

FEBRUARY 2020

COMPTON COMMUNITY SURVEY

Parents' Perceptions of Community Support for Children's Math Learning

Report by:

PBS
SOCAL



ABOUT

PBS SoCal's Compton Family Math Initiative

Early math skills can unlock powerful opportunities for children. Research has identified how math proficiency at age 5 predicts academic achievement throughout elementary school, graduation from high school, and enrollment in college.

So we're reaching out to families-- particularly parents and caregivers -- and offering insights, tools, and support so that they can confidently, joyfully, and authentically explore math with their children.

Our PBS SoCal Family Math mission is to empower caregivers to engage in their children's learning, encourage a positive view of math for children and caregivers, and improve math proficiency and kindergarten readiness.



THE COMPTON COMMUNITY SURVEY

In January 2020, PBS SoCal surveyed 246 parents in the City of Compton through a geo-targeted bilingual social media campaign via Facebook. The survey asked parents to honestly report how well organizations within the City of Compton supported their children's math learning.

We asked parents to rate how well math support occurred in schools, libraries, parks, non-profit organizations, religious organizations, local business, and other places in their community. We also asked parents about their desire for more designated learning spaces and math educational opportunities.

Please note: A primary assumption of PBS SoCal's parent engagement work is that many children look to adults who are not technically parents but guardians, grandparents, siblings, and other relatives. For the purposes of this report, the term "parent" should be understood as inclusive of these caregivers.



Parents selected the organizations that they believe play an important role in helping them teach their children math. Then, they rated the quality of this support.

MOST HELPFUL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

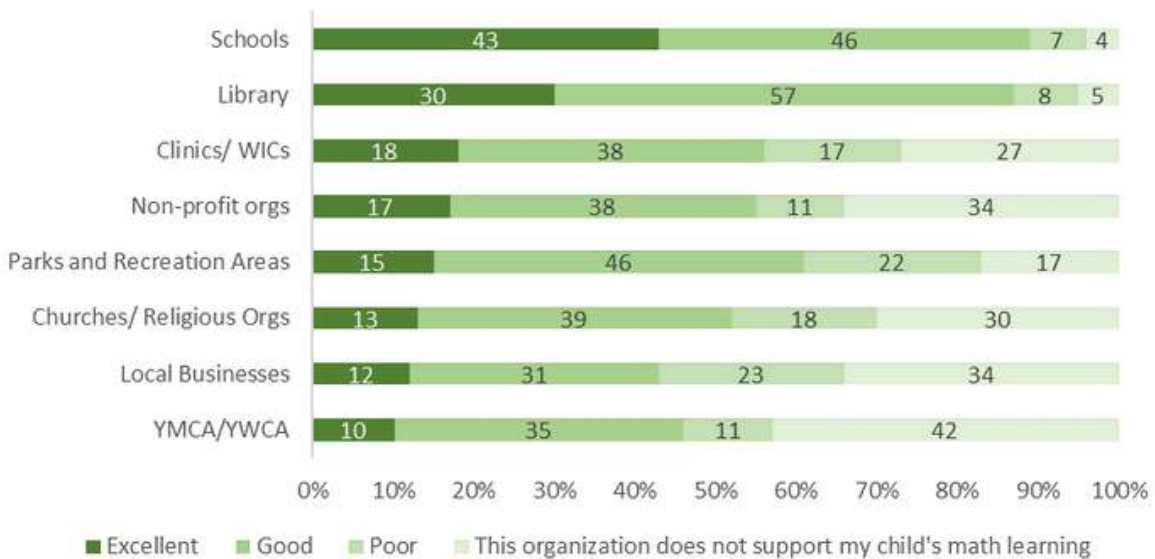
for children's math learning

Schools	85%	Clinics/ WIC	20%
Public libraries	66%	Churches/ Religious Organizations	18%
Parks and recreation areas	35%	Local Businesses (e.g., grocery stores, laundromats, shopping malls)	16%
Childcare centers	34%	Not applicable	5%
Non-profit organizations (e.g. Boys and Girls Club)	27%	Other (e.g., parents, YAL Sheriff Youth program, etc.)	2%
YWCA/ YMCA Compton	23%		

Parents viewed schools, public libraries, and clinics/WICs as **most supportive** of their children's math learning.

Parents believed that YMCA/YWCA, local businesses, public parks, and churches had the **most opportunity** for impact in their support of early math education.

Parents' Rating of the Quality of Math Education Support



PARENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF THE COMPTON COMMUNITY and their desires for more educational opportunities



85% of parents felt it was important that their community provided **designated learning spaces** for their child's learning. 12% of parents disagreed with the statement.

46% of parents trusted organizations in their community to provide **early learning opportunities** for their child. 27% of parents disagreed with the statement.

35% of parents believed their community does a good job overall creating a **supportive math-learning environment** for their family. 35% of parents disagreed with the statement.

96% of parents wished their community would offer **more math educational opportunities** for their family.

Parents want to see the following opportunities in their communities.

- Programs that involve the entire family in children's math learning
- Affordable or free after school and weekend enrichment programs that help with homework, science, math, and reading
- Programs that help parents understand Common Core Standards and their relationship to children's homework
- A safe learning environment for their children
- Educational programs offered in parks or libraries
- Building greater awareness on where to find educational opportunities
- Parent education programs to learn about the new ways math are taught in schools so that they can help their children more effectively
- Programs that prepare children for life after school, in higher education, and in their careers.
- More programs that support children with learning difficulties and special needs

FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS

Parents shared additional learning opportunities they wanted to see in Compton.

"A free place for kids of any age to go have fun with math in the morning and afternoon."

"More activities for children that involve parents. More hands-on activities for the younger learners because that helps them."

"Más apoyo para los niños que van más avanzados y más ayuda a los que están debajo del nivel académico."

"Other communities have tutoring centers or integrate math in their parks. Parks can create challenges that include math while keeping children physically active."

"Mas programas para los niños despues de escuela o talleres los fines de semana donde puedan participar, o que se pudieran hacer ciertos talleres en sus escuelas sin interferer con sus tiempo de instruccion."

"We are looking for more programs that are STEAM based and that can expose students to a wide range of experiences and opportunities."

