

PARENTS AS TEACHERS (PAT) COLORADO STATEWIDE SNAPSHOT 2020-2021

INTRODUCTION

Each year, Parent Possible conducts an evaluation of the Parents as Teachers (PAT) program in Colorado. Evaluation tools for the 2020-2021 year included an updated parent survey, an assessment of parent-child interactions, and a survey about children's early learning skills and development. Survey data were analyzed to describe families served by PAT, gauge their satisfaction with the program, and examine changes in parenting practices and confidence. As with last year, the COVID-19 pandemic and shift to virtual visits prevented us from administering the typical in-person assessment of school readiness. For details on the measures used and statistical tests conducted, please reach out to Parent Possible.

All families included in this report received services in 2020-2021. The demographics section includes information from these families, though there is missing data on some items. The parent survey results include information from guardians who completed an assessment in the spring of 2021. The survey demographics page reflects the self-reported data of guardians who completed those questions on the survey and does not necessarily represent the characteristics of all families served. Exact sample sizes (n) are reported in each respective section of the report and represent the maximum; individual items may have smaller sample sizes due to missing data.

This report does not include findings from the "Child Learning Survey," as it was used as a pilot to capture state-level data about children's knowledge and skills in the absence of a validated in-person school readiness assessment. It was not designed for use in program evaluations and is thus not included here.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

PARENT SURVEY

99% of survey respondents would recommend this program to a friend.

Overall, at least 94% or more of participants agreed or strongly agreed with 11 of 13 statements about program quality and satisfaction.

Parents and guardians report PAT changes the way they support their child(ren) and themselves. Participation in PAT:

- Increases understanding of their child's development,
- Increases knowledge of positive parenting practices, and
- Motivates guardians to try new parenting strategies.

In addition, survey respondents report:

- A strengthened relationship with their child,
- Being better able to handle stress, and
- Support from their Parent Educator around goals they set for their family.

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS

At the post assessment, 95% of guardians exhibited average or above-average developmentally-appropriate behavior with their children overall. From pre to post, guardians demonstrated statistically significant growth in the total PICCOLO score and all four subscales: affection, responsiveness, encouragement, and teaching.



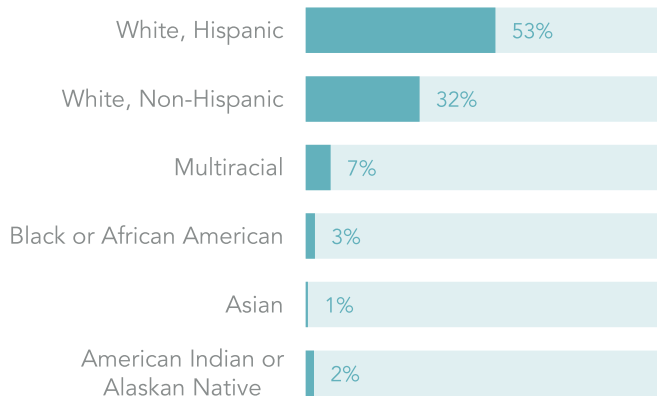
STRONGER FAMILIES, TODAY & TOMORROW.

Number of Families Served: **1,474**

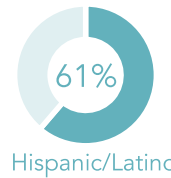
Number of Children Served: **1,791**

Number of Home Visits Completed: **17,992**

GUARDIAN RACE



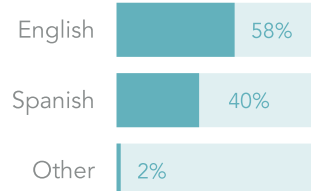
GUARDIAN ETHNICITY



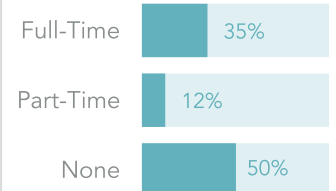
GUARDIAN GENDER



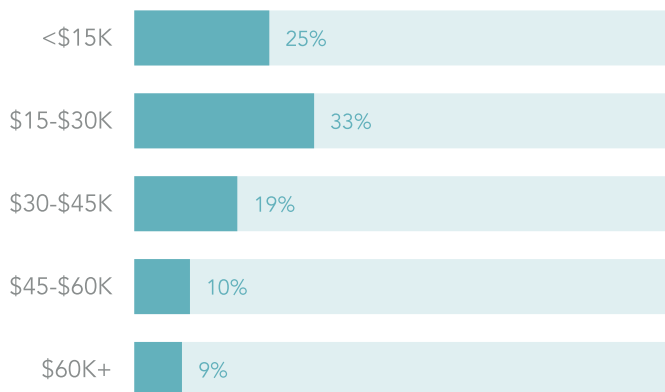
PRIMARY LANGUAGE



EMPLOYMENT STATUS



HOUSEHOLD INCOME



2021 Federal Poverty Guideline for a family of four:

\$26,500

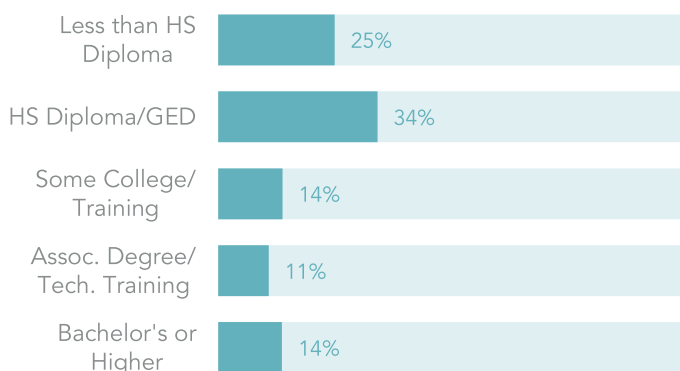
Households served that are at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Guideline:

48%

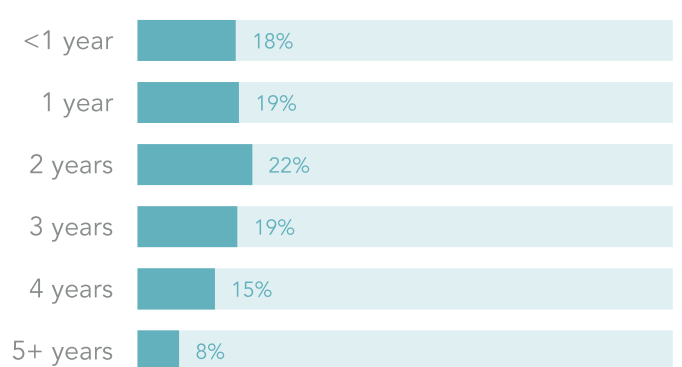
Households served that are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline:

83%

GUARDIAN EDUCATION LEVEL



CHILD AGE



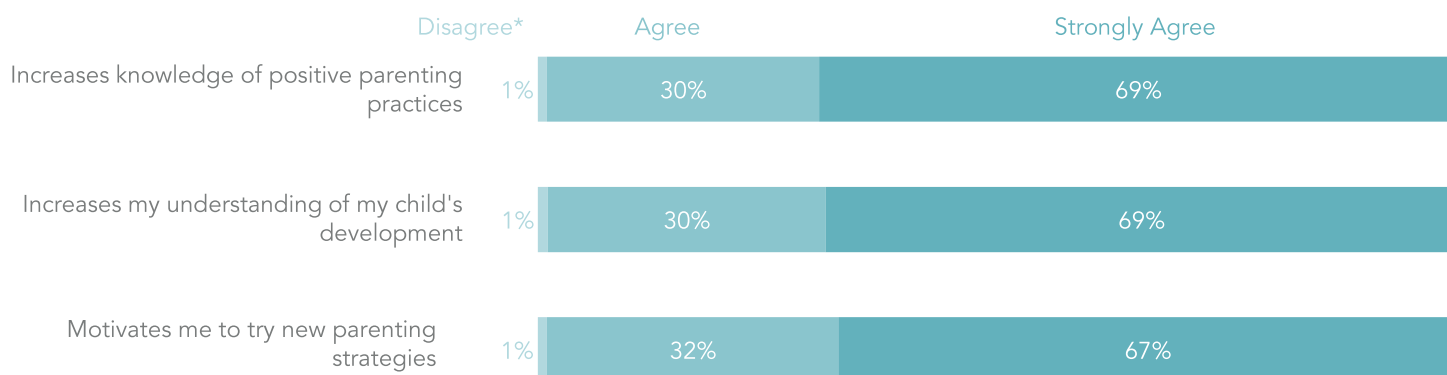
Note: Chart totals may not equal 100% due to missing or unknown data.

PARENT SURVEY

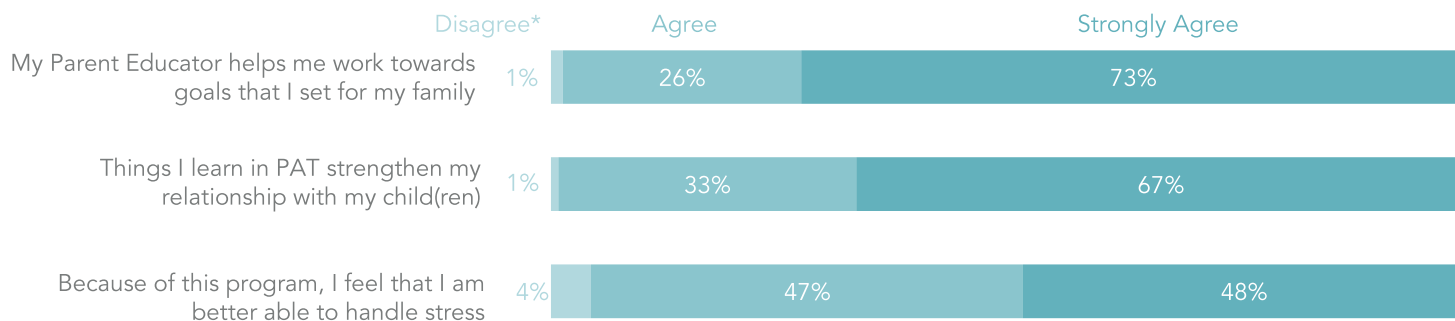
N=644

Parents and guardians report PAT changes the way they support their child(ren) and themselves. Participation in PAT increases participant understanding of their child's development, knowledge of positive parenting practices, and motivates guardians to try new parenting strategies. In addition, survey respondents report a strengthened relationship with their child, being better able to handle stress, and support from their Parent Educator in working towards goals they set for their family.

PARENT KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE



FAMILY GROWTH AND RELATIONSHIPS



*= the disagree category displayed combines families that selected "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree"

It is clear current PAT participants value the PAT program and all it does for their families.

99% of survey respondents would recommend this program to a friend.

“It is such an amazing feeling knowing I signed up for PAT to give my children a better childhood and to learn to be the best I can for them and I am succeeding in not only that but I am growing as an individual as I also help my children learn and grow. This program is truly priceless.”

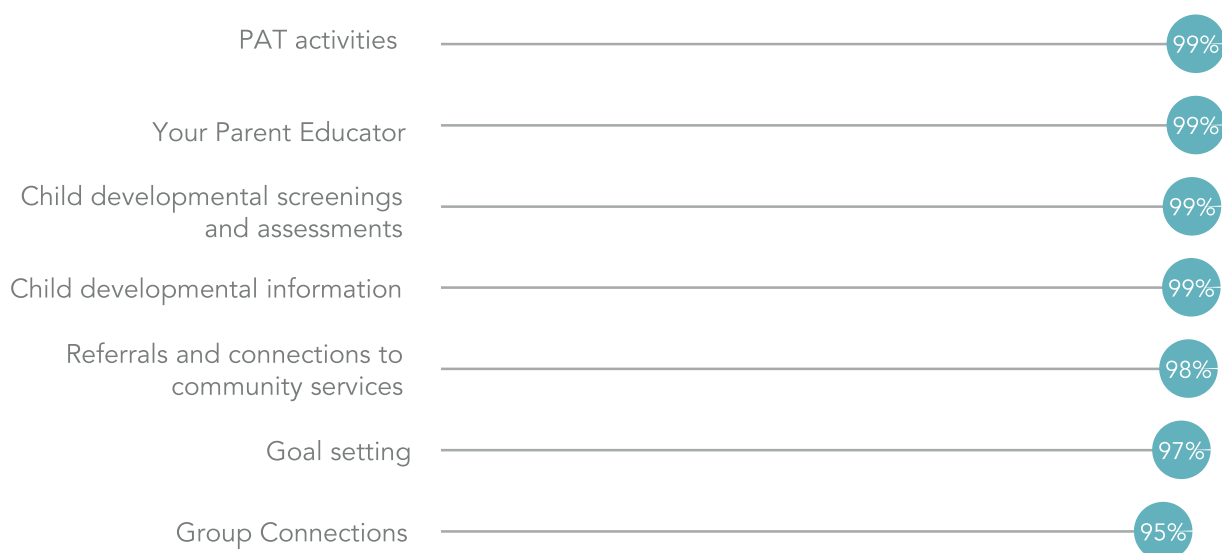
- PAT Participant

PARENT SURVEY, cont.

N=644

Families find all aspects of the PAT program valuable, especially their Parent Educator and the PAT activities provided during visits.

Participants rated 7 elements of the program on a scale of "Not Valuable" to "Very Valuable." The following reports the percentage of survey respondents who rated the specific item as "Valuable" or "Very Valuable":



The updated PAT participant survey in 2021 included questions from the Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening & Support Participant Survey developed by the National Family Support Network. There were 13 multiple choice questions and one open-ended question meant to capture participant satisfaction and to gauge if the program is meeting the needs of those enrolled.

94% or more of parents and guardians agreed with 11 of the 13 statements about program quality and satisfaction.

The two questions with slightly lower ratings were still rated highly—at 88% agreement each—and read as follows:



I have opportunities to learn about families that are different from mine



I have opportunities to meet and get to know other families through the program

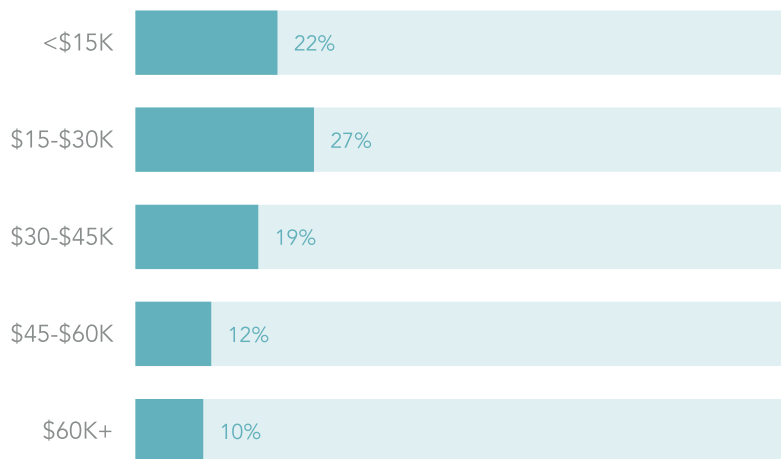
PARENT SURVEY, cont.

The PAT Parent Survey was an anonymous survey in 2021 and responses cannot be linked to individual participants in the program. Some demographic questions were asked in order to capture characteristics of the survey respondents. These demographics can be used to ensure those taking the survey reflect the larger population served and that all participants are receiving equitable services and sharing similar experiences.

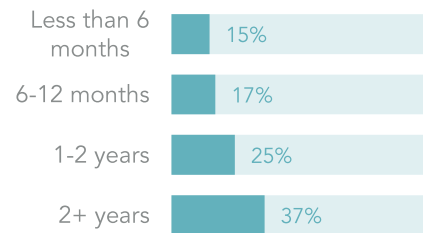
Number of Surveys Completed: **644**

Percent of all PAT Participants Surveyed: **44%**

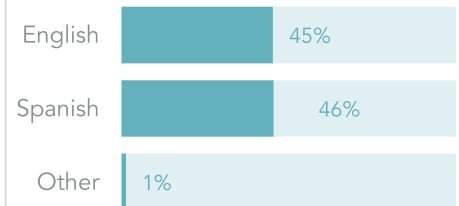
ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME



TIME ENROLLED



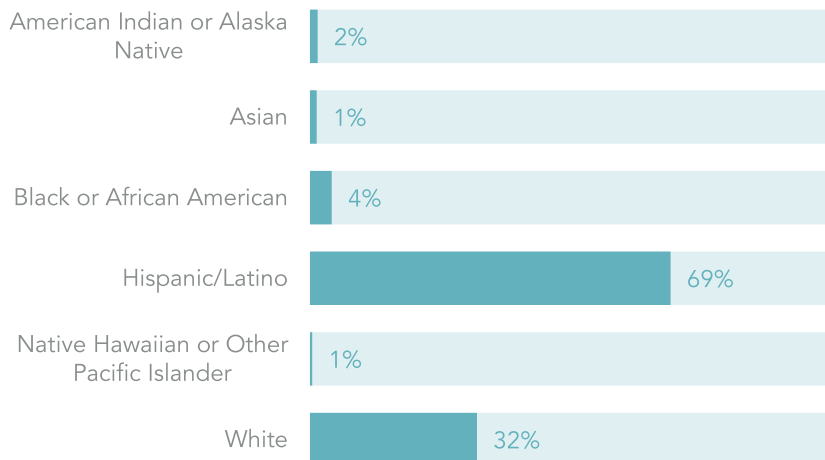
PRIMARY LANGUAGE



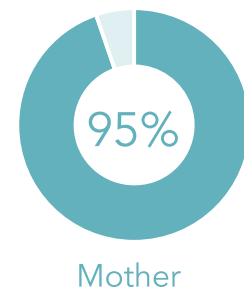
Note: Chart totals may not equal 100% due to missing data.

Survey respondents were able to "select all that apply" for the following demographics questions:

RACE / ETHNICITY CATEGORIES SELECTED



RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD



Other relationships selected:

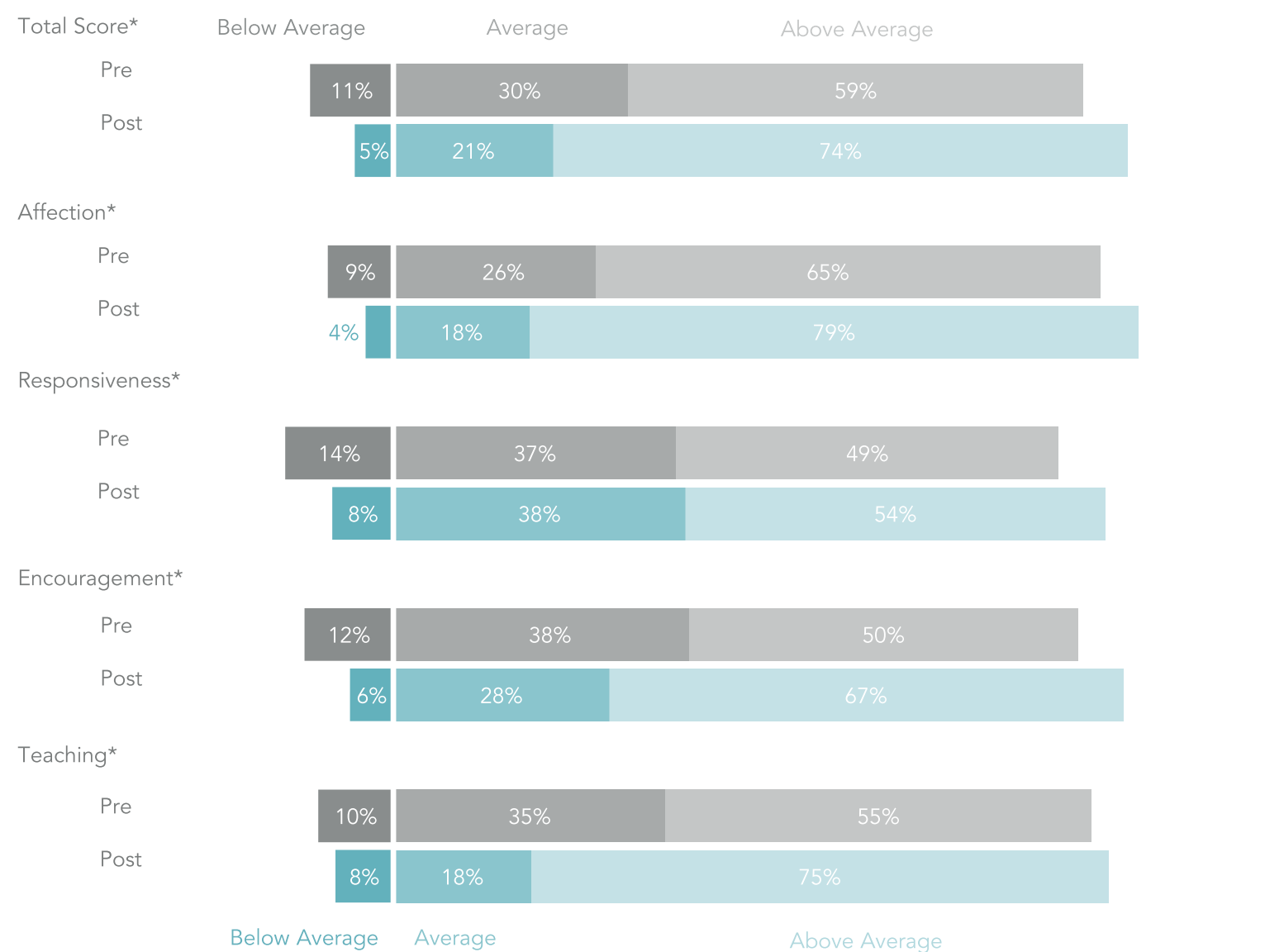
Father	4%
Grandparent	2%
Legal Guardian	1%
Foster Parent	0.7%

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTIONS

The PICCOLO (Parenting Interactions with Children: Checklist of Observations Linked to Outcomes) is a strengths-based measure of parenting interactions that predicts children’s early social, cognitive, and language development. The PICCOLO measures four domains: affection, responsiveness, encouragement, and teaching. Based on research with diverse, low-income samples, the measure developers identified proficiency cutoffs of below average, average, and above average, which are shown here.

PAT families complete a PICCOLO within three months of enrollment or a child turning 10 months of age and then again each fall. Results below include guardians observed at least twice over the course of their time in PAT and where the most recent observation was during the 2020-21 program year.

PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION QUALITY (N=585)



*= data statistically significant, p< .05