



Wednesday, May 5, 2021 ▪ 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

By Phone: 323.776.6996; Phone Conference ID: 910 080 586#

Reimagining an Equitable Early Care and Education System for Providers and Families

AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------------|--|--------------------|
| 1.
12:00 | Welcome and Introductions
▪ Opening Statement and Comments by the Chair | Julie Taren, Chair |
|-------------|--|--------------------|

A. Consent Calendar

The matter is approved by one motion, unless held.

- | | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| 2.
12:15 | Approval of Minutes
▪ April 7, 2021 | Action Item
Ernesto Saldaña, Vice Chair |
|-------------|--|---|

B. Meeting Matters

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| 3.
12:25 | COVID-19 and Early Care and Education: Update | Michele Sartell, Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education |
| 4.
12:35 | Public Policy Update
▪ Informing the May Revise
▪ Status of Priority Legislation
▪ Proposed Federal Relief for Children and Families | Lisa Wilkin, Co-chair
Joint Committee on Legislation |
| 5.
12:55 | The California Strong Start Index: Informing Resource Allocation to Promote Equity | Regan Foust, Ph.D., Children's Data Network |
| 6.
1:50 | Announcements and Public Comment | Ernesto Saldaña |
| 7.
2:00 | Call to Adjourn | Julie Taren |

Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 2, 2021 ▪ 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Virtually via Microsoft Teams

VISION STATEMENT

Children are healthy, thriving and have equitable opportunities to achieve optimal development and succeed in life.

MISSION STATEMENT

Lead, build and strengthen an affordable and high-quality early care and education system for the children and families of Los Angeles County.

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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



POLICY • PLANNING • PRACTICE

Meeting Minutes – April 7, 2021

Members in Attendance (39)				
Parents/Consumers	ECE Program	Community Agency	Public Agencies	Discretionary
LaRae Cantley	Norma Amezcua	Lisa Cain-Chang	Eileen Carrillo-Lau	Christina Acosta
Jessica Chang	Rocio Bach	Samitha Givens	Melita Ferguson	Kevin Dieterle
Cathy Coddington	Andrea Fernandez	Maria Harris	Nora Garcia-Rosales	La Tanga Hardy
Crystal Jones	Angela Gray	Ariana Oliva	Regina Angelo-Tarango for Ana Lopez	Toni Isaacs
Nellie Ríos-Parra	Nicole Lopez	Kathy Schreiner	Maria Mora	Kelly O'Connell <i>1st Supervisorial District</i>
Ernesto Saldaña	Micha Mims	Edilma Serna	Gabriel Muñoz	Sarah Soriano <i>4th Supervisorial District</i>
Sachin Sangin	Deborah Paratore	Victoria Tarango	Cherise Roper	Julie Taren <i>3rd Supervisorial District</i>
	JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia	Veronica Torres		
	Lisa Wilkin	Laurel Murray for Jana Wright		

Guests and Alternates: Maricris Acon – California Department of Developmental Services (CDDS), Robert Beck – Alternate for Nora Garcia-Rosales, Fran Chasen – Alternate for Julie Taren, January Crane – CDSS, Mariana Dale – KPCC/LAist, Leanne Drogin, Mark Funston – Lakeshore Learning, Sam Loberg – WeeCare, Marcella McKnight – Early Learning Alliance, Vitoria Meira, Giselle Navarro-Cruz – Alternate for La Tanga Hardy, Yanci Panamero – Alternate for Kathy Schreiner, Laura Ramirez – Child360, Cynthia Renteria – Child Care Resource Center, Kelly Reynolds – Early Edge California, Stefanie Ritoper – KPCC/LAist, Maria Teresa Rivas – Harbor Regional Center, Joyce Robinson – Opportunities Exchange, Gina Rodriguez – Alternate for Kevin Dieterle, Michele Rogers – Early Learning Institute, Ancelma Sanchez – Alternate for Lisa Wilkin, Ann Saneto – Catalyst Kids, Fiona Stewart – Alternate for Christina Acosta, Nathaniel Taleon, CDDS, and Ruth Tiscareno – Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Staff: Michele Sartell, Debra Colman, and Erica Weiss

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Julie Taren, Chair of the Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee). She opened the meeting by reading the standardized statement for conducting the virtual meeting. Julie invited Planning Committee members LaRae Cantley and Gabriel Muñoz to read the vision and mission statements.

Julie refreshed meeting participants' memories of this year's theme, "Reimagining an Equitable Early Care and Education System for Providers and Families". She encouraged everyone to keep this in mind by embedding notions of equity throughout presentations and conversations. Julie then commented on the COVID-19 pandemic as a distraction from transitioning the strategic planning work to focused implementation in partnership with the Policy Roundtable for Child Care and Development (Roundtable). She expressed her gratitude for serving as the Planning Committee's

representative to the Roundtable with Ariana Oliva as her alternate, adding that the Roundtable also has been charged by its Chair, Jackie Majors, with framing their policy conversations from an equity lens.

Julie reported that the Roundtable meetings this year have focused discussions on policy strategies to lift to the Board of Supervisors. To that end, as Supervisor Kuehl's appointee to the Planning Committee, she joined Terry Ogawa and Richard Cohen – Supervisor Kuehl's appointees to the Roundtable – in a meeting with staff from the Supervisor's office. Among the policy priorities discussed during the meeting were the challenging reimbursement rate systems that do not meet the cost of operating programs addressed in Senate Bill (SB) 246 (Leyva) and the Governor's underwhelming investments in early care and education included in his proposed budget for FY 2021-22, addressed by the ECE Coalition Letter. As a result of that conversation and Supervisor Kuehl's quick action, the County has adopted pursuits of position in support of SB 246 to create a single, regionalized reimbursement rate system and the ECE Coalition Letter that recommends a \$1.6 billion investment in early care and education.

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

2. Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2021

Ernesto Saldaña, Vice Chair, reviewed the minutes from March 3, 2021 and asked for a motion to approve. Edilma Serna made the motion to approve the minutes; Kevin Dieterle seconded the motion. The minutes were adopted without objection.

B. MEETING MATTERS

3. COVID-19 Early Care and Education: Update

Debra Colman, Director of the Office for the Advancement of Early Care and Education (OAECE), reported that Los Angeles County has officially moved into the orange tier, easing some restrictions and allowing certain activities to resume. She added that rates of new cases are decreasing as are daily test positivity rates and number of hospitalizations of people with COVID-19. A significant number of people have been vaccinated; however, the supply continues to lag the need of all people wanting a vaccine. As of April 1st, all persons 50 years old and older have been eligible for the vaccine and as of April 15th all persons 16 years old and older will be eligible. The Department of Public Health (DPH) continues to work on increasing the rates of vaccinations at multiple venues.

Debra also mentioned the recent revisions to the DPH COVID-19 Guidance for early care and education programs effective April 5th. The revised guidance removes the co-hort limits in a classroom if the program can provide six feet of social distancing among children. She also reported that 79 percent of all licensed programs are open. On Thursday, April 9th the DPH will conduct a telebriefing for early care and education programs with a panel of presenters prepared to answer questions from the audience.

Julie remarked on the good news and applauded everyone for keeping programs operating and serving children and families safely.

4. Public Policy Update: Pursuits of Position

Lisa Wilkin, Co-chair of the Planning Committee and Roundtable's Joint Committee on Legislation, reiterated the County Board of Supervisors adopted pursuits of position in support of SB 246 (Leyva) pertaining to streamlining the current dual reimbursement rate system into a single, regionalized

reimbursement rates system for subsidized early care and education services and in support of the ECE Coalition Letter released in February 2021. Amendments to SB 246 are pending posting pursuant to the hearing held by the Senate Committee on Human Services held on April 13th and will include increasing the reimbursement rate to the 85th percentile of the regional market rate as of 2018. SB 246 will next be heard by the Senate Committee on Appropriations. She also pointed to the slide that summarizes the breakdown of budget proposals included in the ECE Coalition letter.

Lisa explained the process for prioritizing bills for the purposes of monitoring. The legislature returned from its spring recess on April 5th and hearings on bills are now underway. She added that amendments are common to the process and may include further refining the purpose and goals of a bill and/or responding to recommendations to address important impacts. She briefly reviewed each bill as it was listed in the slide deck.

Lisa ended her presentation by announcing the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 15th from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. with an invitation for anyone interested to join the committee. Julie thanked the Joint Committee for their work.

5. Promoting Integration between Early Care and Education and Early Identification/Early Intervention Services

Fran Chasen, Alternate to Julie Taren, joined the meeting as the Policy Chair for the Infant Development Association to introduce the panel discussion for promoting collaboration to enhance family participation in Early Start, an early intervention program that provides coordinated services for infants and toddlers with disabilities. In her introduction, Fran thanked the Access and Inclusion Work Group for their commitment to bringing this agenda item to the Planning Committee.

Maria Rivas of Harbor Regional Center kicked off the panel by directing meeting participants to her slide deck entitled “Regional Center Early Start Services: 0-3 years Old”. The slide deck included a map illustrating the network of regional centers across the state available to serve children and families, seven of which are located within Los Angeles County. Maria emphasized the importance of knowing the service areas of the regional centers with an understanding that each may operate differently. Maria then explained the referral process and listed information for referring a family for an assessment to determine if the child is eligible for services. Maria discussed the development of the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) based on the assessment conducted in partnership with the family members who will be engaged in helping the child meet their developmental goals. Maria spoke to the type of supports available to further help the family meet its goals and then listed the regional center funded services inclusive of speech, physical and occupational therapy, behavior services and center-based programs. Maria also mentioned the Family Resource Centers that provide additional supports to families with children with special needs, including parent mentors and support groups, lending libraries, and classes. As the child approaches 2.6 years old, the regional center works on a transition plan with the family for transfer of continuous services to the school district for continuous services, which may require a new assessment and the preparation of an Individual Education Program (IEP). Assistance with a transition to Head Start or another preschool program also is provided. Maria concluded her presentation with the referral/intake contact information for Harbor Regional Center with a promise to send a referral list for each of the regional centers soon.

Maricris Acon of the California Department of Developmental Services (CDSS) introduced her colleagues, January Crane and Nathaniel Taleon. Referencing the slide deck, Maricris gave a brief overview of Early Start that encompassed the background, federal requirements, and state law. Of the federal funds received by CDSS, \$457 million is dedicated to Early Start. While regional centers provide lifelong services to persons with disabilities, Early Start coordinates services for the

youngest children, ages birth to three. The aim of the program is to enhance the family's capacity to meet the needs of their child and help the child meet their full potential within daily life. Maricris reviewed the referral process, noting that anyone may make a referral through the points of entry inclusive of the regional centers and local education agencies. Her slide deck included a graphic illustrating the delivery of services since January 18, 2019, showing a significant dip in March 2020 consistent with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The next graph also showed the differences in assessments by month between 2019 and 2020. Los Angeles County is amongst the counties with significant decreases in the numbers of children referred and assessed for Early Start services. Meeting participants then viewed a public service announcement with a message from California Surgeon General Dr. Nadine Burke Harris regarding Early Start as a resource for families with concerns about their child's development. January Crane added other outreach resources available to help connect families with Early Start and opportunities to partner to ensure that families are aware that services are continuing during COVID-19, albeit in different formats. Additional information is available through a Baby Warmline at 1.800.515.BABY (2229).

Michele Rodgers of Early Learning Institute talked about Tele-Intervention and Early Start and Why It Works. She noted that "one size does not fit all" and listed other ways that Early Start is meeting the needs of families. The primary goal of early intervention has always been to coach the parent/caregiver in their interactions with the child during everyday routines and activities to encourage the child's development. She concluded with her final slide on how early care and education programs can help communicate that regional center and Early Start services are continuing. As a resource, Michele referred to Learn the Signs/Act Early (see <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html>), which has an app and checklist for parents to monitor their child's development. Her final slide offered a list of additional resources.

Fran thanked the speakers and opened the meeting to questions and comments. Questions and comments touched upon the best strategies for making referrals, the importance of building relationships with regional center and Early Start staff, the value of ongoing developmental observations and screenings of children in partnership with parents, and the need for good data on children with IFSPs and IEPs. A suggestion was made that more cross-training is needed on identifying children with special needs and speaking with parents so that they do not feel that their child is stigmatized and for ensuring that the child is able to maintain their space in an early care and education program once assessed for Early Start services. The goal is to make the services available in partnership with the early care and education program.

Julie thanked the presenters. Fran mentioned that resources will be included in the final meeting packet posted to the Child Care Planning Committee page of the Office for the Advancement website at <https://childcare.lacounty.gov/planning-committee/>.

6. Workforce Pathways LA – Workforce Systems Improvement: Forum Planning Sub-Committee Report and Discussion

Julie reminded meeting participants of last month's meeting that included a brief update on the data gathering efforts that will go into a report on the professional development landscape in Los Angeles County as part of Workforce Pathway LA, funded by the California Department of Education presented by Toni Isaacs and Fiona Stewart. Julie prefaced the next update pertaining to workforce systems improvement work that will include a report that will be released at a public forum that is being planned for early summer.

Samitha Givens, Co-chair with Andrea Fernandez of the Forum Planning Sub-committee, began her comments by thanking those members serving on the sub-committee for their work and invited them to add to the conversation. She announced that the virtual event to release the report is planned for

the morning of Monday June 14, 2021. The sub-committee is working on an agenda that is considering pulling together a panel to respond to guided conversation that will answer questions pertaining to supporting early educators in all program types in their career journeys and what is needed to achieve equitable access to professional development opportunities. Additional questions will focus on efforts underway and/or needed to build the capacity of the workforce to meet the individualized needs of children (such as dual language learners, children with special needs, experienced trauma, etc.). She added that interest has been raised on learning about the impact of the current climate on professional development, including but not limited to the COVID-19 pandemic and the shift of quality dollars from the California Department of Education to the Department of Social Services.

To date, the sub-committee has been compiling a list of invitees who would likely benefit from the report, such as leaders in higher education, entities engaged in offering trainings, elected officials, funders and more. The sub-committee also has brainstormed a list of potential speakers and panelists. Thus far, an invitation has been extended to Supervisor Holly Mitchell to make opening remarks given her deep knowledge and affection as well as a champion for early care and education. Samitha next invited meeting participants to offer their suggestions for the event.

Samitha concluded by mentioning the next meeting of the sub-committee scheduled for Monday, April 12th at 2:45 p.m.

7. Announcements and Public Comment

Ernesto reminded members, alternates, and guests to send their announcements to Michele for distribution via e-mail. He then invited public comment.

- Nicole Lopez, Co-chair of the Governance Work Group with JoAnn Shalhoub-Mejia, reminded members that if they have not already done so, to return their form of interest if they are planning to continue their membership for FY 2021-22. She added that recruitment for new members is ongoing through April 21st. Applications are available at <https://childcare.lacounty.gov/planning-committee/>.
- Michele Sartell, staff to the Planning Committee, announced that the Voluntary, Temporary Transfer of Funds for California Department of Education-contracted programs anticipating under- or over-earning of their contracts was launched on March 24th. Requests to participate are due by April 14th. An orientation for agencies interested in participating is scheduled for Thursday, April 8th from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Additional information at VTTF as well as the request forms are available at <https://childcare.lacounty.gov/planning-committee/#1556031975116-fc4acc99-8be0>.
- The Infant Development Association is holding their annual Vivian Weinstein Leadership Day on May 3, 2021. This year's topic is "Supporting Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Their Families". For more information, visit <https://www.idaofcal.org/>.

8. Adjournment

Julie thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting and the presentations.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

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Public Policy Report

Child Care Planning Committee
May 5, 2021



OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- Informing the May Revise
 - Assembly and Senate Budget Priorities
 - Status of Federal Relief for ECE
 - ECE Coalition Budget Priorities and Advocacy
- Status of Priority Legislation
- Proposed Federal Relief for Children and Families
 - American Jobs Plan
 - American Families Plan

Informing the May Revise

- Governor expected to release revisions to the 2021-22 budget proposed in January the week of May 10th (“May Revise”)
- Revisions based on latest economic forecasts

Informing the May Revise – Senate Priorities

- “Build Back Boldly” – Senate Democrats Budget Priorities for 2021-22 and Beyond (April 13, 2021)
 - Path to “0-3” Universal Access to Early Care and Education proposes:
 - Adding 200,000 slots for working families toward universal access for ages 0 to 3.
 - Establishing childcare worker apprenticeship/training program.
 - Reducing cost to working families by reducing/eliminating family fees.
 - Increasing rates to achieve livable wage for childcare workers.
 - Stabilizing and retaining providers as the state emerges from the pandemic

<https://sbud.senate.ca.gov/sites/sbud.senate.ca.gov/files/Build%20Back%20Boldly%20Senate%20Democrats%20Budget%20Priorities.pdf>.

Informing the May Revise – Assembly Priorities

- “Assembly Budget Blueprint – A Budget of Opportunity” (April 28, 2021)
 - Early Care and Education
 - Respond: Early Care and Education: 1 million slots by 2025, universal TK starting 2021
 - Sample of additional statements of value and intent:
 - Preserve: Provide multi year funding packages with one time federal and state funds
 - Recover: Lift up communities of color and women most impacted by the pandemic as part of Anti Racism Investment Portfolio

<https://a19.asmdc.org/sites/a19.asmdc.org/files/pdf/budget-opportunity-fnl.pdf>



INFORMING THE MAY REVERSE – STATUS OF FEDERAL RELIEF FOR EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

Federal Relief Packages

- Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act
 - \$3.5B for child care programs
- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA)
 - \$10B for child care
- American Rescue Plan (ARP)
 - \$39.6B for child care

<https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4419>



INFORMING THE MAY REVISE - ECE COALITION BUDGET PRIORITIES

- Sets the stage for increased investment
- Funding allocations captures federal funds received and anticipated (CARES, ARP)
 - Direct Services
 - Reimbursement rate increase and reforming the system
 - Family fees waivers
 - Hold harmless
 - Infrastructure Supports
 - Facilities and comprehensive services (wellness hubs)
 - Professional development
 - Stipends and incentives to reach highest need communities

STATUS OF PRIORITY LEGISLATION

- AB 22 (McCarty) – Preschool and TK Enrollment
- AB 92 (Reyes) – Family Fees
- AB 321 (Valladares) – Priority Enrollment for DLLs
- AB 479 (Grayson) – Secondary Licenses for FCCHs
- AB 791 (Aguiar-Curry) – Trauma-informed Training
- AB 865 (Quirk-Silva) – Alternative Payment Progs
- AB 1345 (Wicks) – FEMA Support for ECE
- AB 1361 (Blanca Rubio) – Expulsion/Suspension, Mental Health Services, and Reimbursement Rates
- AB 1363 (Luz Rivas) – Dual Language Learners
- SB 50 (Limón) – Early Learning and Care
- SB 246 (Leyva) – Reimbursement Rate Reform

PROPOSED FEDERAL RELIEF FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- American Jobs Plan
 - Upgrade child care facilities and build new supply in high need areas
- American Families Plan
 - 4 years of free education
 - Universal preschool for all 3- and 4-year-old-children
 - 2 years of free community college
 - Access to quality, affordable child care
 - Families to pay no more than 7% of income to child care
 - Free to lowest income families
 - 12 weeks of paid family leave
 - Extension of child tax credit

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/03/31/fact-sheet-the-american-jobs-plan/>
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/28/fact-sheet-the-american-families-plan/>

Joint Committee on Legislation
Co-chairs:
Dean Tagawa (Roundtable)
Lisa Wilkin (Planning Committee)

Meets 3rd Thursday of the month beginning on
May 20, 2021 from 12-2 p.m.

Contact: Michele Sartell
msartell@ph.lacounty.gov · 323.594.1244

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

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Speaker Bio • May 5, 2021

The California Strong Start Index: Informing Resource Allocation to Promote Equity

REGAN FOUST, PH.D. – CHILDREN'S DATA NETWORK

Regan is the Executive Director of the Children's Data Network (CDN). An experienced researcher, project manager, and data translator, she works closely with data, research, and funding partners to pursue and communicate the CDN's transdisciplinary research agenda, inform children's programs/policies, and build the capacity of government agencies to make better use of their own data. Formerly, as Senior Manager, Data and Research for the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, she managed kidsdata.org, guided development and implementation of child health and well-being initiatives, and stewarded strategic data and communication partnerships. She also comes with prior experience replicating effective youth development interventions and evaluating and improving child welfare and educational programs. Dr. Foust holds a doctorate in Educational Psychology from the University of Virginia and a B.A. in Psychology from University of California, Davis.

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the california strong start index:

informing resource allocation to promote equity

Regan Foust, PhD

Emily Putnam Hornstein, PhD

John Prindle, PhD

Andrea Lane Eastman, PhD

Jacquelyn McCroskey, DSW

Children's Data Network

University of Southern California

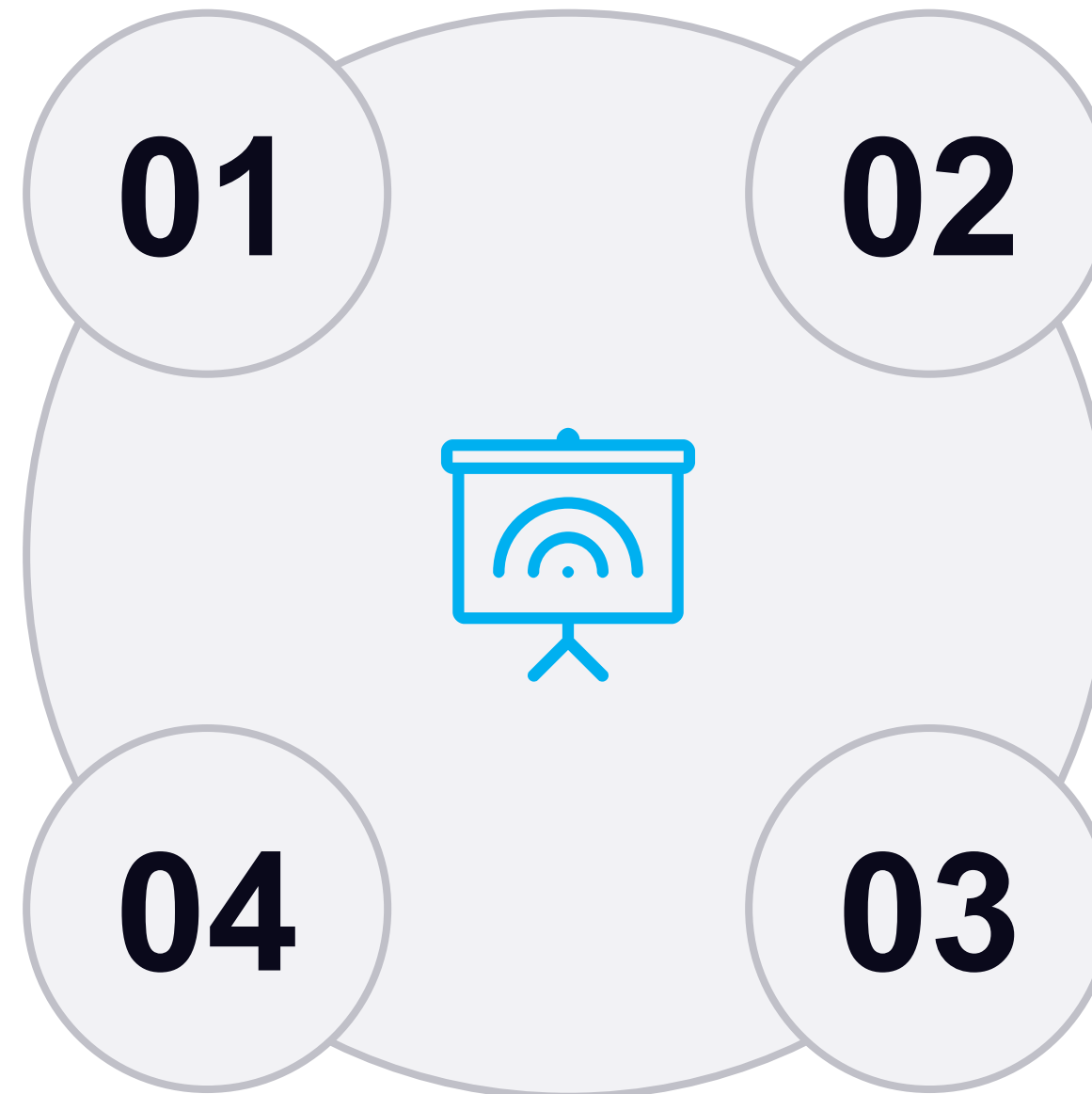
May 5th, 2021

today's agenda

the CDN at USC

who we are, what we do.

implications and applications



project context

motivation, opportunity

CA strong start index

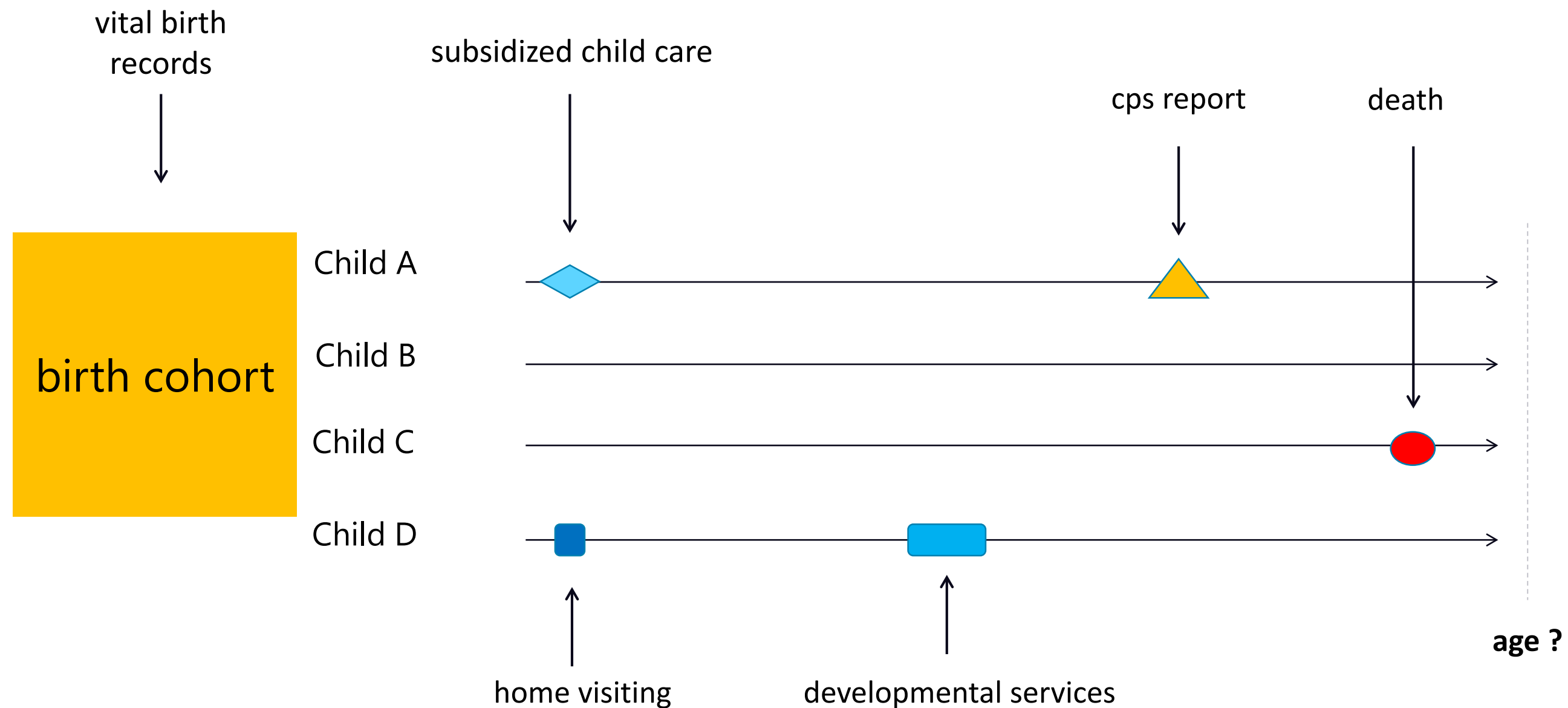
informing resource allocation to
promote equity

the children's data network.

01

Harnessing the scientific potential of linked, administrative data to inform children's programs and policies.

large-scale, administrative birth cohort study



*understand **health, well-being, public service trajectories, and outcomes** for entire populations in a way that is **specific, valid, and highly efficient***

birth record data

- Universally collected
- First data collected about an individual (start to life!)
- Provides a population-base for prospective analyses
- Decent amount of information can be harvested
- Standardized fields with documentation (simple files)
- Information for three individuals (child, mother, father)

project context.

02

data driven investments...

need data

limitations

- costly community needs assessments
- survey-based, county-level estimates
- data focused on adults
- discrete / unidimensional indicators
- deficit-focused

*could information from
birth records,
thoughtfully assembled
and simply scored, be
used to help
communities more
efficiently and equitably
allocate resources?*

opportunities

- consistently collected, population data
- local to communities / neighborhoods
- holistic, child & family level information
- asset-focused

strong start index.

03

california strong start index

the california strong start index **summarizes the conditions into which children are born**

it comprises **12 indicators from birth records** that have been shown to be related to good outcomes for children

it can be used to more **holistically (and efficiently) characterize children** across (and within) california communities, making it an important tool that can help first 5s and policy makers target resources where they are needed most

TABLE 1. CALIFORNIA STRONG START INDEX INDICATORS

FAMILY

- Legal parentage established at birth
- Born to non-teen parents
- Born to parents with at least a High School degree

HEALTH

- Healthy birth weight
- Absence of congenital anomalies, abnormalities, or complications at birth
- Absence of a transmissible (mother-to-child) infections

SERVICE

- Access to and receipt of timely prenatal care
- Receipt of nutritional services (WIC) if eligible
- Hospital with high percentage of births with timely prenatal care

FINANCIAL

- Ability to afford and access healthcare
- Born to a parent with a college degree
- Born to parents with employment history

california strong start index

strong start scores are calculated by simply **counting the number of assets present (0-12)**

child-specific scores are geocoded by the mother's residential address, and then **aggregated by census tract**

means for all census tracts in california are placed along a continuum, and then **grouped into quintiles** (e.g., 20% groupings), each representing where that census tract's mean score falls relative to all other census tracts in california.



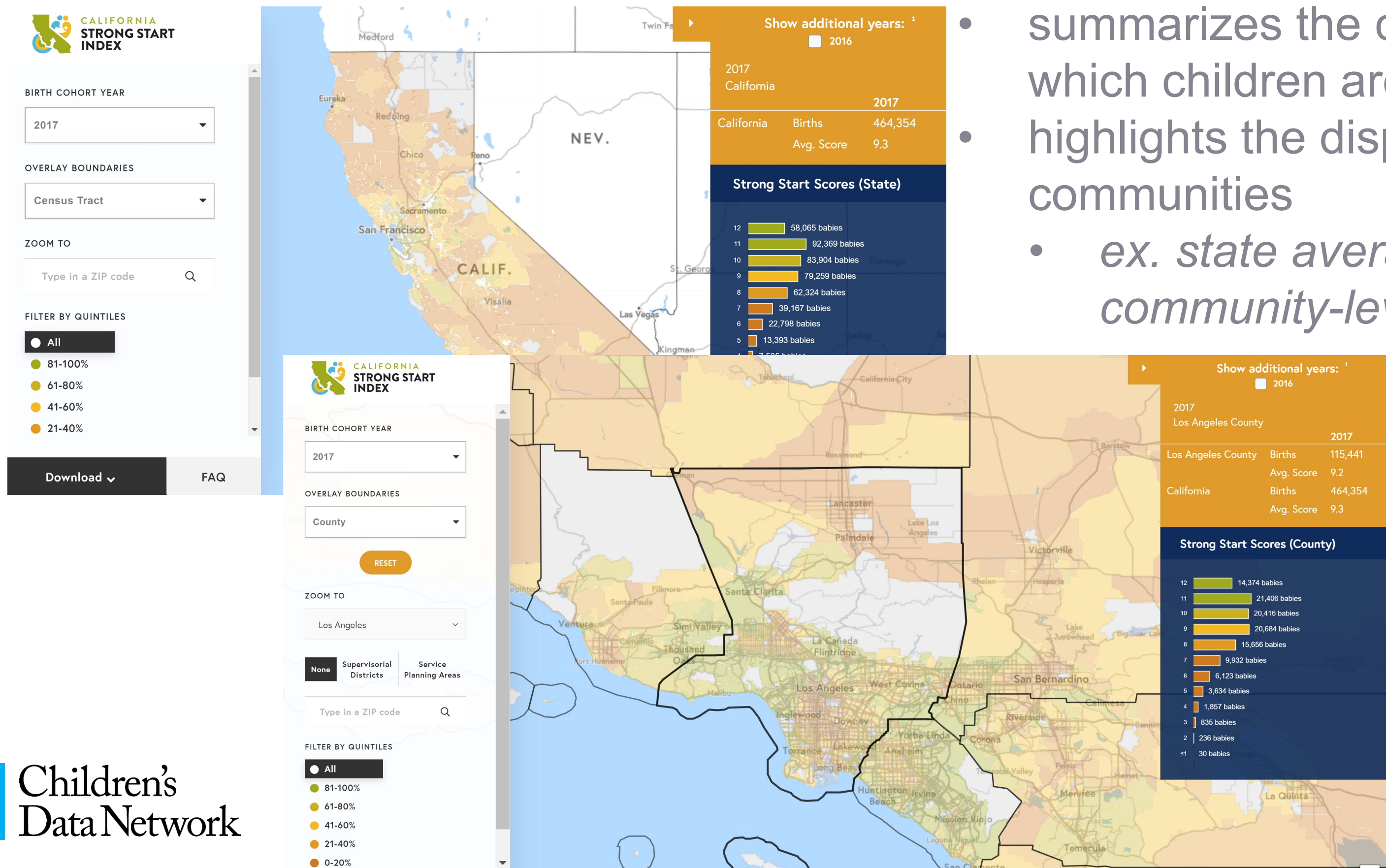
implications.



04

california strong start index

www.strongstartindex.org



- summarizes the conditions into which children are born
- highlights the disparities between communities
 - *ex. state average = 9, but wide community-level variation*

helps policy makers target resources where they are needed most

benefits

for those working on behalf of young children and their families:

- strengths-based
- specific to population of interest
- data are local and statewide
- data are at an *individual level*, so the scores can be validated
 - the strong start index demonstrated a **strong, graded relationship** with the predicted probability of:
 - **cps involvement** (pseudo- $r^2=0.108$; auc: 0.732)
 - **death** (pseudo- $r^2=0.064$; auc: 0.737) before age 5

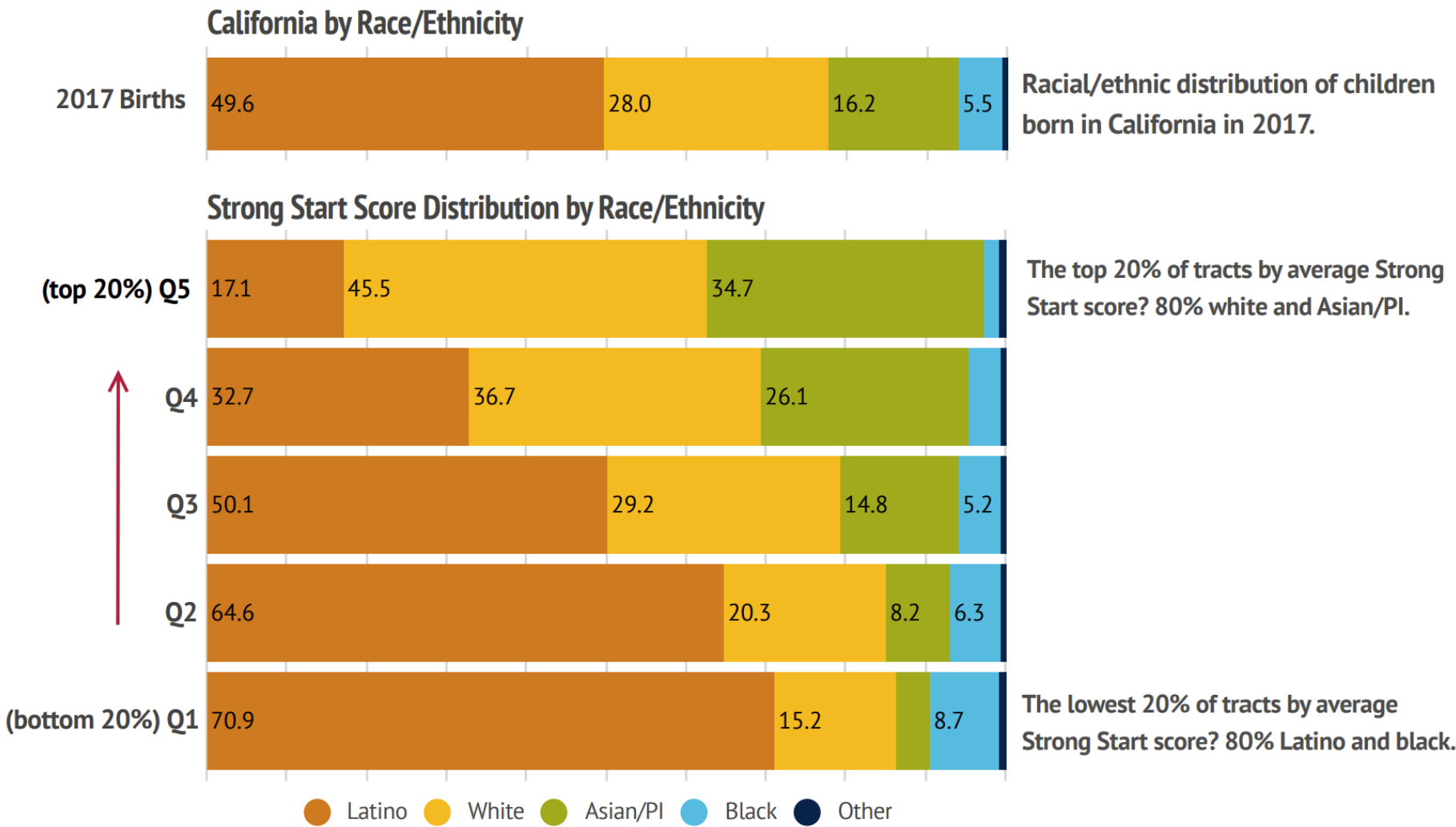
benefits

- easily disaggregated to assess disparities



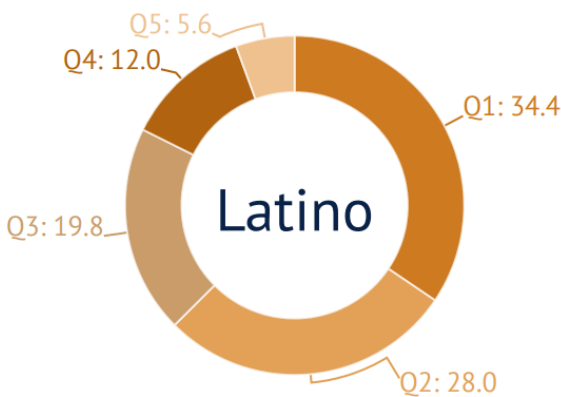
Racial/Ethnic Distributions

strongstartindex.org



	California	Q1 (bottom 20%)	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5 (top 20%)	Average Score (SD)
White	129,996 (28.0%)	16,968 (15.2%)	20,299 (20.3%)	26,559 (29.2%)	31,163 (36.7%)	34,392 (45.5%)	10.0 (1.9)
Black	25,494 (5.5%)	9,689 (8.7%)	6,297 (6.3%)	4,725 (5.2%)	3,312 (3.9%)	1,419 (1.9%)	8.2 (2.4)
Latino	230,346 (49.6%)	79,201 (70.9%)	64,420 (64.6%)	45,645 (50.1%)	27,752 (32.7%)	12,938 (17.1%)	8.6 (1.9)
Asian/PI	75,151 (16.2%)	4,855 (4.3%)	8,179 (8.2%)	13,469 (14.8%)	22,185 (26.1%)	26,265 (34.7%)	10.4 (1.5)
Other*	3,367 (0.7%)	943 (0.8%)	569 (0.6%)	631 (0.7%)	574 (0.7%)	629 (0.8%)	8.6 (2.3)

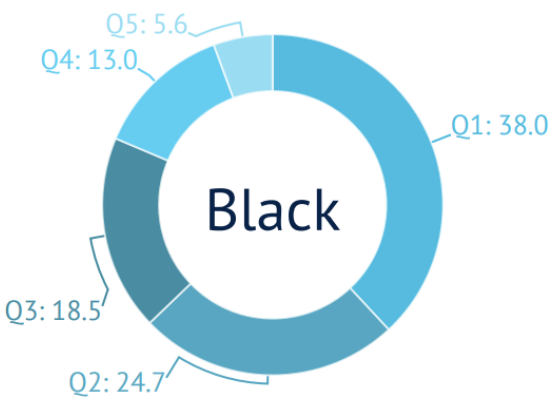
*Other includes children coded as Native American, other race, and missing race.



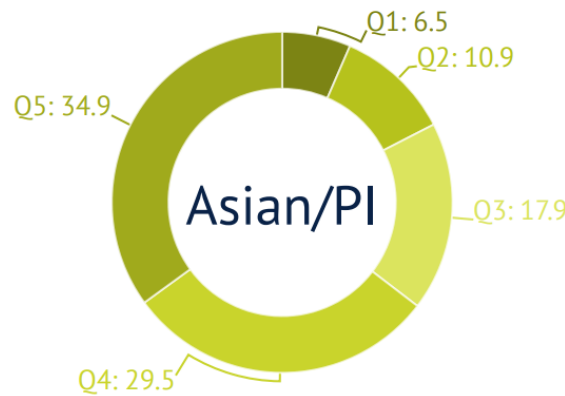
Only 1 in 20 Latino children born in California find themselves in a top quintile (Q5) community at birth based on average Strong Start score.



More than one quarter of white children are born into communities that place them in the top quintile (Q5); less than 15% are born into bottom quintile communities (Q1).



Nearly 40% of black children are born into communities that fall in the bottom 20% (Q1) of tracts based on average Strong Start scores.



1 of every 3 Asian/PI children are born into communities falling in the top quintile based on resources at birth (Q5). Another thirty percent fall in the second highest quintile (Q4).

applications

- inform community needs assessments
- facilitate strategic plans
- identify resilient communities
- estimate service slots for home visiting and other programs
- ***prioritize especially high need areas for funding***

next steps

early summer, 2021:

1. adding 2018 & 2019 data (2016-2019)
2. main enhancements include:
 1. streamlined interface for users (i.e., reducing the number of clicks it takes for users to get to the map)
 2. ability for users to toggle between and view four years available instead of two (current)
 3. adding school district data and boundaries, in addition to existing boundaries (i.e., county, legislative districts, city, county, SPA in LA County)
 4. dashboards focused on key indicators (i.e., Positive MCH Indicators and IMR)

Focus on Maternal and Child Health Indicators

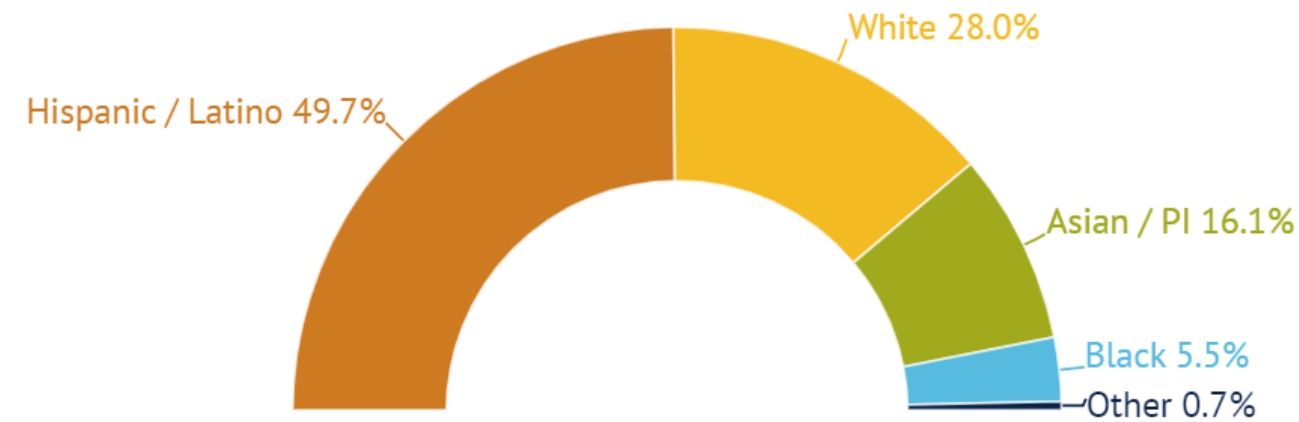
Examining the distribution of timely prenatal care, normal gestational age, and healthy birthweight among babies born in 2016/17



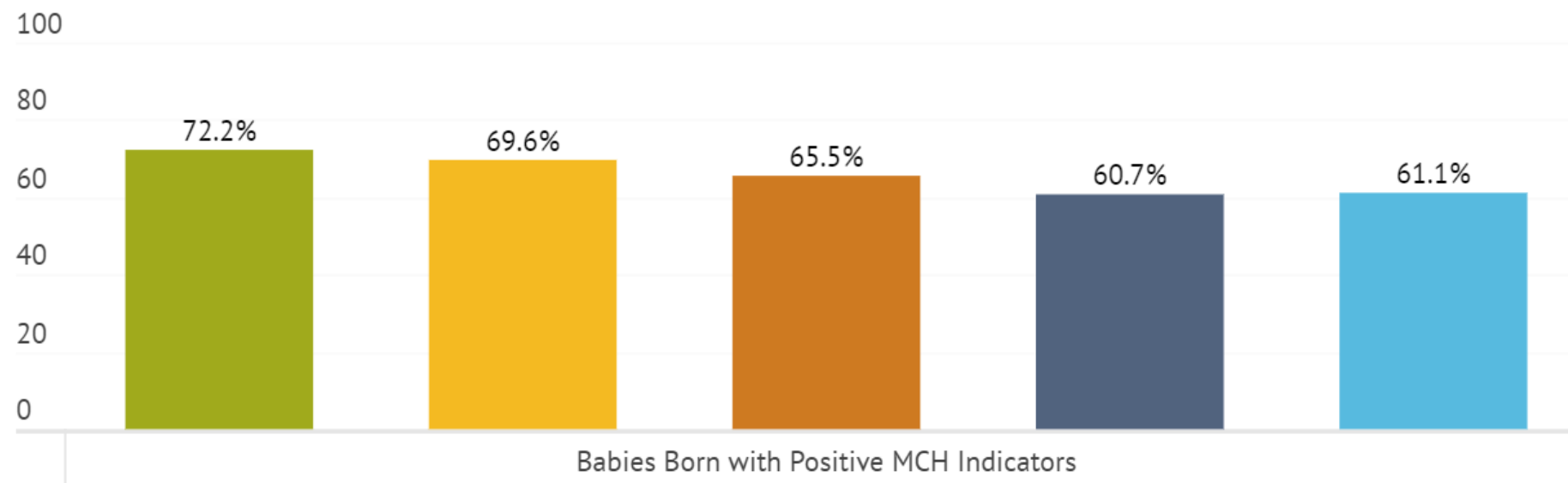
Racial / Ethnic Distribution of Babies Born in California



Percent of Babies Born with Positive MCH Indicators

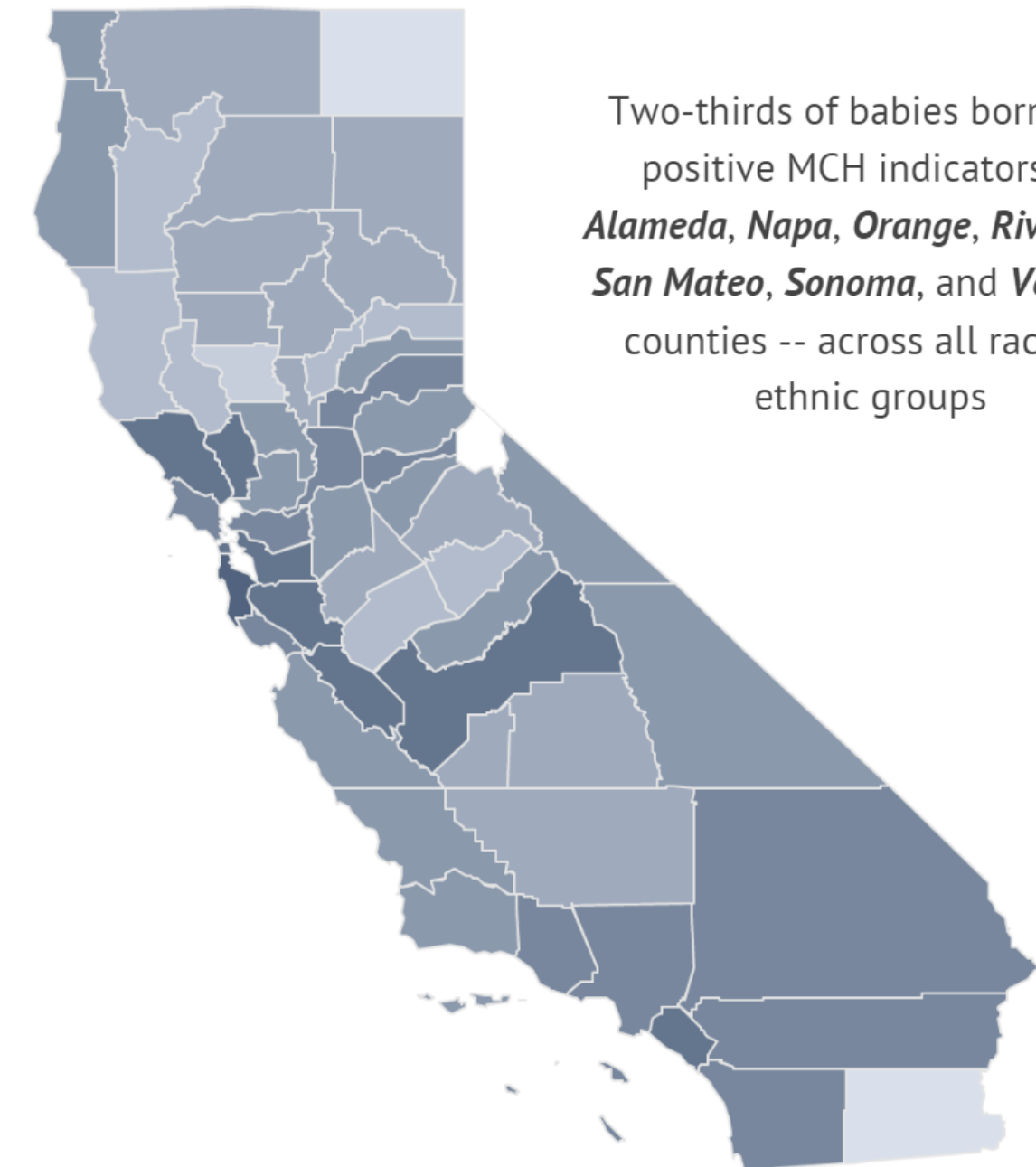


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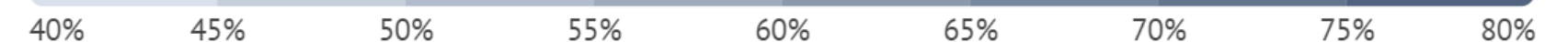


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Notes: Positive MCH Indicators are defined as receiving timely prenatal care (i.e., Prenatal care within the first trimester), having a normal gestational age (i.e., between 37 and 44 weeks, inclusive using Obstetric Estimation), and a healthy birthweight (i.e., between 2500g and 4000g, inclusive). Other includes children coded as Native American, other race, and missing race.



Two-thirds of babies born had positive MCH indicators in **Alameda, Napa, Orange, Riverside, San Mateo, Sonoma, and Ventura** counties -- across all racial / ethnic groups

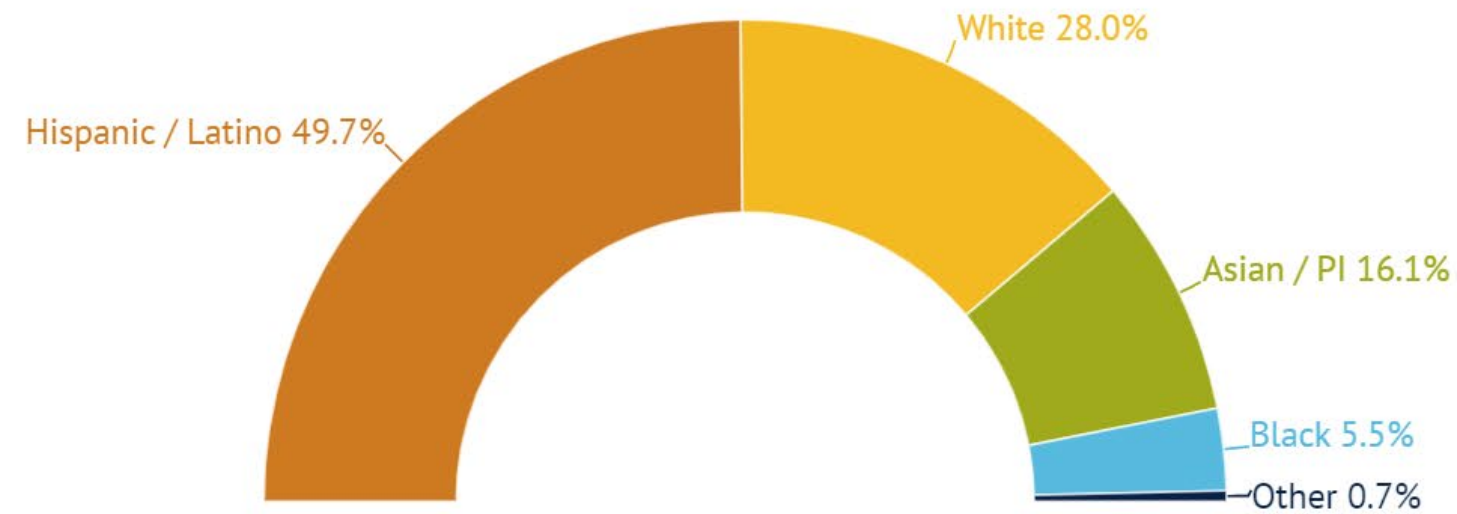


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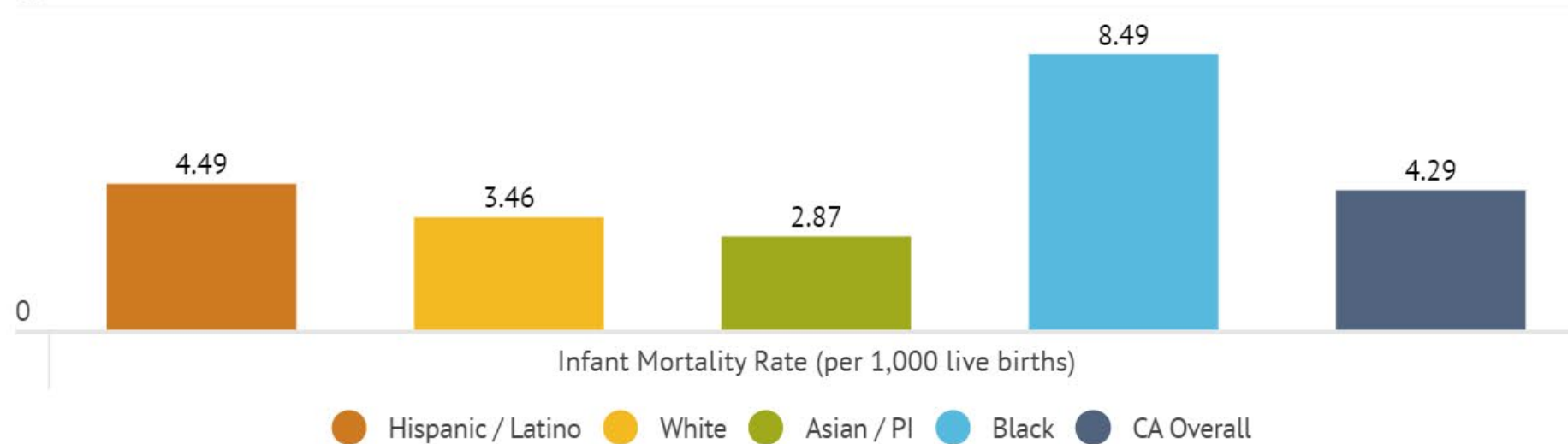
Focus on Infant Mortality

Examining the Distribution of Infant Mortality Rate among babies born in California 2012-2016

Racial / Ethnic Distribution of Babies Born in California



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10

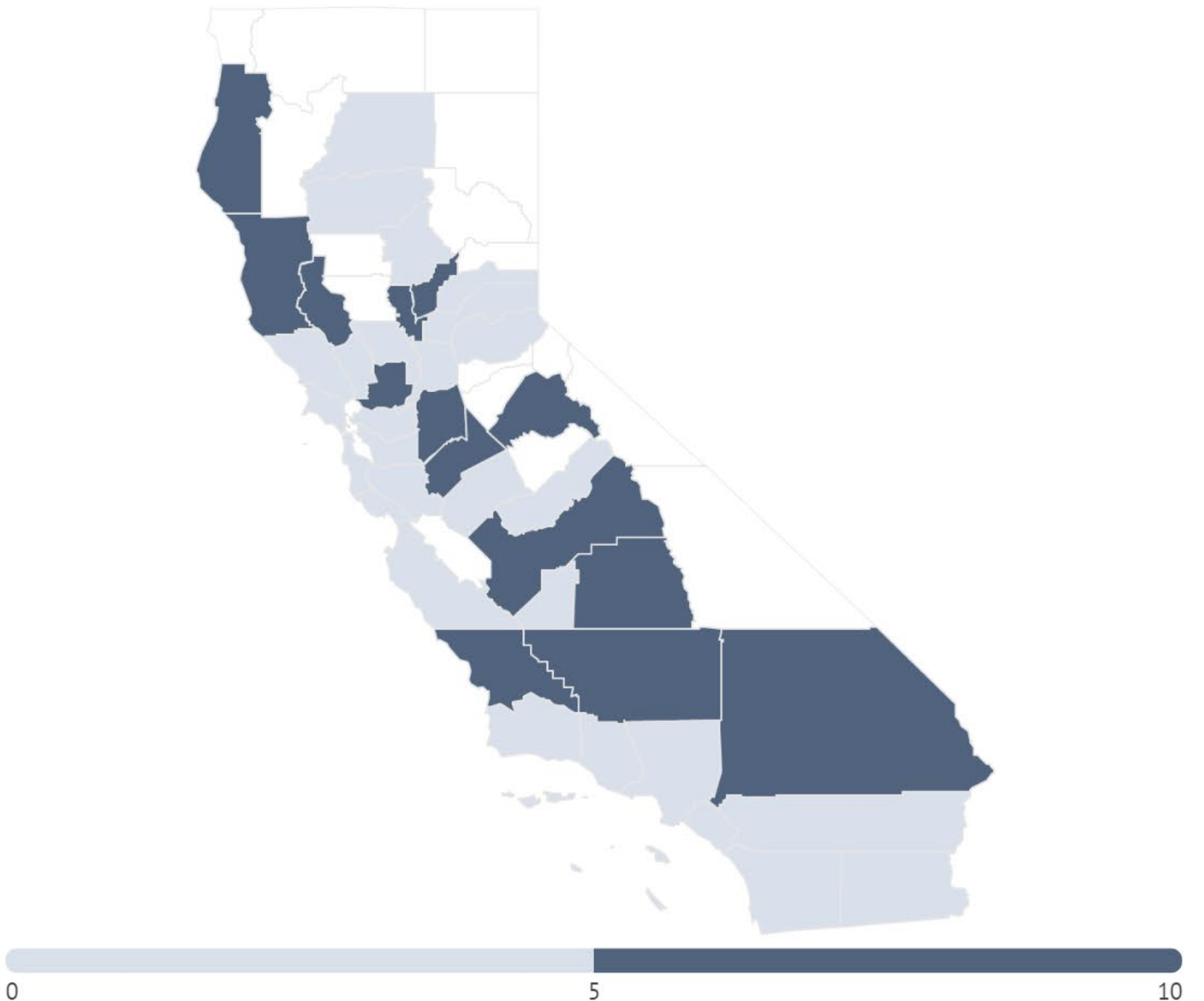


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Notes: Infant Mortality Rate is defined as number of deaths among children under age 1 per 1,000 live births, by race/ethnicity. Race/Ethnicity is coded as maternal primary race/ethnicity. Other includes children coded as Native American, other race, or missing race. "--" indicates the cell was suppressed per CHHS Deidentification Guidelines. Due to differences in race/ethnicity categorization and coding, current figures may differ from published estimates. Denominators reflect the sum of cells not suppressed to ensure confidentiality. For that reason, denominators may differ across tables.

strongstartindex.org

< Deaths per 1,000 live births in California >



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conclusions and implications

- strong start index adds **unique insight into the conditions into which children are born in california**
- scores are **related to at least two important indicators of child health and well-being**
- monitoring the distribution of assets among newborns in different communities can help ensure our investments are **intentional and equitable**



thank you

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