“BORDER KIDS COUNT”:
THE LATEST DATA FROM CALIFORNIA & MEXICO

“LA INFANCIA CUENTA”: RESULTADOS DE CALIFORNIA Y MEXICO

PRESENTED BY:

San Diego Grantmakers
Strengthening Philanthropy

ICF
International Community Foundation

Sempra Energy

THANKS TO OUR HOST:
Childhood, exclusion, education and borders

Situation of children and adolescents in Baja California, Mexico
What is REDIM?

- The Red por los Derechos de la Infancia en México dates back to 2001, when Mexican CSOs started working in coordination, seeking to spread and promote children’s rights in Mexico.
- REDIM currently consists of a coalition of 63 Mexican CSOs within 15 States. Legally constituted in 2001, REDIM develops programs for the benefit of children and adolescents.

Mission

To promote a social and cultural movement for children and adolescents to know, exercise, and enjoy their rights.
Objectives

1. To deepen the knowledge on children’s rights.
2. To strengthen Mexican CSOs capacity to fulfill, respect and protect children’s rights in Mexico.
3. To initiate legal, political and administrative national and international mechanisms to safeguard the fulfillment and respect of children’s rights.
4. To initiate the exercise of children and adolescents citizenship.
5. To create positive dialogue regarding children rights.
How do we do it?

Construction of the political agenda

- To increase the capacity of the organizations that develop programs benefiting children in Mexico.
- To have an impact on public political agendas that affect the situation of children and their rights in our country.

Legislation

To adjust the legislation in force at regional and federal levels.
- Principles and rights established within the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Communication that benefits children and their rights

To enrich the knowledge and education on children rights and their situation.

To strengthen the presence and notoriety of the programs carried out by the civil society in Mexico in that field.
Elaborated with information from official sources since 2005, Kids Count in Mexico has consolidated itself as a public tool to understand and analyze the situation of children rights, as well as to have an impact on the public agenda through the measuring of the social impact caused by the Mexican State shortcomings to protect and safeguard children rights.

In 2017, the report “Challenges in the access to justice for children and adolescents” was produced and presented.

Kids Count 2017 analyzes the social context, in which structural factors are enrooted, which negatively affects the exercise of children and adolescents’ rights and are obstacles to their access to justice.
The estimated population of children and adolescents in 2017 amounted to 39.97 million, of which 1.1 million live in Baja California and represent over a third of the population.

Source: CONAPO. Population estimates and projections in Mexico, 2010-2030.
Half of the children and adolescents population in Baja California live in Tijuana, bordering municipality with San Diego, California.

Source: Processed by REDIM, based on INEGI. Inter-census survey. Database.
1 out of 10 children and adolescents residing in Tijuana, Baja California, was born in the United States of America.
Children (0 to 17) living in poverty (2016)

More than half of the children in Mexico (aged 0 to 17) live in poverty.

In Baja California, about 28% are poor.

Source: Processed by REDIM. Estimates by the CONEVAL based on the MEC 2016 of the MSC-ENIGH Database.
Population aged between 0 and 17 without any healthcare rightful claim

Population aged between 0 and 17 without healthcare rightful claim by selected municipality, 2015

- **Tijuana**: 19.9
- **Mexicali**: 13.8
- **Tecate**: 9.9

2 out of 10 children and adolescents in Tijuana do not have access to health services, as a result of benefiting from a family member that enjoys this benefit.

Source: Processed by REDIM, based on INEGI. Inter-census survey. Database.
Non-attendance to school

There is high school participation among children in primary school; however, at the high school level, 2 out of 10 pupils do not attend school.

Population percentage aged between 0 and 17 that do not attend school, by age group and selected municipality, 2015

Source: Processed by REDIM, based on INEGI. Inter-census survey. Database.
Between 2009 and 2016, there were 281,000 detentions of unaccompanied children.

Unaccompanied migrant children detentions tripled between 2009 and 2016. The flow of migrants coming from Guatemala, el Salvador and Honduras are more noticeable.

CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE UNACCOMPANIED MIGRANT POPULATION (0 to 17) HELD IN THE UNITED STATES, 2009 - 2016

• In 2009, 8 out of 10 detentions corresponded to Mexican children and adolescents. In 2016, this proportion was 2 out of 10 detentions.

• For every Guatemalan detained in 2009, 17 were detained in 2016.

• For every Salvadoran detained in 2009, 14 were detained in 2016.

• For every Honduran detained in 2009, 11 were detained in 2016.

From 2012 on, the number of apprehensions of unaccompanied migrant children in the area of San Diego increased considerably. The number of detentions is three times higher around 2017.
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A systems approach to promote wellbeing for California’s border kids

La infancia cuenta - resultados de la región fronteriza de California

January 18, 2018         Fatima Morales & Kelly Hardy, Children Now
Children Now is California’s umbrella research, policy development, communications, and advocacy organization working on all key kids’ issues, including early childhood, education reform, children’s health, foster care, and juvenile justice.
Our umbrella coverage of issues enables us to employ the Pro-Kid frame.
Children Now’s Strategic Approach

Why, with near consensus in our country on creating equal opportunity for all children, regardless of race or income, do kids fare so poorly in public policy making?

Despite the existence of thousands of groups fighting for numerous child-related causes, the lack of a powerful, unified advocacy effort has allowed other interests to continually supersede kids in priority and resources.

The children’s base is fractured and kids are losing out.

- **Pro-Kid Coverage**
  - Cover the full range of key children’s issues including early childhood, education reform, children’s health, foster care and juvenile justice
  - Allows us to position issues as “Pro-Kid” just as other interest groups do

- **Inside Expertise**
  - Work closely with partners, policymakers, and influential leaders throughout the state to craft, promote, enact, and implement scalable change for kids

- **Outside Pressure**
  - Mobile a broad and diverse membership to take action a strategic point in time, coordinated with the work on the inside
  - CN leads The Children’s Movement, now at more than 2,000 members

**All three components are essential for successful kids’ advocacy at any level (national, state and local)**
Research
Spotlights children’s needs at the state and local levels

- Key publications provide significant annual coverage of individual issues:
  + Early Childhood, K-12 Education, Foster Care, Health Care etc.
  + Highlight need for comprehensive, integrated solutions

State-Level: The California Report Card
County-Level: The California County Scorecard

+ Underscore regional and ethnic disparities
CALIFORNIA’S BORDER KIDS

California: 9,118,201
San Diego County: 745,582
Imperial County: 52,609

~9% overall child population of CA is:
Imperial County + San Diego County
## BORDER KIDS’ DEMOGRAPHICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATOR</th>
<th>STATE AVERAGE</th>
<th>SAN DIEGO COUNTY</th>
<th>IMPERIAL COUNTY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LATINO</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHITE</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>BLACK</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>% 2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIDS IN POVERTY</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIVING IN A FAMILY WHERE ONE OR MORE PARENT IS FOREIGN BORN</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Evidence of impact in outcomes for border kids

1. EDUCATION
   51% of 3rd graders in San Diego are reading on grade level (state average=42%)

2. HEALTH
   80% of San Diego newborns are exclusively breastfed while in the hospital (state average=69%)

3. CHILD WELFARE
   95% of children in the child welfare system had a medical exam in the last year in San Diego County (state average=84%)
Persistent outcome gaps for our border kids

1. EDUCATION
   Just 42% of kids 0-5 years old in Imperial County are read to every day (state average=62%)

2. HEALTH
   Only 19% of low-income kids in Imperial County ages 0-3 received an annual dental visit (state average=32%)

3. CHILD WELFARE
   37% of Imperial kids live in communities of concentrated poverty (state average=17%)
New Research from Kaiser Family Foundation

"...we wake up every day with the fear of being deported, of the separation of our families, to have to leave the kids." – Latino Parent, Boston, Massachusetts

"Uncomfortable and unstable; we feel that in any moment a new rule could be issued leading to expelling us and sending us back." – Arabic-speaking Parent, Anaheim, California

• **Living in an Immigrant Family in America: How Fear and Toxic Stress Are Affecting Daily Life, Well-Being, & Health** (December 2017)

• Fears and uncertainty have increased since the election

• Some families have made changes in their daily lives and routines

• Most parents are continuing to access care for their children and maintain Medicaid/CHIP coverage, but some reported changes in care and enrollment

• Increased fears are impacting the health and well-being of children
New Research (continued)

- Immigrants come to the U.S. seeking safety and refuge from violence, and better opportunities for themselves and their children.

- Immigrant families across backgrounds and locations have been impacted by the current environment.

- Impacts extend to those with lawful status.

- Fear and toxic stress have short- and long-term consequences for children’s health and well-being.

- Support for parents and families is key for helping to buffer impacts on children.
Children Now’s Pro-Kid model

Case Study: Expanded health coverage to undocumented kids (2015)

Worked with partners to achieve historic health coverage for undocumented kids statewide

Since that decision, Children Now has played the behind the scenes “hub” role to support implementation efforts. Nearly 200,000 undocumented children have already enrolled in full-scope Medi-Cal coverage. Our efforts included:

- Organized and hosted a successful statewide webinar with over 650 participants from around the state
- Conducted two Health4AllKids implementation surveys of providers and
- Provided troubleshooting support with DHCS
- Created content for a dedicated website – health4allkids.org – among other communications and outreach activities
Advocacy: Outside Grassroots Pressure

Over 2,200 organizations have joined the Movement already, including:
Advocacy: The Children’s Movement
How does it work? Simply.

1. **JOIN THE MOVEMENT**
   Declare you’re Pro-Kid by connecting your organization or yourself to the Movement, signifying your support for “prioritizing children’s health and education in public policymaking.”

2. **GET POLICY UPDATES**
   Gain access to updates on key issues impacting kids and what needs to happen to better ensure their well-being.

3. **OPT-IN TO CAMPAIGNS**
   Receive notifications about, and have the opportunity to opt in to collective action campaigns supporting Pro-Kid policies*

*An organization or individual’s name will never be used in support of any specific policy proposal unless they knowingly opt in to support it.
Resources

• **Protecting immigrant families in California**: various resources covering health, child welfare, education, and early childhood.

• **2016 California Children’s Report Card**

• **2016-2017 California County Scorecards**:
  • Imperial County
  • San Diego County
LEARN MORE BY JOINING THE CHILDREN’S MOVEMENT:
WWW.CHILDRENNOW.ORG/JOIN

www.childrennow.org

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