

OCAP Parent/Guardian Survey Fast Facts

October 2021

Report compiled by: Amy Dederig, MPH

Demographics



- 41 counties represented
- Half of respondents are from rural areas and half from urban
- 70% were college graduates or higher
- 59% had income ≥ \$50,000 & 71% employed full time
- 13% respondent or respondent's partner served in U.S. military

224

Respondents

Most were mothers (79%), aged 43 years (average), & were White non-Hispanic (69%); while 51% of children were between 0-5 years old and 59% were between 6-13 years old.

Summary

Awareness & Use of Community Resources:

- Most unaware: parent support programs (67%)
- Most used: insurance/healthcare resources (58%) & concrete (food, housing, clothing) resources (43%)
- Parents of children aged 0-5 years were most unaware of home-based services (38%) and parent support programs (71%)

Ease of Access:

Very easy or easy to access:

- Prenatal healthcare
- Affordable, quality child & adult education
- Affordable food, housing, clothing
- Sports/recreational programs for children
- Services for culture/language

Very difficult or difficult to access:

- Groups, classes, or training to learn parenting skills
- Mental health screens/treatment
- Services to address child's social/emotional/behavioral development
- Affordable, quality child care

Among those who reported using child care resource programs, 63% reported difficulty with accessing affordable quality child care. Additionally, of those who reported using home-based services, half reported difficulty accessing services addressing concerns for their child's social, emotional, or behavioral development.

Less than half of those who reported using mental health services (45%), concrete (food, housing, clothes) resources (43%), or parent support programs (40%) had reported difficulty accessing such services.

Knowledge of Where to Find Resources:



Respondents agreed they knew where to find the following resources:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Help with food and clothing | • Help with concerns about IPV |
| • Employment | • Help for substance use |
| • Health care | • Info about child development |
| • Help for depression | • Info about parenting |
| • Child care | |

Respondents disagreed they knew where to find the following resources

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| • Help with finding housing | • Concerns with partner's behavior towards my children |
| • Home-based services | |
| • Help with child's behavior | |

Sense of Community: Most respondents felt safe in & satisfied with their neighborhood, & had a support network of friends and family. Those in rural areas were more likely to agree that they had friends and family near (73%) as compared to those in urban areas (66%).



1 in 4 parents felt they could not depend on others in their neighborhood

A positive sense of community was related to higher education, higher incomes, positive family relationships & communication, consistently meeting basic material needs, & feeling less overwhelmed by stress. Not feeling safe & not having friends/family nearby were related to feeling overwhelmed by stress.

Knowledge of Child Abuse/Neglect (CAN): Most respondents did not believe it necessary to physically hurt their partner, and 60% believed it not necessary to physically discipline their child. The majority were confident in their knowledge of reporting CAN to the appropriate authorities, and about half had reported CAN in the past.

- 27% of parents did think it was sometimes necessary to physically discipline (spanking, restraining, hitting, etc.) their child

9%

Respondents currently concerned about a child they know being abused/neglected

Knowledge of Child Development: Most respondents agreed that they know how to help their child learn & know what to expect as the child grows & develops. Further, most do not believe their child misbehaves just to upset them; however, 14% either agreed or had no opinion.

Family Life: The majority of respondents showed positive family relationships (73%) and were able to meet their material needs (83%).

- Being unable to consistently meet basic material needs was related to being overwhelmed by stress
- More positive family relations were related to higher education, higher income, more knowledge of child development, & feeling less overwhelmed by stress

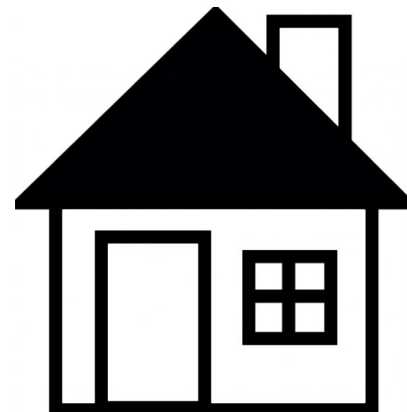
Comparing current year with previous year during the COVID-19 pandemic

Positive Togetherness Occurred:

- More than before when . . .
 - Spending leisure time together
 - Engaging in conversation
 - Helping each other

Conflicts in the Household Occurred:

- More than before when . . .
 - Decisions on how people should take care of their health
 - Deciding on when to go out (errands, appointments, visits)
 - Helping children with schoolwork



For the majority of situations, whether creating positive feelings or resulting in conflicts, respondents replied “about the same as before” most often when comparing this year to the previous