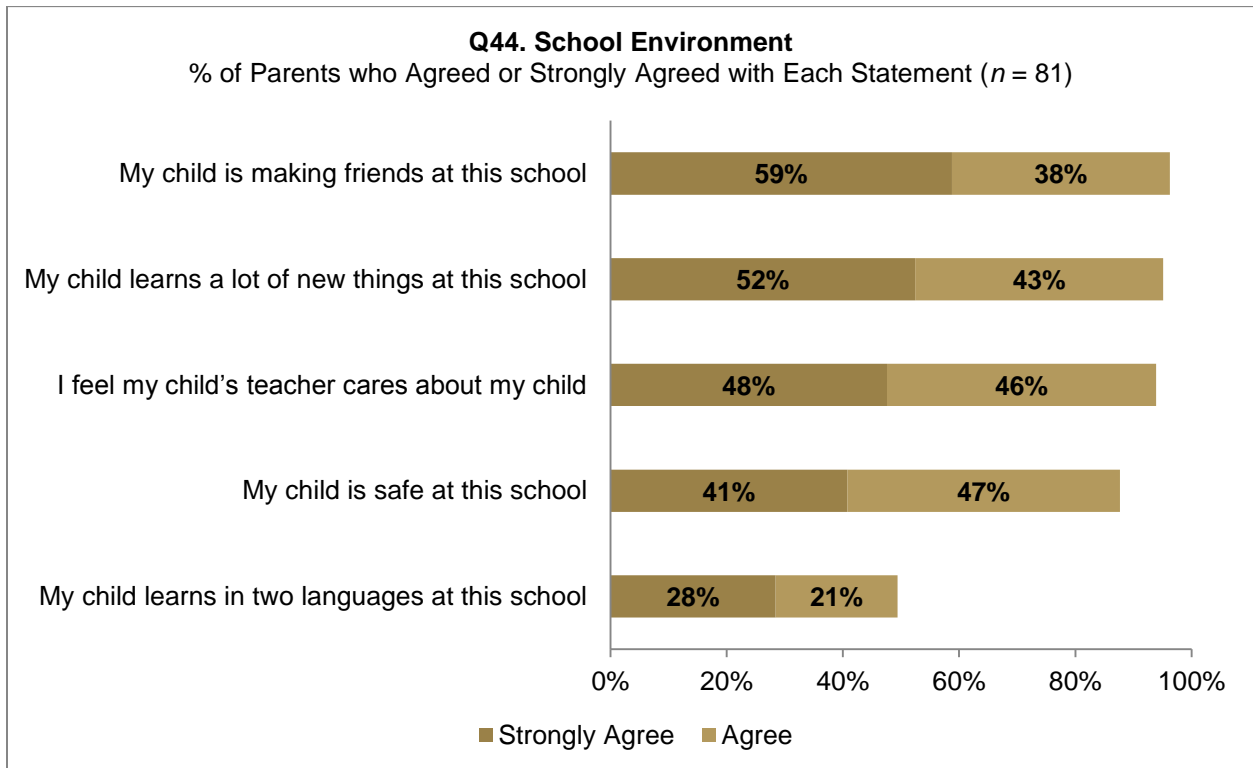


Q43. What Would Make the Transition to Kindergarten Easier?
% of Parents Who Indicated Each Form of Support

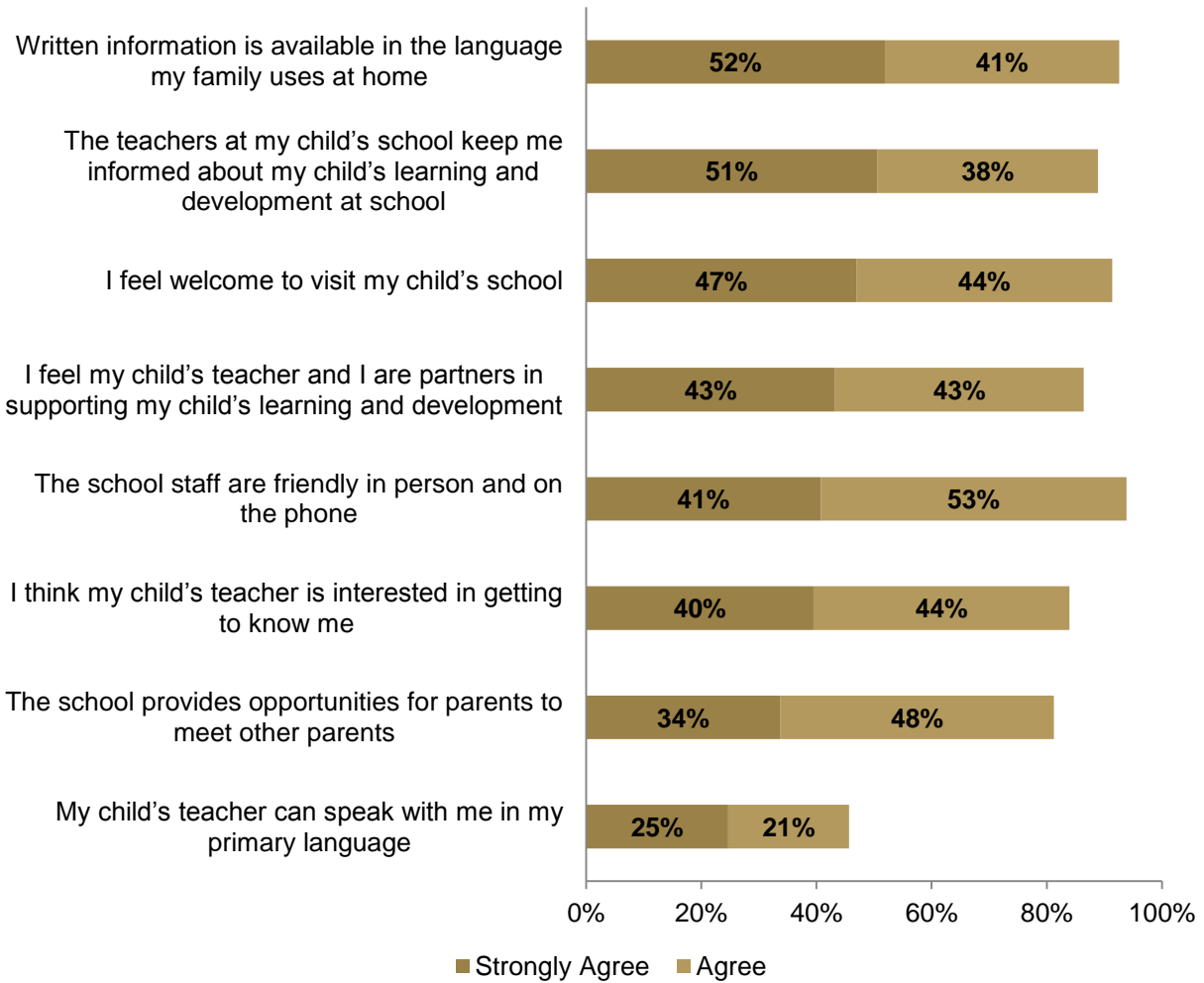


About K-3 Children

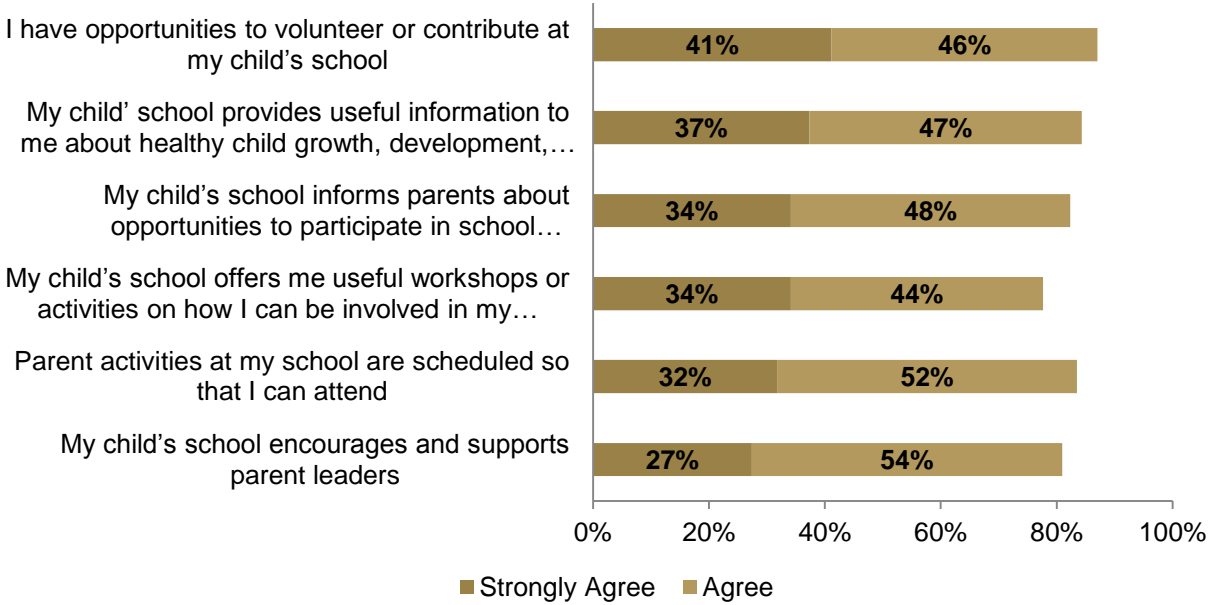
This section was answered by parents who have a child in kindergarten/transitional kindergarten through third grade. The survey asked questions about parental perception of school quality (Q44), parental perception of family engagement at the school (Q45-46), and family childcare arrangements for their school-age child (Q47). Eighty one parents answered this set of questions.



Q45. Interaction with School and Teacher(s)
 % of Parents Who Strongly Agreed or Agreed
 with Each Statement (n = 81)



Q46. School Support for Parent Participation
 % of Parents Who Agreed or Strongly Agreed
 With Each Statement (n = 81)



Q47. Who Most Often Cares for Your 5-8 year old Children When Not in School?

% of Parents by Kind of Childcare Arrangement (n = 81)

