



Building Quality Early Learning Systems and Kindergarten Readiness Through Data and Partnerships

2018 Santa Clara County Kindergarten Readiness Assessment

CHALLENGE TEAM

JUNE 13, 2019

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Kids in Common

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Education



Agenda

- Background: Why assess readiness?
- Findings from the 2018 Santa Clara County assessment
 - » How many children in Santa Clara County were Fully Ready for school?
 - » What factors predicted higher readiness in the county?
 - » How is readiness related to family engagement and community services and supports?
- How do we use the data to turn the curve on readiness in the county?

Background

- Why is kindergarten readiness important?
 - » Linked to long-term education, health, and social outcomes
 - » Creates a portrait of readiness for a community
 - » Informs interventions to support readiness
 - » Builds bridges between 0-5 and K-12 communities
- Why measure readiness in Santa Clara County?
 - » Last countywide readiness assessment was over 10 years ago
 - » Can be used to shape local strategies for readiness in the county
 - » Can bring together partners in the county pursuing a **common goal** –

Every child comes to school ready to learn!

SRA Model & Measures

K ACADEMICS

Recognizes numbers
Recognizes shapes
Recognizes letters
Counts 20 objects
Writes own first name
Recognizes rhyming words
Understands details in literature
Understands basic features of books

SELF-REGULATION

Stays focused
Follows rules
Follows directions
Plays cooperatively
Participation in circle time
Handles frustration well

SOCIAL EXPRESSION

Eager to learn
Expresses empathy
Expresses needs and wants
Tells about a story/experience

MOTOR SKILLS ITEMS

Uses pencil with proper grip
General coordination

KINDERGARTEN OBSERVATION FORM (KOF)

- 20 research-based items administered by teacher
 - 6 direct test items
 - 14 observational items

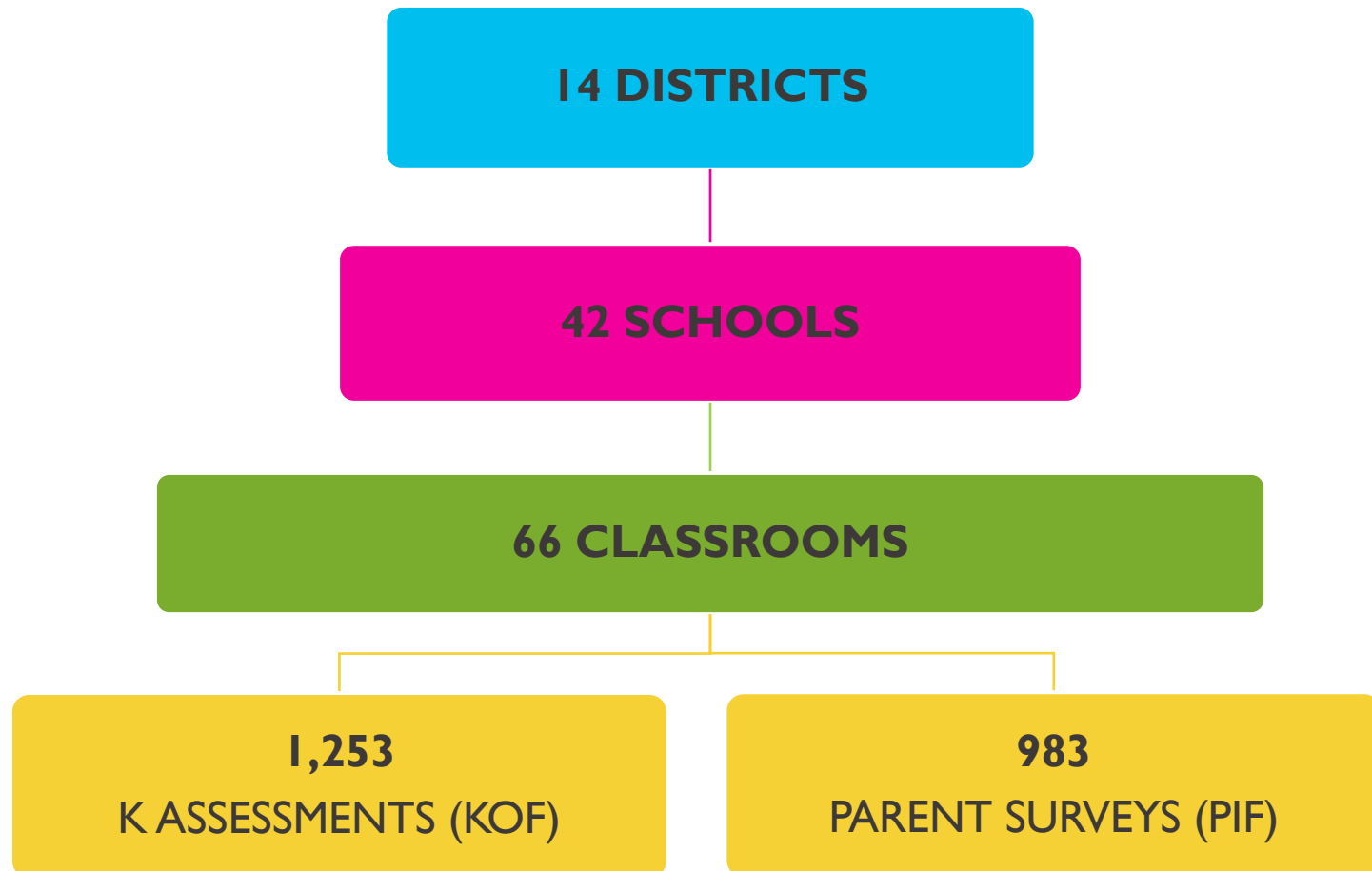
PARENT INFORMATION FORM (PIF)

- Take-home confidential survey for parents
- PIF measures:
 - Child health
 - Early learning
 - Family protective factors
 - Family risk markers
 - Participation in programs/services

FIRST 5 SERVICE DATA

- Family Resource Center services
- Home visiting services
- Developmental screening and referrals

2018 Santa Clara County Sample



School Readiness in 2018

Average
readiness
score that
predicts third
grade reading:

3.25

19%
Not Ready

31%
Partially
Ready

50%
Fully
Ready

60%
3rd Graders
are
Proficient
Readers

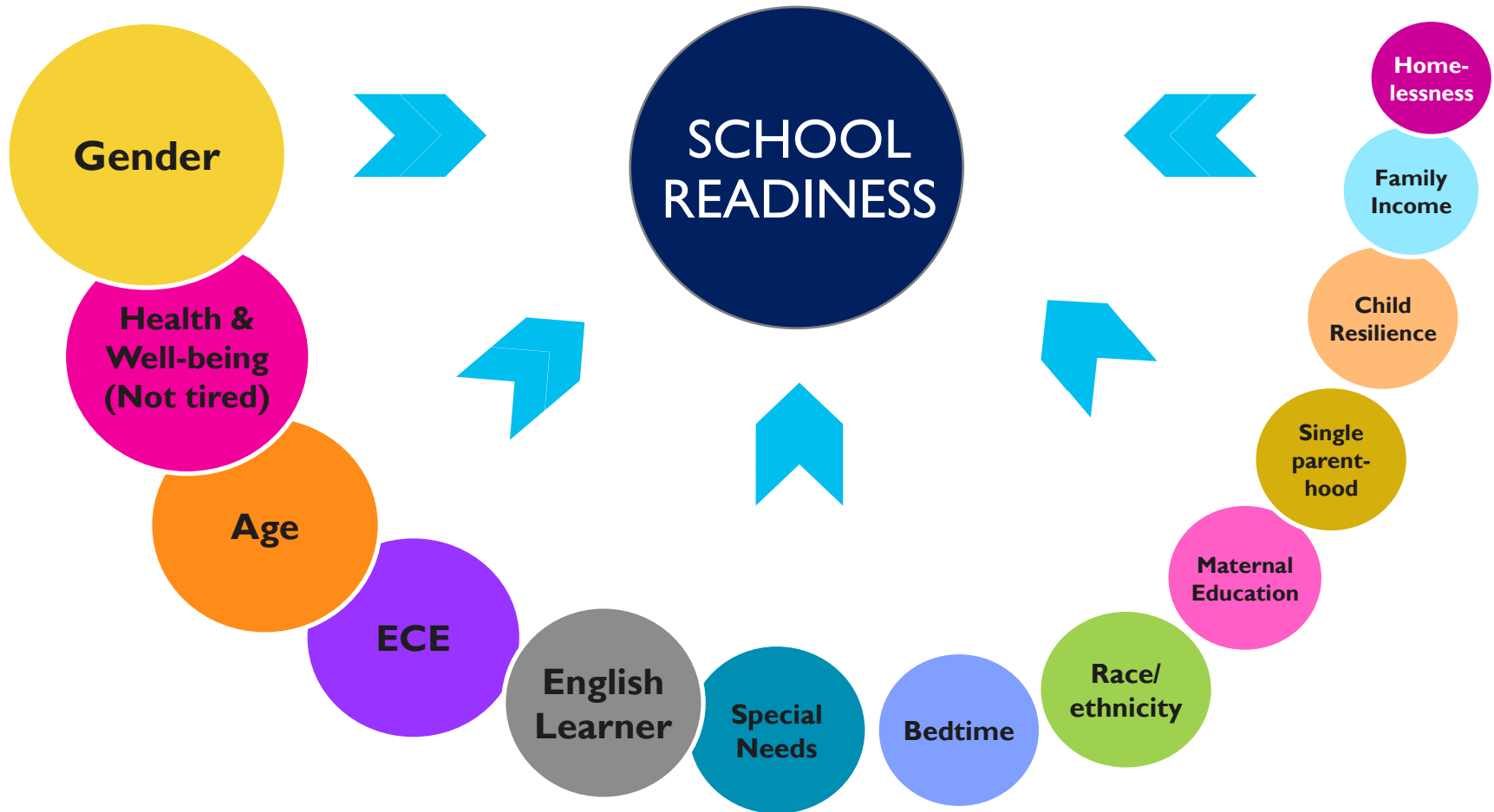
N=1,159. Note: Data were weighted to approximate race/ethnicity, SES, and EL representation, and adjusted for school and district enrollment.

Fully Ready: Mean score of 3.25 or higher in all three domains: Self-Regulation, Social Expression and K. Academics.

Partially Ready: Mean score of 3.25 or higher in one or two domains.

Not Ready: Mean score below 3.25 in all three domains.

Predictors of Readiness in 2018



“Recipe” of Assets for Readiness

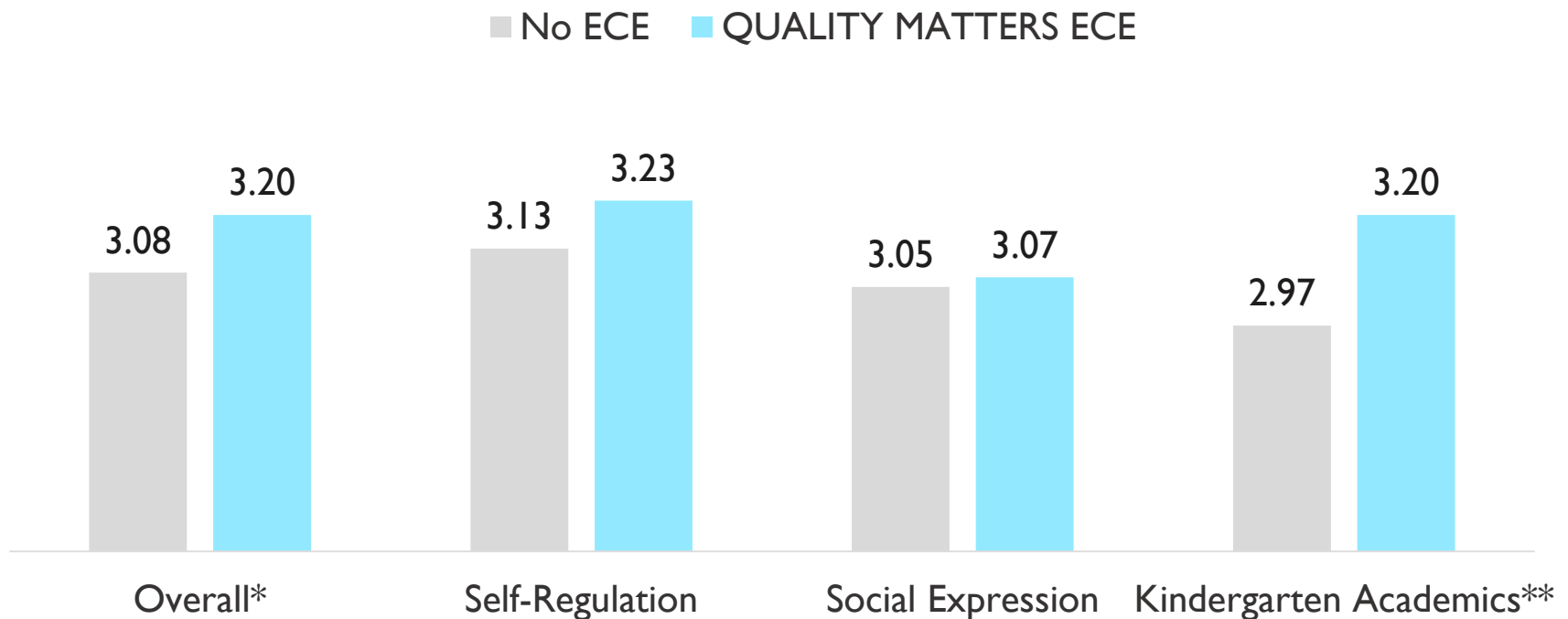
- Quality services and supports foster conditions for optimal growth and development, so that each child enters school ready to learn



QUALITY MATTERS and Readiness

Early Learning Programs

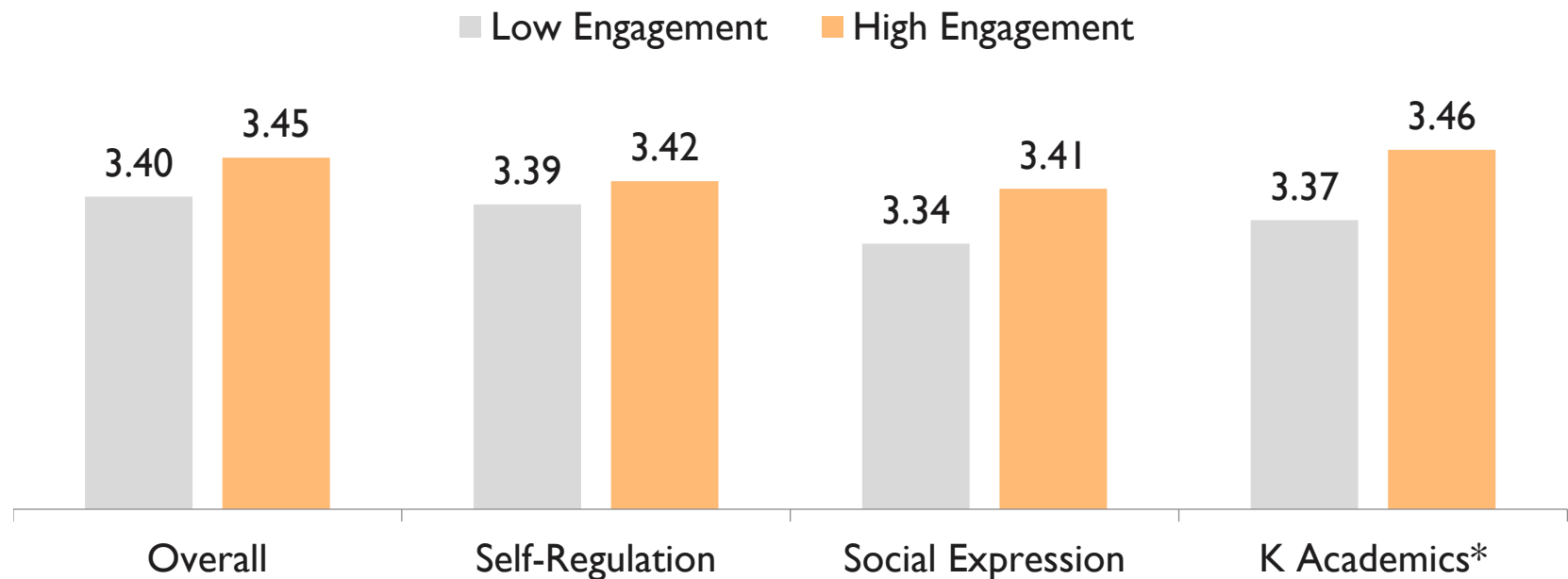
- Children attending QUALITY MATTERS (QRIS) rated early learning programs in Santa Clara County have higher readiness scores



Scale of 1= Not proficient to 4 = Proficient. N=610-649. * $p < .05$; ** $p < .01$. Estimates are adjusted for age, sex, race/ethnicity (Hispanic or not), special needs, English Learner status, maternal education, family income, and single parenthood.

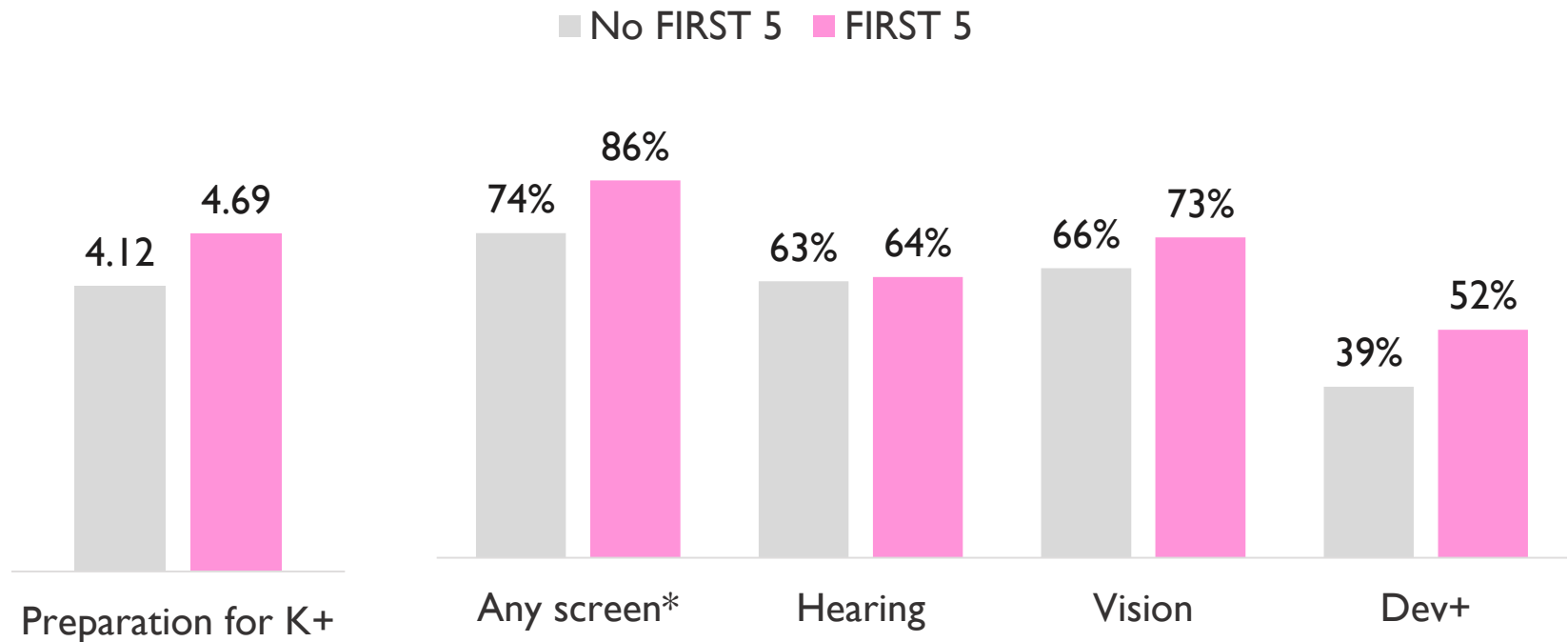
Family Engagement

- Children in highly engaged families had higher Kindergarten Academics scores



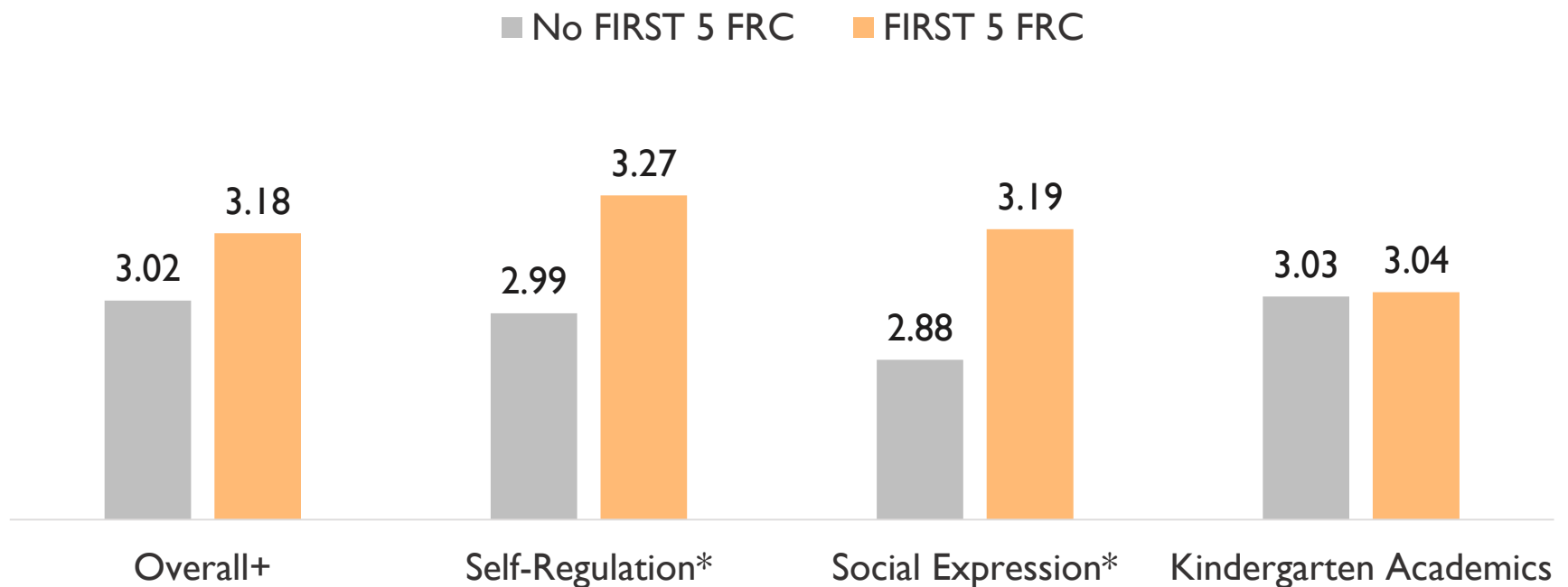
FIRST 5 and Kinder Prep

- FIRST 5 families were more likely to have screenings and carry out activities to prepare their children for kindergarten^



FRCs and Readiness

- Among students attending schools near Family Resource Center sites, FRC services associated with higher Self-Regulation & Social Expression skills



Cumulative Effect of Assets for Latino Boys

Early Learning Programs

Parent Support and
Family Engagement

Early Health Services

ASSETS

Well-being (not tired)

ECE experience

Securely housed

Visited library

Read with caregiver

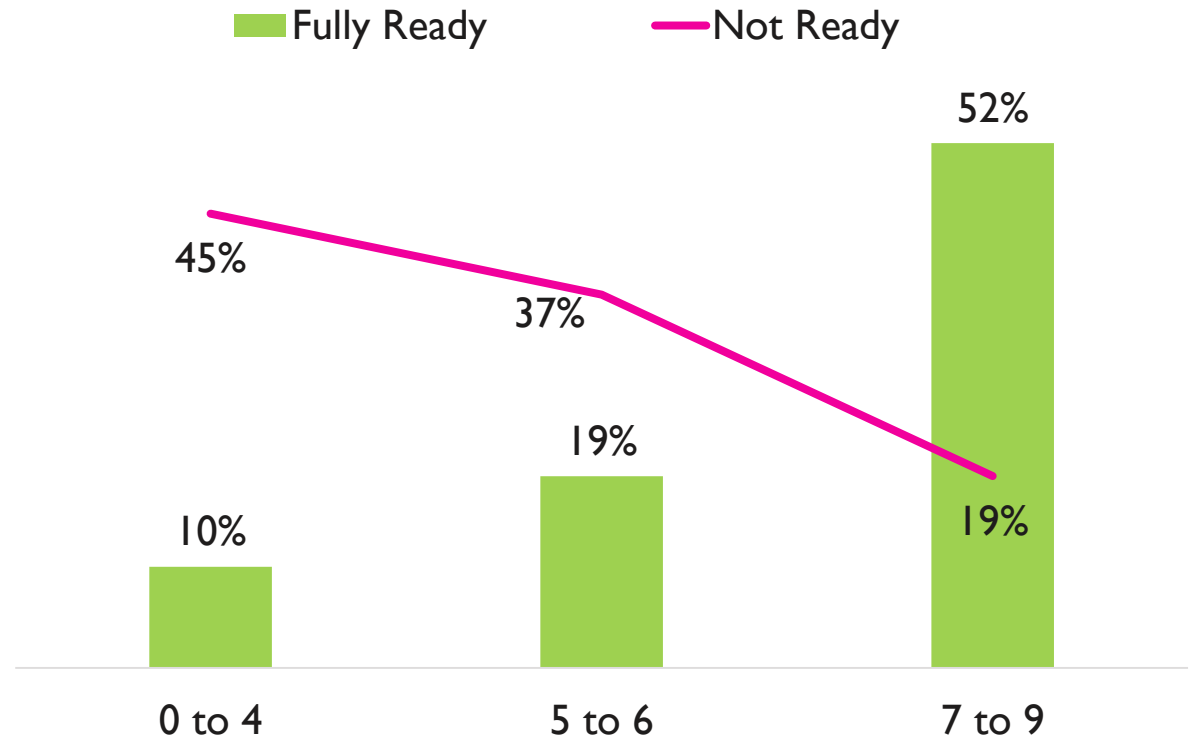
Resilient

Less screen time

K prep activities

Early bedtime

PERCENT READY BY NUMBER OF ASSETS



Assets and Readiness by ZIP Code

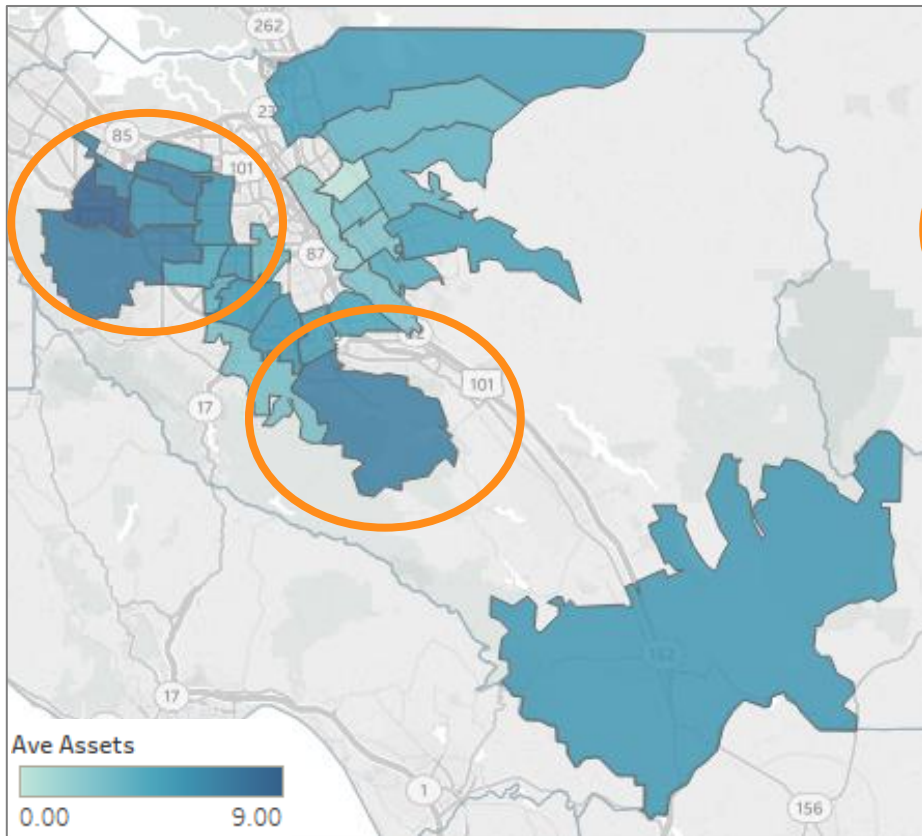
Early Learning Programs

Parent Support and
Family Engagement

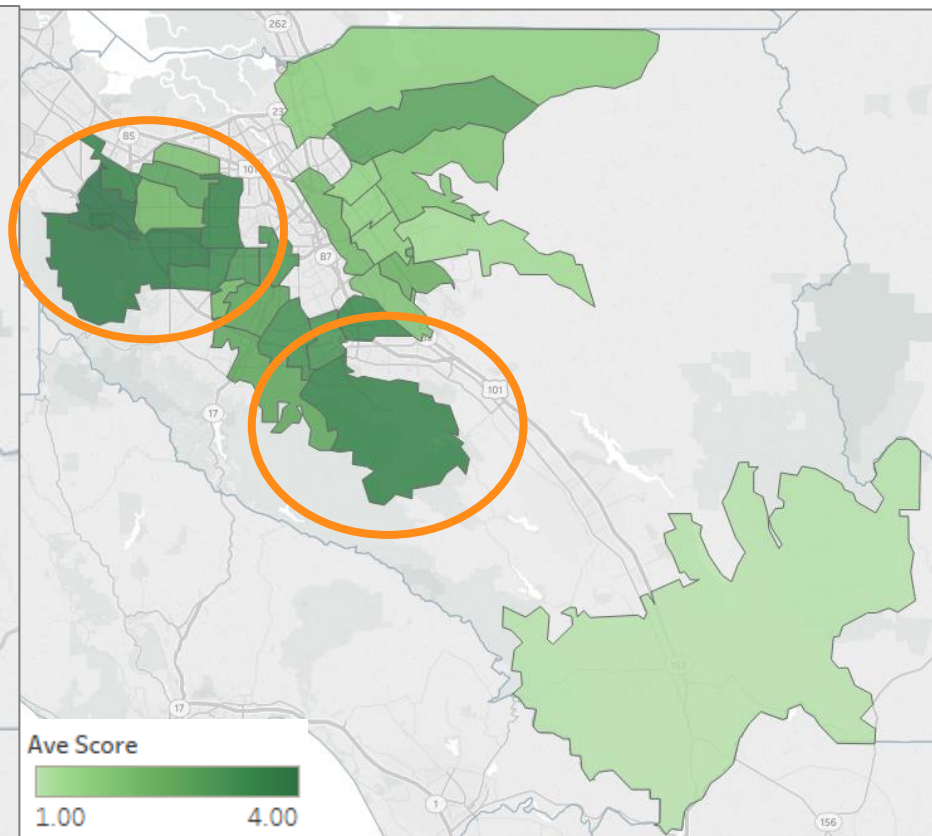
Early Health Services

- ZIP Codes where children/families have more assets, readiness scores are higher

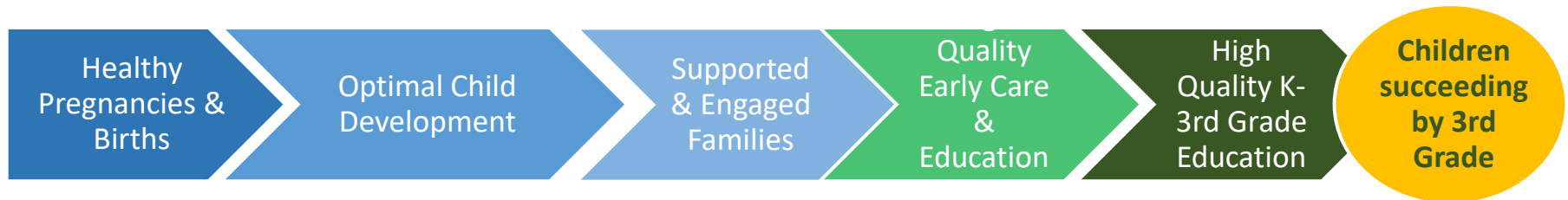
ASSETS



READINESS



How Do We Turn the Curve?



- **Partners in all sectors** have a role to play in improving the quality of each child's early experience
- **Universal Access Pilot received over \$2M in funding from Board of Supervisors to change how business is done in East San Jose**
 - » Increase connection to early education, health, parent support services
 - » Increase school readiness
 - » Increase third grade reading

Building a Call to Action

1. Where else should we present the data? With whom should we connect to share the findings?
2. What are two things you want to see happen in the county to improve school readiness?
3. What other questions would you like answered with the data?



Thank you to the sponsors who made this study possible!



Santa Clara County
Office of Education



FIRST 5
SANTA CLARA COUNTY



Contact ASR if you have other questions!

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