

# Early Development Index: Data & Findings

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August 6, 2025

# Agenda

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- What is the Early Development Index (EDI)?
- What does the EDI tell us?
- 2025 Data Collection Findings
- What do we do with the EDI data?
- Next Steps

# What is the Early Development Index (EDI)?

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- Population level assessment of children's readiness for kindergarten
- Teacher completed checklist conducted in second half of school year via online portal
- Data available at different geographies (cities, neighborhoods, etc.)



# EDI Characteristic Highlights

- **Holistic Measure**
  - Covers five developmental domains, 16 subdomains
- **Feasible to implement at scale**
  - Collected once every 3 years by Kindergarten teachers online, based on recall
- **Internationally validated**
  - Developed at McMaster University, Canada
  - Successfully used in over 15 countries
  - Strong reliability and validity
  - EDI predicts later standardized test scores

What does the EDI tell us?

# Kindergarten Readiness Across 5 Developmental Domains



## **Physical Health & Well-Being**

Physically ready for the school day and independent, including fine & gross motor skills



## **Language & Cognitive Development**

Literacy and numeracy skills



## **Emotional Maturity**

Prosocial behavior, anxious, aggressive, and inattentive behavior



## **Social Competence**

Approaches to learning, responsibility and respect



## **General Knowledge & Communication**

Use of language to communicate own needs and participate in play

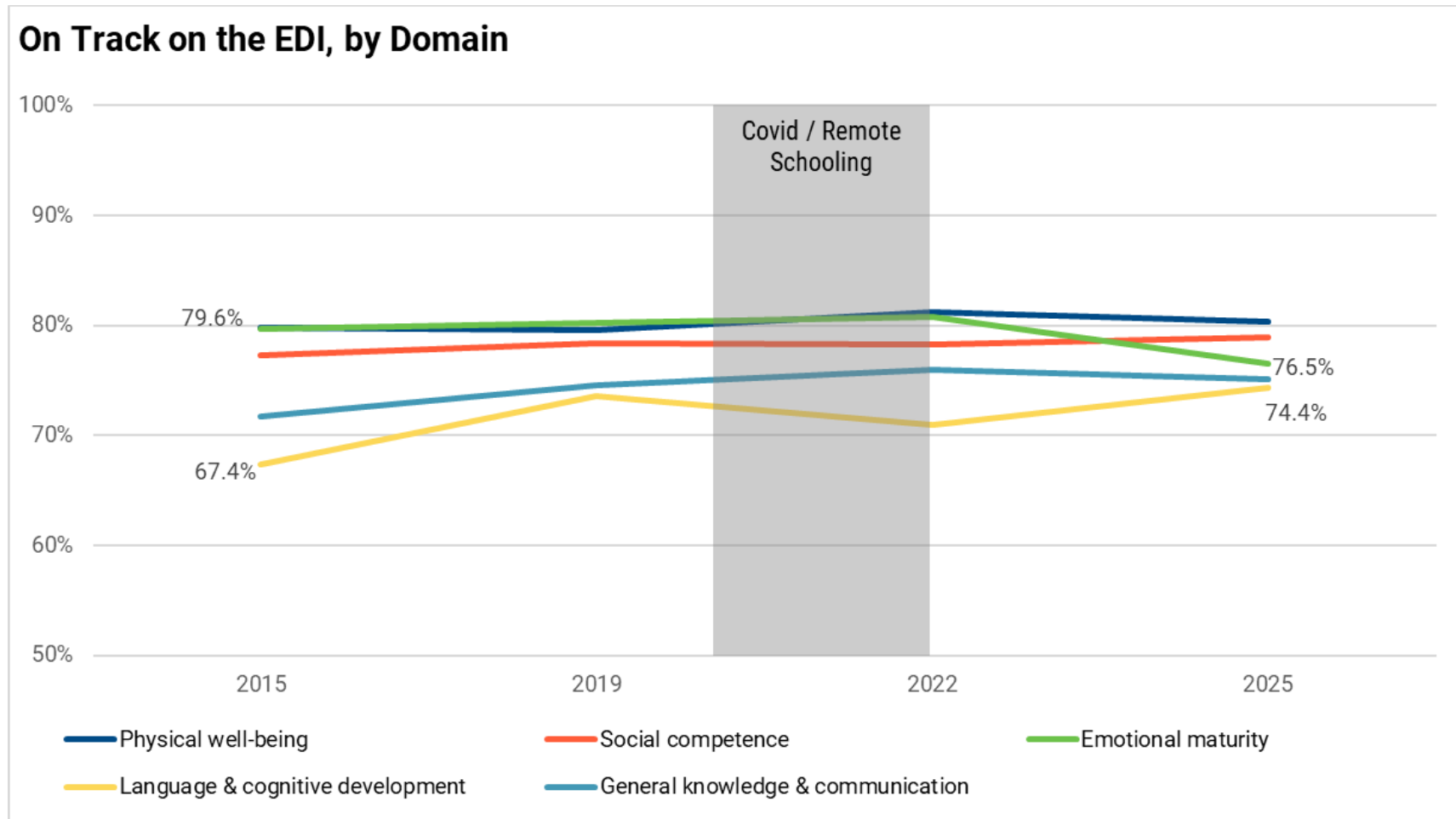
# 2025 EDI Data Findings

# Context for Data Findings

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Student Demographics	2015	2019	2022	2025
<i>Students with English Language Learner (ELL) Status</i>	46%	38%	30%	31%
<i>Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)</i>	6%	7%	8%	11%
<i>Students with Transitional Kindergarten Experience</i>	15%	27%	25%	45%

# On Track on the EDI

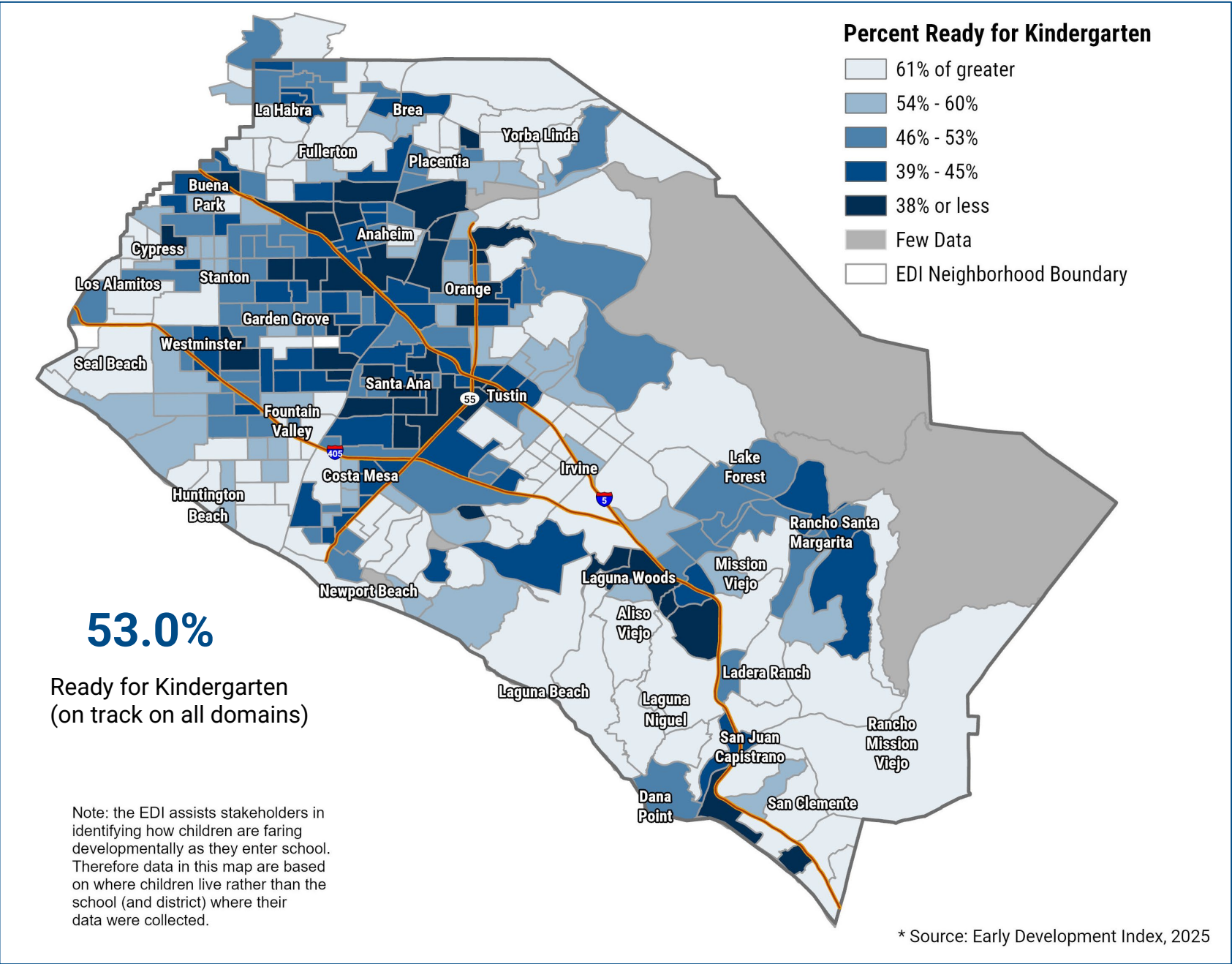


## 53.0%

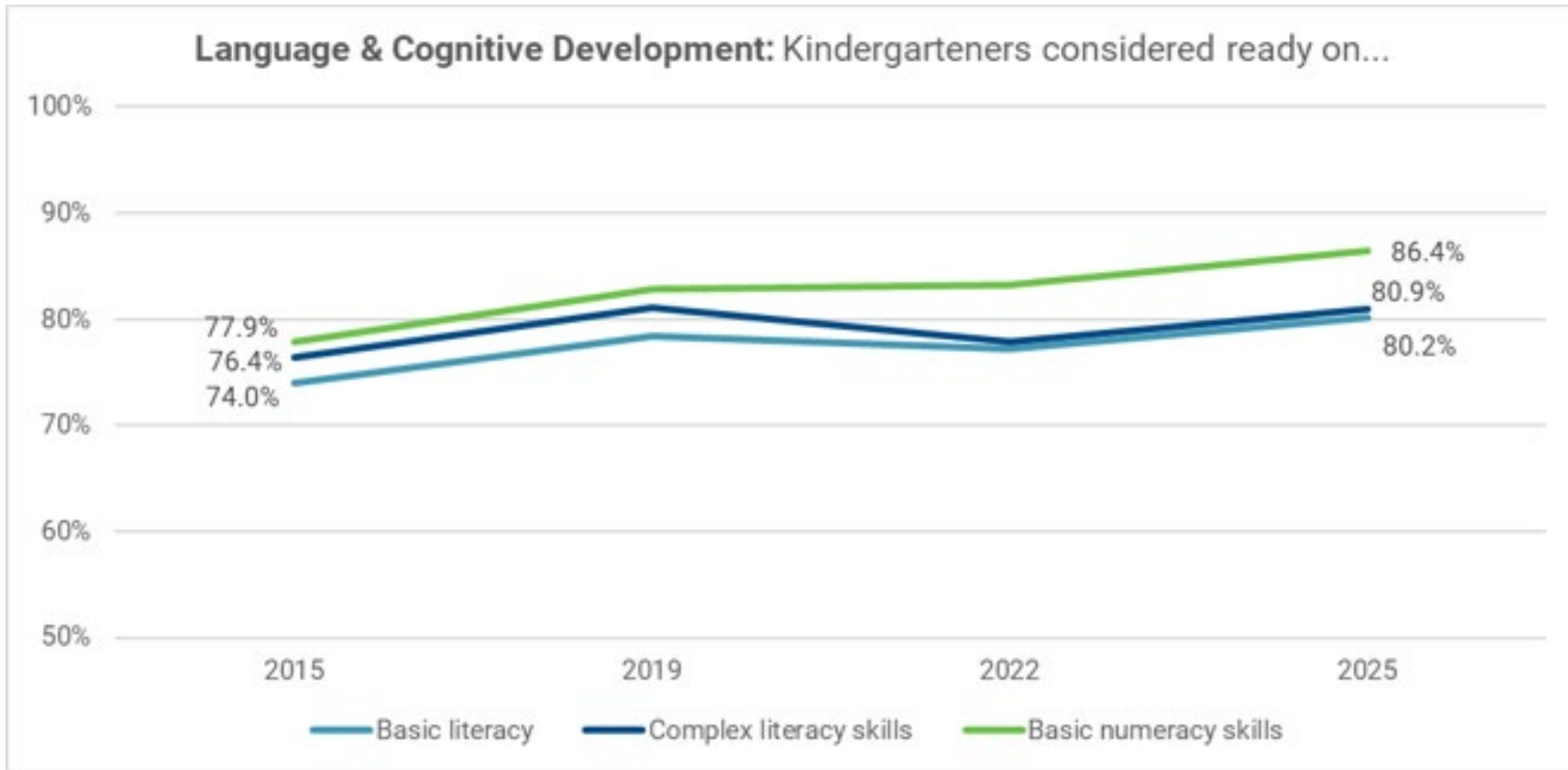
Ready for Kindergarten  
(on track on all domains)

*Compared with 48.2%  
in 2015*

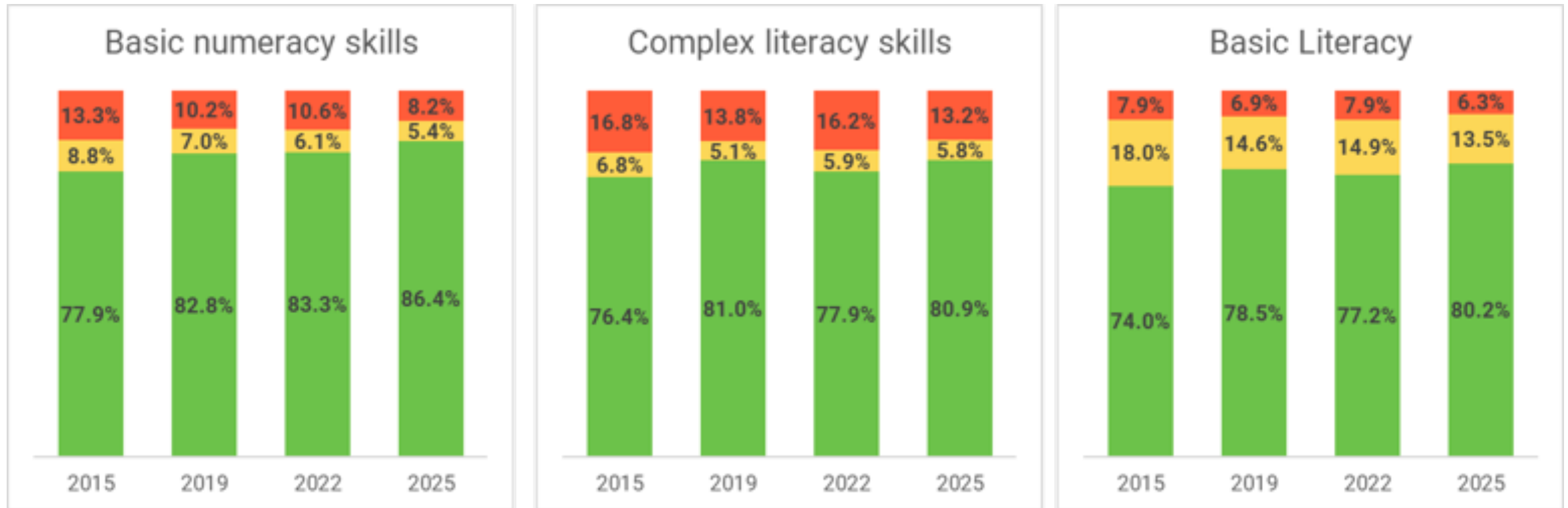
# Percentage of Children Ready for Kindergarten



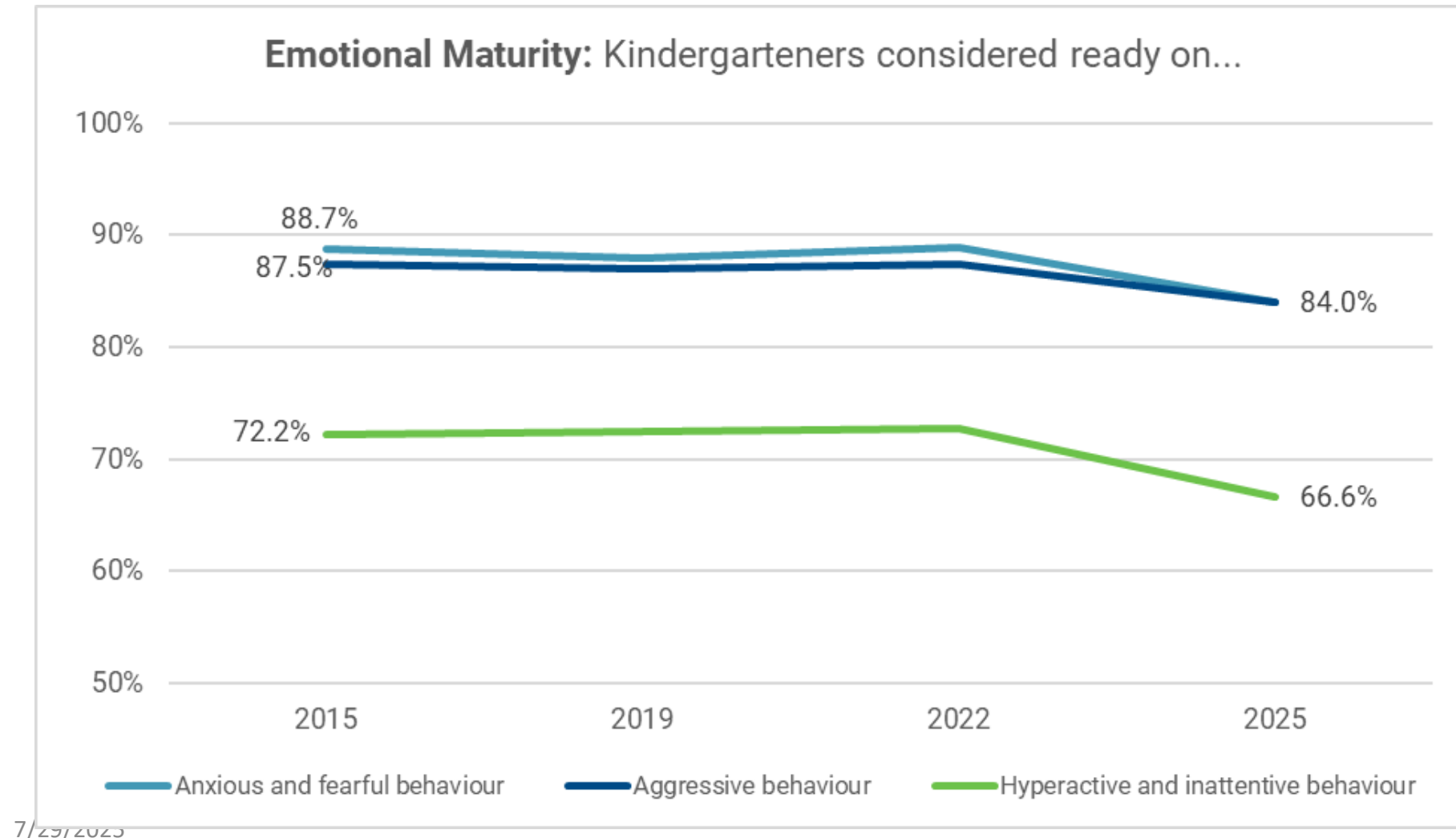
# Where We See Improvement



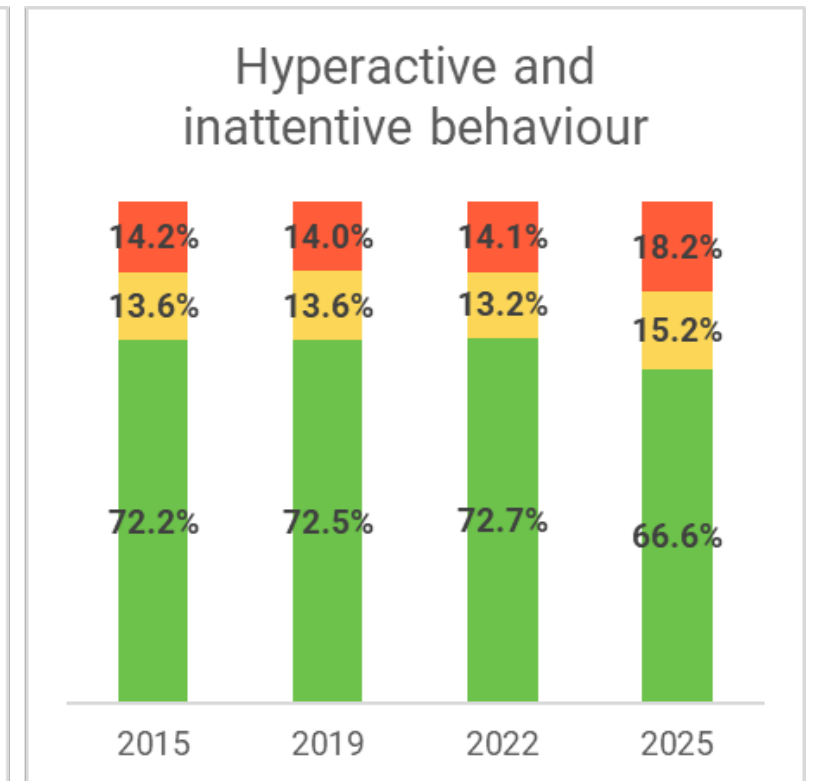
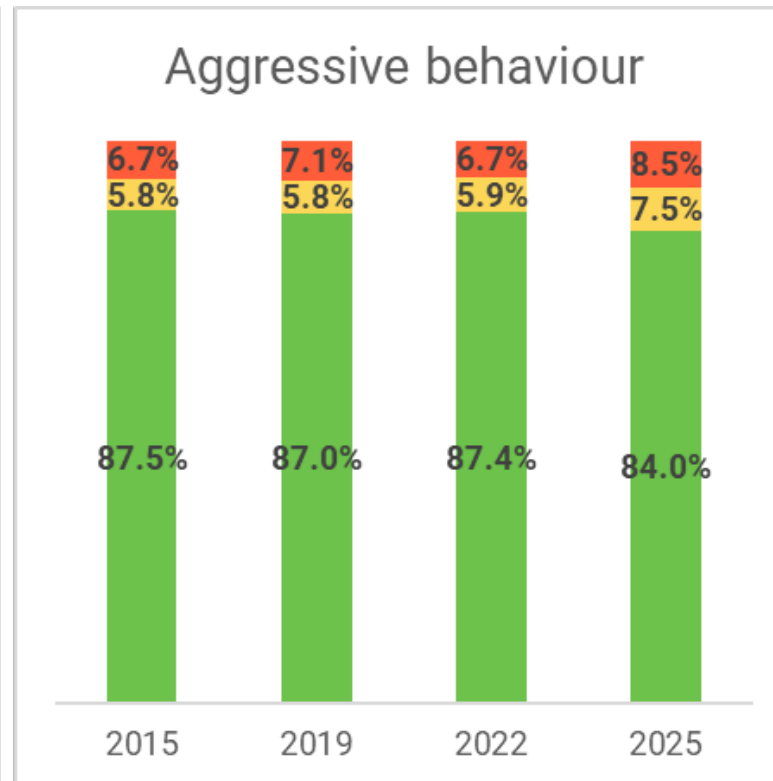
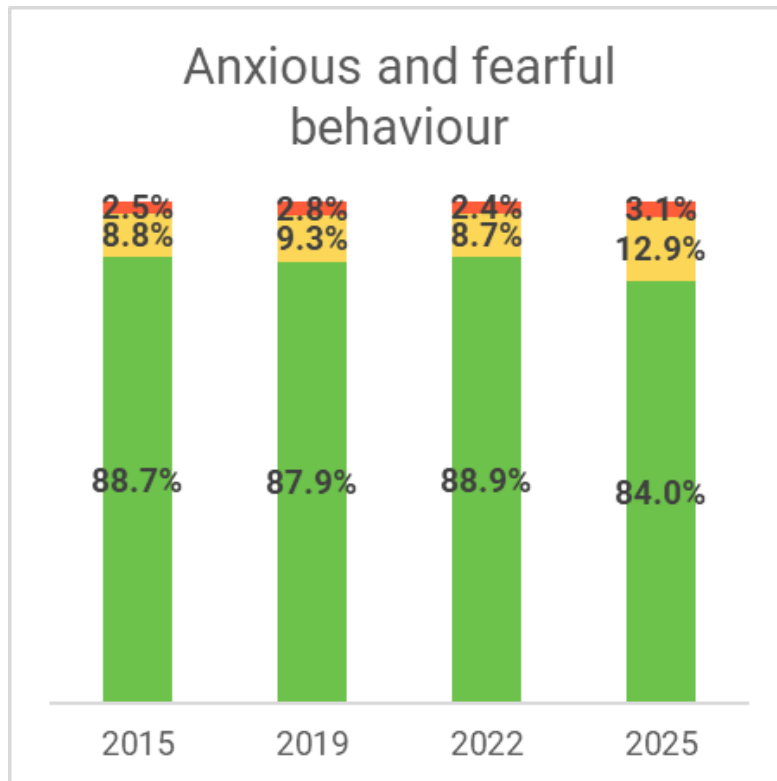
# Language & Cognitive Development



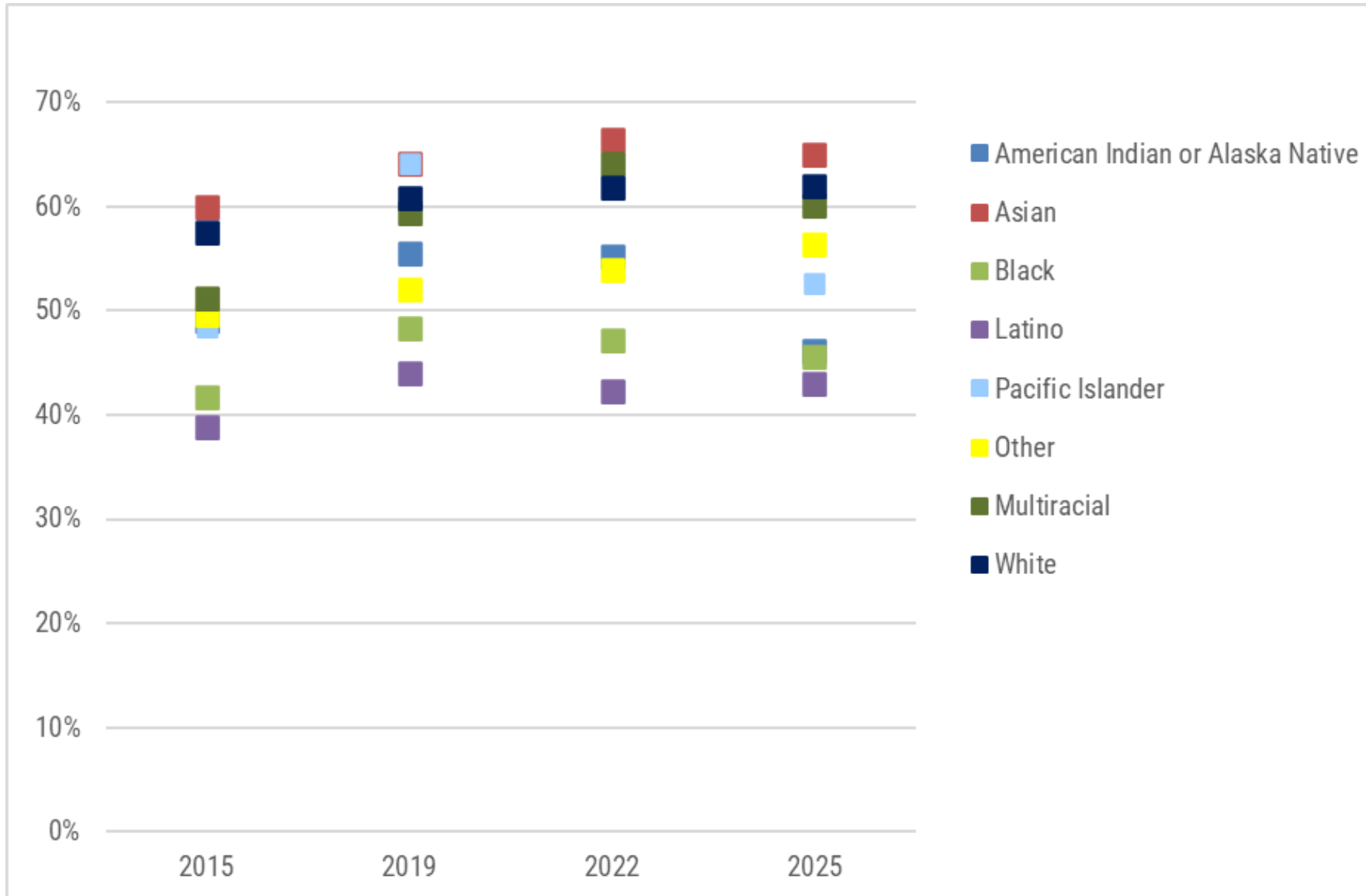
# Where We Need Improvement



# Emotional Maturity



# Ready for Kindergarten by Race/Ethnicity



What do we do with the EDI data?



# Engaged Neighborhoods

## Growing Up Garden Grove

- Working with city of Stanton to support Rancho neighborhood, focusing on literacy
- Promoting literacy, motor skills, socialization and mental health wellness

## La Habra Little Learners

- Expanded into five neighborhoods based on data
- Creating champions amongst local businesses, faith-based groups, city leaders and community organizations for early childhood development, and shared support for nutrition and physical development

## Network Anaheim

- Task Force working with city and All Children Thrive to identify new strategies and activities focused on health screenings, physical health and language development
- Madres Activadas integrate Kid Builders in events to educate on developmental milestones

# School Districts

## Learning Links

- New locations serving 0-5 years
  - Garden Grove USD, Skylark Preschool
  - Magnolia, Baden Powell
  - Newport Mesa USD, Community Schools

## Saddleback Valley Unified School District

- Start Well to provide a Multi Tiered Systems of Support for Social Emotional Behavior strategies and system of support for Olivewood and Gates TK teachers

## Orange Unified School District

- Literacy focused programming to their Expanded Learning Opportunity Program
- Start Well to support TK-2nd grade teachers with Mental Health & Wellness strategies

## Tustin Unified School District

- Parent education topics: focus on fine motor skills, mathematics

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# Post-Natal Programming

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## Sacred Path

- Language building through story telling

## SAELI and Latino Dad Connection

- Social-Emotional regulation for child and parent

## Home Visiting

- Parents as Teachers and Healthy Families America curriculum components align with EDI domains





# Cities

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## La Habra and Anaheim Resolutions

- EDI data + 3rd Grade Reading predictability
- Tiered neighborhood analysis

## Santa Ana Proclamation

- Highlight Kinder Readiness as a priority for the city



# Next Steps

- Charter School Data Collection
- Accelerator with UCLA
- Roll Out Data with Partners and Community
  - Create awareness and engage stakeholders to drive action and improve outcomes
    - Local data convenings
    - Sound bites for partners
    - Home Visiting to inform focus areas of development and presentation for families

# Questions/Discussion