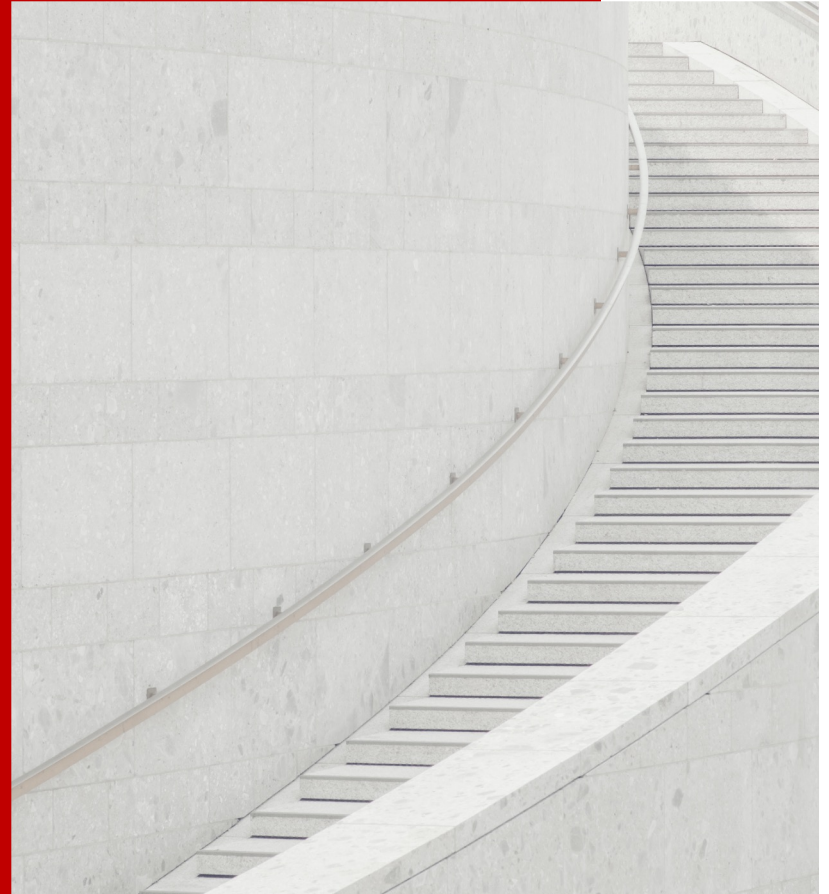


# **RAPID Survey**

Harris County

UH Institute for Research on  
Women, Gender & Sexuality



# About RAPID

RAPID-EC is an early childhood and family well-being survey that launched in April 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our objectives are:

- to collect essential information from households and families with young children (under 6)
- and to provide actionable data to key stakeholders to inform immediate and long-term program and policy decisions.

The survey has both national and local versions.

The UH Institute for Research on Women, Gender & Sexuality serves as Harris County's local partner to support the RAPID-EC Survey.

## Stanford Team

**Dr. Philip Fisher**  
RAPID Project Director  
Professor, Graduate  
School of Education  
Stanford University

**Valeria Garcia**  
RAPID Community  
Partnership  
Coordinator

## Harris County Coordinators

**Santrice Jones**  
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Initiatives  
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## UH IRWGS Project Team

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# RAPID Harris County RAPID Recruitment & Ongoing 1

July 1, 2024

Framework for RAPID Harris County  
Topics, Community Partners  
Respondent Geography & Demographics  
Summary of Recruitment findings  
Ongoing Survey 1 findings

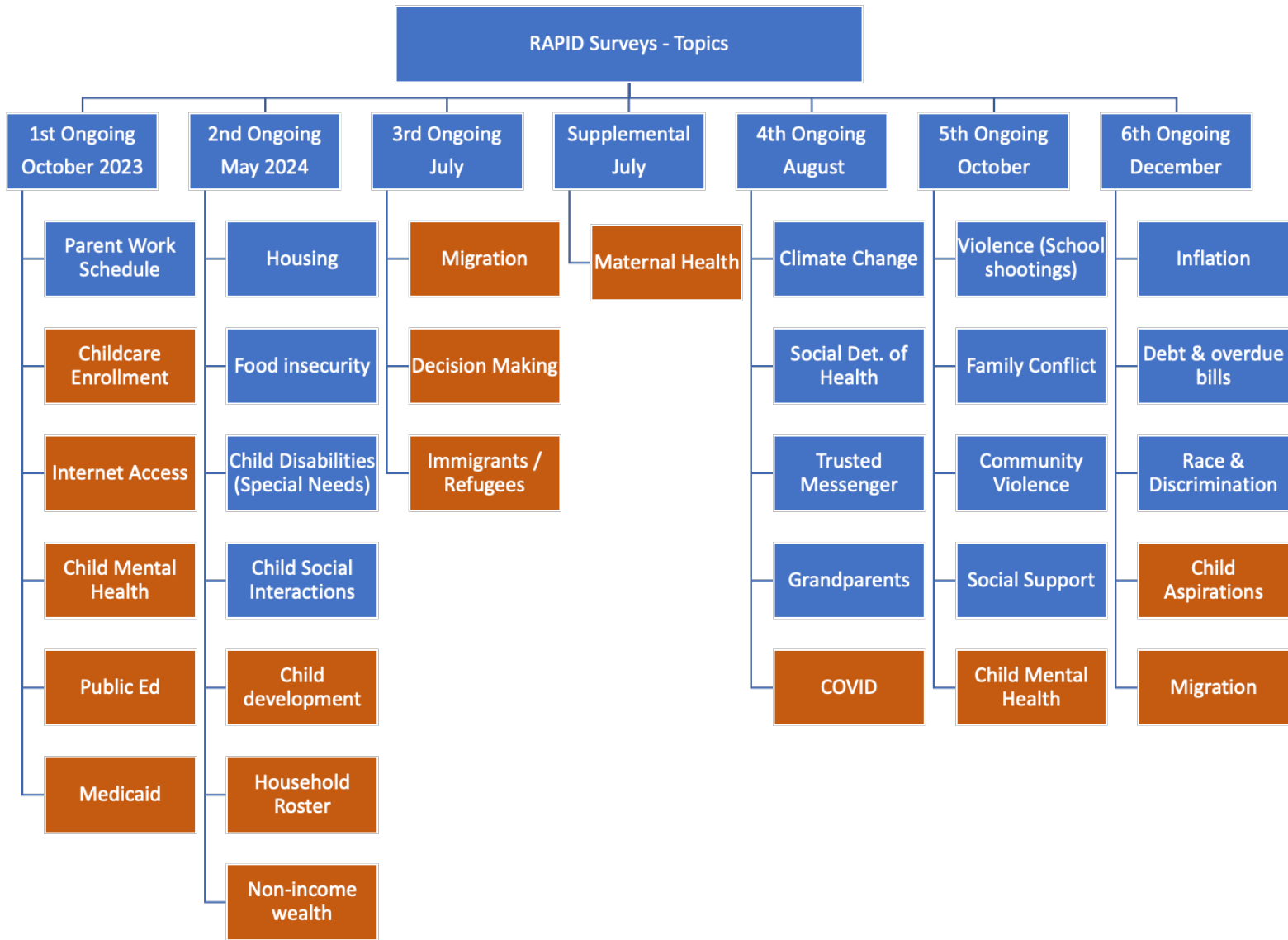
## Data Analysis

- Stanford shares raw data with UH IRWGS and a summary of data with UH & County.
- UH IRWGS does regression analyses of factors underlying data points and reports on both sets of findings (summary & regressions) to the community.

**Ongoing Assessments** will look in greater depth at issues affecting families and we will pool data across surveys.

As questions arise about responses, future surveys can explore those issues in greater detail.

Respondents receive a \$10 Gift Card for each Survey they complete.



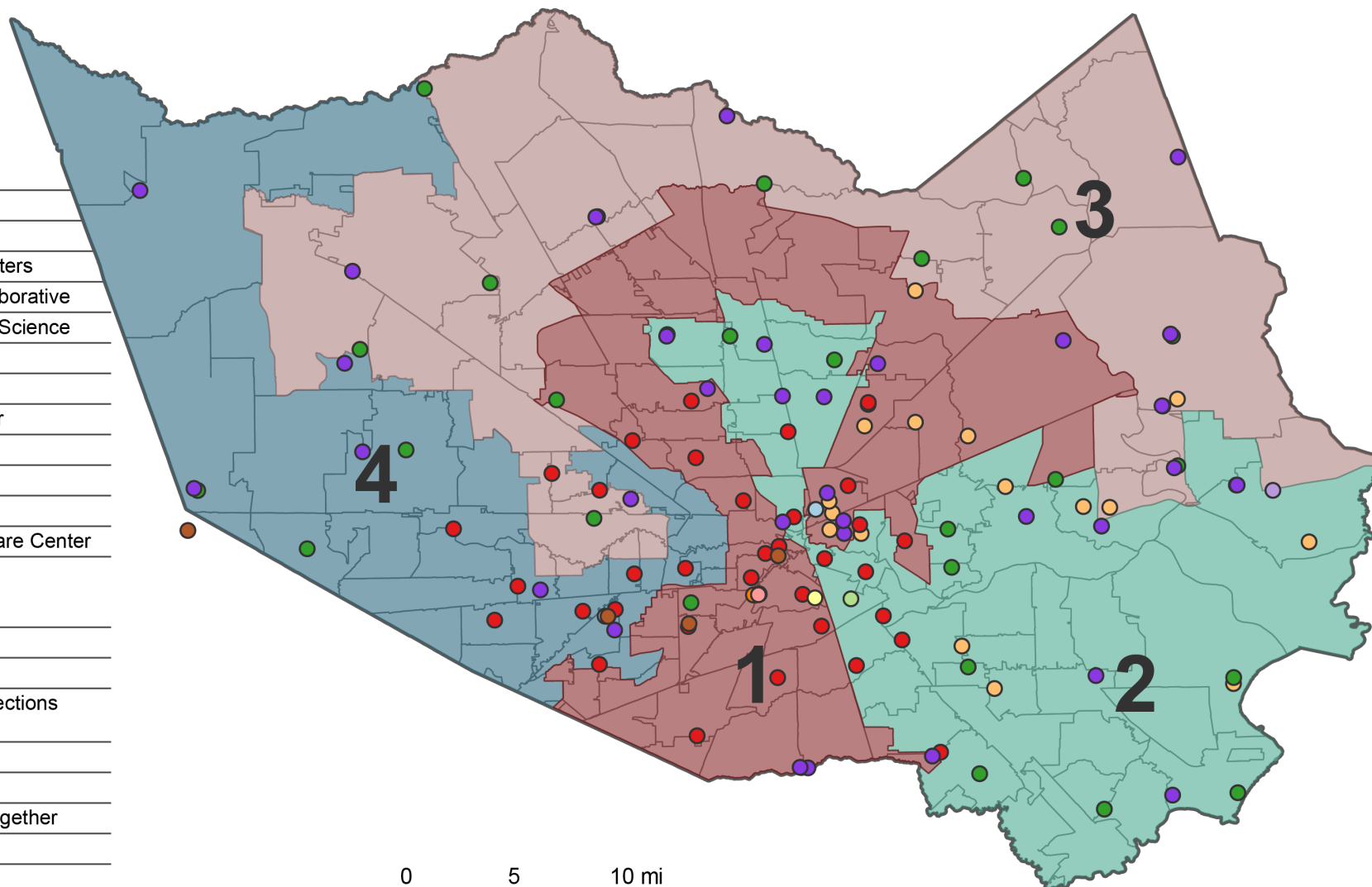
# Outreach Partners

## Location Based

- [1] ● Goose Creek ISD
- [4] ● YMCA of Greater Houston
- [34] ● Precinct 1-4 Community Centers
- [1] ● East End Communities Collaborative
- [1] ● Houston Museum of Natural Science
- [1] ● Children's Museum Houston
- [1] ● The Health Museum
- [2] ● Small Steps Nurturing Center
- [19] ● Harris County Head Start
- [26] ● Harris County Public Library
- [35] ● Houston Public Library
- [1] ● University of Houston Childcare Center

## Not Location Based

- BrighterBites
- Collaborative for Children
- Harris County: County Connections Youth Summer Initiative
- First3Years
- Kids' Meals
- Cultural Health Advancing Together
- Healthy Start
- Habitat for Humanity
- Harris County: Bright Beginnings



# RAPID sample demographics vs ACS 2021 Harris County

- Pilot (284) and Recruitment 1 (525), for a total of 809
- 91% of respondents are females
- Precinct distribution
  - 1: 19.8%
  - 2: 27.7%
  - 3: 33%
  - 4: 19.5%

	RAPID Sample		2021 ACS*	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
NH-White	235	<b>29.05</b>	60,593	<b>23.50</b>
NH-Black	122	<b>15.08</b>	47,177	<b>18.30</b>
Hispanic	363	<b>44.87</b>	123,507	<b>47.90</b>
NH-Other	89	<b>11.00</b>	26,576	<b>10.31</b>
Total	809	100.00	257,853	100.00
<b>Income Relative to PL</b>				
0 to 0.99	164	<b>23.87</b>	63,438	<b>24.77</b>
1 to 1.99	195	<b>28.38</b>	57,192	<b>22.33</b>
2 to 2.99	116	<b>16.89</b>	46,117	<b>18.00</b>
3+	212	<b>30.86</b>	89,397	<b>34.90</b>
Total	687	100.00	256,144	100.00
<b>Employment Status</b>				
Employed	332	<b>49.48</b>	197,024	<b>76.41</b>
Unemployed	63	<b>9.39</b>	16,428	<b>6.37</b>
Not in Labor Force	276	<b>41.13</b>	44,401	<b>17.22</b>
Total	671	100.00	257,853	100.00
<b>Employment Status (Female Only)</b>				
Employed	282	<b>46.23</b>	82,232	<b>63.58</b>
Unemployed	58	<b>9.51</b>	10,909	<b>8.43</b>
Not in Labor Force	270	<b>44.26</b>	36,205	<b>27.99</b>
Total	610	100.00	129,346	100.00

\*ACS 2021 (sample of householders parents of children 0-5 in Harris County), n=257,853

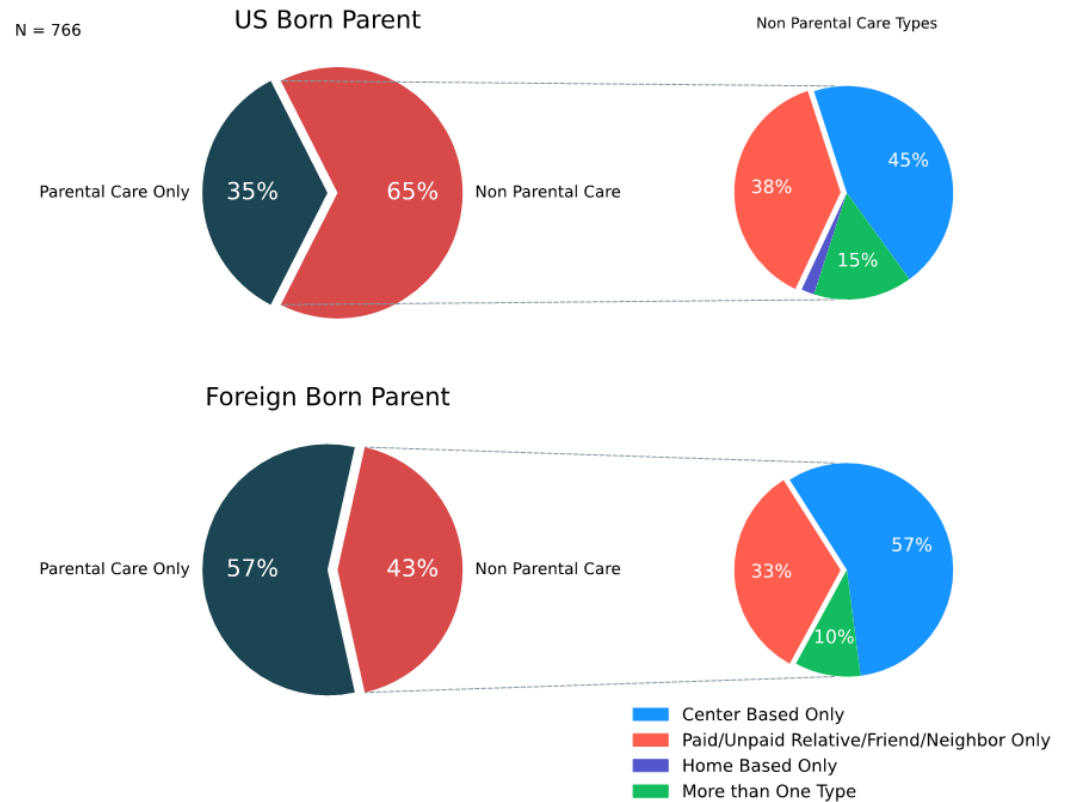
## Types of nonparental child-care used, by race/ethnicity & income (%)

	Race/Ethnicity				Income Relative to PL				Total
	NH-White	NH-Black	Hispanic	NH-Other	0 to 0.99	1 to 1.99	2 to 2.99	3+	
Center Based Only	51.8	56.5	38.7	51.2	45.0	41.2	37.9	54.1	47.3
Unpaid Relative/Friend/ Neighbor Only	20.6	28.2	31.2	16.3	30.0	36.3	37.9	13.7	25.9
Paid Relative/Friend/ Neighbor Only	6.4	8.2	16.7	7.0	17.5	14.7	12.1	5.5	11
Home Based Only	1.4	2.4	0.5	7.0	2.5	0.0	1.5	3.4	1.8
Combination	19.9	4.7	12.9	18.6	5.0	7.8	10.6	23.3	14
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

- 57% of respondents overall use non-parental care for their children 0-5

## CHILDCARE GAPS

- **57%** of Harris County RAPID respondents have kids in **NPCC, at a Center or with a Relative**, while parents work.
- Center-based childcare is mostly used by families with higher incomes. **Lower-income families often** (& some higher-income families) **depend on relatives** for NPCC.
- **But 42% of parents** of kids under 5 in Harris County are **immigrants!** And **many immigrants don't have relatives here.**
- That helps explain why they're **18-22% less likely to use NPCC.**
- **Suggesting a need for expanded affordable center-based care.**



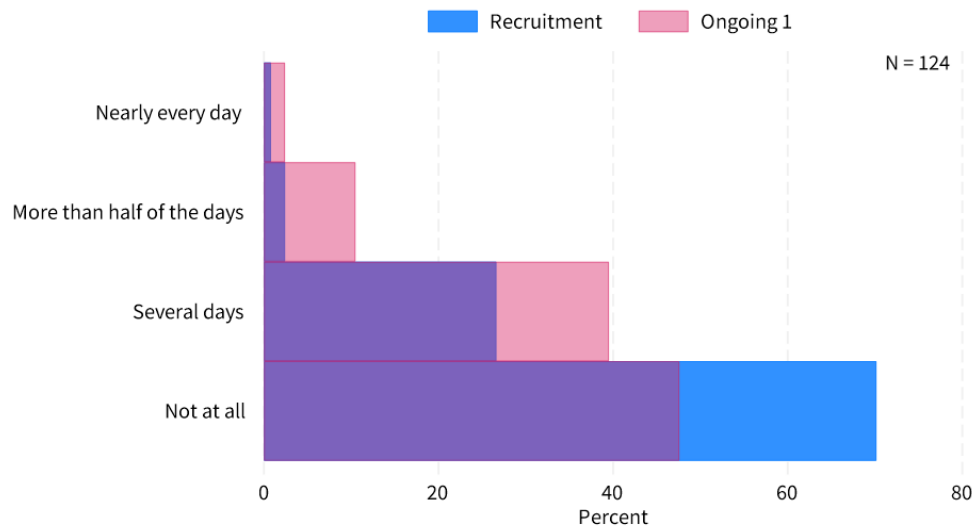


# Ongoing 1

- Number of respondents: 142
- Though numbers are small, the characteristics of respondents by gender, race/ethnicity, poverty, age, are roughly similar to those in the recruitment, except re immigrant status (fewer).
- The small N inhibits regression analysis but gives a general sense of the group's thoughts re the questions asked.
- Descriptive statistics - more contextualization & analysis needed.

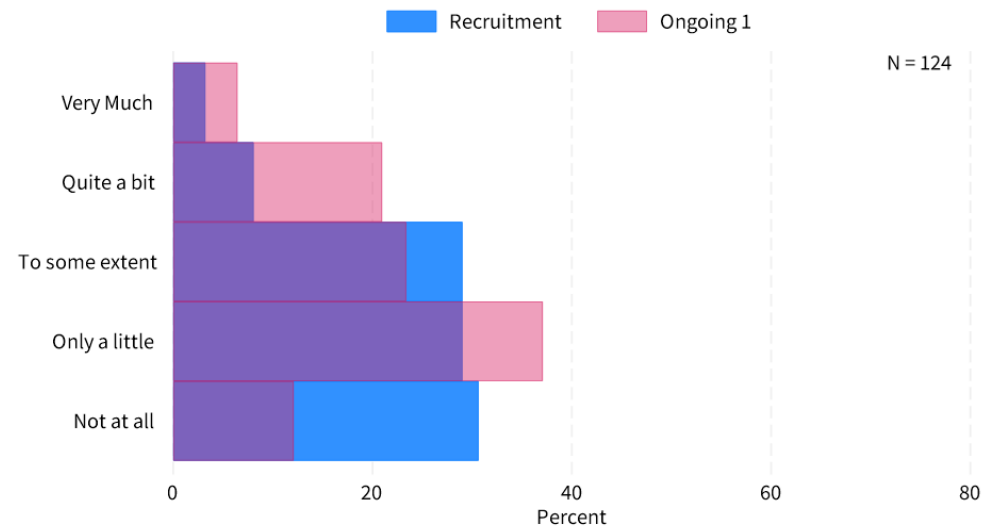
# Caregiver Mental Health

Caregiver Mental Health: Depression



In the last month, how often have you been bothered by the following problems? Feeling down, depressed, or hopeless

Caregiver Mental Health: Stress



Stress means a situation in which a person feels tense, restless, nervous or anxious or is unable to sleep at night because their mind is troubled all the time. How often have you felt this kind of stress in the past month?

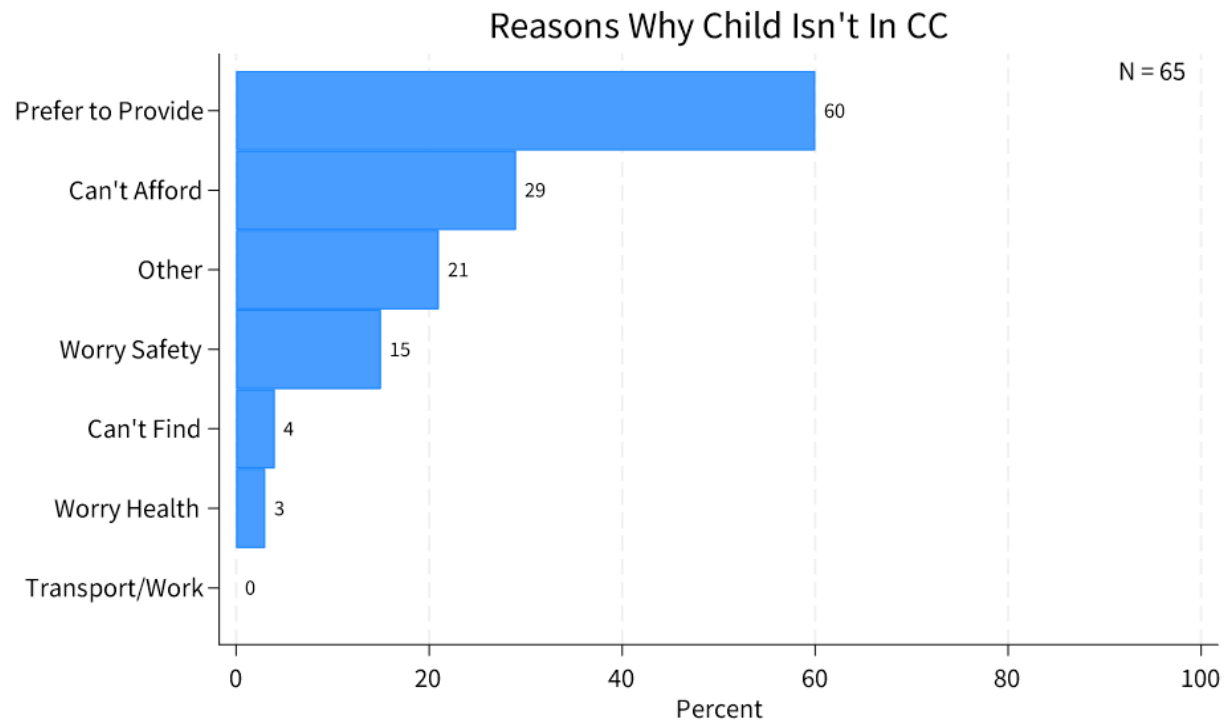
These slides show a distinct worsening of mental health among the same respondents (mothers of children 0-5, roughly 18-45) over a 6-month period (mid 2023 to year's end). Though not correlated to worsening finances or other issues asked about in the survey, the data do parallel findings of a Johns Hopkins study that found that women 18-45 in ban states saw a distinct mental health decline not visible in comparable women in non-ban states or among women over 45 or men in ban states. [HERE](#)

# Childcare Usage

	<b>At Least One Child in CC</b>	
	Count	Percent
No	47	48
Yes	51	52
Total	98	100

- Slightly lower than 57% in the recruitment, but not by much

# Reasons Why Child Isn't In Care



N is larger than previous since some only have one child in CC

## Why have you not applied for public assistance for childcare?

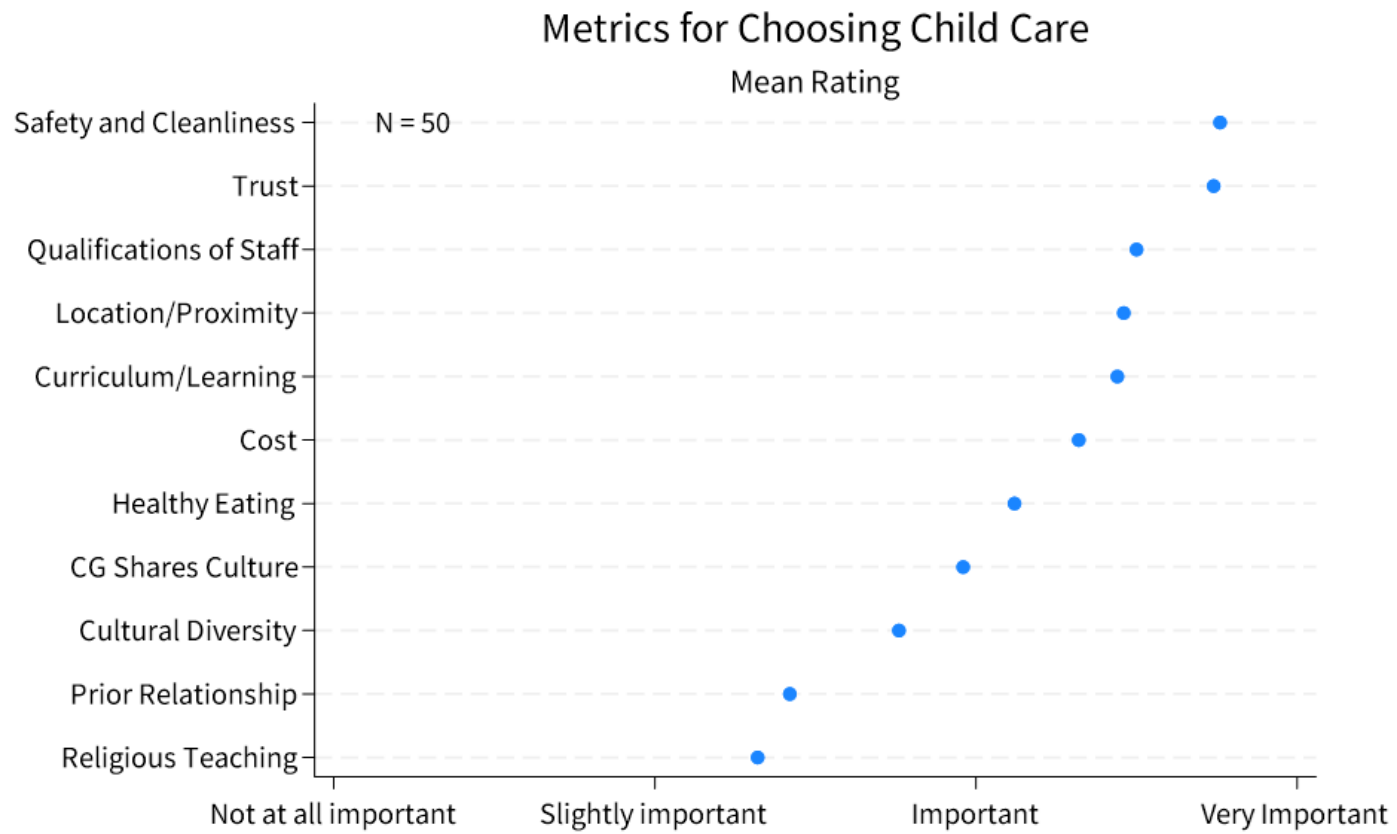
*"Don't feel comfortable leaving my child with a stranger."*

*"Por miedo a que no lo cuiden bien."*

Because of fear that they will not take good care of him.

*"I prefer to take care of my child myself."*

# Metrics for Choosing Care



When thinking about the people/center(s) that provide your child care right now, what role, significant contribution or niche do they serve for you and your family?

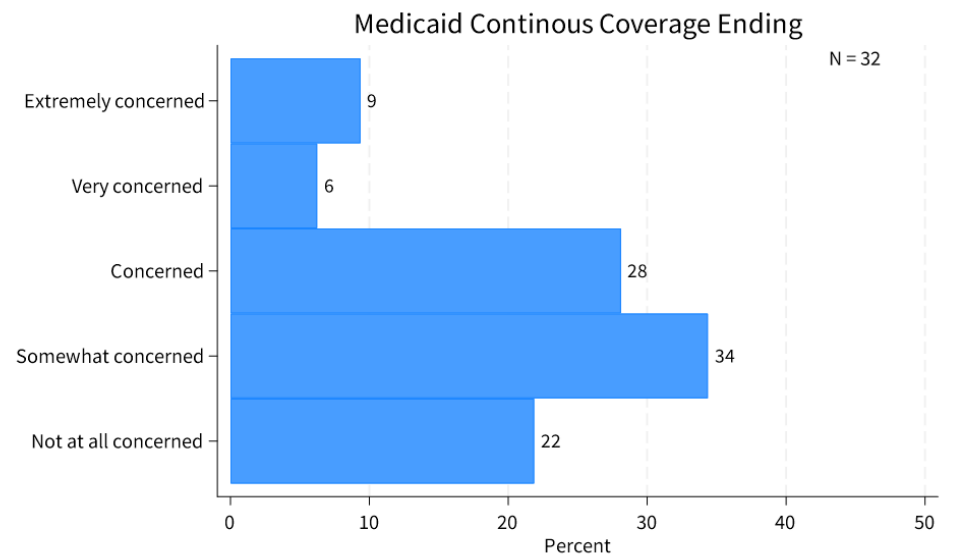
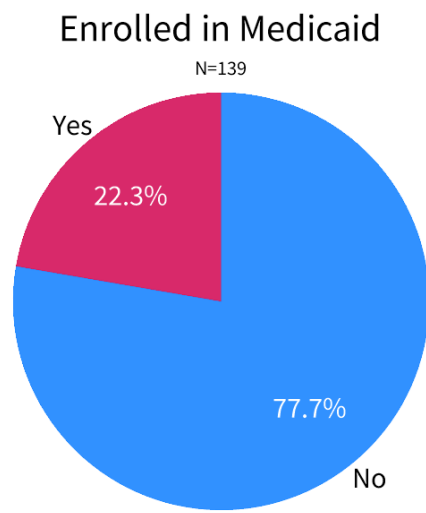
*"Childcare. My mother who takes care of my kids is not in the best health condition and may not be able to help as much, which means I might need to work less, lowering our income."*

*"Our family's current child care is provided by my mother, the children's grandmother. Although, we pay her for taking care of the children while we are at work. What we pay her is far less than what we would pay at any child care facility. If my mother was not able to care for our children, we would not be able to afford to send them to child care and make ends meet."*

*"Más que nada que mis hijas estén en lugar seguro y protegidas de intrusos malignos."*

More than anything, my daughters are in a safe place and protected from harmful people.

# Continuous Medicaid Enrollment End



- 88% of those enrolled in Medicaid were at least somewhat concerned with the end of continuous enrollment



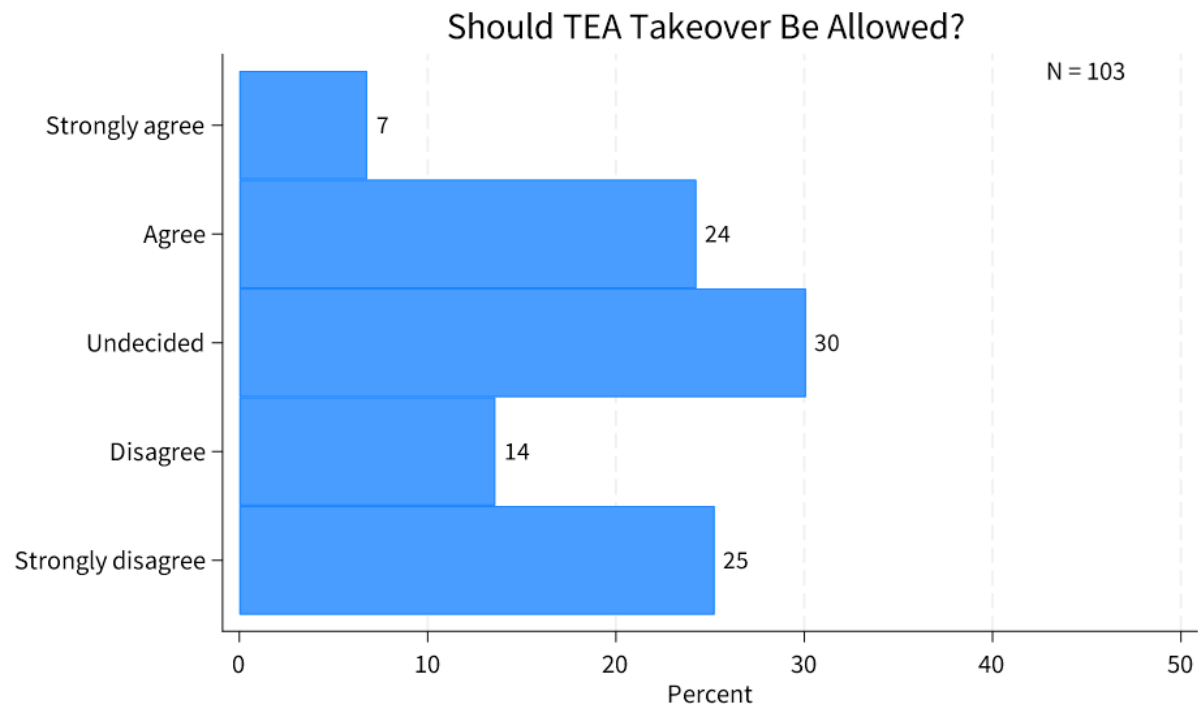
What, if any,  
impact has the end  
in continuous  
Medicaid coverage  
had on your  
household?

*"Was told I wouldn't be affected and then one day I was taken off and had to reapply. It took almost 2 months for them to put the kids back on. With no changes in my income I woulda thought it would be easy but it wasn't."*

*"My son needs specialists and now we have to fight to make sure he can see them."*

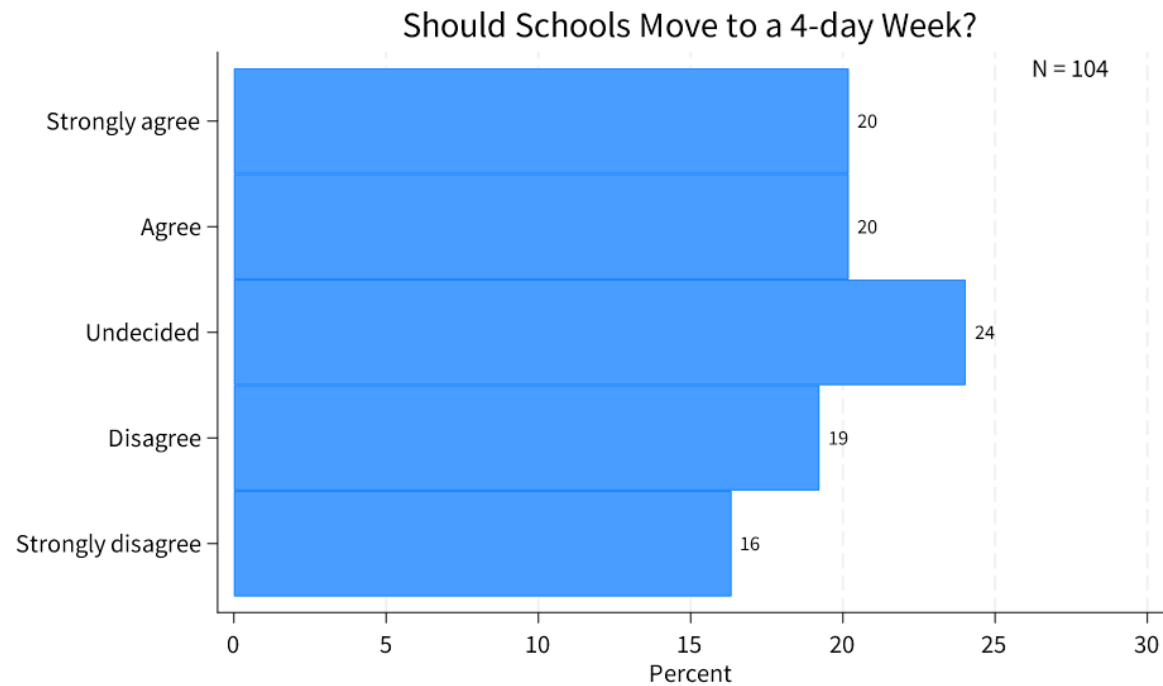
*"We recently got Covid and the doctor that I took my kids to said they were not doing free Covid testing anymore. So with money being so tight I had to buy one at the pharmacy and pretty much assume we all had it because I can not afford to get a test for everyone. And I'm unaware if Medicaid will cover the Covid vaccine once my kids are able to get it."*

# Education: TEA Takeover



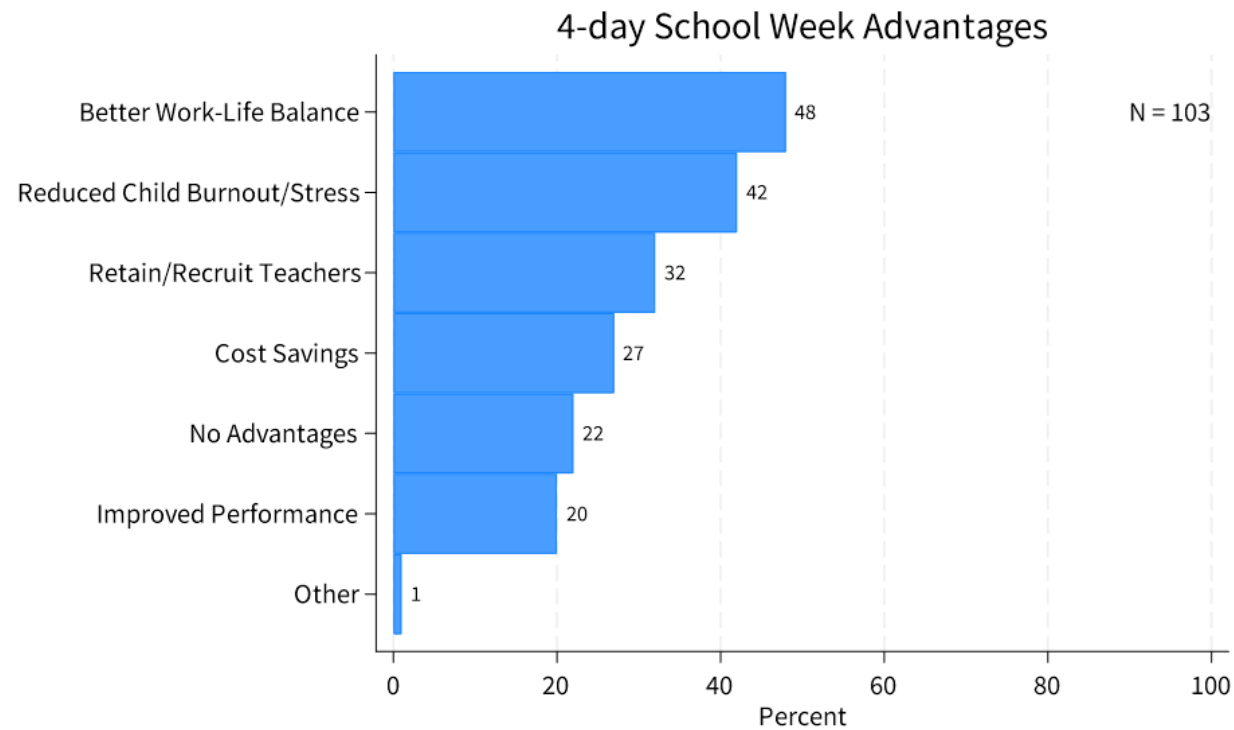
- More disagree than agree, but 1/3 are undecided

# Education: 4-day School Week

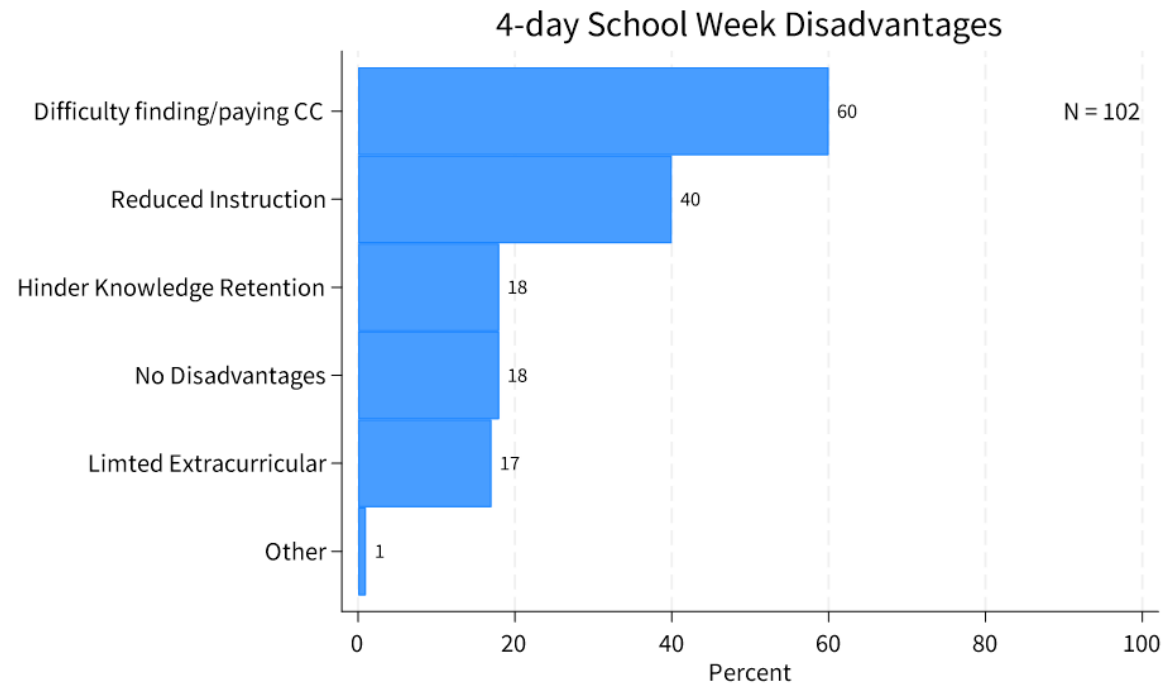


- 40% agree with schools moving to a 4-day week

# 4-day School Week: Advantages



# 4-day School Week: Disadvantages



- By fair margin the top reported disadvantage was **difficulty finding or paying for childcare**

What concerns, if any, do you have about the curriculum in your child(ren)'s school?

*"I feel the new one [curriculum] is experimenting on my child that has already behind from the pandemic."*

*"Not enough Spanish teachers and curriculum."*

*"Más que nada que a veces son muchos niños para una maestra. La escuela donde va mi hija afortunadamente tiene una asistente que le ayuda a la maestra."*

More than anything, sometimes there are too many children for one teacher. Fortunately, the school my daughter attends has an assistant who helps the teacher.

*"I don't like that all the new curriculum has to be TEA approved and seems somewhat cookie cutter or one size fits all. Doesn't seem like teachers have as much creativity as they used to."*

What concerns, if any, do you have about the availability of books in your child(ren)'s school?

*"I'm worried about censorship of books."*

*"The lack of diversity- the lack of going to a school library. I have to supplement and take her to the public library (this isn't necessarily a bad thing just it can be inconvenient)."*

*"I was very disappointed that HISD was removing the libraries from schools. I feel books are very important we go to our public library very often. And I know not all parents are able to go to the public library or want to go. So the only place books can be available is school so to not have them is very disappointing."*

*"No, las librerías públicas siempre tienen horas y libros disponibles a los cual puedo y e llevado a mis hijas."*

No, public libraries always have hours and books available, which I can access and have taken my daughters to.

U N I V E R S I T Y of  
**HOUSTON**

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THE INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON  
WOMEN, GENDER & SEXUALITY

Thank you!





job_empStatus_merged	Survey Type		Total
	Baseline/	Follow-up	
Working (Part/Full Ti	332 47.50	82 57.75	414 49.23
Unemployed or laid of	34 4.86	3 2.11	37 4.40
Temporarily out of wo	29 4.15	2 1.41	31 3.69
Not Listed (please sp	28 4.01	4 2.82	32 3.80
Stay at home parent (	258 36.91	49 34.51	307 36.50
Student (either worki	18 2.58	2 1.41	20 2.38
Total	699 100.00	142 100.00	841 100.00

Income Relative to PL	Survey Type		Total
	Baseline/	Follow-up	
0 to 0.99	164 23.87	22 17.19	186 22.82
1 to 1.99	195 28.38	43 33.59	238 29.20
2 to 2.99	116 16.89	19 14.84	135 16.56
3+	212 30.86	44 34.38	256 31.41
Total	687 100.00	128 100.00	815 100.00