

SEPTEMBER 2023

# Latino Children's Health & Health Care in Colorado

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*Findings from the National Survey of Children's  
Health (2016–2021)*



EARLY **MILESTONES**  
COLORADO



# Language Justice Justicia del lenguaje

The right to communicate in the language you feel most connected with—the language of your heart.



El derecho a expresarse en el idioma con el que se sientan más cómodos y conectados: el idioma de su corazón.

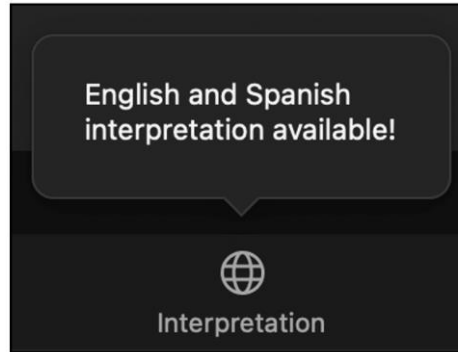
We will be using interpretation as a tool for opening communication.



Usaremos la interpretación como una herramienta para expandir la comunicación.

# Zoom Interpretation/ Interpretacion por Zoom

- In your webinar controls, click Interpretation.
- Click the language that you would like to hear.
- (Optional) To only hear the interpreted language, click Mute Original Audio.




- En los controles de la reunión o el seminario web, hacer clic en Interpretación.
- Hacer clic en el idioma que desee escuchar.
- (Opcional) Para escuchar solo el idioma interpretado, haga clic en Silenciar audio original.

A photograph of several children sitting around a table, focused on drawing with markers. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'WHAT IS EQUITY?' is centered in white, bold, sans-serif font.

# WHAT IS EQUITY?

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Race and ethnicity are social and  
political categories, not  
biological ones.

DOROTHY ROBERTS





# THE NATIONAL SURVEY OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH

**EARLY MILESTONES**  
COLORADO

# Who We Studied

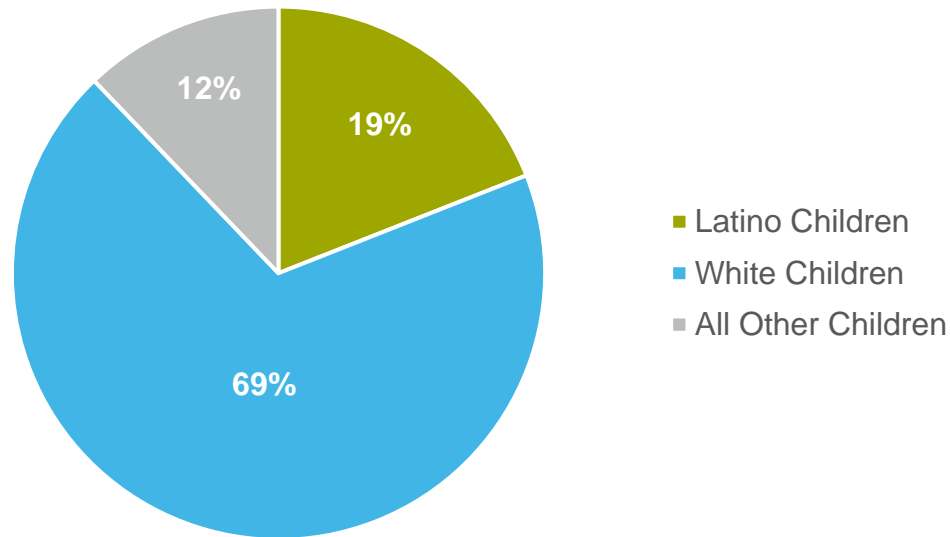
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Colorado children ages 0 to 8  
from 2016 to 2021 (N=2,666)

Latino children (N=507)

White children (N=1,835)

All other children not separately  
examined (N=324)





An overhead view of several children sitting on a green carpeted floor, each with a large sheet of white paper in front of them, appearing to be in a drawing or coloring activity. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter.

# THE KIDS WE CAN'T SEE

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1 African American Children

3 Native American / Indigenous Children

2 Asian Children

4 Multiracial Children

EARLY MILESTONES  
COLORADO



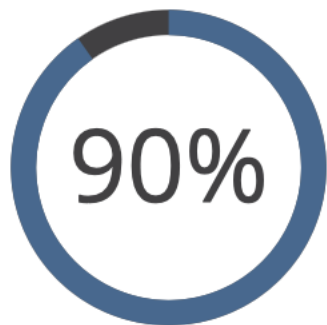
# HEALTH CARE



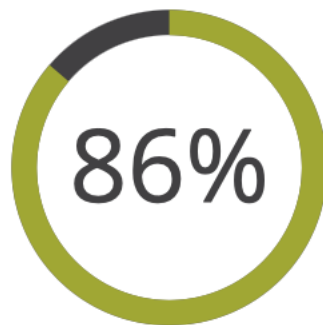
EARLY MILESTONES  
COLORADO

Latino children were less likely to have **seen any health professional** for any reason within the last year compared to white children.

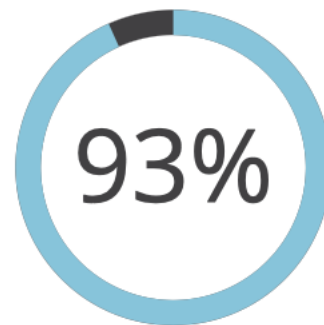
Percent of Colorado Children Ages 0 to 8 Who Saw a Doctor, Nurse, or Health Professional For Any Reason Within the Last Year



Children Overall



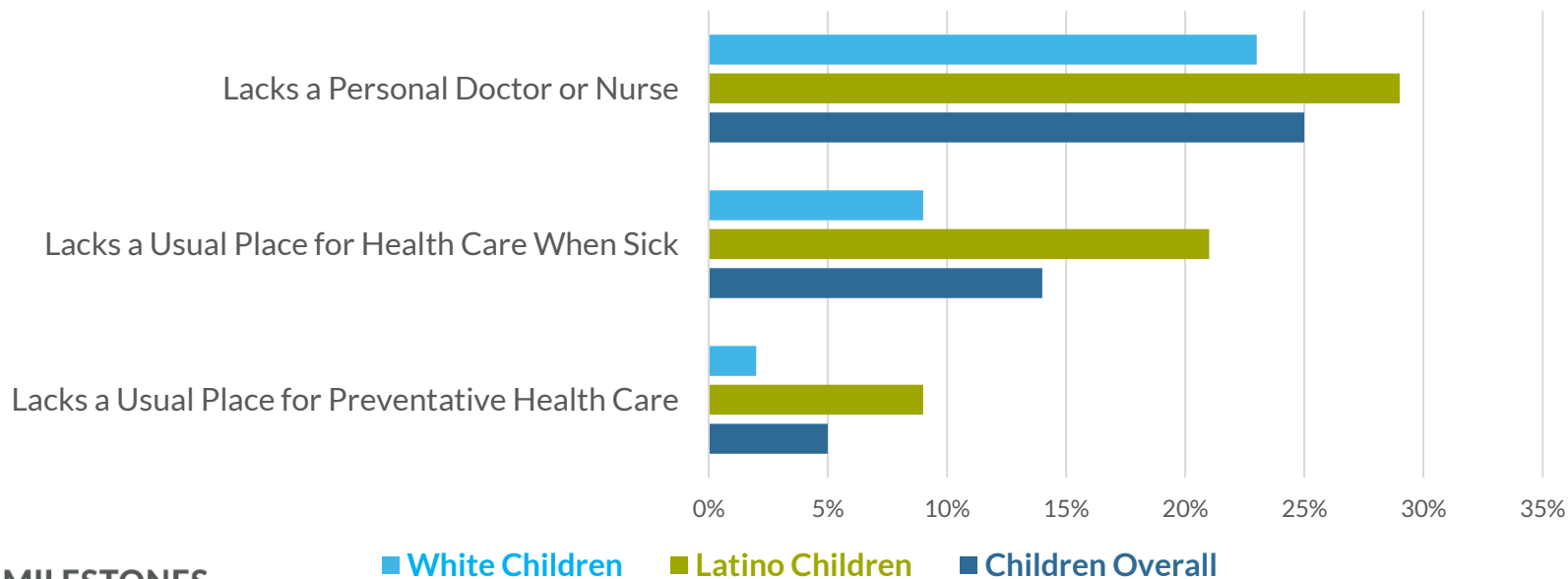
Latino Children



White Children

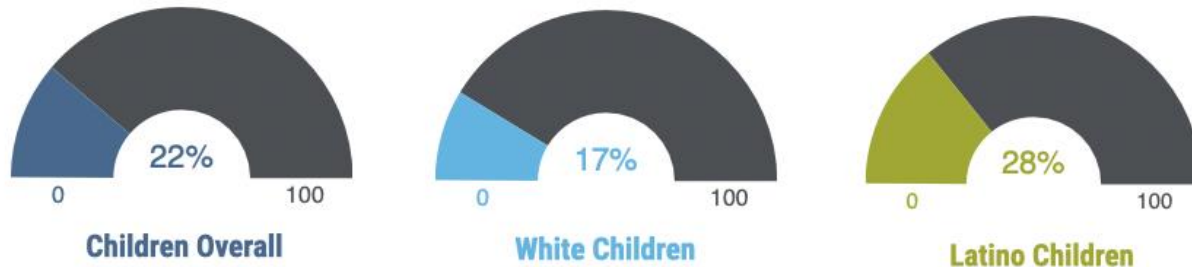
Latino children were more likely to **lack a health care home** compared to white children.

Percent of Colorado Children Ages 0 to 8  
Who Lack a "Health Care Home"



Latino children were more likely to **visit the emergency room** compared to white children.

Percent of Colorado Children Ages 0 to 8  
Who Visited the Emergency Room Within the Last Year





# SCREENING RATES

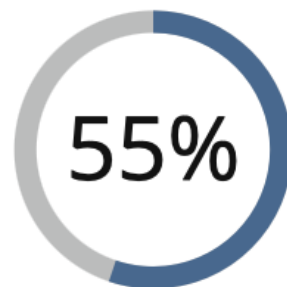
EARLY MILESTONES  
COLORADO

Screening rates were **low** among Colorado children ages 0 to 5 overall.

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Screened for  
developmental,  
communication, or  
behavior problems



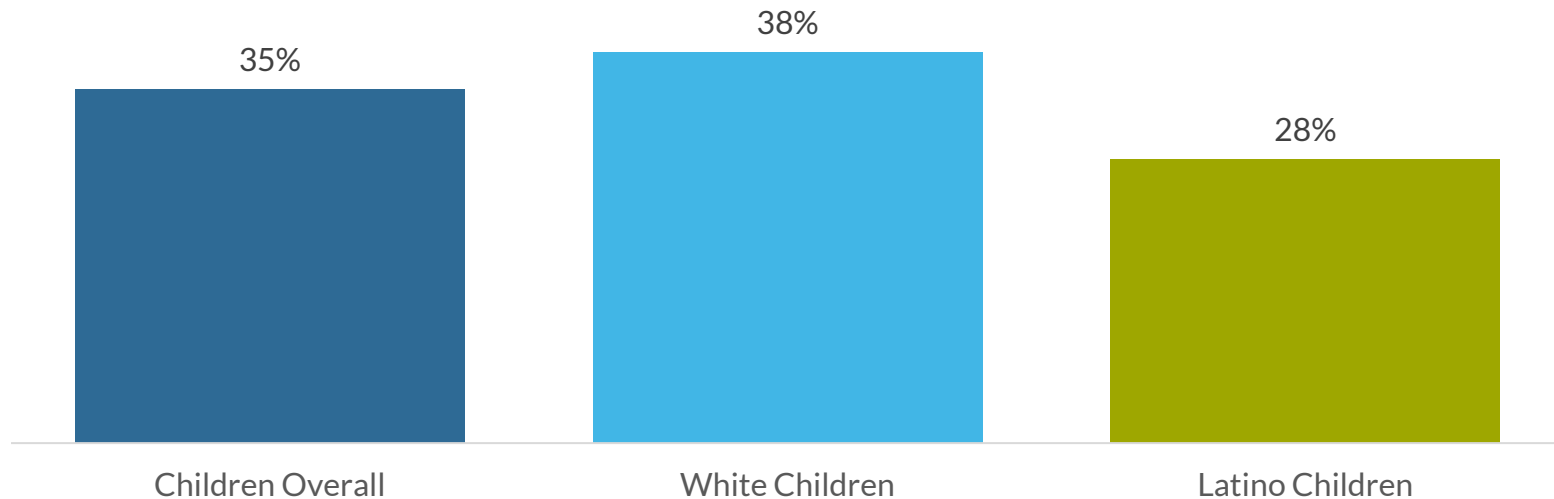
Had vision tested



Doctors were less likely to ask parents and guardians of Latino children if they had concerns about their child's development, learning, or behavior.

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**Percent of Parents/Guardians Who Were Asked by Their Child's Doctor If They Had Concerns About Their Child's Learning, Development, or Behavior**



# HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE & HEALTH CARE COSTS



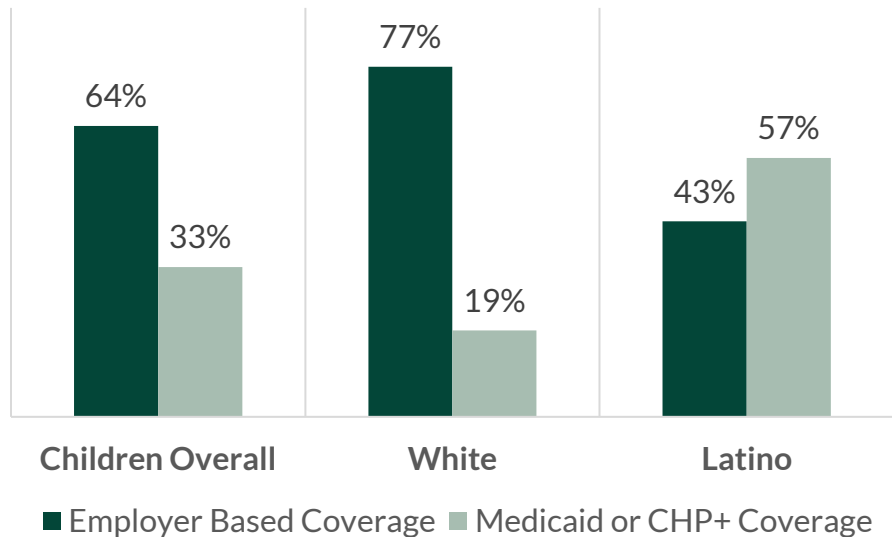
EARLY MILESTONES  
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# Health Insurance Coverage Type for Colorado Children Ages 0 to 8

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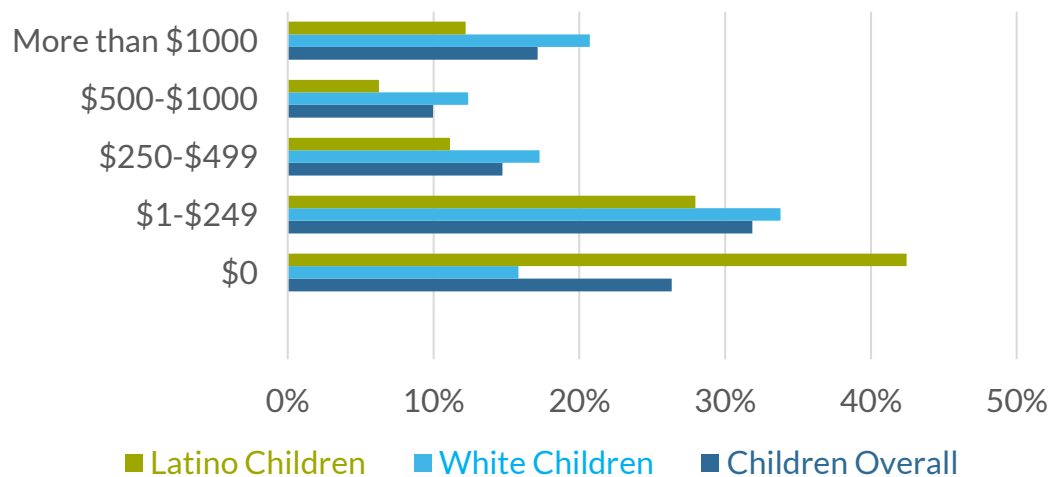
Most white children had employer-based coverage

Most Latino children were covered by Medicaid or Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)



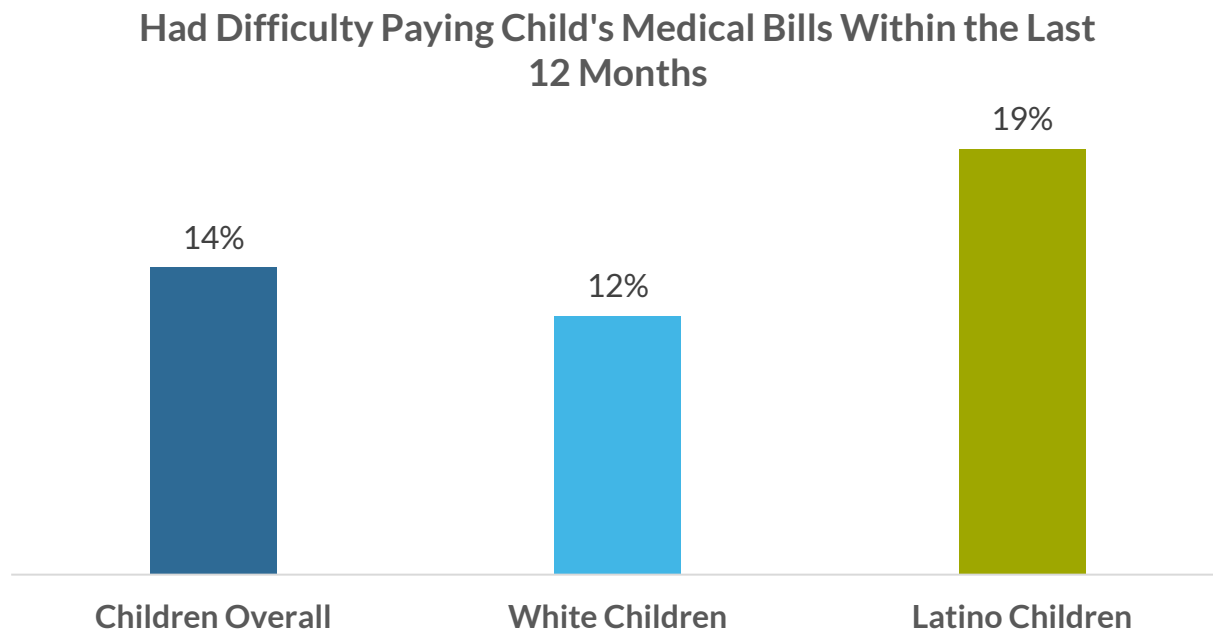
# Health Care Spending Within the Last Year for Colorado Children Ages 0 to 8

Estimated Health Care Spending for Child  
Within the Last Year



Compared to white children's families, Latino children's families spent less on their child's health care within the last year.

Latino children's families struggled more to afford their children's health care costs.



A grayscale photograph of a teddy bear. A hand is visible at the bottom, holding a stethoscope against the bear's chest. The bear is looking towards the camera. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a medical or clinical setting.

# PHYSICAL & ORAL HEALTH

EARLY MILESTONES  
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Latino children were less likely to be in excellent or very good health, according to their parents and guardians.

Percent of Colorado Children Ages 0 to 8  
Who Were Rated in Excellent or Very Good Health



Children Overall

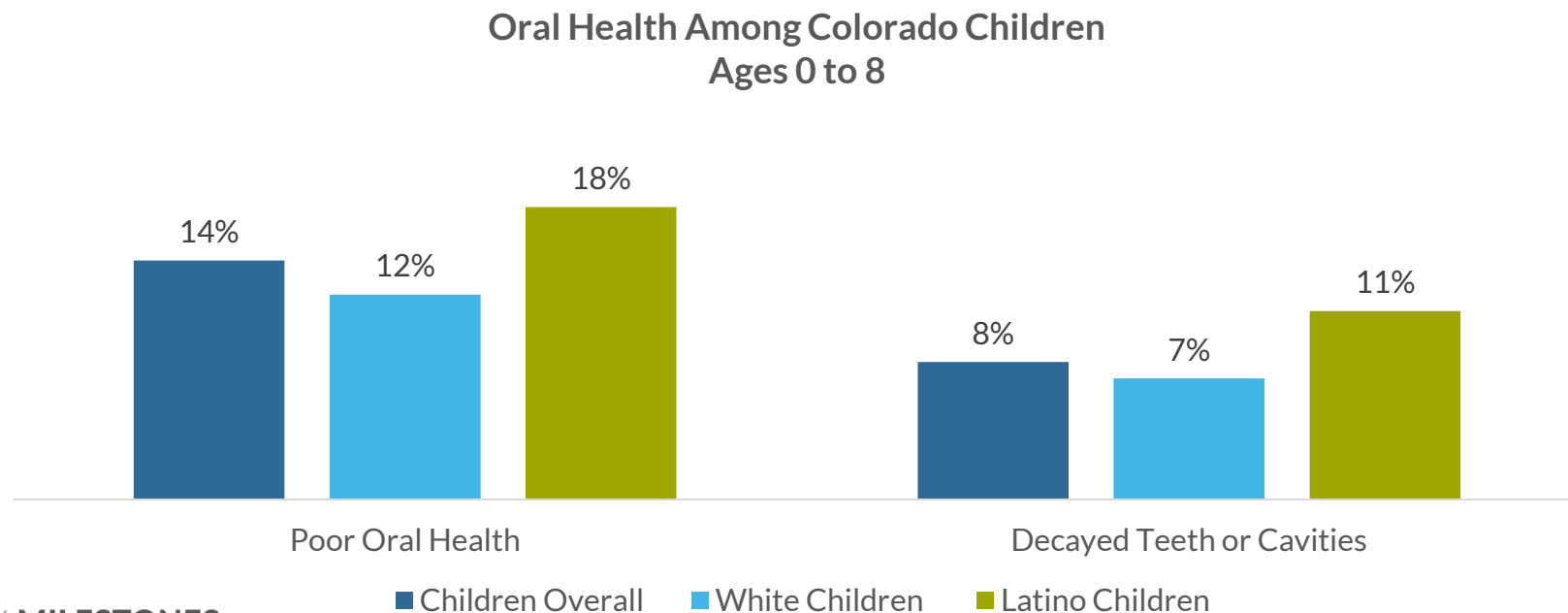


White Children



Latino Children

Compared to white children, Latino children were more likely to have poor oral health and cavities according to their parents & guardians.



An aerial photograph of a city park, likely Central Park in Denver, with a large lake in the foreground and a city skyline in the background. The image is overlaid with a dark teal gradient.

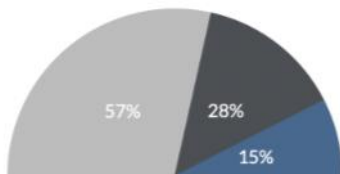
# HEALTH RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS

EARLY MILESTONES  
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## Latino children's families were more likely to experience frequent difficulty covering basic expenses like food and housing.

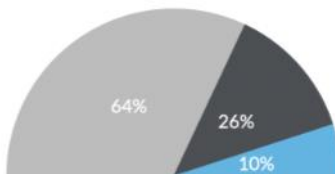
Since this child was born, how often has it been difficult to cover basic expenses like food and housing?

CHILDREN OVERALL



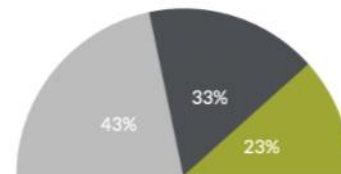
■ Never ■ Rarely ■ Often

WHITE CHILDREN

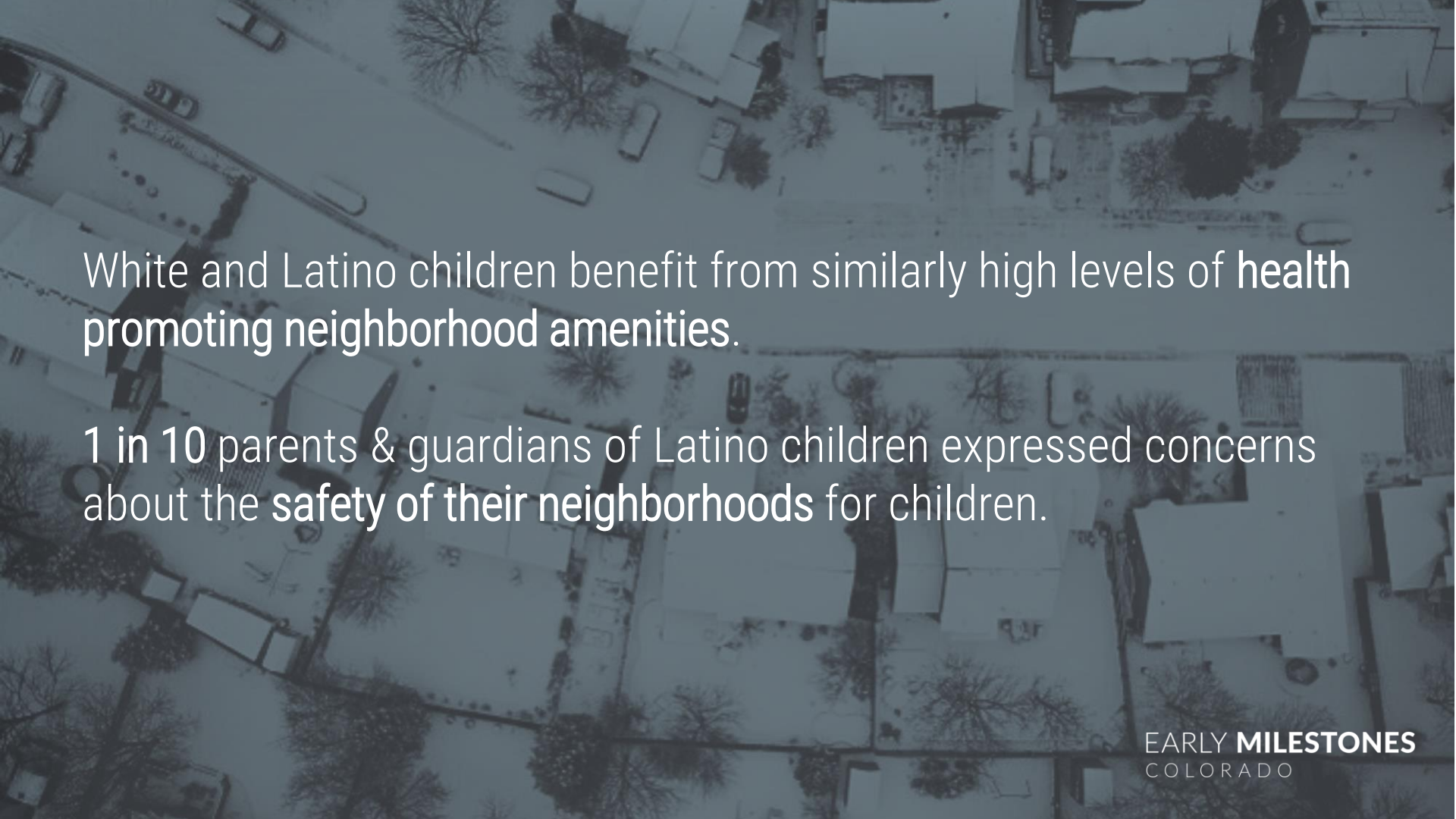


■ Never ■ Rarely ■ Often

LATINO CHILDREN



■ Never ■ Rarely ■ Often



White and Latino children benefit from similarly high levels of **health promoting neighborhood amenities**.

**1 in 10** parents & guardians of Latino children expressed concerns about the **safety of their neighborhoods** for children.



## Conclusions

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Latino children and families need additional supports to achieve health and health care equity.

Colorado needs to collect better data on young children by race and ethnicity.



# THANK YOU



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COLORADO

EARLYMILESTONES.ORG | 720.639.9000 | INFO@EARLYMILESTONES.ORG

# Questions

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## Methods

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- Pooled sample: 2016-2021 (6 years)
- Analyses in Stata 15
- Weighted (weights adjusted for multi-year sample)
- Adjustments applied for complex sample design
- Unweighted descriptives to check for cells <30
- Weighted descriptives reported
- Multinomial logit models to test for significant differences by race/ethnicity