

2022 NEEDS AND ASSETS SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT FAMILY SUPPORT COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Gila Region

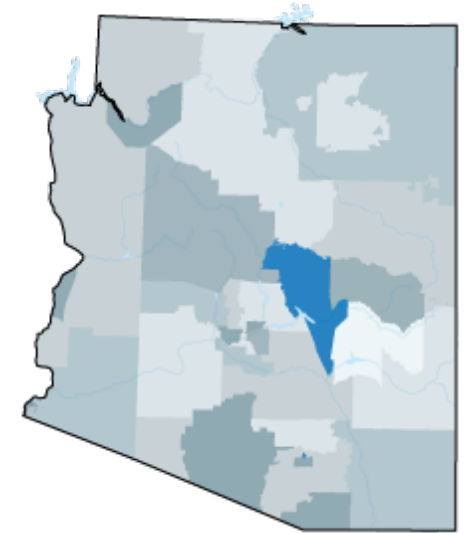

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Project Background

Research has shown that the community a child lives in can have a critical impact on that child's development and long-term outcomes.¹ Research also tells us that having services and supports in place can help to reduce the risk for adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) such as abuse, neglect, or mental illness. Family support programs, like evidence-based home visiting, are proven ways to support a child's positive trajectory and help prevent or mitigate ACEs.²

Under the direction of First Things First, the Arizona State University Morrison Institute conducted a regional analysis of key indicators in five domains that contribute to a greater overall risk for poor child outcomes: low socio-economic status, adverse perinatal outcomes, substance use, other community stressors (e.g., crime, mental health disorders, and child maltreatment), and education challenges (e.g., below proficient 3rd grade reading level). Home visitation programs have been shown to positively impact these same domains.³

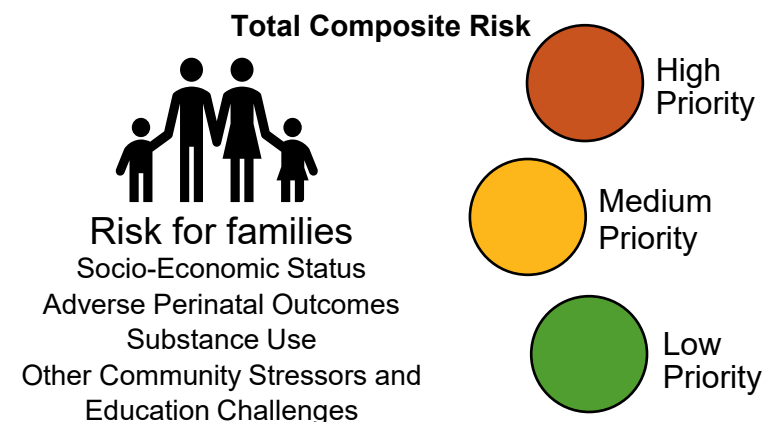
The information gleaned from the analysis supports strategic planning efforts to identify and prioritize communities that would benefit most from family support services like home visiting. The analysis also provides insights into whether or not services could be increased or maintained based on current service levels relative to the potential beneficiaries living in the community.



Project Approach

To assist in prioritizing where continued or increased services may be needed, a three-tiered system — high, medium, and low priority — is used in this assessment to inform community need based on scoring of key indicators in the five domains.

The domain priority levels were obtained by averaging data across all indicators in the specific domain for each sub-region. Within each domain, the top third of sub-regions with the highest scores in the domain in the region were assigned a high priority level, the middle third assigned a medium priority level, and the bottom third assigned a low priority level. The total composite risk priority level was obtained by averaging data across all domains for the sub-region. Then the top third of sub-regions with the highest scores for the total composite risk in the region were assigned a high priority level, the middle third assigned a medium priority level, and the lowest third were assigned a low priority level.



Sub-Region Risk by Domain and Overall Composite Risk Level

	Socio-Economic Status	Adverse Perinatal Outcomes	Substance Use	Additional Community Stressors	Education	Total Composite Risk
North	Low	Low	High	Low	High	High
South	High	High	High	High	High	High
Hayden/Winkelman	High	High	Low	Low	Low	Medium
Central	Medium	Low	Low	High	Medium	Low

Based on the observed level of need, the following sub-regions are the highest priority for home visiting supports within the Gila Region.

- North
- South

PRIORITY FAMILIES AND SATURATION TABLE EXPLAINED

“Potential beneficiaries” are shown in the table on the next page using vital statistics data maintained by the Arizona Department of Health Services. The potential beneficiary count represents all mothers in an area who have a child under 6.⁴

Although many families could benefit from home visiting, limited resources often restrict the number of families that can be served. The following five criteria, informed by the National Home Visiting Resource Center, were used to prioritize families that could benefit the most from receiving home visiting services:

- Presence of an infant less than 12 months old
- Low income, defined as qualifying to receive Medicaid/Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)
- Young mothers who are 21 years old or younger
- Single mothers
- Mothers with less than a high school diploma

The Priority Families section of the table shows the number and percent of the potential beneficiaries who meet the specific priority criteria. The High Priority Families section of the table shows the number and percent of the potential beneficiaries who meet one or more, or two or more of the five priority criteria listed above.

USING THE DATA

The **Priority Families and Saturation** table on the next page provides insight as to the number and percentage of families with characteristics that can place them at a higher risk for adverse outcomes, and the estimated number and percentage of families who are currently receiving home visiting services. When using the information on priority families in combination with the information on priority communities obtained from the **Sub-Region Risk by Domain and Overall Composite Risk Level** table, the families and communities where home visiting may benefit most are more readily identifiable.

The information from the two tables can also provide potential insights for targeting limited resources and services. For example, a community that is assigned a high priority level, has many high priority families, but also has a low percentage of families receiving home visiting services, may be identified as a community that would benefit from additional home visiting resources to meet the need.

Alternatively, a community may be considered high priority, but already has a high rate of saturation of home visiting services, or fewer potential beneficiaries. In these cases, a decision to not further invest in home visiting services, or to decrease home visiting services in the community may be deemed appropriate.

Lastly, with a focus on the five domains within the risk composite, domains observed as high priority may inform additional services or resources that would benefit the community, or specific program models within home visitation that have a focus on improving outcomes within the domain. For example, communities with a high priority score in the domain of adverse perinatal outcomes may benefit from more health-focused home visiting program models or services to meet the community’s needs.

PRIORITY FAMILIES AND SATURATION

Area	Composite Priority Level	Potential Beneficiaries (Mothers with children under 6)	PRIORITY FAMILIES										HIGH PRIORITY FAMILIES					
			Mothers with infants under 12 months		Mothers on AHCCCS		Mothers 21 and younger		Single mothers		Mothers with less than high school education		1 or more of the 5 priority criteria		2 or more of the 5 priority criteria		Families served by home visiting and saturation ⁺	
			#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
South		751	86	11%	475	63%	185	25%	463	62%	129	17%	597	79%	451	60%	14	2%
North		734	99	13%	446	61%	128	17%	338	46%	123	17%	546	74%	368	50%	48	7%
Hayden/Winkelman		30	6	20%	25	83%	6	20%	24	80%	*	*	28	93%	23	77%	0	0%
Central		70	13	19%	49	70%	11	16%	32	46%	10	14%	58	83%	34	49%	*	*
Gila Region ^{**}		1,585	204	13%	995	63%	330	21%	857	54%	267	17%	1,229	78%	876	55%	64	4%

⁺ Saturation percent is calculated as the number of families served by home visiting programs divided by the number of potential beneficiaries in the sub-region.

^{**} The priority families and “1 or more criteria” and “2 or more criteria” columns do not add up to the regional total because mothers could be counted multiple times across the priority groups depending on if the mother was experiencing multiple stressors. Where regions contain nested tribes participating in the analysis, data regarding potential beneficiaries, priority and high priority families are included in the region totals. Tribes participating in the analysis also have additional data in a separate handout specific to the tribe.

Number and percent are suppressed in the table when count is fewer than six, excluding counts of zero. Suppressed data are represented by an asterisk (*).

There are an additional estimated 46 families served by Early Head Start (EHS) providers in the larger Gila Region. The number of families served by EHS is not known by sub-region.

PROJECT INDICATORS AND SOURCES

Community Risk/Needs Index		
Domain	Indicator	Source
Socio-Economic Status	Poverty: Children 5 and under living below the federal poverty level	2015-2019 American Community Survey: Table B17001
	Unemployment: Families with unemployed parent and children under 18	2015-2019 American Community Survey: Table B23007
	Educational attainment of adult population	2015-2019 American Community Survey: Table S1501
	Single-parent households with children under 6	2015-2019 American Community Survey: Table B09002
Adverse Perinatal Outcomes	Preterm Birth: Percent live births before 37 weeks gestation	2015-2020 AZ Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics
	Low Birthweight: Percent live births with baby weight less than 2,500 grams	2015-2020 AZ Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics
	Infant Mortality: Infant death rate per 100 live births	2015-2020 AZ Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics
	No Prenatal Care: Percent of AHCCCS live births with no prenatal care	2015-2020 AZ Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics
Substance Use	Alcohol: Number of alcohol-related treatment encounters AHCCCS	2016-2019 AZ Health Care Cost Containment System
	Marijuana: Number of marijuana-related treatment encounters AHCCCS	2016-2019 AZ Health Care Cost Containment System
	Other drugs: Number of other drug-related treatment encounters for mothers that gave birth on AHCCCS	2016-2019 AZ Health Care Cost Containment System
	Number of opioid-related treatment encounters for mothers that gave birth on AHCCCS	2016-2019 AZ Health Care Cost Containment System
Additional Community Stressors	Crime: Crime index (ESRI)	2019 Applied Geographic Solutions Crime Risk Data from ESRI
	Child maltreatment: Number of unique child removals per 100 children aged 0 to 5	2018-2020 AZ Department of Child Safety, unique removals
	Mental Health: Treatment encounters for all caregivers of children receiving AHCCCS coverage	2016-2019 AZ Health Care Cost Containment System
Education	Children with IEPs (Individualized Education Plans) going into first grade	2018-2019 AZ Department of Education
	3rd grade reading level - AzMERIT	2018-2019 AZ Department of Education

Potential Beneficiaries and Target Population		Home Visitation Service Data 2020	
Mothers with children under 6	2015-2020 AZ Department of Health Services, Vital Statistics	Healthy Families	AZ ETO
Mothers with infants under 12 months		Nurse-Family Partnership	AZ ETO
Mothers meeting qualifications to receive Medicaid		Parents as Teachers	PATNC, Penelope, Tribal Departments
Mothers 21 and younger		Family Spirit	AZ ETO
Single mothers		Family Check-up	ASU
Mothers with less than high school education		Health Start	AZ ETO
		Early Head Start	HSES

ENDNOTES

¹ Chetty, R., University, S., Nber, N., Hendren, H., University, N., Abraham, S., Bell, A., Bergeron, A., Droste, M., Flamang, N., Fogel, J., Fluegge, R., Hildebrand, N., Olssen, A., Richmond, J., & Scuderi, B. (2017). *The Impacts of Neighborhoods on Intergenerational Mobility I: Childhood Exposure Effects* *.

https://opportunityinsights.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/movers_paper1.pdf

² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Prevention Strategies*. (n.d.). <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/aces/prevention.html>

³ Administration for Children & Families. *Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness: Outcomes*. (n.d.). <https://homvee.acf.hhs.gov/outcomes>

⁴ Data for 2015-2020 were obtained from the Arizona Department of Health Services Vital Statistics. This data source only captures births within Arizona that are reported to the Arizona Department of Health Services and does not reflect families that may have moved to Arizona from different states during this time period.