

2026

NEEDS AND ASSETS REPORT



 **FIRST THINGS FIRST**

Pima North Region

Pima North Regional Partnership Council 2026 Needs and Assets Report

Funded by the
First Things First Pima North Regional Partnership Council

Prepared by the
Community Research, Evaluation & Development (CRED) Team

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INTRODUCTION

Ninety percent of a child's brain growth occurs before kindergarten, and the quality of a child's early experiences impacts whether their brain will develop in positive ways that promote learning. Arizonans created First Things First (FTF) to help ensure that Arizona children have the opportunity to start kindergarten prepared to be successful. Understanding the critical role the early years play in a child's future success is crucial to our ability to foster each child's optimal development and in turn, impact all aspects of well-being in our communities and our state. This Needs and Assets Report for the FTF Pima North Region helps us in understanding the needs of young children, the resources available to meet those needs and gaps that may exist in those resources.

The 2026 report has been redesigned in response to stakeholder feedback. The revised structure now consists of two parts: the primary report and supplementary sub-regional fact sheets.

The main report is structured around four domains relevant to young children, their families, and the professionals who support them in the region:

- Child, Family & Community Characteristics
- Early Education
- Education & Workforce
- Child Health & Development

This main report uses an infographic and figure-based approach to analyze regional-level data trends, as well as how these regional trends compare to statewide trends. Community-level data, illustrating similarities and differences within the sub-regions of the FTF Pima North Region, is detailed separately in the Fact Sheets. The FTF Pima North Regional Partnership Council recognizes the importance of investing in young children and ensuring that families and caregivers have options in supporting the healthy development and education of young children in their care. It is our sincere hope that this information will help guide community conversations about how we can best support school readiness for all children in the FTF Pima North Region. To that end, this information may be useful to local stakeholders as they work to enhance the resources available to young children and their families and as they make decisions about how best to support children birth to age 5 in communities throughout the region.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The FTF Pima North Regional Partnership Council wishes to thank all of the federal, state and local partners whose contributions of data, ongoing support and partnership with FTF made this report possible. These partners included the Arizona Departments of Administration (Employment and Population Statistics), Child Safety, Economic Security, Education and Health Services; Child Care Resource and Referral; Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System; and the U.S. Census Bureau. We also want to thank parents and caregivers, local departments and service providers and members of the public who provided local data, attended regional council meetings and voiced their opinions, as well as all the organizations working to transform the vision of the regional council into concrete programs and services for children and families in the FTF Pima North Region. Lastly, we want to acknowledge the current and past members of the FTF Pima North Regional Partnership Council whose vision, dedication and passion have been instrumental in improving outcomes for young children and families within the region. As we build upon those successes, we move ever closer to our ultimate goal of creating a comprehensive early childhood system that ensures children throughout Arizona are ready for school and set for life.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The experiences in the first few years of a child's life lay the foundation for their future. Safe and healthy neighborhood environments, accessible educational opportunities, economically stable families and nurturing social contexts for young children have long-term, positive impacts. This Needs and Assets Report examines the current conditions for young children and their families—including social and economic contexts, early learning systems, education and workforce indicators, health outcomes and supports for children with special needs—in the First Things First (FTF) Pima North Region.

Sources and Data: The data in this report come from a variety of sources including federal and state agencies and local agencies or service providers. Federal government sources include publicly available data from the 2020 Census and American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates (primarily 2019-2023). The 2020 Census faced unprecedented challenges in data collection, the foremost of which was the COVID-19 pandemic and its disruption of local institutions. Due to these challenges, the 2020 Census is widely known to have undercounted young children and particular populations such as American Indians residing on reservations.¹ Data in this report from the ACS summarize the responses from samples of residents taken between 2019 and 2023. Because these estimates are based on samples rather than the entire population, ACS data should not be considered exact. Estimates for smaller geographies, such as

regions or sub-regions, are less accurate than estimates for larger geographies, such as the state, because they are based on smaller sample sizes.

Data were provided to FTF by state agencies including the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES). FTF strategy data related to quality early education, professional development and home visiting were also provided. FTF partnered with the Arizona State University Center for Health Information and Research (CHiR) to create custom tabulations of claims data for young children from the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). In most cases, the data in this report were calculated specifically for the Needs and Assets process and are more detailed than the data that are published by these agencies for the general public. Whenever possible, this report will use data tailored to the region, but in some cases, there are only county-level or statewide data available to report. This report also includes publicly available data for the county and state, including from state agencies such as the Arizona Department of Commerce's Office of Economic Opportunity, Arizona Department of Education (ADE), and the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) semi-annual child welfare reports. When more recent data from public or state agency datasets were not available, this report cites data from past Regional Needs and Assets Reports for the region.

The data in this report are as complete as possible, but there are cases when data for specific years were unavailable or unable to be reported. State agencies have varying policies about reporting small values. Labels such as <10, <6 or "DS" indicate that a count has been suppressed to protect privacy. When data were not available for a given year or geography, the label "N/A" is used.

Color-coding: This report uses color-coding to indicate the relevant geography for each number or percentage discussed in the text as follows: **Pima North Region**, **Pima County**, **Arizona**, and the **U.S.** Additional important numbers in the text that do not correspond to one of these geographies have been **bolded**.

Data Interpretation Session: The data compiled in this report reflect one way of knowing about the status of young children and their families, but local perspectives on what works well and what needs improvement from community experts who live, work and care for children in the region provide another vital source of information about the needs and assets in the region. First Things First Regional Partnership Council members and other key community experts participated in a facilitated data discussion in the beginning of 2026 to review the data included in this report. During this session, participants shared local knowledge and perspectives to help interpret the data and add additional context about the region. These insights are included throughout the report, attributed to "local key informants" and "local community experts."

Limitations: This report was compiled in the fall of 2025 and spring of 2026 during a time of rapid changes in federal funding and policy. The data presented reflect a particular moment in time.

Where possible, potential impacts of currently known policy decisions grounded in high-quality research have been included, but the full extent of the impact of policies implemented in 2025 and 2026 on early childhood well-being will not be fully clear for years to come.

Throughout this report, state-level data is included to help understand how the region is doing in comparison to Arizona overall. For a more comprehensive discussion of needs and assets at the state level, please see the First Things First 2025 Statewide Needs and Assets Report – Building Bright Futures.^a

Analysis of data and reporting of findings contained in this report were completed by Kara Habersstock Tanoue, Rachel Leih, Madeleine deBlois, Deirdre Avery, Vicki Brown, Terrace Ewinghill, Rachel Gildersleeve, Anvi Bhakta, Beatriz Reyna, Deshawna Yazzie, April Horne, Lauren Moxley, Dora Valencia, Claudia Vega and Felicia Zhang from the Community Research, Evaluation & Development (CRED) team in the John and Doris Norton School of Human Ecology at the University of Arizona.

THE PIMA NORTH REGION

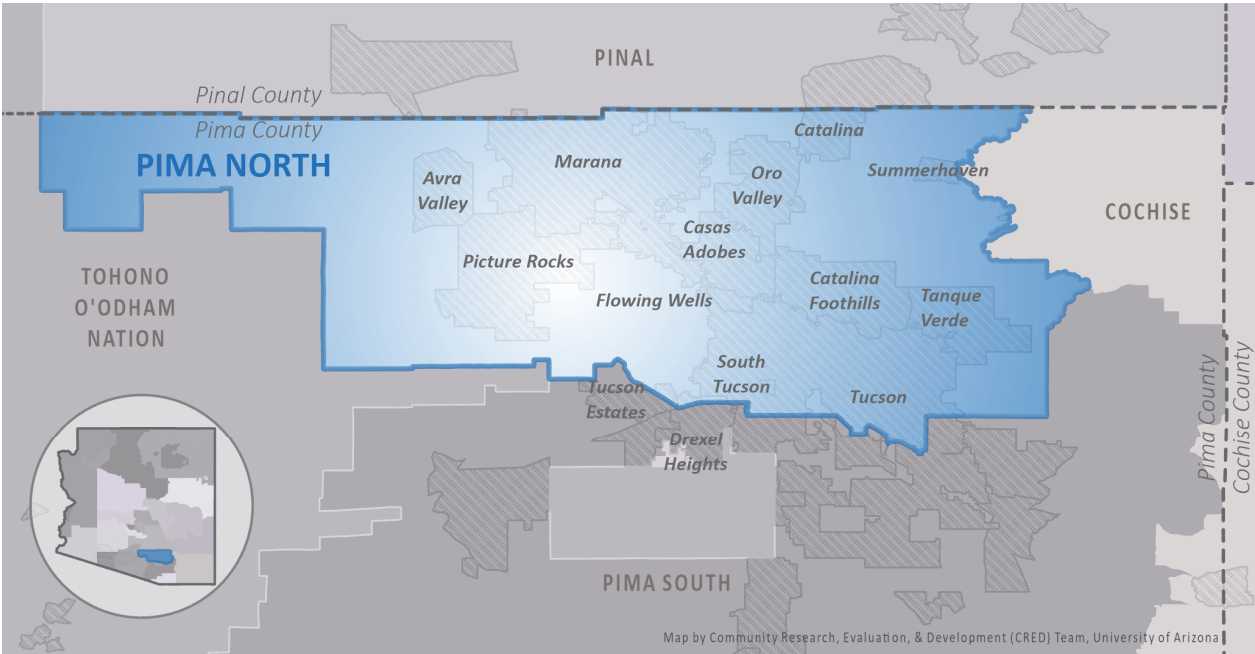
The First Things First (FTF) regional boundaries were initially established in 2007, creating 31 regions which were designed to: (a) reflect the view of families in terms of where they access services; (b) coincide with existing boundaries or service areas of organizations providing early childhood services; (c) maximize the ability to collaborate with service systems and local governments, and facilitate the ability to convene a Regional Partnership Council; and (d) allow for the collection of demographic and indicator data. The regional boundaries are reviewed every two years. In fiscal year 2015, the boundaries were modified using census blocks, creating 28 regions. This report uses the 2015 definition of regional boundaries.

The Pima North Region is defined as the northern portion of Pima County, not including the lands belonging to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and the Tohono O'odham Nation. The border between the Pima North and Pima South Regions is irregular, but it primarily follows Kinney Road, Ajo Way, and Irvington Road. The region includes the city of South Tucson, the towns of Oro Valley and Marana, and the unincorporated communities of Catalina Foothills, Tanque Verde, Picture Rocks, Catalina, Avra Valley and Nelson. The Pima North Region does not include the Redington area in the northeastern corner of Pima County, which is assigned to the Cochise Region.

^aThe full report can be found at <https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-State-Needs-and-Assets-Report.pdf>

The map below shows the geographical area covered by the Pima North Region. Additional information is available at the end of this report, including a map and table of the region’s zip codes and a map of Arizona public school districts in the region in the *Maps & Methods* Appendix.

The First Things First Pima North Region



FAMILY, CHILD & COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

Young children in the region

While young children make up a small proportion of the overall population, their well-being has wide-reaching impacts on families, social service systems and the state's future population. Continued investment in children's well-being and the well-being of their families was deemed by the National Academy of Sciences as "the most efficient strategy" for strengthening the future workforce and supporting a thriving community.^{2,3} According to the 2020 Census, the Pima North Region was home to **40,788** young children birth to age 5. Between 2018 and 2023, births in the region decreased from **7,008** to **6,408**.^b Statewide, births declined from 2018 to 2020, before increasing again over the next two years, and ultimately declining in 2023.

Like the decrease in the number of births in the Pima North Region in recent years, the number of young children counted in the 2020 Census was notably lower than in 2010, decreasing by **15%** from **48,064** young children in 2010 to **40,788** in 2020. This decline was larger than observed statewide, where there was a **12%** decrease in the population of young children over the same ten-year period. In contrast, the all-age population increased in the region (**+5%**) and across the state (**+12%**) between 2010 and 2020.

Characteristics of young children and the population

According to the 2020 Census, approximately **731,668** people lived in the Pima North Region, in **316,267** households. One in 10 households (**10%**) in the region included a young child birth to age 5, a lower proportion of households than across the state (**13%**) or nation (**13%**). Key informants highlighted new housing developments in more rural sub-regions of Pima North, such as Marana-Avra Valley and Cortaro-Picture Rocks, that are attracting more young families to the area and increasing the need for additional child care slots to support projected growth.

Understanding the racial-ethnic composition of communities can inform efforts to ensure equitable access to services and resources. According to the 2020 Census, most of the total population of residents of the Pima North Region were non-Hispanic White (**61%**), while the largest proportion of young children birth to age 4 in the region were identified as Hispanic or

^b Note that births are assigned to the region based on the address that parents list on the birth certificate form. This means that babies born to families residing in the region should be counted in regional birth numbers regardless of the location of the hospital where they were born.

Figure 1.

Young children in the region

The Pima North Region is home to

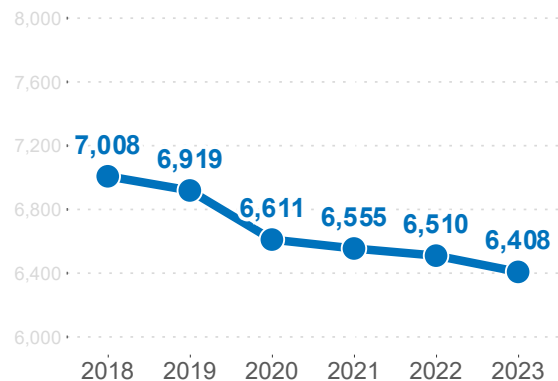
40,788

children birth to age 5 (2020)¹

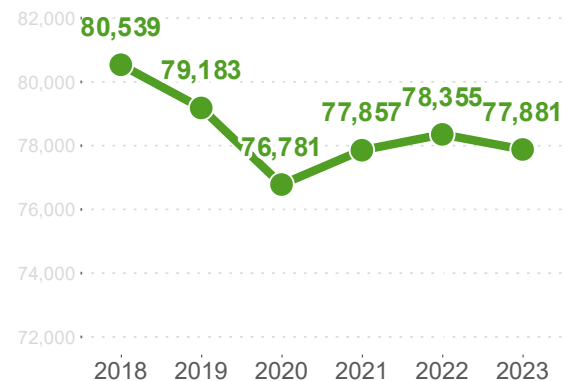


Number of births per calendar year²

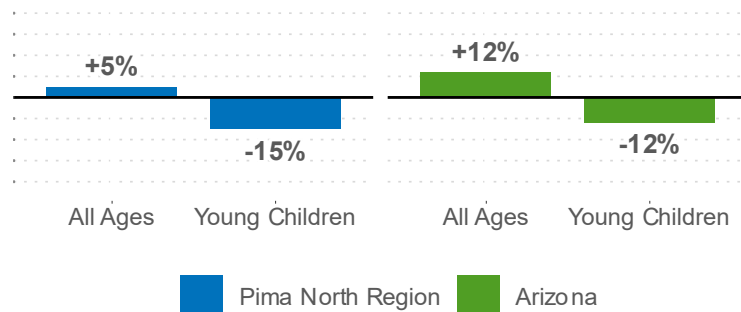
Pima North Region



Arizona



Change in population between the 2010³ and 2020¹ Census



¹ U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC).

² Arizona Department of Health Services. (2024). [Vital Statistic dataset].

³ U.S. Census Bureau. (2010). 2010 Decennial Census.

Latino (**46%**). Young children in the region were less likely to be identified as non-Hispanic White (**44%**) compared to the total population (**61%**). The region's residents were slightly more likely to be identified as non-Hispanic White than residents statewide, where **42%** of young children and **57%** of the total population identified as non-Hispanic White.⁴ In addition, more than three-quarters (**78%**) of residents in the Pima North Region spoke English only at home, higher than the proportion across the state (**74%**).⁵ The remaining proportion of region residents spoke Spanish (**16%**) or another language (**5%**).

Caregivers for young children

Family structure has important effects on children's development.⁶ For example, living in a single-parent household is often linked to implications for poverty, access to health and education resources, parental health and the quality of a child's interactions with adult caregivers.^{7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12} The 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) estimated that over half (**59%**) of children birth to age 5 in the Pima North Region lived with two married parents and **37%** lived with one unmarried parent,^c similar proportions to those seen statewide (**60%** and **36%**).¹³

Multi-generational households, where grandparents, parents and children live together, are also becoming more common across all racial and ethnic groups.^{14, 15, 16, 17} These living arrangements can offer financial and social benefits, but also stressors such as differing parenting styles and family roles.^{18, 19, 20, 21, 22} According to the 2020 Census, **11%** of young children in the Pima North Region lived in a grandparent's household (with or without a parent present), a lower proportion than across the state (**13%**) but the same as across the country (**11%**). Overall, there were **3,833** grandparents in the region who reported that they were responsible for one or more grandchildren birth to age 17.

Kinship care, where children live with someone other than their parents (such as grandparents, other relatives or close friends), may bring challenges related to informal guardianship (e.g., difficulties in registering children for school), coping with parental absence and being an aging caregiver for a young child.^{23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29} In the Pima North Region, **2%** of young children resided with relatives other than parents (e.g., grandparent, aunt, or uncle) and **2%** lived with a non-relative caregiver, similar to the rates seen statewide (**3%** with non-parental relatives and **2%** with non-relatives).³⁰

Participation in the labor force can impact families in ways that affect children's health and well-being. For example, unemployment can limit access to resources that support children's physical

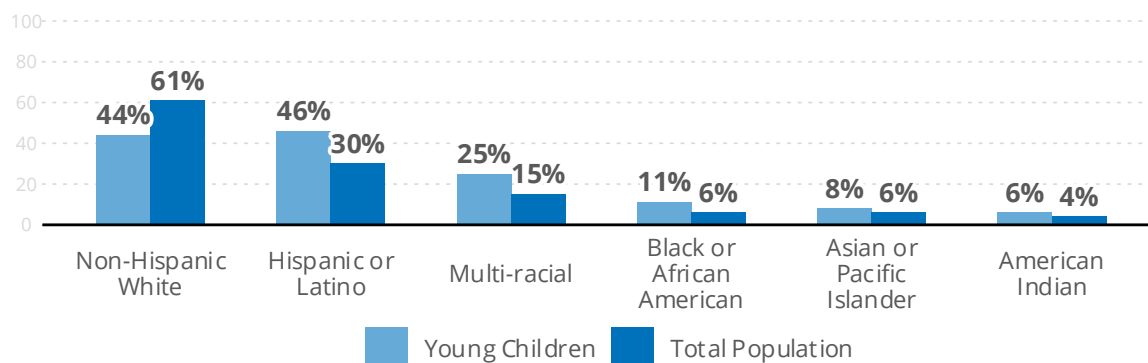
^c The term "parent" includes stepparents. Please note that due to the way the ACS asks about family relationships, children living with two unmarried, cohabitating parents are not counted as living with two parents (these children are counted in the 'one parent' category).

Figure 2.

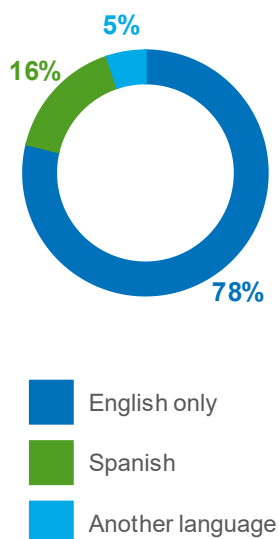
Characteristics of young children and the population

731,668 people live in the Pima North Region (2020)¹

Race and ethnicity in the Pima North Region (2020)¹



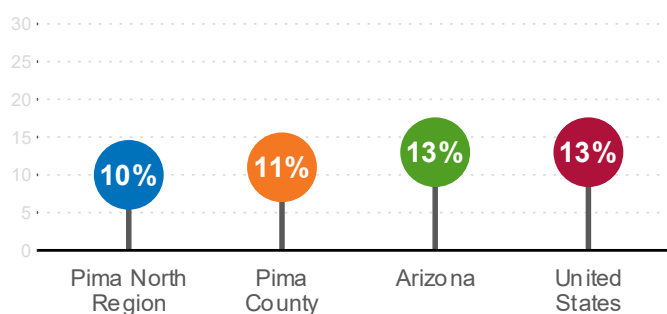
Language spoken at home in the region (2023)²



The region has

316,267
households (2020)¹

Households with young children (2020)¹



¹ U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC).

² U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). 2023 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2019-2023.

Notes: Race and ethnicity data are non-exclusive, meaning that individuals are counted in each category in which they identify. Language data are for the population ages 5 and older. The American Community Survey (ACS) no longer specifies the proportion of the population who speak Native North American languages for geographies smaller than the state. In Arizona, Navajo and other Native American languages (including Apache, Hopi, and O'odham) are the most commonly spoken (2%), following English (73%) and Spanish (20%).

and mental health.³¹ An estimated **91%** of young children birth to age 5 in the Pima North Region lived in families with at least one parent in the labor force. About two-thirds of young children (**67%**) lived with all parents in the labor force, making it likely that these families need some form of child care.

Income and poverty among families with children

Poverty is associated with reduced access to nutrition, green space and health care and greater exposure to psychosocial stress and environmental toxins; together, these factors may have implications for children's growth and brain development.^{32, 33, 34} According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, in 2025, a family of two adults and two children was considered to be in poverty if their income fell below \$32,150, while for a single parent with one child the threshold was \$21,150.³⁵ Between 2019 and 2023, an estimated **21%** of young children in the Pima North Region lived in poverty, a decline from the region's poverty rate between 2014 and 2018 (**25%**). Similarly, young child poverty rates also decreased in Pima County (**27%** to **21%**), statewide (**25%** to **18%**) and nationwide during this time, a phenomenon largely attributed to pandemic-era relief funding and policies.³⁶

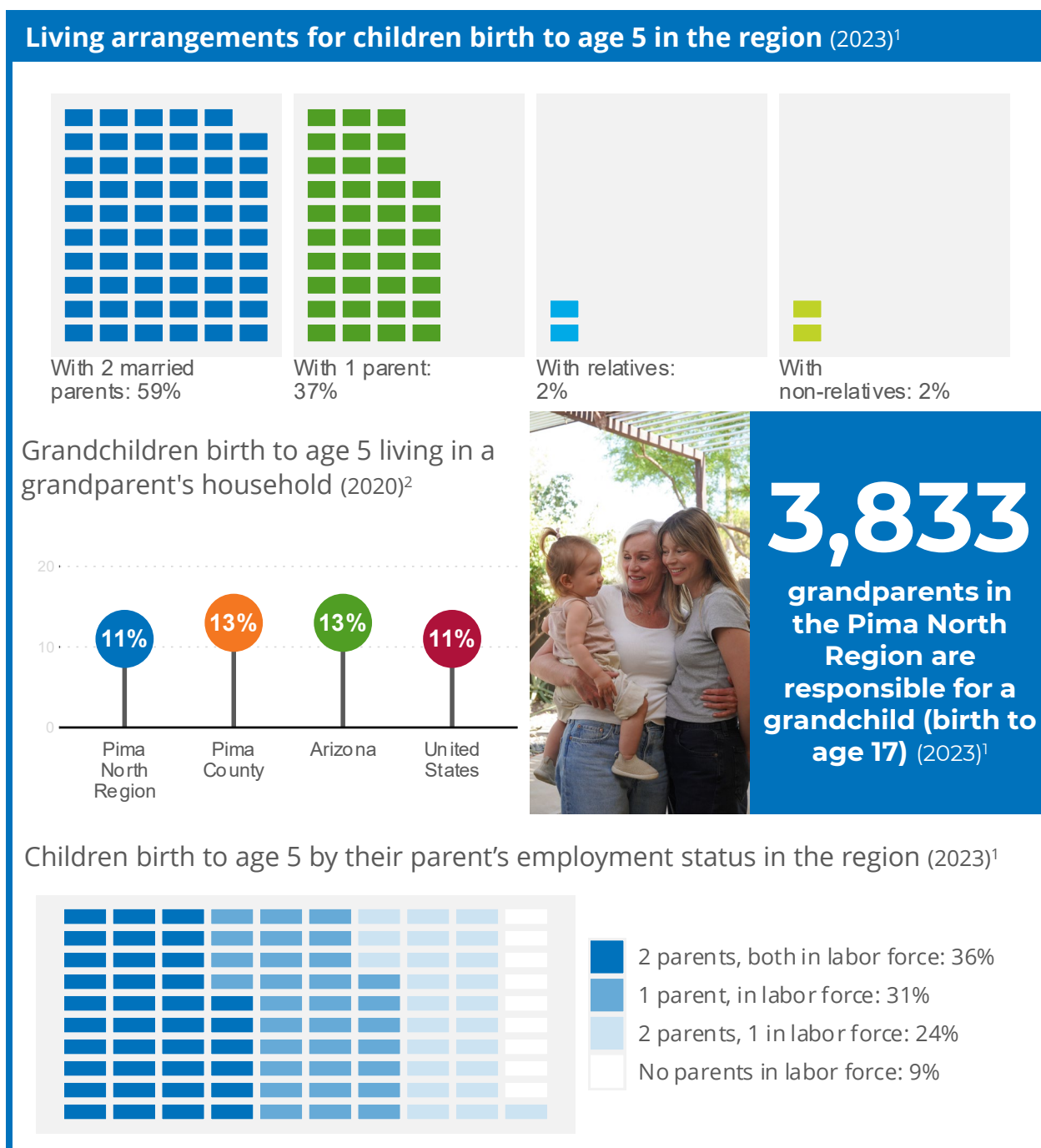
Overall, single-parent families across Arizona earned less than married-couple families in 2023. Married-couple families in Pima County had a median income of **\$111,381**. This was more than double the median income for single-male-headed families (**\$51,623**) and more than triple that of single-female-headed families (**\$36,933**). In addition, across family types, median incomes in Pima County was lower than median incomes statewide.

While median family income is a measure of how much families earn, the self-sufficiency standard^d attempts to estimate how much families actually need to earn to fully support themselves. These standards vary by family type and differences in costs of housing, transportation, child care and other budget items across counties and states.^{37, 38} In 2022, the self-sufficiency standard for two parents, one preschooler and one infant was **\$76,292** in Pima County, lower than the median income for married couples with children. The self-sufficiency standard for one parent and one preschooler in Pima County (**\$50,676**) also fell below the median income for single-male-headed families with children (**\$51,623**) but exceeded that for single-female-headed families with children (**\$36,933**). These data highlight the likelihood that many single-female-headed households in Pima County may not be earning enough income to support their families.

^d For more information on the Arizona 2022 Self-sufficiency standard, please see https://womensgiving.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/AZ2022_SSS_Web.pdf

Figure 3.

Caregivers for young children



¹ U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). 2023 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2019-2023.

² U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC).

Notes: The 4 percentages for living arrangements and employment status should sum to 100% but may not because of rounding. The term "parent" here includes stepparents. Due to the way the ACS asks about family relationships, children living with two unmarried, cohabitating parents are not counted as living with two parents (these children are counted in the 'one unmarried parent' category).

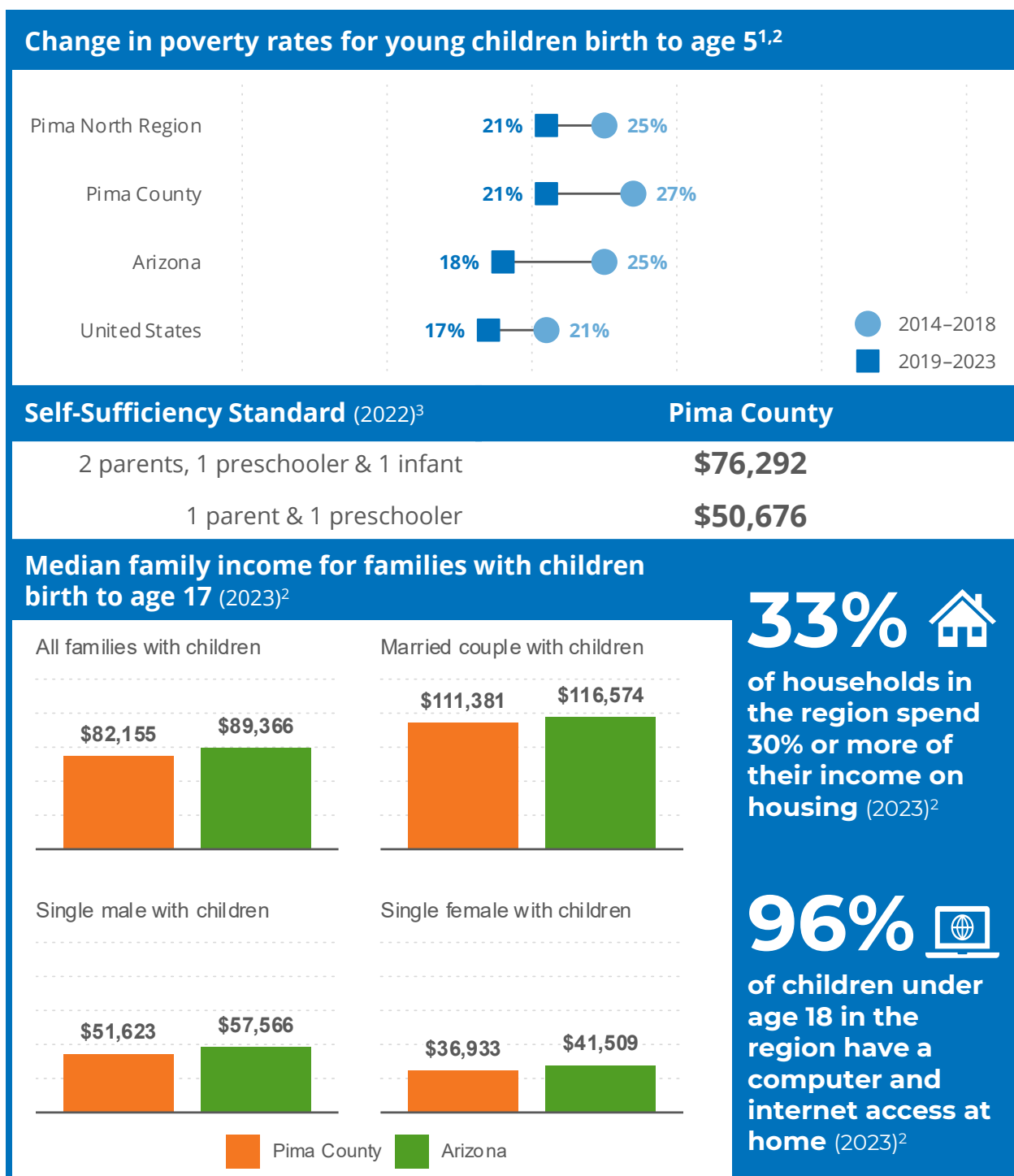
The Arizona self-sufficiency standards were updated in 2025 and reflect a significant increase in the cost of basic needs across Arizona since they were first published in 2002.³⁹ Pima County's self-sufficiency standards increased by **21%** for two parents, one preschooler and one infant (**\$92,405**) and **13%** for one parent and one preschooler (**\$57,218**) between 2022 and 2025.⁴⁰

These rising costs have real implications for families' well-being in the Pima North Region. When housing costs consume a large percentage of family income, limited funds for basic needs such as food and utilities can influence young children's development.^{41, 42, 43} Traditionally, housing has been deemed affordable for families if it costs less than 30% of annual household income. One-third of households (**33%**) in the Pima North Region were considered housing cost-burdened, spending 30% or more of their income on housing. This proportion was higher than the **30.8%** of cost-burdened households statewide, and neither the region nor the state met the Healthy People 2030^e target of **25.5%** or fewer households with a high housing cost burden.⁴⁴ Internet access is a vital utility in homes in today's interconnected world. Reliable broadband enables access to education, employment, telehealth and social connection, highlighting its importance as a "super determinant" of health.⁴⁵ In the Pima North Region, the vast majority (**96%**) of children under age 18 had access to a computer and internet at home, pointing to a strength of the region in connectivity for families.

^e Healthy People identifies science-based targets to guide national health promotion and disease prevention efforts. For more information see https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/healthy_people/index.htm

Figure 4.

Income and poverty among families with children



¹ U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2014-2018.

² U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, 2019-2023.

³ Kucklick, A., Manzer, L., and Mast, A.. (2022). [The Arizona 2022 Self-Sufficiency Standard].

Food security among young children and families

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants and Children, known as WIC, provides food assistance, breastfeeding support, nutrition education and referral to other health and community services for women and children, starting in pregnancy until children turn age 5.^f WIC, along with other programs like free and reduced-price school meals, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), can be a key resource for low-income families to ensure they have access to affordable, nutritious food that promotes well-being. Families in Arizona are financially eligible for WIC if their income is at or below 185% of the federal poverty level.^{g, 46} According to 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, there were **17,139** children birth to age 5 in the Pima North Region living in households with qualifying incomes for WIC. This equates to more than four in 10 (**44%**) young children in the region. The region had a higher proportion of young children birth to age 5 whose households financially qualified for WIC compared to Pima County (**42%**), Arizona (**38%**) and the U.S. (**35%**).

Between 2018 and 2020, the number of young children (birth to age 4) enrolled in WIC in the Pima North Region steadily declined from a high of **15,936** in 2018, to a low of **14,100** young children enrolled in 2021. Enrollment then increased through 2024, reaching **15,459** young children enrolled that year. The region also had increasing participation rates among young children enrolled in WIC in recent years, evident in the narrowing gap between the number of children enrolled versus the number of children participating in the program through 2024. These high participation rates were similar to the rates among young children across the state from 2018 through 2024, ending at **95%** in the region and **95%** of children statewide participating in 2024.

Families' neighborhood environments also influence their access to affordable, nutritious food. Low-income, low-access areas, also known as "food deserts," are geographic areas with high rates of poverty and limited access to fresh food options, a challenge often compounded by limited access to adequate transportation.⁴⁷ One in 10 children birth to age 5 (**10%**) in the region^h lived in a community classified as a low-income, low-access area by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 2019, lower than the **15%** of young children across the state.⁴⁸ Key informants confirmed that

^f For more information see <https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic>

^g In 2026, the 185% FPL threshold was \$61,050 for a family of four and \$40,034 for a family of two. For more information, see <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/b1bfa16b20ae9b89d525bc35de7c1643/detailed-guidelines-2026.pdf>

^h To view a map of low income and low access census tracts, see <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas>

families in some rural communities of the region have limited access to nearby grocery stores and often need to drive long distances for essential supplies.

Child maltreatment response and prevention

Traumatic or stressful life events experienced in childhood, referred to as Adverse Childhood Experiences or ACEs,ⁱ can have lasting impacts on health and life trajectory beyond childhood, with risk increasing as an individual's number of adverse childhood experiences increases.⁴⁹ In situations of abuse or neglect, the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) is required to intervene to ensure the safety and well-being of children. When DCS determines that the harm in remaining with their family is too great, a child may be removed from their home, either temporarily or permanently. In recent years, DCS has set an overarching goal of safely reducing the number of children removed from their homes and placed in out-of-home care.⁵⁰ In line with this goal, the number of children reported to DCS who were removed from their homes and placed in out-of-home care substantially declined in recent years in Arizona, from a recent high of **13,465** children age birth to 17 in state fiscal year (SFY) 2021 to **8,305** in SFY 2024. Out-of-home placements in Pima County also showed an overall pattern of decline across those years, decreasing from **2,797** children birth to age 17 in SFY 2021 to **1,630** children in SFY 2024.

DCS also aims to place children into a permanent, stable housing situation within 12 months, whether that is through reunification, living with other relatives (known as kinship care) or any type of guardianship or adoption.⁵¹ In SFY 2024, almost half (**47%**) of young children birth to age 17 exiting out-of-home care in Arizona were reunified with their families, one in four (**25%**) were adopted^j and one in six (**16%**) were placed in guardianship.^k The other **12%** exited out-of-home care for some other reason, including children who aged out of the out-of-home care system, transferred to another agency, ran away or exited for another reason.

Home visitation programs are a proven strategy for equipping families with needed resources and referrals to promote healthy child development, reduce parental stress and prevent future child maltreatment.^{52, 53, 54, 55} Over the course of SFY 2025, **1,131** families in the Pima North Region participated in home visitation programs, including the Health Start, Healthy Families AZ, High-Risk

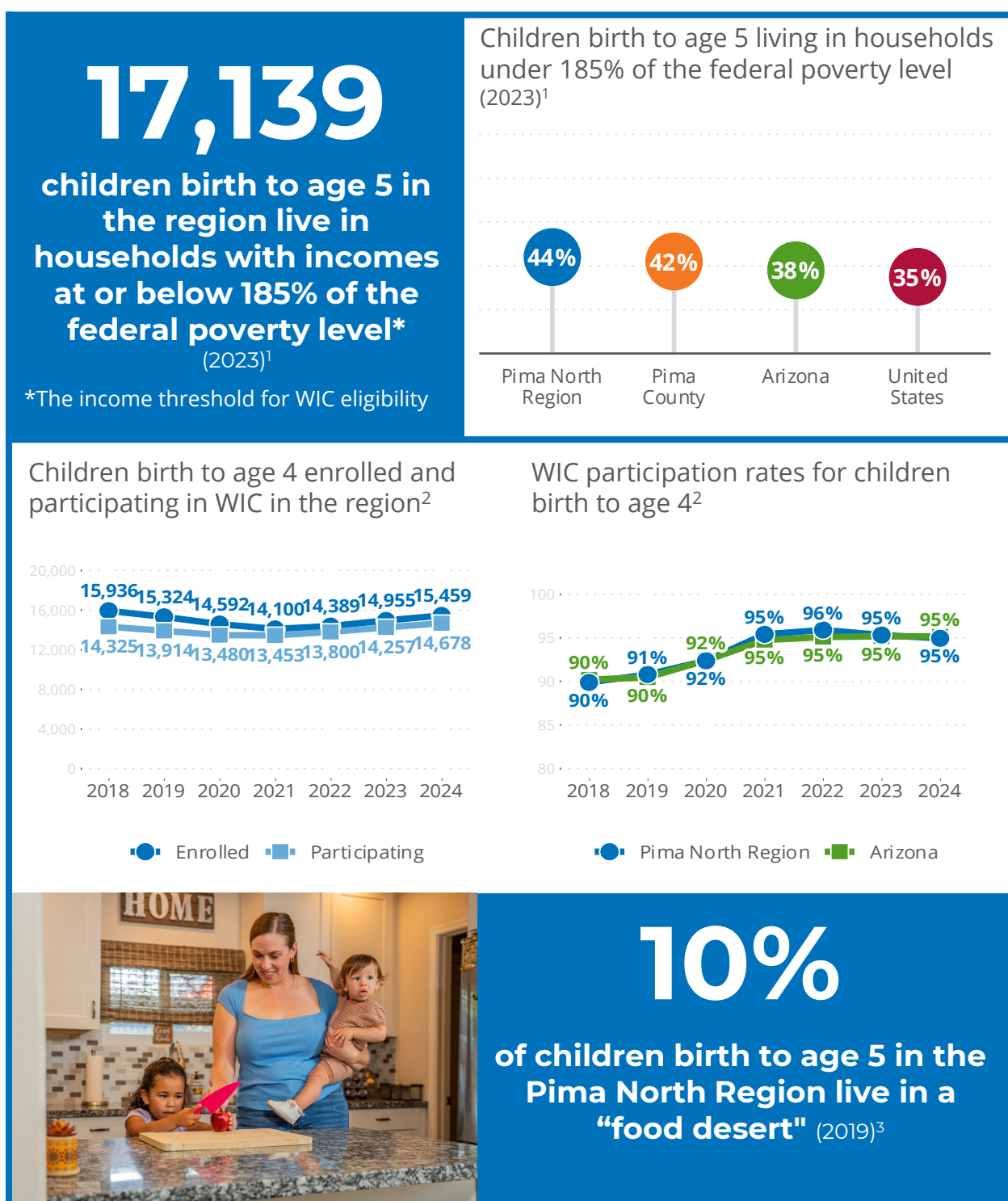
ⁱ Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) include eight categories of traumatic or stressful life events experienced before the age of 18 years. The eight ACE categories are sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, household adult mental illness, household substance abuse, domestic violence in the household, incarceration of a household member, and parental divorce or separation.

^j Adoption by a relative, foster parent or other non-relative

^k Guardianship by a foster parent or other non-relative

Figure 5.

Food security among young children and families



¹ U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). 2023 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2019-2023.

² Arizona Department of Health Services. (2025). [WIC dataset].

³ Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. (2022). Food Access Research Atlas.

Note: WIC participation rates reflect the percent of children already enrolled in WIC who attend visits and receive benefits. These do not reflect the share of potentially-eligible children enrolled in WIC.

First Things First 2026 Needs and Assets Report

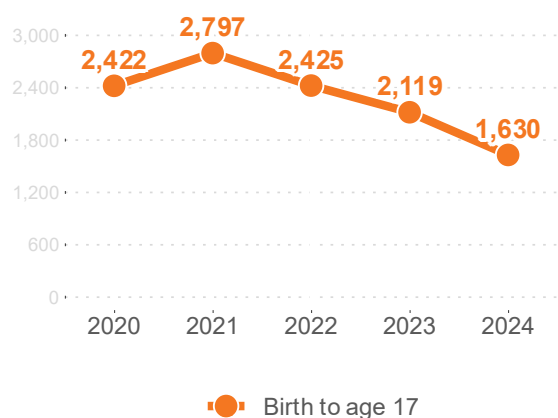
Perinatal Program, Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home Visiting (MECSH) and First Things First-funded Parents as Teachers programs.

Figure 6.

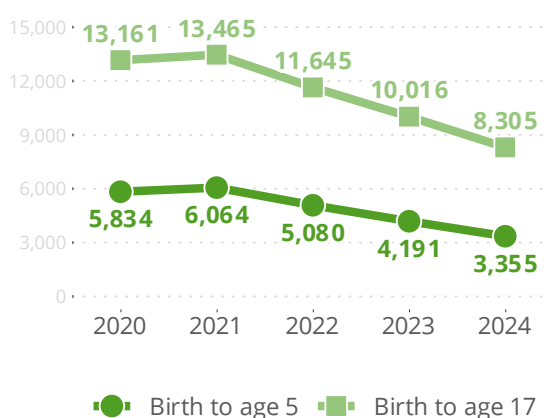
Child maltreatment response and prevention

Children in out-of-home placements with the Department of Child Safety¹

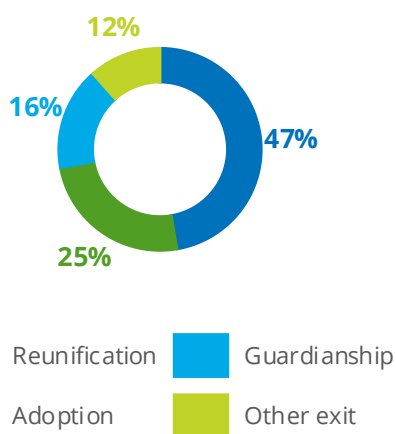
Pima County



Arizona



Case outcomes for children birth to age 17 exiting out-of-home care in Arizona (2024)¹



In the Pima North Region,

1,131 families participated in home visitation programs (2025)²

¹ Arizona Department of Child Safety. (2025). Monthly Operational Outcomes Report, May 2025.

² First Things First. (2025). [Home Visitation & Screenings Reach datasets].

Note: Home visitation program data reflects families in the Health Start, Healthy Families AZ, High-Risk Perinatal Program, Maternal Early Childhood Sustained Home Visiting (MECSH) and FTF-funded Parents as Teachers programs. Families may participate in more than one program (and be counted more than once).

EARLY LEARNING

Availability of quality early care and education

Participating in quality preschool programs can result in between one-third and a full year of additional early learning gains in language, reading and math skills, increasing the academic readiness of children when they enter kindergarten.⁵⁶ According to 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, **44%** of 3- and 4-year-olds were enrolled in school^l in the Pima North Region, higher than the proportion across the state (**36%**).⁵⁷ According to data from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), enrollment in preschool in public schools in Pima County was notably lower during the 2020-21 (n = **1,898**) and 2022-23 (n = **1,706**) school years compared to the years before and after that period. In the 2024-25 school year, **2,809** children were enrolled in preschool in public schools in Pima County. There is likely more capacity in school-based preschool programs in the county than reflected in these numbers. Not all preschool students are well-captured in ADE enrollment data, particularly typically-developing students in part-day programs and preschool students whose families pay a fee for care at a school.

In 2025, there were **560** early care and education providers in the region with the capacity to serve **43,677** children. Most of this capacity was provided by **297** child care centers with the capacity to serve **35,008** children, followed by **113** schools (n = **7,711**), and **150** home-based providers (n = **958**). Between 2023 and 2025, **31** new child care providers opened in the Pima North Region, and **10** closed. Key informants noted this data may not be a true representation of capacity due to limitations on capacity set by other programs. For example, the Pima Early Education Program (PEEPs), a countywide initiative aimed at expanding access to high-quality preschool for children ages three to five from low-income families, may cap class sizes below their licensed capacity to maintain program quality.⁵⁸ In addition, early learning sites with National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accreditation may also limit the number of slots available.⁵⁹

An area is labeled a child care desert if there are three times as many children as there are available child care slots (a ratio of **3.0** or more).⁶⁰ Communities in both urban and rural areas of Arizona face a gap between the number of young children and licensed child care slots.^{61, 62, 63} Collectively across all children birth to age 5, the Pima North Region was not considered a child care desert, with a ratio of **1.5** children birth to age 5 per available slot. This was lower than the ratio for children birth to age 5 statewide (**2.0** children birth to age 5 per available slot).⁶⁴ For 1-year-olds, the ratio was higher, and qualified as a child care desert, with **3.6** 1-year-olds per available slot. The ratio for regulated infant care was even higher, with **7.7** infants per available

^l School includes nursery school, preschool or kindergarten.

slot, indicating a scarcity of licensed infant child care in the region.

Increasing access to quality early care and education

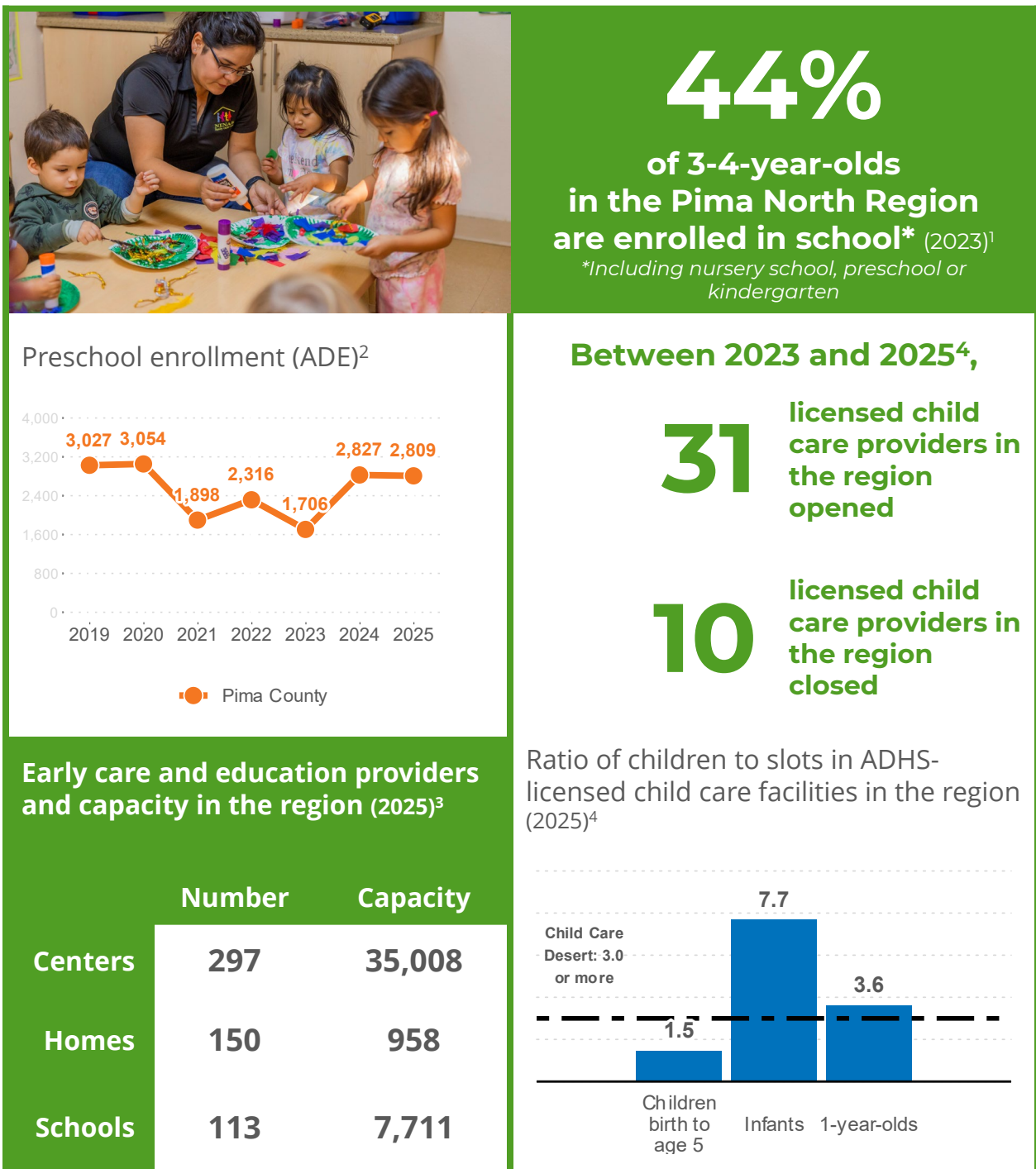
High-quality early learning experiences lay a strong foundation for children's success in kindergarten, elementary school and beyond.⁶⁵ One way that the quality of early child care and education is measured in Arizona is through the Quality First (QF) program.⁶⁶ The QF program rates the quality of child care providers and preschools on a scale from one to five stars, with providers considered high quality when they have received a 3-star rating or higher.⁶⁷ In the Pima North Region, the **207** providers served by QF enrolled a total of **8,477** young children in 2025, and **188** of the 202 publicly-rated child care providers had 3-5-star ratings.^m Four-year-olds were most often enrolled in quality settings (n = **2,595**), followed by 3-year-olds (n = **1,962**), 2-year-olds (n = **1,331**), 5-year-olds (n = **1,119**), 1-year-olds (n = **969**) and infants (n = **501**).

Child care providers enrolled in QF offer scholarships to eligible families to allow those children to access care and to reimburse providers for some of their extra expenses for providing quality care. These scholarships are allocated based on the child care provider's capacity and QF star rating.⁶⁸ However, due to the end of federal pandemic relief funds, statewide allocations for scholarships have decreased by over 3,000 slots from 2024 to 2025.⁶⁹ The number of QF scholarships provided in the region followed the same downward trend from 2024 (n = **500**) to 2025 (n = **298**).

^m Five of the 207 child care providers in the Pima North Region served by Quality First are not publicly rated.

Figure 7.

Availability of quality early care and education



¹ U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). 2023 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2019-2023.

² Arizona Department of Education. (2025). [October 1 Enrollment, Graduation Rates, Dropout Rates, State Assessment dataset].

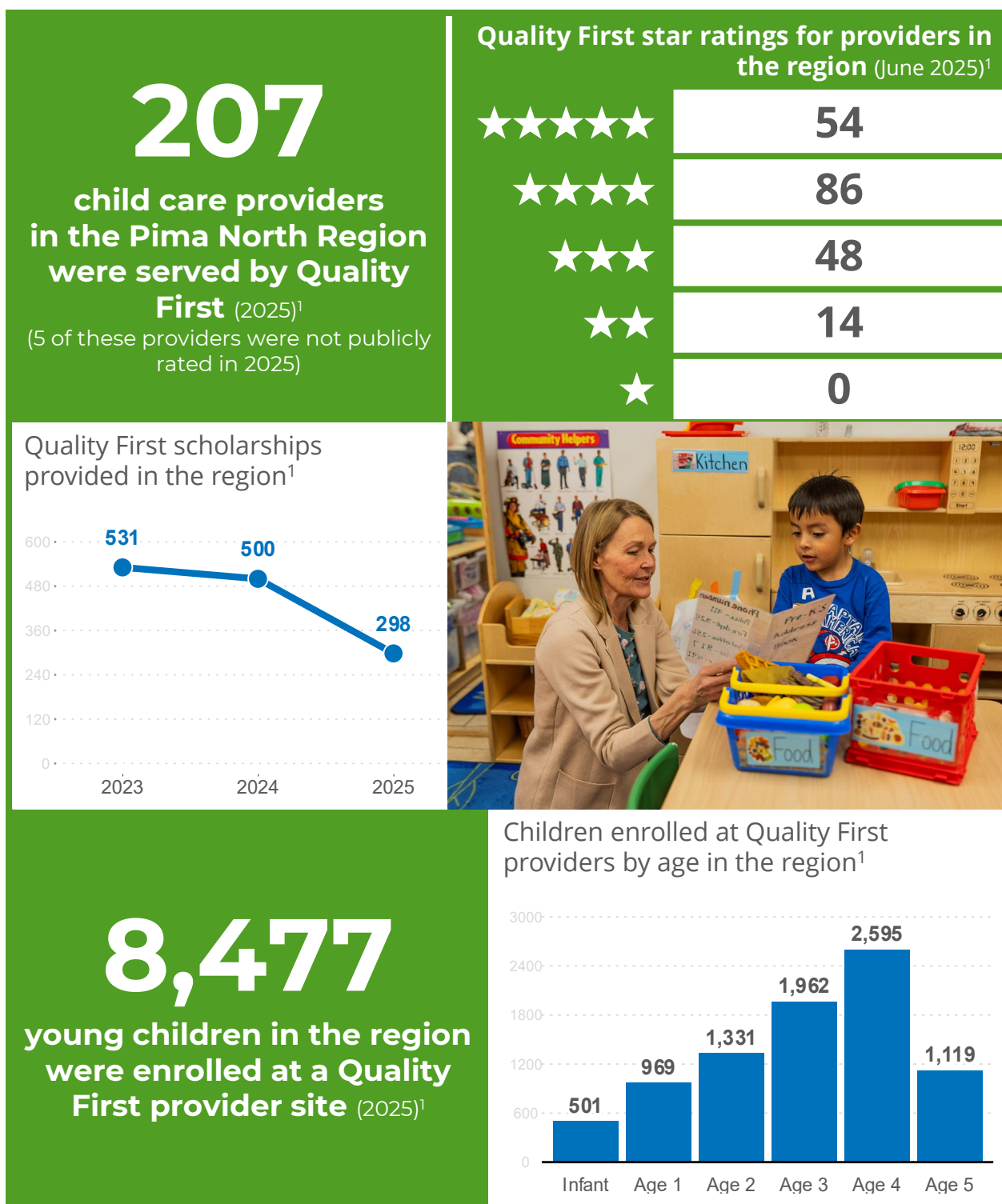
³ Arizona Department of Economic Security. (2025). [National Child Care Data System NCCRAwaredatabase extract].

⁴ Arizona Department of Health Services. (2025). [Child Care Licensing dataset].

Note: Please note that the capacity estimates are based on licensed capacity of the facility (frequently determined by physical building capacity) and may overstate the number of children that are actually enrolled in early education (due to staffing limitations and provider preferences).

Figure 8.

Increasing access to quality early care and education



¹ First Things First. (2025). [Quality First dataset].

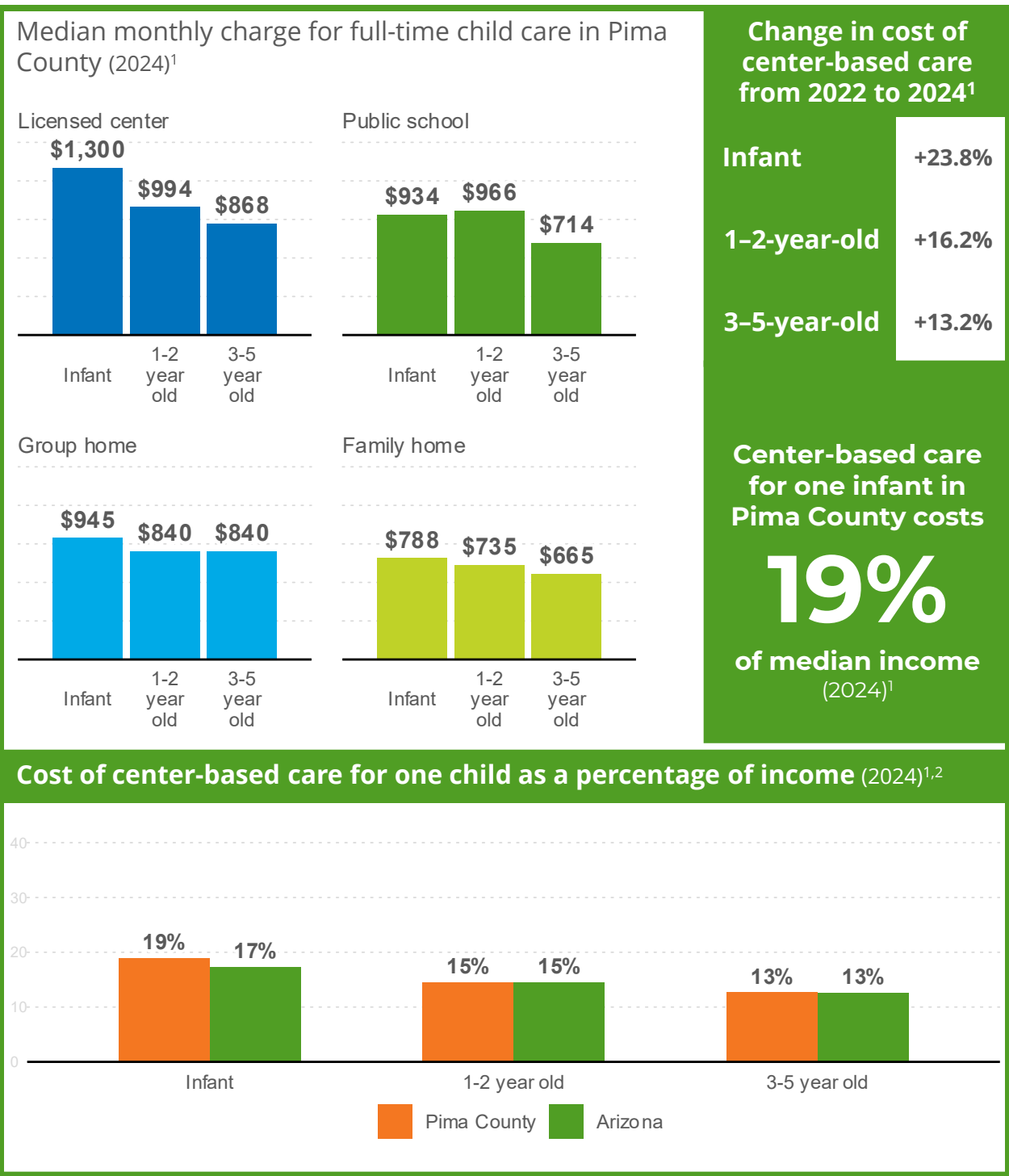
Cost of early care and education

The high cost of formal early care and education can place it out of reach of many families. The average cost of care in Arizona varies by the type of provider and the age of the child, with licensed centers and care for infants the most expensive, largely due to the higher operational costs of center-based care.⁷⁰ The median cost of care for an infant in a licensed center in Arizona in 2024 was **\$1,289** per month.⁷¹ In Pima County, care for an infant in a licensed center was also the most expensive (**\$1,300/month**), followed by care for infants in a group home (**\$945/month**), public school (**\$934/month**), or a family home (**\$788/month**). Care for 1–2-year-olds was the next most expensive type of care in the county, with care in licensed centers the most expensive (**\$994/month**), and family homes the least expensive (**\$735/month**). The cost of care for 3–5-year-olds was lowest overall, where median charges ranged from **\$868/month** (for licensed centers) and **\$665/month** (for family homes). As mentioned above, family homes in the region only provide **958** child care slots, or **2%** of early care and education capacity in the region, meaning that home-based providers, while the most affordable type of care, may not be a realistic option for many families.

According to the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, to be considered affordable, a family should spend no more than **7%** of their income on child care.⁷² In Arizona, both married and single-parent families are estimated to spend well above the “affordable” share of their income on infant care.^{73, 74} In Pima County, the cost of center-based care for one infant was at least **19%** of median income for families with children, more than the cost across Arizona (**17%**). The cost of care for older children was a lower percentage of a family’s income (**15%** for 1–2-year-olds; **13%** for 3–5-year-olds), comparable to costs across the state. The cost of care also rose in recent years, increasing **23.8%** between 2022 and 2024 for infants. The cost of care for 1–2-year-olds rose less (**+16.2%**) during the same period, while care for 3–5-year-olds increased by the lowest percentage (**+13.2%**). Key informants also highlighted the impacts of the high cost of infant care, noting that many sites have closed infant rooms and laid off staff.

Figure 9.

Cost of early care and education



¹ Health Management Associates. (2024). 2024 Child Care Market Rate Survey. Arizona Department of Economic Security.

² U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). 2023 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2019-2023.

Early care and education assistance and quality

The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) provides child care assistance to financially eligible families, including specific funding for families involved with the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS).⁷⁵ This assistance can make child care possible for families who may not otherwise be able to afford it. Eligibility for and receipt of DES child care assistance among non-DCS-involved families recently reached record highs due to recent statewide investments.^{76, 77} The Pima North Region mirrored these statewide trends, with highs of **4,238** non-DCS-involved children birth to age 5 found eligible and **3,843** of those children receiving DES child care assistance in 2023, before declining the following year. In addition, **92%** of non-DCS-involved eligible families used child care assistance in 2024 and the proportion of these young children receiving child care assistance in quality environments in the region (**84%**) was higher than non-DCS-involved children across the state (**80%**). Key informants noted recent changes to DES waitlists, (due to insufficient funding, the DES child care assistance waitlist was reinstituted statewide in August 2024ⁿ), under which eligible families who do not receive cash assistance or have not been referred by DCS are placed on a waiting list until funding becomes available.

Children are automatically eligible for DES child care assistance when they are involved with DCS.^o For DCS-involved children, the number of children birth to age 5 eligible for child care assistance in the Pima North Region decreased from a high of **1,997** in 2019 to a low of **1,443** in 2024. The number of DCS-involved young children receiving child care assistance followed a similar pattern in recent years, with **1,222** receiving this assistance in 2024. Like non-DCS-involved children, DCS-involved children in the region were more likely to receive this child care assistance in quality environments (**89%**) compared to DCS-involved children across the state (**84%**).

To expand access to quality child care, DES provides enhanced reimbursement rates to child care providers that are considered high quality, including having a 3- to 5-star Quality First rating, national accreditation or applying Head Start Performance Standards. As of November 2025, quality child care providers across Arizona were reimbursed an additional **40%** above the standard reimbursement.

ⁿ As of May 1, 2026, there were more than 12,000 children waitlisted statewide. For more information, see <https://des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/how-apply-for-child-care-assistance>

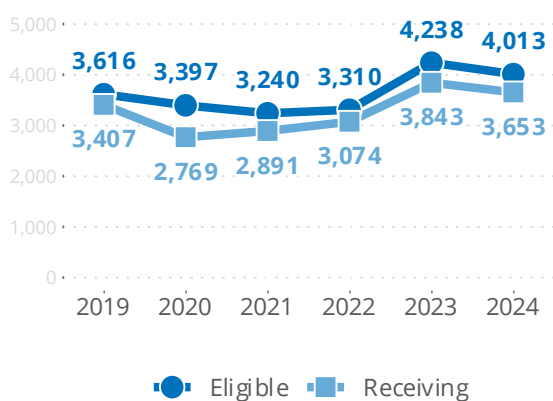
^o Children involved with DCS include children who have been removed by DCS and placed with a foster family or kinship caregiver as well as children who are residing with their own family but receiving services from DCS (such as in-home family support and counseling). Families of these children are not required to pay a co-pay for child care.

Figure 10.

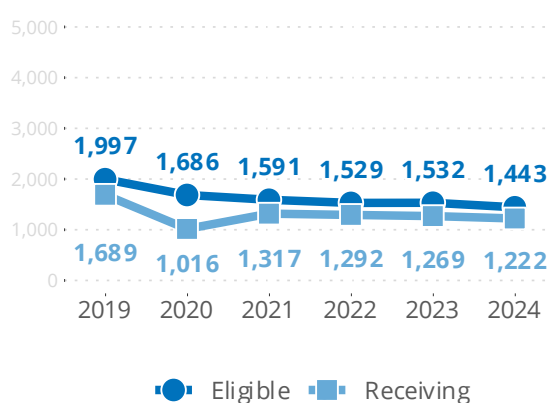
Early care and education assistance and quality

Children receiving child care assistance in the Pima North Region¹

Non-DCS-involved children



DCS-involved children



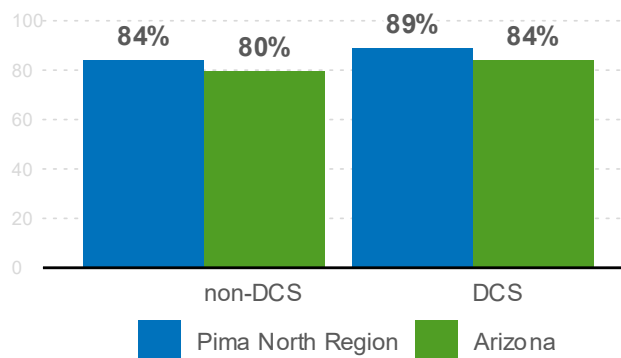
92%

of eligible families* in the region used child care assistance (2024)¹

*Non-DCS-involved families



Children receiving child care assistance in quality providers (2024)¹



+40%

Increased reimbursement rate for quality providers

defined by DES as providers with a 3-5 star Quality First Rating, national accreditation, or applying Head Start Performance Standards (Nov 2025)¹

¹ Arizona Department of Economic Security. (2024). [Child Care Assistance dataset].

EDUCATION & WORKFORCE

K-12 education attendance and achievement

In addition to a quality early childhood education system, a community's K-12 education system can support positive outcomes for children, families and the overall well-being of the community. Individuals who have higher levels of education tend to live longer and healthier lives, and graduating from high school, in particular, is associated with better health, financial stability and socio-emotional outcomes.^{78, 79} Across Pima County, kindergarten through 3rd grade enrollment has fluctuated since 2018-19, but decreased overall between the 2018-19 (n = **41,975**) and 2024-25 (n = **38,243**) school years.

Some Arizona families use Arizona's Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) to pay for eligible educational expenses, including private or online school tuition, individual public school classes and extracurriculars.⁸⁰ This program was established in 2011 for students with disabilities and expanded to universal eligibility in 2022.^{81, 82} These funds can also be spent on other approved education costs, such as tutoring, technology, textbooks, supplies and national standardized test fees.^{83, 84} In the 2024-25 school year, **10,508** students (preschool through grade 12) in Pima County used ESAs, accounting for about **11%** of Arizona's **94,600** ESA participants.⁸⁵ By comparison, there were **141,176** total students (preschool through grade 12) enrolled in public and charter schools in Pima County in the 2024-25 school year.

Children's 3rd grade reading comprehension and proficiency skills can predict their future academic success, such as their likelihood of graduating high school and attending college.⁸⁶ Pima County's 3rd grade math passing rate increased from **38%** in the 2021-22 school year to **41%** in the 2023-24 school year, while the state rate rose from **40%** to **43%**. In contrast, in Pima County, 3rd grade reading assessment passing rates decreased from the 2021-22 to 2023-24 school years from **39%** to **37%**. Statewide reading passing rates also declined, from **41%** to **39%**.

School attendance is an important factor in predicting the academic performance and future health of children. Chronic absenteeism, defined as missing 10% of school days in a school year, predicts a student experiencing academic difficulties and even dropping out of school entirely.⁸⁷ Following the COVID-19 pandemic, chronic absenteeism has become a major issue in school districts nationwide.⁸⁸ In Pima County, **18%** of kindergarten students and **27%** of 3rd grade students were chronically absent from school in the 2022-23 school year, compared to **11%** of kindergarten students and **15%** of 3rd grade students pre-pandemic in the 2018-19 school year. Statewide, the kindergarten chronic absence rate was **25.5%** and the 3rd grade chronic absence rate was **23.8%** in the 2022-23 school year.⁸⁹ Chronic absenteeism amongst 3rd grade students showed a declining trend from the 2022-23 (**27%**) to 2023-24 (**25%**) school years, which also

reflected a notable decrease from the 2021-22 school year (38%). Kindergarteners also showed a decrease in chronic absences, declining from 25% in the 2021-22 school year to 18% the following year. Increasing attendance among kindergarten students presents a particular challenge because the state mandated age of school enrollment is 6 years, so absences in kindergarten are often not considered truancy, meaning schools have fewer resources to address them.

Graduation and adult educational attainment

Understanding current high school graduation and dropout rates within the state provides insight into the assets and challenges faced by a community and its future workforce. In contrast to adults who dropped out of high school and even those that received a high school equivalency diploma (HSE, also commonly referred to as a GED), adults who graduated from high school have higher rates of employment, higher incomes and better overall health.⁹⁰ Four-year graduation rates in Pima County have fallen below the state's rates in recent years.⁹¹ In the 2023-24 school year, the four-year graduation rate was 72% in Pima County, below the statewide rate of 78%.⁹² In that same year, the five-year graduation rate was 75% in Pima County, again, below the 81% statewide.⁹³

Compared to the U.S. as a whole, Arizona has a larger proportion of disconnected youth, defined as teenagers ages 16 to 19 who are neither attending school nor employed,^p which has been linked to negative physical and mental health outcomes and higher rates of unemployment.⁹⁴ Dropout rates for 7th to 12th grade students in Pima County increased since the COVID-19 pandemic, reaching 9% in the 2022-23 school year, before decreasing to 7% the following year. Statewide, the 7th to 12th grade dropout rate was 5.3% in the 2023-24 school year.⁹⁵

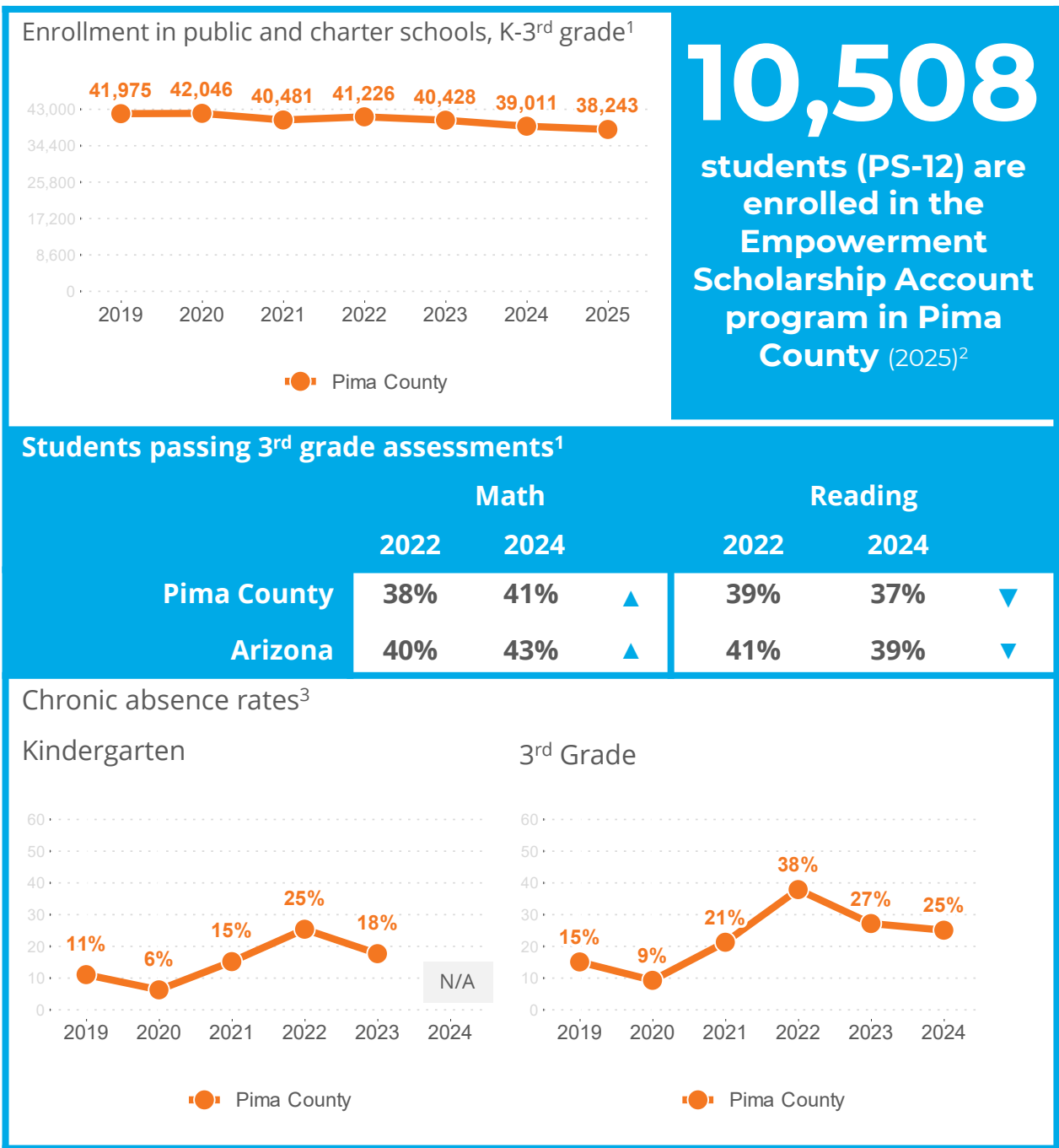
Education is a key mechanism for upward economic mobility. As educational attainment in a population increases, wages increase and rates of unemployment decrease.⁹⁶ Of U.S. adults working full time in 2021, median earnings for those with a bachelor's degree were \$29,000 higher than those with a high school degree.⁹⁷ According to 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, more than nine in 10 adults ages 25 and older (92%) in the Pima North Region had at least a high school education, higher than the proportion statewide (89%).⁹⁸ In the region, four in 10 (40%) had a bachelor's degree or more, again a higher proportion than across the state (33%).^q In addition, nearly one in four (24%) adults in the region had some college but no degree; this

^p Age ranges for "disconnected youth" vary by source, with some estimates including both teenagers ages 16-19 and young adults ages 20-24 and others focusing on only teenagers or young adults.

^q First Things First. (2025). 2025 Statewide Needs and Assets Report – Building Bright Futures. Retrieved from <https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-State-Needs-and-Assets-Report.pdf>

Figure 11.

K-12 education attendance and achievement



¹ Arizona Department of Education. (2025). [October 1 Enrollment, Graduation Rates, Dropout Rates, State Assessment dataset].

² Arizona Department of Education. (2025). [Empowerment Scholarship Account Enrollment].

³ Maricopa Association of Governments. (2026). [ReadOn Arizona MapLIT dashboard reports: enrollment, chronic absences, assessments].

Notes: Chronic absences are defined as children missing 10% or more school days. Schools reported absences data very differently in school year 2019-20 due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the shift to remote learning. Absences data were not available for kindergarteners in school year 2023-24.

includes individuals who received a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or other similar post-secondary credential.

Adult employment

Unemployment and underemployment^r can impact families in ways that affect children's health and well-being.⁹⁹ Unemployment can limit access to resources that support children's physical and mental health, like health insurance, and can also contribute to family stress, conflict, homelessness and child abuse.^{100, 101} Children with parents who have lost their jobs may also experience poorer school performance and behavioral issues, resulting in grade repetition, suspension or expulsion.¹⁰² Unemployment rates in Pima County mirror those across the state. After the spike in rates during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, unemployment rates fell in both the county and state. In 2024, the unemployment rate was **4%** in Pima County, the same as the **4%** across Arizona.

The labor force participation rate includes all persons who are working (employed) or looking for work (unemployed). Persons not in the labor force are largely students, stay-at-home parents, retirees and institutionalized people. According to 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, six in 10 (**60%**) people aged 16 and older participated in the labor force in the Pima North Region, above the rates across Pima County (**58%**), but below the state (**61%**) and U.S. (**64%**). The region's and county's unemployment rate (both **6%**) were just above that rate across the state (**5%**). Some key employment sectors in Pima County include health care and social assistance, retail trade, accommodation and food services, manufacturing and public administration.

Quality early care and education programs rely on a strong workforce, but factors like low pay make it difficult to recruit and retain these educators. Early care and education is also a field with notable pay disparities;^s with those working as a home care provider, in a Head Start program or a public pre-K program getting paid varying amounts despite performing similar work. For example, the average kindergarten teacher's salary in Arizona is about twice that of an early educator for children birth to age 5.¹⁰³ In Arizona, there were **13,260** early education professionals active in the Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry^t in November 2025. The median wage for registered

^r Underemployment means that someone works fewer hours than they would like or is in a job that does not require the skills or training that they have.

^s Programs such as Head Start and public pre-K programs receive federal funding supports that often allow for better wages and compensation in these settings compared to child care settings that don't receive these funds.

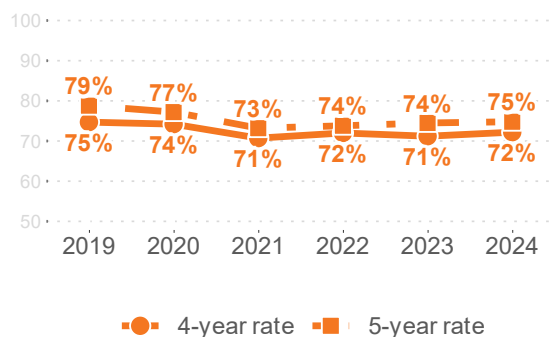
^t The Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry is Arizona's online hub for early childhood educators to track their employment, formal education, and professional development opportunities throughout their career. Early childhood

Figure 12.

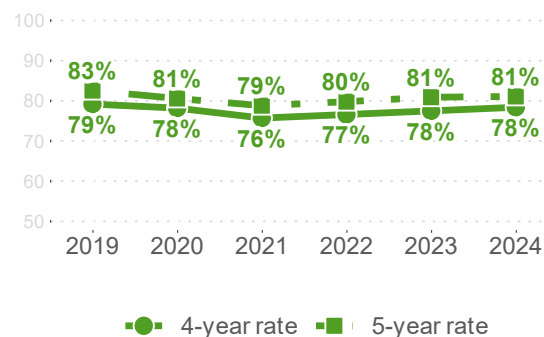
Graduation and adult educational attainment

Trends in 4-year and 5-year graduation rates¹

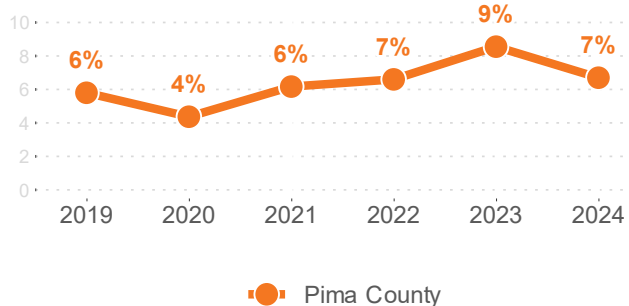
Pima County



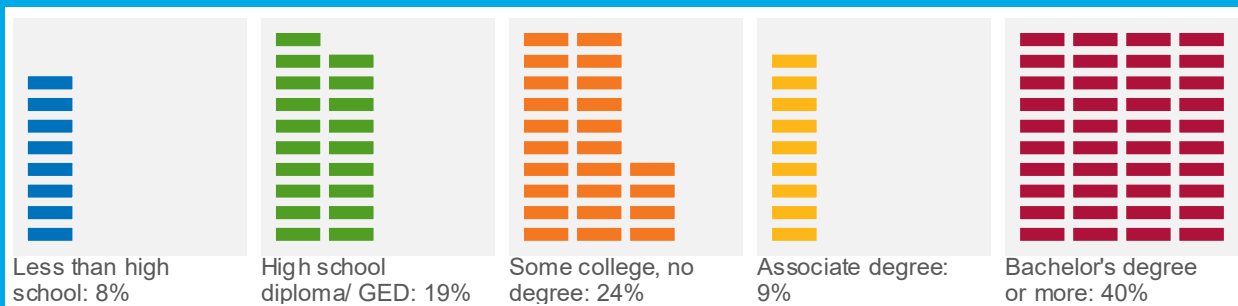
Arizona



Trends in 7th to 12th grade dropout rates¹



Level of education of adults in the Pima North Region (2023)²



¹ Arizona Department of Education. (2025). [October 1 Enrollment, Graduation Rates, Dropout Rates, State Assessment dataset].

² U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). 2023 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2019-2023.

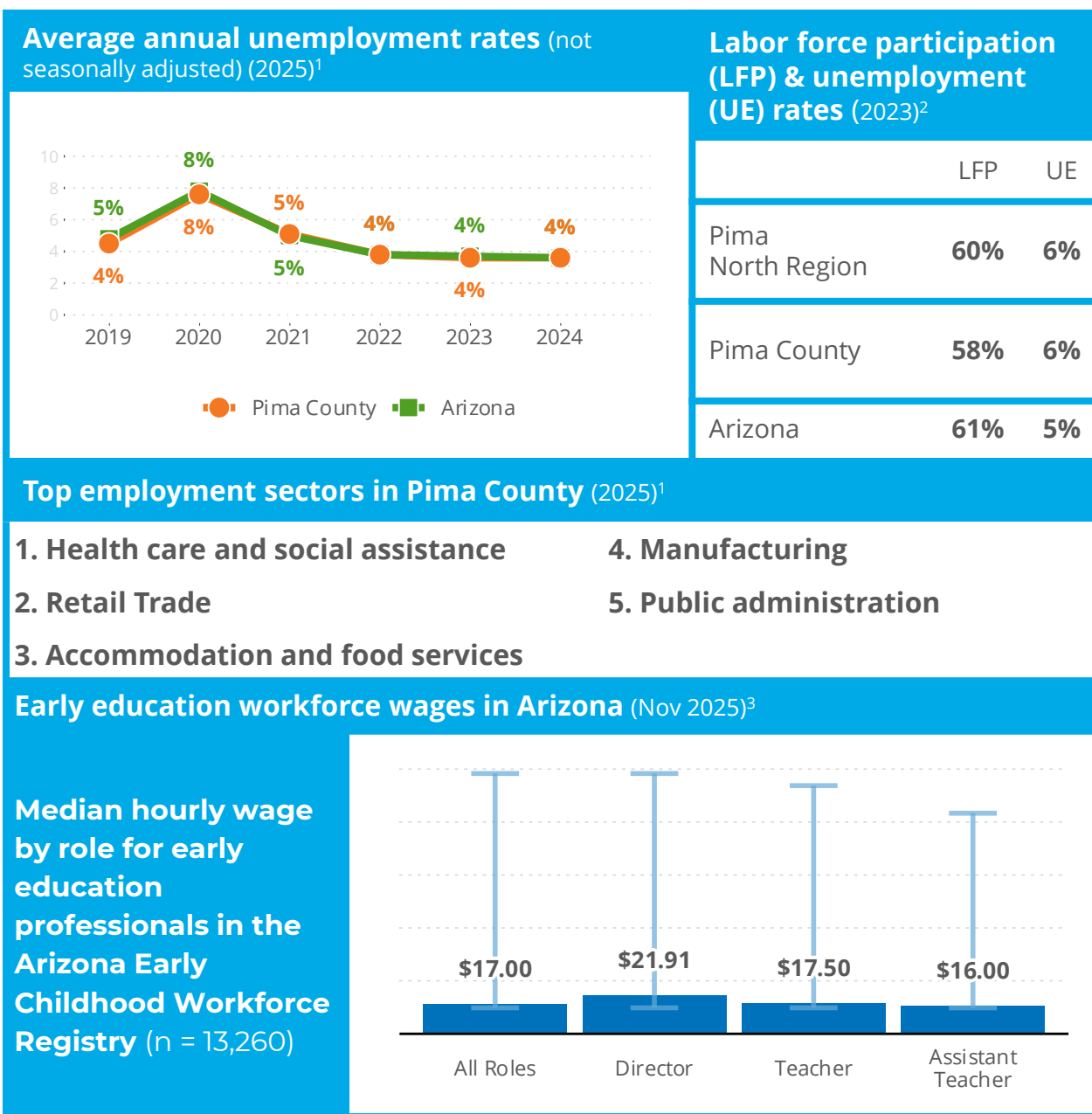
Notes: Graduation rates are calculated as the percentage of students in a cohort (typically those who enter ninth grade together) who graduate within 4 or 5 years. "Dropouts are defined as students who are enrolled in school at any time during the school year, but are not enrolled at the end of the school year and did not transfer, graduate or die" [State of Arizona Department of Education Graduation, Dropout & Persistence Rate Technical Manual].

early education professionals in the state was **\$17/hour**, ranging from **\$21.91/hour** for directors to **\$16/hour** for assistant teachers. All median wages fell below the 2025 self-sufficiency standards for one adult and one infant in Pima County (**\$28.31/hour**).¹⁰⁴

educators access the registry to explore a directory of training, conferences, and other learning opportunities to support career development; fulfill state regulatory training requirements; apply for scholarships to pursue credentials, certificates, and degrees in early childhood education; and to establish career and professional development goals.

Figure 13.

Adult employment



¹ Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity. (2025). [Local Area Unemployment Statistics & Industry Employment datasets].

² U.S. Census Bureau. (2024). 2023 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates, 2019-2023.

³ First Things First. (2025). [Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry dataset].

Notes: The "labor force" is all persons who are working (employed) or looking for work (unemployed). The "labor force participation rate" is the fraction of the population who are in the labor force, whether employed or unemployed. Persons not in the labor force are mostly students, stay-at-home parents, retirees, and institutionalized people. The "unemployment rate" is the fraction of the civilian labor force who are unemployed. Educator wage data from the Early Childhood Workforce Registry reflect wages from a sample of early educators active in the registry including teachers (n=6,054), assistant teachers (n=5,535), and directors (n=1,671).

CHILD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH

Maternal and infant health

Access to quality health care can promote positive health outcomes for mothers and infants.¹⁰⁵ Prenatal care is associated with reduced complications during pregnancy and birth, while also providing expectant parents with an opportunity to engage with health professionals.^{106, 107} The rate of timely prenatal care (care initiated in the first trimester) in the Pima North Region increased overall from 2019 (64.7%) to 2023 (68.3%), although the rate in 2023 was a decrease from a high of 70.1% in 2022. All these regional rates fell below those in the state since 2019 (68.8% - 71.7%). The proportion of births to mothers receiving no prenatal care in the region decreased overall from 5.2% to 3.3% between 2019 and 2023, and births to mothers with some prenatal care (i.e., one to four prenatal visits) also decreased overall from 8.8% in 2019 to 5.8% over the same period. Key informants identified public libraries in the region as key spaces for possible future prenatal programming. They noted that major barriers to accessing prenatal care in the region include language barriers, communication challenges and transportation access.

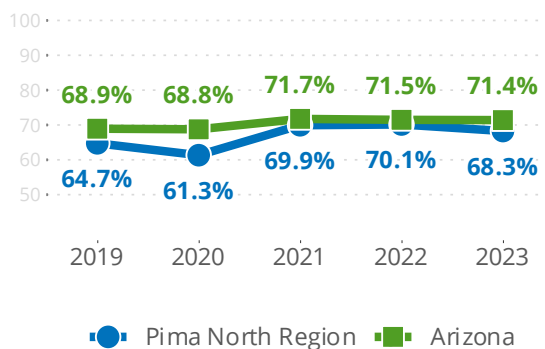
Outside of access to adequate prenatal care, other risk factors like low birth weight, preterm birth and the mother's age at birth can impact child health outcomes.^{108, 109} Low birth weight births (weighing less than 5 pounds and 8 ounces or 2,500 grams) and preterm births (those delivered before 37 weeks of pregnancy) can result in cognitive, respiratory, diabetes and gastrointestinal issues and are one of the largest drivers of infant mortality in the U.S.¹¹⁰ The proportion of low-birth-weight births in the Pima North Region were higher than those across the state and increased slightly overall from 8.5% in 2019 to 8.8% in 2023, ending above the state rate of 8.1% in 2023. Pre-term births varied slightly from 2019 to 2023 but began and ended that period at 10%. In that time period, the Pima North Region met the Healthy People 2030 target for preterm births (no more than 9.4%) once, in 2021 (9.3%). Arizona has not met the Healthy People 2030 target since 2020, with 9.9% of births in the state being preterm in 2023.

Teenage parents often experience increased stress and hardship in comparison to adult parents and other non-parent teenagers. They are less likely to complete high school or college and more likely to maintain a lower socioeconomic status and require public assistance to make ends meet.^{111, 112, 113, 114, 115} A slightly smaller proportion of births in the Pima North Region were to teenaged mothers (ages 19 and younger) compared to the state, and positively, these births in the region decreased from a high of 5% in 2019 to 4.2% in 2023. Across the state, births to teenaged mothers also decreased from 2019 to 2023, from 5.5% to 4.5%.

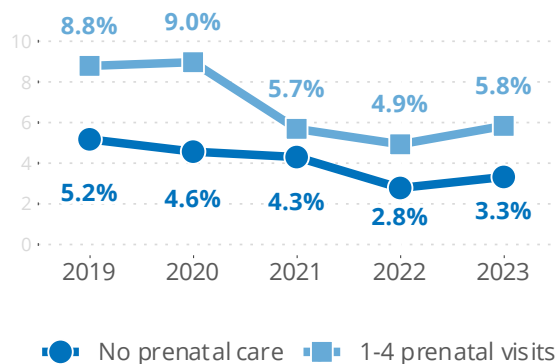
Figure 14.

Maternal and infant health

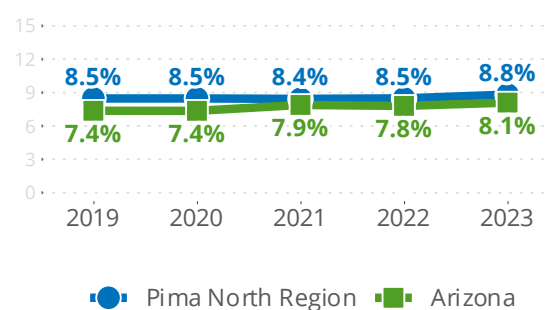
Births to mothers who began prenatal care in the first trimester¹



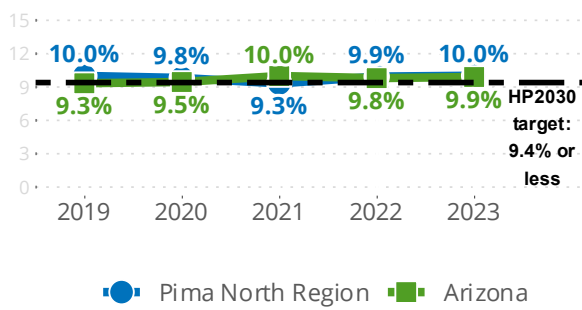
Births to mothers with inadequate prenatal care¹



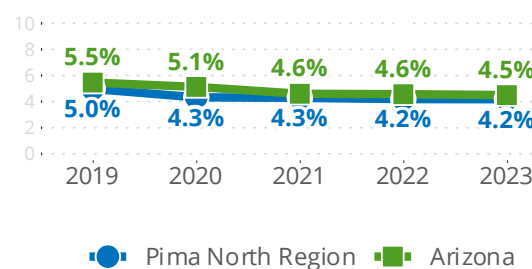
Low birth weight births (less than 2,500 grams)¹



Preterm births (less than 37 weeks gestation)^{1,2}



Births to teenaged mothers¹



¹ Arizona Department of Health Services. (2025). [Vital Statistic dataset].

² Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2025). [Healthy People 2030 Objectives: MICH-02, MICH-07].

Access to care and service navigation

Health insurance coverage is an important indicator of whether families can access, afford and utilize medical care, including access to well-child visits and developmental screenings at a lower cost. According to 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, **96%** of young children birth to age 5 in the Pima North Region had health insurance, higher than the proportion of young children statewide (**93%**).¹¹⁶ Between 2019 and 2022, the number of young children birth to age 5 in the region enrolled in the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS; Arizona's Medicaid program) steadily increased, reaching a high of **23,342** young children in 2022. Enrollment declined each year after 2022, following statewide trends and likely influenced by the post-pandemic requirement that all members enrolled in AHCCCS reverify their enrollment starting in April 2023.¹¹⁷

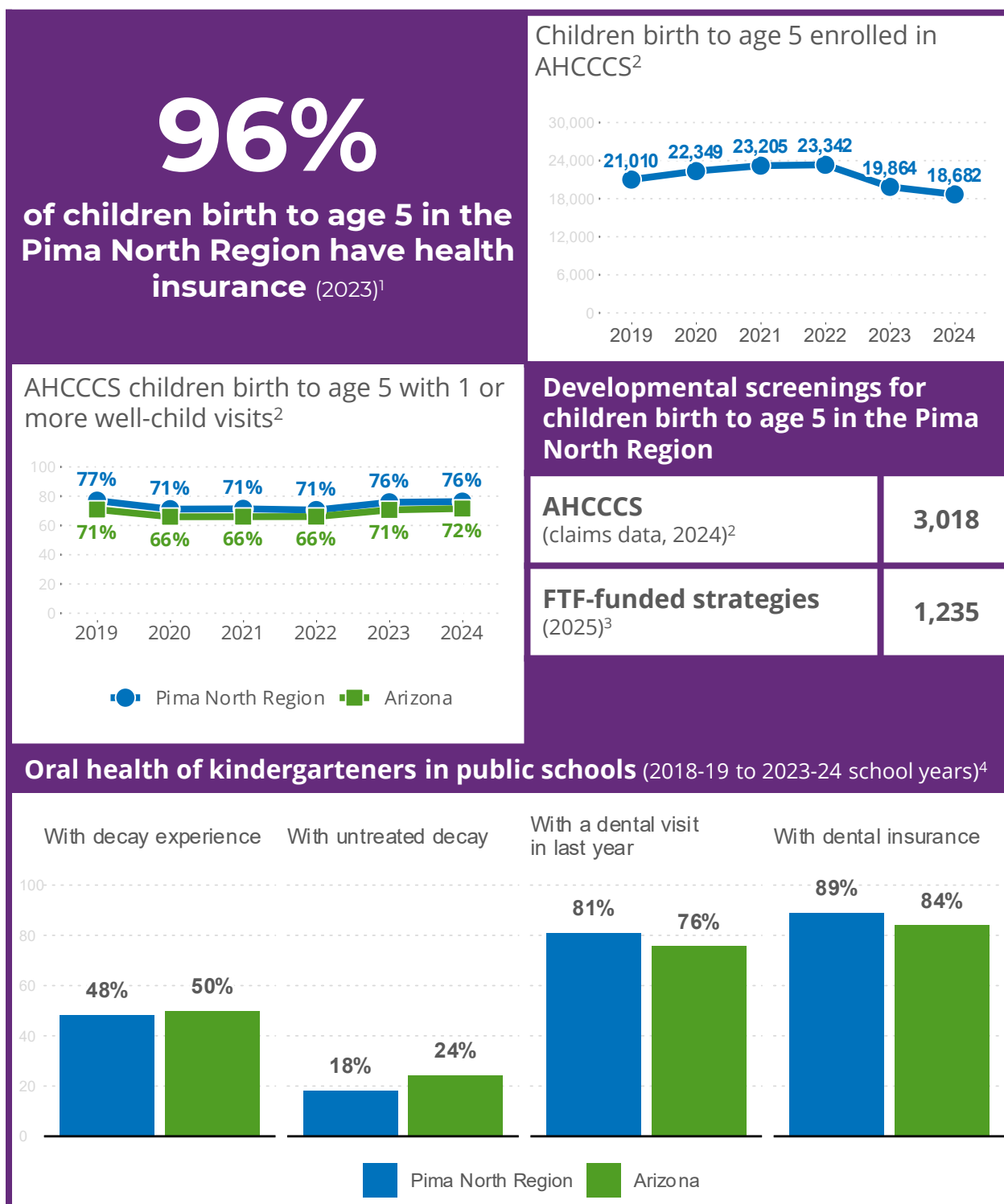
Well-child visits provide scheduled opportunities for pediatricians to monitor growth and development, administer immunizations, observe familial dynamics and provide guidance to caregivers on essential topics and emerging milestones.^{118, 119, 120} Between 2019 and 2024, the percentage of children birth to age 5 enrolled in AHCCCS with one or more well-child visits ranged from **71%** to **77%** in the Pima North Region. Statewide trends followed a similar pattern, though they were consistently lower compared to the region (**66% - 72%**).

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that providers ask parents about developmental concerns at all infant and well-child visits and have parents complete a standardized developmental screening at the 9-, 18- and 30-month appointments.¹²¹ Ensuring that children have access to timely and adequate screening and intervention services from birth to age 5 can be key for preparing children for kindergarten. In 2024, **3,018** developmental screenings for children birth to age 5 in the region were covered by AHCCCS. In state fiscal year (SFY) 2025, **1,235** children birth to age 5 in the region received a developmental screening funded by the First Things Home Visitation and First Well Child and Family Care strategies. Based on the 2020 Census, this represented about **1%** of children birth to age 5 in the Pima North Region.

Oral health is a fundamental component of overall health, well-being and self-confidence. Children with dental pain and lower oral health-related quality of life have more school absences and worse academic performance.^{122, 123, 124} In the Pima North Region, **48%** of kindergarteners in public schools experienced some type of tooth decay and **18%** had untreated decay during the 2018-19 through 2023-24 school years. These rates were below the state's rates for decay experience (**50%**) and untreated decay (**24%**). The Pima North Region also had a higher proportion of children who had a dental visit in the last year (**81%**) than across the state (**76%**) and the region had a higher proportion of kindergarteners who had dental insurance (**89%** vs. **84%**).

Figure 15.

Access to care and service navigation



Immunization and child mortality

Immunization serves as the best method to prevent communicable childhood diseases in children and their communities. When enough children are immunized, the protection even extends to those who are unable or who choose not to be vaccinated.¹²⁵ In Arizona, one of the required immunizations to enroll in preschool and kindergarten is measles, mumps and rubella (MMR).¹²⁶ While Arizona had declining MMR immunization rates in kindergarteners in recent years, the region's coverage increased, and was higher than across the state. The region's coverage increased slightly from **92.8%** (2022-23) to **93.1%** (2024-25), while Arizona's coverage declined from **89.9%** (2022-23) to **88.7%** (2024-25). This means that MMR coverage in the region and state were below the threshold for herd immunity of **95%**, and neither the region nor the state met the Healthy People 2030 target of **95%** or higher.¹²⁷ This is especially concerning as Arizona has been experiencing an active measles outbreak and Pima County had **3** reported cases of measles as of June 4, 2026.^u

Children may be exempted from vaccination based on medical restrictions, religious beliefs or personal beliefs. Medical exemptions can apply to students of all ages, while religious belief exemptions apply to students in early care and education programs and personal belief exemptions apply to K-12 students.¹²⁸ Exemptions among children in child care and kindergarten in the Pima North Region varied in recent years. In the 2024-25 school year, **3.3%** of children in child care received a religious exemption and **4.7%** of kindergarteners in the region received a personal belief exemption. Over the 2020-21 and 2024-25 school years, exemptions from all immunizations were low in the region in both child care and kindergarten, but exemptions in child care and kindergarten increased overall. The most recent exemption rates from all immunizations for children in child care in the region in the 2024-25 school year (**2.5%**) were below those seen statewide (**4.8%**). The same was true for children in kindergarten in the region that year (**2.7%**) compared to statewide (**4.7%**).¹²⁹

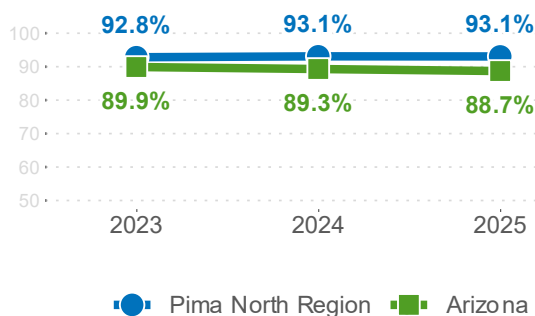
Healthy People 2030 set a target of no more than **5.0** infant deaths per 1,000 live births. Between 2021 and 2023, the infant mortality rate for the region was **4.5** deaths per 1,000 live births, below the rate for Pima County (**5.0**) and the state (**5.7**). This means that the region and county, but not the state, met the Healthy People 2030 target. Between 2021 and 2023, young child mortality was lower in Pima County (**25.6** deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-4) compared to the state (**29.8**). Statewide, the leading causes of death for infants were prematurity and suffocation, while drowning was the leading cause of death for children aged 1 to 4 years.¹³⁰

^u For more up-to-date case counts see <https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/measles/index.php>

Figure 16.

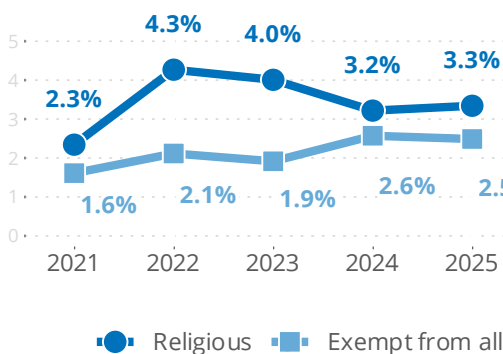
Immunization and child mortality

Kindergarten MMR immunization rates¹

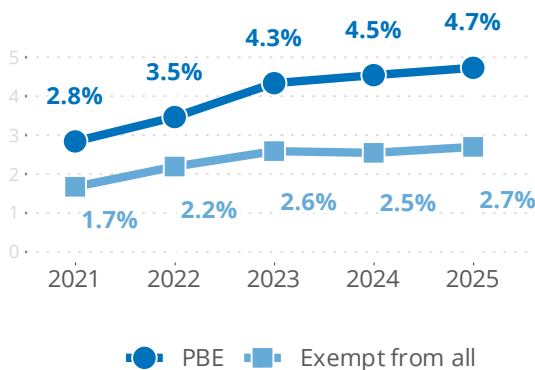


Immunization exemption rates¹

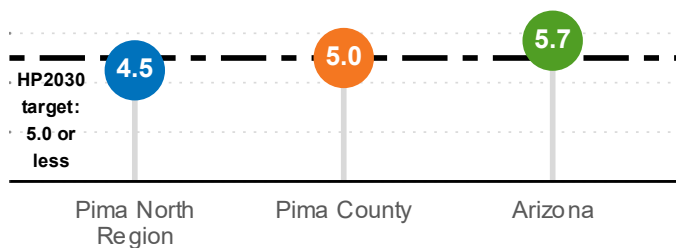
Child care



Kindergarten



Infant mortality rate, deaths per 1,000 live births (2021-2023 combined)^{2,3}



Young child mortality rate, deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-4 (2021-2023 combined)²

Pima County	25.6
Arizona	29.8

¹ Arizona Department of Health Services. (2025). [Child Care & Kindergarten Immunizations datasets].

² Arizona Department of Health Services. (2025). [Vital Statistic dataset].

³ Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2025). [Healthy People 2030 Objectives: MICH-02, MICH-07].

Note: PBE in the kindergarten exemption figure stands for personal belief exemption.

Young children with special needs

Timely connection with early intervention services—such as speech, physical, occupational and behavioral therapy— can critically shape school readiness and the developmental trajectory of young children with medical conditions, developmental delays and even certain risk factors for delays.¹³¹ In Arizona, the Department of Economic Security's (DES) Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP), the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), and the Arizona Department of Education's (ADE) Early Childhood Special Education Program each play a role in providing services to families with children who have special needs.

AzEIP^v is tasked with providing early intervention and a variety of supportive services to families of children birth to age 2 with developmental delays or disabilities.¹³² In state fiscal year (SFY) 2024, children birth to age 2 in the Pima North Region were most frequently referred to AzEIP by physicians (**62%**). Parents and families were the second most common referral source (**19%**), followed by the Department of Child Safety (**7%**), a health or service agency (**6%**), a hospital or health facility (**4%**), or another source (**2%**). One-third of young children (**33%**) referred to AzEIP in the Pima North Region were found eligible for services, including **32%** who received services and **1%** found eligible but who had not received services within the fiscal year. Another **32%** of referred children were assessed as not eligible for services (**19%**) or were screened out (**13%**). In an additional **34%** of referrals, families were either not interested in services (**12%**) or could not be reached (**22%**). The proportion who could not be reached in the region was slightly higher than across the state, where **19%** of referred families could not be reached.¹³³

The number of children birth to age 2 who received services from AzEIP decreased from SFY 2018 (n = **426**) to SFY 2021 (n = **344**), before increasing again through SFY 2024 when **419** children birth to age 2 received these services. The **419** children served by AzEIP in SFY 2024 represented **2.2%** of children birth to age 2 residing in the region per the 2020 Census. This is lower than the **2.5%** of children birth to age 2 receiving AzEIP services statewide and the proportion of young children accessing early intervention nationally (**4.3%**).¹³⁴ National research suggests that many more young children would likely benefit from early intervention than are receiving it.¹³⁵

Children who receive a diagnosis of autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, cognitive or intellectual disability or down syndrome may also become eligible for services through DDD.^w The number of children birth to age 5 in the Pima North Region receiving DDD services decreased sharply from a high of **432** young children in SFY 2018 to a low of **186** young children in SFY 2021; service

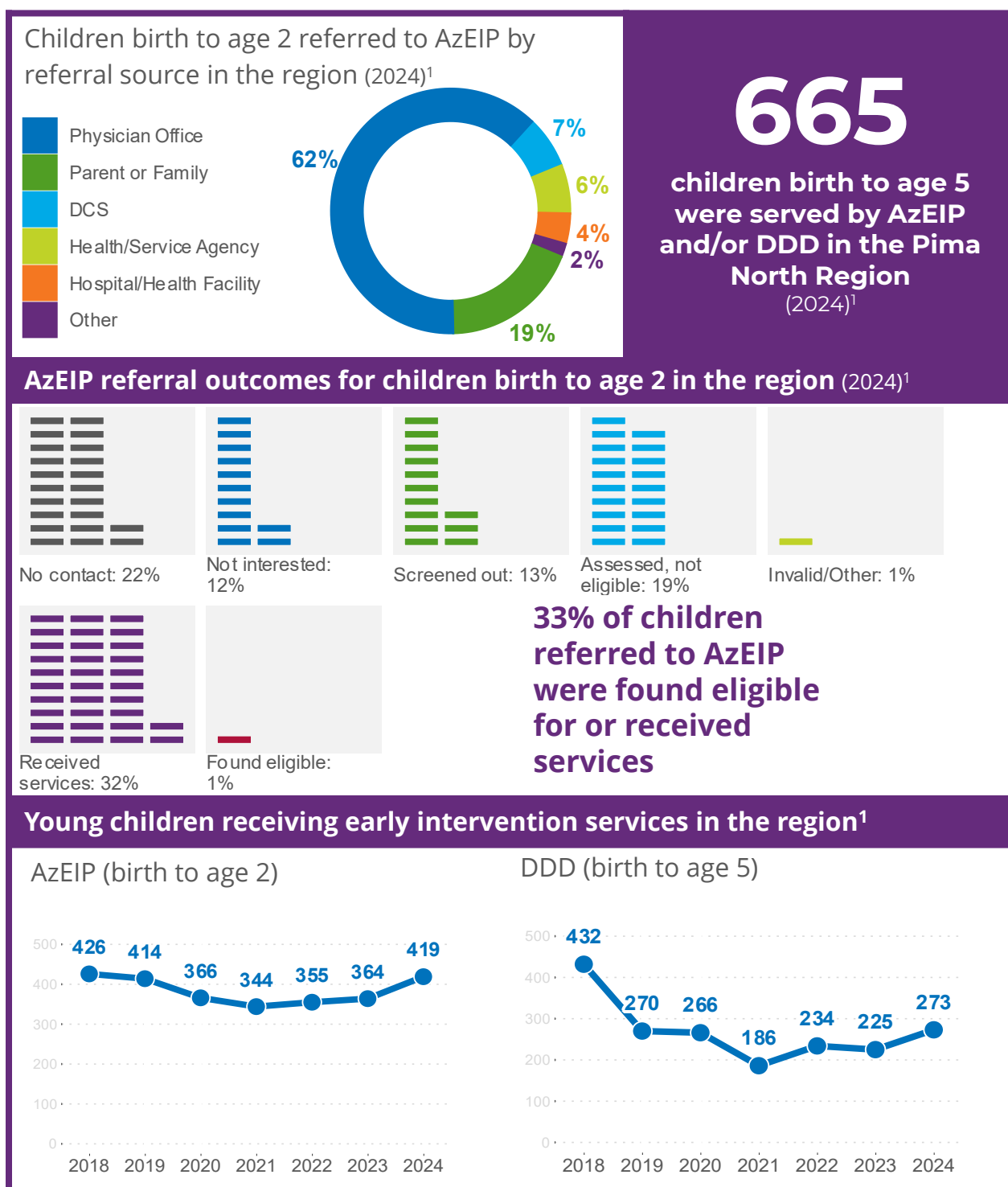
^v For more information on AzEIP (which is a division of the Department of Economic Security), visit <https://www.azdes.gov/azeip/>

^w For more information on DDD (which is a division of the Department of Economic Security), visit <https://des.az.gov/services/disabilities/developmental-disabilities>

numbers increased again after that, to **273** young children served in SFY 2024. Qualifying children may receive services from AzEIP and/or DDD, a number which can be used to estimate the total number of young children receiving early intervention services in a region. A total of **665** children birth to age 5 in the region received services from AzEIP and/or DDD in SFY 2024. This equates to **1.6%** of all children birth to 5 in the Pima North Region based on estimates from the 2020 Census. Key informants noted that this data may underestimate the true need for early intervention services, as some families may not connect with services due to limited awareness, limited phone access or assumptions that their child will not qualify. They also noted that the high eligibility criteria for AzEIP and DDD services may exclude children who could still benefit from early intervention.

Figure 17.

Young children with special needs



¹ Arizona Department of Economic Security. (2024). [Arizona Early Intervention Program & Division of Developmental Disabilities datasets].

Note: Data on young children receiving services reflect the Oct 1 snapshot of AzEIP services, not a cumulative total throughout the year.

Preschool to 3rd grade students with special needs

As a child with special needs approaches age 3, they can be transferred from AzEIP to the Early Childhood Special Education Program to receive services through their local education agency (LEA).^x In the Pima North Region, the number of children aged 3 to 5 receiving special education services through their LEA decreased from a recent high of **752** in state fiscal year (SFY) 2018 to a low of **566** in SFY 2022. This represents a **25%** decrease over those years. In the same time period across Arizona, the number decreased from **10,123** in SFY 2018 to **8,086** in SFY 2022, representing a **20%** decrease over those years.

The number of K-3rd grade students enrolled in special education also declined slightly in the Pima North Region during this time, from **3,564** children in SFY 2018 to **3,452** in SFY 2022. Conversely, the number across the state showed an overall increase from SFY 2018 (n = **36,468**) to SFY 2022 (n = **37,334**). Notably, these numbers amongst K-3rd grade students are higher than the early intervention participation would suggest, which may reflect the number of children not getting an adequate assessment of their needs and abilities until they enter the public school system.

Of children ages 3 to 5 receiving special needs services, the most were diagnosed with developmental delay (DD, **49%**) or a speech language impairment (SLI, **35%**), followed by a preschool severe delay (PSD) (**15%**)^y or another diagnosis (**1%**).^z Speech language impairment (**43%**) was the most common diagnosis among kindergarten through 3rd grade students in special education, followed by developmental delay (**25%**), specific learning disability or another diagnosis (both **12%**) or autism (**8%**).

^x For more information on ADE's Early Childhood Special Education program visit <https://www.azed.gov/specialeducation/early-childhood-special-education> and <https://www.azed.gov/specialeducation/early-childhood-special-education-child-find>

^y In Arizona, preschool severe delay is defined as performance on a norm-referenced assessment that is more than three standard deviations below the mean for typically developing children in the areas of cognitive, physical, communication, social-emotional or adaptive development.

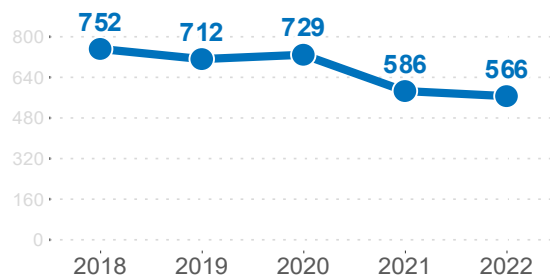
^z The most common disabilities in the "Other" category are other health impairments (these are usually chronic health conditions that affect a child's ability to attend or participate in school), intellectual disabilities, emotional disturbance, hearing or vision impairment, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments and deaf-blindness.

Figure 18.

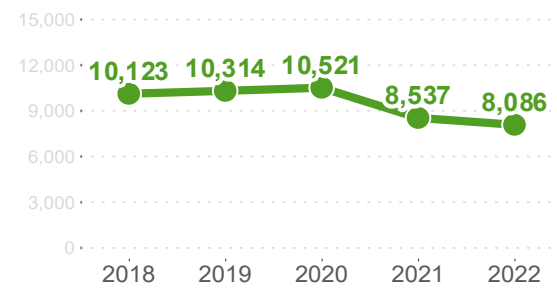
Preschool to 3rd grade students with special needs

Children age 3-5 receiving special education services from local school districts¹

Pima North Region

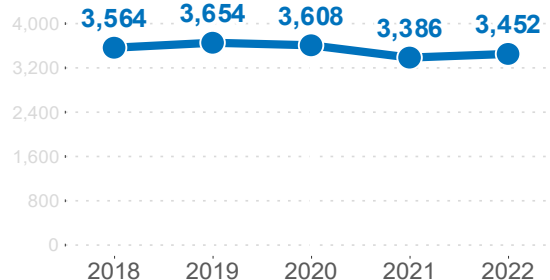


Arizona

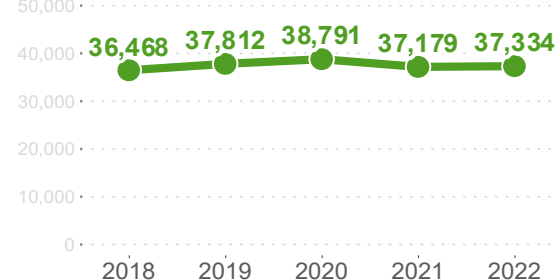


K-3rd grade students enrolled in special education in public and charter schools¹

Pima North Region

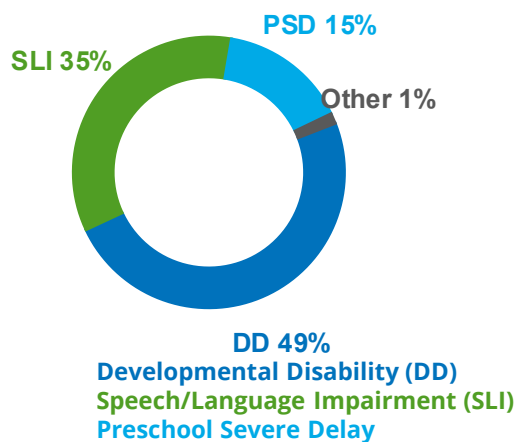


Arizona

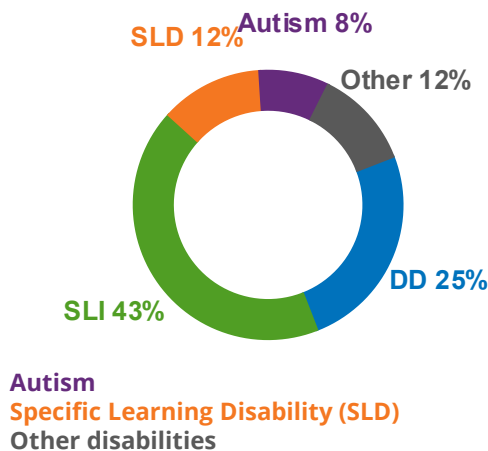


Primary disability for children receiving services in the region (2022)¹

Children ages 3-5



K-3rd grade students



¹ Arizona Department of Education. (2023). [Exceptional Student Services dataset].

Note: Most common disabilities in the "Other" category are other health impairments (these are usually chronic health conditions that affect a child's ability to attend or participate in school), intellectual disabilities, emotional disturbance, hearing or vision impairment, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments, and deaf-blindness.

MAPS & METHODS

Methods

U.S. Census and American Community Survey Data. The U.S. Census^{aa} is an enumeration of the population of the United States conducted every ten years, and includes information about housing, race, and ethnicity. The 2020 U.S. Census data are available by census block. There are about 108,000 inhabited blocks in Arizona, each with an average population of 66 people. The 2020 U.S. Census data for the region presented in this report were calculated by identifying each block in the region and aggregating the data across all of those blocks. With the implementation of new privacy measures by the U.S. Census, some data previously available at the block level, such as grandchildren living in a grandparent's households or counts of households with children birth to age 5, are now only published at the block group or tract level. Regional estimates for these indicators were calculated by aggregating data over the census tracts which are wholly or partially contained within the region. Data from partial census tracts were apportioned according to the percentage of the 2020 U.S. Census population in that tract living inside the region.

The American Community Survey (ACS)^{bb} is a survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau each month by mail, telephone and face-to-face interviews. It covers many different topics, including income, language, education, employment and housing. ACS data are available by census tract. Arizona is divided into approximately 1,750 census tracts, each with an average population of 3,900 people. ACS data for the region were calculated by aggregating over the census tracts which are wholly or partially contained in the region. The data from partial census tracts were apportioned according to the percentage of the 2020 U.S. Census population in that tract living inside the region. The most recent and most reliable ACS data are averaged over the past five years; those are the data included in this report. They are based on surveys conducted from 2019 to 2023. In general, the reliability of ACS estimates is greater for more populated areas. Statewide estimates, for example, are more reliable than county-level estimates.

Child care capacity calculations. Lists of child care providers are maintained by multiple state agencies in Arizona, including the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), which licenses child care centers; the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES), which maintains the list of child care providers in Arizona who are active within the National Data System of Child Care NACCRRAware database; the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), which tracks preschool enrollment in public and charter schools; and First Things First (FTF), which administers the Quality First program. The ADHS child care licensing database was used as the primary source for child

^{aa} For more information, see <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census.html>

^{bb} For more information, see <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs.html>

care capacity calculations in this report, as analyses of both statewide and region-level data showed that most child care slots for regulated providers in the region are provided by centers. Centers that only serve children ages 5-12 were removed from child care capacity calculations, as these are typically before- & after-school programs that only serve school-age children. This report also used data from the DES child care provider list to estimate the number of registered care providers and their capacity by type of provider: centers (including Head Start centers), schools and homes (both group home and family home providers). For all tables, providers were geocoded to regions and sub-regions using addresses or coordinates provided in the state agency datasets to assign them to regions and sub-regions. Comparisons of child care capacity to the young child population are meant to provide a relative assessment of the abundance or scarcity of child care supply relative to potential demand. The child care data in this report do not reflect the capacity of unlicensed, unregulated or informal child care providers in the region. The estimated supply may also over-estimate availability in regulated care as it did not account for child care providers that operate under licensed capacity by choice or children who enroll in multiple facilities (e.g., a child who attends part-day Head Start or school-based preschool in the morning and a child care center in the afternoon).

First Things First (FTF) strategy data. Data related to FTF-funded strategies were provided for this report by FTF staff. These data included regional estimates of oral health indicators and hearing, vision, socio-emotional and developmental screening reach, zip code-level service data for home visitation programs, statewide workforce registry wage data and provider-level Quality First participation and enrollment data. The vendor used an apportioning file provided by FTF to create regional estimates of home visitation services from the zip-code level file.

Early education and service data from the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES). Data related to child care assistance, Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) referrals, outcomes and services, and Division of Developmental Disabilities services were provided by DES. These data were geocoded to regions and sub-regions by staff at DES using a custom shapefile provided by the vendor.

Health data from the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). Data related to births, infant and maternal health, immunization rates at child care and school facilities, infant and child mortality and enrollment and participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) were provided by ADHS. All data apart from immunization data were geocoded to regions and sub-regions by staff at ADHS using a custom shapefile provided by the vendor. The vendor geocoded child care and school facilities to regions using addresses or coordinates provided in the immunization datasets to create custom immunization coverage estimates.

Health data from the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). FTF partnered with the Arizona State University Center for Health Information and Research (CHiR) to create

custom tabulations of health claims data for young children birth to age 5 enrolled in AHCCCS health care plans. These estimates, at the state, county, regional and sub-regional levels, were provided to the vendor for inclusion in this report.

Employment and industry data from the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). Data for unemployment rates^{cc} and major employment sectors^{dd} were obtained from the OEO for counties and multi-county areas (which combine 2-4 small counties to produce a more reliable estimate). The top five employment sectors for each county or multi-county area reflect those with the most overall employees in Quarter 4 of 2024. The Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, the underlying data source for these employment estimates, does not capture farm employment, so agricultural workers are not reflected in these data.

Education data from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). For past FTF Regional Needs and Assets reports, regional estimates for education data were obtained through a custom tabulation of unredacted data files provided by ADE. Access to unredacted data files was not available for this report. Instead, publicly-available data files published by ADE^{ee} were used to examine trends in enrollment, assessment results, graduation and dropout rates, and data on chronic absenteeism were obtained via the Maricopa Association of Governments and ReadOn Arizona MAPLit data tool.^{ff} Due to the frequency of data suppression in these files to protect student privacy, data could not be reliably aggregated across schools or districts to create regional estimates. Data on services for students with disabilities by grade are not publicly available for geographies smaller than the state, so custom regional estimates from the 2024 Regional Needs and Assets reports were used in this report.

Change calculations. Unless otherwise specified, changes in counts of data over time (i.e., percent increase or decrease) are calculated by subtracting the earlier number (e.g., a 2010 count) from the later number (e.g. the 2020 count) and dividing the result by the earlier number (e.g. the 2010 count). This calculation provides the percent change between the most recent count and the prior count, relative to the prior count.

Data availability. State agency data in this report were provided to FTF by agency staff through a data request process initiated in February 2025 and extending to March 2026. Wherever possible, data were requested for multiple years to allow for the visualization of trends as well as for the most recent year available. However, due to both the constraints of agency staff and agency-maintained datasets as well as the timing of requests, not all data were available on the same time

^{cc} For more information, see <https://o eo .az .gov /labor -market /unemployment>

^{dd} For more information, see <https://o eo .az .gov /labor -market /industry -employment>

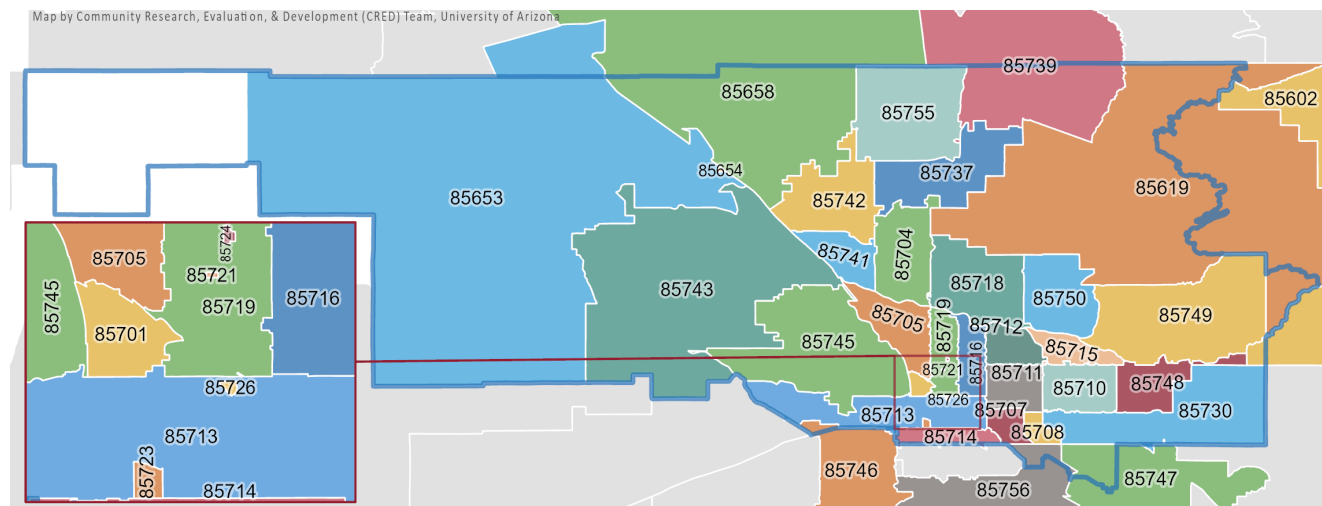
^{ee} For more information, see <https://www .azed .gov /accountability -research /data>

^{ff} For more information, see <https://geo .azmag .gov /maps /readonaz/>

and geographic scales. This report attempts to include the most recent and complete data available, with notes indicating where data were not available for particular time periods or geographies.

Data suppression. To protect the confidentiality of program participants, the FTF Data Dissemination and Suppression Guidelines preclude reporting of social service and early education programming data if the count is less than 10 and data related to health or developmental delay if the count is less than 6. In addition, some data received from state agencies are suppressed according to their own guidelines. ADHS does not report counts between 1 and 5; DES does not report counts between 1 and 9; ADE does not report counts less than 11. Additionally, ADE requires suppression of the second-smallest value or the denominator in tables where a reader might be able to use the numbers provided to calculate a suppressed value. Throughout this report, information which is not available because of suppression guidelines is indicated by entries of "<6" or "<10" or "<11" for counts, or "DS" (data suppressed) for percentages. Data are sometimes not available for particular regions, either because a program did not operate in the region or because data are only available at the county level. Cases where data are not available will be indicated by an entry of "N/A", "NA" or a note that states "data not available."

Map of Zip Codes in the Region



Source: Custom map by the Community Research, Evaluation, & Development (CRED) Team using shapefiles obtained from First Things First and the U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line Shapefiles (<https://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/geo/shapefiles/index.php>)

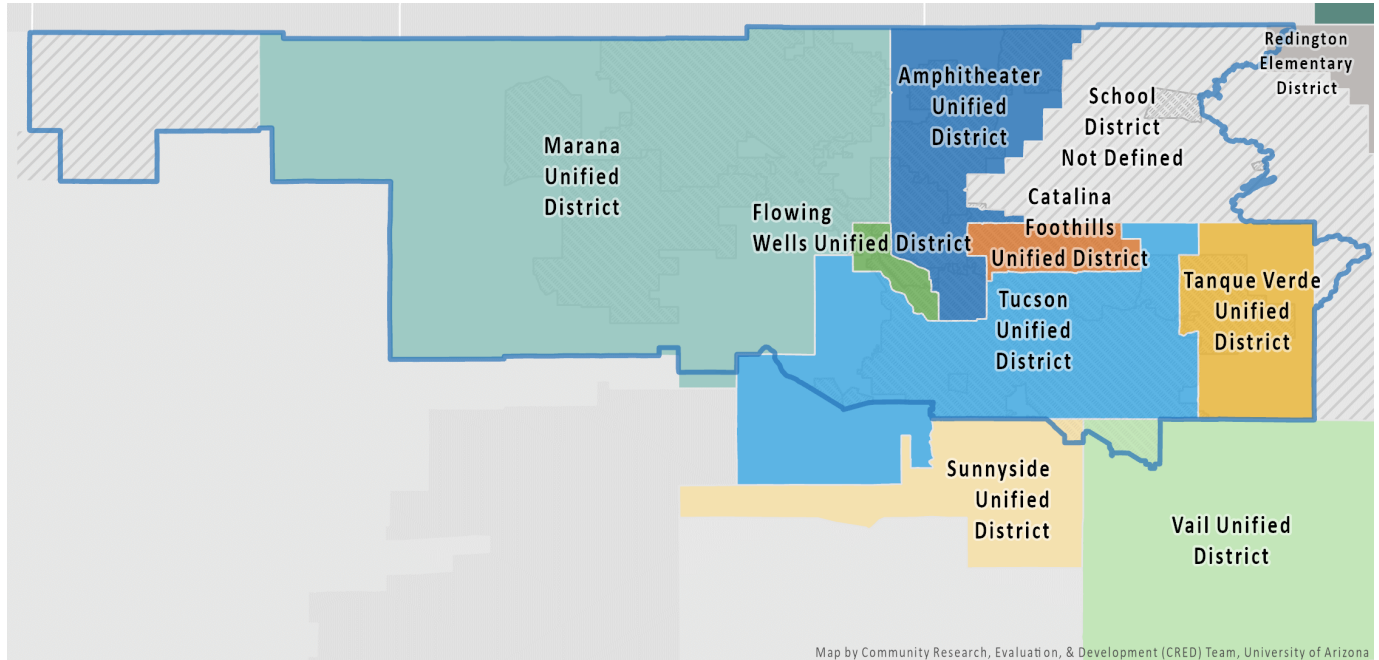
Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) in the Pima North Region

Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA)	Population (all ages)	Percent of this ZCTA's total population living in the Pima North Region	This ZCTA is shared with
Pima North Region	731,668		
85619	108	96%	Cochise Region
85653	19,875	100%	Pinal Region
85654	94	100%	
85658	14,669	93%	Pinal Region
85701	5,132	100%	
85704	34,430	100%	
85705	56,711	100%	
85707	734	100%	
85708	3,837	100%	
85710	57,381	100%	
85711	41,518	100%	
85712	33,108	100%	
85713	44,368	95%	Pima South Region
85714	12,788	90%	Pima South Region
85715	18,561	100%	
85716	31,521	100%	
85718	28,706	100%	
85719	46,242	100%	
85723	132	100%	
85726	11	100%	
85730	39,241	100%	Pima South Region
85737	22,212	100%	
85739	7,707	41%	Pinal Region
85741	34,131	100%	
85742	30,057	100%	
85743	30,441	100%	
85745	36,774	100%	
85746	62	0.1%	Pima South Region, Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, Tohono O'odham Nation Region
85747	8	0.0%	Pima South Region
85748	18,816	100%	
85749	19,009	100%	
85750	25,007	100%	
85755	18,277	100%	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2020). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics, Table P1

Note: With the implementation of differential privacy in the 2020 Census, small area estimates now have injected 'noise' (error) to prevent accidental disclosure of Census responses. Geographies that are not primary census geographies, like ZCTAs, have noisier (or less accurate) estimates than primary geographies, like tracts.

Map of School Districts in the Region



Source: Custom map by the Community Research, Evaluation, & Development (CRED) Team using shapefiles obtained from First Things First and the U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line Shapefiles (<https://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/geo/shapefiles/index.php>)

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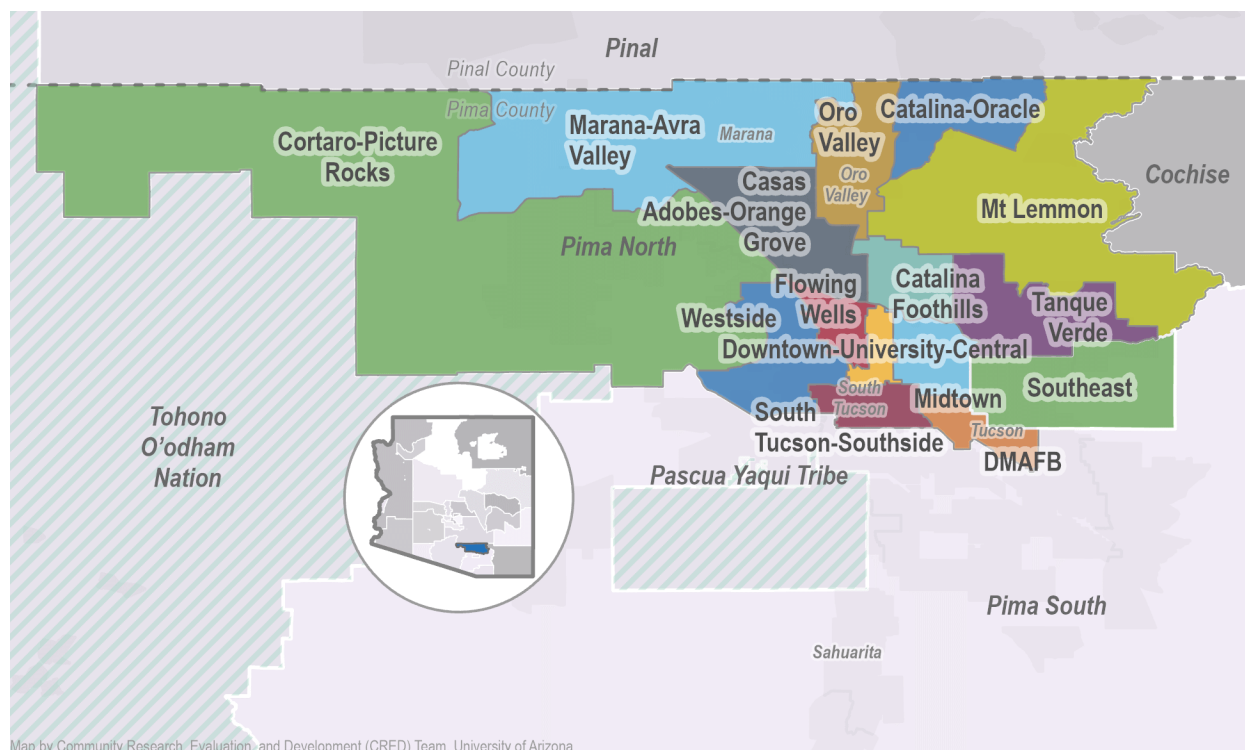
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SUB-REGIONAL FACTSHEETS

Communities vary in terms of needs and assets, even within the same First Things First (FTF) Region. In recognition of this, the following factsheets present a selection of indicators from this Regional Needs and Assets report at the sub-regional level. Examining differences within the region can help Regional Partnership Councils and local stakeholders focus their strategies and efforts to use resources effectively.

Sub-regions in the Pima North Region



The factsheets that follow provide information about 15 sub-regions within the Pima North Region.

The **Casa Adobes-Orange Grove** sub-region is defined as 27 census tracts (46.10, 46.13-46.18, 46.21-46.28, 46.30-46.32, 46.34, 46.39, 46.44-46.47, 47.25 and portions of 47.10 & 47.14). It is defined as the area north of the Rillito River, east of I-10, south of Tangerine Rd, and west of La Cholla north of Hardy Rd and west of 1st Ave south of Ina. It contains the Census Designated Place (CDP) of Casas Adobes as well as some mostly unpopulated portions of the towns of Marana and Oro Valley.

The **Catalina Foothills** sub-region is defined as nine census tracts (47.11-47.12, 47.17-47.18, 47.24, 47.326 & parts of 47.10, 47.13 & 47.14), comprising the CDP of Catalina Foothills. It is defined as the area north of the Rillito River between 1st Ave and Craycroft Rd, up to the edge of National Forest land in the Catalina Mountains.

The **Catalina-Oracle** sub-region is defined as two census tracts (47.15 & 47.27) that contain the CDP of Catalina and Catalina State Park along North Oracle Rd.

The **Cortaro-Picture Rocks** sub-region is defined as 11 census tracts (44.18, 44.23, 44.25-44.26, 44.36-44.40 and portions of 44.18, 44.28 & 44.34). It contains the CDP of Picture Rocks and covers the portion of the region west of the I-10 and the CDP of Tucson Mountains and south and west of Avra Valley.

The **DMAFB** sub-region is defined as two census tracts (36.01 & 9803) that contain the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

The **Downtown-University-Central** sub-region is defined as 16 census tracts (1, 5.01-5.02, 8, 15, 26.02, 27.03-27.04, 54 & portions of 2, 6, 7, 14, 16, 27.02 & 45.11) and covers the city of Tucson neighborhoods of Barrio Santa Rosa, Barrio Viejo, El Presidio, Armory Park, Barrio San Antonio, Arroyo Chico and Rincon Heights and the area between 1st Ave and Tucson Blvd containing the University of Arizona up to the Campus Farm and University of Arizona Cancer Center (corresponding to the 85719 zip code, approximately).

The **Flowing Wells** sub-region is defined as 19 census tracts (3-4.02, 13.02-13.04, 26.03-26.04, 45.05-45.06, 45.08, 45.10, 45.12-45.14, and portions of 12, 14, 45.11 & 45.15). It contains the CDP of Flowing Wells as well as the 85705 zip code within the city of Tucson.

The **Marana-Avra Valley** sub-region is defined as six census tracts (44.19, 44.30-44.31 & 46.48-46.50) and contains the town of Marana and the CDPs of Rillito, Nelson and Avra Valley.

The **Midtown** sub-region is defined as 31 census tracts (17-19, 28.01-29.01, 29.04-29.06, 30.02-32.02, 33.03-34, 35.02-35.06 & portions of 6, 7, 16 & 27.02). It contains the midtown neighborhoods of city of Tucson between Tucson Blvd and Wilmot Rd, south of the Rillito River and north of Davis Monthan Air Force Base.

The **Mt Lemmon** sub-region is defined as two partial census tracts (47.28, excluding the portion within the town of Oro Valley and the portion of 40.52 within the Pima North Region). It contains the CDPs of Summerhaven and Willow Canyon.

The **Oro Valley** sub-region is defined as 11 census tracts (46.19-46.20, 46.33, 46.35-46.36, 46.40-46.43, & portions of 47.13 & 47.28). It contains the town of Oro Valley.

The **South Tucson-Southside** sub-region is defined as 15 census tracts (20-24, 25.03, 38.01, 44.07, 9804 & portions of 25.04, 25.09, 41.17, 41.18 & 44.22). It contains the city of South Tucson as well as the area of city of Tucson that is north of Irvington Rd, west of Davis Monthan Air Force Base, south of 22nd St/Starr Pass Blvd, and east of Greasewood north of Ajo Rd and east of the Santa Cruz River south of Ajo Rd.

The **Southeast** sub-region is defined as 31 census tracts (33.02, 40.08, 40.10, 40.26, 40.29, 40.33-40.39, 40.42-40.44, 40.48-40.49, 40.56-40.58, 40.68-40.72, 40.75-40.78 & portions of 40.81 & 53). It contains the eastern neighborhoods of the city of Tucson east of Wilmot Rd and Davis Monthan Air Force Base, south of Speedway Blvd and north of Irvington Rd.

The **Tanque Verde** sub-region is defined as 21 census tracts (40.30-40.32, 40.46-40.47, 40.50-40.51, 40.53-40.55, 40.67, 40.79-40.80, 47.20-40.23, 47.29-47.30, and parts of 40.52 & 53). It contains the CDP of Tanque Verde and the part of the Catalina Foothills CDP that is east of Craycroft Rd.

The **Westside** sub-region is defined as 15 census tracts (11,44.04, 44.12-44.15, 44.32-44.33 & portions of 2, 12, 25.09, 44.18, 44.22, 44.28 & 44.15). It contains the city of Tucson neighborhoods that are west of the I-10 between Sunset Rd and Starr Pass Blvd as well as the CDP of Tucson Mountains and the Starr Pass subdivision.

A guide to the factsheets

Each factsheet contains data for a selection of indicators at the state, region and sub-regional level. Where possible, two timepoints are shown for each indicator with an arrow to indicate the direction of the trend (increase, decrease, no change) in the sub-region. In some cases, data were not available for a specific sub-region, indicated with **NA**. Additionally, some data were suppressed to protect individual data privacy in accordance with the FTF Data Policy, indicated with **DS**. The data in these factsheets were obtained through custom tabulations of publicly available data from the U.S. Census Bureau and through FTF requests to state agencies, specifically the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) and the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) via a partnership with the Arizona State University Center for Health Information & Research (CHiR). More details on how these tabulations and requests were made can be found in the *Maps & Methods Appendix* of this report.

The indicators included in each tabular factsheet are defined as follows:

Indicator	Description	Source
Total population	Overall population of all ages	2020 U.S. Census
Population of children (0-5)	Population of children birth to age 5	
Population living in poverty	Percent of the overall population living in households with incomes at or below the federal poverty threshold	2014-2018 & 2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS) estimates
Children (0-5) living in poverty	Percent of children birth to age 5 living in households with incomes at or below the federal poverty threshold	
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level)	Number of children birth to age 5 living in households with incomes at or below 185% of the federal poverty level (the income eligibility threshold for WIC)	
Housing costs 30% or more of household income	Percent of households spending 30% or more of their household income on housing costs (i.e., considered “housing cost-burdened”)	
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force	Percent of children birth to age 5 who live in households with all present parents who work or are looking for work (i.e., live with one parent who works or live with two parents, both of whom work)	
Language other than English spoken at home	Percent of households that speak Spanish or another language (other than English or Spanish). The most common languages spoken in the “Another” language category in Arizona are Native North American languages.	
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots	Number of children birth to age 5 per available licensed child care slots. An area is considered a child care desert when the ratio of children to slots exceeds 3.0.	2020 U.S. Census; Oct 2023 & Jan 2025 ADHS licensing datasets
Registered care providers in 2025	Number of registered early care and education providers and their licensed capacity to enroll children. Providers are shown by type: centers (including Head Start centers), schools and homes (both group home and family home providers). Please note that capacity numbers are often higher than actual enrollment.	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance	Number of children birth to age 5 receiving DES child care assistance (not including those involved in the child welfare system)	2023 & 2024 DES

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Indicator	Description	Source
Educational attainment (ages 25 and older)	Percent of adults with at least a high school education (i.e., a high school diploma, some college, an associate, Bachelor's or advanced degree) or a Bachelor's degree or more (i.e., a Bachelor's or advanced degree)	2014-2018 & 2019-2023 ACS estimates
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older)	Percent of adults who self-reported that they were unemployed	
Total births	Total number of births in the area, based on address provided on the birth certificate	2020-2021 & 2022-2023 ADHS Vital Statistics dataset
Maternal age 19 or younger	Percent of births to mothers age 19 or younger	
Low birth weight (<2500 grams)	Percent of babies born weighing 2,500 grams or less	
Preterm births (<37 weeks)	Percent of babies born at 37 weeks of gestation or earlier. The Healthy People 2030 target is 9.4% or less.	
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	Percent of births to mothers who had at least five prenatal visits	
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS	Number of children birth to age 5 enrolled in an insurance plan through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)	2022 & 2024 AHCCCS claims data processed by ASU CHiR
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) with at least 1 primary care provider visit	Percent of children birth to age 5 enrolled in AHCCCS who had a claim for at least one primary care visit	
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD or both services	Number of children birth to age 5 who received AzEIP, DDD or both services	SFY 2023 & 2024 DES

Casas Adobes-Orange Grove	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Casas Adobes-Orange Grove	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	94,208	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	5,686	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	9.5%	↓
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	7.4%	
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	13.4%	↓
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	9.3%	
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	37.6%	↓
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	20.4%	
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	30.8%	↓
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	28.9%	
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	63.3%	↑
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	67.7%	
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	11.4%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	4.4%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	1.3	↔
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	1.3	
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	35	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	5,612	
Schools	Number	714	113	16	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	1,132	
Homes	Number	755	150	8	
	Capacity	5,063	958	49	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	484	↓
	2024	35,153	4,875	441	
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	93.9%	↑
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	94.6%	
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	35.3%	↑
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	40.5%	
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	6.3%	↓
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	4.7%	
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	1,719	↓
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	1,711	
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	1.5%	↑
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	2.1%	
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	7.4%	↑
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	7.5%	
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	8.1%	↓
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	7.8%	
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	91.2%	↑
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	94.0%	
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	2,053	↓
	2024	223,506	18,682	1,548	
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	84.5%	↑
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	90.2%	
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	76	↑
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	94	

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Casa Adobes-Orange Grove sub-region is defined as 27 census tracts (46.10, 46.13-46.18, 46.21-46.28, 46.30-46.32, 46.34, 46.39, 46.44-46.47, 47.25 and portions of 47.10 & 47.14). It is defined as north of the Rillito River, east of I-10, south of Tangerine Rd, and west of La Cholla north of Hardy Rd and west of 1st Ave south of Ina. It contains the Census Designated Place (CDP) of Casas Adobes as well as some mostly unpopulated portions of the towns of Marana and Oro Valley.

Catalina Foothills	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Catalina Foothills	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	28,936	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	1,009	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	7.9%	↓
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	4.8%	
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	16.5%	↓
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	2.9%	
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	24.0%	↓
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	19.2%	
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	26.7%	↓
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	24.5%	
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	66.3%	↑
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	77.5%	
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	7.3%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	10.2%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	0.5	↔
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	0.4	
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	21	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	3,430	
Schools	Number	714	113	2	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	370	
Homes	Number	755	150	0	
	Capacity	5,063	958	0	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	41	↑
	2024	35,153	4,875	46	
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	97.7%	↑
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	97.8%	
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	65.5%	↑
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	70.5%	
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	3.6%	↓
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	3.4%	
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	311	↓
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	307	
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	DS	
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	DS	
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	9.3%	↓
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	8.8%	
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	10.3%	↓
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	9.1%	
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	91.6%	↑
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	95.1%	
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	170	↓
	2024	223,506	18,682	149	
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	81.8%	↑
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	85.2%	
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	10	↑
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	11	

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Catalina Foothills sub-region is defined as nine census tracts (47.11-47.12, 47.17-47.18, 47.24, 47.326 & parts of 47.10, 47.13 & 47.14), comprising the CDP of Catalina Foothills. It is defined as the area north of the Rillito River between 1st Ave and Craycroft Rd, up to the edge of National Forest land in the Catalina Mountains.

Catalina-Oracle	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Catalina-Oracle	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	7,533	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	368	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	8.8%	↓
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	3.6%	
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	16.3%	↓
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	0.0%	
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	52.0%	↓
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	25.0%	
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	24.0%	↑
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	26.7%	
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	73.0%	↑
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	90.2%	
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	15.8%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	2.4%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	2.9	↔
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	2.9	
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	4	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	236	
Schools	Number	714	113	1	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	20	
Homes	Number	755	150	0	
	Capacity	5,063	958	0	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	16	↓
	2024	35,153	4,875	10	
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	92.5%	↓
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	89.5%	
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	32.5%	↔
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	32.5%	
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	6.5%	↓
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	2.0%	
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	89	↑
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	109	
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	DS	
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	DS	
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	7.9%	↑
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	9.2%	
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	9.0%	↑
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	10.1%	
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	91.0%	↓
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	86.2%	
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	171	↓
	2024	223,506	18,682	140	
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	81.9%	↑
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	85.7%	
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	DS	
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	DS	

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Catalina-Oracle sub-region is defined as two census tracts (47.15 & 47.27) that contain the CDP of Catalina and Catalina State Park along North Oracle Rd.

Cortaro-Picture Rocks	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Cortaro-Picture Rocks	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	36,068	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	2,257	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	16.1% 12.8%	17.8% 14.5%	7.1% 9.8%	↑
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	24.9% 17.9%	25.5% 21.4%	9.5% 12.2%	↑
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	47.2% 38.1%	47.7% 43.7%	37.5% 25.2%	↓
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	30.4% 29.4%	33.2% 32.9%	22.1% 20.8%	↓
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	61.1% 64.4%	64.8% 66.9%	58.7% 61.9%	↑
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish Another	19.2% 6.4%	16.5% 5.4%	9.1% 5.7%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023 Jan 2025	2.0 2.0	1.5 1.4	1.9 1.7	↓
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number Capacity	2,427 260,689	297 35,008	10 923	
Schools	Number Capacity	714 72,967	113 7,711	3 301	
Homes	Number Capacity	755 5,063	150 958	2 20	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023 2024	35,375 35,153	5,112 4,875	125 129	↑
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018 2019-2023	86.8% 89.1%	90.1% 91.6%	93.0% 94.2%	↑
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018 2019-2023	28.9% 32.6%	35.5% 39.7%	37.7% 39.4%	↑
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	6.4% 5.1%	7.2% 5.6%	5.5% 3.3%	↓
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021 2022-2023	154,638 156,236	13,166 12,918	641 608	↓
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021 2022-2023	4.9% 4.5%	4.3% 4.2%	1.6% 2.5%	↑
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021 2022-2023	7.6% 7.9%	8.5% 8.6%	6.7% 5.1%	↓
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021 2022-2023	9.7% 9.8%	9.6% 10.0%	10.5% 8.4%	↓
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021 2022-2023	91.0% 91.7%	87.9% 90.2%	93.3% 94.9%	↑
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022 2024	277,455 223,506	23,342 18,682	655 525	↓
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022 2024	83.0% 86.0%	85.4% 88.7%	85.6% 88.0%	↑
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023 SFY 2024	9,991 10,706	588 665	35 41	↑

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Cortaro-Picture Rocks sub-region is defined as 11 census tracts (44.18, 44.23, 44.25-44.26, 44.36-44.40 and portions of 44.18, 44.28 & 44.34). It contains the CDP of Picture Rocks and covers the portion of the region west of the I-10 and the CDP of Tucson Mountains and south and west of Avra Valley.

DMAFB	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	DMAFB	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	4,571	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	727	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	15.8%	↓
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	7.6%	
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	20.1%	↓
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	4.3%	
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	41.7%	↓
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	35.6%	
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	45.0%	↑
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	52.8%	
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	53.5%	↓
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	47.6%	
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	6.9%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	4.5%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	NA	
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	NA	
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	4	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	1,112	
Schools	Number	714	113	0	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	0	
Homes	Number	755	150	0	
	Capacity	5,063	958	0	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	11	
	2024	35,153	4,875	DS	
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	92.6%	↑
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	98.5%	
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	19.9%	↑
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	29.3%	
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	6.1%	↓
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	4.6%	
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	248	↓
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	231	
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	2.8%	
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	DS	
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	6.0%	↑
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	7.4%	
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	9.3%	↑
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	10.4%	
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	94.8%	↓
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	93.5%	
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	23	↓
	2024	223,506	18,682	14	
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	56.5%	↓
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	DS	
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	DS	
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	DS	

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The DMAFB sub-region is defined as two census tracts (36.01 & 9803) that contain the Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

Downtown-University-Central	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Downtown-University-Central	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	50,881	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	1,991	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	16.1% 12.8%	17.8% 14.5%	31.6% 29.3%	↓
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	24.9% 17.9%	25.5% 21.4%	28.5% 25.4%	↓
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	47.2% 38.1%	47.7% 43.7%	52.9% 67.2%	↑
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	30.4% 29.4%	33.2% 32.9%	43.8% 45.9%	↑
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	61.1% 64.4%	64.8% 66.9%	69.2% 71.7%	↑
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish Another	19.2% 6.4%	16.5% 5.4%	14.9% 8.2%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023 Jan 2025	2.0 2.0	1.5 1.4	0.8 0.8	↔
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number Capacity	2,427 260,689	297 35,008	29 3,724	
Schools	Number Capacity	714 72,967	113 7,711	12 397	
Homes	Number Capacity	755 5,063	150 958	5 38	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023 2024	35,375 35,153	5,112 4,875	304 266	↓
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018 2019-2023	86.8% 89.1%	90.1% 91.6%	90.3% 92.5%	↑
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018 2019-2023	28.9% 32.6%	35.5% 39.7%	45.4% 47.5%	↑
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	6.4% 5.1%	7.2% 5.6%	9.9% 7.6%	↓
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021 2022-2023	154,638 156,236	13,166 12,918	690 652	↓
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021 2022-2023	4.9% 4.5%	4.3% 4.2%	4.8% 4.0%	↓
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021 2022-2023	7.6% 7.9%	8.5% 8.6%	8.6% 8.9%	↑
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021 2022-2023	9.7% 9.8%	9.6% 10.0%	10.1% 12.7%	↑
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021 2022-2023	91.0% 91.7%	87.9% 90.2%	85.2% 90.3%	↑
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022 2024	277,455 223,506	23,342 18,682	1,501 937	↓
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022 2024	83.0% 86.0%	85.4% 88.7%	83.3% 86.8%	↑
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023 SFY 2024	9,991 10,706	588 665	27 25	↓

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Downtown-University-Central sub-region is defined as 16 census tracts (1, 5.01-5.02, 8, 15, 26.02, 27.03-27.04, 54 & portions of 2, 6, 7, 14, 16, 27.02 & 45.11) and covers the city of Tucson neighborhoods of Barrio Santa Rosa, Barrio Viejo, El Presidio, Armory Park, Barrio San Antonio, Arroyo Chico and Rincon Heights and the area between 1st Ave and Tucson Blvd containing the University of Arizona up to the Campus Farm and University of Arizona Cancer Center (corresponding to the 85719 zip code, approximately).

Flowing Wells	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Flowing Wells	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	61,116	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	3,936	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	16.1% 12.8%	17.8% 14.5%	34.5% 29.0%	↓
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	24.9% 17.9%	25.5% 21.4%	38.3% 42.9%	↑
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	47.2% 38.1%	47.7% 43.7%	77.2% 75.1%	↓
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	30.4% 29.4%	33.2% 32.9%	43.4% 43.8%	↑
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	61.1% 64.4%	64.8% 66.9%	63.4% 76.2%	↑
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish Another	19.2% 6.4%	16.5% 5.4%	29.5% 5.5%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023 Jan 2025	2.0 2.0	1.5 1.4	1.5 1.5	↑
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number Capacity	2,427 260,689	297 35,008	47 3,377	
Schools	Number Capacity	714 72,967	113 7,711	10 594	
Homes	Number Capacity	755 5,063	150 958	15 78	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023 2024	35,375 35,153	5,112 4,875	778 751	↓
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018 2019-2023	86.8% 89.1%	90.1% 91.6%	79.0% 81.1%	↑
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018 2019-2023	28.9% 32.6%	35.5% 39.7%	18.5% 21.6%	↑
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	6.4% 5.1%	7.2% 5.6%	10.6% 6.6%	↓
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021 2022-2023	154,638 156,236	13,166 12,918	1,338 1,338	↔
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021 2022-2023	4.9% 4.5%	4.3% 4.2%	7.8% 6.1%	↓
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021 2022-2023	7.6% 7.9%	8.5% 8.6%	8.8% 10.6%	↑
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021 2022-2023	9.7% 9.8%	9.6% 10.0%	9.9% 11.7%	↑
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021 2022-2023	91.0% 91.7%	87.9% 90.2%	83.0% 85.3%	↑
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022 2024	277,455 223,506	23,342 18,682	3,555 2,939	↓
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022 2024	83.0% 86.0%	85.4% 88.7%	86.4% 88.8%	↑
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023 SFY 2024	9,991 10,706	588 665	55 62	↑

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.
NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Flowing Wells sub-region is defined as 19 census tracts (3-4.02, 13.02-13.04, 26.03-26.04, 45.05-45.06, 45.08, 45.10, 45.12-45.14, and portions of 12, 14, 45.11 & 45.15). It contains the CDP of Flowing Wells as well as the 85705 zip code within the city of Tucson.

Marana-Avra Valley	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Marana-Avra Valley	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	29,750	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	2,033	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	9.5%	↓
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	7.9%	
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	10.6%	↑
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	12.7%	
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	24.0%	↑
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	24.6%	
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	19.3%	↑
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	22.0%	
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	57.3%	↑
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	75.3%	
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	9.9%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	3.4%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	2.6	↓
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	2.4	
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	3	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	189	
Schools	Number	714	113	4	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	439	
Homes	Number	755	150	8	
	Capacity	5,063	958	44	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	129	↑
	2024	35,153	4,875	138	
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	91.8%	↑
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	94.6%	
Bachelor’s degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	35.7%	↑
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	41.1%	
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	4.5%	↑
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	7.0%	
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	637	↑
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	687	
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	2.2%	↑
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	2.5%	
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	7.1%	↑
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	7.7%	
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	7.7%	↑
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	9.6%	
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	93.1%	↓
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	92.9%	
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	734	↓
	2024	223,506	18,682	680	
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	84.5%	↑
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	88.4%	
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	27	↑
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	41	

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Marana-Avra Valley sub-region is defined as six census tracts (44.19, 44.30-44.31 & 46.48-46.50) and contains the town of Marana and the CDPs of Rillito, Nelson and Avra Valley.

Midtown	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Midtown	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	103,633	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	6,226	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	25.0%	
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	20.5%	↓
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	39.2%	
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	35.1%	↓
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	59.5%	
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	63.9%	↑
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	39.6%	
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	39.7%	↑
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	62.4%	
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	68.1%	↑
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	15.4%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	6.5%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	1.4	
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	1.4	↔
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	60	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	5,962	
Schools	Number	714	113	19	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	1,180	
Homes	Number	755	150	16	
	Capacity	5,063	958	125	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	1,107	
	2024	35,153	4,875	1,089	↓
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	89.0%	
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	89.6%	↑
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	34.3%	
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	35.7%	↑
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	8.7%	
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	7.1%	↓
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	2,193	
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	2,105	↓
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	4.9%	
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	4.5%	↓
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	9.9%	
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	9.0%	↓
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	10.4%	
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	10.0%	↓
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	85.7%	
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	87.4%	↑
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	4,573	
	2024	223,506	18,682	3,644	↓
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	85.2%	
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	88.8%	↑
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	98	
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	109	↑

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Midtown sub-region is defined as 31 census tracts (17-19, 28.01-29.01, 29.04-29.06, 30.02-32.02, 33.03-34, 35.02-35.06 & portions of 6, 7, 16 & 27.02). It contains the midtown neighborhoods of city of Tucson between Tucson Blvd and Wilmot Rd, south of the Rillito River and north of Davis Monthan Air Force Base.

Mt Lemmon	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Mt Lemmon	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	2,176	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	86	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	4.8%	
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	4.7%	↓
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	0.0%	↔
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	0.0%	
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	9.2%	↓
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	0.0%	
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	23.1%	↑
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	33.6%	
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	43.6%	↓
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	33.8%	
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	5.0%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	4.1%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	NA	
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	NA	
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	0	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	0	
Schools	Number	714	113	0	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	0	
Homes	Number	755	150	0	
	Capacity	5,063	958	0	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	DS	
	2024	35,153	4,875	DS	
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	96.5%	↑
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	98.9%	
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	50.2%	↑
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	57.7%	
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	2.4%	↑
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	3.1%	
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	22	↔
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	22	
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	DS	
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	0.0%	
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	DS	
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	DS	
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	0.0%	
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	DS	
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	95.5%	↑
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	100.0%	
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	DS	↔
	2024	223,506	18,682	DS	
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	50.0%	↑
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	83.3%	
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	DS	
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	DS	

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Mt Lemmon sub-region is defined as two partial census tracts (47.28, excluding the portion within the town of Oro Valley and the portion of 40.52 within the Pima North Region). It contains the CDPs of Summerhaven and Willow Canyon.

Oro Valley	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Oro Valley	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	43,887	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	1,670	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	6.4%	
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	6.0%	↓
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	9.2%	
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	13.9%	↑
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	17.2%	
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	18.2%	↑
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	23.2%	
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	21.2%	↓
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	55.0%	
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	50.8%	↓
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	7.8%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	6.4%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	1.2	
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	1.2	↔
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	12	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	1,903	
Schools	Number	714	113	7	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	285	
Homes	Number	755	150	0	
	Capacity	5,063	958	0	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	56	
	2024	35,153	4,875	52	↓
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	97.2%	
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	96.9%	↓
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	52.1%	
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	57.5%	↑
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	5.6%	
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	2.7%	↓
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	459	
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	427	↓
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	DS	
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	1.4%	
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	6.8%	
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	5.9%	↓
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	6.3%	
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	5.9%	↓
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	93.9%	
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	91.8%	↓
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	317	
	2024	223,506	18,682	241	↓
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	81.4%	
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	86.7%	↑
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	24	
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	23	↓

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Oro Valley sub-region is defined as 11 census tracts (46.19-46.20, 46.33, 46.35-46.36, 46.40-46.43, & portions of 47.13 & 47.28). It contains the town of Oro Valley.

South Tucson-Southside	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	South Tucson-Southside	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	50,784	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	3,577	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	29.8%	↓
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	25.1%	
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	46.5%	↓
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	42.4%	
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	67.6%	↓
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	67.4%	
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	39.6%	↓
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	38.0%	
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	69.6%	↓
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	68.7%	
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	54.6%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	2.0%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	3.0	↑
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	3.2	
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	14	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	1,227	
Schools	Number	714	113	11	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	356	
Homes	Number	755	150	56	
	Capacity	5,063	958	336	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	648	↓
	2024	35,153	4,875	618	
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	68.3%	↑
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	73.7%	
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	9.8%	↑
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	14.0%	
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	9.5%	↓
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	6.8%	
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	1,335	↓
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	1,289	
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	8.9%	↓
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	8.5%	
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	9.5%	↓
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	9.3%	
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	11.5%	↓
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	11.3%	
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	81.9%	↑
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	85.6%	
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	3,730	↓
	2024	223,506	18,682	3,054	
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	86.6%	↑
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	89.0%	
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	68	↓
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	62	

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The South Tucson-Southside sub-region is defined as 15 census tracts (20-24, 25.03, 38.01, 44.07, 9804 & portions of 25.04, 25.09, 41.17, 41.18 & 44.22). It contains the city of South Tucson as well as the area of city of Tucson that is north of Irvington Rd, west of Davis Monthan Air Force Base, south of 22nd St/Starr Pass Blvd, and east of Greasewood north of Ajo Rd and east of the Santa Cruz River south of Ajo Rd.

Southeast	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Southeast	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	114,991	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	6,827	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	15.0%	
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	12.2%	↓
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	25.4%	
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	18.2%	↓
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	48.6%	
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	43.3%	↓
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	33.5%	
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	33.7%	↑
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	67.4%	
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	65.0%	↓
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	11.1%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	4.8%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	1.5	
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	1.5	↔
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	29	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	4,151	
Schools	Number	714	113	16	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	1,887	
Homes	Number	755	150	16	
	Capacity	5,063	958	112	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	963	
	2024	35,153	4,875	901	↓
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	92.7%	
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	93.0%	↑
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	27.4%	
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	30.2%	↑
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	6.0%	
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	5.4%	↓
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	2,128	
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	2,039	↓
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	4.2%	
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	4.7%	↑
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	8.6%	
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	9.2%	↑
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	9.9%	
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	10.4%	↑
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	88.3%	
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	91.3%	↑
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	3,857	
	2024	223,506	18,682	3,159	↓
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	86.3%	
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	89.4%	↑
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	94	
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	120	↑

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

DS: Data has been suppressed to protect privacy.

NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Southeast sub-region is defined as 31 census tracts (33.02, 40.08, 40.10, 40.26, 40.29, 40.33-40.39, 40.42-40.44, 40.48-40.49, 40.56-40.58, 40.68-40.72, 40.75-40.78 & portions of 40.81 & 53). It contains the eastern neighborhoods of city of Tucson east of Wilmot Rd and Davis Monthan Air Force Base, south of Speedway Blvd and north of Irvington Rd.

Tanque Verde	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Tanque Verde	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	63,173	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	2,480	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	16.1% 12.8%	17.8% 14.5%	6.7% 5.7%	↓
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	24.9% 17.9%	25.5% 21.4%	11.3% 3.6%	↓
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	47.2% 38.1%	47.7% 43.7%	20.3% 25.7%	↑
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	30.4% 29.4%	33.2% 32.9%	27.7% 26.7%	↓
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	61.1% 64.4%	64.8% 66.9%	68.4% 63.6%	↓
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish Another	19.2% 6.4%	16.5% 5.4%	7.0% 5.6%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023 Jan 2025	2.0 2.0	1.5 1.4	1.5 1.4	↓
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number Capacity	2,427 260,689	297 35,008	18 2,689	
Schools	Number Capacity	714 72,967	113 7,711	5 235	
Homes	Number Capacity	755 5,063	150 958	4 28	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023 2024	35,375 35,153	5,112 4,875	216 210	↓
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018 2019-2023	86.8% 89.1%	90.1% 91.6%	97.4% 96.9%	↓
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018 2019-2023	28.9% 32.6%	35.5% 39.7%	55.3% 57.1%	↑
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018 2019-2023	6.4% 5.1%	7.2% 5.6%	4.9% 4.5%	↓
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021 2022-2023	154,638 156,236	13,166 12,918	734 718	↓
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021 2022-2023	4.9% 4.5%	4.3% 4.2%	1.6% 2.6%	↑
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021 2022-2023	7.6% 7.9%	8.5% 8.6%	7.9% 9.7%	↑
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021 2022-2023	9.7% 9.8%	9.6% 10.0%	8.4% 9.7%	↑
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021 2022-2023	91.0% 91.7%	87.9% 90.2%	89.1% 91.4%	↑
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022 2024	277,455 223,506	23,342 18,682	762 640	↓
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022 2024	83.0% 86.0%	85.4% 88.7%	84.0% 85.9%	↑
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023 SFY 2024	9,991 10,706	588 665	25 25	↔

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR

NOTES:

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NA: Not available.

SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Tanque Verde sub-region is defined as 21 census tracts (40.30-40.32, 40.46-40.47, 40.50-40.51, 40.53-40.55, 40.67, 40.79-40.80, 47.20-40.23, 47.29-47.30, and parts of 40.52 & 53). It contains the CDP of Tanque Verde and the part of the Catalina Foothills CDP that is east of Craycroft Rd.

Westside	Years	Arizona	Pima North Region	Westside	Change over time
Child, Family & Community Characteristics					
Total population ¹	Census 2020	7,151,502	731,668	39,961	
Population of children (0-5) ¹	Census 2020	480,744	40,788	1,915	
Population living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	16.1%	17.8%	20.4%	
	2019-2023	12.8%	14.5%	15.0%	↓
Children (0-5) living in poverty ^{2,3}	2014-2018	24.9%	25.5%	17.5%	
	2019-2023	17.9%	21.4%	17.2%	↓
Low-income children (0-5) (<185% federal poverty level) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	47.2%	47.7%	42.6%	
	2019-2023	38.1%	43.7%	41.0%	↓
Housing costs 30% or more of household income ^{2,3}	2014-2018	30.4%	33.2%	28.0%	
	2019-2023	29.4%	32.9%	29.4%	↑
Children (0-5) with all present parents in the labor force ^{2,3}	2014-2018	61.1%	64.8%	76.7%	
	2019-2023	64.4%	66.9%	57.6%	↓
Language other than English spoken at home (2019-2023) ³	Spanish	19.2%	16.5%	27.8%	
	Another	6.4%	5.4%	4.0%	
Early Education					
Ratio of children (0-5) to licensed child care slots ⁵	Oct 2023	2.0	1.5	2.3	
	Jan 2025	2.0	1.4	2.4	↑
Registered care providers in 2025 ⁴					
Centers	Number	2,427	297	11	
	Capacity	260,689	35,008	473	
Schools	Number	714	113	7	
	Capacity	72,967	7,711	515	
Homes	Number	755	150	20	
	Capacity	5,063	958	128	
Children (0-5) receiving child care assistance ⁴	2023	35,375	5,112	233	
	2024	35,153	4,875	215	↓
Education & Workforce					
Educational Attainment (ages 25 and older) ^{2,3}					
At least a high school education	2014-2018	86.8%	90.1%	87.8%	
	2019-2023	89.1%	91.6%	92.4%	↑
Bachelor's degree or more	2014-2018	28.9%	35.5%	34.3%	
	2019-2023	32.6%	39.7%	44.5%	↑
Unemployment rate for the adult population (ages 16 and older) ^{2,3}	2014-2018	6.4%	7.2%	8.2%	
	2019-2023	5.1%	5.6%	5.7%	↓
Child Health & Development					
Total births ⁵	2020-2021	154,638	13,166	622	
	2022-2023	156,236	12,918	675	↑
Characteristics of births ⁵					
Maternal age 19 or younger	2020-2021	4.9%	4.3%	5.0%	
	2022-2023	4.5%	4.2%	4.7%	↓
Low birthweight (<2500 grams)	2020-2021	7.6%	8.5%	8.0%	
	2022-2023	7.9%	8.6%	8.4%	↑
Preterm birth (<37 weeks)	2020-2021	9.7%	9.6%	9.0%	
	2022-2023	9.8%	10.0%	10.4%	↑
Prenatal care (5+ prenatal visits)	2020-2021	91.0%	87.9%	90.2%	
	2022-2023	91.7%	90.2%	91.3%	↑
Number of children (0-5) with AHCCCS ⁶	2022	277,455	23,342	1,235	
	2024	223,506	18,682	1,006	↓
AHCCCS-enrolled children (0-5) 1+ primary care provider visit ⁶	2022	83.0%	85.4%	84.9%	
	2024	86.0%	88.7%	90.1%	↑
Children (0-5) receiving AzEIP, DDD, or both services ⁴	SFY 2023	9,991	588	43	
	SFY 2024	10,706	665	40	↓

SOURCES: (1) US Census 2020; (2) American Community Survey 2014-2018; (3) American Community Survey 2019-2023; (4) Arizona Department of Economic Security; (5) Arizona Department of Health Services; (6) Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System data provided by ASU ChiR
NOTES:

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SUBREGION DEFINITION: The Westside sub-region is defined as 15 census tracts (11.44.04, 44.12-44.15, 44.32-44.33 & portions of 2, 12, 25.09, 44.18, 44.22, 44.28 & 44.15). It contains the city of Tucson neighborhoods that are west of the I-10 between Sunset Rd and Starr Pass Blvd as well as the CDP of Tucson Mountains and the Starr Pass subdivision.