

# 2024

## NEEDS AND ASSETS REPORT



 **FIRST THINGS FIRST**

Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region

**PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE  
REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL  
2024  
NEEDS AND ASSETS  
REPORT**

Funded by the  
**First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council**

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# INTRODUCTION

Ninety percent of a child's brain growth occurs before kindergarten and the quality of a child's early experiences impacts whether their brain will develop in positive ways that promote learning. First Things First (FTF) was created by Arizonans to help ensure that Arizona children have the opportunity to start kindergarten prepared to be successful. Understanding the critical role the early years play in a child's future success is crucial to our ability to foster each child's optimal development and in turn, impact all aspects of well-being in our communities and our state.

This Needs and Assets Report for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region helps us in understanding the needs of young children, the resources available to meet those needs and gaps that may exist in those resources. An overview of this information is provided in the Executive Summary and documented in further detail in the full report.

The report is organized by topic areas pertinent to young children in the region, such as population characteristics or educational indicators. Within each topic area are sections that set the context for why the data found in the topic areas are important (Why it Matters), followed by a section that includes available data on the topic (What the Data Tell Us).

The FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council recognizes the importance of investing in young children and ensuring that families and caregivers have options when it comes to supporting the healthy development and education of young children in their care. It is our sincere hope that this information will help guide community conversations about how we can best support school readiness for all children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region. To that end, this information may be useful to local stakeholders as they work to enhance the resources available to young children and their families and as they make decisions about how best to support children birth to age 5 in communities throughout the region.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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We also want to thank parents and caregivers, local service providers and members of the public who attended regional council meetings and voiced their opinions, as well as all the organizations working to transform the vision of the regional council into concrete programs and services for children and families in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region.

Lastly, we want to acknowledge the current and past members of the FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council whose vision, dedication and passion have been instrumental in improving outcomes for young children and families within the region. As we build upon those successes, we move ever closer to our ultimate goal of creating a comprehensive early childhood system that ensures children throughout Arizona are ready for school and set for life.

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

***The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region.*** When First Things First was established by the passage of Proposition 203 in November 2006, the government-to-government relationship with federally-recognized tribes was acknowledged. Each tribe with tribal lands located in Arizona was given the opportunity to participate within a First Things First designated region or elect to be designated as a separate region. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe was one of 10 tribes that chose to be designated as its own region. This decision must be ratified every two years, and since then, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe has opted to continue to be designated as its own region. The boundaries of the First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council are those of the Pascua Pueblo Yaqui Reservation in Pima County. The region covers approximately 2.2 square miles.

***Population Characteristics.*** According to the 2020 U.S. Census, the total population of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region was 3,466, of whom 336 were young children (birth to age 5). About one-quarter (26%) of the 865 households in the region had one or more young children. The proportion of households with young children in the region (26%) was both higher than all Arizona reservations combined (20%) and at least double the proportion in Pima County (11%) and Arizona (13%). According to the Census, the overall population of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region did not change substantially between 2010 and 2020 (-0.3%). This is smaller than the decrease seen across all Arizona reservations (-3%). However, the population of young children (birth to age 5) decreased by -29%, which is a larger decrease than the -26% seen across all Arizona reservations.

American Indians living on reservations and young children (birth to age 4) were found to be substantially undercounted in the 2020 Census (5.6% and 3-5% nationally). Given this, tribal enrollment data is another important source for population counts in Native communities. Based on data from the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Enrollment Department, in 2020 the Pascua Yaqui Tribe had a total enrollment of 18,582. This included 3,981 individuals living on-reservation, of whom 154 were young children (birth to age 5). Another way to understand potential undercounting of young children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is to compare 2020 Census data on the young child population to Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) data on births from 2015 to 2020. Census estimates are lower by about 11 children per year compared with the count of births. ADHS reports 402 births occurring between 2015 and 2020 compared to 336 children birth to age 5 enumerated by the Census.

Almost all of the population (90%) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region identified as American Indian. However almost one-quarter (24%) identified as Hispanic or Latino, which is higher than across all Arizona reservations (6% of the total population). Smaller portions of the total population in the region identified as Multiracial (8%), Non-Hispanic White (2%), Black or African American (1%) or Asian or Pacific Islander (1%) in 2020. These breakdowns were similar for young children, with slightly higher portions identified as American Indian (91%), Hispanic or Latino (28%), Multiracial (12%), and Black or African American (3%), when compared to the overall population.

While about two-thirds (64%) of individuals in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region speak only English at home, 31% speak Spanish at home, a much higher proportion than seen across all Arizona reservations (3%) and Pima County (23%). The remaining 5% speak a language other than English or Spanish (most likely a Native North American language) at home, which is similar to Pima County (5%) and the state as a whole (6%) but much lower than all Arizona reservations combined (50%). Of those individuals speaking a language other than English at home, the majority also speak English “very well,” with one-third of the region proficiently bilingual or multilingual (33%). About 4% of households in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region are considered limited-English-speaking, meaning no one over the age of 13 in the household speaks English very well. This is a smaller proportion than seen across all Arizona reservations (12%), however there is still some need for bilingual or multilingual staff and resources to support families whose first language is not English, especially given the high percentage of individuals speaking Spanish at home.

Children living in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region attend a number of schools located outside of the region. During the 2021-22 school year, about one in every 10 preschool to 12th grade students (10%) at these schools were considered English Language Learners. Please note that this proportion includes students who are not living in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region. English Language Learners are identified through the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Home Language Survey, which asks families about the student’s first language and what language is spoken at home most of the time. Statewide, there were 27 students with reported Yaqui language use at home in 2020-21, decreasing to 23 students in 2021-22. Fewer than 11 of these students attended off-reservation schools that serve Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students. This could be due to Pascua Yaqui Tribe members living outside of the region, such as in the Town of Guadalupe and Old Pascua.

The Gathering Hiaki Voices Survey, part of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Community Health Needs Assessment in 2020, gathered information from 307 community member respondents living in Pima County about their language use and ability. The survey indicated that almost all participants were able to read, write, speak or understand English (99%) and used it weekly or daily (100%). Almost all participants also indicated the ability to read, write, speak or understand Spanish (94%), and over half used Spanish weekly or daily (57%). While four in 10 reported reading, writing, speaking or understanding the Yoeme language (40%), only one in 10 reported using it on a weekly or daily basis (11%). The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Department provides language classes to community members interested in learning the Yoeme language, which were formerly offered by the Language and Culture Department. According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, there were 289 people registered for classes in the Language Program, and 112 registered in the Traditional Arts Program in the 2018-19 school year. This high level of interest in the Yoeme language is a strength in the region. Additionally, through two new grant agreements with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, the First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council partner with the tribal government to implement the Language, Literacy and Culture in Tribal Communities strategy that support the creation of materials to be used in the classrooms that will be implementing a curriculum with emphasis in Yoeme language, history, and culture. Furthermore, this strategy also funds a position that creates and distributes materials in partnerships with tribal departments and programs that are

reflective of the tribal language and culture including books, posters and informational flyers that are shared during community events.

The majority of young children (birth to age 5) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region live in a household with one unmarried parent (75%), which is a larger proportion than across all Arizona reservations (65%), Pima County (37%) and the state (37%). More than one in seven (15%) young children live with non-relatives, while smaller shares live with relatives other than parents (such as grandparents, aunts and uncles) (6%) or two married parents (4%). Almost half of young children (47%) in the region live in a grandparent's household, which is higher than across all Arizona reservations (43%). In contrast, 14% of grandparents in the region are living with grandchildren (birth to age 17) without a parent also present in the household, which is the same as across Arizona reservations combined. This indicates that most children living with grandparents are in multigenerational households with parent(s) present, where grandparents may or may not be responsible for raising the child.

The American Community Survey (ACS) considers a grandparent to be responsible for their grandchildren if they are "currently responsible for most of the basic needs of any grandchildren under the age of 18" who live in the grandparent's household. Based on this definition, an estimated 185 grandparents in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region are responsible for their grandchildren under 18 years old. A parent is also present in most of these households (only 22% without the child's parent). The majority of these grandparents are female (65%), and 37% are in the labor force, meaning that they may need child care for their grandchildren while they are working. Notably, only 16% have an income below the poverty level, which is less than half the percent across all Arizona reservations (36%) and lower than Pima County (21%).

***Economic Circumstances.*** Across all household types for which data are available, the median family income for all families with children (birth to age 17) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region (\$32,200) is less than half that in the county (\$69,000) and state levels (\$75,100). Married couple families with children in the region have the highest median annual income (\$44,800) of all family types, which is less than half of that seen statewide (\$100,000). The notably lower median annual income of single-male-headed families with children (\$30,600) and single-female-headed families with children (\$22,000) in the region points to the additional financial stress experienced by the single-parent-led households in the region.

Almost one-third (31%) of the overall population and more than half (53%) of young children (birth to age 5) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region live in poverty, which is more than twice the poverty rates for Pima County (15% and 22%, respectively) and Arizona as a whole (13% and 20%, respectively). According to ACS five-year estimates, rates of poverty among young children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region have decreased slightly (-2%) in recent years, from 55% in 2012-2016 to 53% in 2017-2021. Poverty rates declined much more across all Arizona reservations (-6%), Pima County (-8%), Arizona (-8%) and the U.S. (-6%) during the same time period. Reductions in poverty may be attributable, at least in part, to federal relief funds distributed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The majority (72%) of young children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region live in households with incomes under 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), a commonly used threshold for social safety

net benefits such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and reduced-price school meals. In 2021, the 185% FPL threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$50,836; for a single parent with one child, it was \$34,552. Over half (53%) of young children live below 100% FPL, which is a slightly larger portion than in all Arizona reservations (49%) and a much larger portion than Pima County (22%). However, the proportion of young children in the region that live in “deep poverty” (defined as below 50% FPL) is closer to Pima County (11%) and the state as a whole (9%) than all Arizona reservations (27%). Though income is one important way to measure whether families can meet their basic needs, in Native communities, subsistence-based activities such as hunting, gathering, farming and ranching are important cultural practices that can also meet families’ basic needs and are not captured in standard poverty measures. While the Pascua Yaqui Tribe reservation is located in an urban area, there are some families that have home gardens, and the Tribe has a ranch with horses and a garden with programming for youth and other community members.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is one of six Arizona tribes that operate a Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program (PY-YOEME). In state fiscal year 2022 (SFY 2022), an estimated 19% of families with young children (birth to age 5) and the same proportion of young children in the region (19%) participated in TANF. These participation rates are notably higher than those seen at the county (both 5%) and state level (both 3%). The number of families participating fluctuated from a high of 64 families and 99 children in SFY 2019 to a low of 43 families and 65 children in SFY 2022. Since SFY 2018, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participation among young children (birth to age 5) and families with young children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region has declined steadily from 374 in SFY 2018 to 245 in SFY 2022.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe WIC program is administered by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA). According to the 2022 Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe WIC program serves both tribal and non-tribal members in Pima County, and key informants estimated that about half the participants in the program were members or relatives of members of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. In 2020, a total of 963 individuals were enrolled in the program, including 232 women (24% of WIC participants), 271 infants (28%) and 460 children (ages 2-4; 48%). WIC participation rates were higher in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe WIC program than across all ITCA WIC programs for all eligible groups, meaning that the percent of women (97%), infants (97%) and children (93%) who were actively receiving benefits during the calendar year were slightly higher in the region. From 2017 to 2020, the total number of children birth to age 4 enrolled in WIC declined steadily in both the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region and Arizona.

From 2019-20 to 2021-22, the total number of school lunches served through school nutrition programs in the region stayed relatively stable (20,659 and 20,430, respectively), even while fluctuating by program and service location. Hiaki High School served lunches through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) in 2019-20 and 2021-22. The Pascua Yaqui Boys & Girls Clubhouse served lunches through the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) in 2019-20 and both NSLP and SFSP in 2020-21 and 2021-22. Pascua Yaqui Head Start (Ili Uusim Mahtawa’apo) served lunches through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) in all three years and also served lunches through SFSP at both the

Head Start center and through a home delivery route in 2019-20. Lunches served through CACFP declined from 12,229 in 2019-20 to 9,056 in 2021-22. Conversely, lunches served through NSLP and SFSP increased (by 1,267 and 1,677, respectively). The increase in meals served through SFSP was likely due to USDA waivers that allowed for greater flexibility in meal service through SFSP year-round.

The unemployment rate is the proportion of the total number of people in the civilian labor force who are unemployed and looking for work. Unemployment rates do not include people who have dropped out of the labor force entirely, including those who wanted to work but could not find a suitable job and have stopped looking for employment. The ACS estimates that the average unemployment rate for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region between 2017 to 2022 was 8%. This is higher than the unemployment rate for Pima County and Arizona as a whole (both 6%) but substantially lower than all Arizona reservations (14%), a comparative strength for the region.

An additional metric of employment is the labor-force participation rate. This rate is the fraction of the population who are in the labor force, whether employed or unemployed. The labor force participation rate in the region (58%) is higher than that seen across all Arizona reservations (45%) and similar to Pima County (59%). This means that just over half of working-age teens and adults in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region are working (54%) or actively looking for work (4%), while the remaining 42% are not (which includes students, retirees, stay-at-home parents and others). While unemployment rates showed a steady decline statewide since the end of the Great Recession in 2009, this pattern changed in 2020 with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. In recent years, unemployment rates for Pima County have been aligned with the state overall, peaking at 7.6% in 2020 and decreasing to 3.8% in 2022. About three-quarters (76%) of young children (birth to age 5) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region live in a household where at least one parent is in the labor force, compared to 63% of young children across all Arizona reservations and 90% of young children in Pima County. Most of these children (71%) live with one parent who is in the workforce, indicating they likely require some form of child care.

Pascua Yaqui Tribe members often rent homes built by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Housing Department until they are able to pay the full amount of the house. At that point, ownership of the house is transferred to the family, while the land where the house is built remains part of tribal reservation land. While the Housing Department has been building new developments, community members indicate that housing availability is still a need in the region. Housing is considered to be affordable for families if it costs less than 30% of annual household income. According to recent ACS estimates, just 19% of households in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region spent more than 30% of their income on housing, disproportionately impacting renters (22%) over homeowners (9%) in the region. Housing cost burden is notably lower in the region compared to Pima County (31%) and the state (29%), but higher than across all Arizona reservations (13%). The McKinney-Vento Act definition of homelessness includes children living in shelters, transitional housing, campgrounds, motels, trailer parks and cars, as well as children whose families are temporarily living within another family's household. Data on the number of students experiencing homelessness under the McKinney-Vento Act at Hiaki High School were suppressed due to small numbers (i.e. fewer than 11). At off-reservation schools that serve children from

the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, the number of students experiencing homelessness more than tripled from 74 in 2020-21 to 240 in 2021-22, but these students still made up less than 2% of the overall students enrolled. According to data from Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start, 16% of children enrolled in Program Year 2023 (PY23) qualified as homeless, an increase from the 13% in PY20 reported in the 2022 Needs and Assets Report.

Almost three-quarters (72%) of households in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region have both a computer (i.e., a desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone) and broadband internet connectivity. While this proportion is lower than Pima County (89%) and Arizona (88%), it is notably higher than seen across all Arizona reservations (44%). At the individual level, 82% of individuals in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, including 88% of children (birth to age 17), have access to both a computer and internet in their household. As with household-level access, this is a smaller proportion than Pima County (92% and 95%, respectively) and the state (90% and 92%, respectively), but much higher than across all Arizona reservations (both 51%). The Pascua Yaqui Tribe has its own telecommunications network, Pascua Yaqui Networks, and provides internet access to families living in the region.

***Educational Indicators.*** The only school within the boundaries of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is Hiaki High School, meaning that there are no schools serving elementary and middle school students. Children from the community attend a number of off-reservation schools, mostly within Tucson Unified School District (TUSD). During the 2019-20 school year, 880 students from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region attended TUSD schools, including 485 elementary students, 156 middle school students, and 239 high school students. The district school with the most students from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe was Lawrence 3-8 School (173 students), followed by Johnson Primary (116 students) and Cholla High School (110 students). Valencia Middle School had the largest middle school student enrollment from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe (58 students). According to the 2022 Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Department offers support services for students who are members of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and enrolled in a K-12 school through the Yaqui Education Services (YES) program.

In the 2021-22 school year, there were fewer than 11 American Indian students enrolled in preschools that are known to serve Pascua Yaqui Tribe students. A total of 280 American Indian students were enrolled in kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in off-reservation schools serving students from the region, between 63 and 81 students in each grade. In 2020-21 and 2021-22, kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade chronic absence rates for off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students (28% and 29%, respectively) were slightly above the rates for Pima County schools (24% both years) and Arizona schools (21% both years).

In the 2021-22 school year, only 16% of American Indian students at off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students achieved a passing score on the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade English Language Arts (ELA) assessment, including 15% meeting expectations and less than 2% exceeding expectations. This is equivalent to the passing scores for American Indian students across all Pima County schools and Arizona schools (both 16%), but much lower than the passing scores for students of all races and ethnicities in Arizona (41%). In off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students, ELA passing rates for American Indian students doubled between 2020-21 and 2021-22, going from 8%



to 16%. Across the state ELA passing rates for American Indian students remain exceptionally low, less than half that of students of all races and ethnicities.

A smaller proportion of American Indian students at off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students passed the 3rd grade Math assessment in 2021-22, including 7% meeting expectations and 3% exceeding expectations. This is lower than the passing rates for American Indian 3<sup>rd</sup> graders across Pima County schools (13%) and Arizona schools (16%). Passing rates for the Math assessment for American Indian students at off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students as well as American Indian students in all Pima County schools have remained consistently lower than passing rates for American Indian students statewide and for all students statewide. In both 2020-21 and 2021-22, fewer than 1 in 10 American Indian students enrolled in off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students received a passing score on the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Math assessment.

High school students from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region attend Hiaki High School and off-reservation schools including Cholla High School (110 Pascua Yaqui Tribe students in 2019-20), Tucson High Magnet School (69 students), Pueblo High School (40 students), and other TUSD high schools (20 students). The four-year graduation rate for Hiaki High School (41%) is lower than for American Indian students attending off-region schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students (65%), which matches the four-year graduation rates for American Indian students across Arizona (65%). The five-year graduation rate was not available for off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students, however the rate for Hiaki High School (65%) was between the rate for American Indian students in Pima County schools (60%) and in Arizona schools (72%). In 2020-21 and 2021-22, the 7th-12th grade dropout rate (8%) was the same for Hiaki High School and for American Indian students in off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students. This is within the same range as American Indian students across Pima County, which rose from 6% to 10% between 2019-20 and 2021-22, and Arizona, which ranged between 5% and 9% in those same years.

Among adults in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, 73% have at least a high school education. This is a slightly smaller proportion than across all Arizona reservations (77%) and much smaller compared to the county (87%), state (88%) and national levels (89%). While educational attainment looks similar between the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region and all Arizona reservations, only 4% of adults in the region have a bachelor's degree or higher compared to 9% of adults across all Arizona reservations. Compared with all adults, mothers giving birth in 2020 and 2021 in the region were more likely to have less than a high school education (33% and 31% respectively, compared with 23% of all adults).

**Early Learning.** According to the 2022 Needs and Assets Report, early childhood care and education services in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region are available through the Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start program, home providers who are certified by the tribe and off-reservation child care centers. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe, First Things First Regional Partnership Council, and other community partners are currently developing the first tribal child care center on the reservation, which

will use a Pascua Yaqui Curriculum that emphasizes the Yoeme language, history, and culture. The center is estimated to serve between 120-143 children birth to age 7.

In May 2023, there were 40 early care and education providers active in the National Data System for Child Care that were operating within a 5-mile radius of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, an area which is shared with the Pima South and Tohono O’odham Nation First Things First Regions. These providers had a combined capacity of 1,031 children, which includes 823 slots across 11 child care centers and 208 slots across 29 family child care providers.

In 2023, the Ili Uusim Mahtawa’apo Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start program enrolled 53 four-year-olds and 15 three-year-olds for a total of 68 enrolled children. This represents a large portion of four-year-olds living in the region. However, according to the 2022 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, Ili Uusim Mahtawa’apo defines its services area as the New Pascua Community, followed by all other Pascua Yaqui Communities in the Tucson Area, Yaqui families living off-reservation, and finally other eligible families in the area. This means that enrollment likely includes children living outside of the region. Community members indicated that the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start usually serves about 140 children, but enrollment has been low due to a need for more teachers.

In 2019 and 2020, there were 21 family home providers certified/licensed by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program, which is under the tribe’s Social Services Department. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program serves families who are enrolled in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and reside in Pima, Pinal or Maricopa County. Most of these providers were located in New Pascua and the Tucson area, and six of them were located outside of the region but within the tribal communities. While the number of providers stayed the same, the number of children ages 0 to 5 that received services increased sharply from 17 in 2019 to 42 in 2020, while the number of 6 to 12-year-olds receiving services decreased slightly from 45 to 42.

Funding from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program is also used to provide child care assistance to families whose children are enrolled in off-reservation private child care centers that are licensed by ADHS. To qualify for this assistance, families must be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe and reside in Pima, Pinal or Maricopa County. Between 2019 and 2020, the number of young children (birth to age 6) receiving child care assistance from the Pascua Yaqui Child Care Development Fund decreased by 26 (from 120 in 2019 to 94 in 2020), likely due to COVID-related closures of child care centers. In 2019, children from birth to age 3 were receiving assistance the most frequently (51), but this decreased to 34 in 2020. In 2020, children ages 3 to 5 received assistance the most (50).

According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, the average monthly child care co-pay for families receiving assistance through the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program was \$93 in 2019. The co-pay differed by type of provider: families with children enrolled in off-reservation child care centers paid, on average, \$313 per month; those whose children were in group-home settings paid \$83; and families with children cared for by family home providers paid an average of \$32 each month. This means that families receiving assistance paid substantially less than the median monthly cost of care for children in Pima County. The median cost for a preschooler ages 3-5 exceeds

\$700 per month for any kind of care besides family home providers, and costs for children age 2 and younger are even higher.

As a percentage of monthly income, full-time center-based care for an infant would cost 39% of the median family income in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region without a child care assistance. This percent decreases slightly when paying for care for a 1- to 2-year-old (32%) or a 3- to 5-year-old (29%). Based on the difference in median family income, the cost of unsubsidized center-based care as a percent of income would be much higher in the region than in the county or state. Median child care costs have risen 17% at certified family homes, 25% at small group homes, and between 6% and 16% at licensed centers in Pima County between 2018 and 2022. The percent increase is even higher across the state as a whole, likely making early care even less accessible and stressing the importance of assistance programs for low-income families in Arizona. These data were not available specifically for the providers serving the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region.

Families in the region may also receive assistance, now referred to as child case assistance, from the Department of Economic Security (DES). The numbers of children ages birth to five that were eligible for and receiving child care assistance through DES decreased sharply from 2020 onward. In 2022, only 18 children in the region were eligible for assistance, and only 13 were receiving assistance, down from 66 eligible for assistance and 57 receiving assistance in 2019. This is dissimilar from the trend in Arizona as a whole. Note that the DES child care waitlist was suspended in 2019. Trends in Department of Child Services (DCS)-involved children receiving child care assistance through DES resemble those for non-DCS-involved children. Between 2017 and 2022, the number of DCS-involved children eligible for assistance fell from 30 to less than 10, and those receiving likewise declined from 25 to less than 10. Statewide, uptake of assistance for DCS-involved children has also declined but at a much less dramatic rate.

As of 2023, the Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start was a Quality First child care provider funded through the Arizona DES expansion, part of the American Rescue Plan/CARES Act in 2022. This provider does not yet have a public star rating. As DES expansion funding is ending, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council will take over funding the quality first slot for Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start, as well as the new early learning center once it opens. Compared to Pima County, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region has a higher percentage of providers who are accredited (25%). Over a third (36%) of young children in the region could attend an accredited child care provider based on these providers' capacity.

Qualifying children may receive services from either AzEIP and/or DDD, a number which can be used to estimate the total number of young children receiving early intervention services in a region. For children birth to age 2, fewer than 10 children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region received services from the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) and/or the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) each year between 2019 and 2022. Most children (birth to 2) referred to AzEIP were referred by a physician, between 61% and 85% from 2018 to 2022. In the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, 27% of children (birth to 2) who were referred to AzEIP in 2022 received services, a larger proportion than seen in Pima County (18%) and Arizona (21%). Notably, providers were not able to contact the families of

nearly half of children referred to AZEIP (47%), which is more than twice the rate for Pima County (21%). Another 13% of families whose young child was found eligible declined services.

According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Department provides support services for students with special needs enrolled in Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start and in public schools who have an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start has a full-time interventionist who works with children on site, and the special education advocate with the Tribe's Education Department is also able to provide advocacy services to parents and caregivers. In 2022, a total of 416 students in preschool through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students were enrolled in special education. This includes 59 preschoolers, 67 kindergarteners and 102 1<sup>st</sup> graders, 95 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and 93 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. However, the number of preschoolers with disabilities served by a Local Educational Agency (LEA) in SFY 2022 (n=59) decreased substantially from previous years, when it was between 76 and 80. Please note that these data reflect students of all races and ethnicities.

Of the preschoolers with disabilities receiving services through LEAs between 2018 and 2022, 63% were diagnosed with a speech or language delay, 24% with developmental delay, and 24% with a preschool severe delay. The proportion of preschoolers with speech or language impairment is much higher than that seen in the county, and developmental delay much lower. Among kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students enrolled in special education in off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students during this same time period (2018-2022), more than half were diagnosed with a speech or language impairment (52%), 29% a developmental delay, 7% a specific learning disability, 5% autism, and 7% another disability. Again, the proportion of children diagnosed with a speech or language impairment is higher for students attending schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe students (52%) than Pima County (43%) and Arizona (36%).

According to the 2022 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, staff from the Yaqui Education Services attends biweekly or monthly meetings to coordinate support services to students with special needs enrolled in public schools in the area. Tucson Unified and Sunnyside Unified School Districts provide the Tribe's Education Department with a list of students who have IEPs or 504 plans. As of August of 2021, 120 students (in all grades) were identified as eligible for special education services and were receiving support from the Yaqui Education Services Program.

***Child Health.*** According to the 2022 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, health care services are available to residents from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region through the Pascua Yaqui Health Services Division (PYHSD). PYHSD provides services to community members using a combination of federal, state, tribal, and private funds. In 2021, PYHSD was approved by the Public Health Accreditation Board to be an Accredited Public Health Department, which can help advance the quality,

performance, accountability, and management of community health departments. Notably, Pascua Yaqui Tribe is the first tribe in Arizona to receive this accreditation.

Residents of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region who are members of a federally recognized tribe and qualify for health care services through IHS are eligible to be enrolled in the Yoeme Health Plan. The Yoeme Health Plan is a managed care plan that was established for community members who do not have access to health care coverage through other means including Arizona's Medicaid Program, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). Between 2018 and 2020, the number of children birth to 5 enrolled in the Yoeme Health Plan decreased from 98 to 75.

In 2020 and 2021, over half of births in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were covered by AHCCCS insurance (54% and 58%, respectively), which is lower than AHCCCS coverage across Arizona reservations (71% in 2020) but slightly higher than Pima County (50% and 48%, respectively). Another 23%-30% of births were covered by IHS, which is higher than seen on all Arizona reservations (16% in 2020). Overall, the proportion of births covered by either AHCCCS or IHS is similar in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region (77% and 88%, respectively) to all Arizona reservations (86% in 2020).

Of the 224 births in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region between 2019 and 2022, 12% were to mothers younger than 20, which is higher than the 9% of births across all Arizona reservations and 5% in Pima County and Arizona as a whole (in 2020). One-third of these births to teenaged mothers (4%) were to mothers younger than 18. Looking at trends over time, the share of births to teenaged mothers (younger than 20) nearly doubled in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region between 2019 and 2021, a period that coincides with the most disruptive years of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the percentage of births to teenaged mothers decreased in 2022. In Arizona, births to teenaged mothers both younger than 20 and younger than 18 have declined year over year.

The share of mothers giving birth who smoked cigarettes during pregnancy is much smaller in the region (2.7%) than in all Arizona reservations (11.1%), Pima County (4.4%) and Arizona overall (3.6%). The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region and Arizona were meeting the Healthy People 2030 target of no more than 4.3% of females using tobacco during pregnancy. Between 2018 and 2022, 24 newborns were hospitalized because of maternal drug use during pregnancy in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region. Based on the total number of births, this equates to 8 newborns hospitalized per 100 births, more than double the 3.3 newborns hospitalized per 100 live births in the state. The average length of hospital stay was longer in the region (12.2 days) than in Pima County (11.1 days) and Arizona as a whole (9.5 days).

Between 2018 and 2022, rates of pre-pregnancy obesity and gestational diabetes in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region fluctuated greatly, which is common when looking at a small number of births in each year. Pre-pregnancy obesity increased from about one in five births in 2018 (21.7%) to almost two in three births in 2020 (63.5%) before decreasing to about half of births in 2022 (51.9%). Gestational diabetes followed a similar pattern, varying from 11.6% of births in 2018 to 25% of births in 2020 to 18.5% of births in 2022. In 2021, the latest year that can be compared with the state, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region had much higher rates of both pre-pregnancy obesity (46% compared with 27.1%) and gestational diabetes (18.5% compared with 9.9%). Statewide, about 1 in 8 mothers (13.7%) reported experiencing postpartum depressive symptoms in 2020, nearly the same rate as that seen nationwide

(13.4%). National data show that more than one in five (22%) American Indian and Alaska Native mothers in the U.S. experienced postpartum depressive symptoms in 2018, suggesting that Native mothers may be at higher risk of postpartum depression.

In 2021 higher proportions of the babies born in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were low birthweight (14%), preterm (16%) and/or admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) (18%) than in Arizona overall. The proportion of births that were low-birthweight (9.3%) and preterm (13.5%) in 2020 were also slightly higher in the region than across all Arizona reservations (8.9% and 12.6%, respectively). The Healthy People 2030 target for the percentage of preterm births is 9.4% or lower. From 2018 to 2021, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region was about 4% to 7% above this target, however the percent of preterm births dropped to 9.3% in 2022, meaning that the region met the Healthy People 2030 target in 2022.

From 2018 to 2020, the majority of WIC-enrolled infants in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were breastfed at least once (between 70% and 72%), which is slightly higher than across all ITCA WIC programs (between 65% and 71%). Conversely, the portion of infants who were breastfed (either exclusively or in combination with other nutrition) at six months was slightly lower in the region (between 17% and 24%) than all ITCA WIC programs (between 23% and 26%).

Childhood immunizations protect against many diseases, including diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTaP); polio; and measles, mumps and rubella (MMR). According to the 2023 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start Program Information Report, 78% of children in Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start program were up-to-date on required immunizations. In the 2022-23 school year, immunization rates for children enrolled in child care centers that frequently serve Pascua Yaqui Tribe families (DTaP 97.1%; Polio 98.6%; MMR 98.6%) were substantially higher than statewide child care immunization rates (DTaP 90.6%; Polio 92.2%; MMR 93%). The immunization rate in these centers met the Healthy People 2030 DTaP immunization target of 90%. Rates of exemption from all required vaccines (0.6%) were less than half the rate seen in Pima County (1.7%) and substantially lower than the statewide rate of 4%. Similarly, kindergarten immunization rates in off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe students (DTaP 86.1%; Polio 86.4%; MMR 86.1%) were also lower than statewide rates (DTaP 89.6%; Polio 90.3%; MMR 89.9%) in the 2022-23 school year. However, both immunization rates in these schools and schools statewide failed to meet the Healthy People 2030 kindergarten MMR immunization target of 95%. Personal belief exemption rates (0.9%) and rates of exemptions from all required vaccines (0.7%) were again substantially lower than rates in Pima County (3.4% and 2.2%, respectively) or Arizona overall (7.3% and 4.6%, respectively).

In 2022, there were eight confirmed and probable cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and 11 cases of influenza among young children (birth to age 5) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region. There were between one and five infant deaths in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region between 2019 and 2021. This very low number of deaths means that mortality rates cannot be reported to protect individual privacy. Pima County's infant mortality rate (5.6 deaths per 1,000 live births) was slightly higher than Arizona's (5.4), and both were above the Healthy People 2030 target of 5.0 or fewer.

The types of unintentional injuries leading to non-fatal emergency department visits among young children (birth to age 4) are similar in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region to the state as a whole. Between 2016 and 2020, the majority of emergency department visits among young children in the region were due to falls (n=41), with smaller numbers due to being struck by or against an object, natural or environmental reasons, poisoning or other causes. Data on causes of inpatient hospitalizations among young children in the region during this time were suppressed due to small numbers. There were fewer than six deaths of children ages birth to 17 between 2018 and 2021; specific data on leading causes of death cannot be reported to protect individual privacy.

***Family Support and Literacy.*** Through two new grant agreements with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, the First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council partner with the tribal government to implement the Language, Literacy and Culture in Tribal Communities strategy that support the creation of materials to be used in the classrooms that will be implementing a curriculum with emphasis in Yoeme language, history, and culture. Furthermore, this strategy also funds a position that creates and distributes materials in partnerships with tribal departments and programs that are reflective of the tribal language and culture including books, posters and informational flyers that are shared during community events. The Ili Uusim Hiapsi (*Little Children's Hearts*) Program, offered through the Sewa U'usim Community Partnership, is a voluntary, community and home-based program available for families from pregnancy through the child's 8th year. The program provides a wide range of diagnostic, family support, therapeutic, educational and cultural services. In 2022, the Ili Uusin Hiapsi program received a federal Tribal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Grant to expand home visitation services.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe provides mental health services through the Pascua Yaqui Health Services Division Centered Spirit Program. Centered Spirit offers culturally-based mental health and substance use services to families in the region, including crisis evaluations for emergency situations; individual, couple, family and group therapy; a methadone/suboxone clinic; a youth life skills group; and group homes for adolescents and adult women and men. The Centered Spirit Child and Family Team (C&FT) provides culturally-informed and trauma-sensitive services for families with young children. Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start staff referral enrolled children to the C&FT for evaluation and services, which are then provided at the Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Head Start center. C&FT also teaches emotional regulation skills at summer school in the region and does outreach at community events to reach families whose children are not enrolled at Head Start. Data from the 2022 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report indicate that between 42 and 48 children received services from the Centered Spirit C&FT Program each year from 2018 to 2020. Another behavioral health program in the region is Sewa U'usim, a wraparound treatment program for children and their families that includes formal support (e.g. counselors), community-based support (e.g. friends, elders, traditional healers), and relatives. Services under Sewa U'usim include the Yoeme Kari Group Home (YKGH) and the Tortuga Ranch and Ka'vai Hitevi (Horse Healers).

Between 2017 and 2021, there were fewer than 6 deaths with opiates or opioids contributing in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region. However, it is important to note that this only includes deaths occurring

within the region and with address data that allowed the death to be properly assigned to a FTF region. A majority of respondents (80%) to the Gathering Hiaki Voices Survey ranked substance use as among the top three health problems in the community, placing it among the seven identified priority areas of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment. The rate of infants hospitalized for maternal drug use from 2018 to 2022 reported in the child health section also supports this.

Support services in the region for community members struggling with substance use include Centered Spirit's Tu'iriauicha Vo'o- Men's and Women's PATH residential program and New Beginnings, a medication-assisted treatment clinic for individuals with opioid use disorder that includes wrap-around services. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe's Reentry Initiative, part of the Itom Yoemia Initiative, targets the challenge of alcohol and substance use in the community as well as its impact on incidents of domestic violence and other criminal cases. Part of this initiative is an alternative to incarceration program called the Healing to Wellness Court, which uses culturally appropriate treatment and healing practices in partnership with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Language and Culture Department to reduce criminal activity and recidivism. According to a 2021 evaluation of the program, 72% of offenders did not have a new arrest after six months, and 66% did not have a new arrest after 12 months of participating in the program.



# ABOUT THIS REPORT

There is growing acknowledgement of the role our physical, social, and economic environments play in our day-to-day health and wellbeing.<sup>1</sup> These factors, known as the social determinants of health, have an especially strong effect on the development of young children ages birth to 5 and accumulate over time.<sup>2, 3</sup> Measuring and addressing these conditions can significantly impact not only early health and education outcomes, but also health and economic circumstances later in life.<sup>4, 5, 6</sup> It is important to acknowledge that structural inequities in access to quality health care, schools, and education as well as living, working and leisure conditions lead to disparate outcomes within and between groups of people.<sup>7</sup> For example, the U.S.'s history of segregation, discriminatory policy and differential investment across communities has created generational disparities in outcomes for people of color.<sup>8</sup> Native communities have additionally experienced periods of genocide, forced relocation and assimilation leading to systemically poorer economics and health compared with other groups.<sup>9, 10</sup> This Needs and Assets Report covers many structural and social determinants of health including population characteristics, economic characteristics, early learning and educational indicators, child health, and family support and literacy for the First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region.

The data in this report come from a variety of sources including federal and state agencies and local agencies or service providers. Federal government sources include publicly available data from the 2020 Census and the 2017-2021 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates. Data in this report from the ACS summarize the responses from samples of residents taken between 2017 and 2021. Because these estimates are based on samples rather than the entire population, ACS data should not be considered exact. Estimates for smaller geographies, such as regions, are less accurate than estimates for larger geographies, such as the state, because they are based on smaller sample sizes.

Data were provided to FTF by state agencies including the Arizona Department of Health Services, the Arizona Department of Education and the Arizona Department of Economic Security. In most cases, the data in this report were calculated specifically for the Needs and Assets process and are more detailed than the data that are published by these agencies for the general public. Whenever possible, this report will use data tailored to the region, but in some cases, there are only county-level or statewide data available to report. This report also includes publicly available data for the state and counties to supplement data received through specific requests, including from state agencies such as the Arizona Department of Commerce's Office of Economic Opportunity and the Arizona Department of Child Safety semi-annual child welfare reports. When more recent data from public or state agency datasets were not available, this report also cites data from the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report.

In most tables in this report, the top rows of data correspond to the FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region. Not all data are available at the FTF regional level because not all data sources analyze their data based on FTF regional boundaries. The other table rows present data that are useful for comparison purposes, including Pima County, all Arizona reservations combined, the state of Arizona and national estimates

or targets where available. Data tables and graphs are as complete as possible. Data which are not available for a particular geography are indicated by the abbreviation "N/A." State agencies have varying policies about reporting small values. Entries such as "<11" are used when the count is too small to be reported and has been suppressed to protect privacy. In some cases, table entries will indicate a range of values such as "1 to 9" because the suppression policy prevented the vendor from knowing the exact value, but comparison of these ranges of possible values to other values in the table or figure may still be useful. Table entries of "DS" indicate that data have been suppressed and we are unable to provide a useful range of possible values. Additional data tables not included in the body of the report can be found in APPENDIX 1: ADDITIONAL DATA TABLES.

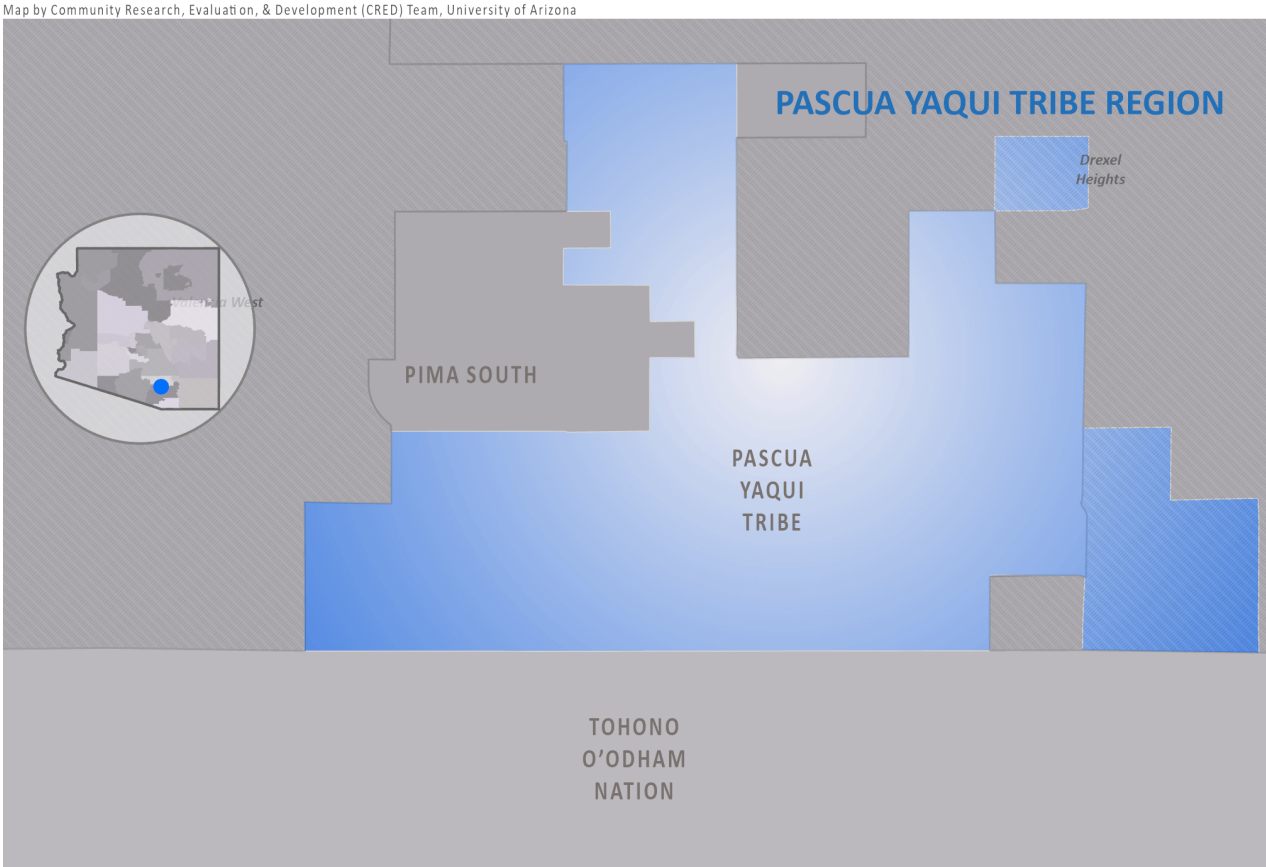
# THE PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE REGION

The First Things First regional boundaries were initially established in 2007, creating 31 regions which were designed to (a) reflect the view of families in terms of where they access services, (b) coincide with existing boundaries or service areas of organizations providing early childhood services, (c) maximize the ability to collaborate with service systems and local governments and facilitate the ability to convene a Regional Partnership Council and (d) allow for the collection of demographic and indicator data. The regional boundaries are reviewed every two years. In state fiscal year 2015, the boundaries were modified using census blocks, creating 28 regions.

When First Things First was established by the passage of Proposition 203 in November 2006, the government-to-government relationship with federally recognized tribes was acknowledged. Each tribe with tribal lands located in Arizona was given the opportunity to participate within a First Things First designated region or elect to be designated as a separate region. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe was one of 10 tribes that chose to be designated as its own region. This decision must be ratified every two years, and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe has opted to continue to be designated as its own region.

The boundaries of the First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council are those of the Pascua Pueblo Yaqui Reservation in Pima County. The region covers approximately 2.2 square miles. Figure 1 shows the geographical area covered by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region. Additional information is available at the end of this report, including a map and table of the region's zip codes in Appendix 3 and a map and a list of school districts in the region in Appendix 4.

Figure 1. The First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region



Source: 2020 TIGER/Line Shapefiles prepared by the U.S. Census. Map produced by CRED.



## POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

# POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

## Why It Matters

Accurate information about the number and characteristics of families allows policy makers and program providers to understand what resources are needed in their communities, including where services should be located and how to tailor offerings to the specific needs of those who are likely to use them.<sup>11, 12, 13, 14</sup> For example, identifying which communities have high numbers of families with young children can facilitate strategic investments in libraries, playgrounds, health care facilities, social services and educational systems, which can help families with young children thrive.<sup>15, 16</sup> Program and policy decisions that are informed by data on the composition of children's home and community environments help ensure more effective supports for families and have a greater chance to improve well-being, economic security and educational outcomes for children.

### 2020 Census data and its limitations

The release of 2020 Census data in 2023 provided updated information on the population of Arizona and the nation as a whole. However, the 2020 Census faced unprecedented challenges in conducting an accurate count of the population, the foremost of which included the COVID-19 pandemic and its related disruptions to institutions such as tribal and local governments, schools and health care facilities.<sup>17, 18, 19, 20, 21</sup> Overall, data quality reviews of the 2020 Census have concluded that the data are generally reliable and accurate for the overall population; however, specific groups that have been undercounted in the past were again undercounted, this time more severely.<sup>22</sup> Nationwide, American Indians living on reservations were estimated to be undercounted by 5.6% (compared to 4.9% in 2010), and Hispanic or Latino individuals were undercounted by an estimated 5.0% (compared with 1.5% in 2010). Young children birth to age 4 were also undercounted by 3-5% nationwide, meaning that as many as 1 in 20 young children birth to age 4 were missed by the Census.<sup>23</sup> These undercounts are important to keep in mind when using Census data, particularly data for young children and for communities with substantial American Indian and Hispanic or Latino populations. Undercounted communities risk receiving fewer resources for at least the next decade since the decennial census counts are the basis of many federal funding allocations.<sup>24, 25</sup>

## What the Data Tell Us

### Population, race and ethnicity

While young children make up a small proportion of the overall population, their well-being has wide-reaching impacts on families, social service systems and the state's future population. Continued investment in children's well-being and the well-being of their families was deemed by the National Academy of Sciences as "the most efficient strategy" for strengthening the future workforce and supporting a thriving community.<sup>26, 27</sup>

Knowing the racial-ethnic composition of communities can inform efforts to ensure equitable access to services and resources. Many racial and ethnic minority groups in the U.S. experience reduced access to health care services, more poverty and housing inequality, poorer living conditions and increased rates of homelessness in comparison to non-Hispanic White Americans.<sup>28, 29, 30, 31</sup> In Native communities, these disparities have been shaped by decades of inequitable federal policies and underinvestment.<sup>32</sup> These inequities result in disproportionately worse overall health as indicated by higher rates of disease and illness, untreated physical health conditions and lower life expectancies within these groups.<sup>33</sup> Understanding a community's racial-ethnic composition is also critical for identifying communities facing higher risks from environmental and public health hazards due to historic underinvestment and other factors—as the COVID-19 pandemic made woefully clear.<sup>34</sup>

### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

- According to the 2020 U.S. Census, the total population of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region was 3,466, of whom 336 were young children (birth to age 5). About one-quarter (26%) of the 865 households in the region had one or more young children. The proportion of households with young children in the region (26%) was both higher than all Arizona reservations combined (20%) and at least double the proportion in Pima County (11%) and Arizona (13%) (Table 1).
- According to the Census, the overall population of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region did not change substantially between 2010 and 2020 (-0.3%). This is smaller than the decrease seen across all Arizona reservations (-3%). However, the population of young children (birth to age 5) decreased by -29%, which is a larger decrease than the -26% seen across all Arizona reservations (Table 2 & Figure 2).
- As previously mentioned in *2020 Census data and its limitations*, American Indians living on reservations and young children (birth to age 4) were specifically found to be substantially undercounted in the 2020 Census (5.6% and 3-5% nationally). Given this, tribal enrollment data is another important source for population counts in Native communities. Based on data from the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Enrollment Department, in 2020 the Pascua Yaqui Tribe had a total enrollment of 18,582. This included 3,981 individuals living on-reservation, of whom 154 were young children (birth to age 5) (Table 3).
- Another way to understand potential undercounting of young children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is to compare 2020 Census data on the 0- to 5-years-old population to Arizona

Department of Health Services (ADHS) data on births from 2015 to 2020. Census estimates are lower by about 11 children per year compared with the count of births. ADHS reports 402 births occurring between 2015 and 2020 compared to 336 children birth to age 5 enumerated by the Census (Figure 4).

- Almost all of the population (90%) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region identified as American Indian. However almost one-quarter (24%) identified as Hispanic or Latino, which is higher than across all Arizona reservations (6% of the total population). Smaller portions of the total population in the region identified as Multiracial (8%), Non-Hispanic White (2%), Black or African American (1%) or Asian or Pacific Islander (1%) in 2020 (Figure 5 & Figure 6). These breakdowns were similar for young children, with slightly higher portions identified as American Indian (91%), Hispanic or Latino (28%), Multiracial (12%), and Black or African American (3%), when compared to the overall population.

Table 1. Population and households in the 2020 U.S. Census

Geography	Total population	Population (ages 0-5)	Total number of households	Number and percent of households with one or more children (ages 0-5)	
				Number	Percent
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>3,466</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>26%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	173,499	15,140	50,362	10,167	20%
Pima County	1,043,433	62,466	427,021	45,676	11%
Arizona	7,151,502	480,744	2,705,878	345,601	13%
United States	331,449,281	22,401,565	126,817,580	16,429,111	13%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic & Housing Characteristics (DHC), Tables P1, P14, P20 & HCT3

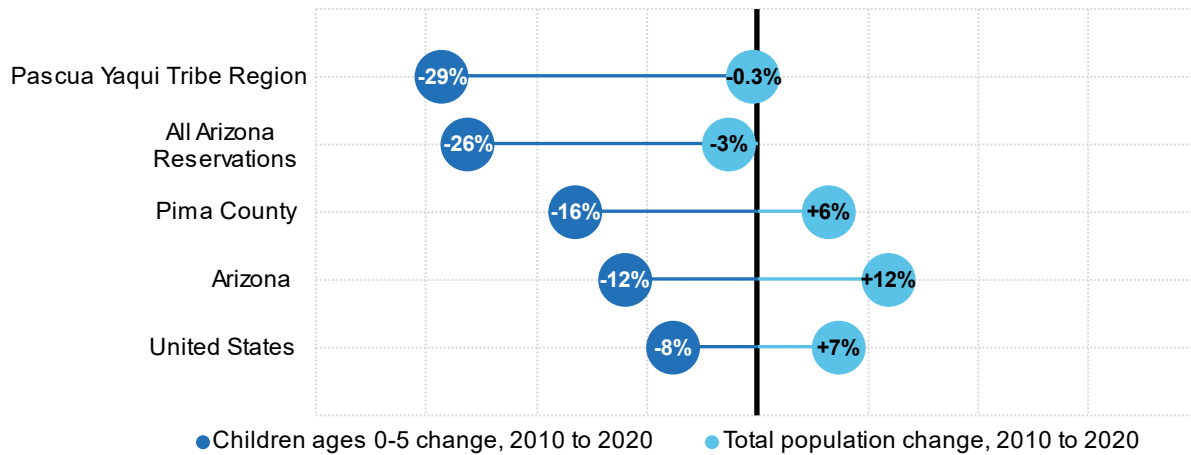


Table 2. Change in the total population and population of children ages 0-5, 2010 to 2020  
Census

Geography	Total population			Population (Ages 0-5)		
	2010	2020	% Change 2010 to 2020	2010	2020	% Change 2010 to 2020
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>3,478</b>	<b>3,466</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>-29%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	178,131	173,499	-3%	20,511	15,140	-26%
Pima County	980,263	1,043,433	+6%	74,796	62,466	-16%
Arizona	6,392,017	7,151,502	+12%	546,609	480,744	-12%
United States	308,745,538	331,449,281	+7%	24,258,220	22,401,565	-8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), Tables P1, P14, HCT3. U.S. Census Bureau (2010). 2010 Decennial Census, Summary File 1, Tables P1, P14, P20.

Figure 2. Change in the total population and population of children ages 0-5, 2010 to 2020  
Census



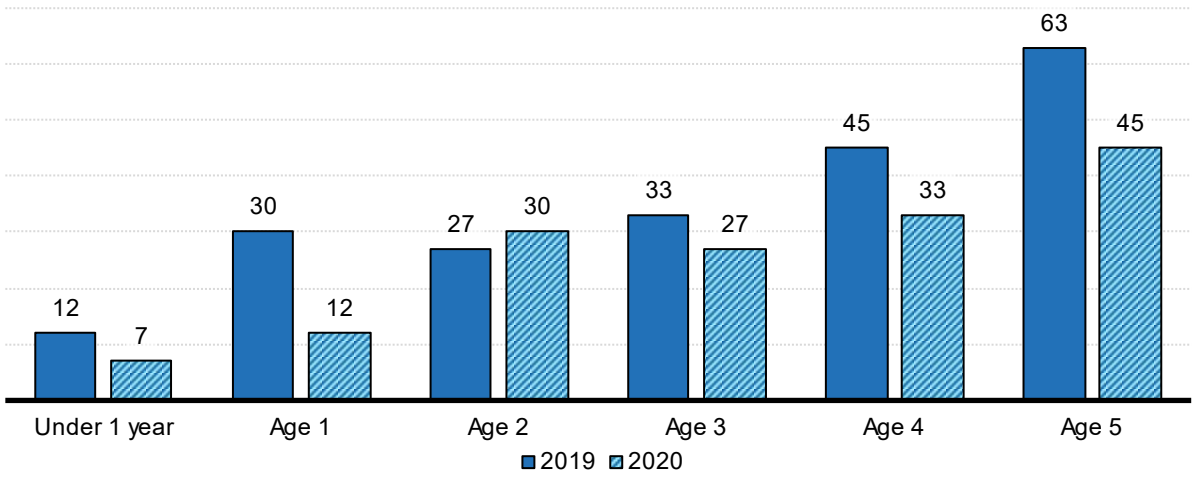
Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), Tables P1, P14, HCT3. U.S. Census Bureau (2010). 2010 Decennial Census, Summary File 1, Tables P1, P14, P20.

Table 3. Pascua Yaqui Tribe Enrollment, 2019 to 2020

Age group	On Reservation (2019)	Off Reservation (2019)	Total (2019)	On Reservation (2020)	Off Reservation (2020)	Total (2020)
Young children (ages 0-5)	210	709	919	154	570	724
Under age 1	12	56	68	7	15	22
Age 1	30	89	119	12	55	67
Age 2	27	115	142	30	89	119
Age 3	33	137	170	27	115	142
Age 4	45	157	202	33	138	171
Age 5	63	155	218	45	158	203
School-age children (ages 6-17)	847	2,723	3,570	847	2,665	3,512
Total children (ages 0-17)	1,057	3,432	4,489	1,001	3,235	4,236
Adults (ages 18 and older)	2,909	11,137	14,046	2,980	11,366	14,346
Total membership	3,966	14,569	18,535	3,981	14,601	18,582

Source: *First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>*

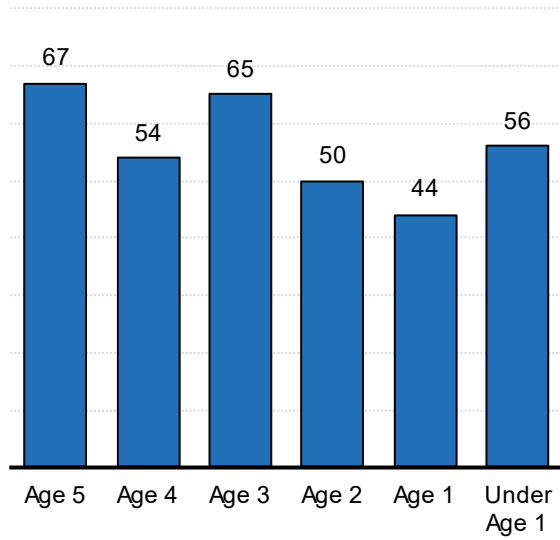
Figure 3. Pascua Yaqui Tribe On-Reservation Enrollment, 2019 to 2020



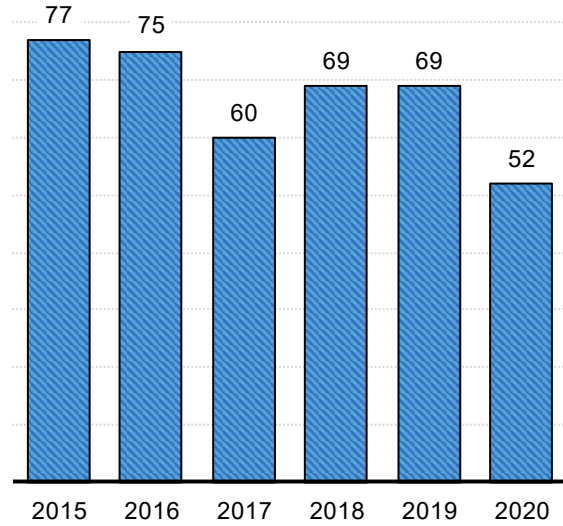
Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Figure 4. Children by single year of age in the 2020 Census compared to recent birth numbers in the region (2015 to 2020)

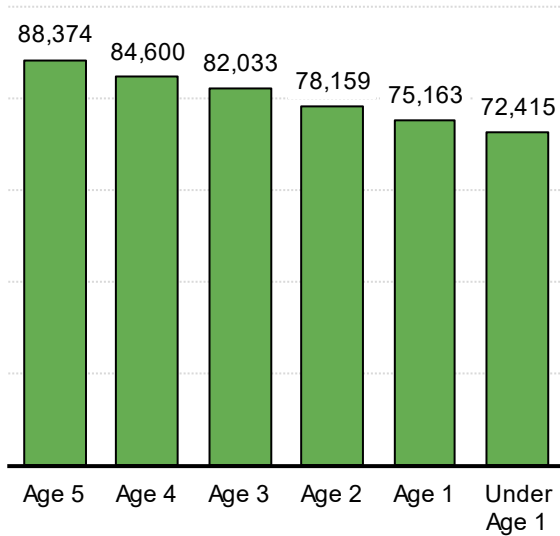
Children by age, Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region



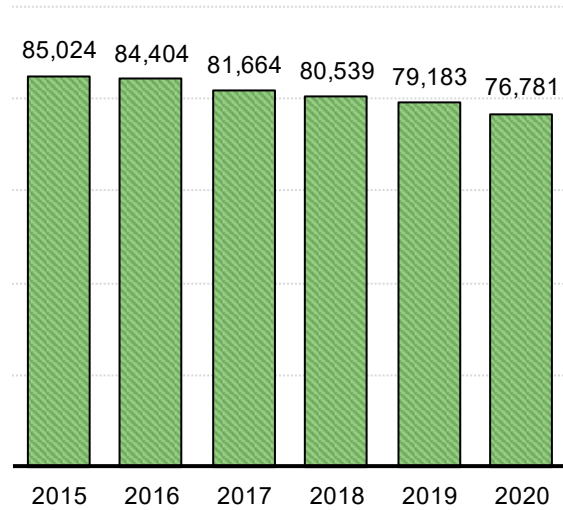
Births by year, Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region



Children by age, Arizona



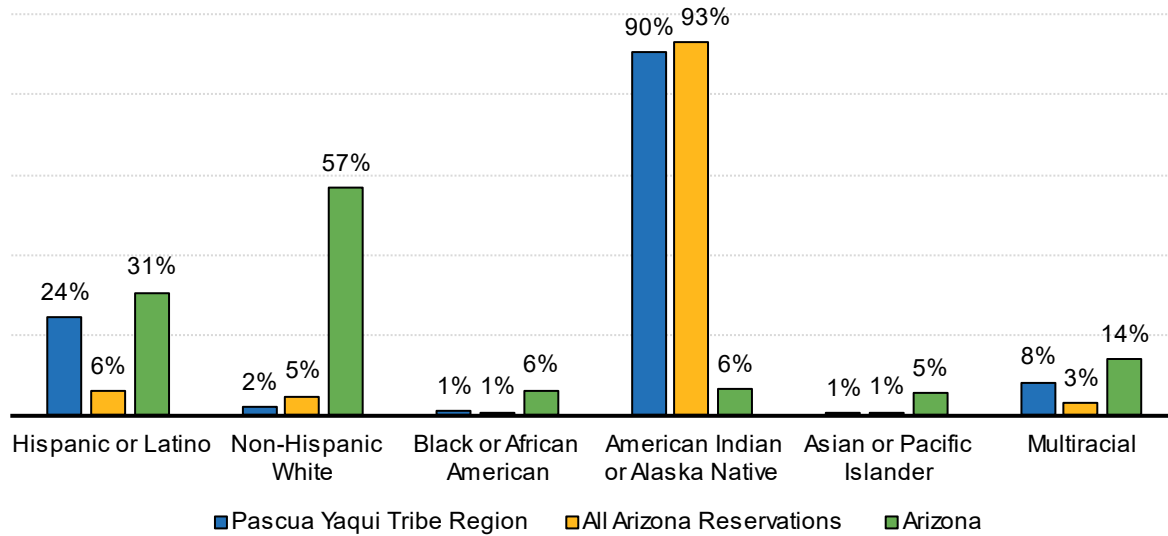
Births by year, Arizona



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2021). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Looking at these two figures allows a comparison of 2020 Census estimates (left) of the population size of young children by age with the count of births from their likely birth year (right) to try to understand further how much the Census may have undercounted young children.

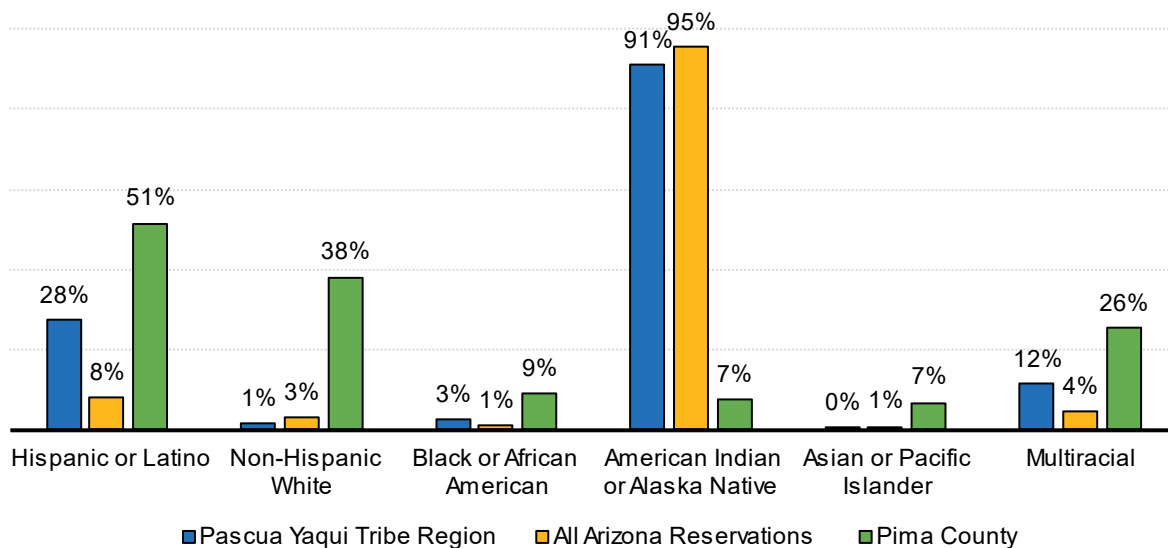
Figure 5. Race and ethnicity of the population of all ages, 2020 Census



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), P6, P7, P8, P9, P12, P12A-W.

Note: The six percentages shown in this figure may sum to more or less than 100% because (a) persons reporting Hispanic ethnicity are counted twice if their race is Black, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, or any combination of two or more races, (b) persons reporting any other race are not counted here unless they have Hispanic ethnicity, and (c) rounding.

Figure 6. Race and ethnicity for children birth to age 4, 2020 Census



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), P6, P7, P8, P9, P12, P12A-W.

Note: The six percentages shown in this figure may sum to more or less than 100% because (a) persons reporting Hispanic ethnicity are counted twice if their race is Black, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, or any combination of two or more races, (b) persons reporting any other race are not counted here unless they have Hispanic ethnicity, and (c) rounding.

## Language use

Language provides an important connection to family, community and culture. Arizona is home to many sovereign tribal nations whose Native languages are a vital cultural strength. Language preservation and revitalization are critical to safeguarding traditional knowledge and promoting Indigenous self-determination, social unity and educational equity.<sup>35, 36, 37</sup> Unfortunately, the latest estimates for Native language use in Arizona from the American Community Survey point to a sharp decline in the number of speakers of native languages between 2019 and 2021. While the population of English-only speakers rose 0.3% between 2019 and 2021, the population of speakers of Native North American languages other than Navajo<sup>i</sup> declined by an estimated 27% (from over 30,000 to about 22,500).<sup>38</sup> This decrease reflects the devastating losses that Native communities experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>39,40</sup> These deaths, especially among Native elders, signify a loss of life and of traditional knowledge, cultural history and language.<sup>41,42</sup> Ongoing support for cultural preservation and language revitalization continues to be a critical need for Native communities in Arizona.

Mastery of more than one language is also an asset in school readiness and academic achievement and may offer cognitive and social-emotional benefits in early school experiences and across one's lifetime.<sup>43, 44, 45, 46, 47</sup> However, families with lower English proficiency may also face barriers to accessing information about health care and other services or engaging with their children's teachers. Children who do not yet have a full grasp of English may also experience difficulties in school, impeding their academic success and resulting in negative health outcomes.<sup>48, 49</sup> Knowing the languages spoken and level of English proficiency in a region can inform the development of resources and services in multiple languages, ensuring that they are accessible to all families.<sup>50, 51</sup>

### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

- While about two-thirds (64%) of individuals in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region speak only English at home, 31% speak Spanish at home, a much higher proportion than seen across all Arizona reservations (3%) and Pima County (23%). The remaining 5% speak a language other than English or Spanish (most likely a Native North American language) at home, which is similar to Pima County (5%) and the state as a whole (6%) but much lower than all Arizona reservations combined (50%) (Figure 7).<sup>52</sup>
- Of those individuals speaking a language other than English at home, the majority also speak English “very well,”<sup>ii</sup> with one-third of the region proficiently bilingual or multilingual (33%) (Figure 8).

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<sup>i</sup> The population of Navajo speakers declined by an estimated 13% (from over 90,000 to about 78,000) in Arizona between 2019 and 2021

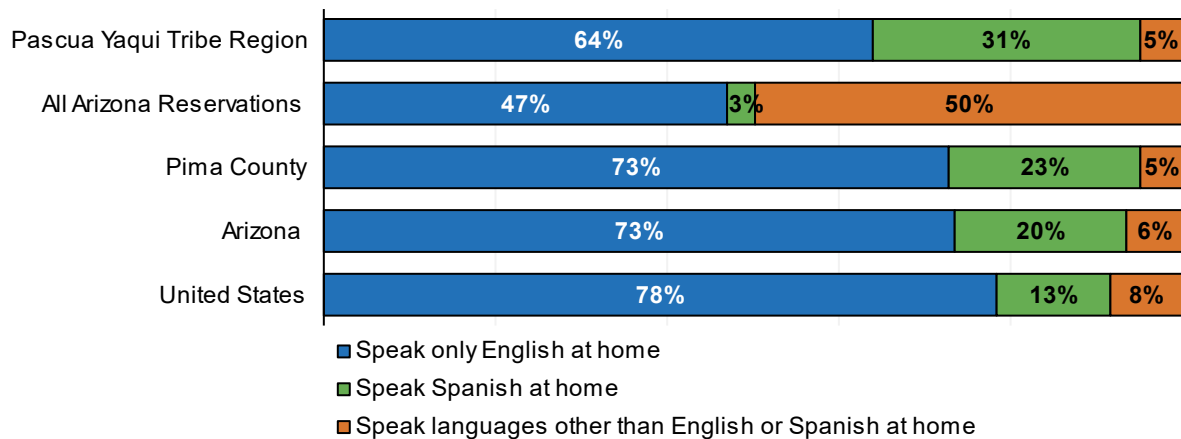
<sup>ii</sup> “Very well” refers to the self-rated ability to speak English in response to the American Community Survey question “How well does this person speak English?”. Other response options include: “well,” “not well” and “not at all.” See <https://www.census.gov/topics/population/language-use/about.html>

- About 4% of households in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region are considered limited-English-speaking, meaning no one over the age of 13 in the household speaks English very well (Figure 9). This is a smaller proportion than seen across all Arizona reservations (12%), however there is still some need for bilingual or multilingual staff and resources to support families whose first language is not English, especially given the high percentage of individuals speaking Spanish at home.<sup>53, 54</sup>
- Children living in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region attend a number of schools located outside of the region (see the note in Table 4). During the 2021-22 school year, about one in every 10 preschool to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students (10%) at these schools were considered English Language Learners (Table 4). Please note that this proportion includes students who are not living in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region.
- English Language Learners are identified through the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) Home Language Survey, which asks families about the student's first language and what language is spoken at home most of the time. Statewide, there were 27 students with reported Yaqui language use at home in 2020-21, decreasing to 23 students in 2021-22. Fewer than 11 of these students attended off-reservation schools that serve Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students (Table 5).
- The *Gathering Hiaki Voices Survey*, part of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Community Health Needs Assessment in 2020, gathered information from 307 community member respondents living in Pima County about their language use and ability.<sup>55</sup> The survey indicated that almost all participants were able to read, write, speak or understand English (99%) and used it weekly or daily (100%). Almost all participants also indicated the ability to read, write, speak or understand Spanish (94%), and over half used Spanish weekly or daily (57%). While four in 10 reported reading, writing, speaking or understanding the Yoeme language (40%), only one in 10 reported using it on a weekly or daily basis (11%) (Figure 10).
- The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Department provides language classes to community members interested in learning the Yoeme language, which were formerly offered by the Language and Culture Department. According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, there were 289 people registered for classes in the Language Program, and 112 registered in the Traditional Arts Program in the 2018-19 school year. This high level of interest in the Yoeme language is a strength in the region.<sup>56</sup>
- Additionally, through two new grant agreements with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, the First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council partner with the tribal government to implement the Language, Literacy and Culture in Tribal Communities strategy that support the creation of materials to be used in the classrooms that will be implementing a curriculum with emphasis in Yoeme language, history, and culture. Furthermore, this strategy also funds a position that creates and distributes materials in partnerships with tribal departments and

programs that are reflective of the tribal language and culture including books, posters and informational flyers that are shared during community events.<sup>57</sup>

- According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Department of Language and Culture provides language classes to community members interested in learning the Yoeme language. In the 2018-19 school year, there were 289 people registered for classes in the Language Program, and 112 registered in the Traditional Arts Program. This high level of interest in the Yoeme language is a strength in the region.

Figure 7. Language spoken at home (by persons ages 5 and older), 2017-2021 ACS

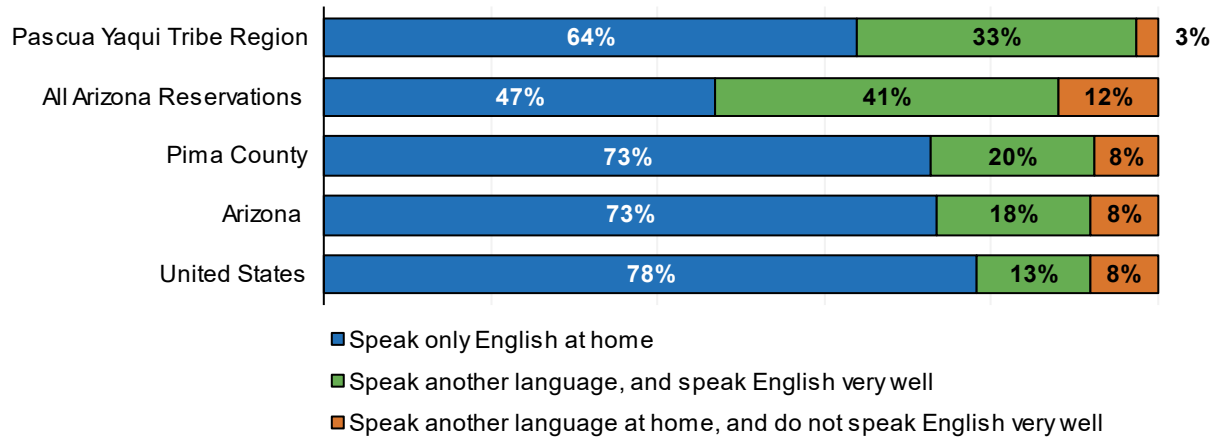


Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table C16001

Note: The three percentages in each bar may not sum to 100% because of rounding. The American Community Survey (ACS) no longer specifies the proportion of the population who speak Native North American languages for geographies smaller than the state. In Arizona, Navajo and other Native American languages (including Apache, Hopi, and O'odham) are the most commonly spoken (2%), following English (73%) and Spanish (20%).



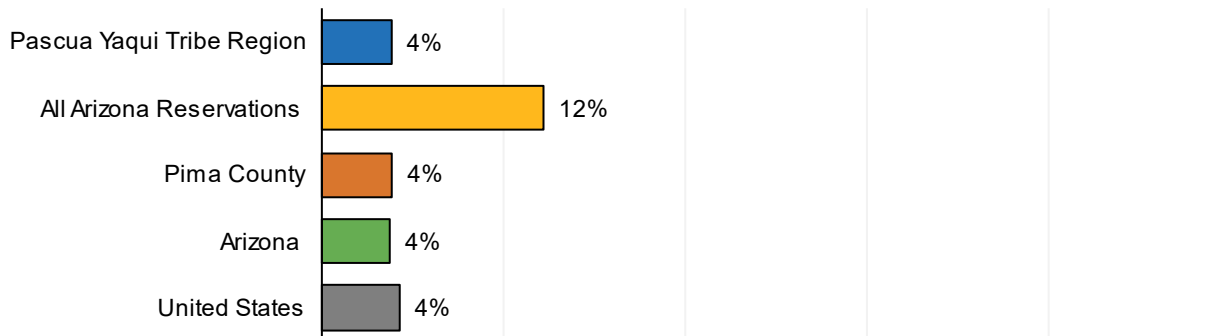
Figure 8. English-language proficiency (for persons ages 5 and older), 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table C16001

Note: The three percentages in the figure should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding.

Figure 9. Share of households that are limited-English-speaking, 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table C16002

Note: A "limited-English-speaking" household is one in which no one over the age of 13 speaks English very well.

Table 4. Number of English Language Learners enrolled in all grades, 2020-21 to 2021-22

Geography	Number of PS-12 students who were English Language Learners		Percent of PS-12 students who were English Language Learners	
	2020-21	2021-22	2020-21	2021-22
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	1,382	1,427	9%	10%
Pima County schools	10,450	10,703	7%	7%
Arizona schools	86,405	91,881	8%	8%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Oct 1 Enrollment Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Notes: The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from Drachman Primary Magnet School, Raul Grijalva Elementary School, Harriet Johnson Primary School, Amelia Maldonado Elementary School, Miller Elementary School, Vesey Elementary School, Frances J Warren Elementary School, John E White Elementary School, Anna Lawrence Intermediate School, Hollinger K-8 School, McCorkle PK-8 School, Roskruge Bilingual Magnet Middle School, Safford K-8 School, Mansfield Middle School, Pistor Middle School, Valencia Middle School, Tucson High Magnet School, Cholla High School, Project More High School, and Catalina Online Learning Experience (all Tucson Unified School District schools), as well as Academy Del Sol – Star Valley and Ha:san Preparatory & Leadership School (both charter schools).

English Language Learners are students who do not score ‘proficient’ in the English language based on the Arizona English Language Learning Assessment (AZELLA) and thus are eligible for additional supportive services for English language acquisition. Legislation in Arizona requires children in Arizona public schools be taught in English, and English Language Learners to attend English immersion programs. Senate Bill 1014 passed in 2019, increased the flexibility districts have in structuring English Language Learners immersion programs, and lessened the duration required of this instruction. For more information see <https://www.azed.gov/oelas/structured-english-immersion-models>

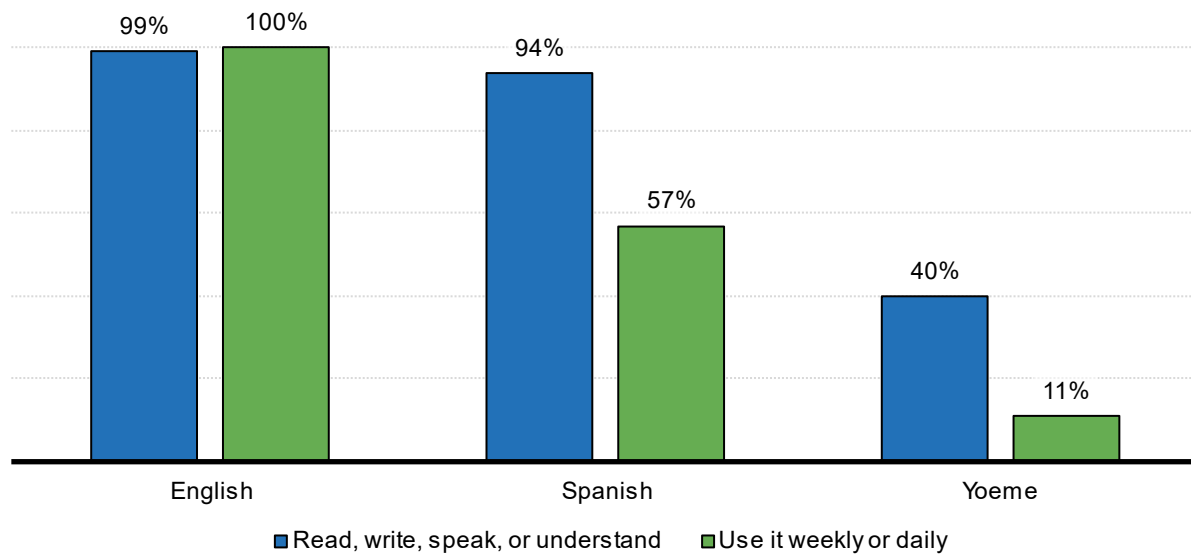
Table 5. ADE Primary home language survey data, 2020-21 to 2021-22

Geography	Number of students in households where Yaqui is spoken		Percent of students in households where Yaqui is spoken	
	2020-21	2021-22	2020-21	2021-22
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	<11	<11	DS	DS
Pima County schools	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arizona schools	27	23	<2%	<2%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [PHLOTE Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Notes: The Primary Home Language survey is completed by parents or caregivers of a student when they first enroll in school. The survey asks what language is spoken at home most of the time, what language the student speaks most of the time, and what language the student first spoke or understood. The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list.

Figure 10. Language use reported by respondents to the Pascua Yaqui Community Survey, 2020



Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

### Family and household composition

Young children in Arizona come from households with many potential compositions, each of which has possible implications for child development.<sup>58, 59, 60</sup> For example, families with two married parents tend to offer stability that promotes child well-being.<sup>61, 62, 63</sup> Single-parent households are common and can be linked to levels of poverty, access to health and education resources and the quality of a child’s interactions with adult caregivers.<sup>64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70</sup> Multi-generational living, particularly arrangement

where grandparents live in the home with children and parents, has long been practiced in some cultures and communities but is becoming increasingly common in U.S. families of all backgrounds.<sup>71, 72, 73, 74</sup> These living arrangements can offer financial and social benefits but also specific stressors, such as managing conflicts in parenting styles and family roles.<sup>75, 76, 77, 78, 79</sup> It is also increasingly common for children to live in kinship care, defined as the care of children by someone other than their parents, such as relatives or close friends.<sup>80, 81, 82</sup> These kinship caregivers, especially grandparents who care for their grandchildren, can face unique challenges, including navigating the logistics of informal guardianship (e.g., difficulties in registering children for school), coping with parental absence and addressing the challenges of being an aging caregiver for a young child.<sup>83, 84, 85, 86</sup>

Though varying from one community to another, multigenerational households and kinship care are common in Native communities.<sup>87, 88</sup> The strengths associated with the extended family structure, including mutual help and respect, can provide family members with a network of support that can be valuable when dealing with socio-economic hardships.<sup>89</sup> Grandparents are often central to these households and care situations, in many cases sharing and strengthening Native language, history and culture.<sup>90, 91</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- The majority of young children (birth to age 5) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region live in a household with one unmarried parent<sup>iii</sup> (75%), which is a larger proportion than across all Arizona reservations (65%), Pima County (37%) and the state (37%). More than one in seven (15%) young children live with non-relatives, while smaller shares live with relatives other than parents (such as grandparents, aunts and uncles) (6%) or two married parents (4%) (Table 6).
- Almost half of young children (47%) in the region lives in a grandparent's household, which is higher than across all Arizona reservations (43%) (Figure 11). In contrast, 14% of grandparents in the region are living with grandchildren (birth to age 17) without a parent also present in the household, which is the same as across Arizona reservations combined (Figure 12). This indicates that most children living with grandparents are in multigenerational households with parent(s) present, where grandparents may or may not be responsible for raising the child.
- The ACS considers a grandparent to be responsible for their grandchildren if they are "currently responsible for most of the basic needs of any grandchildren under the age of 18" who live in the grandparent's household. Based on this definition, an estimated 185 grandparents in the Pascua

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<sup>iii</sup> Note that due to the way the ACS asks about family relationships, children living with two unmarried, cohabitating parents are not counted as living with two parents (these children are counted in the 'one parent' category). New data from the 2020 Census (table P20) for children ages 0-17 shows that in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, 22% of the children living in households with an unmarried parent are actually living in cohabitating couple families where there are two parents present but they are not married. This means that for children of all ages living with their parents in 2020, 30% were living in households led by married parents, 47% were living in households led by an unmarried (and not cohabitating) mother, 16% were living in households led by cohabitating parents and 7% were living in households led by an unmarried (and not cohabitating) father.

Yaqui Tribe Region are responsible for their grandchildren under 18 years old. A parent is also present in most of these households (only 22% without the child’s parent). The majority of these grandparents are female (65%), and 37% are in the labor force, meaning that they may need child care for their grandchildren while they are working. Notably, only 16% have an income below the poverty level, which is less than half the percent across all Arizona Reservations (36%) and lower than Pima County (21%) (Table 7).

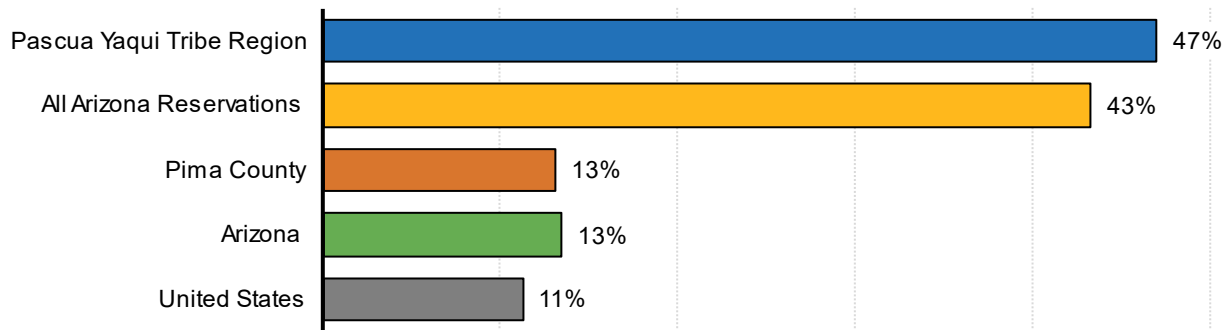
Table 6. Living arrangements for children birth to age 5, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of children (birth to age 5) living in households	Living with two married parents	Living with one parent	Living not with parents but with other relatives	Living with non-relatives
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>15%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	15,661	25%	65%	8%	2%
Pima County	66,105	58%	37%	3%	2%
Arizona	496,219	59%	37%	3%	2%
United States	23,353,556	64%	32%	2%	2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Tables B05009, B09001, & B17001

Note: The four percentages in each row should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding. The term “parent” here includes stepparents. Please note that due to the way the ACS asks about family relationships, children living with two unmarried, cohabitating parents are not counted as living with two parents (these children are counted in the ‘one parent’ category).

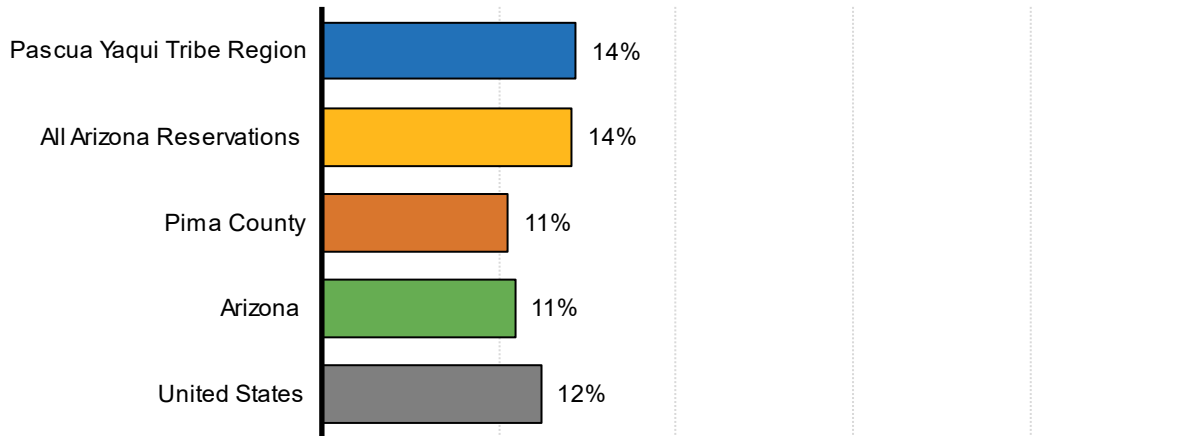
Figure 11. Grandchildren birth to age 5 living in a grandparent’s household, 2020 Census



Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), Tables P14, PCT11.

Note: This table includes all children (under six years old) living in a household headed by a grandparent, regardless of whether the grandparent is responsible for them, or whether the child’s parent lives in the same household.

Figure 12. Percent of grandparents living with their grandchildren birth to age 17 and no parent is present in the household, 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Tables B10051, B10054, B10056, & B10059

Table 7. Selected characteristics of grandparents who are responsible for one or more grandchildren under 18 in their households, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of grandparents who live with and are responsible for grandchildren under 18 years old	Percent of these grandparents who:					
		Do not have the child's parents in the household	Are 60 years old or older	Are female	Do not speak English very well	In labor force	Have an income below the poverty level
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>16%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	5,828	30%	49%	67%	18%	44%	36%
Pima County	7,863	29%	50%	63%	22%	55%	21%
Arizona	56,079	33%	45%	62%	21%	57%	21%
United States	2,319,443	38%	47%	63%	14%	56%	18%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Tables B10051, B10054, B10056, B10058, & B10059

Note: Grandparents are considered responsible for their grandchild or grandchildren if they are “currently responsible for most of the basic needs of any grandchildren under the age of 18” who live in the grandparent’s household. Reliable estimates for language use for grandparents responsible for grandchildren were not available for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region due to wide margins of error.

Additional data tables related to *Population Characteristics* can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.



## **ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES**

# ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES

## Why it Matters

A family's economic stability impacts children's well-being and predicts a variety of health outcomes.<sup>92</sup> Children who grow up in poverty and unstable economic conditions are more likely to face negative effects on their cognitive, behavioral, social and emotional development compared to those in stable economic environments.<sup>93, 94, 95, 96, 97</sup> The challenges they face may continue into adulthood, and such difficulties can be passed on to the next generation.<sup>98, 99, 100</sup> Poverty also affects children by straining parental well-being and parent-child interactions. Stressors related to poverty, like unemployment, food and housing insecurity and poor mental and physical health, make it difficult for caregivers to provide the necessary support for children's optimal development.<sup>101</sup> In light of these broad impacts, economic stability is a key social determinant of health and is included as a domain in the Healthy People 2030 Objectives.<sup>iv</sup>

Economic circumstances in tribal communities have been shaped by a long history of inequitable policies and federal investment.<sup>102, 103</sup> The resulting economic disparity between Native and non-Native communities affects rates of employment, poverty, food security and housing stability. Especially since the passing of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act in 1975, which gave tribes greater autonomy in administering federally-funded programs and services, tribal governments have invested in community and economic development opportunities such as health care, manufacturing, forestry, fisheries, gaming and resorts to strengthen the economic conditions of their people.<sup>104</sup>

## What the Data Tell Us

### Income and poverty

Poverty is associated with reduced access to nutrition, green space and health care and greater exposure to psychosocial stress and environmental toxins, factors that can both directly and indirectly hinder children's growth and brain development.<sup>105, 106, 107</sup> Children living in poverty are thus at a higher risk of negative impacts including being born at a low birth weight, lower school achievement and poor health.<sup>108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114</sup> Economic hardship is included in some definitions of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and children living in poverty experience other non-economic ACEs, such as parental divorce or separation, exposure to violence, parental incarceration and living with someone with mental illness or a substance use disorder, at higher rates than children in higher income households.<sup>115, 116</sup> Given the many negative effects of poverty on child development, programs that

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<sup>iv</sup> For more information on the Economic Stability Healthy People 2030 Objectives please see <https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/browse-objectives/economic-stability>



alleviate poverty through providing cash assistance or food, housing or health care assistance can improve child well-being.<sup>117</sup>

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Cash Assistance Program (TANF)<sup>v</sup> provides temporary cash benefits and supportive services to children and families. Eligibility is based on citizenship or qualified resident status, Arizona residency and limits on resources and monthly income.<sup>118</sup> In recognition of tribal sovereignty, federally recognized tribes have the option to administer their own TANF programs.

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- Across all household types for which data are available, the median family income for all families with children (birth to age 17) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region (\$32,200) is less than half that in the county (\$69,000) and state levels (\$75,100). Married couple families with children in the region have the highest median annual income (\$44,800) of all family types, which is less than half of that seen statewide (\$100,000). The notably lower median annual income of single-male-headed families with children (\$30,600) and single-female-headed families with children (\$22,000) in the region points to the additional financial stress experienced by the single-parent-led households in the region (Figure 13).
- Almost one-third (31%) of the overall population and more than half (53%) of young children (birth to age 5) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region live in poverty, which is more than twice the poverty rates for Pima County (15% and 22%, respectively) and Arizona as a whole (13% and 20%, respectively) (Figure 14).
- According to American Community Survey five-year estimates, rates of poverty among young children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region have decreased slightly (-2%) in recent years, from 55% in 2012-2016 to 53% in 2017-2021. Poverty rates declined much more across all Arizona reservations (-6%), Pima County (-8%), Arizona (-8%) and the U.S. (-6%) during the same time period (Figure 15).
- The majority (72%) of young children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region live in households with incomes under 185% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), a commonly used threshold for social safety net benefits such as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and reduced-price school meals. In 2021, the 185% FPL threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$50,836; for a single parent with one child, it was \$34,552 (Figure 16).
- Over half (53%) of young children live below 100% FPL, which is a slightly larger portion than in all Arizona reservations (49%) and a much larger portion than Pima County (22%). However, the proportion of young children in the region that live in “deep poverty” (defined as below 50%

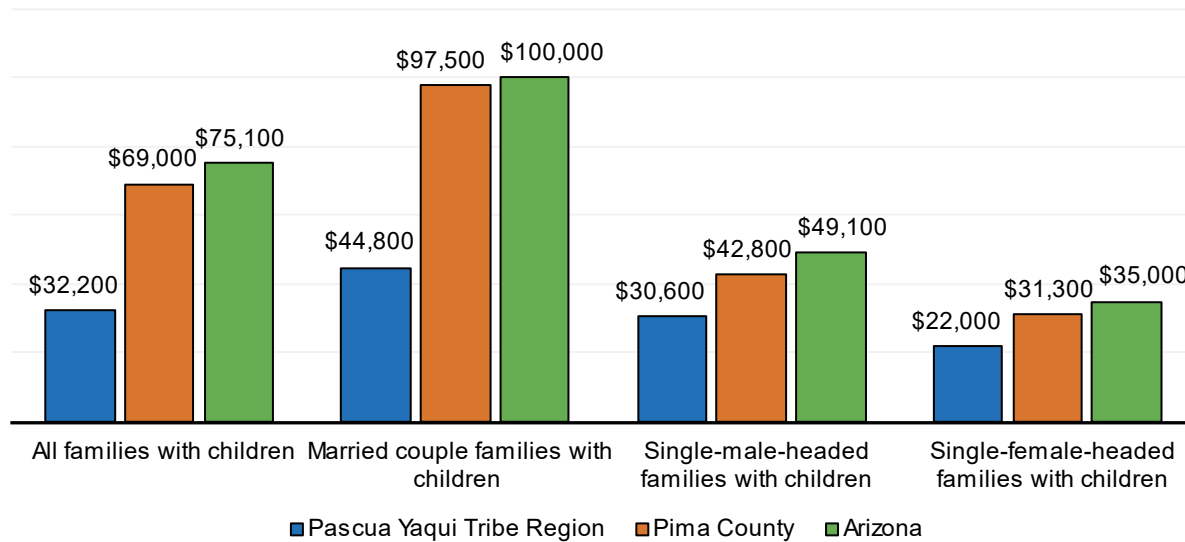
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<sup>v</sup> For more information see: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/temporary-assistance-needy-families-tanf> and <https://des.az.gov/ca>

FPL) is closer to Pima County (11%) and the state as a whole (9%) than all Arizona reservations (27%) (Figure 16). Though income is one important way to measure whether families can meet their basic needs, in Native communities, subsistence-based activities such as hunting, gathering, farming and ranching are important cultural practices that can also meet families’ basic needs and are not captured in standard poverty measures.<sup>119</sup> While the Pascua Yaqui Tribe reservation is located in an urban area, there are some families that have home gardens, and the Tribe has a ranch with horses and a garden with programming for youth and other community members.

- The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is one of six tribes in Arizona that operate a Tribal TANF program (PY-YOEME). In state fiscal year 2022 (SFY 22), an estimated 19% of families with young children (birth to age 5) and the same proportion of young children in the region (19%) participated in TANF. These participation rates are notably higher than those seen at the county (both 5%) and state level (both 3%) (Table 8 & Table 9). The number of families participating fluctuated from a high of 64 families and 99 children in SFY 2019 to a low of 43 families and 65 children in SFY 2022 (Figure 17).

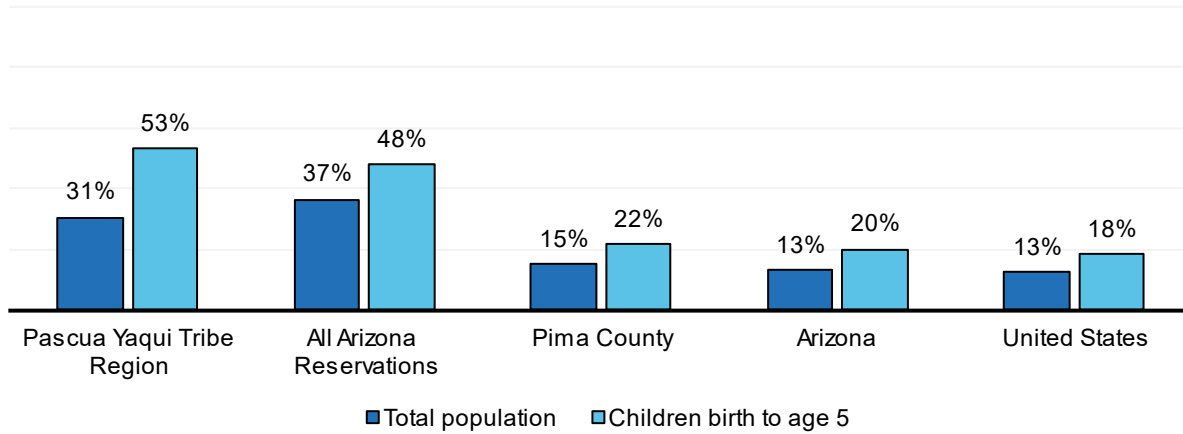
Figure 13. Median family income for families with children birth to age 17, 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B19126

Note: Half of the families in the population are estimated to have annual incomes above the median value, and the other half have incomes below the median. The median family income for all families includes families without children birth to age 17. A reliable estimate of median income for single-female-headed households was not available from the ACS due to sample size limitations. Note that median income estimates are not available for All Arizona Reservations.

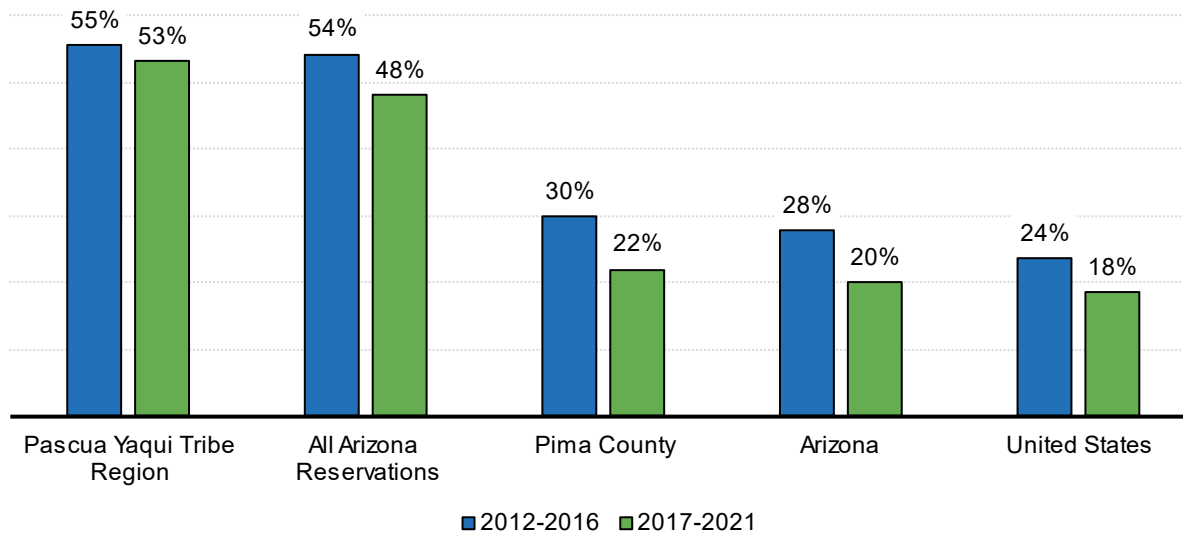
Figure 14. Rates of poverty for persons of all ages and for children birth to age 5, 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2020). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B17001

Note: This graph includes only persons whose poverty status can be determined. Adults who live in group settings such as dormitories or institutions are not included. Children who live with unrelated persons are not included. In 2021, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$27,479; for a single parent with one child, it was \$18,677.

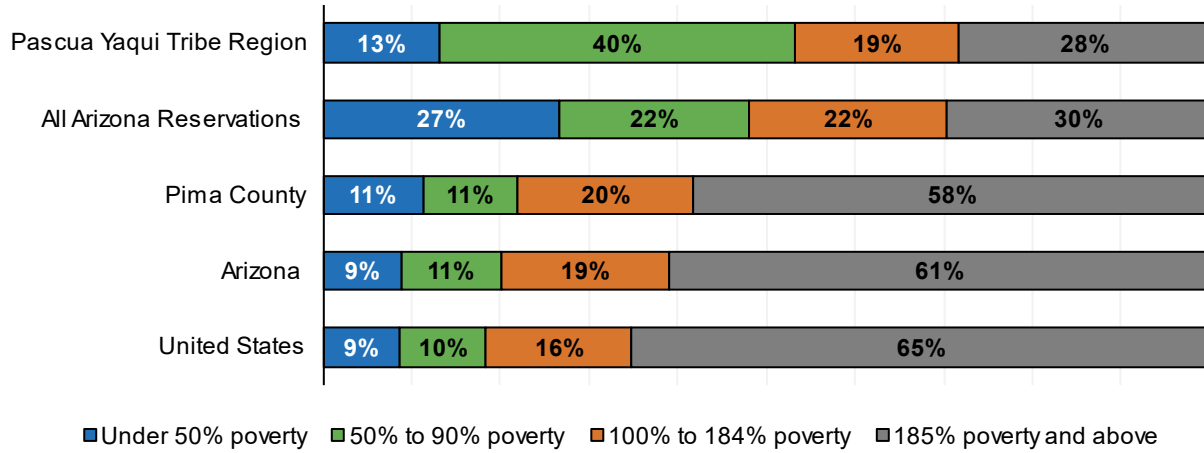
Figure 15. Rates of poverty for children birth to age 5, 2012-2016 and 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B17001. U.S. Census Bureau. (2017). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2012-2016, Table B17001.

Note: This graph includes only persons whose poverty status can be determined. Adults who live in group settings such as dormitories or institutions are not included. Children who live with unrelated persons are not included. In 2021, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$27,479; for a single parent with one child, it was \$18,677.

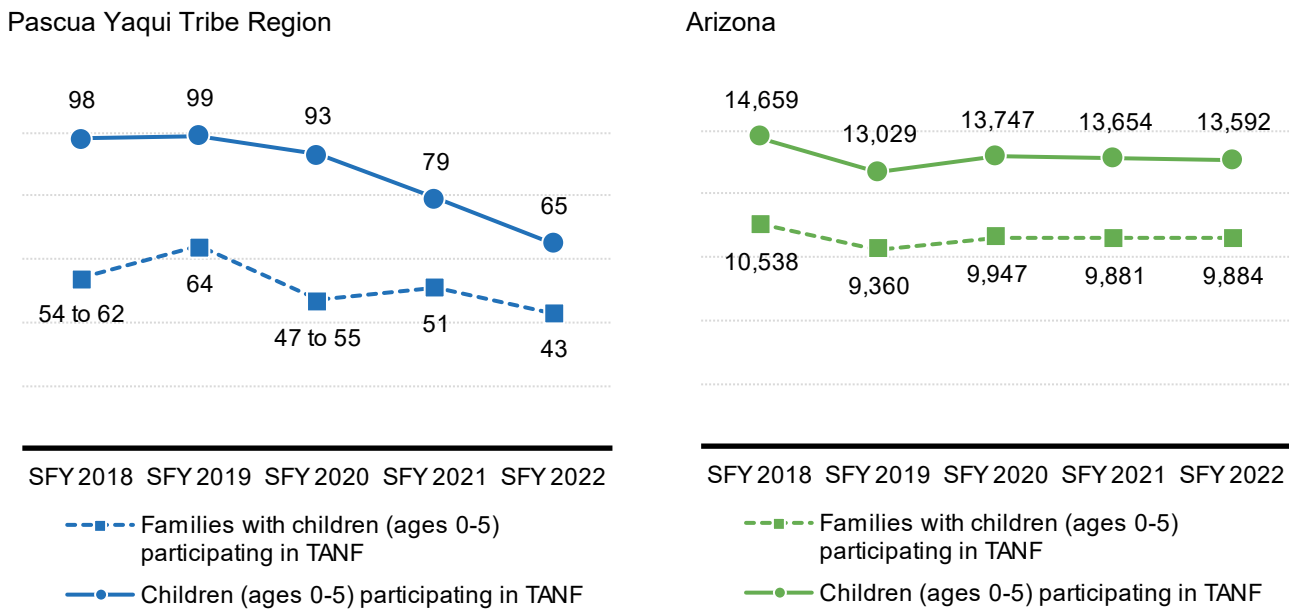
Figure 16. Children birth to age 5 living at selected poverty thresholds, 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B17024

Note: The four percentages in each bar should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding. In 2021, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$27,479; for a single parent with one child, it was \$18,677. The 185% thresholds are \$50,836 and \$34,552, respectively.

Figure 17. Number of children birth to age 5 and households with children birth to age 5 participating in TANF, state fiscal years 2018 to 2022



Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: A range is provided when the true number is not known due to data suppression of a value between 1 and 9. The actual number of families receiving TANF is somewhere within that range.

Table 8. Families with children birth to age 5 receiving TANF, state fiscal years 2018 to 2022

Geography	Number of households with one or more children (ages 0-5)	Number of families with children (ages 0-5) participating in TANF					Percent of households with young children (ages 0-5) participating in TANF in SFY 2022
		SFY 2018	SFY 2019	SFY 2020	SFY 2021	SFY 2022	
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>54 to 62</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>47 to 55</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>19%</b>
Pima County	45,676	2,531	2,214	2,445	2,480	2,336	5%
Arizona	345,601	10,538	9,360	9,947	9,881	9,884	3%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility dataset]. Unpublished data. & U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, DHC, Table P14 & P20.

Note: A range is provided when the true number is not known due to data suppression of a value between 1 and 9. The actual number of families receiving TANF is somewhere within that range.

Table 9. Children birth to age 5 receiving TANF, state fiscal years 2018 to 2022

Geography	Number of young children (ages 0-5) in the population	Number of young children (ages 0-5) participating in TANF					Percent of young children (ages 0-5) participating in TANF in SFY 2022
		SFY 2018	SFY 2019	SFY 2020	SFY 2021	SFY 2022	
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>19%</b>
Pima County	62,466	3,529	3,019	3,289	3,332	3,140	5%
Arizona	480,744	14,659	13,029	13,747	13,654	13,592	3%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility dataset]. Unpublished data. & U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, DHC, Table P14 & P20.

## Food security

Many families struggle with consistent access to “enough food for an active, healthy life,” a problem known as food insecurity.<sup>120</sup> Food insecurity is linked with many aspects of child and parent well-being; it can be a major source of stress for parents and has been linked to health and behavioral problems for children, such as poorer parent-child attachment, decreased social skills and self-control and increased risk of depression.<sup>121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126</sup>

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP; also referred to as “nutrition assistance” and “food stamps”),<sup>vi</sup> is administered by the Arizona Department of Economic Security and aims to support working families who are unable to afford the food necessary to sustain their health with their income alone. Nationally, about one in every five children participates in SNAP, and families on average receive a benefit of up to \$2.61 per person for each meal.<sup>127</sup> The SNAP program has been shown to reduce hunger and improve access to healthy food options among those who utilize it.<sup>128</sup>

<sup>vi</sup> For more information see: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program> and <https://des.az.gov/na>

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)<sup>vii</sup> is a federally funded program administered by the Arizona Department of Health Services aimed to support economically disadvantaged women who are pregnant, postpartum and/or breastfeeding, along with infants and young children. The program's services include directing participants to health services, nutrition and breastfeeding education and supplemental funding for food. In Arizona, WIC provided an average monthly benefit of \$42 per month in 2022, lower than the national average of \$48 per month.<sup>129</sup> The WIC program is administered in the state of Arizona by the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) as well as the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) for 20 tribal nations in the state.

School meals provide another important nutritional safety net for children and their families. The National School Lunch Program (NSLP), administered by the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), provides meals for students of low-income families at a reduced price. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)<sup>viii</sup>, also funded by the USDA and administered by ADE, works to keep all children birth to age 18 fed when school is out of session by providing free meals (breakfast, lunch, supper) and snacks at community sites. SFSP unites community sponsors like camps, faith-based organizations and schools with sites like parks, libraries, community centers and apartment complexes in high-need areas to distribute food.<sup>130</sup> In March 2020, in response to school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the USDA issued waivers allowing year-round operation of the (SFSP) to serve meals to children of all ages engaging in remote learning; these waivers remained in effect through June 2022 and led to increased meal service through SFSP compared to NSLP for many schools.<sup>131</sup> The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP),<sup>ix</sup> also funded by the USDA, gives reimbursements to participating child care centers, preschools, emergency centers and after-school programs for nutritious meals and snacks served to eligible children. Eligible providers include for-profit child care centers serving at least 25% free or reduced-price lunch participants or any non-profit program.<sup>132</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- Since state fiscal year 2018 (SFY 2018), SNAP participation among young children (birth to age 5) and families with young children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region has declined steadily from 374 in SFY 2018 to 245 in SFY 2022 (Figure 18).
- The Pascua Yaqui Tribe WIC program is administered by the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona. According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe WIC program serves both tribal and non-tribal members in Pima County, and key informants estimated that about half the participants in the program were members or relatives of members of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.<sup>133</sup>

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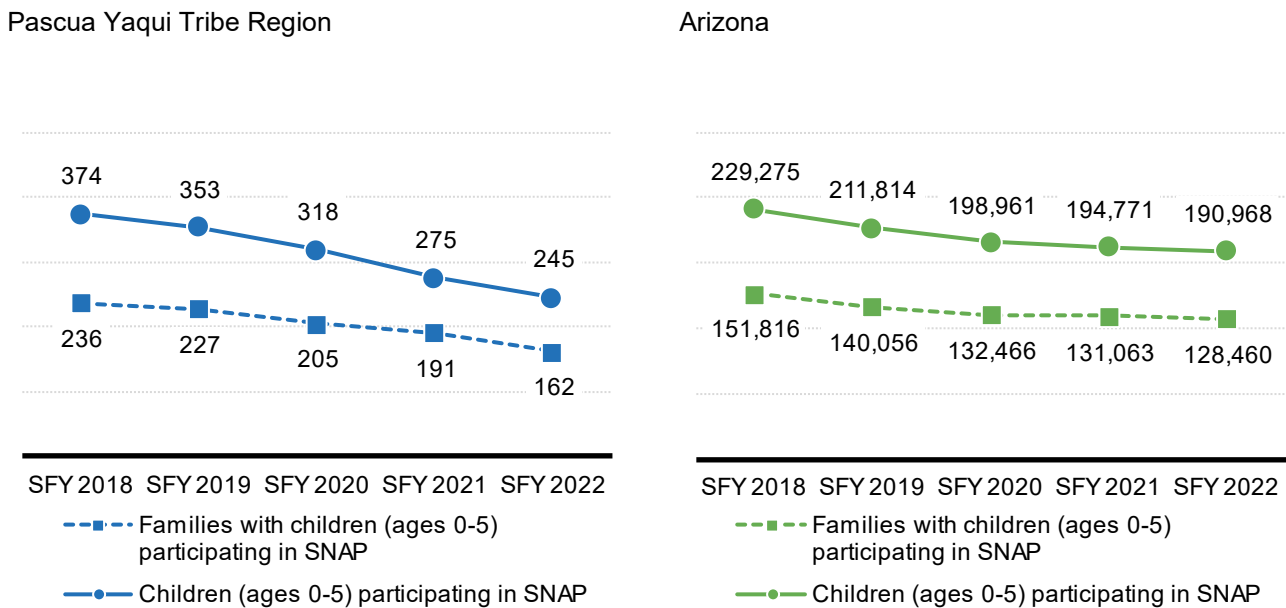
<sup>vii</sup> For more information see: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic> and <https://www.azdhs.gov/prevention/azwic/>

<sup>viii</sup> For more information see: <https://www.azed.gov/hns/sfsp>

<sup>ix</sup> For more information see: <https://www.azed.gov/hns/cacfp>

- In 2020, a total of 963 individuals were enrolled in the program, including 232 women (24% of WIC participants), 271 infants (28%) and 460 children (ages 2-4; 48%) (Table 10). WIC participation rates were higher in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe WIC program than across all ITCA WIC programs for all eligible groups, meaning that the percent of women (97%), infants (97%) and children (93%) who were actively receiving benefits during the calendar year was slightly higher in the region (Figure 20). From 2017 to 2020, the total number of children birth to age 4 enrolled in WIC declined steadily in both the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region and Arizona (Figure 19).
- From 2019-20 to 2021-22, the total number of school lunches served through school nutrition programs in the region stayed relatively stable (20,659 and 20,430, respectively), even while fluctuating by program. Lunches served through CACFP declined from 12,229 in 2019-20 to 9,056 in 2021-22. Conversely, lunches served through NSLP increased by 1,267 (from 5,510 to 6,777) and SFSP increased 1,677 (from 2,920 to 4,597) (Figure 21). The increase in meals served through SFSP was likely due to USDA waivers that allowed for greater flexibility in meal service through SFSP year-round.

Figure 18. Number of children birth to age 5 and households with children birth to age 5 participating in SNAP, state fiscal years 2018 to 2022



Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility dataset]. Unpublished data.

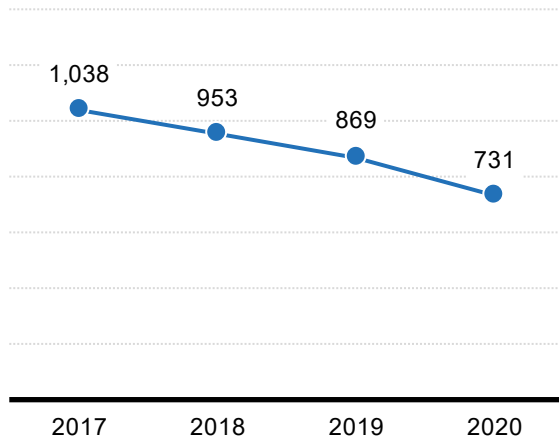
Table 10. Enrollment in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe WIC program, 2020

Geography	Women Enrolled	Infants Enrolled	Children Enrolled	Total Enrolled
Pascua Yaqui Tribe	232	271	460	963
All ITCA WIC programs	2,865	3,095	6,247	12,207

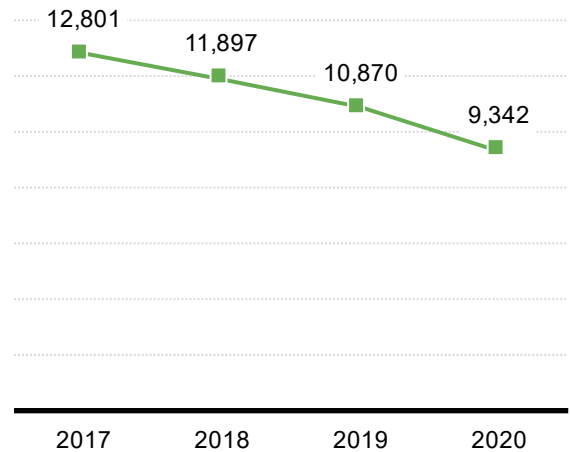
Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from

Figure 19. Number of children birth to age 4 enrolled in WIC, 2017 to 2020

Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region



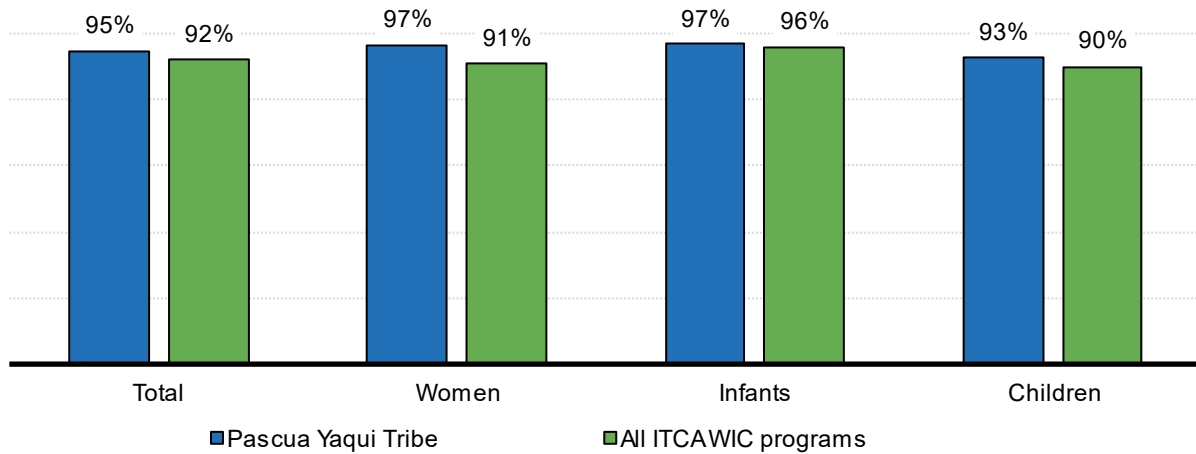
Arizona



Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

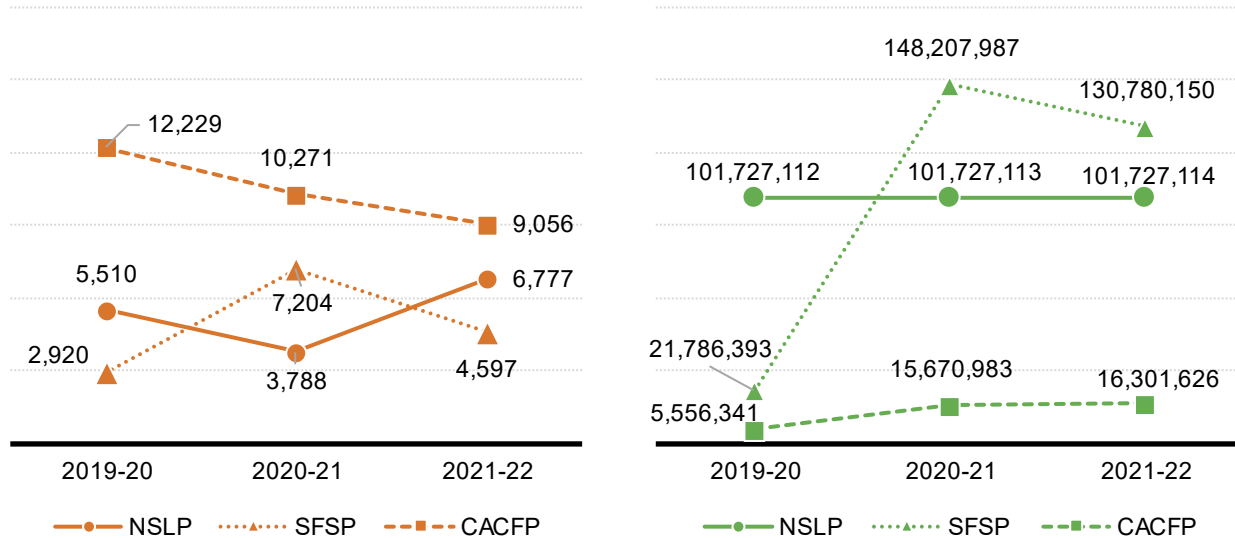


Figure 20. Participation rates in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe WIC program, 2020



Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Figure 21. Trends in lunches served through school nutrition programs, 2019-20 to 2021-22



Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Health and Nutrition Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Note: Hiaki High School served lunches through NSLP in 2019-20 and 2021-22. The Pascua Yaqui Boys & Girls Clubhouse served lunches through SFSP in 2019-20 and both NSLP and SFSP in 2020-21 and 2021-22. Pascua Yaqui Head Start (Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo) served lunches through CACFP in all three years and also served lunches through SFSP at both the Head Start center and through a home delivery route in 2019-20. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the USDA issued a substantial number of waivers for school nutrition programs to allow greater flexibility for schools to get meals to students in need. More information on the pandemic's effect on school nutrition can be found on the ADE website: <https://www.azed.gov/hns/covid19>

Table 11. Lunches served through CACFP, 2019-20 to 2021-22

Geography	Number of sites			Number of lunches served		
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Pascua Yaqui Head Start (Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo)	1	1	1	12,229	10,271	9,056
Pima County Schools	N/A	126	124	1,163,587	3,546,649	3,697,801
Arizona Schools	N/A	715	643	5,556,341	15,670,983	16,301,626

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Health and Nutrition Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

## Employment

Unemployment and underemployment<sup>x</sup> can impact families in ways that affect children’s health and well-being.<sup>134</sup> Unemployment can limit access to resources that support children’s physical and mental health, like health insurance, and can also contribute to family stress, conflict, homelessness and child abuse.<sup>135, 136</sup> Children with parents who have lost their jobs may also experience poorer school performance and behavioral issues, resulting in grade repetition, suspension or expulsion.<sup>137</sup> Due to many historical and legal reasons as well as differences in practical economic structures, employment rates in Native communities can vary greatly from state rates.<sup>138</sup>

Education and employment support programs for parents and caregivers are important for increasing wages and improving the economic stability of families. “Two-generation” or “2Gen” approaches address the needs of both parents and children simultaneously through programs to support children and families together, such as a family literacy program that provides educational support to parents while enrolling children in free high-quality preschool.<sup>139, 140, 141</sup> These programs have the goal of decreasing the intergenerational effects of poverty by building parental capacity and protective factors within families.<sup>142, 143, 144</sup>

### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

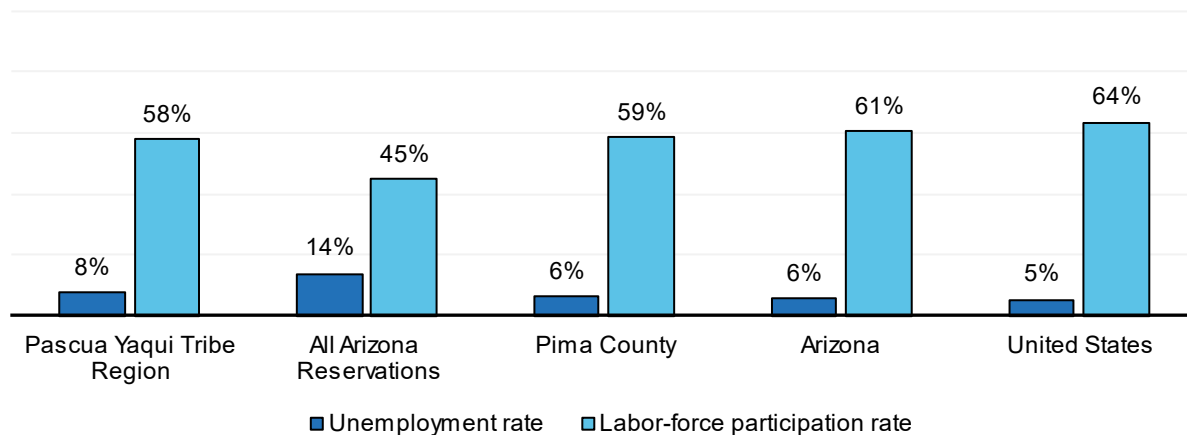
- The unemployment rate is the proportion of the total number of people in the civilian labor force who are unemployed and looking for work. Unemployment rates do not include people who have dropped out of the labor force entirely, including those who wanted to work but could not find a suitable job and have stopped looking for employment.<sup>145</sup> The ACS estimates that the average unemployment rate for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region between 2017 and 2021 was 8%. This is higher than the unemployment rate for Pima County and Arizona as a whole (both 6%) but substantially lower than all Arizona reservations (14%) (Figure 22 & Table 12).

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<sup>x</sup> Underemployment means that someone works fewer hours than they would like or is in a job that does not require the skills or training that they have.

- An additional metric of employment is the labor-force participation rate. This rate is the fraction of the population who are in the labor force, whether employed or unemployed. The labor force participation rate in the region (58%) is higher than that seen across all Arizona reservations (45%) and similar to Pima County (59%). This means that just over half of working-age teens and adults in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region are working (54%) or actively looking for work (4%), while the remaining 42% are not (which includes students, retirees, stay-at-home parents and others) (Figure 22 & Table 12).
- While unemployment rates showed a steady decline statewide since the end of the Great Recession in 2009, this pattern changed in 2020 with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. In recent years, unemployment rates for Pima County have been aligned with the state overall, peaking at 7.6% in 2020 and decreasing to 3.8% in 2022 (Figure 23).
- About three-quarters (76%) of young children (birth to age 5) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region live in a household where at least one parent is in the labor force, compared to 63% of young children across all Arizona reservations and 90% of young children in Pima County. Most of these children (71%) live with one parent who is in the workforce, indicating they likely require some form of child care (Figure 24).

Figure 22. Unemployment and labor-force participation for the adult population (ages 16 and older), 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B23025

Note: The labor force is all persons who are working (employed) or looking for work (unemployed). Persons not in the labor force are mostly students, stay-at-home parents, retirees, and institutionalized people. The "labor force participation rate" is the fraction of the population who are in the labor force, whether employed or unemployed. The "unemployment rate" is the fraction of the civilian labor force which are unemployed.

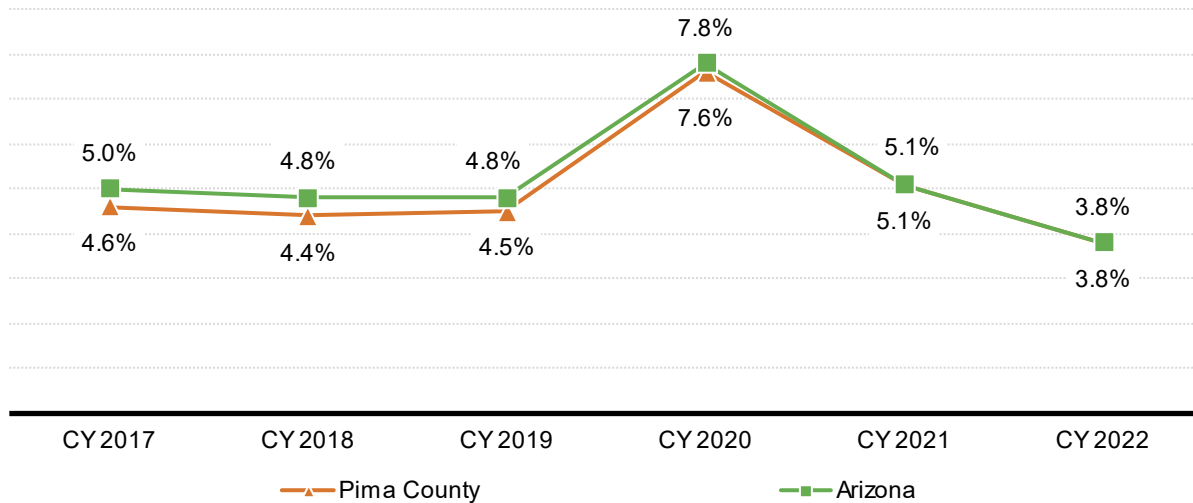
Table 12. Unemployment and labor-force participation for the adult population (ages 16 and older), 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated working-age population (age 16 and older)	Unemployment rate	Labor-force participation rate	In the labor force and employed	In the labor force but unemployed	In armed forces	Not in the labor force
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>2,637</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>42%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	132,731	14%	45%	39%	6%	0.0%	55%
Pima County	843,701	6%	59%	54%	4%	0.9%	41%
Arizona	5,650,624	6%	61%	57%	3%	0.4%	39%
United States	264,087,642	5%	64%	60%	3%	0.5%	36%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B23025

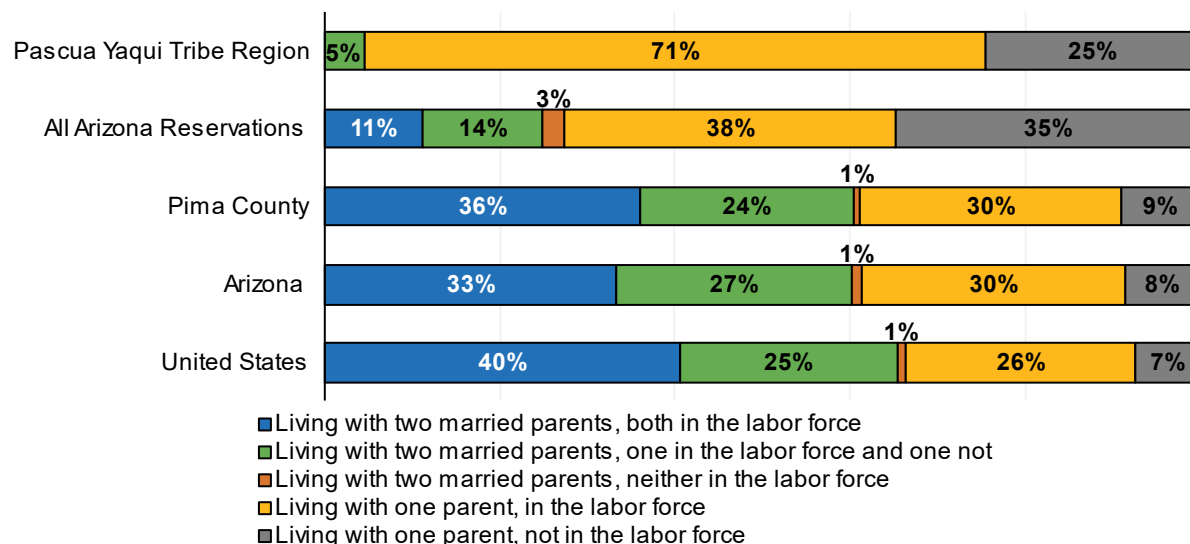
Note: The labor force is all persons who are working (employed) or looking for work (unemployed). Persons not in the labor force are mostly students, stay-at-home parents, retirees, and institutionalized people. The "labor force participation rate" is the fraction of the population who are in the labor force, whether employed or unemployed. The "unemployment rate" is the fraction of the civilian labor force which are unemployed. The last four percentages in each row (employed, unemployed, in armed forces, and not in the labor force) should sum to 100% but may not because of rounding.

Figure 23. Average annual unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted), 2017 to 2022



Source: Arizona Commerce Authority (2023), Office of Economic Opportunity, Local Area Unemployment Survey (LAUS)

Figure 24. Parents of children birth to age 5 who are or are not in the labor force, 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B23025

Note: The labor force is all persons who are working (employed) or looking for work (unemployed). Persons not in the labor force are mostly students, stay-at-home parents, retirees, and institutionalized people. The term "parent" here includes step-parents. The five percentages in each row should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding. Please note that due to the way the ACS asks about family relationships, children living with two unmarried, cohabitating parents are not counted as living with two parents (these children are counted in the 'one parent' category).

## Housing instability and internet access

Housing instability can have harmful effects on the development of young children. High housing costs relative to family income are associated with increased risk for overcrowding, frequent moving, poor nutrition, declines in mental health and homelessness.<sup>146, 147, 148</sup> High relative housing costs leave inadequate funds for other necessities, such as food and utilities.<sup>149</sup> This can negatively affect the physical, social-emotional and cognitive development of children, with severe forms of housing instability associated with poorer performance in school.<sup>150, 151</sup>

In Native nations, land- and homeownership differs legally from other parts of the state. Native nations have experienced periods of forced relocation and assimilation as well as complex and changing policies of land ownership that have significantly reduced the total amount of land under tribal governance as well as the resources on these lands.<sup>152</sup> Tribal housing authorities have worked to build affordable housing options for their people, however housing availability is typically limited by funding and other critical infrastructure issues.<sup>153</sup> The most common housing challenges on tribal lands include overcrowding and physical housing problems such as insufficient kitchen, plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling utilities.<sup>154</sup> A nationwide study found that Native households are 19 times more likely to lack indoor plumbing than White households, meaning that access to safe and reliable drinking water is a major concern for many families.<sup>155</sup>

Another increasingly important utility in homes is reliable internet access. Access to broadband (high-speed) internet enables quick access to a far greater number of resources and information, telehealth options and other opportunities that can be critical for education and employment. Internet access has been deemed a “super determinant” of health because of its influence on more traditional social determinants of health such as education, employment, health care access and social connection.<sup>156</sup> Household access to computers and high-speed internet is also important for school-aged children who may need this technology for school assignments and projects, particularly during the later years of primary education and beyond.<sup>157</sup> Lack of access to reliable high-speed internet disproportionately occurs in rural areas and pockets of segregated urban areas, and this disparate access is known as the digital divide. Due to the importance of high-speed internet access, the federal government has instituted several funding initiatives to improve access to and affordability of high-speed internet, including for Native communities in particular, such as the Tribal Broadband Connectivity Project.<sup>xi, 158</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- Pascua Yaqui Tribe members often rent homes built by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Housing Department for a period of time until they are able to pay the full amount of the house. At that point, ownership of the house is transferred to the family, while the land where the house is built remains part of tribal reservation land. While the Housing Department has been building new developments,<sup>xii</sup> community members indicate that housing availability is still a need in the region.
- Traditionally, housing is considered to be affordable for families if it costs less than 30% of annual household income.<sup>159</sup> According to recent ACS estimates, just 19% of households in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region spent more than 30% of their income on housing, disproportionately impacting renters (22%) over homeowners (9%) in the region. Housing cost burden is notably lower in the region compared to Pima County (31%) and the state (29%), but higher than across all Arizona reservations (13%) (Table 13).
- The McKinney-Vento Act definition of homelessness includes children living in shelters, transitional housing, campgrounds, motels, trailer parks and cars, as well as children whose families are temporarily living within another family’s household. Data on the number of students experiencing homelessness under the McKinney-Vento Act at Hiaki High School were suppressed due to small numbers (i.e. fewer than 11). At off-reservation schools that serve children from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, the number of students experiencing homelessness more than tripled from 74 in 2020-21 to 240 in 2021-22, but these students still made up less than 2% of the overall students enrolled (Table 14).

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<sup>xi</sup> For more information, please see <https://internetforall.gov/program/digital-equity-act-programs> and <https://www.ntia.gov/page/tribal-broadband-connectivity-program>

<sup>xii</sup> For more information, please see <https://www.pythousing.com/main-development>

- According to data from Ili Uusim Mahtawa’apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start, 16% of children enrolled in Program Year 2023 (PY23) qualified as homeless,<sup>160</sup> an increase from the 13% in PY20 reported in the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report.<sup>161</sup>
- Almost three-quarters (72%) of households in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region have both a computer (i.e., a desktop, laptop, tablet or smartphone) and broadband internet connectivity. While this proportion is lower than Pima County (89%) and Arizona (88%), it is notably higher than seen across all Arizona reservations (44%) (Table 15).
- At the individual level, 82% of individuals in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, including 88% of children (birth to age 17), have access to both a computer and internet in their household. As with household-level access, this is a smaller proportion than Pima County (92% and 95%, respectively) and the state (90% and 92%, respectively), but much higher than across all Arizona reservations (both 51%) (Figure 25 & Figure 26).
- The Pascua Yaqui Tribe has its own telecommunications network, Pascua Yaqui Networks, and provides internet access to families living in the region.<sup>xiii</sup>

Table 13. Households with housing costs of 30% or more of household income by home ownership status, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of households	Housing costs 30 percent or more of household income	Estimated number of owner-occupied housing units	Housing costs 30 percent or more of household income	Estimated number of renter-occupied housing units	Housing costs 30 percent or more of household income
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>22%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	52,248	13%	35,840	12%	16,408	16%
Pima County	417,483	31%	267,835	21%	149,648	48%
Arizona	2,683,557	29%	1,765,658	21%	917,899	45%
United States	124,010,992	30%	80,152,161	22%	43,858,831	46%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B25106

<sup>xiii</sup> For more information, please see <https://pytnetworks.com>

Table 14. Students experiencing homelessness (McKinney-Vento), 2019-20 to 2021-22

Geography	Number of students experiencing homelessness			Percent of students who were experiencing homelessness		
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Hiaki High School	<11	<11	<11	<2%	<2%	<2%
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe students	N/A	74	240	N/A	<2%	<2%
Pima County Schools	2,270	1,119	1,732	<2%	<2%	<2%
Arizona Schools	12,931	8,542	11,161	<2%	<2%	<2%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Oct 1 Enrollment Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Note: Data for off-reservation schools were not available for 2019-20 due to difference in the schools included in the prior report cycle. The McKinney-Vento Act provides funding and supports to ensure that homeless children and youth have access to education. Under the McKinney-Vento Act, children are defined as homeless if they lack a “fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime address.” This includes children living in shelters, cars, transitional housing, campground, motels, and trailer parks, as well as children who are living ‘doubled up’ with another family due to loss of housing or economic hardship. More information can be found on the ADE website:

<https://www.azed.gov/homeless>

Table 15. Households with a computer and broadband internet connectivity, 2017-2021 ACS

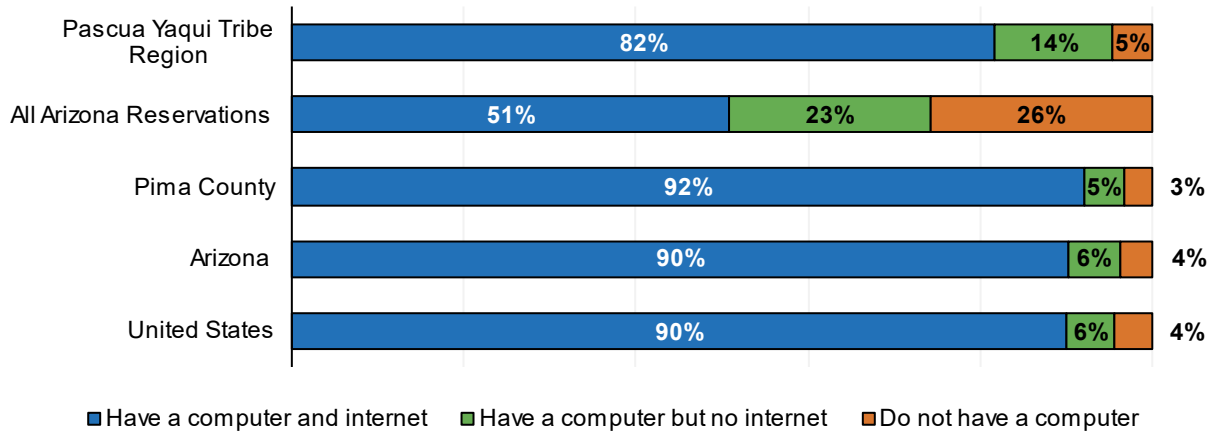
Geography	Estimated number of households	Number and percent of households with a computer and broadband internet connectivity	
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>72%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	52,248	22,993	44%
Pima County	417,483	369,996	89%
Arizona	2,683,557	2,350,265	88%
United States	124,010,992	106,957,995	86%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B28008.

Note: In this table, “computer” includes desktops, laptops, tablets and smartphones.



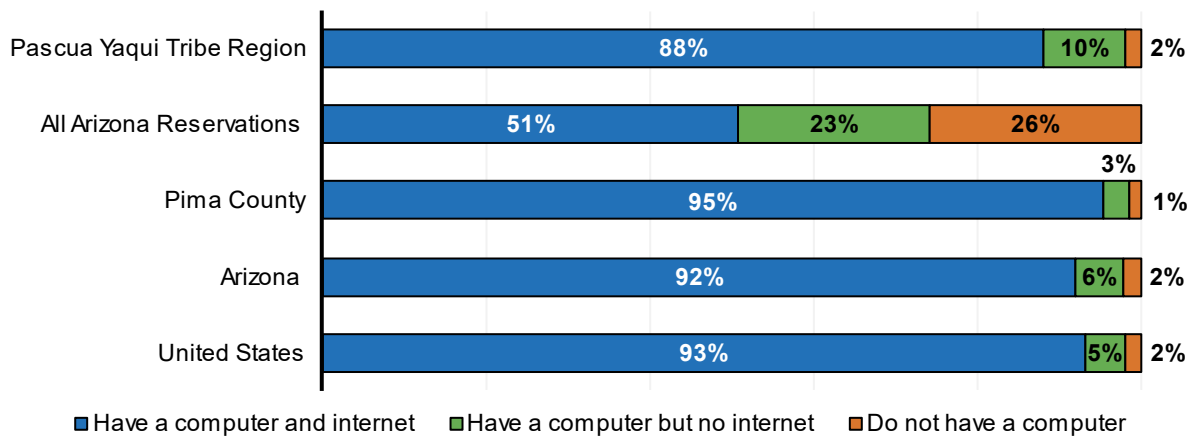
Figure 25. Persons of all ages in households with and without computers and internet connectivity, 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B28005

Note: The three percentages in each bar should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding.

Figure 26. Children birth to age 17 in households with and without computers and internet connectivity, 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B28005

Note: The three percentages in each bar should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding.

Additional data tables related to *Economic Circumstances* can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.



# EDUCATIONAL INDICATORS

# EDUCATIONAL INDICATORS

## Why it Matters

A community's K-12 education system can support positive outcomes for children, families and the overall well-being of the community. Individuals who have higher levels of education tend to live longer and healthier lives.<sup>162</sup> Graduating from high school, in particular, is associated with better health, financial stability and socio-emotional outcomes as well as a lower risk for incarceration compared to dropping out of high school.<sup>163, 164</sup> Children with parents that have attained higher levels of education are more likely to do well in school, such as score higher in reading, math and science in their first four years of school and attain higher levels of education themselves.<sup>165, 166, 167</sup> High-quality early learning experiences also set a strong foundation for children's learning in kindergarten, elementary school and beyond.<sup>168</sup> When children participate in high-quality early education, they are more likely to perform better in reading and math in later grades.<sup>169</sup> Given these lifetime and intergenerational impacts of educational attainment, it is critical to provide substantial support for early education and promote policies and programs that encourage the success of Arizona's children.

## What the Data Tell Us

### **School attendance and absenteeism**

School attendance is an important factor in predicting the academic performance and future health of children. Chronic absenteeism, defined as missing 10% of school days in a school year, predicts a student experiencing academic difficulties and even dropping out of school entirely.<sup>170</sup> Children who are part of a racial or ethnic minority group, have disabilities or other health conditions or are economically disadvantaged are at increased risk of absenteeism.<sup>171, 172</sup> These are also the children who are most likely to benefit from resources available through schools. Elementary school absenteeism among Native youth, in particular, may be influenced by a number of factors including a historically-rooted distrust of educational institutions, low use of culturally-relevant teaching methods and curricula as well as infrastructure-related issues (e.g., road conditions, bus availability and distances to schools).<sup>173, 174, 175</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- The only school within the boundaries of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is Hiaki High School, meaning that there are no schools serving elementary and middle school students. Children from the community attend a number of off-reservation schools, mostly within Tucson Unified School District (TUSD). During the 2019-20 school year, 880 students from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region attended TUSD schools, including 485 elementary students, 156 middle school students, and 239 high school students. The district school with the most students from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe was Lawrence 3-8 School (173 students), followed by Johnson Primary (116 students) and Cholla High School (110 students). Valencia Middle School had the largest middle school student enrollment from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe (58 students) (Table 16).

- Hiaki High School was previously operated collaboratively through the nonprofit Chicanos Por La Causa and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Department,<sup>176</sup> but the high school is now operated through a partnership with Ombudsman.<sup>177</sup>
- According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Department offers support services for students who are members of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and enrolled in a K-12 school through the Yaqui Education Services (YES) program.<sup>178</sup>
- In the 2021-22 school year, there were fewer than 11 American Indian students enrolled in preschools that are known to serve Pascua Yaqui Tribe students. A total of 280 American Indian students were enrolled in kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in off-reservation schools serving students from the region, between 63 and 81 students in each grade (Table 17).
- In 2020-21 and 2021-22, kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade chronic absence rates for off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students (28% and 29%, respectively) were slightly above the rates for Pima County schools (24% both years) and Arizona schools as a whole (21% both years) (Table 18).

Table 16. Pascua Yaqui Tribe students enrolled in Tucson area public schools, 2018-29 to 2019-20

	2018-19	2019-20
Total Students	889	895
Tucson Unified School District	874	880
TUSD Elementary Schools	503	485
Johnson Primary	94	116
Lawrence 3-8	196	173
Miller Elementary	42	38
Vesey Elementary	38	34
Warren Elementary	25	17
White Elementary	50	60
Other Elementary Schools	58	47
TUSD Middle Schools	146	156
Pistor Middle	25	44
Valencia Middle	69	58
Roskruge Bilingual K-8 Magnet	13	15
Safford K-8	11	11
Other Middle Schools	28	28
TUSD High Schools	227	239
Cholla High	122	110
Pueblo High	36	40
Tucson High Magnet	49	69
Other High Schools	20	20
Sunnyside Unified School District	15	15

Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from

<https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Table 17. American Indian Preschool to 3rd grade students enrolled in public and charter schools, 2021-22

Geography	Preschool	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	<11	70	63	66	81
Pima County schools	22	271	271	266	321
Arizona schools	541	2,924	3,042	3,130	3,221

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Oct 1 Enrollment Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

Note: The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from Drachman Primary Magnet School, Raul Grijalva Elementary School, Harriet Johnson Primary School, Amelia Maldonado Elementary School, Miller Elementary School, Vesey Elementary School, Frances J Warren Elementary School, John E White Elementary School, Anna Lawrence Intermediate School, Hollinger K-8 School, McCorkle PK-8 School, Roskruge Bilingual Magnet Middle School, Safford K-8 School, (all Tucson Unified School District schools), as well as Academy Del Sol – Star Valley and Ha:san Preparatory & Leadership School (both charter schools).

Table 18. Kindergarten to 3rd grade students with chronic absences, 2019-20 to 2021-22

Geography	Students with chronic absences			Percent of students with chronic absences		
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students (All Students)	26	848	1,710	15%	28%	29%
Pima County schools (All Students)	4,199	8,060	14,698	10%	24%	24%
Arizona schools (All Students)	25,382	56,547	100,955	8%	21%	21%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Oct 1 Enrollment Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Note: Students are considered chronically absent if they miss more than 10% of the school days in a school year. This table includes children who are absent due to chronic illness. Regional data were not available for 2019-20 due to difference in how data were aggregated in prior RNA cycles.

### Achievement on standardized testing

All Arizona public schools, including both district and charter schools, are required to administer state and federally mandated standardized tests. Between 2019 and 2022, the statewide English language arts (ELA) and math assessment tool for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders in public schools was Arizona’s Statewide Achievement Assessment for English Language Arts and Math (AzM2), previously called Arizona’s

Measurement of Educational Readiness to Inform Teaching (AzMERIT).<sup>xiv,179,180</sup> The *Move on When Reading* policy, enacted by the Arizona legislature in 2010, states that a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student shall not be promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade if their reading score falls far below the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level, as established by the State Board of Education.<sup>xv, 181</sup> These policies are intended to help identify struggling readers who may benefit from more targeted literacy interventions. Children’s reading comprehension and proficiency skills when in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade can predict their future academic success, such as their likelihood of graduating high school and attending college.<sup>182</sup> Poor reading skills are associated with a six-fold increase in the likelihood of dropping out of high school compared to proficient readers.<sup>183</sup> However, it is important to note that standardized tests have been found to have lower cultural relevancy to non-White students, which has contributed to a disparity in achievement on standardized tests across racial and ethnic groups.<sup>184</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- In the 2021-22 school year, only 16% of American Indian students at off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students achieved a passing score on the 3rd grade English Language Arts (ELA) assessment, including 15% meeting expectations and less than 2% exceeding expectations. This is equivalent to the passing scores for American Indian students across all Pima County schools and Arizona schools (both 16%), but much lower than the passing scores for students of all races and ethnicities in Arizona (41%) (Table 19).
- In off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students, ELA passing rates for American Indian students doubled between 2020-21 and 2021-22, going from 8% to 16%. Across the state ELA passing rates for American Indian student remain exceptionally low, less than half that of students of all races and ethnicities (Figure 27).
- A smaller proportion of American Indian students at off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students passed the 3rd grade Math assessment in 2021-22, including 7% meeting expectations and 3% exceeding expectations. This is lower than the passing rates for American Indian 3<sup>rd</sup> graders across Pima County schools (13%) and Arizona schools (16%) (Table 20).

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<sup>xiv</sup> In 2022, AzM2 was replaced by Arizona’s Academic Standards Assessment (AASA).

<sup>xv</sup> Exceptions exist for students identified with or being evaluated for learning disabilities or reading impairments, English language learners and those who have demonstrated reading proficiency on alternate forms of assessment approved by the State Board of Education. Students who test in the ‘far below’ proficiency range can also be promoted to 4<sup>th</sup> grade if they complete summer school and then demonstrate reading at a proficient level. Given these exceptions, historically very few 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students (<1%) have been retained due to *Move on When Reading*. As of 2022, schools with early elementary grade students are now required to screen all kindergarten and first grade students for dyslexia and have at least one teacher who has complete ADE-approved trainings in reading instruction, intensifying instruction and understanding and recognizing dyslexia.

- Passing rates for the Math assessment for American Indian students at off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students as well as American Indian students in all Pima County schools have remained consistently lower than passing rates for American Indian students statewide and for all students statewide. In both 2020-21 and 2021-22, fewer than 1 in 10 American Indian students enrolled in off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students received a passing score on the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Math assessment (Figure 28).

Table 19. Assessment results for American Indian students: Third Grade English Language Arts, 2021-22

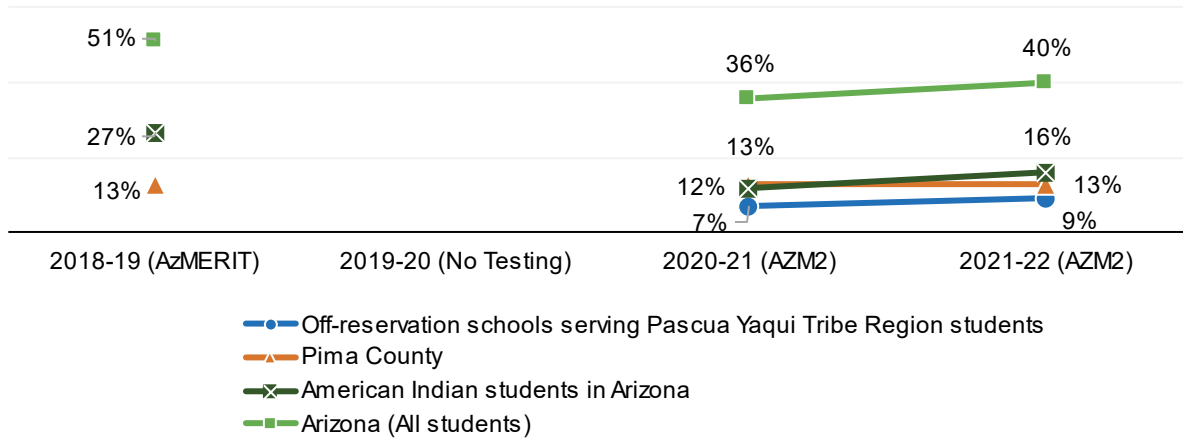
Geography	Students Tested	Falls Far Below	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds	Passing
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	DS	70%	14%	15%	<2%	16%
Pima County schools	DS	73%	11%	13%	3%	16%
Arizona schools	DS	74%	10%	13%	3%	16%
Arizona schools (All students)	79,586	47%	12%	26%	15%	41%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2021). [AzMERIT Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Note: The 'Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students' row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list.



Figure 27. Trends in passing rates for Third Grade English Language Arts assessments for American Indian students, 2018-19 to 2021-22



Source: Arizona Department of Education (2021). [AzMERIT Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Note: Data for American Indian students enrolled in off-reservation schools serving the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were not available for 2018-19 as prior reports used a different list of schools. The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list.

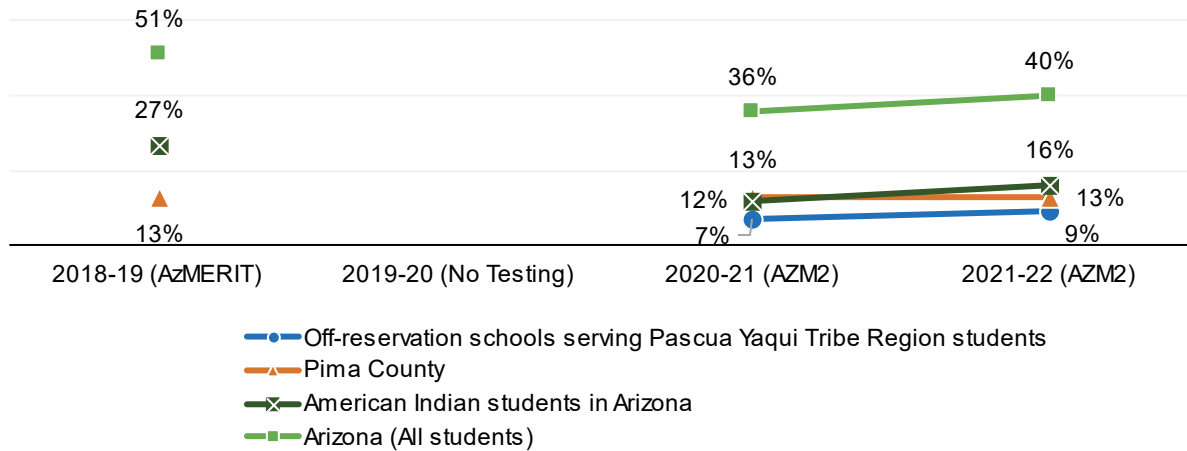
Table 20. Assessment results for American Indian students: Third Grade Math, 2021-22

Geography	Students Tested	Falls Far Below	Approaches	Meets	Exceeds	Passing
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	DS	63%	28%	7%	3%	9%
Pima County schools	DS	66%	21%	10%	3%	13%
Arizona schools	3,100	57%	27%	13%	3%	16%
Arizona schools (All students)	80,445	33%	27%	28%	12%	40%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2021). [AzMERIT Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Note: The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list.

Figure 28. Trends in passing rates for Third Grade Math for American Indian students, 2018-19 to 2021-22



Source: Arizona Department of Education (2021). [AzMERIT Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Note: Data for American Indian students enrolled in off-reservation schools serving the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were not available for 2018-19 as prior reports used a different list of schools. The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list.

### Graduation rates and adult educational attainment

Understanding the current high school graduation and dropout rates within a region provides insight into the assets within and challenges faced by a community and its future workforce. Adults who graduated from high school have higher rates of employment, higher incomes and better overall health compared to adults who dropped out of high school, even if they received a high school equivalency degree (GED).<sup>185</sup> Maternal education is associated with an array of child outcomes starting with infant health,<sup>186, 187, 188</sup> and both targeted and universal programs serving children from families with lower educational backgrounds can support child development.<sup>189, 190</sup>

In contrast to the U.S. as a whole, Arizona has a larger proportion of disconnected youth, defined as teenagers ages 16 to 19 who are neither attending school nor employed,<sup>xvi</sup> which has been linked to negative physical and mental health outcomes and higher rates of unemployment.<sup>191</sup> Native youth, both nationally and in Arizona, are disproportionately disconnected and therefore particularly vulnerable to negative outcomes and may need additional outreach and supports.<sup>192</sup>

<sup>xvi</sup> Age ranges used for ‘disconnected youth’ vary by source, with some estimates including both teenagers ages 16-19 and young adults ages 20-24 and others focusing on only teenagers or young adults.

### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

- High school students from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region attend Hiaki High School and off-reservation schools including Cholla High School (110 Pascua Yaqui Tribe students in 2019-20), Tucson High Magnet School (69 students), Pueblo High School (40 students), and other TUSD high schools (20 students) (Table 16).
- The four-year graduation rate for Hiaki High School (41%) is lower than for American Indian students attending off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students (65%), which matches the four-year graduation rates for American Indian students across Arizona (65%). The five-year graduation rate was not available for off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students, however the rate for Hiaki High School (65%) was between the rate for American Indian students in Pima County schools (60%) and in Arizona schools (72%) (Table 21).
- In 2020-21 and 2021-22, the 7th-12th grade dropout rate (8%) was the same for Hiaki High School and for American Indian students in off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students. This is within the same range as American Indian students across Pima County, which rose from 6% to 10% between 2019-20 and 2021-22, and Arizona, which ranged between 5% and 9% in those same years (Table 22).
- Among adults in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, 72% have at least a high school education. This is a slightly smaller proportion than across all Arizona reservations (77%) and much smaller compared to the county (89%), state (88%) and national levels (89%). While educational attainment looks similar between the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region and all Arizona reservations, only 4% of adults in the region have a bachelor's degree or higher compared to 9% of adults across all Arizona reservations (Figure 29).
- Compared with all adults, mothers giving birth in 2020 and 2021 in the region were more likely to have less than a high school education (33% and 30% respectively, compared with 27% of all adults) (Table 23; Figure 29).

Table 21. 4-year and 5-year graduation rates for American Indian students, 2022

Geography	4-Year senior cohort (2022)	4-Year graduates (2022)	4-Year graduation rate (2022)	5-Year graduates (2022)	5-Year graduation rate (2022)
Hiaki High School	37	15	41%	24	65%
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Off-reservation schools	106	69	65%	N/A	N/A
Pima County schools	351	186	53%	221	60%
Arizona schools	4,213	2,739	65%	3,040	72%
Arizona schools (All Students)	90,880	69,623	77%	71,277	79%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Oct 1 Enrollment Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Note: 2022 5-year graduation rates had yet to be released at the time that ADE data were accessed for this report so could not be calculated for off-reservation schools. The 'Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students' row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list. The 4-year graduation rate reflects the percentage of students who graduated high school within 4 years of entry; the 5-year graduation rate reflects the percentage of students who graduated high school within five years of entry. See

<https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2017/08/2018%2006%2001%20Graduation%20DO%20and%20Persistence%20Rate%20Tech%20Manual.pdf?id=598a34233217e10ce06647ff>

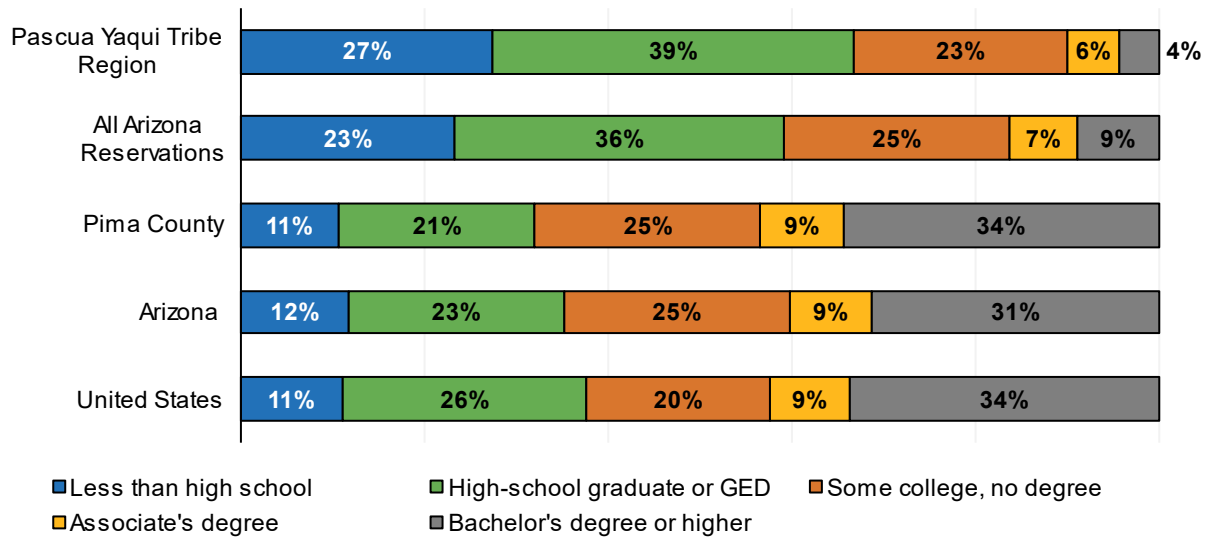
Table 22. 7th to 12th grade dropout rates for American Indian students, 2019-20 to 2021-22

Geography	Dropout Rate, 2019-20	Dropout Rate, 2020-21	Dropout Rate, 2021-22
Hiaki High School	12%	8%	8%
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	N/A	8%	8%
Pima County	6%	12%	10%
Arizona	5%	10%	9%
Arizona schools (All Students)	3%	4%	5%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2021). [Dropout Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

Notes: Data for American Indian students enrolled in off-reservation schools serving the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were not available for 2018-19 as prior reports used a different list of schools. Data on dropout rates for students in off-reservation schools were not available for 2019-20. The 'Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students' row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list. Dropouts are defined by ADE as students who were enrolled in school at any time during the school year but were not enrolled at the end of the year and who did not transfer to another school, graduate, or die. Dropout rates are calculated by dividing the number of dropouts by the total enrollment. In many elementary districts, dropout rates reflect students who transferred out and were lost to follow-up.

Figure 29. Level of education for the adult population (ages 25 and older), 2017-2021 ACS



Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B15002

Note: The five percentages in each bar should sum to 100% but may not because of rounding.

Table 23. Level of education for the mothers of babies born in 2020 and 2021

Geography	Calendar year	Number of births	Mother had less than a high-school education	Mother finished high school or had GED	Mother had more than a high-school education
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	2020	52	33%	44%	23%
	2021	50	30%	42%	28%
All Arizona Reservations	2020	1,900	27%	38%	35%
	2021	Data for All Arizona Reservations not available			
Pima County	2020	10,035	14%	27%	58%
	2021	9,970	13%	27%	59%
Arizona	2020	76,781	12%	27%	57%
	2021	77,857	12%	27%	58%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data. Arizona Department of Health Services (2022). Health status profile of American Indians in Arizona 2020. Retrieved from <https://pub.azdhs.gov/health-stats/report/hspam/index.php>

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this table. 'All Arizona Reservations' row reflects only births to American Indian mothers residing on Arizona reservations. The Health Status Profile of American Indian in Arizona for 2021 has not yet been released. A small number of births are missing data on maternal educational attainment, so percentages in this table may not sum to 100%.

Additional data tables related to *Educational Indicators* can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.



# EARLY LEARNING

# EARLY LEARNING

## Why it Matters

Early childhood is a pivotal time when crucial physical, cognitive and social-emotional skills are built.<sup>193,194</sup> Early experiences are important for healthy brain development and set the stage for lifelong learning and well-being.<sup>195, 196, 197</sup> Just as rich, stimulating environments can promote healthy development, early negative experiences can also have lasting effects.<sup>198, 199</sup> However, considering the major COVID-19 pandemic-related challenges experienced by many Arizona families, including disproportionate numbers of deaths and losses of family member and caregivers in American Indian and Alaska Native communities,<sup>200</sup> it remains important to remember that while these short- and long-term effects may be more likely, they are not inevitable.<sup>201, 202</sup> Access to quality early care and learning environments can be a powerful protective factor for every child, and the effects can be particularly life-changing for children facing chronic stressors and for children with disabilities.<sup>203, 204</sup>

Quality early care and educational experiences help children develop into capable learners by supporting many crucial systems in the body.<sup>205</sup> In addition to brain development, positive and adverse experiences in the first few years of life can shape a child's immune functioning, ability to handle stress in a healthy way and capacity to learn and thrive.<sup>206</sup> Each of these factors contribute to being a skillful learner and well-adjusted person.<sup>207</sup>

## What the Data Tell Us

### Access to early care and education

Early childhood systems play a key role in supporting children, parents, caregivers and communities as a whole.<sup>208, 209</sup> In Native nations, early care and education services are provided at center-based, home-based and school-based settings that are funded through a combination of tribal, state and federal grants in addition to privately-owned and operated child care facilities.<sup>210</sup> Unfortunately, many Arizona families, both Native and non-Native, continue to face obstacles when seeking quality early care and education. Communities in both urban and rural areas of Arizona face a gap between the number of young children and licensed child care slots.<sup>211, 212, 213, 214</sup> According to the Center for American Progress, almost half of Arizonans (48%), including the majority of rural, low-income and Hispanic or Latino families, live in a “child care desert,” defined as areas where there are three times as many children as there are available child care opportunities.<sup>215, 216</sup>

Analyses by the Bipartisan Policy Center indicate that Arizona needed an additional 76,740 licensed or registered early care and education slots to have enough for all young children in working families in 2019.<sup>217</sup> Because the COVID-19 pandemic forced many child care centers and home-based providers to close either temporarily or permanently, care has been disrupted for many more families in Arizona and nationwide.<sup>218</sup>

Availability and cost are especially challenging for parents seeking care for infants and young children in Arizona. For example, a family with one infant and one preschooler can expect to pay about \$1,670 per month for a licensed child care provider. This monthly cost exceeds what many Arizonans pay per month for housing, creating potential financial challenges that are further compounded for families with multiple children under the age of 6.<sup>xvii, 219, 220</sup> The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) provides child care assistance to financially eligible families, including specific funding for families involved with the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS).<sup>221</sup> However, families that are eligible to receive funding may not have access to child care services in their community that are licensed or that accept assistance payments, leaving them unable to utilize the funding.<sup>222, 223</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, early childhood care and education services in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region are available through the Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start program, home providers who are certified by the tribe and off-reservation child care centers.<sup>224</sup> The Pascua Yaqui Tribe, First Things First Regional Partnership Council, and other community partners are currently developing the first tribal child care center on the reservation, which will use a Pascua Yaqui Curriculum that emphasizes the Yoeme language, history, and culture. The center is estimated to serve between 120-143 children birth to age 7.<sup>225</sup>
- In 2023, the Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start program enrolled 53 four-year-olds and 15 three-year-olds for a total of 68 enrolled children (Table 24). This represents a large portion of four-year-olds living in the region. However, according to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo defines its services area as the New Pascua Community, followed by all other Pascua Yaqui Communities in the Tucson Area, Yaqui Families living off-reservation, and finally other eligible families in the area. This means that enrollment likely includes children living outside of the region.<sup>226</sup> Community members indicated that the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start usually serves about 140 children, but enrollment has been low due to a need for more teachers.
- Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo has eight classrooms and, in a typical year, five of them are for 4-year-old children transitioning into Kindergarten while three classrooms are for 3-year-old children. Program hours are 8:00 am to 2:00 pm four days per week, and Wednesdays are half days from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.<sup>227</sup>

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<sup>xvii</sup> In addition to the financial challenges faced by parents paying for child care, the early care and education workforce is one of the most underpaid fields in the country. Nationally, educators working with infants and toddlers are 7.7 times more likely to live in poverty compared to K-8 teachers. The median hourly wage for a child care worker in Arizona (\$11.97) is \$13.19 less per hour than what is considered a living wage for a single parent with 1 child (\$25.16). For more information on early care and education workforce wages visit <https://cscce.berkeley.edu/workforce-index-2020/the-early-educator-workforce/early-educator-pay-economic-insecurity-across-the-states/>



- With funding from First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council, Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo offers a Summer Transition to Kindergarten program for children who did not have any previous preschool experiences. The program can enroll up to 60 children and runs for 20 days during the summer on a full day (8:00am -2:00 pm) schedule. In 2023, 45 children participated in early learning activities through the program.<sup>228, 229</sup>
- In 2019 and 2020, there were 21 family home providers certified/licensed by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program, which is under the tribe's Social Services Department. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program serves families who are enrolled in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and reside in Pima, Pinal or Maricopa County. Most of these providers were located in New Pascua and the Tucson area, and six of them were located outside of the region but within the tribal communities.<sup>230</sup> While the number of providers stayed the same, the number of children ages 0 to 5 that received services increased sharply from 17 in 2019 to 42 in 2020, while the number of 6 to 12-year-olds receiving services decreased slightly from 45 to 42 (Table 25).
- Funding from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program is also used to provide child care assistance to families whose children are enrolled in off-reservation private child care centers that are licensed by Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). To qualify for this assistance, families must be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe and reside in Pima, Pinal or Maricopa County.<sup>231</sup> Between 2019 and 2020, the number of young children (birth to age 6) receiving child care assistance from the Pascua Yaqui Child Care Development Fund decreased by 26 (from 120 in 2019 to 94 in 2020), likely due to COVID-related closures of child care centers. In 2019, children from birth to age 3 were receiving assistance the most frequently (51), but this decreased to 34 in 2020. In 2020, children ages 3 to 5 received assistance the most (50) (Table 26). See Table 27 for a list of off-reservation child care centers most often used by families receiving assistance.
- In May 2023, there were 40 early care and education providers active in the National Data System for Child Care that were operating within a 5-mile radius of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, an area which is shared with the Pima South and Tohono O'odham Nation First Things First Regions. These providers had a combined capacity of 1,031 children, which includes 823 slots across 11 child care centers and 208 slots across 29 family child care providers (Table 28).
- According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, the average monthly child care co-pay for families receiving assistance through the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program was \$93 in 2019. The co-pay differed by type of provider: families with children enrolled in off-reservation child care centers paid, on average, \$313 per month; those whose children were in group-home settings paid \$83; and families with children cared for by family home providers paid an average of \$32 each month.<sup>232</sup> This means that families receiving assistance paid substantially less than the median monthly cost of care for children in Pima County. The median cost for a preschooler ages 3-5 exceeds \$700 per month for any kind of care besides family home providers, and costs for children age 2 and younger are even higher (Figure 30).

- As a percentage of monthly income, full-time center-based care for an infant would cost 39% of the median family income in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region without a child care assistance. This percent decreases slightly when paying for care for a 1- to 2-year-old (32%) or a 3- to 5-year-old (29%). Based on the difference in median family income, the cost of unsubsidized center-based care as a percent of income would be much higher in the region than in the county or state (Figure 31).
- Median child care costs have risen 17% at certified family homes, 25% at small group homes, and between 6% and 16% at licensed centers in Pima County between 2018 and 2022. The percent increase is even higher across the state as a whole, likely making early care even less accessible and stressing the importance of assistance programs for low-income families in Arizona (Table 29). These data were not available specifically for the providers serving the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region.
- Families in the region may also receive assistance from DES.<sup>xviii</sup> The numbers of children ages birth to five that were eligible for and receiving child care assistance through the Department of Economic Security (DES) decreased sharply from 2020 onward. In 2022, only 18 children in the region were eligible for assistance, and only 13 were receiving assistance, down from 66 eligible for assistance and 57 receiving assistance in 2019 (Figure 32). This is dissimilar from the trend in Arizona as a whole. Note that the DES child care waitlist was suspended in 2019.
- Trends in DCS-involved children receiving child care assistance through DES resemble those for non-DCS-involved children. Between 2017 and 2022, the number of DCS-involved children eligible for assistance fell from 30 to less than 10, and those receiving likewise declined from 25 to less than 10. Statewide, uptake of assistance for DCS-involved children has also declined but at a much less dramatic rate (Figure 33).

Table 24. Children participating in Ili Uusim Mahtawa’apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start, federal fiscal year 2023

	Total funded slots	Total Cumulative Enrollment	Enrolled children age 3	Enrolled children age 4
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe</b>	68	68	15	53

Source: Office of Head Start (2023). 2023 Program Information Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://hses.ohs.acf.hhs.gov>

<sup>xviii</sup> According to the 2022 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program requires that families first apply for DES child care assistance. Proof of DES child care ineligibility is part of the required documentation to qualify for assistance under the tribe’s Child Care Program.

Table 25. Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program Indicators, 2019 to 2020

	2019	2020
Number of family home providers certified/licensed by the Pascua Yaqui Social Services Department	21	21
Total number of children (0-12) that received services from certified home based providers	62	84
Number of children ages 0-5 that received services from certified home based providers	17	42
Number of children in the waiting list for tribal CCDF assistance	0	0

Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from

<https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Table 26. Number of children birth to age 6 who received a child care assistance from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Development Fund, 2019 to 2020

	2019	2020
Total (birth to age 6)	120	94
Birth to age 3	51	34
Ages 3-5	48	50
Ages 5-6	21	10

Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from

<https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Table 27. Child care centers most often used by families receiving assistance from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program, 2019 to 2020

	Capacity	Ages served
Total	1,270	0-12 yrs
Brichta Early Learning Center	120*	0-5 yrs
De Colores	108	0-12 yrs
Children's Learning Adventure	450	0-12 yrs
Growing Steps	105	1-12 yrs
Herencia Guadalupana	59	0-12 yrs
La Petite	142	0-12 yrs
Little Friends	182	0-12 yrs
Wright Brothers Christian Academy	104	0-12 yrs

Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report.

Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from

<https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Table 28. Number and Capacity of Early Care & Education Providers active in the National Data System for Child Care, May 2023

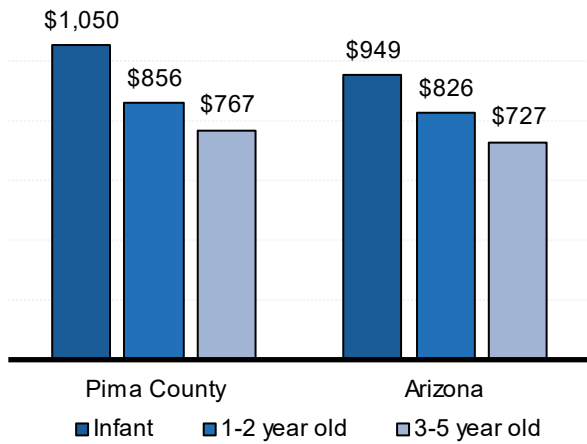
Geography	Total ECE Providers		Child care centers		Family child care providers		Nannies or individual providers	
	Number	Capacity	Number	Capacity	Number	Capacity	Number	Capacity
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region Area*</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Pima County	516	34,495	311	33,152	203	1,336	2	7
Arizona	2,454	211,860	1,933	208,407	516	3,435	5	18

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Child Care Administration dataset]. Unpublished data.

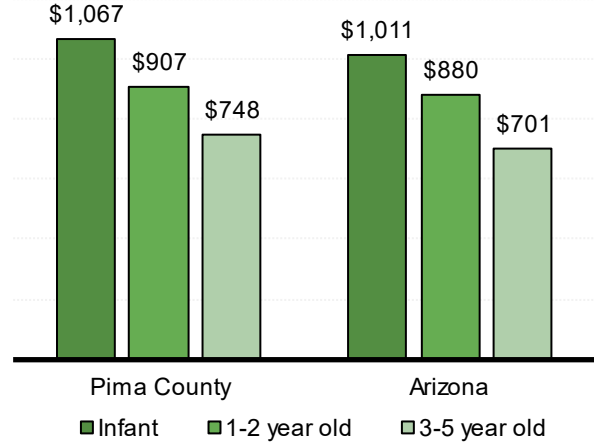
Note: \*The region row reflects early childcare and education (ECE) Providers registered with the Child Care Resource & Referral Guide within a 5-mile radius of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, which includes portions of the Pima South and Tohono O'odham Nation Regions. Providers in this table are those who were active in the National Data System for Child Care NACCRRAware database as of May 2023. This database of child care providers includes most state-licensed child care providers in the state of Arizona, but the database does not include informal or unlicensed providers or providers who are licensed through military or tribal authorities.

Figure 30. Median monthly charge for full-time child care, 2022

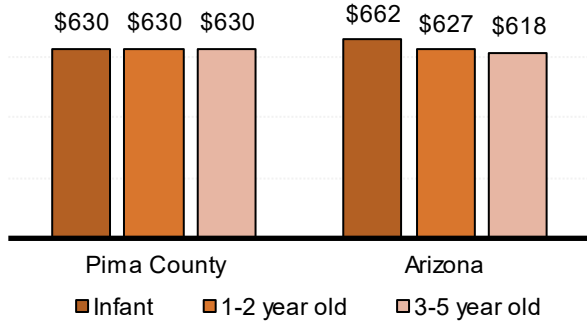
Licensed centers



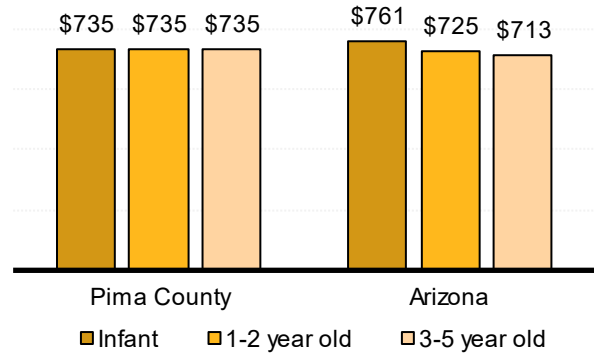
Public schools



Certified family homes



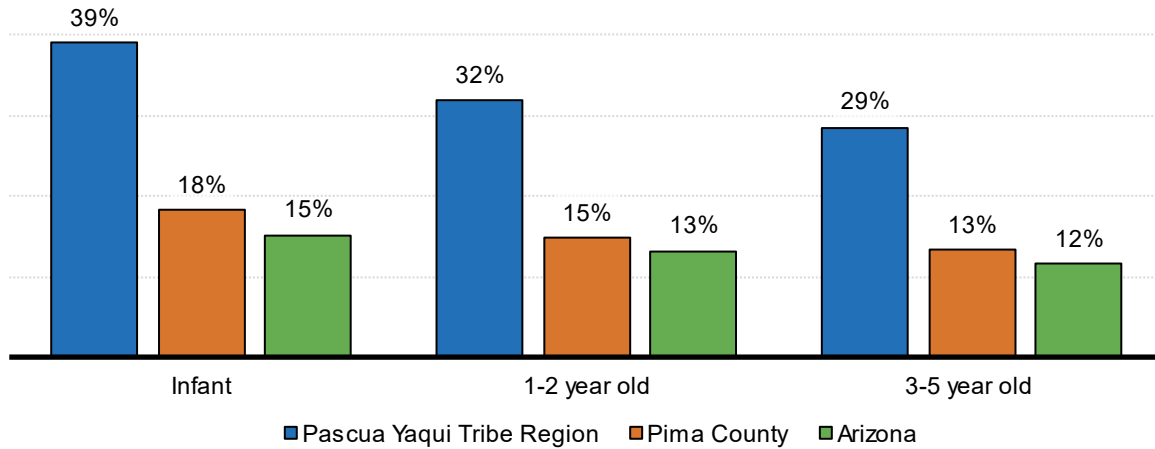
Small group homes



Source: Health Management Associates (2022). 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey. Arizona Department of Economic Security. Retrieved from <https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2022-Market-Rate-Survey.pdf?time=1670616239540>

Note: Median monthly charges are calculated by multiplying the daily median cost of care by 21 to approximate a full month of care.

Figure 31. Cost of center-based child care as a percentage of income, 2022



Source: Sources: Health Management Associates (2022). 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey. Arizona Department of Economic Security. Retrieved from <https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2022-Market-Rate-Survey.pdf?time=1670616239540> & U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B19126.

Note: Annual child care costs are calculated by multiplying the daily median cost of care by 252 to approximate a full year of care. Calculations for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region compare the median cost of care in Pima County to the median family income for families with children under age 18 in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region.

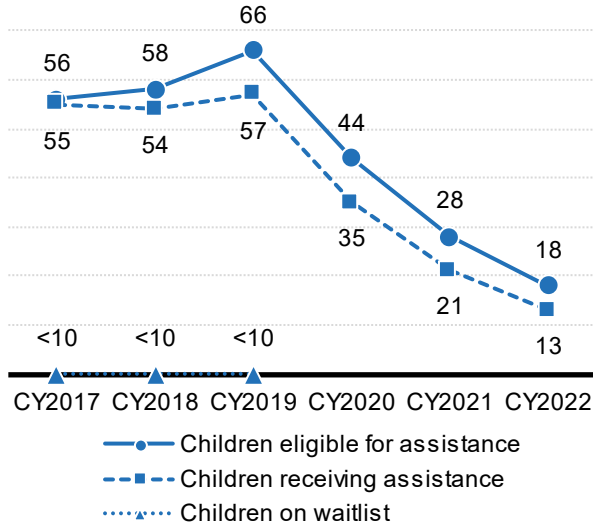
Table 29. Increase in median child care cost by provider type and child age, 2018 to 2022

Geography	Certified family homes			Small group homes			Licensed centers		
	One infant	One 1 or 2 year old	One 3 to 5 year old	One infant	One 1 or 2 year old	One 3 to 5 year old	One infant	One 1 or 2 year old	One 3 to 5 year old
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<i>Regional data not available</i>								
Pima County	+17%	+17%	+17%	+25%	+25%	+25%	+16%	+6%	+9%
Arizona	+26%	+23%	+26%	+28%	+28%	+28%	+21%	+19%	+18%

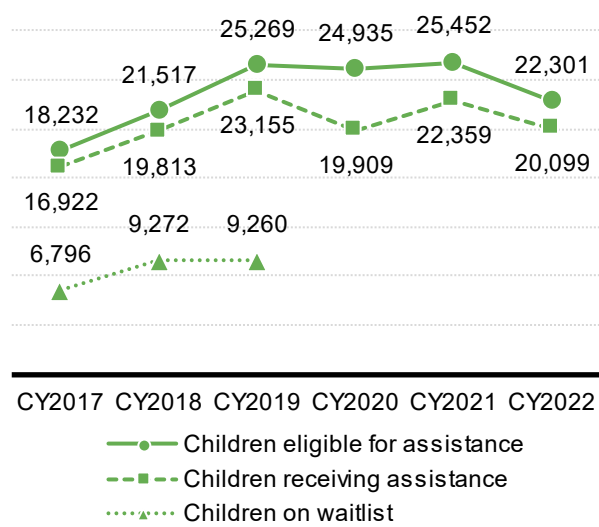
Source: Health Management Associates (2022). 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey. Arizona Department of Economic Security. Retrieved from <https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2022-Market-Rate-Survey.pdf?time=1670616239540>

Figure 32. Children ages 0-5 eligible for, receiving, and on waitlist for DES child care assistance, 2017 to 2022

Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region



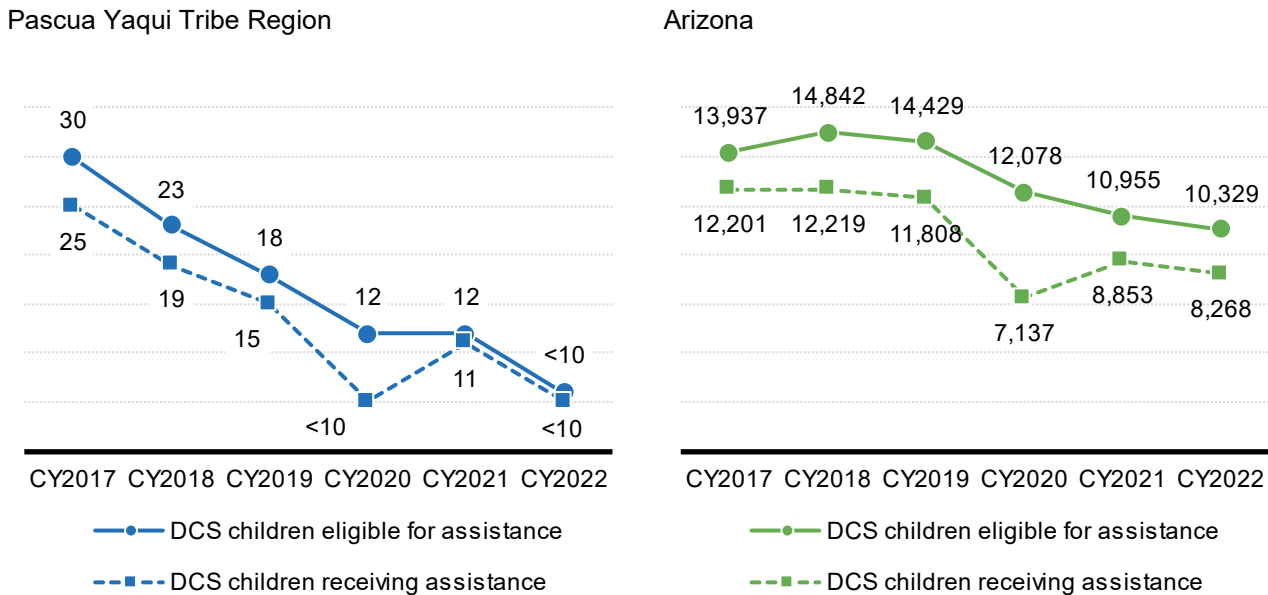
Arizona



Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Child Care Administration dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: The DES child care waitlist was suspended in June 2019, so there are no waitlist numbers for 2020 or beyond. DES child care assistance amounts vary based on a number of factors including the age of the child, the type of provider and the quality status of the provider. For more information please see the current DES reimbursement rates for child care at [https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/dl/CCA-1227A\\_1.pdf?time=1646262773961](https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/dl/CCA-1227A_1.pdf?time=1646262773961)

Figure 33. DCS-involved children ages 0-5 eligible for, receiving, and on waitlist for DES child care assistance, 2017 to 2022



Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Child Care Administration dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: The DES child care waitlist was suspended in June 2019, so there are no waitlist numbers for 2020 or beyond. DES child care assistance amounts vary based on a number of factors including the age of the child, the type of provider and the quality status of the provider. For more information please see the current DES reimbursement rates for child care at [https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/dl/CCA-1227A\\_1.pdf?time=1646262773961](https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/dl/CCA-1227A_1.pdf?time=1646262773961)

### High quality early care and education

Children who begin their education in high-quality preschool programs tend to repeat grades less frequently, obtain higher scores on standardized tests, experience fewer behavior problems and are more likely to graduate from high school.<sup>233</sup> This provides a return on investment to society through increased educational achievement and employment, reductions in crime and better overall health of children as they mature into adults.<sup>234, 235</sup> The key ingredients in positive early experiences include responsive relationships, core adaptive skills development, reduced sources of stress and appropriate nutrition – all things that quality early care and education are in a unique position to provide at the critical time to encourage optimal learning and well-being for years to come.<sup>236</sup> Early care and education shapes far more than a child’s future academic achievement, and an investment in early childhood can be one of the most productive investments a community can make.<sup>237</sup>

One way that the quality of early child care and education is measured in Arizona is through the Quality First program.<sup>238</sup> The Quality First program rates the quality of child care providers and preschools on a scale of one to five stars, with providers considered high quality when they have received a three-star rating or higher. Quality First also offers training and funding for participating schools and providers to improve their services.<sup>239</sup> Quality First providers are supported by regional funding.



### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

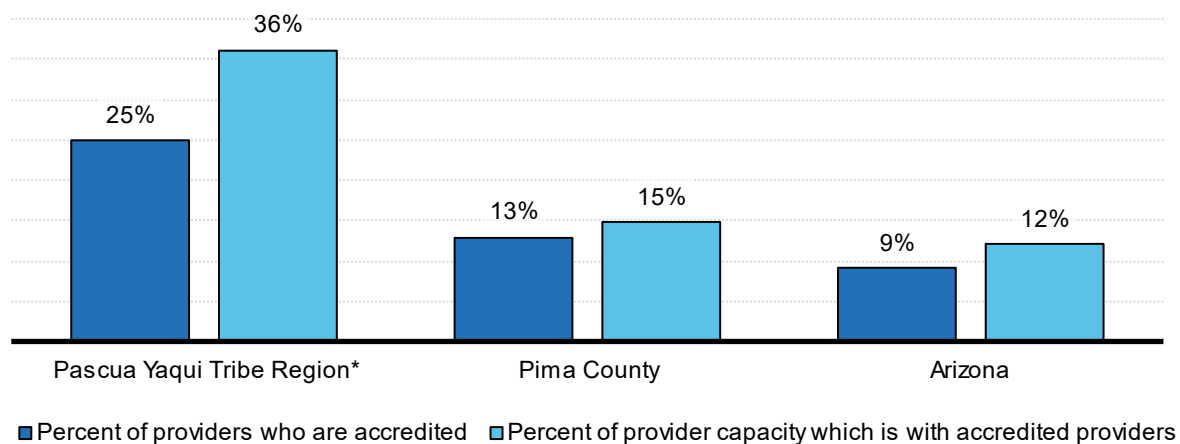
- As of 2023, the Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start was a Quality First child care provider funded through the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) expansion, part of the American Rescue Plan/CARES Act in 2022 (Table 30). This provider does not yet have a public star rating. As DES expansion funding is ending, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council will take over funding the quality first slot for Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start, as well as the new early learning center once it opens.<sup>240</sup>
- Compared to Pima County, a higher percentage of providers located within a 5-mile radius of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region are accredited (25%). Over a third (36%) of young children in the region could attend an accredited child care provider based on these providers' capacity (Figure 34).

Table 30. Quality First child care providers by funding source, state fiscal year 2023

Geography	Child care providers served	Regional Funding	DES Expansion	Buy-In
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	1	0	1	0
Pima County	County data not available			
Arizona	1,434	1,045	384	5

Source: First Things First (2023). Quality First Summary Data. Unpublished data.

Figure 34. Percent of child care providers with accreditation and percent of capacity in accredited providers, May 2023



Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Child Care Administration dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: \* The region row reflects early child care and education (ECE) Providers registered with the Child Care Resource & Referral Guide within a 5-mile radius of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, which includes portions of the Pima South and Tohono O’odham Nation Regions. There are 10 accredited providers with a capacity to serve 373 children within 5 miles of the region.

### Young children with special needs

Timely intervention can improve the language, cognitive and socio-emotional developmental outcomes of young children who have, or are at risk for, developmental delays.<sup>241, 242, 243</sup> Early intervention also reduces educational costs by decreasing the need for special education.<sup>244</sup> Ensuring that children have access to timely and adequate screening and intervention services from birth to age 5 can be key for preparing children for kindergarten.

In Arizona, the Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP),<sup>xxix</sup> the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)<sup>xxx</sup> and the Arizona Department of Education Early Childhood Special Education Program are designed to provide services to families with children who have special needs.<sup>xxxi</sup> AzEIP is a division of DES that provides early intervention and a variety of supportive services to Arizona children birth to age 2 with disabilities and their families.<sup>245</sup> The goal of these services is to improve the learning and development of children and inform their family members of how they can best support their child.<sup>246</sup> DDD is a division of DES that provides supportive services to people of all ages with a qualifying developmental disability, including cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorder, down syndrome, epilepsy and cognitive disabilities.<sup>247</sup> Children under the age of 6 that have been assessed by AzEIP to have a qualifying disability may also receive DDD services. At age 3, children with special needs transition from AzEIP services to their local education agency (LEA), usually a school district. Each Arizona school district is mandated to participate in Child Find<sup>xxii</sup> and to provide preschool services to children with special needs either through their own schools or through agreements with other programs such as Head Start.

The availability of early learning opportunities and services for young children with special needs is an ongoing concern across the state, particularly in the more geographically remote communities and tribal nations. According to national research, insufficient funding and staffing of these programs are the greatest obstacles to identifying and providing resources for all children who would benefit from early intervention, and Arizona already falls in the bottom 10 states in the nation for early intervention service provision.<sup>248</sup> Fewer children in Arizona are accessing critical early intervention services that can identify disabilities, provide parent-coaching and encourage optimal development at home.<sup>249</sup> This matters because, while early education discussions often center around pre-kindergarten for 4-year-olds, research continues to point to the impact of experiences during the first 3 years of life as being just as crucial for healthy brain and body development.<sup>250</sup> Positively, Arizona has taken steps toward improving funding for early intervention, including being 1 of 10 states to cross-reference Medicaid and Early Intervention data to maximize federal Medicaid matching of funds.<sup>251</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- Qualifying children may receive services from either AzEIP and/or DDD, a number which can be used to estimate the total number of young children receiving early intervention services in a

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<sup>xxix</sup> For more information on AzEIP (which is a division of the Department of Economic Security), visit <https://www.azdes.gov/azeip/>

<sup>xxx</sup> For more information on DDD (which is a division of the Department of Economic Security), visit <https://des.az.gov/services/disabilities/developmental-disabilities>

<sup>xxxi</sup> For more information on ADE's Early Childhood Special Education program, visit <http://www.azed.gov/ece/early-childhood-special-education/> and <http://www.azed.gov/special-education/az-find/>

<sup>xxii</sup> The Arizona Child Find program is a component of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that requires states to identify and evaluate all children with disabilities (birth through age 21) to attempt to ensure that they receive the supports and services they need.

region. For children birth to age 2, fewer than 10 children in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region received services from AzEIP and/or DDD each year between 2019 and 2022 (Table 31).

- Most children (birth to 2) referred to AzEIP were referred by a physician, between 61% and 85% from 2018 to 2022 (Figure 35).
- In the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, 27% of children (birth to 2) who were referred to AzEIP in 2022 received services, a larger proportion than seen in Pima County (18%) and Arizona (21%). Notably, providers were not able to contact the families of nearly half of children referred to AzEIP (47%), which is more than twice the rate for Pima County (21%). Another 13% of families whose young child was found eligible declined services (Figure 36).
- According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Education Department provides support services for students with special needs enrolled in Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start and in public schools who have an Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start has a full-time interventionist who works with children on site, and the special education advocate with the Tribe's Education Department is also able to provide advocacy services to parents and caregivers.<sup>252</sup>
- In 2022, a total of 416 students in preschool through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students were enrolled in special education. This includes 59 preschoolers, 67 kindergarteners and 102 1<sup>st</sup> graders, 95 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and 93 3<sup>rd</sup> graders (Table 32). However, the number of preschoolers with disabilities served by a Local Educational Agency (LEA) in SFY 2022 (n=59) decreased substantially from previous years, when it was between 76 and 80 (Figure 37). Please note that these data reflect students of all races and ethnicities.
- Of the preschoolers with disabilities receiving services through LEAs between 2018 and 2022, 63% were diagnosed with a speech or language delay, 24% with developmental delay, and 14% with a preschool severe delay. The proportion of preschoolers with speech or language impairment is much higher than that seen in the county, and developmental delay much lower (Figure 38).
- Among kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students enrolled in special education in off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students during this same time period (2018-2022), more than half were diagnosed with a speech or language impairment (52%), 29% a developmental delay, 7% a specific learning disability, 5% autism, and 7% another disability. Again, the proportion of children diagnosed with a speech or language impairment is higher for students attending schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students (52%) than Pima County (43%) and Arizona (36%) (Figure 39).
- According to the 2022 Needs and Assets Report, staff from the Yaqui Education Services attends biweekly or monthly meetings to coordinate support services to students with special needs

enrolled in public schools in the area. Tucson Unified and Sunnyside Unified School Districts provide the Tribe’s Education Department with a list of students who have IEPs or 504 plans.<sup>xxiii</sup> As of August of 2021, 120 students (in all grades) were identified as eligible for special education services and were receiving support from the Yaqui Education Services Program.<sup>253</sup>

Table 31. Number of children (ages 0-2) receiving AzEIP and/or DDD services, state fiscal years 2019 to 2022

Geography	Number of children ages 0-2 receiving services from AzEIP and/or DDD				Population ages 0-2 (Census 2020)	Estimated percent of children (ages 0-2) receiving AzEIP and/or DDD services, SFY 2022
	SFY 2019	SFY 2020	SFY 2021	SFY 2022		
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>0.7 to 6.0%</b>
Pima County	750	565	678	590	29,364	2.0%
Arizona	6,376	5,721	5,916	5,876	225,737	2.6%

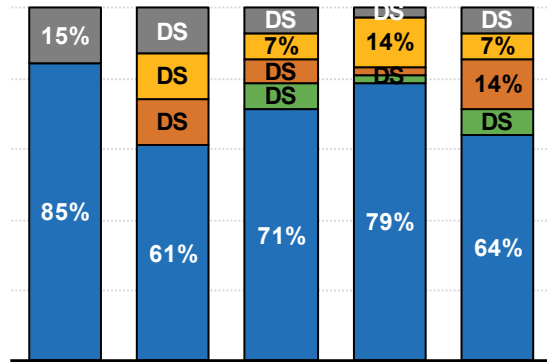
Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [AzEIP dataset]. Unpublished data.

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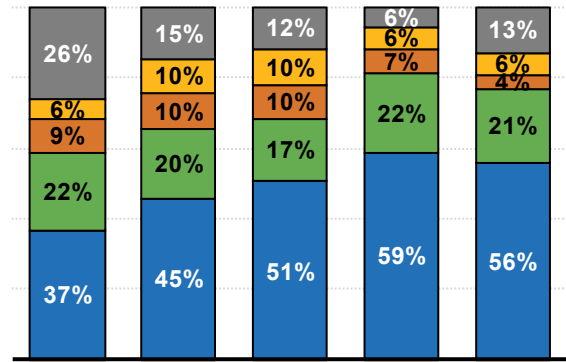
<sup>xxiii</sup> Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) prohibits disability-related discrimination by entities that receive federal funds, such as public school districts and charter schools. A 504 Plan is a document that outlines the accommodations that need to be made at school for children with disabilities to ensure adequate access to the learning environment and their academic success.

Figure 35. Children birth to age 2 referred to AzEIP by referral source, federal fiscal years 2018 to 2022

Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region



Arizona



FFY 2018 FFY 2019 FFY 2020 FFY 2021 FFY 2022

FFY 2018 FFY 2019 FFY 2020 FFY 2021 FFY 2022

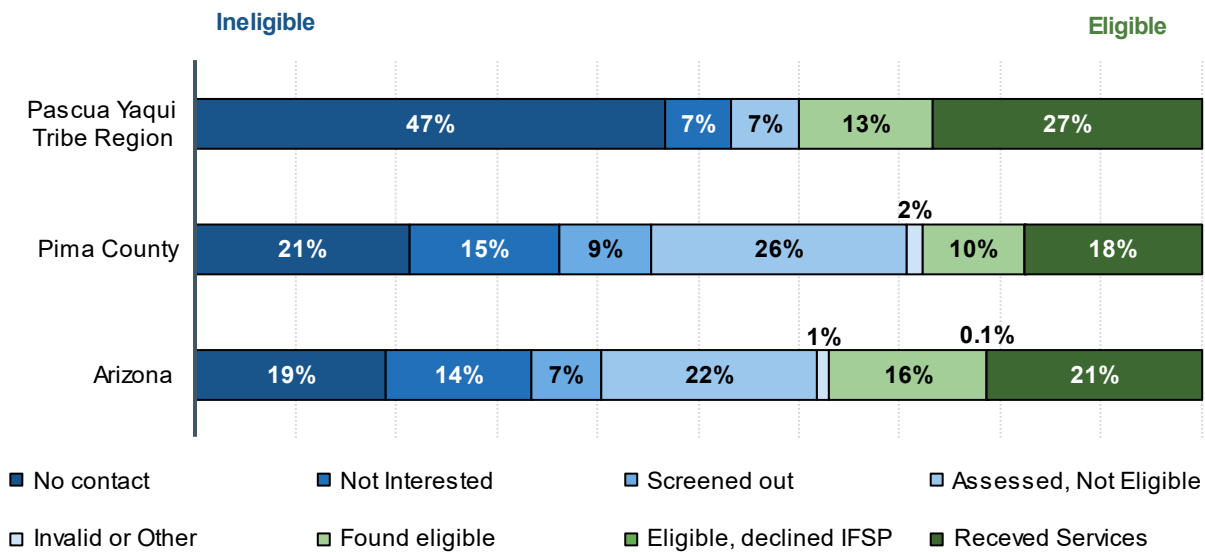
- Other
- Public health/social service agency
- Hospital
- Parent/family
- Physician

- Other
- Public health/social service agency
- Hospital
- Parent/family
- Physician

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Arizona Early Intervention Program dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Other referral sources include audiologists, child care or early learning programs, foster care or adoption agencies, homeless shelters or programs, public health facilities, schools, Department of Child Safety, or referrals without a recorded sources. These referrals reflect unique children (duplicates have been removed). "DS" indicates that too few children were referred from that source to calculate an accurate percentage under data suppression policies.

Figure 36. Outcomes for children birth to age 2 referred to AzEIP, federal fiscal year 2022



Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Arizona Early Intervention Program dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: These referral outcomes are recorded by AzEIP service providers. “No contact” means that a service coordinator made multiple attempts to contact a child’s family but was unsuccessful. “Not interested” indicates that when contacted the family of the child did not proceed with screening for eligibility. Children who are “screened out” were not suspected to have a qualifying developmental delay based on an initial developmental screening with a service coordinator; children who are “assessed, not eligible” are those with a formal evaluation who were found to not have a qualifying developmental delay. “Invalid or Other” refers to cases where the child was over-age (age 3 or older) or residing outside Arizona, the referral was a duplicate, the referral was for information-only, or the outcome was listed as “other.”

Table 32. Preschool to 3rd grade students enrolled in special education, state fiscal years 2022

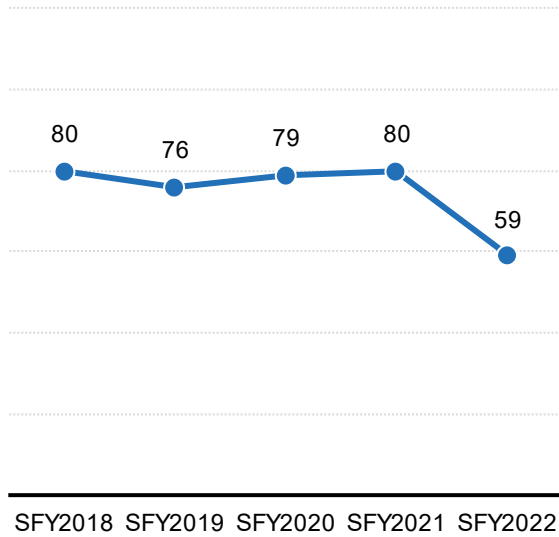
	Students enrolled in special education, SFY2022				
	Preschool	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	59	67	102	95	93
Pima County schools	983	967	1,366	1,563	1,629
Arizona school	8,086	6,693	9,212	10,350	11,079

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Special Needs Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

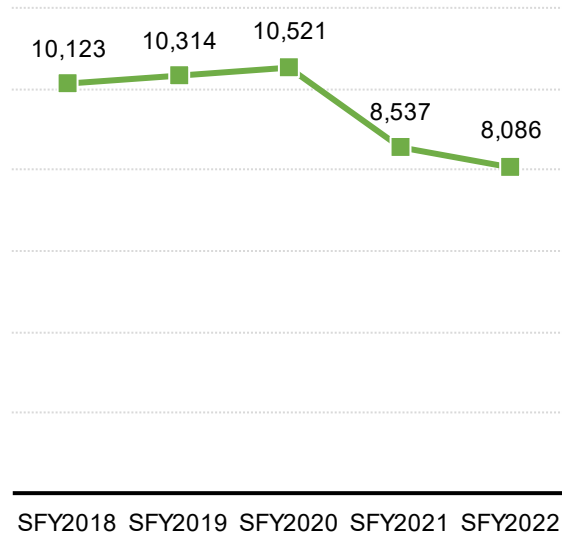
Note: The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from Drachman Primary Magnet School, Raul Grijalva Elementary School, Harriet Johnson Primary School, Maldonado Elementary School, Miller Elementary School, Vesey Elementary School, Frances J Warren Elementary School, John E White Elementary School, Anna Lawrence Intermediate School, Hollinger K-8 School, McCorkle PK-8 School, Roskruge Bilingual Magnet Middle School, Safford K-8 School, (all Tucson Unified School District schools), as well as Academy Del Sol – Star Valley and Ha:sa:n Preparatory & Leadership School (both charter schools).

Figure 37. Trends in preschoolers with disabilities served by LEAs, state fiscal years 2018 to 2022

Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students



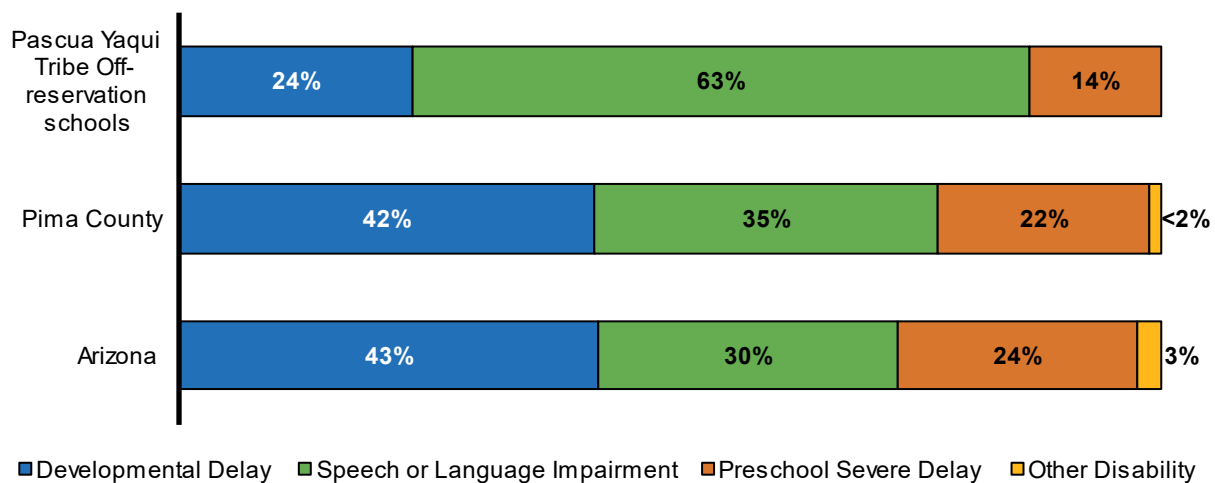
Arizona



Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Special Needs Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

Note: The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list.

Figure 38. Preschoolers with disabilities receiving services through Local Education Agencies (LEAs) by type of disability, state fiscal years 2018-2022 combined

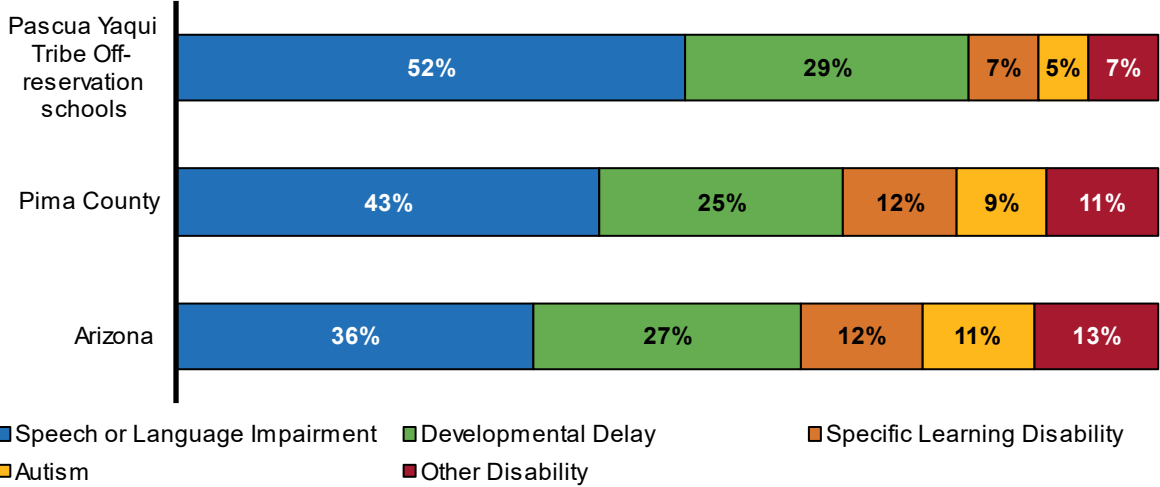


Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Special Needs Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

Note: The ‘Other Disability’ category includes children with hearing impairment, visual impairment, or deaf-blindness. The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list.



Figure 39. Kindergarten to 3rd grade students enrolled in special education in public and charter schools by primary disability, state fiscal years 2018- 2022 combined



Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Special Needs Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

Note: The “Other Disabilities” category includes children with emotional disturbance, deafness, deaf-blindness, hearing impairment, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments such as chronic medical conditions that affect a child’s ability to participate in the educational setting, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment. The ‘Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students’ row includes data from schools outside the region—see Appendix 4 for a full list.

Additional data tables related to *Early Learning* can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.



## CHILD HEALTH

# CHILD HEALTH

## Why it Matters

The physical and mental health of both children and their caregivers are important for optimal child development and well-being. Early childhood health, and even maternal health before pregnancy, has lasting impacts on an individual's quality of life.<sup>254, 255</sup> Experiences during the prenatal and early childhood periods can result in lifelong impacts on immune functioning, brain development and risk for chronic diseases.<sup>256, 257</sup> Poor health in childhood can also result in lower educational attainment and socioeconomic status in adolescence, adulthood and even inter-generationally.<sup>258, 259</sup> Therefore, adequate access to preventive care and treatment services is vital to support a child's long-term health, development and success.<sup>260, 261, 262</sup> Members of federally-recognized tribes have access to health care services provided through the Indian Health Services (IHS) and/or tribally-administered health care facilities.<sup>263, 264</sup>

## What the Data Tell Us

### Access to health services

Health insurance coverage is an important indicator of whether families can access, afford and utilize medical care. In Arizona, children up to 19 years of age can enroll in health insurance through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS), Arizona's Medicaid program. Children whose families earn too much to qualify for AHCCCS but do not earn enough to afford private health insurance may also be enrolled in KidsCare, Arizona's Children's Health Insurance Program.<sup>xxiv</sup> During the COVID-19 pandemic, uninsured rates declined due to federal policies prohibiting states from disenrolling people from Medicaid.<sup>265</sup> Despite these efforts, uninsured rates in the overall population are still high.<sup>266</sup> One primary reason for this is perceived cost, with more than two-thirds (69.6%) of uninsured U.S. adults citing their inability to pay for health insurance as the primary reason they were uninsured.<sup>267</sup> Families who qualify for low- or no-cost health insurance may not be aware that they qualify or they may face administrative barriers to enrolling.<sup>268</sup>

A variety of health outcomes for both mothers and infants depend on access to quality health care and support before, during and after pregnancy. Early initiation of prenatal care reduces the risk of prenatal smoking, pregnancy complications,<sup>xxv</sup> premature births and maternal and infant mortality.<sup>269, 270, 271, 272, 273</sup> Poor access to maternal health care (e.g., hospitals with labor and delivery units, birth centers and obstetric providers) is one factor that can contribute to these outcomes.<sup>274, 275, 276</sup> Black, Hispanic,

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<sup>xxiv</sup> For more information on AHCCCS and KidsCare see: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/Members/GetCovered/Categories/KidsCare.html>

<sup>xxv</sup> One such complication is congenital syphilis, where untreated maternal syphilis is passed to the fetus and can lead to stillbirth or infant death. The number of babies born in Arizona with congenital syphilis increased more than 10-fold in the last 6 years, even though congenital syphilis can be prevented with adequate prenatal care. For more information, see: <https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/disease-integration-services/std-control/congenital-syphilis/index.php>

American Indian and Alaska Native mothers experience a disproportionate lack of access to quality health care and support for their pregnancies.<sup>277, 278</sup> Lack of access to this care has contributed to considerably higher rates of low birth weight, preterm births and maternal and infant mortality compared to non-Hispanic White Americans.<sup>279, 280, 281</sup> Efforts to increase the number of women in Arizona with access to early prenatal care, such as expanding access to telehealth care and midwifery care, could improve the health outcomes of the state's mothers and babies, especially in counties with lower access to maternal health care services.<sup>282</sup>

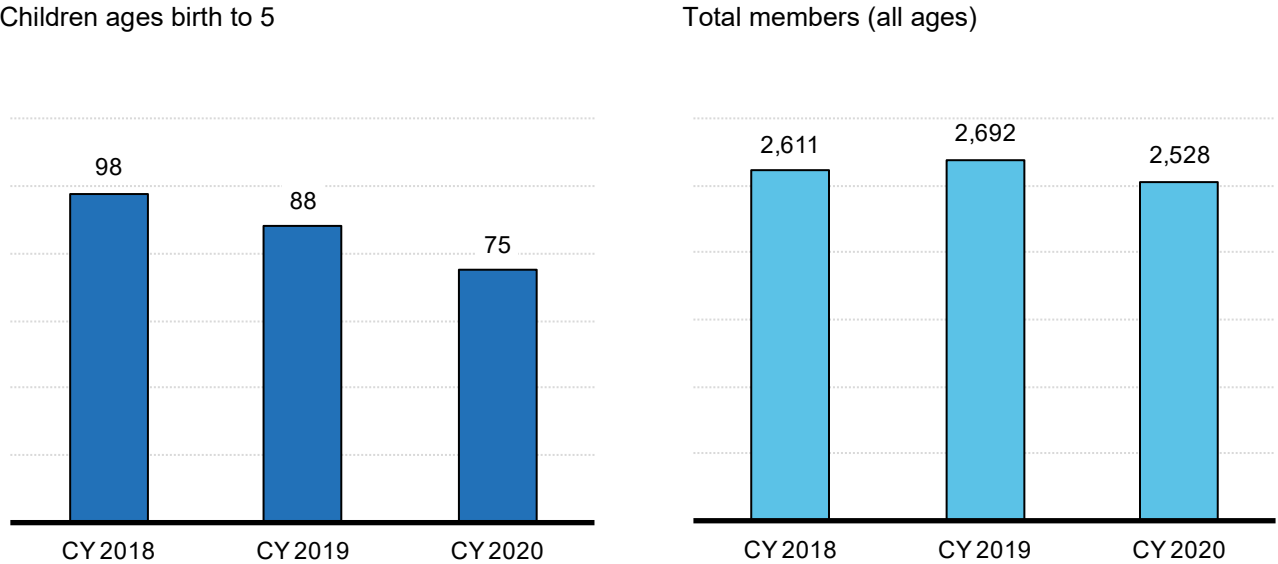
Like many rural communities, Native communities often have lower access to high-quality health care. Hospitals and specialty services are fewer and further-between on reservations and in rural areas than in urban areas, and factors such as poor road conditions and lower transportation and internet access can further worsen access issues. Additionally, a report from 2022 estimated that the IHS, through which many tribal members access services, is chronically underfunded by as much as 50% compared to health care needs.<sup>283, 284</sup> Significant and sustained investment is needed to reduce this gap in adequate health care services for Native communities.

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, health care services are available to residents from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region through the Pascua Yaqui Health Services Division (PYHSD). PYHSD provides services to community members using a combination of federal, state, tribal, and private funds. In 2021, PYHSD was approved by the Public Health Accreditation Board to be an Accredited Public Health Department, which can help advance the quality, performance, accountability, and management of community health departments.<sup>285, 286</sup> Notably, Pascua Yaqui Tribe is the first tribe in Arizona to receive this accreditation.
- Residents of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region who are members of a federally recognized tribe and qualify for health care services through IHS are eligible to be enrolled in the Yoeme Health Plan. The Yoeme Health Plan is a managed care plan that was established for community members who do not have access to health care coverage through other means including Arizona's Medicaid Program, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS).<sup>287</sup> Between 2018 and 2020, the number of children birth to 5 enrolled in the Yoeme Health Plan decreased from 98 to 75 (Figure 40).
- In 2020 and 2021, over half of births in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were covered by AHCCCS insurance (54% and 58%, respectively), which is lower than AHCCCS coverage across Arizona reservations (71% in 2020) but slightly higher than Pima County (50% and 48%, respectively). Another 23%-30% of births were covered by IHS, which is higher than seen on all Arizona reservations (16% in 2020). Overall, the proportion of births covered by either AHCCCS or IHS is similar in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe region (77% and 88%, respectively) to all Arizona reservations (86% in 2020) (Table 33).

- Between 2018 and 2022, the proportion of births in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region paid for by AHCCCS fluctuated from a low of 48% in 2019 to a high of 60% in 2021. Correspondingly, the portion of births paid by IHS ranged between 23% in 2021 and 43% in 2019. From 2018 to 2020, the proportion of births paid for by AHCCCS was lower in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region than the proportion in all Arizona reservations (Figure 41).
- In 2021, just over half (56%, respectively) of the 50 births in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were to mothers who began prenatal care in the first trimester, while about one in 8 (14%) births were to mothers who had fewer than five prenatal visits, and another 6% were to mothers who had no prenatal care. This is similar to the proportion of births with different levels of prenatal care across all Arizona Reservations in 2020. In Pima County and Arizona, mothers giving birth in 2020 or 2021 initiated prenatal care in the first trimester at much higher rates (between +7% and +17% compared with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region) and were less likely to have no or fewer than 5 prenatal visits (Table 34).
- While the proportion of births in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region to mothers who began prenatal care in the first trimester decreased to a low of 54% in 2020, this proportion increased to 65% in 2022, the highest percentage seen in recent years (Figure 42).

Figure 40. Active members in Yoeme Health Plan, 2018 to 2020



Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Table 33. Insurance coverage for babies born in 2020 and 2021

Geography	Calendar year	Number of births	Birth was covered by AHCCCS	Birth was covered by IHS	Birth was covered by AHCCCS or IHS
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	2020	52	54%	23%	77%
	2021	50	58%	30%	88%
All Arizona Reservations	2020	1,900	71%	16%	86%
	2021	Data for All Arizona Reservations not available			
Pima County	2020	10,035	50%	1%	51%
	2021	9,970	48%	1%	49%
Arizona	2020	76,781	48%	1%	49%
	2021	77,857	46%	1%	47%

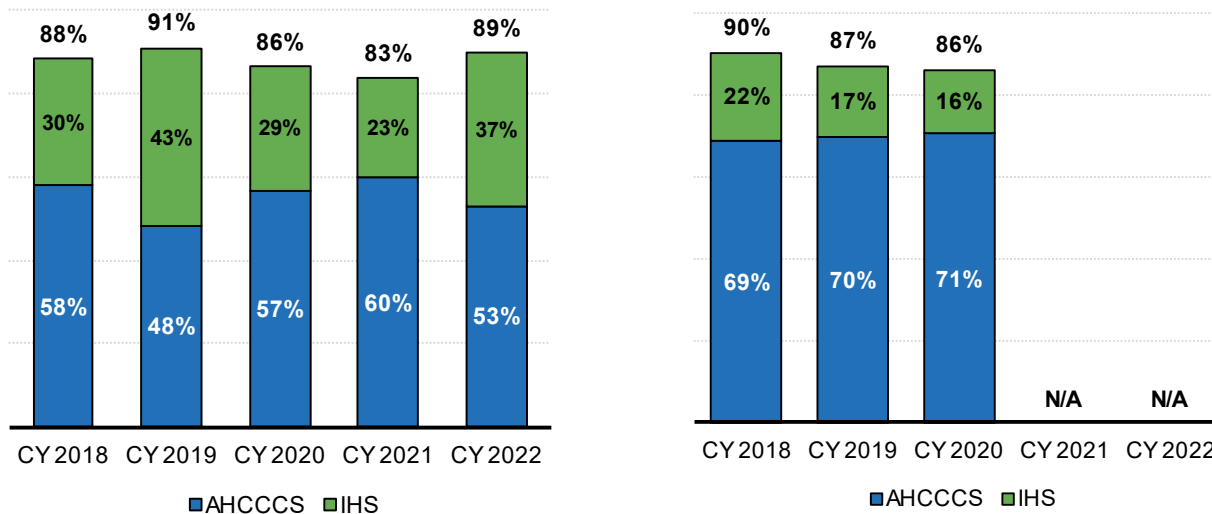
Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this table. Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding. ‘All Arizona Reservations’ row reflects only births to American Indian mothers residing on Arizona reservations. The Health status profile of American Indian in Arizona for 2021 has not yet been released. Due to data suppression of counts of births between 1 and 5, some values are shown as a range, with the true value falling somewhere within the range.

Figure 41. Births paid for by AHCCCS or IHS, 2018 to 2022

Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region

All Arizona Reservations



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this figure. ‘All Arizona Reservations’ figure reflects only births to American Indian mothers residing on Arizona reservations. The Health status profiles of American Indian in Arizona for 2021 and 2022 have not yet been released. Due to data suppression of counts of births between 1 and 5, some values are shown as a range, with the true value falling somewhere within the range.

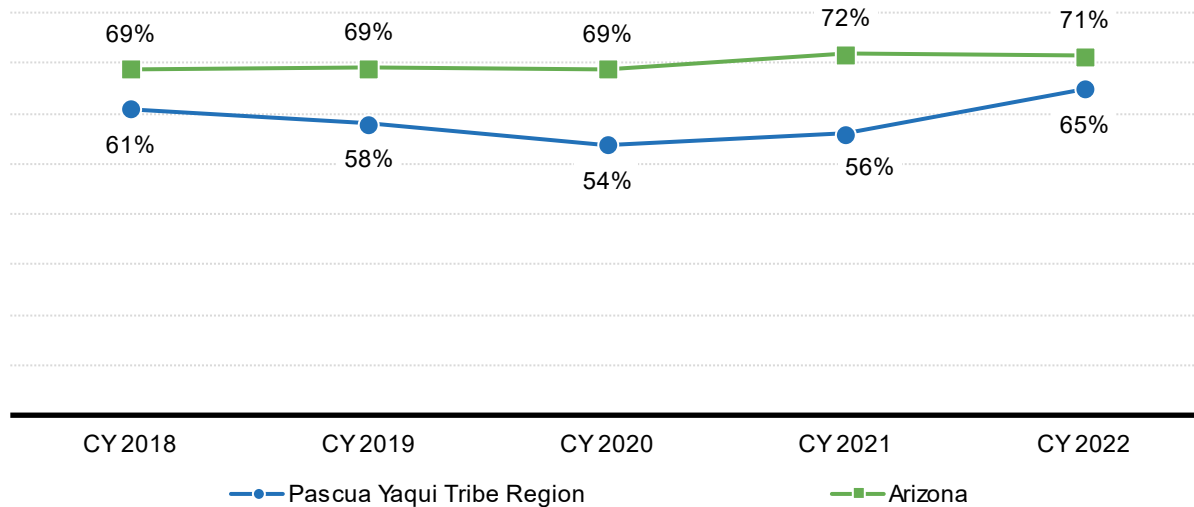
Table 34. Prenatal care for the mothers of babies born in 2020 and 2021

Geography	Calendar year	Number of births	Mother had no prenatal care	Mother had fewer than five prenatal visits	Mother began prenatal care in the first trimester
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	2020	52	13%	13%	53.8%
	2021	50	6%	14%	56.0%
All Arizona Reservations	2020	1,900	5%	14%	55.8%
	2021	Data for All Arizona Reservations not available			
Pima County	2020	10,035	5%	9%	61.6%
	2021	9,970	5%	6%	68.8%
Arizona	2020	76,781	2%	5%	68.8%
	2021	77,857	2%	5%	71.7%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this table. 'All Arizona Reservations' row reflects only births to American Indian mothers residing on Arizona reservations. The Health status profile of American Indian in Arizona for 2021 has not yet been released. Due to data suppression of counts of births between 1 and 5, some values are shown as a range, with the true value falling somewhere within the range.

Figure 42. Births to mothers who began prenatal care in the first trimester, 2018 to 2022



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this figure. Due to data suppression of counts of births between 1 and 5, some values are shown as a range, with the true value falling somewhere within the range.

## Maternal age and substance abuse

Infants' immediate and long-term health can be influenced by maternal characteristics including age and substance use during or after pregnancy. For example, teenage parents often experience increased stress and hardship in comparison to older parents and other non-parent teenagers as they are less likely to complete high school or college and more likely to maintain a lower socioeconomic status and require public assistance to make ends meet.<sup>288, 289, 290, 291, 292</sup>

The use of substances during pregnancy can cause negative health complications for fetuses and babies. For example, babies born to mothers who smoked cigarettes during pregnancy are more likely to be born preterm, have low birth weight, die from sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and have weak lungs.<sup>293, 294</sup> The use of opioids, whether prescribed or illicit, during pregnancy also poses health risks to developing fetuses including preterm birth, stillbirth and birth defects.<sup>295</sup> It may also cause infants to experience withdrawal symptoms after birth, which is referred to as neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS). Symptoms of NAS include sleep problems, seizures, poor feeding, dehydration, loose stool, sweating, tremors and vomiting. In Native communities, substance abuse issues can be linked to historical trauma and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). Protective factors, which are also important elements of effective substance use interventions, include cultural and family connection and traditional healing.<sup>296, 297</sup>

### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

- Of the 224 births in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region between 2019 and 2022, 12% were to mothers younger than 20, which is higher than the 9% of births across all Arizona reservations and 5% in Pima County and Arizona as a whole (in 2020). One-third of these births to teenaged mothers (4%) were to mothers younger than 18 (Table 35).
- The share of mothers giving birth between 2019 and 2022 who smoked cigarettes during pregnancy is much smaller in the region (2.7%) than in all Arizona reservations (11.1%), Pima County (4.4%) and Arizona overall (3.6%) in 2020. The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region and Arizona were meeting the Healthy People 2030 target of no more than 4.3% of females using tobacco during pregnancy (Table 35).
- Looking at trends over time, the share of births to teenaged mothers (younger than 20) nearly doubled in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region between 2019 and 2021, a period that coincides with the most disruptive years of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the percentage of births to teenaged mothers decreased in 2022. In Arizona, births to teenaged mothers both younger than 20 and younger than 18 have declined year over year (Figure 43).
- Between 2018 and 2022, 24 newborns were hospitalized because of maternal drug use during pregnancy in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region. Based on the total number of births, this equates to 8 newborns hospitalized per 100 births, more than double the 3.3 newborns hospitalized per 100 live births in the state. The average length of hospital stay was longer in the region (12.2 days) than in Pima County (11.1 days) and Arizona as a whole (9.5 days) (Table 36).



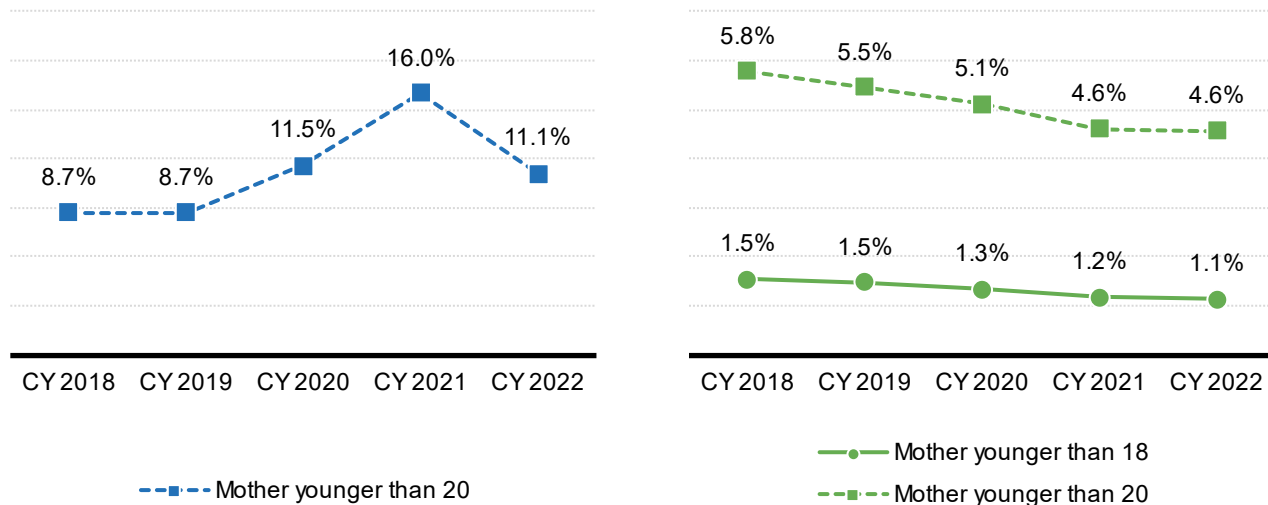
Table 35. Selected characteristics of mothers giving birth, 2020 to 2021

Geography	Calendar year	Number of births	Mother was younger than 18	Mother was younger than 20	Mother smoked cigarettes during pregnancy
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	2020	52	1.9 to 9.6%	12%	1.9 to 9.6%
	2021	50	2 to 10%	16%	0.0%
	2019 to 2022 combined	224	4%	12%	2.7%
All Arizona Reservations	2020	1,900	4%	9%	11.1%
	2021	<i>Data for All Arizona Reservations not available</i>			
Pima County	2020	10,035	1%	5%	4.4%
	2021	9,970	1%	5%	4.2%
Arizona	2020	76,781	1%	5%	3.6%
	2021	77,857	1%	5%	3.2%
Healthy People 2030 target					4.3%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this table. The Healthy People 2030 target for maternal use of tobacco during pregnancy is 95.7% of females reporting abstaining from smoking during pregnancy. 'All Arizona Reservations' row reflects only births to American Indian mothers residing on Arizona reservations. The Health Status Profile of American Indian in Arizona for 2021 has not yet been released.

Figure 43. Births to mothers who were younger than 20, 2018 to 2022  
 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region Arizona



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this figure. Due to data suppression of counts of births between 1 and 5, some values are shown as a range, with the true value falling somewhere within the range. Data for mothers younger than 18 could not be shown in the region because there were fewer than 6 births to these mothers in any given year over the past 5 years.

Table 36. Newborns hospitalized because of maternal drug use during pregnancy, 2018-2022 combined

Geography	Newborns hospitalized	Average length of stay (days)
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12.2</b>
Pima County	1,851	11.1
Arizona	12,939	9.5

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Hospital Discharge dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Data on newborns hospitalizations were geocoded to FTF regions using the address provided by parents at the time of hospitalization; however, in cases where the address provided was not valid, hospitalizations could not be assigned to a region. County of residence is captured separately from addresses, meaning that counts in the county often exceed those seen in a particular region because they include all newborns regardless of address validity.

### Maternal health and well-being

A pregnant woman’s health and well-being are closely linked to infant and child health and development. Gestational diabetes (i.e., diabetes that only presents during the pregnancy) increases the likelihood of an infant having low blood sugar, being born preterm, being larger than average at birth, needing to be delivered through cesarean section and even developing type 2 diabetes and

cardiovascular diseases later in life.<sup>298, 299</sup> Children of mothers categorized as having maternal obesity have increased risk of birth complications, asthma, diabetes, heart disease and neonatal and infant mortality.<sup>300, 301, 302</sup> A variety of social determinants of health have been linked to the development of diabetes and obesity, including low socioeconomic status, employment struggles, lack of health insurance and living in rural areas with fewer resources.<sup>303, 304, 305, 306</sup> Risks associated with these conditions can be reduced through increased access to maternal health care before, during and after childbirth as well as planning high-risk deliveries at hospital facilities with more resources and technical expertise.<sup>307, 308</sup>

Postpartum depression has a clear link to negative outcomes in infant health and development. Untreated postpartum depression can lead to infant sleeping, eating and behavioral problems, issues with maternal and infant bonding and infant developmental delays.<sup>309,310</sup> Groups that have higher rates of postpartum depression include American Indian and Alaska Native mothers, mothers who are under the age of 19 and mothers who smoked during or after pregnancy.<sup>311</sup> The United States Preventive Services Task Force and the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommend assessing mothers' mental health both during pregnancy and after giving birth to facilitate early identification and intervention.<sup>312</sup> In 2022, AHCCCS implemented a policy requiring depression screenings during prenatal and postpartum visits as well as well-child visits within the first 6 months of an infant's life for all enrolled mothers in Arizona.<sup>313</sup> Mothers who screen positively for depression must be referred to a case manager or treatment services.<sup>314</sup> These screenings, as well as the ability to bill AHCCCS for the cost of screenings, will hopefully increase the likelihood that mothers experiencing postpartum depression are referred to appropriate mental health services.

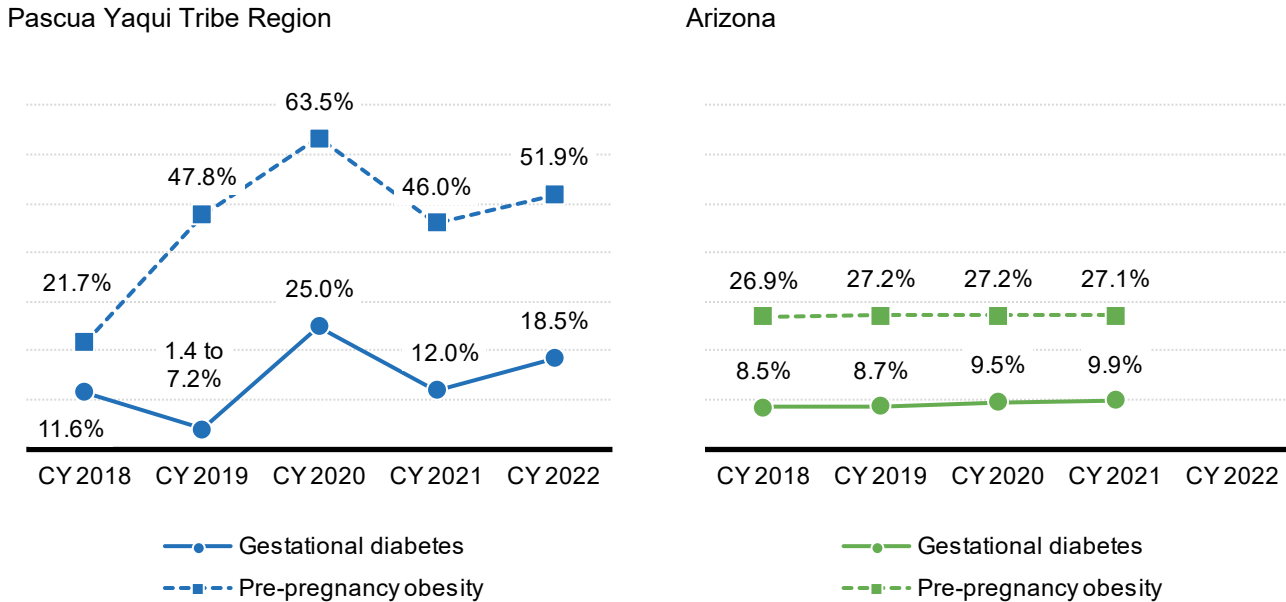
In a recent study, American Indian mothers shared that their experiences of postpartum depression were shaped by their medical experiences just before and after giving birth and a feeling that historical factors and colonized perspectives have limited their ability to birth and mother fully in their culture.<sup>315</sup> Additionally, mothers expressed needing to remain resilient for their families and communities, which may increase the feeling of isolation common in postpartum disorders. Integrating cultural birthing practices into healthcare services and considering cultural-specific factors in follow-up treatment services is a key need to support Native mothers and their families.<sup>316</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- Between 2018 and 2022, rates of pre-pregnancy obesity and gestational diabetes in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region fluctuated greatly, which is common when looking at a small numbers of births in each year. Pre-pregnancy obesity increased from about one in five births in 2018 (21.7%) to almost two in three births in 2020 (63.5%) before decreasing to about half of births in 2022 (51.9%). Gestational diabetes followed a similar pattern, varying from 11.6% of births in 2018 to 25% of births in 2020 to 18.5% of births in 2022. In 2021, the latest year that can be compared with the state, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region had much higher rates of both pre-pregnancy obesity (46.0% compared with 27.1%) and gestational diabetes (12% compared with 9.9%) (Figure 44).

- Statewide, about 1 in 8 mothers (13.7%) reported experiencing postpartum depressive symptoms in 2020, nearly the same rate as that seen nationwide (13.4%).<sup>317</sup> National data show that more than one in five (22%) American Indian and Alaska Native mothers in the U.S. experienced postpartum depressive symptoms in 2018, suggesting that Native mothers may be at higher risk of postpartum depression.<sup>318, 319</sup>

Figure 44. Births to mothers diagnosed with pre-pregnancy obesity or gestational diabetes, 2018 to 2022



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this figure. Data on pre-pregnancy obesity and gestational diabetes were not available for Arizona in 2022. Data for the region are presented as a range if fewer than 6 births in the region were to mothers diagnosed with one of these conditions.

### Infant health

Health in early infancy shapes childhood health for many years to come. Infants who are born preterm or at a low birthweight have a higher possibility of short- and long-term health complications. Preterm birth is defined as birth at less than 37 weeks of gestation. Risks related to preterm births include respiratory, immune, neurological, vision, hearing and intestinal developmental issues.<sup>320</sup> Infants born preterm also have increased rates of mortality during their first 28 days to 1 year of life, longer hospitalization after birth, more health care costs and physical impairments.<sup>321, 322</sup> Preterm births are more likely among mothers who are under age 20, over the age of 35, low income, experience infections during pregnancy or engage in substance use.<sup>323</sup>

Low birthweight is defined as weighing less than 5 pounds and 8 ounces (2,500 grams) at birth. Babies born with this condition have a higher risk of infant mortality and long-term health problems such as diabetes, hypertension and cardiac disease.<sup>324, 325</sup> Low birthweight risk factors include low maternal

weight during pregnancy, preterm birth, teen pregnancy, pregnancy over the age of 35, high blood pressure, diabetes, substance use and air pollution.<sup>326</sup>

Newborns are admitted into Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) in hospitals for numerous reasons that can vary across medical providers and have implications for the short- and long-term health of babies and families.<sup>327</sup> NICU stays can take a large emotional and financial toll on families, especially families living far from the hospital. However, although NICU admissions may be an indicator of important health concerns in newborns, including low birthweight, they can also be a site of family-based interventions that can positively impact infant development and parent-child relationships.<sup>328</sup>

For parents who are able to breastfeed, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends breastfeeding infants exclusively for the first 6 months after birth, followed by a combination of breastfeeding and other foods for up to 2 years or longer.<sup>329</sup> Breastfeeding offers a variety of benefits to infants due to the nutrition and antibodies that human breast milk provides. These benefits include lowering an infant's risk of type 1 diabetes, obesity, ear infections, SIDS, asthma and gastrointestinal infections.<sup>330</sup> Robust data on breastfeeding rates are only available for children served through the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program.

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- In 2021 higher proportions of the babies born were low birthweight (14%), preterm (16%) and/or admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) (18%) than in Arizona overall. The proportion of births that were low-birthweight (9.3%) and preterm (13.5%) in 2020 were also slightly higher in the region than across all Arizona reservations (8.9% and 12.6%, respectively) (Table 37).
- The Healthy People 2030 target for the percentage of preterm births is 9.4% or lower. From 2018 to 2021, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region was about 4% to 7% above this target, however the percent of preterm births dropped to 9.3% in 2022, meaning that the region met the Healthy People 2030 target in 2022 (Figure 45).
- From 2018 to 2020, the majority of WIC-enrolled infants in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region were breastfed at least once (between 70% and 72%), which is slightly higher than across all ITCA WIC programs (between 65% and 71%). Conversely, the portion of infants who were breastfed (either exclusively or in combination with other nutrition) at six months was slightly lower in the region (between 17% and 24%) than all ITCA WIC programs (between 23% and 26%) (Figure 46).

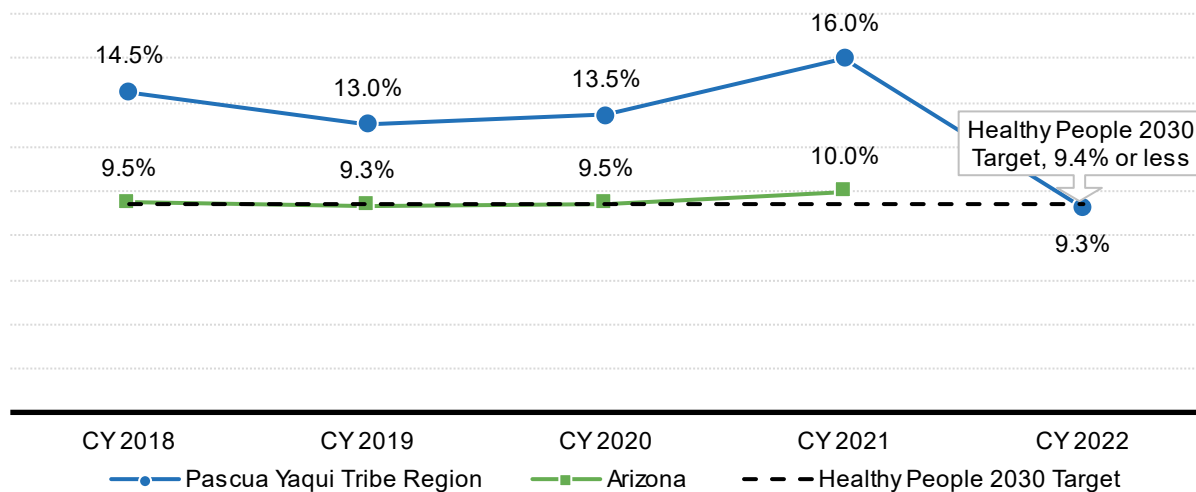
Table 37. Selected birth outcomes, 2020 to 2021

Geography	Calendar year	Number of births	Baby weighed less than 2500 grams	Baby was preterm (less than 37 weeks)	Baby was admitted to a NICU
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	2020	52	9.3%	13.5%	12%
	2021	50	14.0%	16.0%	18%
All Arizona Reservations	2020	1,900	8.9%	12.6%	N/A
	2021	Data for All Arizona Reservations not available			
Pima County	2020	10,035	8.2%	9.6%	12%
	2021	9,970	8.5%	9.7%	12%
Arizona	2020	76,781	7.4%	9.5%	8%
	2021	77,857	9.6%	10.0%	8%
Healthy People 2030 targets				9.4%	

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

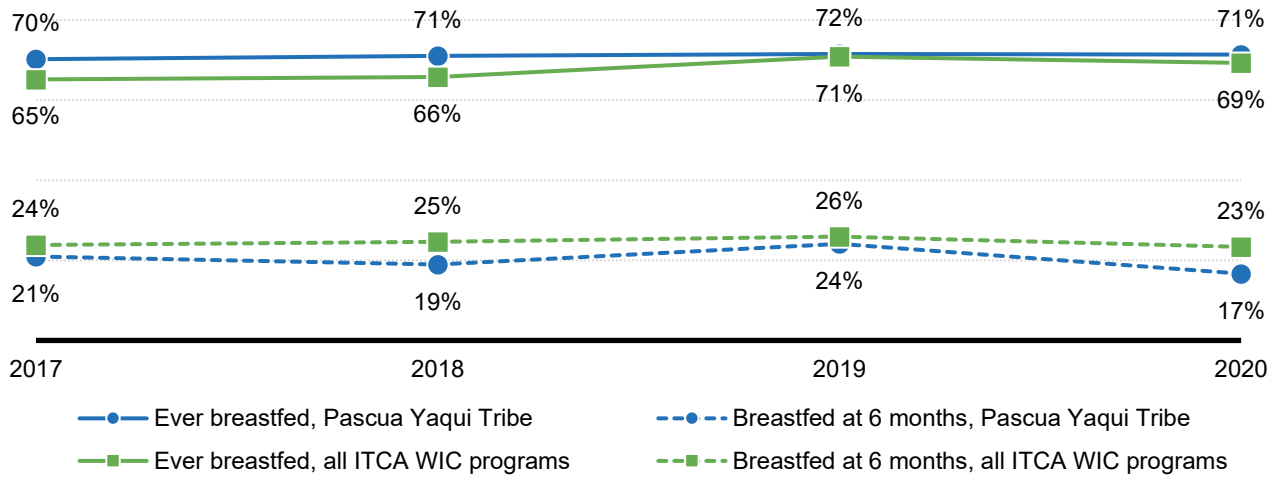
Note: ‘All Arizona Reservations’ row reflects only births to American Indian mothers residing on Arizona reservations. The Health Status Profile of American Indian in Arizona for 2021 has not yet been released.

Figure 45. Preterm births, 2018 to 2022



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Figure 46. Percent of WIC-enrolled infants ever breastfed and breastfed at 6 months, 2017 to 2020



Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

### Childhood infectious disease and immunization

Immunization against preventable diseases protects both children and the surrounding community from potential illness and death. Immunization protects not only the vaccinated person but also individuals who are unable to be vaccinated through “community immunity.”<sup>331</sup> In order to attend state-licensed child care programs and public or charter schools, children are required to receive specific vaccinations or obtain an official exemption, which can be requested for medical, personal or religious reasons.<sup>332</sup> Statewide and nationally, childhood immunization rates have been declining in recent years. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated disparities in health care access, including routine immunizations, that specifically impacted children who are Black, Hispanic, low-income, live in rural areas or lack health insurance.<sup>333</sup> National survey data from the Pew Research Center also show that declining childhood immunization rates, particularly for the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine, can be linked to parents' shifting attitudes towards vaccines. While most U.S. parents continue to express confidence in the value of childhood vaccination for MMR, a sizable proportion expressed concerns about the necessity of vaccines and showed declining support for vaccine requirements for children to attend public schools.<sup>334</sup>

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and influenza (flu) are leading causes of serious illness in young children, and following the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, recent flu and RSV seasons have been more severe nationwide.<sup>335, 336</sup> RSV is the most frequent cause of hospitalization in children under 1 year of age.<sup>337</sup> In 2023, two new preventative therapies for RSV were approved—a single-dose antibody medication for infants, and an adult immunization for pregnant people administered in the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester of pregnancy.<sup>338, 339</sup> These new treatments have the potential to prevent severe illness in infants and young children, but shortages of the antibody medication have led the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC) to recommend prioritizing access for the highest-risk infants. This includes infants under 6 months of age, those with underlying health conditions such as lung or heart disease and American Indian or Alaska Native infants under 8 months of age, as well as older American Indian or Alaska Native infants who live in remote areas with limited access to health care facilities.<sup>340</sup> The flu can also cause serious illness in young children under age 5, particularly for children birth to age 2, who are the most likely to be hospitalized with flu complications.<sup>341</sup> The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all children ages 6 months and older be vaccinated against influenza each year.<sup>342</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- According to the 2023 Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start Program Information Report, 78% of children in Ili Uusim Mahtawa’apo Pascua Yaqui Tribe Head Start program were up-to-date on required immunizations.<sup>343</sup>
- In the 2022-23 school year, immunization rates for children enrolled in child care centers that frequently serve Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region families (DTaP<sup>xxvi</sup> 97.7%; Polio 98.6%; MMR 98.6%) were substantially higher than statewide child care immunization rates (DTaP 90.6%; Polio 92.2%; MMR 93%). The immunization rate in these centers met the Healthy People 2030 DTaP immunization target of 90%. Rates of exemption from all required vaccines (0.6%) were less than half the rate seen in Pima County (1.7%) and substantially lower than the statewide rate of 4% (Table 38).
- Similarly, kindergarten immunization rates in off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe students (DTaP 92.7%; Polio 92.8%; MMR 91.9%) were also higher than statewide rates (DTaP 89.6%; Polio 90.3%; MMR 89.9%) in the 2022-23 school year. However, both immunization rates in these schools and schools statewide failed to meet the Healthy People 2030 kindergarten MMR immunization target of 95%. Personal belief exemption rates (0.9%) and rates of exemptions from all required vaccines (0.7%) were again substantially lower than rates in Pima County (3.4% and 2.2%, respectively) or Arizona overall (7.3% and 4.6%, respectively) (Table 39).
- In 2022, there were eight confirmed and probable cases of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and 11 cases of influenza among young children (birth to age 5) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region (Table 40).

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<sup>xxvi</sup> *The DTaP vaccine immunizes against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis.*



Table 38. Children in child care with selected required immunizations, 2022-23

Geography	Number Enrolled	DTaP	Polio	MMR	Religious exemption	Medical exemption	Exempt from every required vaccine
<b>Child care centers serving the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>97.7%</b>	<b>98.6%</b>	<b>98.6%</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
Pima County	10,699	95.6%	96.6%	96.8%	2.3%	0.2%	1.7%
Arizona	70,690	90.6%	92.2%	93.0%	5.7%	0.2%	4.0%
Healthy People 2030 targets	90.0%						

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). *Childcare Immunization Coverage, 2022-23 School Year*. Unpublished data received by request & aggregated by the Community, Research, & Development Team. Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). *Childcare Immunization Coverage by County, 2022-23 School Year*. Retrieved from <https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/immunization/index.php#reports-immunization-coverage>

Note: These rates are not specific to children from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, but rather they reflect the immunization status of all children enrolled in centers identified by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Child Care Program as most frequently enrolling Pascua Yaqui Tribe families. The data in this table reflects immunization rates at the following centers: Brichta Infant and Early Learning Center, De Colores Learning Center, Growing Steps Child Care and Learning Center, Children's Learning Adventure Childcare Center, La Petite Academy- Midvale, and Wright Brothers Christian Academy. No data were available from the immunization dataset for Herencia Guadalupana or Little Friends as these are home-based providers.

Table 39. Kindergarteners with selected required immunizations, 2022-23

Geography	Number Enrolled	DTaP	Polio	MMR	Personal belief exemption	Medical exemption	Exempt from every required vaccine
<b>Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>92.7%</b>	<b>92.8%</b>	<b>91.9%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
Pima County	10,034	93.7%	94.2%	93.7%	3.4%	0.2%	2.2%
Arizona	78,937	89.6%	90.3%	89.9%	7.3%	0.2%	4.6%
Healthy People 2030 targets	95.0%						

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). *Kindergarten Immunization Coverage, 2022-23 School Year*. Unpublished data received by request & aggregated by the Community, Research, & Development Team. Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). *Kindergarten Immunization Coverage by County, 2022-23 School Year*. Retrieved from <https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/immunization/index.php#reports-immunization-coverage>

Note: These rates are not specific to kindergarteners from the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region, but rather they reflect the immunization status of all kindergarteners enrolled in public and charter schools identified as serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe students. The data in this table reflects immunization rates at the following schools: Drachman Primary Magnet, Grijalva Elementary, Hollinger K-8, Maldonado Elementary, McCorkle K-8, Miller Elementary, Roskruge Bilingual K-8, Safford K-8, Vesey Elementary and White Elementary Schools.

Table 40. Confirmed and probable cases of infectious diseases in children birth to age 5, 2019 to 2022

Geography	Confirmed & probable RSV cases				Confirmed & probable Influenza cases			
	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>1 to 5</b>	<b>1 to 5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1 to 5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1 to 5</b>	<b>11</b>
Pima County	430	371	760	929	648	571	73	807
Arizona	4,840	4,459	4,935	9,606	6,459	6,094	508	7,334

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [FTF VPD Flu RSV dataset]. Unpublished data.

### Infant and child hospitalization and mortality

Infant mortality refers to the death of infants under 1 year of age. Some of the most common causes of infant mortality in Arizona and the U.S. include congenital abnormalities, low birth weight, preterm birth, pregnancy complications, sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) and unintentional injuries.<sup>344, 345, 346</sup> According to provisional CDC data, infant mortality increased between 2021 and 2022 by 3% nationally, 13% in Arizona for all infants and 21% for American Indian or Alaska Native infants nationwide, the highest increase seen for any group.<sup>347</sup> In addition to increasing, the infant mortality rates for American Indian or Alaska Native (9.1 deaths per 1,000 live births) and Black infants (10.9) were also notably higher than White (4.52) or Hispanic (4.9) infants in 2022, racial disparities that have been linked to maternal care deserts, which are particularly prevalent on tribal lands.<sup>348, 349</sup> This indicates a serious need to increase access to timely prenatal care, newborn screening and home visiting programs in rural and tribal areas to begin to reduce infant mortality rates.<sup>350</sup>

The leading cause of death for children birth to age 17 in the United States is unintentional injuries.<sup>351</sup> The most prevalent accidental injuries are car crashes, drowning, falls, suffocation, fires and poisoning.<sup>352</sup> Deaths from unintentional injuries are more common for children living in rural areas, as well as among American Indian and Alaska Native children.<sup>353, 354</sup> Increased awareness and safety precautions have helped reduce childhood deaths in the last decade, including child swimming lessons, proper infant sleeping position, installing smoke detectors, keeping medications out of reach, practicing gun safety and utilizing seatbelts and helmets.<sup>355</sup>

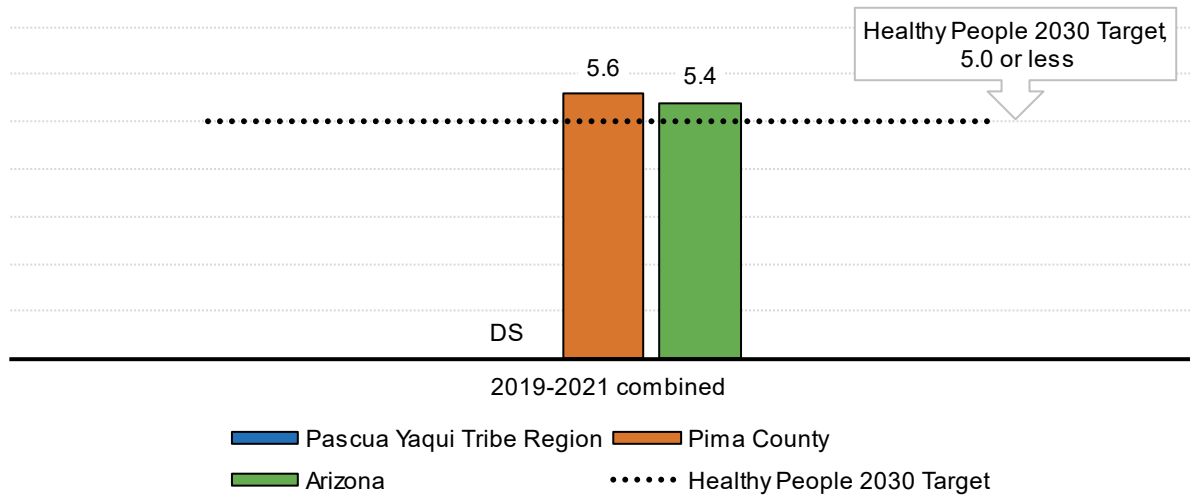
#### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

- There were between one and five infant deaths in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region between 2019 and 2021. This very low number of deaths means that mortality rates cannot be reported to protect individual privacy. Pima County’s infant mortality rate (5.6 deaths per 1,000 live births) was slightly higher than Arizona’s (5.4), and both were above the Healthy People 2030 target of 5.0 or fewer (Figure 47).
- The types of unintentional injuries leading to non-fatal emergency department visits among young children (birth to age 4) are similar in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region to the state as a

whole. Between 2016 and 2020, the majority of emergency department visits among young children in the region were due to falls (n=41), with smaller numbers due to being struck by or against an object, natural or environmental reasons, poisoning or other causes (Figure 48). Data on causes of inpatient hospitalizations among young children in the region during this time were suppressed due to small numbers.

- There were fewer than six deaths of children ages birth to 17 between 2018 and 2021; specific data on leading causes of death cannot be reported to protect individual privacy.

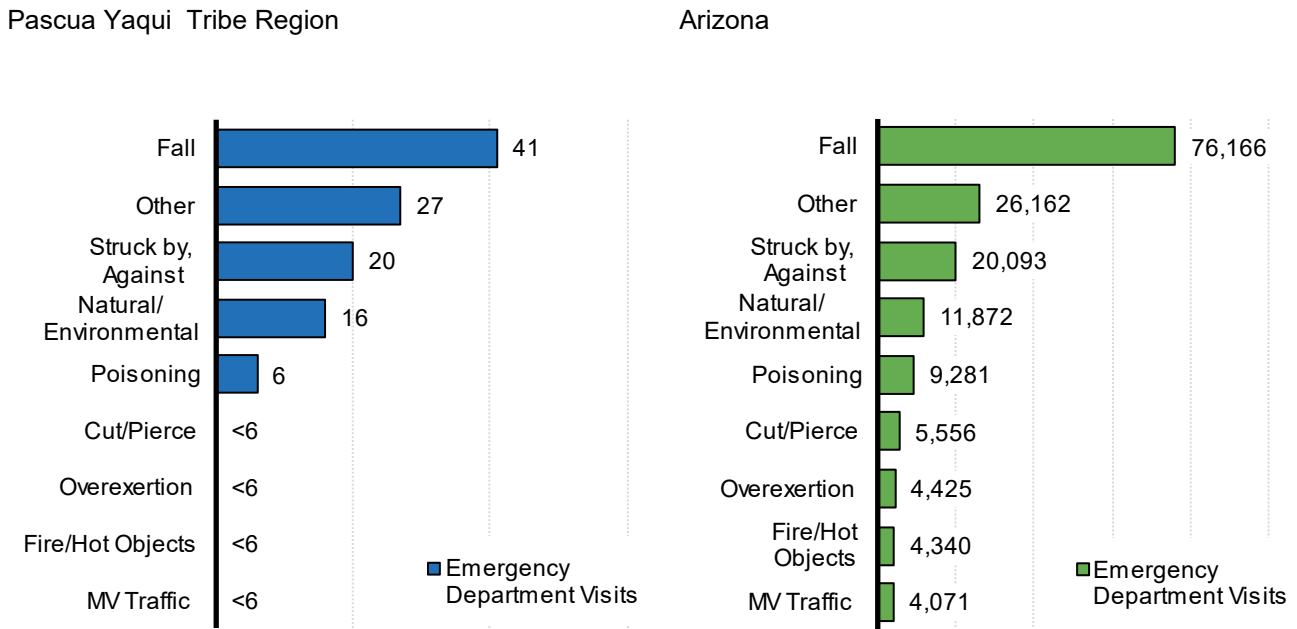
Figure 47. Infant mortality rates, 2019 to 2021 combined



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Mortality Report dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: There were between 1 and 5 infant deaths between 2019 and 2021 in the region, meaning that the infant mortality rate is suppressed per ADHS policy. Infant mortality rates are the number of infant deaths (babies under age 1) per 1,000 live births.

Figure 48. Non-fatal emergency department visits due to unintentional injuries for children birth to age 4 by selected mechanism of injury, 2016-2020 combined



Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Hospital Discharge dataset]. Unpublished data.

Additional data tables related to *Child Health* can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.



## **FAMILY SUPPORT AND LITERACY**

# FAMILY SUPPORT AND LITERACY

## Why it Matters

Children’s long-term well-being and success is tied to their relationships and experiences with their caregivers. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) refer to childhood experiences of abuse, neglect and other life events that can negatively impact children’s immediate and long-term well-being.<sup>xxvii, 356</sup>

ACEs have been associated with negative effects on development, educational achievement, future employment, mental health, drug and alcohol use and overall increased health care utilization.<sup>357, 358, 359</sup>

ACEs are more prevalent among Arizona children with special health care needs and children living in poverty.<sup>360</sup>

Social, physical, academic and economic outcomes are positively influenced by healthy relationships and interactions with family members and caregivers during childhood.<sup>361, 362, 363, 364, 365</sup> An

understanding of, and ability to utilize, positive parenting skills is an important protective factor that reduces the likelihood of abuse and neglect, leading to better childhood and long-term outcomes.<sup>366</sup>

Positive Childhood Experiences (PCEs), including positive parent-child relationships and feelings of safety and support, have been shown to have positive long term impacts on mental and relational health.<sup>367</sup> Even if children have experienced multiple ACEs, if their families show high levels of

resilience and connection (e.g., working together to solve problems, staying hopeful in difficult times and talking together about things that matter to their family) they show higher rates of flourishing, characterized by healthy social and emotional development and an open and engaged approach to learning.<sup>368</sup> These higher flourishing scores coupled with higher ACE scores point to the reality that

childhood flourishing can, and does, exist amid adverse experiences and can potentially help mitigate their negative health effects.<sup>369</sup> Supporting families with the knowledge and skills to promote resilience and connection can therefore be critical for ensuring children’s long-term well-being.

## What the Data Tell Us

### Early literacy and developmental support

Parents and families can play an important role in promoting early academic skills. When families read, sing and tell stories together, it can help young children develop reading and writing fluency as well as their capacity for reading comprehension.<sup>370, 371, 372</sup> Literacy practices at home have also been found to increase children’s motivation to learn.<sup>373</sup> These early literacy skills are important because they are

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<sup>xxvii</sup> ACEs include 8 categories of traumatic or stressful life events experienced before the age of 18 years. The 8 ACE categories are sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, household adult mental illness, household substance abuse, domestic violence in the household, incarceration of a household member, and parental divorce or separation.

linked to durable outcomes including elementary school performance and overall educational achievement.<sup>374</sup>

Some families may face challenges to implementing literacy practices with their young children, especially when they are low-resourced. Barriers include being unfamiliar with child development benchmarks, having limited free time to spend with children, and lower access to books in the home.<sup>375</sup> In Arizona, reading scores have been slowly approaching the national average, however American Indian students still have the lowest scores as a group.<sup>376</sup> Community programs, family resources centers, home visitation and larger-scale initiatives can help caregivers implement home-based literacy practices to improve children's reading scores. Recognizing the influence caregivers can have, the American Academy of Pediatrics suggests that pediatricians provide information to families about the benefits of early literacy practices. Doctor's offices and other community locations are also places where initiatives like Read on Arizona and Reach Out & Read may provide books and other materials that families can bring home.<sup>377</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- Through two new grant agreements with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, the First Things First Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council partner with the tribal government to implement the Language, Literacy and Culture in Tribal Communities strategy that support the creation of materials to be used in the classrooms that will be implementing a curriculum with emphasis in Yoeme language, history, and culture. Furthermore, this strategy also funds a position that creates and distributes materials in partnerships with tribal departments and programs that are reflective of the tribal language and culture including books, posters and informational flyers that are shared during community events.<sup>378</sup>
- The Ili Uusim Hiapsi (*Little Children's Hearts*) Program, offered through the Sewa U'usim Community Partnership, is a voluntary, community and home-based program available for families from pregnancy through the child's 8th year. The program provides a wide range of diagnostic, family support, therapeutic, educational and cultural services.<sup>379</sup> In 2022, the Ili Uusin Hiapsi program received a federal Tribal Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Grant to expand home visitation services.<sup>380</sup>

### **Mental and behavioral health**

Early childhood experiences shape the developing brain, which in turn shapes other aspects of development including forming human connections, coping with adversity, and even how successful one is in school, work, and community life down the road.<sup>381</sup> Early experiences of stress and trauma can have physical, psychological and behavioral consequences, but safe, nurturing relationships and environments can counteract adverse experiences and promote resiliency, healthy development and positive adult outcomes.<sup>382</sup> Parent and caregiver mental health and wellbeing plays an important role in the early childhood environment, the provision of essential care and availability of stable family bonds.<sup>383,384</sup> Community services that support families with young children can make a lasting difference, especially when they provide a connection to culture.<sup>385, 386, 387</sup>

### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

- According to the 2022 Needs and Assets Report, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe provides mental health services through the Pascua Yaqui Health Services Division Centered Spirit Program. Centered Spirit offers culturally-based mental health and substance use services to families in the region, including crisis evaluations for emergency situations; individual, couple, family and group therapy; a methadone/suboxone clinic; a youth life skills group; and group homes for adolescents and adult women and men.<sup>xxviii, 388</sup>
- The Centered Spirit Child and Family Team (C&FT) provides culturally-informed and trauma-sensitive services for families with young children.<sup>xxix</sup> Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Pascua Yaqui Head Start staff referral enrolled children to the C&FT for evaluation and services, which are then provided at the Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo Head Start center. C&FT also teaches emotional regulation skills at summer school in the region and does outreach at community events to reach families whose children are not enrolled at Head Start. Data from the 2022 Needs and Assets Report indicate that between 42 and 48 children received services from the Centered Spirit C&FT Program each year from 2018 to 2020.<sup>389</sup>
- Another behavioral health program in the region is Sewa U'usim, a wraparound treatment program for children and their families that includes formal support (e.g. counselors), community-based support (e.g. friends, elders, traditional healers), and relatives.<sup>xxx</sup> Services under Sewa U'usim include the Yoeme Kari Group Home (YKGH) and the Tortuga Ranch and Ka'vai Hitevi (Horse Healers).<sup>390</sup>

### **Substance use disorders**

Parental substance use has major implications for children's health and well-being. Children of parents with substance use disorders are frequently referred to child welfare services due to neglect or abuse and face a higher risk of later mental health and behavioral health issues, including developing substance use disorders themselves.<sup>391, 392</sup> Access to treatment for substance use disorders and supports for parents and families grappling with these issues can help to ameliorate the short and long-term impacts on young children.<sup>393, 394</sup>

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<sup>xxviii</sup> For more information, see: <https://www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov/health-services/centered-spirit/>

<sup>xxix</sup> For more information, see: <https://www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov/health-services/centered-spirit/child-family-team/>

<sup>xxx</sup> For more information, see: <https://www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov/health-services/sewa-uusim/>



### *How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring*

- Between 2017 and 2021, there were fewer than 6 deaths with opiates or opioids contributing in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region (Table 41). However, it is important to note that this only includes deaths occurring within the region and with address data that allowed the death to be properly assigned to a FTF region.
- A majority of respondents (80%) to the *Gathering Hiaki Voices Survey* ranked substance use as among the top three health problems in the community, placing it among the seven identified priority areas of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA).<sup>395</sup> The rate of infants hospitalized for maternal drug use from 2018 to 2022 reported in the child health section also supports this (Table 36).
- Support services in the region for community members struggling with substance use include Centered Spirit’s Tu’iriauicha Vo’o- Men’s and Women’s PATH residential program and New Beginnings, a medication-assisted treatment clinic for individuals with opioid use disorder that includes wrap-around services.<sup>xxx1, 396</sup>
- The Pascua Yaqui Tribe’s Reentry Initiative, part of the Itom Yoemia Initiative, targets the challenge of alcohol and substance use in the community as well as its impact on incidents of domestic violence and other criminal cases.<sup>xxxii</sup> Part of this initiative is an alternative to incarceration program called the Healing to Wellness Court, which uses culturally appropriate treatment and healing practices in partnership with the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Language and Culture Department to reduce criminal activity and recidivism. According to a 2021 evaluation of the program, 72% of offenders did not have a new arrest after six months, and 66% did not have a new arrest after 12 months of participating in the RRI. <sup>397</sup>

Table 41. Number of deaths with opiates or opioids contributing, 2018-2021 combined

Geography	Number of deaths with opiates or opioids contributing, 2018-2021
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>&lt;6</b>
Pima County	1,031
Arizona	6,315

<sup>xxx1</sup> For more information, please see: <https://www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov/health-services/centered-spirit/> and <https://www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2023-CSP-Member-Handbook-04192023.pdf>

<sup>xxxii</sup> For more information, please see: <https://pytreentry.org>

<sup>xxxiii</sup> For more information, please see: <https://www.pascuayaqui-nsn.gov/development-services/itom-yoemia/>

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: About 35% of overdose deaths statewide were missing address information and thus could not be geocoded to an FTF region, but county assignments were available from death certificates.

## **Child removals and foster care**

In situations where the harm in remaining with their family is determined to be too great to a child, they may be removed from their home, either temporarily or permanently. In accordance with the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (ICWA), nearly all tribal governments set their own child welfare laws and manage their own child welfare systems.<sup>398</sup> ICWA established national standards to prevent unwarranted removals and policies for all state custody proceedings involving Indian children. Under ICWA, an Indian child's family and tribe are able and encouraged to be actively involved in the decision-making that takes place regarding the child, and they may petition for tribal jurisdiction over the custody case.<sup>399</sup> ICWA also mandates that states make every effort to preserve Indian family units by providing family services before an Indian child is removed from his or her family and after an Indian child is removed through family reunification efforts.<sup>400</sup> Despite being challenged recently by several states, ICWA was upheld by the supreme court.<sup>401, 402</sup> Groups including the National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) and Uniform Law Commission (ULC) are investigating whether state laws could be implemented to promote better compliance with ICWA without threatening tribal sovereignty.<sup>403</sup> The Family First Prevention Services Act, signed into federal law on February 9, 2018, aims to ensure children are placed in the least restrictive, most family-like setting appropriate to their unique needs when foster care is needed. One effect of the Family First Prevention Services Act has been an increased focus on kinship placements, which are placements of children with relatives or close family friends.<sup>404</sup> In recent years, the number of unlicensed kinship homes has even exceeded the number of foster homes in Arizona.<sup>405</sup> More than half of American Indian and Alaska Native children (55%) in foster care in Arizona were in kinship placements, a much higher rate of kinship placement than that seen nationwide.<sup>406</sup>

### ***How the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region is faring***

- In the region, child welfare services are provided by the Children Services Division of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Social Services Department.<sup>407</sup>
- For the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, there were 111 reports of child abuse and/or neglect for children (ages birth to 17) and fewer than ten substantiated cases in 2019, increasing slightly to 121 reports and 10 substantiated cases in 2020 (Table 42).
- Fewer than ten children ages birth to 17 were removed from their homes by Pascua Yaqui Tribe Social Services in 2019, and 10 children were removed in 2020 (Table 43).
- The number of children in ICWA placements also increased from 23 in 2019 to 35 in 2020 (Table 44).
- In 2019 and 2020, almost half of children (ages birth to 17) in the region who were wards of the court were placed with relatives (48% and 46%, respectively), and a slightly smaller portion

were placed in Pascua Yaqui Tribe foster homes (42% and 37%, respectively). The percent of children placed with their parents increased from 2% in 2019 to 13% in 2020, while the portion in contract residential treatment decreased from 7% to 1% (Figure 49). According to the 2022 FTF Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Needs and Assets Report, funding from the Family First Prevention Services Act has allowed the Children Services office to allocate more resources towards prevention and intervention to support kinship (relative) placements.<sup>408</sup>

- From 2019 to 2020, the total number of foster care homes licensed by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe decreased slightly from 59 to 57, and the number of foster care beds decreased from 295 to 285 (Table 45). A high percentage of these (about 91%) were located off the reservation, including in the town of Guadalupe.<sup>409</sup>

Table 42. Pascua Yaqui Tribe Social Services Division reports and substantiated cases of child abuse and/or neglect, 2019 and 2020

	Reports (2019)	Substantiated Cases (2019)	Reports (2020)	Substantiated Cases (2020)
Children (ages 0-17)	111	<10	121	10

Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Table 43. Children removed by Pascua Yaqui Tribe Social Services Division, Children Services, 2019 and 2020

	CY 2019	CY 2020
Children (ages 0-17)	<10	10

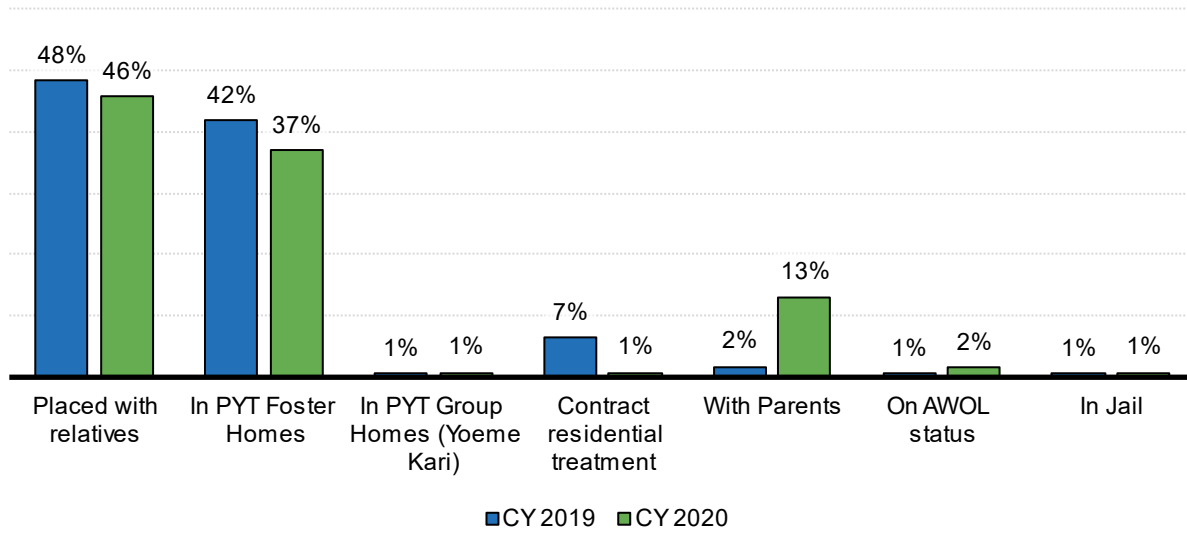
Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Table 44. Children in ICWA placements, 2019 and 2020

	CY 2019	CY 2020
Children (ages 0-17)	23	35

Source: First Things First (2022). Pascua Yaqui Tribe Regional Partnership Council 2022 Needs and Assets Report. Retrieved on Dec 1, 2023 from <https://files.firstthingsfirst.org/regions/Publications/PYT%202022%20Regional%20Needs%20and%20Assets%20Report.pdf>

Figure 49. Types of placement for children birth to age 17 who were wards of the court, 2019 and 2020



Source: Department of Child Safety (2023). Semiannual child welfare report, March 2023. Retrieved from <https://dcs.az.gov/reports>

Table 45. Foster care availability, 2019 and 2020

	On-reservation, CY 2019	Off-reservation, CY 2019	Total, CY 2019	On-reservation, CY 2020	Off-reservation, CY 2020	Total, CY 2020
PYT Foster Care Homes	6	53	59	5	52	57
PYT Foster Care Beds	30	265	295	25	260	285

Source: Pascua Yaqui Tribe Social Services Department (2016). [Child Welfare data]. Unpublished data received by request.

# APPENDIX 1: ADDITIONAL DATA TABLES

## Population Characteristics

Table 46. Population of children birth to age 5 by single years of age in the 2020 Census

Geography	Population (Ages 0-5)	Population under age 1	Population age 1	Population age 2	Population age 3	Population age 4	Population age 5
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>67</b>
All Arizona Reservations	15,140	2,183	2,338	2,492	2,570	2,733	2,824
Pima County	62,466	9,473	9,595	10,296	10,761	10,940	11,401
Arizona	480,744	72,415	75,163	78,159	82,033	84,600	88,374
United States	22,401,565	3,480,117	3,532,512	3,672,703	3,797,741	3,917,162	4,001,330

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), Tables P1, P14. U.S. Census Bureau (2010). 2010 Decennial Census, Summary File 1, Tables P1, P14.

Table 47. Race and ethnicity of the population of all ages, 2020 Census

Geography	Estimated population (all ages)	Hispanic or Latino	White, not Hispanic or Latino	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian or Pacific Islander	Two or more races
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>3,466</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>8%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	173,499	6%	5%	1%	93%	1%	3%
Pima County	1,043,433	36%	55%	5%	5%	5%	17%
Arizona	7,151,502	31%	57%	6%	6%	5%	14%
United States	331,449,281	19%	62%	14%	3%	8%	10%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), P6, P7, P8, P9, P12, P12A-W.

Note: The six percentages in each row may sum to more or less than 100% because (a) persons reporting Hispanic ethnicity are counted twice if their race is Black, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, or any combination of two or more races, (b) persons reporting any other race are not counted here unless they have Hispanic ethnicity, and (c) rounding.

Table 48. Race and ethnicity of children birth to age 4

Geography	Estimated number of children (birth to age 4)	Hispanic or Latino	White, not Hispanic or Latino	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian or Pacific Islander	Two or more races
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>12%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	12,316	8%	3%	1%	95%	1%	4%
Pima County	51,065	51%	38%	9%	7%	7%	26%
Arizona	392,370	44%	42%	10%	8%	7%	21%
United States	18,400,235	25%	54%	18%	4%	9%	16%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), P6, P7, P8, P9, P12, P12A-W.

Note: The six percentages in each row may sum to more or less than 100% because (a) children reporting Hispanic ethnicity are counted twice if their race is Black, American Indian, Asian, Pacific Islander, or any combination of two or more races, (b) children reporting any other race are not counted here unless they have Hispanic ethnicity, and (c) rounding.

Table 49. Race and ethnicity for the mothers of babies born in 2020 and 2021

Geography	Calendar year	Number of births	Mother was non-Hispanic White	Mother was Hispanic or Latina	Mother was Black or African American	Mother was American Indian or Alaska Native	Mother was Asian or Pacific Islander
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1.9 to 9.6%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>0%</b>
	<b>2021</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>0%</b>
Pima County	2020	10,035	39%	50%	5%	4%	3%
	2021	9,970	39%	50%	5%	3%	3%
Arizona	2020	76,781	43%	41%	6%	5%	4%
	2021	77,857	43%	41%	6%	5%	4%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: The five percentages in each row should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding. Mothers who report more than one race or ethnicity are assigned to the one which is smaller. Mothers of twins are counted twice in this table.

Table 50. Children birth to age 5 living with parents who are foreign-born, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of children (birth to age 5) living with one or two parents	Number and percent living with one or two foreign-born parents	
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	14,097	191	1%
Pima County	63,108	13,091	21%
Arizona	473,732	115,267	24%
United States	22,399,131	5,504,770	25%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B05009

Note: The term "parent" here includes stepparents.

Table 51. Language spoken at home (by persons ages 5 and older), 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated population (age 5 and older)	Speak only English at home	Speak Spanish at home	Speak languages other than English or Spanish at home
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>3,539</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>5%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	166,148	47%	3%	50%
Pima County	979,353	73%	23%	5%
Arizona	6,666,597	73%	20%	6%
United States	310,302,360	78%	13%	8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table C16001

Note: The three percentages in each row may not sum to 100% because of rounding. The American Community Survey (ACS) no longer specifies the proportion of the population who speak Native North American languages for geographies smaller than the state. In Arizona, Navajo and other Native American languages (including Apache, Hopi, and O'odham) are the most commonly spoken (2%), following English (73%) and Spanish (20%).



Table 52. English-language proficiency (for persons ages 5 and older), 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated population (age 5 and older)	Speak only English at home	Speak another language at home, and speak English very well	Speak another language at home, and do not speak English very well
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>3,539</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>3%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	166,148	47%	41%	12%
Pima County	979,353	73%	20%	8%
Arizona	6,666,597	73%	18%	8%
United States	310,302,360	78%	13%	8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table C16001

Note: The three percentages in each row should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding.

Table 53. Limited-English-speaking households, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of households	Number and percent of limited-English-speaking households	
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>4%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	52,248	6,361	12%
Pima County	417,483	15,983	4%
Arizona	2,683,557	99,159	4%
United States	124,010,992	5,241,326	4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table C16002

Note: A "limited-English-speaking" household is one in which no one over the age of 13 speaks English very well.

Table 54. Grandchildren birth to age 5 living in a grandparent's household, 2020 Census

Geography	Estimated number of children (birth to age 5) living in households	Number and percent living in their grandparent's household	
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>47%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	15,140	6,558	43%
Pima County	62,466	8,191	13%
Arizona	480,744	64,792	13%
United States	22,401,565	2,520,305	11%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2022). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics (DHC), Tables P14, PCT11.

Note: This table includes all children (under six years old) living in a household headed by a grandparent, regardless of whether the grandparent is responsible for them, or whether the child's parent lives in the same household.

## Economic Circumstances

Table 55. Median annual family income, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Median annual income for all families	Median annual income for all families with children under 18 years old	Median annual income for married-couple families with children under 18 years old	Median annual income for single-male-headed families with children under 18 years old	Median annual income for single-female-headed families with children under 18 years old
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>\$44,000</b>	<b>\$32,200</b>	<b>\$44,800</b>	<b>\$30,600</b>	<b>\$22,000</b>
All Arizona Reservations	<i>All Arizona reservations data not available</i>				
Pima County	\$75,200	\$69,000	\$97,500	\$42,800	\$31,300
Arizona	\$78,800	\$75,100	\$100,000	\$49,100	\$35,000
United States	\$85,000	\$82,800	\$110,000	\$50,900	\$32,600

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B19126

Note: Half of the families in the population are estimated to have incomes above the median value, and the other half have incomes below the median.

Table 56. Children birth to age 5 living at selected poverty thresholds, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of children (birth to age 5) who live with parents or other relatives	Percent of children under 50% of the poverty level	Percent of children between 50% and 99% of the poverty level	Percent of children between 100% and 184% of the poverty level	Percent of children at or above 185% of the poverty level
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>28%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	15,304	27%	22%	22%	30%
Pima County	64,916	11%	11%	20%	58%
Arizona	486,513	9%	11%	19%	61%
United States	22,940,195	9%	10%	16%	65%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B17024

Note: The four percentages in each row should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding. In 2021, the poverty threshold for a family of two adults and two children was \$27,479; for a single parent with one child, it was \$18,677. The 185% thresholds are \$50,836 and \$34,552, respectively.

Table 57. Families participating in SNAP, state fiscal years 2018 to 2022

Geography	Households with one or more children (ages 0-5)	Number of families participating in SNAP					Percent of households with young children (0-5) participating in SNAP in SFY 2022
		SFY 2018	SFY 2019	SFY 2020	SFY 2021	SFY 2022	
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>71%</b>
Pima County	45,676	22,598	21,104	20,190	19,863	19,286	42%
Arizona	345,601	151,816	140,056	132,466	131,063	128,460	37%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility dataset]. Unpublished data. & U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, DHC, Table P14 & P20.

Table 58. Children participating in SNAP, state fiscal years 2018 to 2022

Geography	Number of young children (ages 0-5) in the population	Number of children (0-5) participating in SNAP					Percent of young children (0-5) participating in SNAP in SFY 2022
		SFY 2016	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019	SFY 2020	
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>73%</b>
Pima County	62,466	33,131	30,963	29,439	28,743	27,912	45%
Arizona	480,744	229,275	211,814	198,961	194,771	190,968	40%

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility dataset]. Unpublished data. & U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, DHC, Table P14 & P20.

Table 59. Lunches served through NSLP, 2019-20 to 2021-22

Geography	Number of sites			Number of lunches served		
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5,510</b>	<b>3,788</b>	<b>6,777</b>
Hiaki High School	1	1	1	5,510	0	2,962
Pascua Yaqui - B&G Clubhouse	1	1	1	0	3,788	3,815
Pima County schools	N/A	227	296	8,946,544	3,232,840	4,721,713
Arizona schools	N/A	1,247	1,886	76,454,370	22,911,751	44,010,999

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Health and Nutrition Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Table 60. Lunches served through SFSP, 2019-20 to 2021-22

Geography	Number of sites			Number of lunches served		
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2,920</b>	<b>7,204</b>	<b>4,597</b>
Pascua Yaqui - B&G Clubhouse	1	1	1	564	3,708	4,597
Pascua Yaqui Head Start (Ili Uusim Mahtawa'apo)	1	1	0	1,710	3,496	0
Pascua Yaqui Head Start Delivery Route	1	0	0	646	0	0
Pima County Schools	N/A	397	326	1,899,420	14,905,971	15,164,160
Arizona Schools	N/A	2,926	2,346	21,786,393	148,207,987	130,780,150

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Health and Nutrition Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

Table 61. Parents of children birth to age 5 who are or are not in the labor force, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of children (birth to 5 years old) living with parent(s)	Living with two married parents, both in the labor force	Living with two married parents, one in the labor force and one not	Living with two married parents, neither in the labor force	Living with one parent, in the labor force	Living with one parent, not in the labor force
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>25%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	14,097	11%	14%	2.6%	38%	35%
Pima County	63,108	36%	24%	1%	30%	9%
Arizona	473,732	33%	27%	1%	30%	8%
United States	22,399,131	40%	25%	1%	26%	7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B23008

Note: The labor force is all persons who are working (employed) or looking for work (unemployed). Persons not in the labor force are mostly students, stay-at-home parents, retirees, and institutionalized people. The term "parent" here includes step-parents. The five percentages in each row should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding. Please note that due to the way the ACS asks about family relationships, children living with two unmarried, cohabitating parents are not counted as living with two parents (these children are counted in the 'one parent' category).

Table 62. Persons of all ages in households with and without computers and internet connectivity, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of persons (all ages) living in households	Have a computer and internet	Have a computer but no internet	Do not have a computer
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>3,712</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>5%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	177,201	51%	23%	26%
Pima County	1,006,680	92%	5%	3%
Arizona	6,930,677	90%	6%	4%
United States	321,899,278	90%	6%	4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B28005

Note: The three percentages in each row should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding.

Table 63. Children birth to age 17 in households with and without computers and internet connectivity, 2017-2021

Geography	Estimated number of children (ages 0-17) living in households	Have a computer and internet	Have a computer but no internet	Do not have a computer
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>1,233</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>2%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	52,122	55%	24%	21%
Pima County	214,695	95%	3%	1%
Arizona	1,611,069	92%	6%	2%
United States	74,041,861	93%	5%	2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B28005

Note: The three percentages in each row should sum to 100%, but may not because of rounding.

## Early Learning

Table 64. School enrollment for children ages 3 to 4, 2017-2021 ACS

Geography	Estimated number of children (3 or 4 years old)	Number and percent enrolled in school	
		Number	Percent
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>75%</b>
All Arizona Reservations	5,701	2,326	41%
Pima County	22,717	9,425	41%
Arizona	176,033	63,974	36%
United States	8,100,136	3,719,992	46%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. (2023). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B14003

Note: In this table, "school" may include nursery school, preschool, or kindergarten.

Table 65. Children receiving DES child care assistance, 2017 to 2022

Geography	Number of children receiving assistance						Percent of eligible children receiving assistance					
	CY 2017	CY 2018	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022	CY 2017	CY 2018	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>72%</b>
Pima County	3,603	4,285	4,877	3,960	4,145	4,313	95%	95%	94%	82%	89%	92%
Arizona	16,922	19,813	23,155	19,909	22,359	20,099	93%	92%	92%	80%	88%	90%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Child Care Administration dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: N/A indicates that there were no children eligible for subsidy in that year, meaning that a percentage could not be calculated. DS indicates that a percentage could not be shown due to data suppression guidelines.

Table 66. DCS-involved children receiving DES child care assistance, 2017 to 2022

Geography	Number of DCS children receiving assistance						Percent of DCS eligible children receiving assistance					
	CY 2017	CY 2018	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022	CY 2017	CY 2018	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>&lt;10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>DS</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>83%</b>
Pima County	2,584	2,629	2,419	1,467	1,851	1,771	89%	86%	85%	61%	83%	83%
Arizona	12,201	12,219	11,808	7,137	8,853	8,268	88%	82%	82%	59%	81%	80%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Child Care Administration dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: N/A indicates that there were no children eligible for assistance in that year, meaning that a percentage could not be calculated. DS indicates that a percentage could not be shown due to data suppression guidelines.

Table 67. Eligible families not using DES child care assistance, 2017 to 2022

Geography	CY 2017	CY 2018	CY 2019	CY 2020	CY 2021	CY 2022
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>DS</b>	<b>DS</b>	<b>DS</b>	<b>DS</b>
Pima County	4.7%	5.1%	5.9%	17.0%	10.8%	7.6%
Arizona	6.7%	7.6%	7.9%	18.3%	11.7%	9.2%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Child Care Administration dataset]. Unpublished data.

Table 68. Median monthly charge for full-time center-based child care, 2022

Geography	Licensed centers			Public schools		
	One infant	One 1 or 2 year old	One 3 to 5 year old	One infant	One 1 or 2 year old	One 3 to 5 year old
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>Region data not available</b>					
Pima County	\$1,050	\$856	\$767	\$1,067	\$907	\$748
Arizona	\$949	\$826	\$727	\$1,011	\$880	\$701

Source: Health Management Associates (2022). 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey. Arizona Department of Economic Security. Retrieved from <https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2022-Market-Rate-Survey.pdf?time=1670616239540>

Table 69. Median monthly charge for full-time home-based child care, 2022

Geography	Certified family homes			Small group homes		
	One infant	One 1 or 2 year old	One 3 to 5 year old	One infant	One 1 or 2 year old	One 3 to 5 year old
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>Region data not available</b>					
Pima County	\$630	\$630	\$630	\$735	\$735	\$735
Arizona	\$662	\$627	\$618	\$761	\$725	\$713

Source: Health Management Associates (2022). 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey. Arizona Department of Economic Security. Retrieved from <https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2022-Market-Rate-Survey.pdf?time=1670616239540>

Table 70. Cost of center-based child care as a percentage of income, 2022

Geography	Median family income	Cost for an infant	Cost for a 1 to 2 year old child	Cost for a 3 to 5 year old child
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>\$32,200</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>29%</b>
Pima County	\$69,000	18%	15%	13%
Arizona	\$75,000	15%	13%	12%

Sources: Health Management Associates (2022). 2022 Child Care Market Rate Survey. Arizona Department of Economic Security. Retrieved from <https://des.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/2022-Market-Rate-Survey.pdf?time=1670616239540> & U.S. Census Bureau. (2022). American Community Survey five-year estimates 2017-2021, Table B19126.

Note: Annual costs of care are calculated by multiplying the median daily cost of care by 252 to approximate a full year of care. Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region data were calculated using Pima County child care costs and median family income for families with children under age 18 for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region

Table 71. Children receiving DES child care assistance who are enrolled in quality environments, 2022

Geography	Children ages 0-5 (non-DCS involved)			DCS-involved children ages 0-5		
	Received assistance	Enrolled in quality environment	Percent in quality environment	Received assistance	Enrolled in quality environment	Percent in quality environment
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>80%</b>
Pima County	4,313	2,911	67%	1,771	1,365	77%
Arizona	20,099	13,619	68%	8,268	5,969	72%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Child Care Administration dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Quality environments are defined by DES as child care providers with a 3-, 4-, or 5-star Quality First rating, a national accreditation, or a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential for family child care providers.

Table 72. Number of children birth to age 2 receiving services from AzEIP as of October 1, 2018 to 2022

Geography	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>
Pima County	661	680	580	556	550
Arizona	5,974	5,828 to 5,836	5,403	5,275	5,473

Sources: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Arizona Early Intervention Program dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: These data reflect the Oct 1 snapshot of AzEIP services, not a cumulative total throughout the year. In 2021 and 2022 combined, 12 children birth to age 2 receiving AzEIP services.



Table 73. Number of children (birth to age 5) receiving DDD services, state fiscal years 2019 to 2022

Geography	SFY 2019	SFY 2020	SFY 2021	SFY 2022	Percent change from 2019 to 2022
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>1 to 9</b>	<b>DS</b>
Pima County	413	419	307	367	-11%
Arizona	4,005	4,078	2,438	3,691	-8%

Source: Arizona Department of Economic Security (2023). [Division of Developmental Disabilities dataset]. Unpublished data.

Table 74. Preschoolers with disabilities receiving services through Local Education Agencies by type of disability, state fiscal years 2018- 2022 combined

Geography	Total Preschoolers	Developmental Delay	Speech or Language Impairment	Preschool Severe Delay	Other Disability
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	59	24%	63%	14%	0%
Pima County schools	DS	42%	35%	22%	<2%
Arizona schools	8,086	43%	30%	24%	3%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Special Needs Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

Note: The “Other Disability” category includes children with hearing impairment, visual impairment, or deaf-blindness. Denominators in this table are suppressed when they could be used to calculate a count of less than 11 students in a disability category. See Appendix 4 for a list of off-reservation schools serving students from the region.

Table 75. Kindergarten to 3rd grade students enrolled in special education in public and charter schools, state fiscal years 2018 to 2022

Geography	K-3rd grade students enrolled in special education				
	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	384	426	369	338	357
Pima County schools	5,353	5,516	5,482	5,540	5,525
Arizona school	36,468	37,812	38,791	37,179	37,334

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Special Needs Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

Note: See Appendix 4 for a list of off-reservation schools serving students from the region.

Table 76. Kindergarten to 3rd grade students enrolled in special education in public and charter schools by primary disability, state fiscal year 2022

Geography	Total K-3rd grade students	Speech or Language Impairment	Developmental Delay	Specific Learning Disability	Autism	Other Disability
Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students	357	52%	29%	7%	5%	7%
Pima County schools	5,525	43%	25%	12%	9%	11%
Arizona schools	37,334	36%	27%	12%	11%	13%

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Special Needs Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team

Note: The “Other Disabilities” category includes children with emotional disturbance, deafness, deaf-blindness, hearing impairment, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments such as chronic medical conditions that affect a child’s ability to participate in the educational setting, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment. See Appendix 4 for a list of off-reservation schools serving students from the region.

## Child Health

Table 77. Births to mothers with gestational diabetes or pre-pregnancy obesity, 2020 to 2021

Geography	Calendar year	Number of births	Mother had gestational diabetes	Mother had pre-pregnancy obesity
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	2020	52	25%	63%
	2021	50	12%	46%
All Arizona Reservations	2020	1,900		
	2021	Data for All Arizona Reservations not available		
Pima County	2020	10,035	11%	28%
	2021	9,970	11%	27%
Arizona	2020	76,781	10%	27%
	2021	77,857	10%	27%

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Vital Statistics Births dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Mothers of twins are counted twice in this table. 'All Arizona Reservations' row reflects only births to American Indian mothers residing on Arizona reservations and does not include data on gestational diabetes or obesity. The Health status profile of American Indian in Arizona for 2021 has not yet been released.

Table 78. Non-fatal hospitalizations and emergency department visits due to unintentional injuries for children birth to age 5, 2018-2022 combined

Geography	Non-fatal inpatient hospitalizations for unintentional injuries	Non-fatal emergency department visits for unintentional injuries
Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	1 to 5	121
Pima County	431	23,727
Arizona	2,811	160,742

Source: Arizona Department of Health Services (2023). [Hospital Discharge dataset]. Unpublished data.

Note: Data on hospitalizations were geocoded to FTF regions using the address provided by parents or caregivers at the time of hospitalization; however, in cases where the address provided was not valid, hospitalizations could not be assigned to a region. County of residence is captured separately from addresses, meaning that counts in the county often exceed those seen in a particular region because they include all hospitalizations regardless of address validity.

## APPENDIX 2: METHODS AND DATA SOURCES

***U.S. Census and American Community Survey Data.*** The U.S. Census<sup>410</sup> is an enumeration of the population of the United States. It is conducted every ten years, and includes information about housing, race, and ethnicity. The 2020 U.S. Census data are available by census block. There are about 108,000 inhabited blocks in Arizona, with an average population of 66 people each. Both the 2010 and 2020 Census data for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region presented in this report are drawn from the Census Geography for the Pascua Pueblo Yaqui Reservation and trust land. Please note that the 2020 reservation geography is slightly different than the geography of the First Things First region, which is based on the reservation geography as of 2015.

The American Community Survey (ACS)<sup>411</sup> is a survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau each month by mail, telephone, and face-to-face interviews. It covers many different topics, including income, language, education, employment, and housing. ACS data are available by census tract. Arizona is divided into about 1,750 census tracts, with an average of about 3,900 people in each. The ACS data for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region presented in this report are drawn from the Census Geography for the Pascua Pueblo Yaqui Reservation and trust land. The most recent and most reliable ACS data are averaged over the past five years; those are the data included in this report. They are based on surveys conducted from 2017 to 2021. In general, the reliability of ACS estimates is greater for more populated areas. Statewide estimates, for example, are more reliable than county-level estimates.

***Education Data from ADE.*** Education data from the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) included in this report were obtained through a custom tabulation of unredacted data files conducted by the vendor on a secure ADE computer terminal in the fall of 2023. The vendor worked with the regional director to create a list of all public and charter schools in the region based on the school's physical location within the region as well as local knowledge as to whether any schools located outside the region served a substantial number of children living within the region. This list was used to assign schools and districts to the region and to aggregate school-level data to the region-level. This methodology differs slightly from the methods that ADE uses to allocate school-level data to counties, so county and region totals may vary in some tables. Data were presented over time where available; however, due to changes in the ADE data system as well as the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on data collection and definitions over the past three years, some indicators could not be presented as a time series.

***Change Calculations.*** Unless otherwise specified, changes in counts of data over time (i.e., percent increase or decrease) are calculated by subtracting the earlier number (e.g., a 2010 count) from the later number (e.g. the 2020 count) and dividing the result by the earlier number (e.g. the 2010 count). This calculation provides the percent change between the most recent count and the prior count, relative to the prior count.

***Data Availability.*** State agency data in this report were provided to FTF by agency staff through a data request process initiated in May 2023 and extending to January 2024. Wherever possible, data were requested for multiple years to allow for the visualization of trends as well as for the most recent year

available. However, due to both the constraints of agency staff and agency-maintained datasets as well as the timing of requests, not all data were available on the same time and geographic scales. This report attempts to include the most recent and complete data available, with notes indicating where data were not available for particular time periods or geographies.

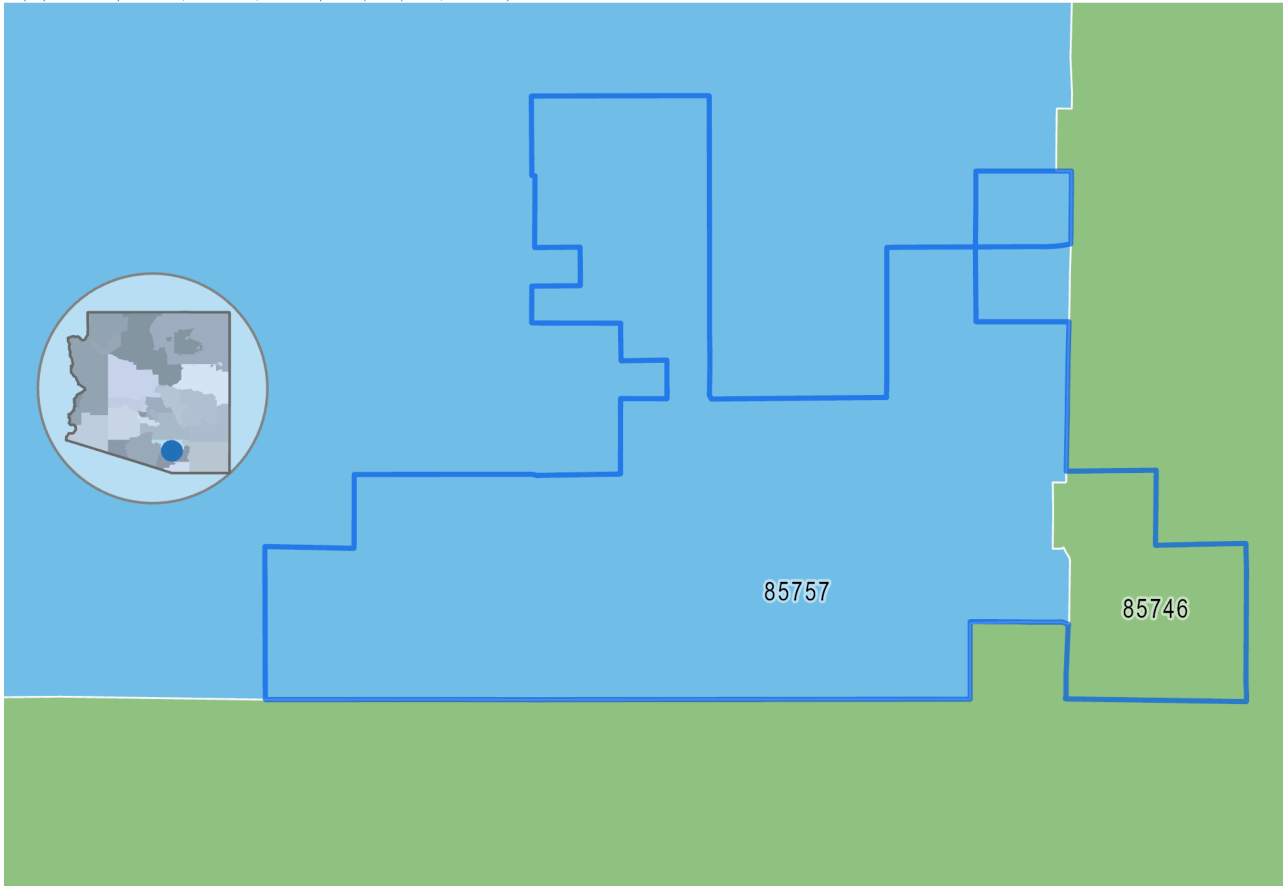
**Data Suppression.** To protect the confidentiality of program participants, the FTF Data Dissemination and Suppression Guidelines preclude our reporting of social service and early education programming data if the count is less than 10 and preclude our reporting data related to health or developmental delay if the count is less than 6. In addition, some data received from state agencies are suppressed according to their own guidelines. ADHS does not report counts between 1 and 5; DES does not report counts between 1 and 9; ADE does not report counts less than 11. Additionally, both ADE and DES require suppression of the second-smallest value or the denominator in tables where a reader might be able to use the numbers provided to calculate a suppressed value. Throughout this report, information which is not available because of suppression guidelines is indicated by entries of “1-5” or “1-9” or “<11” for counts, or “DS” (data suppressed) for percentages. Data are sometimes not available for particular regions, either because a program did not operate in the region or because data are only available at the county level. Cases where data are not available will be indicated by an entry of “N/A” or a table row note that states “regional data not available.”

For some data, an exact number was not available because it was the sum of several numbers provided by a state agency, and some numbers were suppressed in accordance with agency guidelines or because the number was suppressed as a second-smallest value that could be used to calculate a suppressed value. In these cases, a range of possible numbers is provided, where the true number lies within that range. For example, for data from the sum of a suppressed number of children enrolled in Child-only Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Cash Assistance Program (TANF) and 12 children enrolled in a household with TANF, the entry in the table would read “13 to 21.” This is because the suppressed number of children in Child-only TANF is between 1 and 9, so the possible range of values is the sum of the known number (12) and 1 on the lower bound to the sum of the known number (12) plus 9 on the upper bound. Ranges that include numbers below the suppression threshold of less than 6 or 10 may still be included if the upper limit of the range is above 6 or 10. Since a range is provided rather than an exact number, the confidentiality of program participants is preserved.

# APPENDIX 3: ZIP CODES OF THE PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE REGION

Figure 50. Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region

Map by Community Research, Evaluation, & Development (CRED) Team, University of Arizona



Source: Custom map by the Community Research, Evaluation, & Development (CRED) Team using shapefiles obtained from First Things First and the U.S. Census Bureau 2019 TIGER/Line Shapefiles (<https://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/geo/shapefiles/index.php>)

Table 79. Zip Code Tabulation Areas (ZCTAs) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region

Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA)	Population (all ages)	Percent of this ZCTA's total population living in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region	This ZCTA is shared with
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region</b>	<b>3,466</b>		
85746	57	0.1%	Pima North Region, Pima South Region, Tohono O'odham Nation Region
85757	3,409	16%	Pima South Region

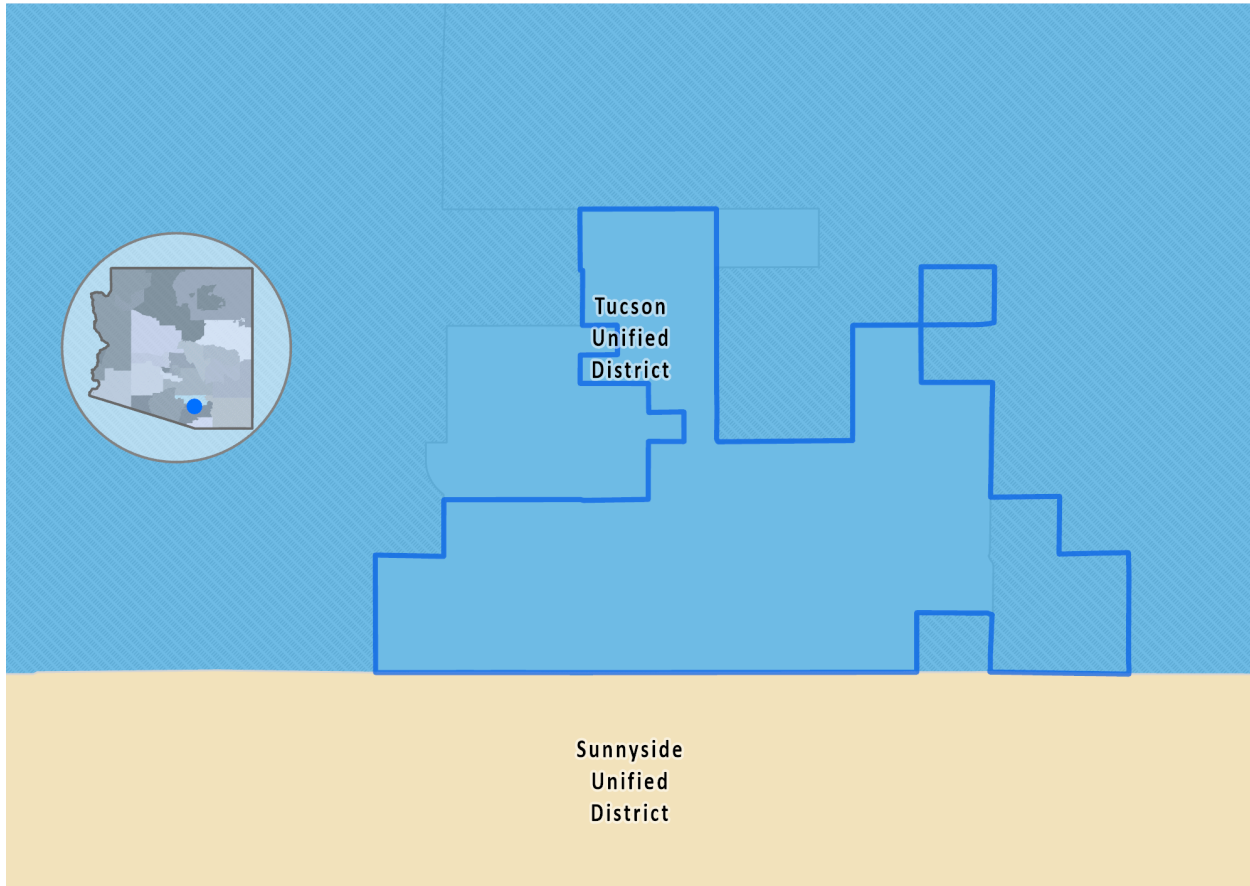
Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2023). 2020 Decennial Census, Demographic and Housing Characteristics, Table P1.

Note: With the implementation of differential privacy in the 2020 Census, small area estimates now have injected 'noise' (error) to prevent accidental disclosure of Census responses. Geographies that are not primary census geographies, like ZCTAs, have noisier (or less accurate) estimates than primary geographies, like tracts.

# APPENDIX 4: SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF THE PASCUA YAQUI TRIBE REGION

Figure 51. School Districts in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region

Map by Community Research, Evaluation, & Development (CRED) Team, University of Arizona



Source: Custom map by the Community Research, Evaluation, & Development (CRED) Team using shapefiles obtained from First Things First and the U.S. Census Bureau 2019 TIGER/Line Shapefiles (<https://www.census.gov/cgi-bin/geo/shapefiles/index.php>)



Table 80. School Districts and Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in the Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region

Name of District or Local Education Agency (LEA)	School name	Number of schools	Grades Served
<b>Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region Schools</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>9-12</b>
Ombudsman Education Services	Hiaki High School /Valencia Charter	1	9-12
<b>Off-reservation schools serving Pascua Yaqui Tribe Region students</b>		<b>21</b>	<b>PK-12</b>
Tucson Unified School District		19	PK-12
Tucson Unified School District	Harriet Johnson Primary School	1	PK-3
Tucson Unified School District	Raul Grijalva Elementary School	1	PK-5
Tucson Unified School District	Amelia Maldonado Elementary School	1	PK-5
Tucson Unified School District	Miller Elementary School	1	PK-5
Tucson Unified School District	Vesey Elementary School	1	PK-5
Tucson Unified School District	Frances J Warren Elementary School	1	PK-5
Tucson Unified School District	John E White Elementary School	1	PK-5
Tucson Unified School District	Drachman Primary Magnet School	1	PK-8
Tucson Unified School District	Hollinger K-8 School	1	PK-8
Tucson Unified School District	Anna Lawrence Intermediate School	1	PK-8
Tucson Unified School District	Roskruge Bilingual Magnet Middle School	1	PK-8
Tucson Unified School District	McCorkle PK-8	1	PK-8
Tucson Unified School District	Safford K-8 School	1	PK-8
Tucson Unified School District	Mansfeld Middle Magnet School	1	6-8
Tucson Unified School District	Pistor Middle School	1	6-8
Tucson Unified School District	Valencia Middle School	1	6-8
Tucson Unified School District	Cholla High School	1	8-12
Tucson Unified School District	Tucson High Magnet School	1	8-12
Tucson Unified School District	Project More High School	1	9-12
Academy Del Sol, Inc.	Academy Del Sol - Star Valley	1	K-8
Ha:san Educational Services	Ha:san Preparatory & Leadership School	1	9-12

Source: Arizona Department of Education (2023). [Oct 1 Enrollment Dataset]. Custom tabulation of unpublished data by the UArizona CRED Team.

# APPENDIX 5: DATA SOURCES

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