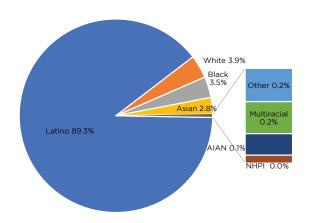# first 5 la
Giving kids the best start

WHAT HAS CHANGED?
PACOIMA

DEMOGRAPHICS

9,225 **CHILDREN AGES 0-5**
7.0% of population
(6.3% in LA County)

RACE/ETHNICITY
(TOTAL POPULATION)

Latino 89.3%
White 3.9%
Black 3.5%
Asian 2.8%
AIAN 0.1%
Other 0.2%
Multiracial 0.2%
NHPI 0.0%

OVERVIEW

Pacoima is a primarily Latino community in the northeast San Fernando Valley. About 7.0 percent of the population are children ages 0 to 5, similar to the percent across LA County. Since 2012, the community has seen a decrease in the total number of children ages 0 to 5 while experiencing a slight increase in total population primarily driven by Latinx communities. Resources such as childcare center seats, support groups, and service providers have increased and there are more of these resources available for a smaller population of children ages 0 to 5. Since 2012 the teen birth rate has been reduced by half, similar to other Best Start Communities, although no prenatal, maternal, and pediatric grants were reported in Pacoima in 2019 and the number of nonprofits decreased substantially.

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

Several community strengths grew in Pacoima since 2012. The availability of childcare center seats per child increased even though only 113 additional seats were added, because more seats are available to a smaller population. The number of service providers and support groups also increased. The number of nonprofits decreased by half and $0 were received in Pacoima for prenatal, maternal, and pediatric grants. On the other hand, the number of nonprofits decreased by six, and Pacoima received no prenatal, maternal, and pediatric grants in 2019.

● Decrease ● Increase ○ No Change

Indicator		2019 Report	2012 Report
Child Care Center Seats/100	●	24.2	17.2
Service Providers/1k	●	9.1	5.3
Nonprofits/1k	●	2.3	1.4
Support Groups/1k	●	0.7	0.4
Parks square miles/1k	●	0.02	0.01
Libraries/1k	○	0.2	0.2
Prenatal/Maternal/Pediatrics Grants/1k	●	0.0	0.1
Foundations/1k	●	0.1	0.3

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

Between 2012 and 2019, Pacoima saw substantial improvements in some community needs, but a increase in other needs. The community experienced a substantial decrease in teen births and families living in poverty. The percent of late prenatal care births increased even though the number of these births decreased.

⬤ Decrease ⬤ Increase ◯ No Change

Indicator		2019 Report	2012 Report
Families w/ Children under 5 rec Public Ast	⬤	13.6	9.4
Late Prenatal Care Births	⬤	16.8	14.4
Low Birthweight Births	⬤	7.6	7.0
Families w/ Children under 5 in Poverty	⬤	0.9	1.6
Unemployment	⬤	9.0	10.8
Teen Births	⬤	5.6	11.5
Adults w/ less than a H.S. Diploma	⬤	43.3	51.6

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. The number of nonprofits increased from 15 to 21. Is this change felt in the community?

2. Late prenatal care births and low birthweight births both increased. How might this impact families in this Best Start Community?

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	9,225	12,340
Total	131,390	127,663
Latino	117,376	114,389
Black	4,551	4,352
White	5,083	5,126
Asian	3,643	2,669
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	62	79
American Indian/Alaska Native	167	236
Other	258	168
Multiracial	250	644

COMMUNITY STRENGTHS

Indicator	2019	2012
Prenatal/Maternal/Pediatric Grants ($)	0	135,000
Foundations	1	4
Parks (area square miles)	1.9	0.2
Libraries	2	2
Service Providers	84	66
Support Groups	7	5
Nonprofits	21	15
Child Care Center Seats	2,235	2,122

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Indicator	2019	2012
Teen Births	99	275
Late Prenatal Care Births	297	344
Low Birthweight Births	135	167
Families w/ Children under 5 in Poverty	226	359
Families w/ Children under 5 rec Public Ast	4,785	3,386
Unemployed	5,791	5,642
Adults w/ less than a H.S. Diploma	34,982	32,225

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. What conditions in Pacoima make it favorable for nonprofits, and are there lessons that First 5 LA can apply to other Best Start Communities?

6. Does an increase in nonprofit activity affect the scope of First 5 LA's work in this Best Start Community? What opportunities could there be as a result of more nonprofits?