

2003 Outcomes and Community Impact Program



United Way of San Diego County

Special Education

INSIDE

The 2003 Outcomes & Community Impact Program surveyed 3,662 randomly selected households from throughout San Diego County between October 24, 2003 and March 30, 2004. One segment of this survey was intended to determine how well the needs for special education of San Diego County residents with children in school are being met. Questions in this section inquired whether respondents with children in elementary school through high school needed any type of special education because of learning problems, or physical or mental disabilities during the past 12 months.

Respondents who indicated their children had needed special education were asked the amount of special education received.

This chapter explores the findings related to how well the special education needs of San Diego

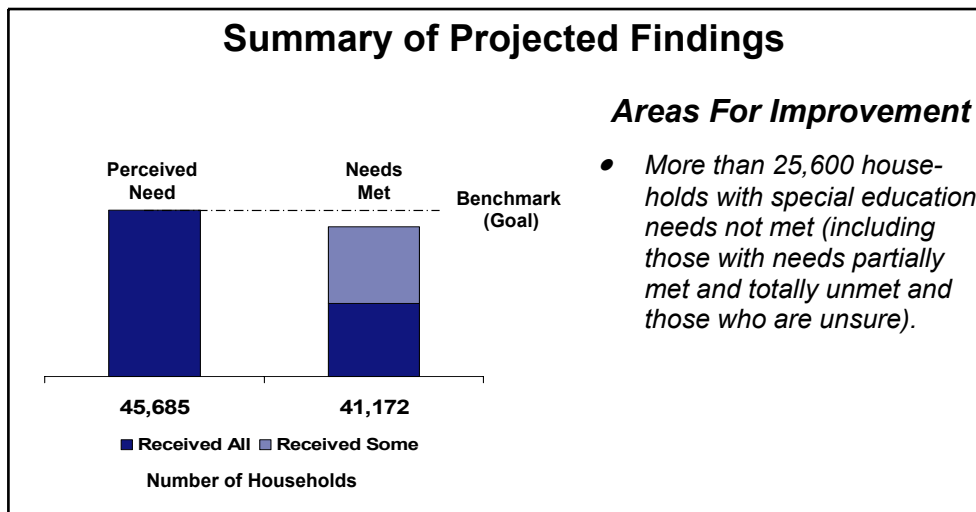
County residents are being met. This includes examining the findings by demographic subgroups including geographic location, age, race/ethnicity, educational level, income and other variables as indicated.

In addition, findings are projected for the current number of occupied households in San Diego County.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Overall, 13.8 percent of respondents with children in elementary through high school reported a need for special education.
- Of those reporting a need for special education, 43.8 percent reported all their needs were met.



Need for Special Education

“During the past 12 months, have your children needed any type of special education because of learning problems, or physical or mental disabilities?”

Overall, 13.8 percent of the respondents (n=162) with children in elementary school through high school reported a need for special education because of learning problems, or physical or mental disabilities during the past 12 months. Need varied by geographic region, race/ethnicity, education and income. This section reviews the need for special education within each of these and other variables.

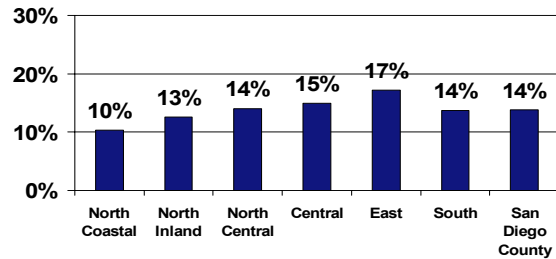
Within each demographic subgroup, those reporting a need during the past 12 months ranged from 8.8 percent for Asian respondents to 19.4 percent among separated or divorced respondents. Findings within these and other variables include:

- Geographically, need for special education ranged from 10.3 percent in the North Coastal region to 17.2 percent in the East region. These differences are not statistically significant.
- In terms of race/ethnicity, the need for special education ranged from 8.8 percent for Asian respondents to 16.4 percent among African-American respondents. These differences are not statistically significant.
- There are no significant differences in the need for special education based on the respondents educational level.
- There are no significant differences in the need for special education based on the respondents annual household income.

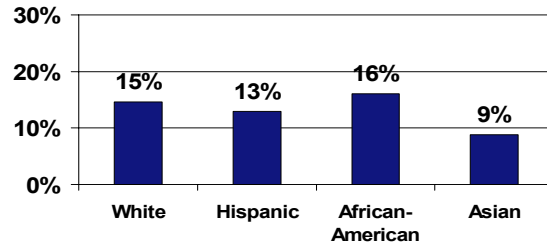
Review of other demographic subgroups did not identify any statistically significant difference.

Percent indicating need for special education

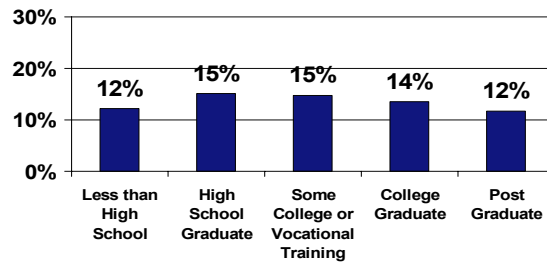
Geographic Region



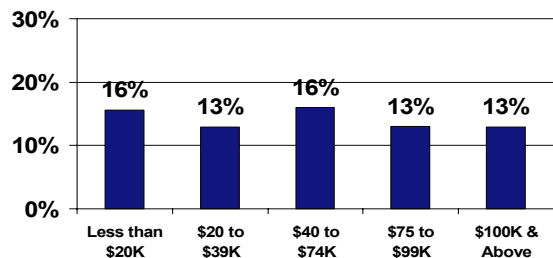
Race/Ethnicity



Educational Level



Annual Household Income



Amount of Special Education Received

“Did your child(ren) receive all, some or none of the special education needed?”

Overall, only 43.8 percent of the respondents (n=71) indicating a need for special education reported their children had received all of the needed special education during the past 12 months. An additional 46.3 percent reported their children had received some of the special education needed.

Within each demographic subgroup reviewed, respondents reporting receiving all the special education needed during the past 12 months ranged from 36.5 percent among respondents with some college education or vocational training to 54.2 percent for respondents living in the North Central region. Findings within these and other variables include:

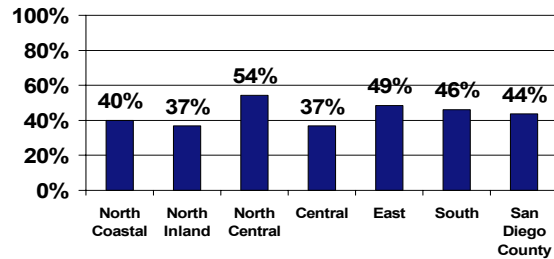
- Geographically, respondents reporting they had received all the special education needed ranged from 36.7 percent in the Central region to 54.2 percent in the North Central region. These differences are not statistically significant.
- In terms of race/ethnicity, those reporting they had received all the special education needed ranged from 40.7 percent for white respondents to 49.1 percent for Hispanic respondents. These differences are not statistically significant.
- In terms of education, persons with a college education or more reported receiving more special education for their children with special education needs than respondents with less education. These differences are not statistically significant.
- Respondents with annual household incomes under \$40,000 reported higher levels of receiving all needed special education in comparison to households with incomes of \$75,000 or more. These differences are not statistically significant.

Other demographic subgroups reviewed did not reveal any significant differences between various groups.

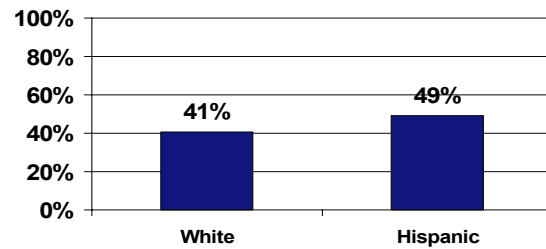
Note: Because of the relatively small number of respondents to this question (n=162) meaningful comparisons between subgroups are limited.

Percent receiving all needed special education

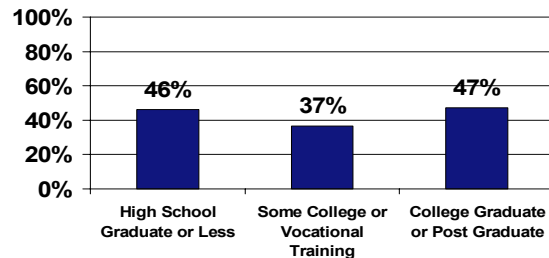
Geographic Region



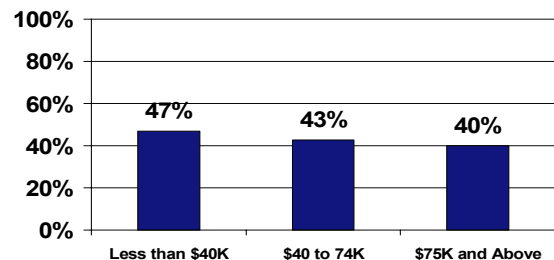
Race/Ethnicity



Educational Level



Annual Household Income



Special Education Profile

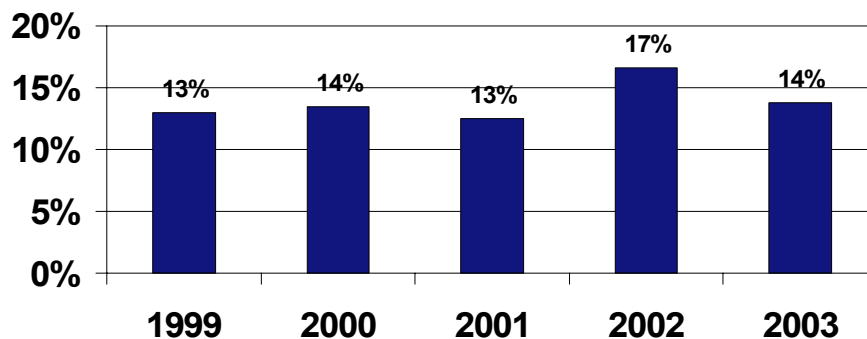
Countywide, 13.8 percent of the households with children in elementary school through high school reported a need for special education during the past 12 months. This equates to an estimated 45,685 households in San Diego County with children who needed special education during the past 12 months.

Need (n=1,177)			How Well Needs Met (n=162)				
	<i>(n)</i>	<i>(%)</i>	<i>(estimate)</i>		<i>(n)</i>	<i>(%)</i>	<i>(estimate)</i>
Yes	162	13.8	45,685	All needs met	71	43.8	20,022
No	1,008	85.6	284,262	Needs partially met	75	46.3	21,150
Don't know/Refused	7	0.5	1,974	All needs unmet	14	8.6	3,948
				Don't know	2	1.2	564

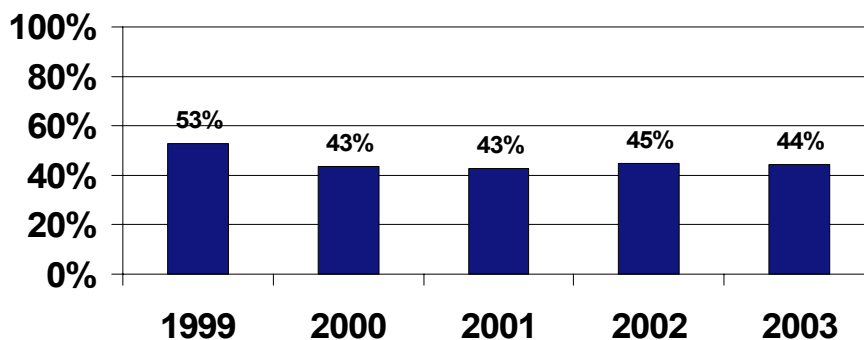
Five-Year Trend of Special Education Indicators

The following charts provide a comparison of special education need, utilization and satisfaction for the past five years.

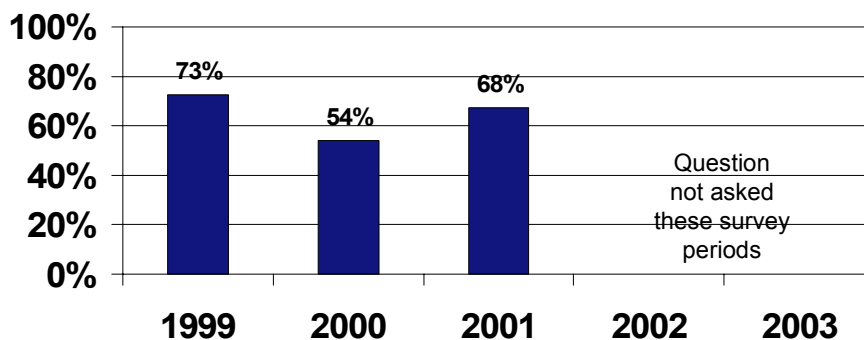
Percent reporting need for special education during the past 12 months



Percent indicating they received all needed special education services



Percent reporting they were satisfied or very satisfied with the special education received



Background

Each year billions of dollars are invested in San Diego County by federal, state, county, cities and charitable organizations to improve the health and well-being of the community and its residents. These funds are applied to a wide variety of health, social and community issues. All concerned have a growing interest in knowing whether this investment of community assets is making a difference. The Outcomes and Community Impact Measurement Program has been designed to be a comprehensive measurement and outcomes reporting system related to the health and well-being of San Diego County residents.

The Outcomes and Community Impact Measurement Program data reviewed in this document are for the 2003 data collection and reporting period.

Concept

Initial concepts behind this program began in 1995 when the United Way of San Diego County convened eight task forces representing San Diego County residents and community leaders who developed the following list of desired countywide outcomes:

- **Access** – People have access to a full range of effective community services.
- **Self-sufficiency** – People reach and maintain an optimal level of independence and health.
- **Civic Solutions** – People live in, participate in and are supported by diverse, economically sound communities.
- **Educational Success** – People have the necessary life-long educational support to reach their potential as productive and contributing community members.
- **Public Safety** – People feel safe from the threat of crime and violence in their homes, neighborhoods and communities.
- **Well-being** – People are emotionally self-sufficient and able to cope with the stressors in their lives.

Based on the desired outcomes developed by these task forces, a measurement platform was designed to measure the impact of community assets and services on addressing people's needs and visions.

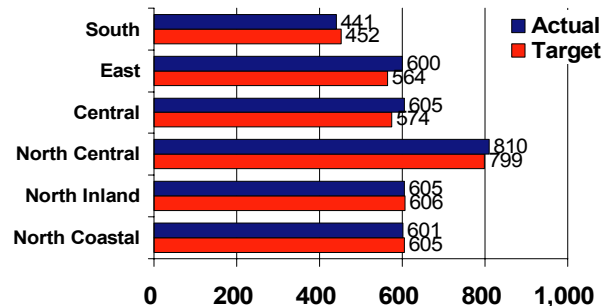
Methodology

Data was collected via telephone interviews with 3,662 randomly selected persons living throughout San Diego County. The interviews, lasting an average of 22.6 minutes, were conducted by trained interviewers from the Social and Behavioral Research Institute located at California State University San Marcos between October 24, 2003 and March 30, 2004.

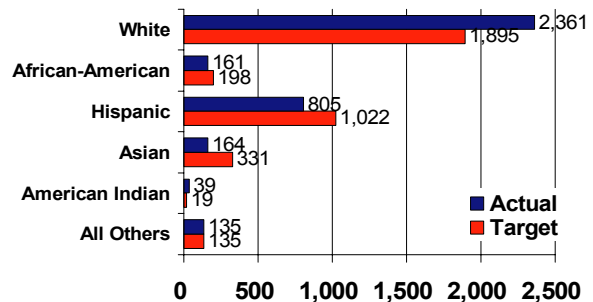
To enhance the quality of the data in terms of how well it represents the geographic and race/ethnic population of San Diego County, the county was divided into six geographic regions. These regions correspond with the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency regions. A targeted number of interviews for each race/ethnic category within each region was established to more accurately represent the actual population within the regions.

The following tables present the targeted and actual number of interviews completed.

Targeted Number of Interviews by Region



Targeted Number of Interviews by Race/Ethnicity



2003 Outcomes and Community Impact Program

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2003 Funding Sources

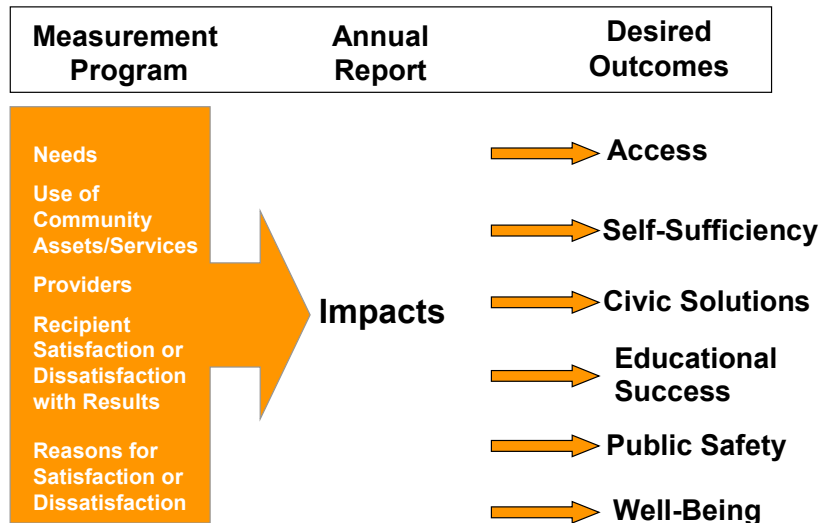
- Alliance Healthcare Foundation
- The California Endowment
- County of San Diego
- Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP)
- Kaiser Permanente
- McCarthy Family Foundation
- INFO LINE of San Diego County
- The San Diego Foundation
- United Way of San Diego County

Outcomes and Impact Program Overview

The information contained in this report presents the findings for one of the 24 areas explored in the 2003 Outcomes and Impact Study. Other areas range from advocacy services to youth development. Each of these areas is covered in an individual report which can be obtained from the United Way of San Diego County. In addition, there are appendices supporting each of these reports which provide very detailed data in the format of cross tabulations of questions for each area by many key variables.

To view the 2003 Outcomes and Community Impact Program reports or to order copies of the 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 reports on disk, visit the United Way's website at www.uwsd.org. On the homepage click on the Outcomes / Healthy Community Index icon.

Outcomes and Impact



More Information Available

The information provided in this report is one segment of the available outcome and impact program reporting. Additional information is available including:

- Five-year history of top-level findings
- Methodology and Technical Report
- Frequencies
- Cross tabulations
- Significance tests