WHAT HAS CHANGED?
SOUTHEAST LA
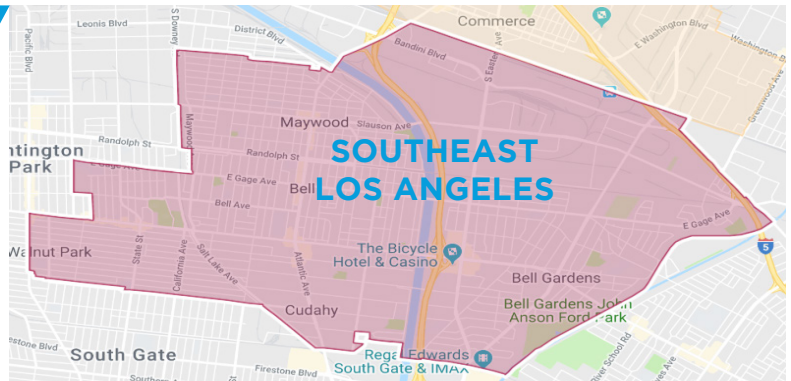
first 5 la
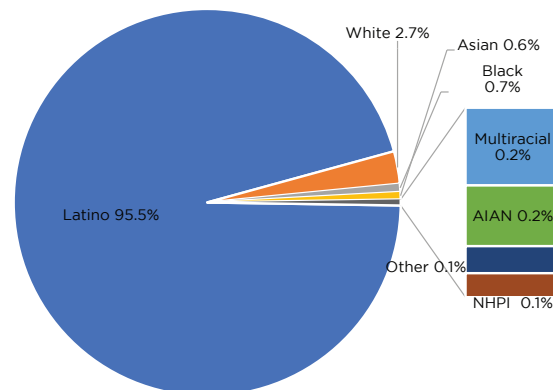*Giving kids the best start*

OVERVIEW

Southeast LA is a majority Latinx Best Start Community with 8.2% of its population made up of children ages 0 to 5, surpassing the percentage of children in LA County. Following the trend of the majority of Best Start Communities, the number of children in Southeast LA has decreased since 2012. This, combined with an increase in resources including park space and service providers, results in more accessibility of these resources on a per child basis. Encouragingly, the number of families with children living in poverty decreased since 2012. This aligns with the overall economic growth LA County has experienced. However, the number of families receiving public assistance has increased significantly and the number of adults earning less than a high school degree is also higher than in 2012.

SOUTHEAST LOS ANGELES

DEMOGRAPHICS

14,202 **CHILDREN AGES 0-5**
8.2% of population
(6.3% in LA County)

RACE/ETHNICITY
(TOTAL POPULATION)

Latino 95.5%
White 2.7%
Asian 0.6%
Black 0.7%
Multiracial 0.2%
AIAN 0.2%
Other 0.1%
NHPI 0.1%

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. Explore the demographics of this Best Start Community. Were there changes from 2012 that surprise you?

2. How have the numbers and percentages of children 0-5 changed?

3. Which findings resonate with your experience in this Best Start Community and which surprise you?

COMMUNITY STRENGTHS

Findings/Implications

Southeast LA saw improvements across several community strength indicators, including an increase in open park space, and added service providers and child care center seats. The increased rates of these services is driven by the increase in the total number of resources, combined with the reduced number of children ages 0 to 5. Prenatal, maternal and pediatric grant dollars decreased from $15,000 to $0. This may be attributed to several large grants ending since 2012.

● Decrease ● Increase ○ No Change

Indicator		2019 Report	2012 Report
Child Care Center Seats/100	●	12.8	8.1
Service Providers/1k	●	4.2	2.5
Foundations/1k	●	0.4	0.2
Libraries/1k	●	0.4	0.3
Nonprofits/1k	●	1.0	0.9
Parks square miles/1k	●	0.02	0.01
Support Groups/1k	○	0.2	0.2
Prenatal/Maternal/Pediatrics Grants/1k	●	0.0	0.1

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. What do changing demographics mean for this community?

2. What is behind the changes in the 0-5 population?

Data Sources
Libraries, Childrens Service Prodivders, and Support Group Providers from 2-1-1 LA; Foundations and Pediatric Grants from Foundation Center; Parks and Open Space from California Protected Areas Database; Childcare Seats from Community Care Licensing Division.

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Findings/Implications

The number of teen births decreased by more than half, while late prenatal births also decreased and low birthweight births showed little change, highlighting an area for more investment. Numbers and families receiving public assistance increased over the time period

● Decrease ● Increase ○ No Change

Indicator		2019 Report	2012 Report
Families w/ Children under 5 rec Public Ast	●	16.5	9.3
Low Birthweight Births	●	6.4	5.1
Families w/ Children under 5 in Poverty	●	2.0	2.2
Unemployment	●	9.3	9.6
Late Prenatal Care Births	●	15.8	17.2
Adults w/ less than a H.S. Diploma	●	52.8	57.5
Teen Births	●	6.9	12.7

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. The number of foundations doubled since 2012. How could this impact families in this Best Start Community?

2. The data reflects a significant drop in teen births and late prenatal care births. What could this imply for families in this Best Start Communities?

Data Sources
Families w/ Children under 5 in Poverty, Adults w/ less than a H.S. Diploma, and Unemployment from American Community Survey 5-year Census Tract Estimates 2013-2017; Teen Births, Late Prenatal Care Births, and Low Birthweight Births from Childcare Data Network.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population	2019	2012
Age 0-5	14,202	17,537
Total	173,859	171,077
Latino	166,033	163,747
Black	1,188	742
White	4,694	4,799
Asian	1,071	849
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	111	65
American Indian/Alaska Native	280	283
Other	124	258
Multiracial	358	334

COMMUNITY STRENGTHS

Indicator	2019	2012
Prenatal/Maternal/Pediatric Grants ($)	0	15,000
Foundations	6	3
Parks (area square miles)	0.3	0.2
Libraries	6	6
Service Providers	59	43
Support Groups	3	3
Nonprofits	14	15
Child Care Center Seats	1,822	1,414

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Indicator	2019	2012
Teen Births	199	478
Late Prenatal Care Births	455	647
Low Birthweight Births	185	191
Families w/ Children under 5 in Poverty	696	758
Families w/ Children under 5 rec Public Ast	8,583	5,172
Unemployed	7,629	6,976
Adults w/ less than a H.S. Diploma	53,248	51,592

METHODOLOGY NOTES

Introduction

This retrospective report compares data presented for Best Start communities in the 2012 F5LA Best Start Communities Report with related data today. It helps answer the question, "What's changed in Best Start communities since they've begun?" The report is written from an outsider's perspective and does not evaluate specific First 5 LA programming. Instead, it seeks to identify key birth, child, adult, and community factors that might have shifted over the past eight years or so.

This is version 1.0 of the report. Future versions will include new indicators, regional boundaries, and an examination of racial disparities.

About the data

Data for this report come from widely-used, public data sources, such as the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, the California Department of Public Health, and the California Department of Education. Where possible, the same source and methodology used in the 2012 report are used in this report. To view the 2012 report and methodology, visit URL. In some cases, data sources have changed the ways they've collected data or stopped publishing altogether. In those cases, this report finds comparable 2012 data, or makes no comparison.

Methodology

The primary work involved in creating estimates for Best Start communities is to gather data available at other geographies – such as addresses, census tracts, or ZIP codes – and transform them into Best Start estimates based on geographic overlap. For example, census tract data are used in Best Start community estimates if at least 10% of a census tract's area overlaps a Best Start community. ZIP code estimates are also included in Best Start community estimates if 10% or more of a ZIP code's area overlaps a Best Start community. Data by address are counted in Best Start community estimates if an address falls on or within a Best Start boundary. The school-to-Best-Start-community transformation is a hybrid exception, in that school data are used in Best Start community estimates if a school's address falls on or within a Best Start boundary OR 10% or more a school's attendance area overlaps a Best Start community.

For more detailed information on the data sources and indicators used in this report, see URL.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. How do changing demographics affect First 5 LA's work in this Best Start Community?

2. How does a reduced 0 to 5 population change First 5 LA's approach to serving this Best Start Community?

3. How could the findings from this brief inform First 5 LA's strategic plan implementation?

4. How could the findings from this brief inform the way we think about equity in Best Start Communities?

5. Does an increase in foundations affect First 5 LA's scope of work in this Best Start Community? Does it present any opportunities for First 5 LA?

6. Grants impacting prenatal, maternal, and child health in this community aren't showing up in the data. How could we broaden our definition of giving?