

Community Assessment Update

City of San Antonio

Department of Human Services

Early Head Start and Head Start
Programs

2023-2024



Letter from the Director

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I am pleased to present this Community Assessment Update, which offers crucial insights into the conditions impacting children in need within our city. This report, prepared by the Department of Human Services (DHS) Head Start program, provides updated data to better understand the challenges faced by our community's most vulnerable children. As required by the Office of Head Start, a comprehensive community assessment is conducted every five years, with annual updates to ensure continued relevance.

The community assessment outlines the environment in which Head Start, Early Head Start (EHS), and Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership programs operate. It serves as an essential tool for ensuring that our services are effectively reaching those in greatest need. This resource is invaluable for program staff as they work to gather the information required for a thorough assessment. By painting a detailed picture of the community, the assessment highlights the diverse needs of families who may benefit from our services and provides an overview of the community's history, economic landscape, and its strengths and challenges.

The DHS Head Start program serves 3,330 children, ranging from six weeks to five years old, who reside within the boundaries of the San Antonio and Edgewood independent school districts (2,970 preschool children and 360 infants and toddlers). Compared to the broader population of San Antonio and Bexar County, these districts' residents often face greater educational and economic needs. Many children in these areas are born into families with limited resources and face barriers that hinder their ability to reach their full potential. However, through collaboration with our school districts, teachers, community partners, parents, grandparents, and many others, DHS Head Start provides these children and their families with the necessary tools to succeed in both life and education.

While this report underscores the ongoing work needed to support our children and families, it also highlights the positive impact the DHS Head Start program has made on thousands of lives. We take great pride in the work we have accomplished and in the progress our Head Start children and families continue to achieve long after they leave our program. I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has participated in the many DHS Head Start planning sessions. Your time, ideas, and dedication to closing the gap for our youngest, most vulnerable citizens are deeply appreciated. Your commitment to the health and well-being of our children strengthens Head Start's mission to improve the lives of children and their families.

For a more detailed discussion of the conditions presented, please refer to the full report. To learn more about our program, visit www.saheadstart.org.

Sincerely,
Audrey K. Jackson
Head Start and Early Head Start Administrator



Disclaimer

The information presented in this Community Update has been gathered and analyzed using the most current and relevant data available. The interpretations, estimates, and analyses are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the City of San Antonio Department of Human Services (DHS) or the National Head Start Association. To ensure a data-driven, theoretically sound, and objective assessment, all conclusions were independently reached by the authors, without influence from the grant recipient, and were based on data from a wide range of sources. This Community Update was prepared by the:

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Table of Contents

Letter from the Director	i
List of Tables	v
List of Figures	viii
1. Executive Summary	1
2. Grant recipient Profile	3
Program Overview	4
Geography	4
Recruitment	4
Service Area & Providers	5
3. Demographic Profile of Bexar County	7
Population Growth	7
Immigrants	11
Race and Ethnicity	14
Languages	21
Household Structure	27
4. Education, Health, Nutrition and Social Service Needs	30
Education	30
Health and Nutrition	35
Social Services	39
Income and Poverty	40
Employment	41
Housing	44
Foster Children	46
Children with Disabilities	49
Estimated Number of Children with a Disability by Type	51
Homeless Children	53
5. Eligibility Estimates	55
Method Used to Estimate Age and Income Eligibility	55
U.S. Census Bureau Method	55
Conclusions and Recommendations	55
6. Social Services	63
Health	63
Nutrition	64
Child Abuse and Neglect	65
Housing	66
Homeless Population	68

Childcare.....	69
Resources and Services for Children with Disabilities	75
Public Pre-Kindergarten and Early Education	76
Pre-K 4 SA.....	78
Local Early Head Start and Head Start Programs in Bexar County.....	80
7. Strengths of the Community.....	85
8. Summary and Conclusion	86

List of Tables

Table 3-1 Bexar County Population Growth Comparison between Texas and the United States, 2010, 2020.....	7
Table 3-2 Estimated Bexar County Components of Population Change between 2010 and 2020	8
Table 3-3 Estimated Bexar County Components of Population Change between 2020 and 2023	8
Table 3-4 Births Occurring by Mother’s Characteristics, Selected Geographies, 2020.....	11
Table 3-5 Bexar County Foreign Born Population Comparisons for Selected School Districts, 2018-2022	12
Table 3-6 Number of Afghanistan and Pakistan Immigrants, Selected Geographies, 2012-2022	13
Table 3-7 Racial and Ethnic Composition Comparison, Bexar County, Texas, the United States, 2018-2022.....	15
Table 3-8 Racial and Ethnic Composition Comparison for Bexar, Dallas, and El Paso Counties, 2018-2022	15
Table 3-9 Racial and Ethnic Composition Comparison for Harris, Tarrant and Travis Counties, 2018-2022	16
Table 3-10 Racial and Ethnic Composition Comparison, Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD, City of San Antonio, 2018-2022.....	16
Table 3-11 Ethnicity of Enrolled Head Start, Early Head Start, and EHS-CCP Children, 2023	20
Table 3-12 Race of Enrolled Head Start, Early Head Start, and EHS-CCP Children, 2023 ..	20
Table 3-13 Language Spoken at Home Population 5 Years and Over, Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD, City of San Antonio, 2018-2022	22
Table 3-14 Language Spoken at Home Population 5 Years and Over, Bexar County, Texas and the United States, 2018-2022.....	22
Table 3-15 Primary Language of Family at Home, 2023.....	27
Table 3-16 Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD and City of San Antonio Populations by Age, 2018-2022	28
Table 3-17 United States, Texas, and Bexar County Population by Age, 2018-2022.....	28
Table 3-18 Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD and City of San Antonio Demographic and Household Characteristics, 2018-2022	28
Table 3-19 Bexar County, Texas and United States Demographic and Household Characteristics, 2018-2022.....	28
Table 3-20 Number and Percentage of Single and Two Parent Homes, 2023.....	29

Table 4-1 Educational Attainment among Persons Aged 25 Years and Older, Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD and San Antonio, 2018-2022.....	31
Table 4-2 Educational Attainment among Persons Aged 25 Years and Older, Bexar County, Texas, the United States, 2018-2022.....	31
Table 4-3 School Enrollment by Level of School for the Population 3 Years and Over, Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD and San Antonio, 2018-2022	32
Table 4-4 School Enrollment by Level of School for the Population 3 Years and Over, Bexar County, Texas, the United States, 2018-2022	33
Table 4-5 Percent of Public Assistance Received by Residents of DHS Head Start Service Area, San Antonio, and Texas, 2013-2017	36
Table 4-6 Percent of Public Assistance Received by Residents of DHS Head Start Service Area, San Antonio, and Texas, 2018-2022	36
Table 4-7 Percent of Public Assistance Received by Children 0-17 or 0-4 Years of Age, Bexar County, Texas, 2019-2023.....	37
Table 4-8 Social Services Utilized by DHS Head Start Families, 2023	38
Table 4-9 Confirmed Victims of Child Abuse/Neglect for Bexar County, FY 2014-2023.....	39
Table 4-10 Income and Poverty in Selected Geographies, 2018-2022	40
Table 4-11 Employment Characteristics in Selected School Districts and City of San Antonio, 2018-2022	41
Table 4-12 Employment Characteristics in Bexar County, Texas, and the United States, 2018-2022	41
Table 4-13 Means of Transportation to Work in Selected School Districts, 2018-2022	42
Table 4-14 Means of Transportation to Work in Bexar County, Texas, and the United States, 2018-2022	42
Table 4-15 Type of Occupation in Selected School Districts and City of San Antonio, 2018-2022	43
Table 4-16 Type of Occupation in Bexar County, Texas, and the United States, 2018-2022	44
Table 4-17 Housing Characteristics for Selected School Districts, City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, and the United States, 2018-2022	45
Table 4-18 Monthly Average of Children in Paid Foster Care (0-17 Years), Bexar County, 2019-2023	46
Table 4-19 Number of Children (Under 18) by Relationship to Head of Household, Selected School Districts and City of San Antonio, 2018-2022	46
Table 4-20 Number of Children (Under 18) by Relationship to Head of Household, Selected School Districts, 2018-2022.....	47
Table 4-21 Children's Relationship to the Household, Selected School Districts and City of San Antonio, 2018-2022	48

Table 4-22 Children’s Realtionship to the Household by Type of Household, Bexar County, Texas, and United States, 2018-2022	48
Table 4-23 Foster Care Students, Selected Districts, 2023-2024	48
Table 4-24 ECI Enrollment for Bexar County and Texas*, FY 2022	49
Table 4-25 Number of Children Served by DHS Head Start by Disability, 2023	50
Table 4-26 Disability Counts by School District, 2023-2024	52
Table 4-27 Estimated Number of Age-Eligible Children with Disabilities by School District, Bexar County, 2022-2023	52
Table 4-28 Enrolled Families Experiencing Homelessness, 2023	53
Table 4-29 Enrolled Families Experiencing Homelessness in Bexar County, 2023	53
Table 4-30 Enrolled Families Experiencing Homelessness in Texas, 2023	54
Table 4-31 Homeless Students in DHS Head Start Service Area and Texas, 2023-2024	54
Table 5-1 Estimates of Age and Income Eligible Children by Zip code for Children 0-2 Years of Age, Program Year 2023	57
Table 5-2 Estimates of Age and Income Eligible Children by District for Children 3-4 Years of Age, Program Year 2023	58
Table 5-3 Estimates of Age and Income Eligible Children by District, Children 0-2 Years, 2022	59
Table 5-4 Estimates of Age and Income Eligible Children by District, Children 3-4 Years, 2022	60
Table 5-5 Projected Bexar County Population, by Race: Ages 0-2 Years, 2023-2033	61
Table 5-6 Projected Bexar County Population, by Race: Ages 3-4 Years, 2023-2033	61
Table 5-7 Projected Number of Bexar County Age- and Income-Eligible Children: 0-2 and 3-4 Years Old, Bexar County, 2023-2033	62
Table 6-1 Childcare Capacity and Child Population Aged 0 to 2 Years by School District, 2024	74
Table 6-2 Childcare Capacity and Child Population Aged 3 and 4 Years by School District, 2024	74
Table 6-3 Childcare Capacity in Public Pre-Kindergarten and Early Education Classes in Participating San Antonio Districts, 2023-2024	77
Table 6-4 Pre-K 4 SA Enrollment by District, 2020-2021	80
Table 6-5 Enrollment Characteristics for Bexar County Head Start Providers, 2023	81
Table 6-6 Service Characteristics for Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, Bexar County Providers, 2023	82
Table 6-7 Children’s characteristics for Combined Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, Bexar County Providers, 2023	83

Table 6-8 Service Characteristics for Combined Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, select Bexar County Providers, 2023	84
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List of Figures

Figure 2-1 School Districts Serviced by the City of San Antonio, DHS Head Start Program, 2023-2024	6
Figure 3-1 Bexar County Projected Growth by Race and Ethnicity, 2024-2050.....	9
Figure 3-2 Births per ZIP Code in Bexar County, 2020	10
Figure 3-3 Percent of the Minority Population by Census Tract, Bexar County, 2018-2022..	17
Figure 3-4 Percent of the Hispanic Population by Census Tract, Bexar County, 2018-2022	18
Figure 3-5 Percent of the Non-Hispanic Black Population by Census Tract, Bexar County, 2018-2022	19
Figure 3-6 Percent of Persons Aged 5 and Older that Speak Spanish at Home by Census Tract, Bexar County, 2018-2022	23
Figure 3-7 Percent of Students Participating in Bilingual or ESL Programs for School Districts in Bexar County, 2023-2024	25
Figure 3-8 Percent Bilingual/ESL Enrollment, by School District, 2023-2024	26
Figure 4-1 Percent of Adults 25 Years and Older with High School Diploma or Greater and with Bachelor's Degree or Greater, 2018-2022.....	34
Figure 6-1 Licensed Childcare Facilities that Accept Children Aged 0 to 2 by Capacity,	70
Figure 6-2 Licensed Childcare Facilities that Accept Children Aged 3 to 4 by Capacity,	71
Figure 6-3 Licensed Childcare Facilities Accepting Children Aged 0 to 2 by Capacity,	72
Figure 6-4 Licensed Childcare Facilities Accepting Children Aged 3 and 4 by Capacity,	73
Figure 6-5 Map of Pre-K for San Antonio Centers, 2024	79

1. Executive Summary

The City of San Antonio's Department of Human Services (DHS), as a grant recipient of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children and Families (ACF), collaborates with local partners to provide high-quality education, disability, dental, health, safety, mental health, and nutrition services to eligible children residing in the Edgewood and San Antonio Independent School Districts (ISDs). Head Start grant recipients are required to conduct comprehensive community assessments every five years, along with annual updates, to better evaluate and meet the local needs for Early Head Start and Head Start services. This community assessment update offers the latest information on the populations within Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs, including demographics, estimates of children eligible by age and income for Early Head Start and Head Start, details on other childcare and child development resources, and an overview of the community's strengths.

A significant portion of central San Antonio, encompassing the Edgewood Independent School District (EISD) and San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD), lives below the federal poverty threshold. Residents of San Antonio and Bexar County are, on average, younger than those in Texas and the U.S. They are also more likely to be foreign-born, part of a racial or ethnic minority, and living below the federal poverty level with children, compared to state and national averages. Additionally, a larger proportion of City and County residents speak Spanish at home, come from single-parent households, and live in larger households relative to the rest of Texas and the nation. Educational attainment tends to be lower, unemployment rates higher, and reliance on public assistance greater, with fewer high-skilled job opportunities in the City and County compared to the State and Nation. Within EISD and SAISD, these challenges are even more pronounced. Many children in these districts are born into families with limited resources and face significant barriers to realizing their full potential.

An analysis of the number of age-and-income eligible children in the service area, compared to those currently served by the City of San Antonio Department of Human Services (DHS) Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start (HS) Programs, reveals that approximately 4,099 eligible children are not being served by these programs (1,509 for HS and 2,590 for EHS). While local resources such as childcare facilities, public schools, and other programs serve a majority of the children eligible for Head Start, it is unlikely that children eligible for the Early Head Start Program are receiving adequate support from these resources.

Projections indicate that the number of age-eligible children in Bexar County will continue to grow each year through at least 2033, suggesting an increasing demand for Early Head Start and Head Start services. This need will be further exacerbated by the rising number of children diagnosed with disabilities. If the disability rate remains consistent, the anticipated growth in the number of eligible children will require expanded services through 2032.

While San Antonio offers various services and resources to support families living in poverty within Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs, the current capacity falls short of addressing the comprehensive needs of these children.

For any questions or comments regarding the content or methodology of this report, please contact Dr. Lloyd Potter at Lloyd.Potter@utsa.edu or by phone at (210) 458-6530.

2. Grant recipient Profile

For 45 years, the City of San Antonio Department of Human Services (DHS) has been a grant recipient of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS). DHS oversees the administration, operational management, and financial oversight of the local Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP), Early Head Start, and Head Start Programs. To ensure effective governance and stakeholder engagement, DHS has implemented a shared governance system. This system includes participation from various levels: the City of San Antonio City Council and its assigned advisory committee, Bexar County Community Action Advisory Board, the Head Start Policy Council (HSPC) at the program level, and the Parent Connection Committees (PCC) at the center level.

Mission Statement:

Preparing children and engaging families for school readiness and life-long success.

Source: City of San Antonio, Department of Human Services Head Start, 2017-2023 Strategic Planning: Goals and Objectives

Vision Statement:

For every child and every family the best Head Start services every day.

Source: City of San Antonio, Department of Human Services Head Start 2017-2023 Strategic Planning: Goals and Objectives

Goals of the DHS Head Start Program:

- Prepare children to succeed in school and life
- Promote well-being of families to enable them to support their children's learning and development
- Children are healthy and ready to learn
- Support the care of children by creating safe environments
- Recruit and retain highly qualified staff

Source: City of San Antonio, Department of Human Services Head Start 2017-2023 5-Year Strategic Planning: Goals and Objectives

Program Overview

DHS' Early Head Start and Head Start Programs deliver high-quality early childhood education, along with services in disability, dental care, health and safety, mental health, and nutrition to eligible children and their families within the EISD and SAISD service areas. In addition to these core services, the programs provide family support services, including transportation, assistance with accessing community resources, parent engagement activities, and the promotion of cultural diversity and self-sufficiency. Opportunities for parent engagement and leadership are also emphasized. The Head Start program operates on a schedule aligned with the traditional school year while the Early Head Start programs offer a longer schedule with the Early Head Start Child Care Partnership program offering center base services virtually year round.

Geography

San Antonio, the county seat of Bexar County, is situated in South Central Texas, positioned south of Austin and north of Laredo. With a population of 2.09 million, Bexar County is home to a significant portion of Texas's total population of 30.5 million residents. San Antonio, as the largest city in the county, encompassed 1.5 million people, or 71.6% of the county's population, according to the 2023 Census Population Estimates.

Recruitment

DHS Head Start Programs are committed to actively seeking and recruiting families who are most in need of Head Start and Early Head Start services. Recruitment efforts start in the spring and continue throughout the year, focusing on increasing visibility in the EISD and SAISD service areas to encourage eligible families and children to apply. Strategies for recruitment include a multimedia campaign, neighborhood canvassing, billboards, social media outreach, and referrals from other agencies. Recruitment plans are developed and approved annually by both the Governing Body and the Head Start Policy Council. The programs use a selection criteria point matrix system that assesses factors such as income, homelessness, involvement with the foster care system, disability status, and use of public assistance. Additionally, at least 10% of the programs' annual enrollment must include children with disabilities, and the program often surpasses this requirement.

Service Area & Providers

During the 2023-2024 school year, the DHS Head Start Program served a total of 3,387 children (Office of Head Start, 2023 Program Information Report, Cumulative Enrollment) across 23 school campuses within the EISD and SAISD districts (4 in EISD and 19 in SAISD) as well as six non profit child care centers (Head Start ECKLC, Head Start Locator, Custom Search, 2023). The cumulative enrollment included 2,932 children in the Head Start PreK program and 409 children in the Early Head Start programs. The funded enrollment for the same year was 3,330 children: 2,193 children were served in SAISD and 777 children in EISD by the Head Start Program; funded enrollment for the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) Program was 216; and 128 funded enrollment slots in the new Early Head Start Program.

Services at the Head Start PreK sites are delivered through contractual partnerships with two education service providers and two health support service providers (DHS, Head Start, 2018 Services). DHS collaborates with EISD and SAISD to operate 23 school campuses across both districts. The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District and the University of the Incarnate Word partner with the programs to provide comprehensive medical, dental, and health services. Health services offered include on-site dental exams with fluoride varnish, medical services such as lead and hemoglobin screenings, nutrition consultations, and parent education classes.

DHS was awarded an Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant in the summer of 2015, enabling the program to serve up to 216 children. Services are provided at six EHS-CCP locations situated in four zip codes: 78202, 78207, 78210, and 78237, all of which fall within the EISD and SAISD service areas. It is important to note that children residing outside these zip codes may also receive services from the EHS-CCP Program if the parents work in the area. The zip codes where EHS-CCP centers are located are highlighted in green in Figure 2-1, while the Head Start service areas for SAISD and EISD are highlighted in blue.

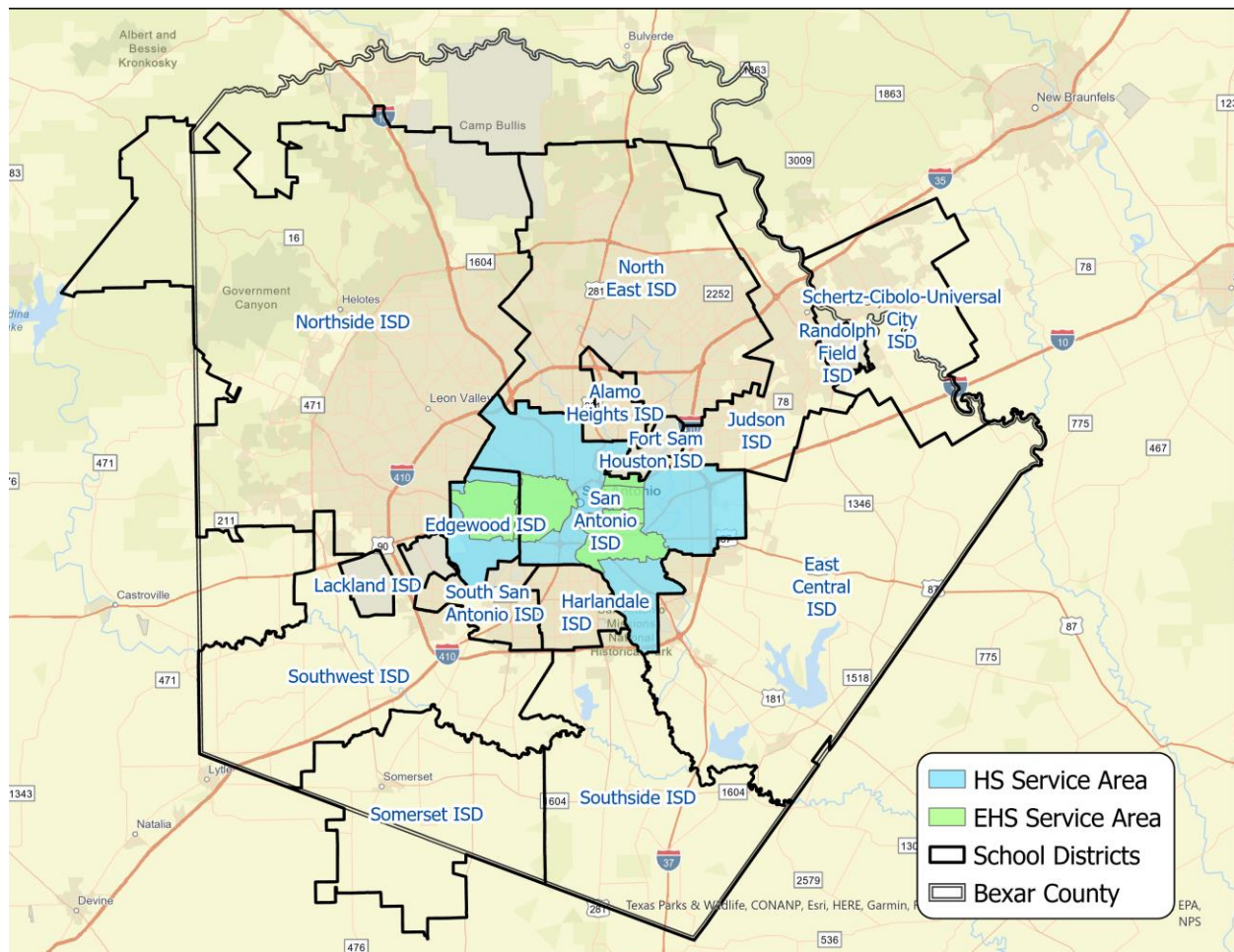


Figure 2-1 School Districts Served by the City of San Antonio, DHS Head Start Program, 2023-2024
 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2020 Tigerline Boundary Files

3. Demographic Profile of Bexar County

Population Growth

In 2010, Bexar County had a population of just over 1.7 million (U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census). From 2010 to 2020, Bexar County's population increased by 17.2%, reaching an estimated 2.01 million residents. This growth rate outpaced both Texas and the United States, which grew by 15.9% and 7.4% respectively during the same period (see Table 3-1).

As shown in Table 3-2, the majority of Bexar County's population growth over the past decade was driven by net migration, which accounted for 53.9% of the increase, compared to 46.1% from natural increase. Of the 167,751 people who moved into Bexar County between 2010 and 2020, 123,922 were from domestic migration. This trend mirrors that of Texas, where net migration contributed 51.7% to the state's population growth, with domestic migration being the primary driver (1.3 million out of 2.2 million). In contrast, the national population growth during the same period was largely due to natural increase, contributing 59.1% of the total growth.

Between 2020 and 2023, as Bexar County, Texas, and the U.S. began to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, all three regions continued to experience steady population growth, as depicted in Table 3-3. However, compared to the previous decade, net migration has become a more significant factor in population growth: accounting for 64.2% of Bexar County's growth, 69.9% of Texas's growth, and 73.5% of the nation's growth during this period.

Table 3-1 Bexar County Population Growth Comparison between Texas and the United States, 2010, 2020

	2010	2020	Change	
			Numeric	Percent
Bexar County	1,714,773	2,009,324	294,551	17.2%
Texas	25,145,561	29,145,505	3,999,944	15.9%
United States	308,745,538	331,449,281	22,703,743	7.4%
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 and 2020 Census Counts				

Table 3-2 Estimated Bexar County Components of Population Change between 2010 and 2020

	2010 Census Count*	2020 Estimate**	Population Change 2010-2020**	Natural Increase**	Net Migration		
					Total	Foreign Migration**	Domestic Migration**
Bexar County	1,714,773	2,026,823	312,042 (100.0%)	143,219 (46.1%)	167,751 (53.9%)	43,829	123,922
Texas	25,145,561	29,360,759	4,214,687 (100.0%)	2,027,414 (48.3%)	2,173,519 (51.7%)	869,640	1,303,879
U.S.	308,745,538	331,511,512	20,726,018 (100.0%)	12,257,668 (59.1%)	8,468,350 (40.9%)	8,468,350	0
Source: *Decennial Census Count, US Census Bureau, 2010. **Current Estimates of the Population, U. S. Census Bureau, 2020 Vintage. Note: This data reflects the estimated population change between April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2020. Components may not add to total as residual is not presented in this table.							

Table 3-3 Estimated Bexar County Components of Population Change between 2020 and 2023

	2020 Census Count*	2023 Estimate**	Population Change 2020-2023**	Natural Increase**	Net Migration		
					Total	Foreign Migration**	Domestic Migration**
Bexar County	2,009,324	2,087,679	78,363 (100.0%)	27,431 (35.8%)	49,121 (64.2%)	12,867	36,254
Texas	29,145,505	30,503,301	1,357,842 (100.0%)	407,567 (30.1%)	947,383 (69.9%)	291,163	656,220
U.S.	331,449,281	334,914,895	3,449,947 (100.0%)	915,797 (26.5%)	2,534,150 (73.5%)	1,138,989	0
Source: *Decennial Census Count, US Census Bureau, 2020. **Current Estimates of the Population, U. S. Census Bureau, 2023 Vintage. Note: This data reflects the estimated population change between April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023. Components may not add to total as residual is not presented in this table.							

In 2010, the non-Hispanic white population accounted for 30.3% of Bexar County's total population (2010 Census). By 2020, this percentage had decreased to 26.7% (2020 Census P.L. 94-171 Summary File), and projections suggest that by 2050, non-Hispanic whites will make up just 19.6% of the county's residents (Texas Demographic Center, 2018). During this period, the proportion of minority populations, particularly Hispanics, is expected to increase significantly (see Figure 3-1).

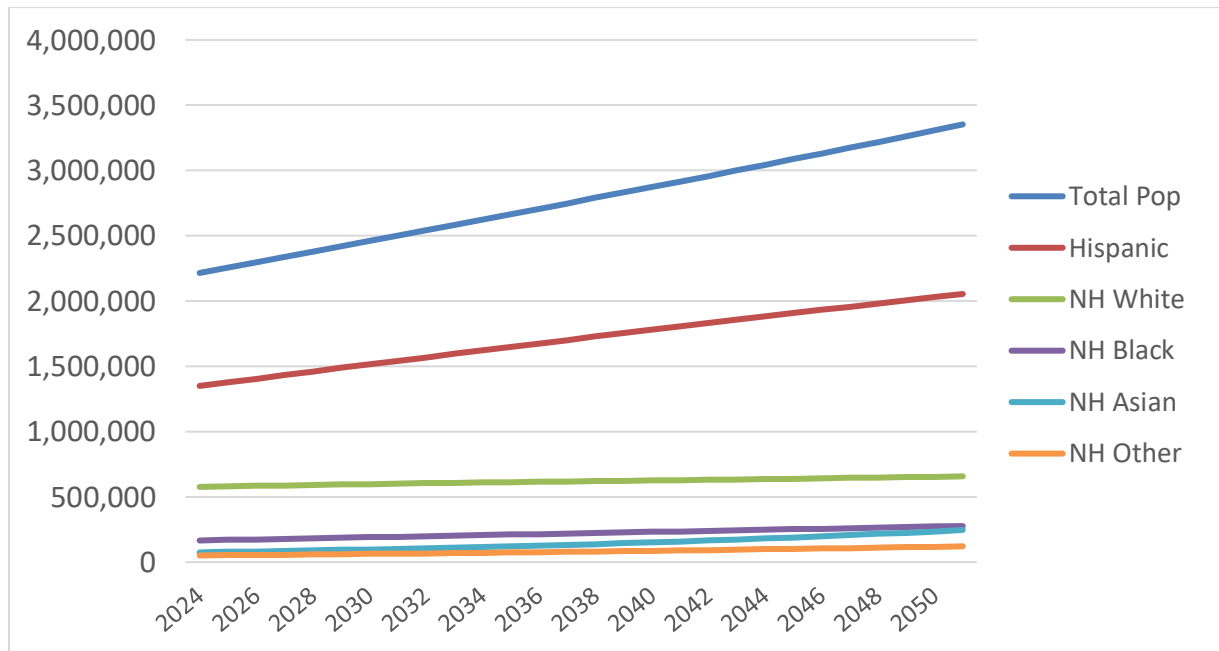


Figure 3-1 Bexar County Projected Growth by Race and Ethnicity, 2024-2050

Source: Texas Demographic Center Population Projections, 2018

An analysis of the geographic distribution of natural increase in Bexar County reveals that many births are concentrated in central Bexar County (see Figure 3-2). According to Texas Vital Statistics (VSTAT) for 2005-2020, as shown in Table 3-4, the COSA DHS Head Start service area exhibits higher rates in several categories compared to Bexar County and the State. These include births to teenage mothers (8.1%), births to single mothers (62.8%), mothers with less than a high school education (22.0%), and births with low or very low birth weight (9.3%). Among specific zip codes, 78207 and 78220 have the highest proportion of births to teenage mothers (12.1%); 78208 has the highest rate of births to single mothers (75.5%); 78207 has the highest percentage of births to mothers without a high school diploma or GED (32.1%); and 78220 has the highest share of births with low or very low birth weight (12.8%).

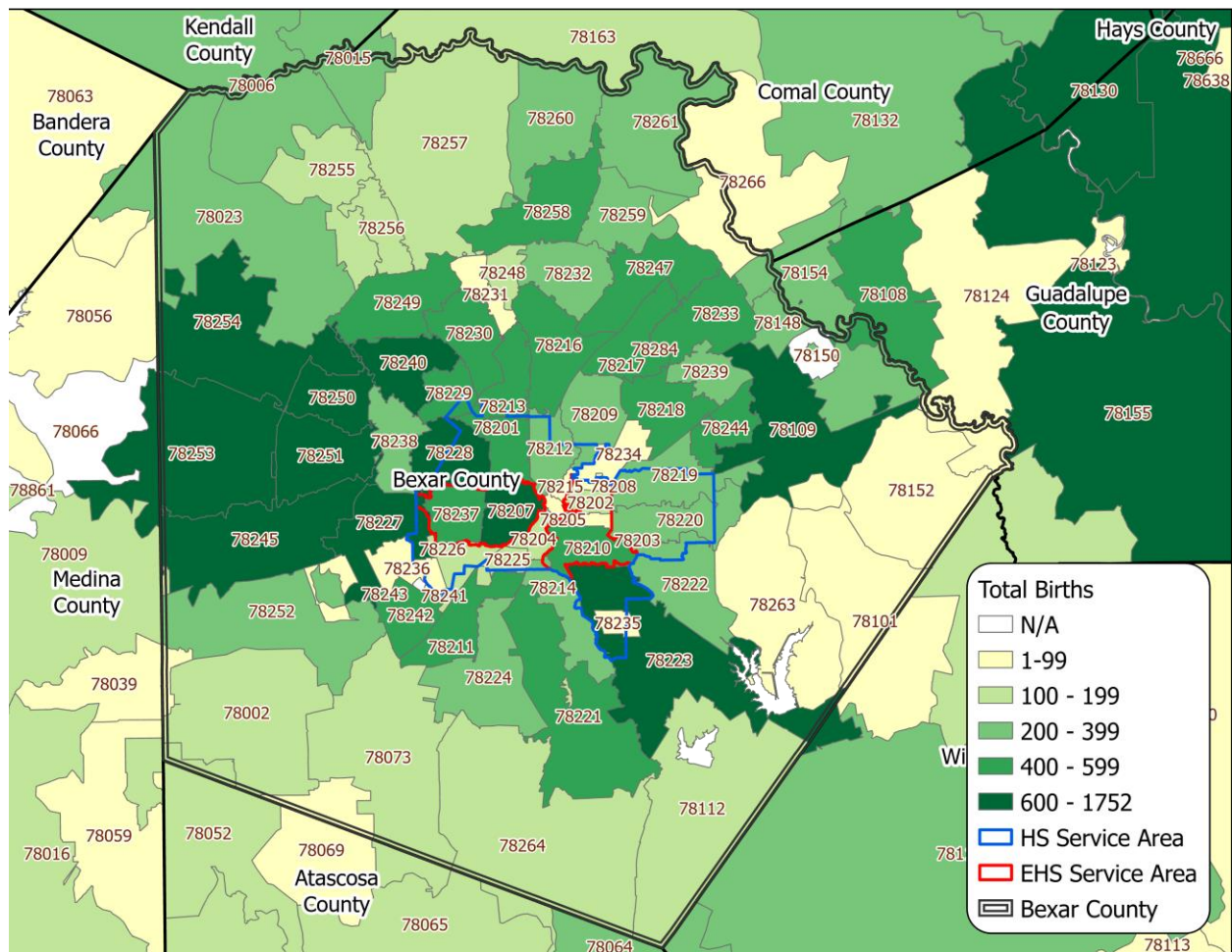


Figure 3-2 Births per ZIP Code in Bexar County, 2020

Note: White zip codes did not report any birth information between 2005-2020.

Source: Texas Vital Statistics (VSTAT), 2005-2020.

Table 3-4 Births Occurring by Mother's Characteristics, Selected Geographies, 2020

Geography	Total Births	Percent births to mothers aged 15-19 years	Percent of births to single mothers	Percent of births to mothers with less than HS/GED	Percent of births with low or very low birthweight
Bexar County	25,247	5.9%	45.0%	12.0%	8.6%
Texas	368,272	5.9%	41.5%	14.4%	8.2%
All Zip codes in the Service Area	4,970	8.1%	62.8%	22.0%	9.3%
78201	490	5.5%	58.4%	19.2%	9.2%
78202	199	8.0%	71.4%	30.7%	6.5%
78203	87	0.0%	67.8%	23.0%	11.5%
78204	139	0.0%	59.0%	11.5%	10.8%
78205	11	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
78207	766	12.1%	70.0%	32.1%	9.4%
78208	53	0.0%	75.5%	0.0%	0.0%
78210	429	10.5%	58.7%	25.4%	11.0%
78212	243	5.8%	46.1%	12.8%	8.6%
78215	30	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
78219	266	5.6%	60.9%	16.9%	11.7%
78220	297	12.1%	68.7%	24.9%	12.8%
78222	365	6.3%	57.3%	16.7%	11.2%
78225	165	8.5%	62.4%	21.8%	12.1%
78226	109	0.0%	75.2%	28.4%	0.0%
78228	695	8.6%	62.4%	17.3%	9.5%
78235	34	0.0%	55.9%	0.0%	0.0%
78237	592	9.8%	67.1%	25.5%	7.4%
Note: 1. The table shows zip codes that are within the COSA DHS Head Start service area boundaries. 2. The highlighted zip codes are COSA DHS Early Head Start service areas. Source: Texas Vital Statistics (VSTAT), 2005-2020.					

Immigrants

Between 2018 and 2022, foreign-born residents constituted 13.1% of Bexar County's population (see Table 3-5). Among Bexar County's school districts, Edgewood ISD (18.5%) and San Antonio ISD (15.1%) had some of the highest proportions of foreign-born residents. Only Harlandale ISD (16.7%) and South San Antonio ISD (17.0%) had even higher shares of foreign-born populations compared to SAISD. Conversely, Randolph Field ISD had the lowest proportion of foreign-born residents at 3.4%.

Among the foreign-born population, the percentage of Hispanic residents varied widely, ranging from a low of 7.3% in Randolph Field ISD to a high of 98.8% in Somerset ISD. Edgewood ISD (98.5%) and San Antonio ISD (92.2%) also have predominantly Hispanic foreign-born

populations, which is significantly higher than the proportions in Bexar County (71.0%) and the state of Texas (63.8%).

Table 3-5 Bexar County Foreign Born Population Comparisons for Selected School Districts, 2018-2022

School District	Total Population		Foreign Born Population			
	Estimate	Percent Hispanic	Estimate	Percent of Total Population	Percent Non-Hispanic White	Percent Hispanic
Alamo Heights	30,944	29.8	2,799	9.0	29.0	42.9
East Central	64,339	60.4	5,961	9.3	3.9	87.3
Edgewood	60,157	94.4	11,147	18.5	0.9	98.5
Ft. Sam	5,534	18.4	519	9.4	21.6	17.3
Harlandale	60,674	90.1	10,108	16.7	0.8	97.8
Judson	143,844	46.0	16,685	11.6	8.2	67.8
Lackland	8,927	15.3	460	5.2	9.6	30.9
North East	428,501	48.2	56,258	13.1	11.2	64.2
Northside	672,660	58.2	83,436	12.4	13.8	53.4
Randolph Field	1,195	19.8	41	3.4	17.1	7.3
San Antonio	303,738	79.1	45,832	15.1	3.4	92.2
Schertz-Cibolo-Univ. City	83,778	33.9	5,438	6.5	14.0	48.7
South San Antonio	48,192	90.5	8,193	17.0	0.7	96.7
Somerset	18,166	85.8	2,008	11.1	0.8	98.8
Southside	29,568	82.8	3,977	13.5	2.6	91.2
Southwest	69,233	78.1	9,605	13.9	1.6	91.5
Bexar County	2,014,059	61.0	263,827	13.1	9.0	71.0
Texas	29,243,342	39.9	4,987,855	17.1	8.4	63.8
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP02, DP05 and Derived from B05003H & B05003I						

The City of San Antonio has seen a significant influx of new immigrants from Afghanistan and Pakistan over the past decade, particularly in the Medical Center area. As shown in Table 3-6, Afghan immigrant populations have generally increased across most regions, including San Antonio City, Bexar County, Texas, and the United States as a whole. Notably, no Afghan immigrants resided in the Edgewood ISD during this period. In contrast, there was a significant surge in the Afghan immigrant population within San Antonio ISD, with 356 individuals residing there by 2022, compared to none before 2017. Meanwhile, the Pakistani immigrant population has also generally increased, though less dramatically than the Afghan population. Interestingly, there was a slight decline in the Pakistani population in San Antonio ISD, San Antonio City, and Bexar County between 2017 and 2022.

Table 3-6 Number of Afghanistan and Pakistan Immigrants, Selected Geographies, 2012-2022

Geography	Foreign Born Population	2012	2017	2022
Edgewood ISD	Total	8,908	9,572	11,147
	Afghanistan	0	0	0
	Pakistan	0	0	0
San Antonio ISD	Total	50,634	49,971	45,832
	Afghanistan	0	0	356
	Pakistan	0	24	11
San Antonio City	Total	185,269	207,155	206,048
	Afghanistan	59	840	3,379
	Pakistan	808	1,352	742
Bexar County	Total	223,995	248,508	263,827
	Afghanistan	88	849	3,455
	Pakistan	981	1,548	1,263
Texas	Total	4,099,014	4,622,395	4,987,855
	Afghanistan	2,079	4,450	13,197
	Pakistan	44,683	55,636	62,159
United States	Total	39,784,145	43,027,453	45,280,680
	Afghanistan	60,314	79,298	136,364
	Pakistan	301,280	371,400	393,877
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B05006				

Race and Ethnicity

Racial/ethnic minorities, including Hispanic, Non-Hispanic Black, Non-Hispanic Asian, and Non-Hispanic Other groups, constitute a larger proportion of the population in the City of San Antonio (77.4%) and Bexar County (73.9%), compared to Texas (59.9%), the United States (41.1%), and most comparable counties, except for El Paso County, where minorities make up 88.8% of the population (calculated from Tables 3-7 and 3-10). Even higher percentages of minorities reside in the Edgewood ISD (96.7%) and San Antonio ISD (87.5%), surpassing the percentages seen in the City, County, State, or Nation (calculated from Table 3-10).

Minorities account for over 70% of Bexar County's population, with Non-Hispanic Whites comprising just 26%. Specifically, the minority population in Bexar County includes 61% Hispanic residents, 7% Black or African American residents, 3% Asian residents, and 3% from other races (see Table 3-7). In comparison, Non-Hispanic Whites make up 40% of Texas' population and 59% of the Nation's population.

In the Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs, minorities dominate the population, with only 3% and 13% of residents being Non-Hispanic White, respectively. Hispanics are the largest racial/ethnic group in these areas, representing 94% of Edgewood ISD and 79% of San Antonio ISD's residents (see Table 3-10).

Figure 3-3 illustrates the distribution of racial/ethnic minority groups across Bexar County, where minorities are heavily concentrated within the Interstate 410 Loop and the southern part of the County. Neighborhoods with larger Hispanic populations are primarily located in central San Antonio, extending southward, mirroring the broader distribution of minorities (see Figure 3-4). In contrast, neighborhoods with higher percentages of Non-Hispanic Blacks are clustered in eastern and scattered areas of western Bexar County (see Figure 3-5). These minority-dense neighborhoods are among the most populated and oldest in San Antonio, forming the urban core of both the City and the County. The boundaries of Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs encompass central San Antonio, where the Hispanic population is particularly concentrated.

Table 3-7 Racial and Ethnic Composition Comparison, Bexar County, Texas, the United States, 2018-2022

	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total	2,014,059	100	29,243,342	100	331,097,593	100
Hispanic (any race)	1,229,072	61.0	11,665,280	39.9	61,755,866	18.7
White (non-Hispanic)	525,772	26.1	11,732,834	40.1	194,886,464	58.9
Black (non-Hispanic)	141,156	7.0	3,449,557	11.8	40,146,392	12.1
Asian (non-Hispanic)	59,390	2.9	1,487,200	5.1	18,873,442	5.7
Other (non-Hispanic)	58,669	2.8	908,471	3.2	15,435,429	4.7
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP05 & derived from DP05.						

Table 3-8 Racial and Ethnic Composition Comparison for Bexar, Dallas, and El Paso Counties, 2018-2022

	Bexar		Dallas		El Paso	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total	2,014,059	100	2,604,053	100	863,832	100
Hispanic (any race)	1,229,072	61.0	1,066,429	41.0	716,538	82.9
White (non-Hispanic)	525,772	26.1	713,636	27.4	96,994	11.2
Black (non-Hispanic)	141,156	7.0	577,868	22.2	24,578	2.8
Asian (non-Hispanic)	59,390	2.9	173,014	6.6	9,597	1.1
Other (non-Hispanic)	58,669	2.8	73,106	2.8	16,125	1.9
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP05 & derived from DP05.						

Table 3-9 Racial and Ethnic Composition Comparison for Harris, Tarrant and Travis Counties, 2018-2022

	Harris		Tarrant		Travis	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total	4,726,177	100	2,113,854	100	1,289,054	100
Hispanic (any race)	2,076,103	43.9	630,175	29.8	429,581	33.3
White (non-Hispanic)	1,306,481	27.6	927,508	43.9	614,956	47.7
Black (non-Hispanic)	872,237	18.5	357,665	16.9	102,001	7.9
Asian (non-Hispanic)	330,740	7.0	120,991	5.7	91,043	7.1
Other (non-Hispanic)	140,616	2.9	77,515	3.8	51,473	4.0
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP05 & derived from DP05.						

Table 3-10 Racial and Ethnic Composition Comparison, Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD, City of San Antonio, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total	60,157	100	303,738	100	1,445,662	100
Hispanic (any race)	56,794	94.4	240,169	79.1	951,823	65.8
White (non-Hispanic)	1,974	3.3	38,070	12.5	326,788	22.6
Black (non-Hispanic)	1,042	1.7	18,784	6.2	87,993	6.1
Asian (non-Hispanic)	57	0.1	2,182	0.7	42,418	2.9
Other (non-Hispanic)	290	0.5	4,533	1.6	36,640	2.5
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP05 & derived from DP05.						

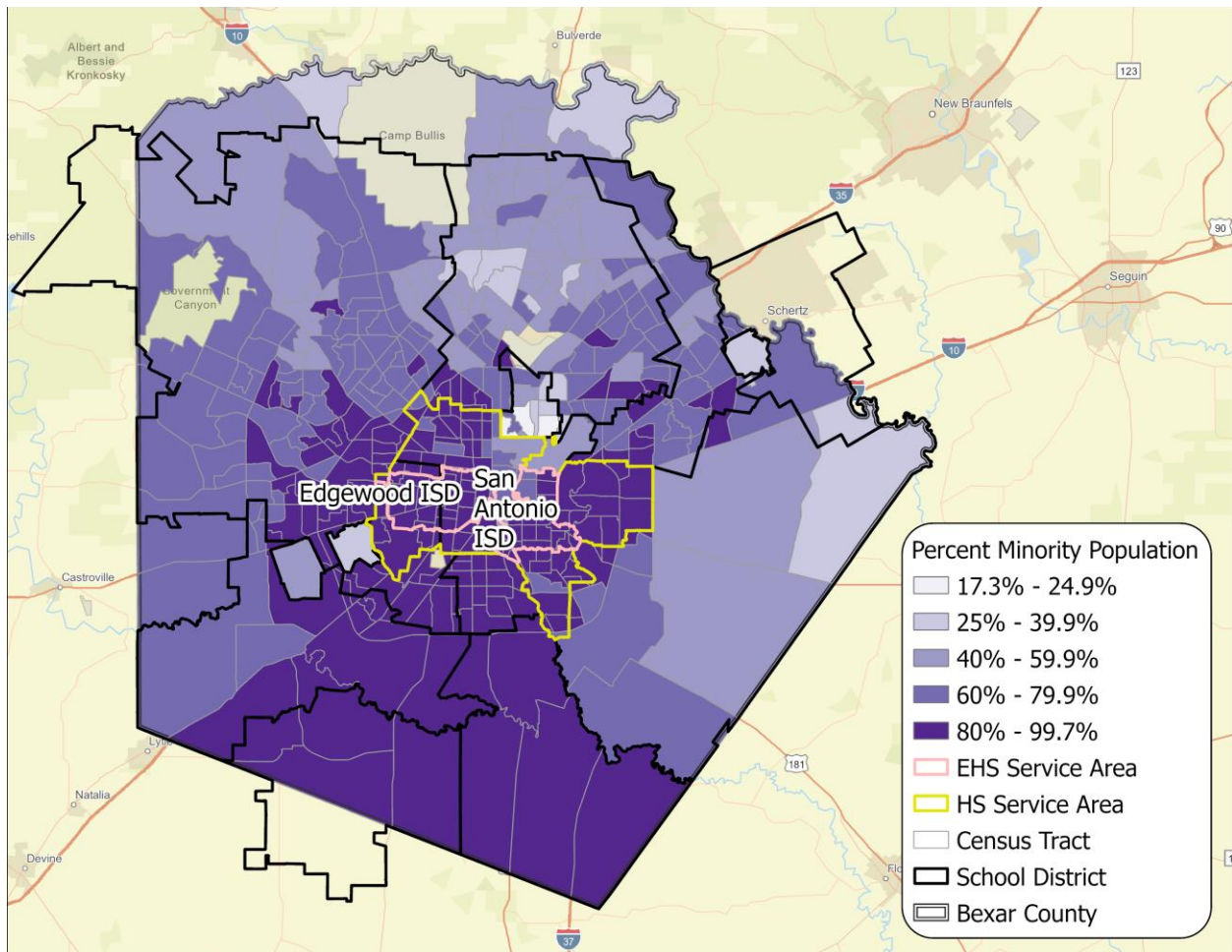


Figure 3-3 Percent of the Minority Population by Census Tract, Bexar County, 2018-2022
 Source: American Community Survey, Five-year Sample, DP05, 2018-2022

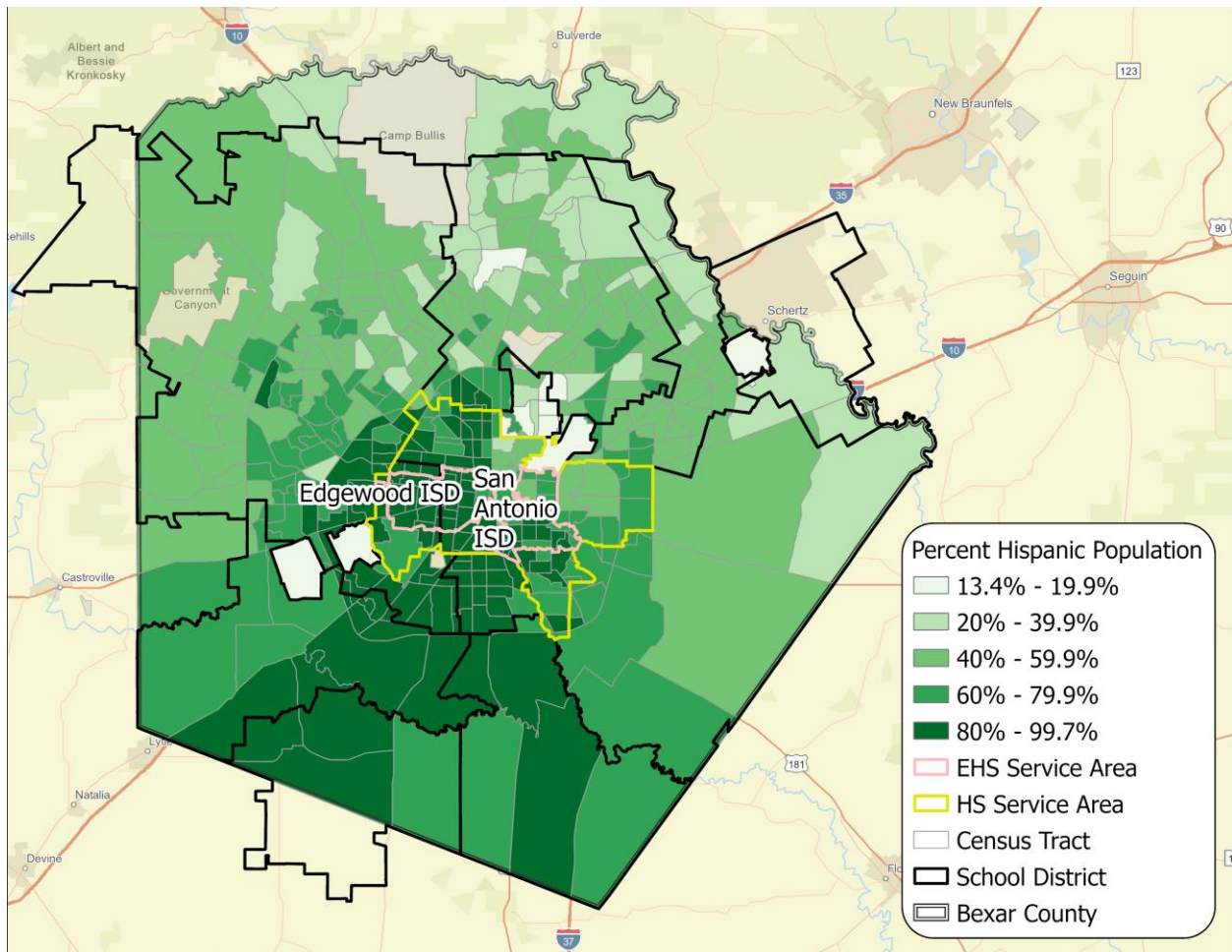


Figure 3-4 Percent of the Hispanic Population by Census Tract, Bexar County, 2018-2022
 Source: American Community Survey, Five-year Sample, DP05, 2018-2022

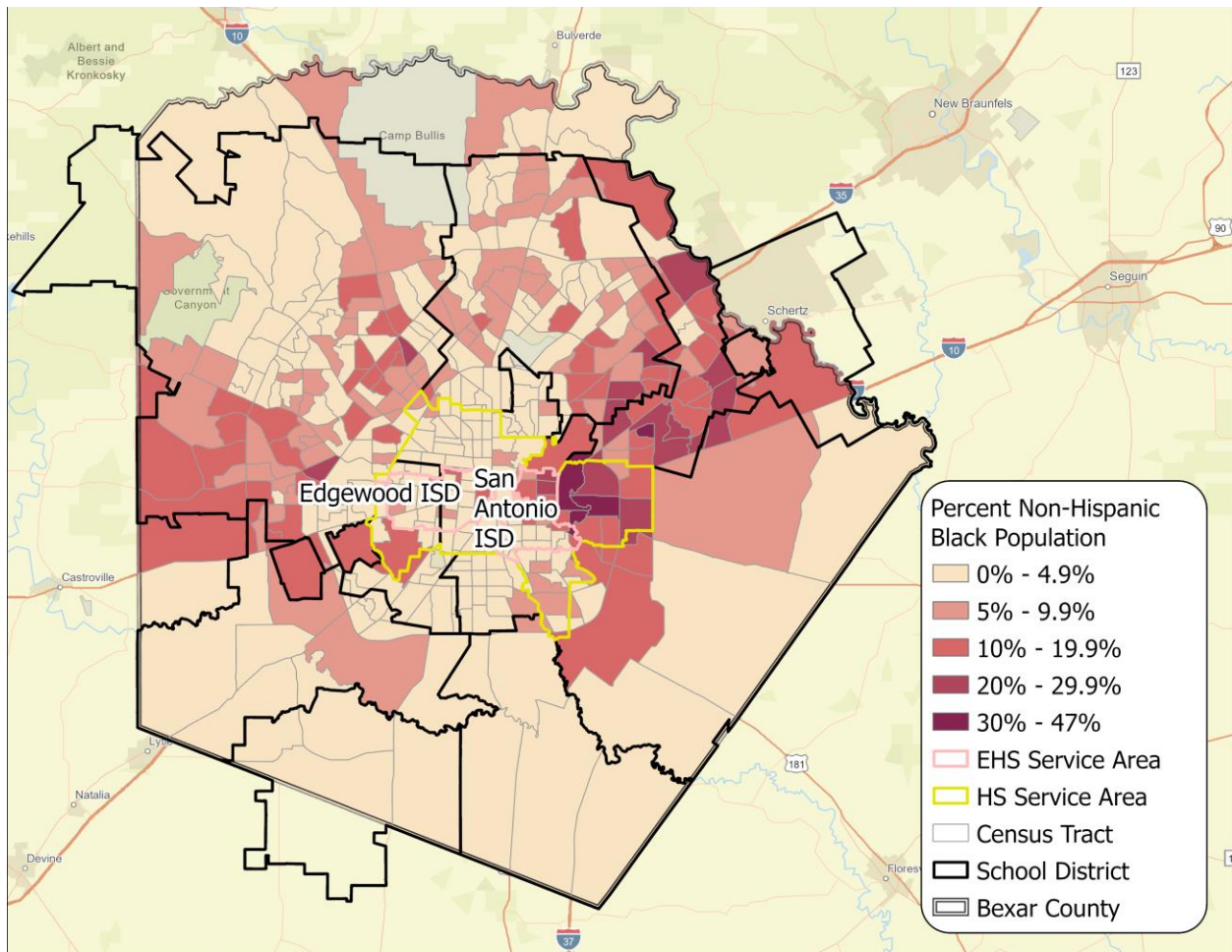


Figure 3-5 Percent of the Non-Hispanic Black Population by Census Tract, Bexar County, 2018-2022
 Source: American Community Survey, Five-year Sample, DP05, 2018-2022

The racial/ethnic composition of children enrolled in the Head Start, Early Head Start, and EHS-CCP Programs closely mirrors that of San Antonio and Bexar County. Most enrollees belong to a minority group, with a significant proportion identified as White (86.4%) (see Table 3-12). Black (10.6%) and Biracial/Multiracial (2.2%) children represent the next largest racial groups. However, it's important to recognize that the majority of children identified racially as White are of Hispanic ethnicity (see Tables 3-11 and 3-12), reflecting that approximately 90% of the City's Head Start and EHS-CCP Program enrollees are Hispanic.

Table 3-11 Ethnicity of Enrolled Head Start, Early Head Start, and EHS-CCP Children, 2023

Ethnicity	Children Enrolled	
	Total	Percent (%)
Hispanic (any Race)	3,002	89.9%
Non-Hispanic (any Race)	339	10.1%
Total Cumulative Enrollment	3,341	100.0%
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023		

Table 3-12 Race of Enrolled Head Start, Early Head Start, and EHS-CCP Children, 2023

Race	Children Enrolled	
	Total	Percent (%)
White	2,885	86.4%
NH Whites	48	1.4%
Black or African American	354	10.6%
Asian	14	0.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	12	0.4%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	2	0.1%
Biracial/Multi-Racial	74	2.2%
Other	0	0.0%
Unspecified	0	0.0%
Total Cumulative Enrollment	3,341	100.0%
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023		

Languages

Approximately 38% of Bexar County residents speak a language other than English, compared to 35% of Texas residents and 22% of U.S. residents (see Table 3-14). Spanish is the most commonly spoken foreign language in Bexar County, with 34% of residents speaking it at home. A significant portion of these foreign language speakers have limited English proficiency, with 11.4% of Bexar County residents speaking English less than "very well." Among them, Spanish speakers account for the majority, making up 88% (188,894 out of 214,771) of residents with limited English proficiency. Additionally, 1.4% of residents who speak a language other than English or Spanish also struggle with English.

Speaking Spanish at home is particularly common in the central and southern parts of Bexar County (see Figure 3-6), areas that overlap with the districts served by the COSA DHS Head Start, Early Head Start, and EHS-CCP Programs. Foreign language speakers other than Spanish make up less than 4% of the county population, with Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and Japanese being the most common among them.

A larger percentage of residents in Edgewood ISD (66%) and San Antonio ISD (50%) speak a language other than English compared to residents of the City of San Antonio (41%), Bexar County (38%), Texas (35%), and the U.S. (22%) (see Tables 3-13 and 3-14). Among foreign language speakers in these ISDs, Spanish is overwhelmingly dominant, with 99.6% of EISD residents (36,641 out of 36,781) and 97.4% of SAISD residents (137,887 out of 141,604) speaking Spanish. This prevalence is even higher than that found in the City (91%), County (90%), State (81%), or Nation (61%).

A significant proportion of residents in Edgewood ISD (25%) and San Antonio ISD (17%) speak Spanish with limited English proficiency, a rate higher than that of the City (12%), County (10%), State (11%), and Nation (5%). This suggests that a large portion of the population in these districts may require services in Spanish. Very few residents in either district speak a language other than English or Spanish at home (0.3% in EISD and 1.3% in SAISD), and an even smaller percentage (0.1% in EISD and 0.4% in SAISD) of non-English and non-Spanish speakers have difficulties speaking English.

Table 3-13 Language Spoken at Home Population 5 Years and Over, Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD, City of San Antonio, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Population 5 and up	55,756	100.0	284,165	100.0	1,352,729	100.0
English only	18,975	34.0	142,561	50.2	792,335	58.6
Language other than English	36,781	66.0	141,604	49.8	560,394	41.4
Speak English less than "very well"	14,169	25.4	48,235	17.0	174,768	12.9
Spanish	36,641	65.7	137,887	48.5	507,944	37.5
Speak English less than "very well"	14,102	25.3	47,050	16.6	155,877	11.5
Language other than English and Spanish	140	0.3	3,717	1.3	52,450	3.9
Speak English less than "very well"	67	0.1	1,185	0.4	18,891	1.4
<p>Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. The two main categories of language speakers are English and Language Other than English speakers. The Language Other than English category is further divided into those who speak Spanish or those who speak a Language other than English and Spanish. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP02</p>						

Table 3-14 Language Spoken at Home Population 5 Years and Over, Bexar County, Texas and the United States, 2018-2022

	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Population 5 and up	1,880,365	100.0	27,319,920	100.0	312,092,668	100.0
English only	1,165,601	62.0	17,737,503	64.9	244,232,103	78.3
Language other than English	714,764	38.0	9,582,417	35.1	67,860,565	21.7
Speak English less than "very well"	214,711	11.4	3,538,224	13.0	25,704,846	8.2
Spanish	639,918	34.0	7,790,925	28.5	41,434,050	13.3
Speak English less than "very well"	188,894	10.0	2,957,440	10.8	16,175,851	5.2
Language other than English and Spanish	74,846	4.0	1,791,492	6.6	26,426,515	8.5
Speak English less than "very well"	25,817	1.4	580,784	2.1	9,528,995	3.1
<p>Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. The two main categories of language speakers are English and Language Other than English speakers. The Language Other than English category is further divided into those who speak Spanish or those who speak a Language other than English and Spanish. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP02</p>						

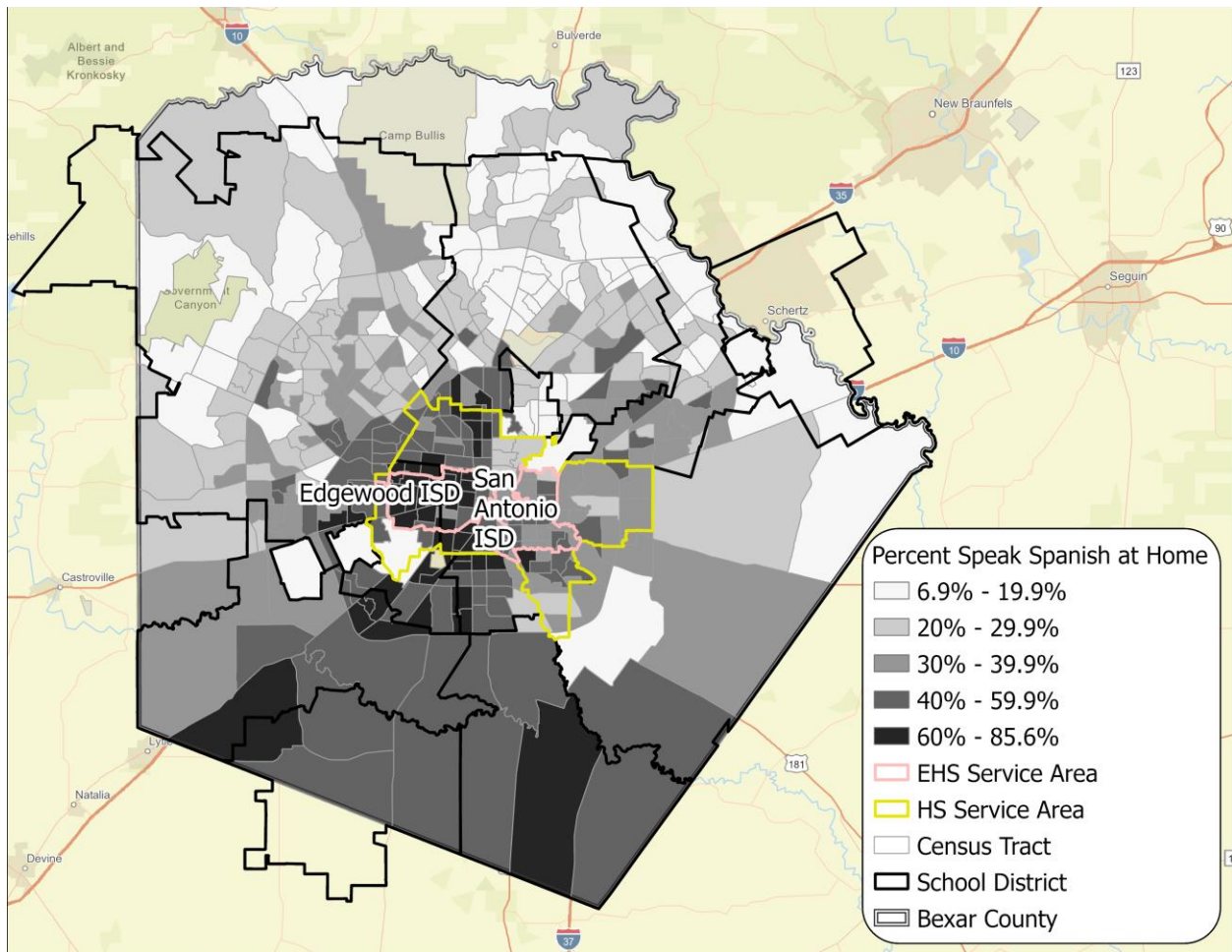


Figure 3-6 Percent of Persons Aged 5 and Older that Speak Spanish at Home by Census Tract, Bexar County, 2018-2022

Source: American Community Survey, 5 Year Sample, DP02, 2018-2022

Texas Education Agency (TEA) enrollment data for Bexar County's independent school districts highlights the geographic concentration of Spanish speakers (TEA, Student Program Reports, 2023-2024). The density of students enrolled in bilingual or English as a Second Language (ESL) programs is highest in the central part of the county and extends both southward and northward (see Figure 3-7). Edgewood ISD and San Antonio ISD are among the districts with the highest proportions of students participating in these programs. Notably, SAISD has a higher percentage of bilingual and/or ESL students (22%) compared to the County (15%) and the State (20%) (see Figure 3-8), while EISD's share of bilingual and/or ESL students (15%) is on par with the County but lower than the share of the State.

These data offer important insights into the linguistic needs of families in Bexar County. The demand for Spanish language services is particularly pronounced in areas with prevalent bilingual instruction, which often overlap with predominantly Hispanic neighborhoods in San Antonio. This suggests that families of bilingual students are likely to be primarily Spanish-speaking. As a result, districts like Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs, which encompass areas with high concentrations of Hispanic populations and bilingual/ESL students, will likely need to tailor services to both Spanish speakers and English learners.

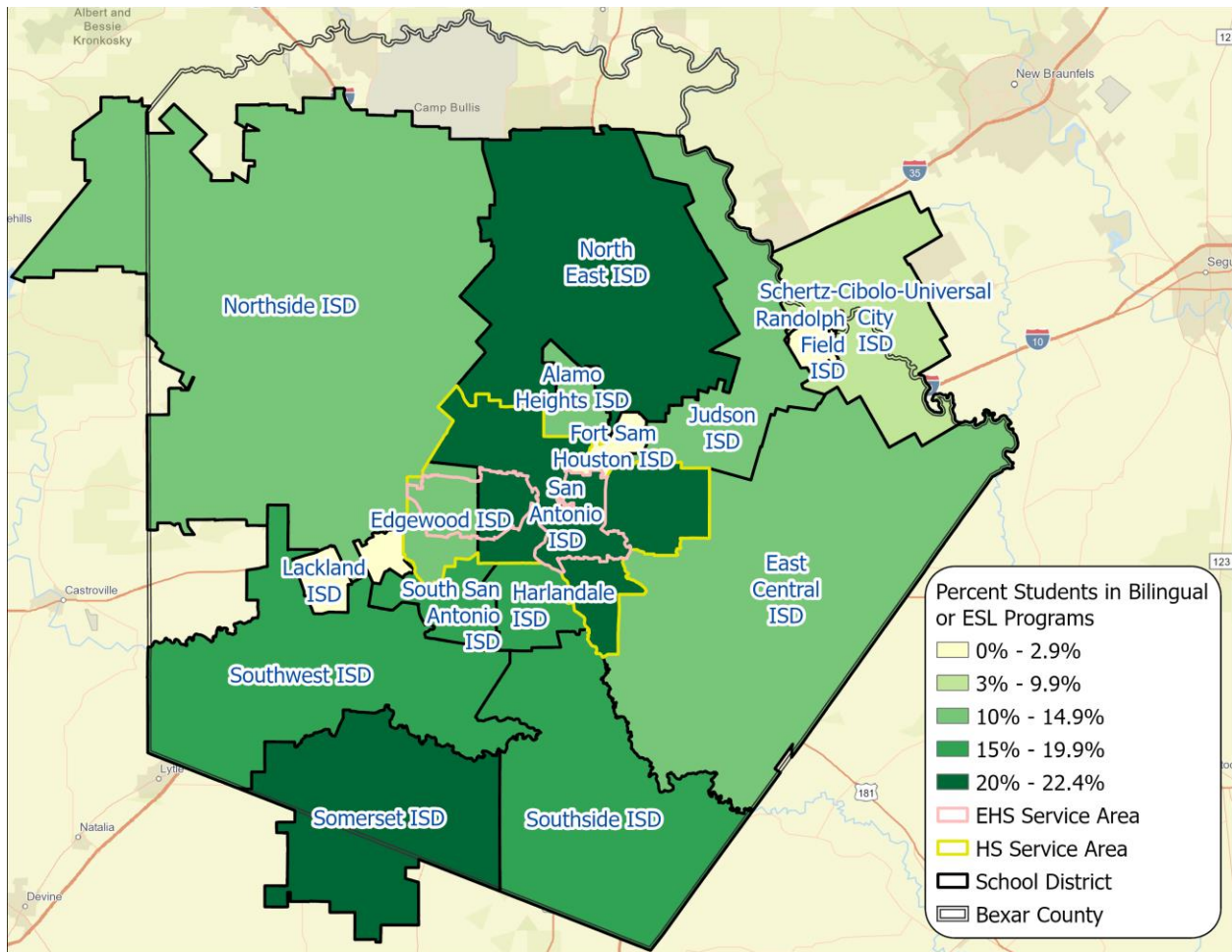


Figure 3-7 Percent of Students Participating in Bilingual or ESL Programs for School Districts in Bexar County, 2023-2024

Source: Texas Education Agency, Student Program Reports, 2023-2024

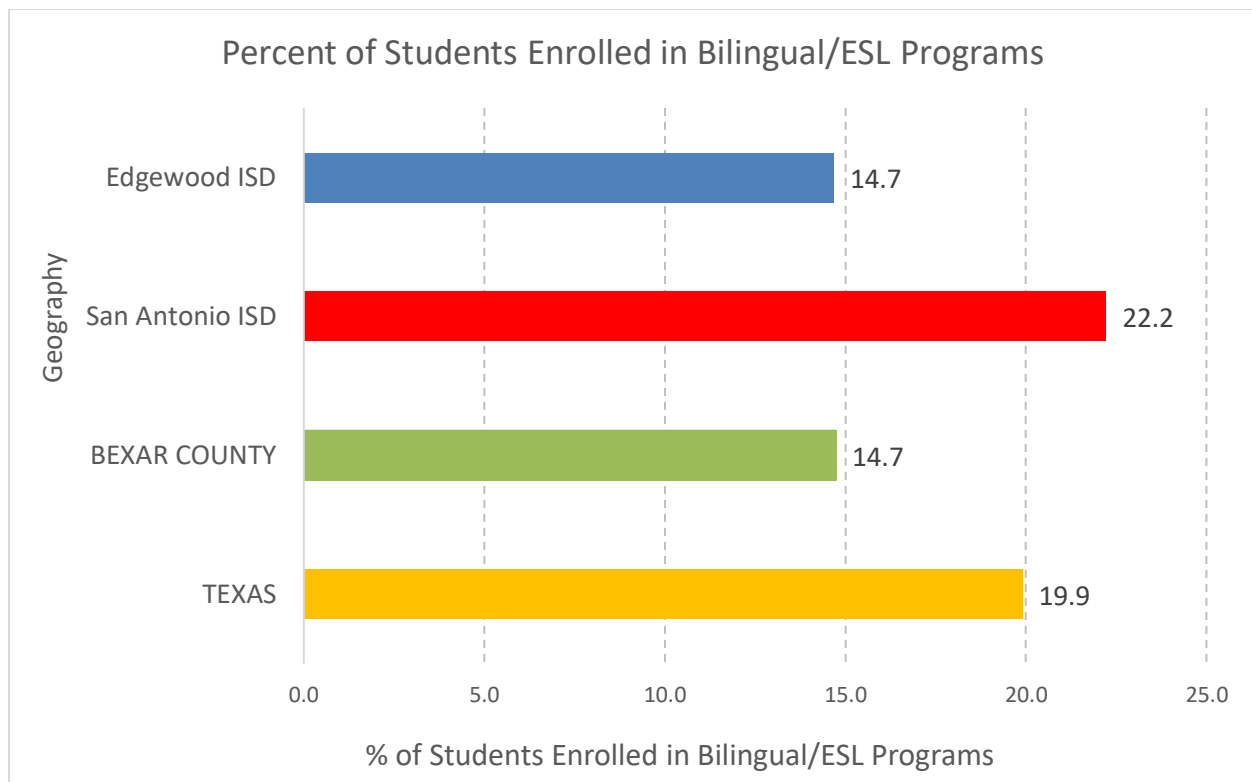


Figure 3-8 Percent Bilingual/ESL Enrollment, by School District, 2023-2024

Source: Texas Education Agency, Student Program Reports, 2023-2024

Among the enrolled children in the Head Start and Early Head Start programs, English is the most commonly spoken language at home, with 73.9% of families using it as their primary language. Approximately 22% of families speak Spanish at home, and less than 1% of families use a language other than English or Spanish (see Table 3-15). This percentage of Spanish-speaking households among enrollees (22%) is significantly lower than the City (38%) and County (34%) averages (see Tables 3-13 and 3-14). In contrast, a much higher proportion of residents in Edgewood ISD (66%) and San Antonio ISD (49%) speak Spanish at home, more than double the percentage of enrolled children who speak Spanish at home (22%) (see Tables 3-13 and 3-15).

The prevalence of multilingual speakers in San Antonio and Bexar County implies that a significant portion of the population, including potential enrollees, may speak languages other than English. However, data from the DHS Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership and Head Start Programs reveals that enrollees rely less on Spanish than the City and County populations. Given the high concentration of Hispanics and Spanish speakers in Edgewood ISD (EISD) and San Antonio ISD (SAISD), it is important to provide services in both Spanish and English. However, the proportion of services offered in Spanish should be aligned with the specific

linguistic needs of the enrolled families, who appear to rely on Spanish less frequently than the city and county population. This approach ensures that resources are effectively allocated and that the needs of the enrollees are met, without overestimating the demand for Spanish-language services based on City and County figures.

Table 3-15 Primary Language of Family at Home, 2023

Language	Head Start Children Enrolled	
	Number	Percent (%)
English	2,570	73.9%
Spanish	755	21.7%
Other Languages	16	0.5%
Total Cumulative Enrollment	3,477	100.0%
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023		

Household Structure

In 2023, Bexar County was ranked as the fourth most populous county in Texas, with a population of 2.09 million people, trailing behind Harris, Dallas, and Tarrant counties. A significant portion of this population resides in the City of San Antonio, which accounted for approximately 71.6% of the county's total population, with 1.5 million residents.

Between 2018 and 2022, the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, and the State of Texas shared a similar age structure, which was generally younger compared to the nation. The median age in both the City of San Antonio and Bexar County was around 34.1 and 34.2 years, respectively, compared to the state's median age of 35.2 years and the national median age of 38.5 years. Within this context, the residents of the Edgewood Independent School District (EISD) were slightly younger, with a median age of 33.4 years, while those in the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) were slightly older, with a median age of 35.2 years.

The younger age structures in EISD, SAISD, and the City of San Antonio are reflected in their higher proportions of children under the age of five (7.3%, 6.4%, and 6.4%, respectively) compared to the national average of 5.7%. This demographic trend underscores the greater-than-national need for services focused on young children in these areas.

Household composition also varies significantly across these regions. Single-parent families make up a larger proportion of households in EISD (13.1%) and SAISD (10.3%) when compared to the City of San Antonio (8.7%), Bexar County (6.9%), Texas (6.0%), or the Nation (5.0%). Additionally, the average household size in EISD (3.15) is larger than the state average (2.73) and the national average (2.57), indicating larger family units. In contrast, the average household

size in SAISD (2.53) is slightly smaller than that of the City of San Antonio (2.62), the state, and the nation, suggesting a trend toward smaller family units in this district.

Table 3-16 Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD and City of San Antonio Populations by Age, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total	60,157	100.0	303,738	100.0	1,445,662	100.0
Under 5 years	4,401	7.3	19,573	6.4	92,933	6.4
18 years and older	43,044	71.6	232,893	76.7	1,097,326	75.9
65 years and older	7,571	12.6	43,090	14.2	185,125	12.8
Median age	33.4	-	35.2	-	34.1	-
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, S0101.						

Table 3-17 United States, Texas, and Bexar County Population by Age, 2018-2022

	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total	2,014,059	100.0	29,243,342	100.0	331,097,593	100.0
Under 5 years	133,694	6.6	1,923,422	6.6	19,004,925	5.7
18 years and older	1,508,994	74.9	21,847,214	74.7	257,883,888	77.9
65 years and older	248,631	12.3	3,768,977	12.9	54,737,648	16.5
Median age	34.2	-	35.2	-	38.5	-
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, S0101.						

Table 3-18 Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD and City of San Antonio Demographic and Household Characteristics, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total Population	60,157	100.0	303,738	100.0	1,445,662	100.0
Population under 5	4,401	7.3	19,573	6.4	92,933	6.4
Total households	18,963	100.0	115,262	100.0	542,817	100.0
Single Parent Families with Children Under 18 Years	2,491	13.1	11,897	10.3	47,022	8.7
Average household size	3.15	-	2.53	-	2.62	-
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, S0101 and derived from DP02.						

Table 3-19 Bexar County, Texas and United States Demographic and Household Characteristics, 2018-2022

	Bexar County	Texas	United States
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	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
Total Population	2,014,059	100.0	29,243,342	100.0	331,097,593	100.0
Population under 5	133,694	6.6	1,923,422	6.6	19,004,925	5.7
Total households	730,119	100.0	10,490,553	100.0	125,736,353	100.0
Single Parent Families with Children Under 18 Years*	50,438	6.9	633,636	6.0	6,284,441	5.0
Average household size	2.71	-	2.73	-	2.57	-
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, S0101 and derived from DP02.						

A significantly higher proportion of children enrolled in COSA DHS Head Start programs come from single-parent households compared to those in two-parent households (see Tables 3-20). Specifically, 64% of COSA DHS Head Start households are single-parent families, whereas the Census data reveals that single-parent families make up about 10% of households in both EISD and SAISD (see Tables 3-18). The proportion of single-parent families among DHS Head Start enrollees is notably higher at 64%, compared to 13% in EISD, 10% in SAISD, 9% in the City of San Antonio, 7% in Bexar County, 6% in Texas, and 5% nationally (see Tables 3-19 and 3-20). Consequently, the DHS Early Head Start, EHS-Child Care Partnership, and Head Start Programs may need to allocate additional resources to support single-parent families, given their significant representation among program participants.

Table 3-20 Number and Percentage of Single and Two Parent Homes, 2023

Family Type	Head Start Families	
	Number	Percent
Two Parent Family	1,114	36.24
Single Parent Family	1,960	63.76
Total Number of Families at Enrollment	3,074	100.00
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023		

4. Education, Health, Nutrition and Social Service Needs

Education

San Antonio provides numerous opportunities for higher education, with 46 colleges and technical schools located within Bexar County as of 2023 (National Center for Education Statistics, Custom College Navigator Search, 2024). These institutions include 17 less-than-two-year programs, 12 two-year programs, and 17 four-year or longer programs, encompassing both not-for-profit universities and accredited community colleges.

The educational attainments in the City of San Antonio closely mirror those of Bexar County, though they differ slightly from the state. The most common level of education in the City and County is some college experience, followed by Bachelor's degrees or higher, high school diplomas or GEDs, and less than a high school diploma (see Tables 4-1 and 4-2). Texas has a higher percentage of individuals with a Bachelor's degree (32.3%) compared to the City (27.7%) and County (30.4%). However, the proportion of residents with at least a high school diploma or GED is lower in the City (83.8%), County (85.9%), and State (85.2%) compared to the Nation (89.1%).

Educational attainment is notably lower among residents of Edgewood ISD (EISD) and San Antonio ISD (SAISD) compared to the City, County, State, and Nation. EISD and SAISD have double the percentage of residents without a high school diploma, with 37.2% of EISD residents and 25.2% of SAISD residents lacking a high school diploma. Only 6% of EISD residents and 16% of SAISD residents hold a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 27.7% in San Antonio, 30.4% in Bexar County, 32.3% in Texas, and 34.3% nationally. Despite this, a larger proportion of EISD (35.6%) and SAISD (31.4%) residents have a high school diploma compared to the City (25.6%), County (24.4%), State (24.6%), and Nation (24.5%). Conversely, fewer EISD (21.6%) and SAISD (26.9%) residents have some college experience compared to the City, County, State, and Nation, which range from 28.5% to 30.9%.

Figure 4-1 illustrates the proportion of adults with a high school diploma or greater and those with a Bachelor's degree or higher in Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs, as well as in the City, State, and Nation. The data show that a smaller share of EISD and SAISD adults have at least a high school diploma, with proportions ranging from 62.8% in EISD to 74.8% in SAISD. Similarly, the percentage of adults with a college degree or higher is also lowest in EISD (5.6%) and SAISD (16.4%) compared to the City (27.7%), County (30.4%), State (32.3%), and Nation (34.3%). This lower educational attainment in EISD and SAISD, along with the link between parental and child educational attainments, indicates that these children may require additional support to succeed academically.

Many children residing in these areas are enrolled in public schools (see Tables 4-3 and 4-4). Estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS) suggest that 981 children in EISD, 4,818 in SAISD, 22,458 in San Antonio, and 30,289 in Bexar County are enrolled in nursery or preschool. This reflects a significant portion of young children in these areas who are likely to utilize public schools for early childhood education.

Table 4-1 Educational Attainment among Persons Aged 25 Years and Older, Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD and San Antonio, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
People 25 years and over	37,061	100.0	200,939	100.0	937,630	100.0
No high school diploma	13,771	37.2	50,619	25.2	152,088	16.2
High school graduate or equiv.*	13,208	35.6	63,163	31.4	240,146	25.6
Some college, no Bachelor's**	7,997	21.6	54,136	26.9	285,705	30.5
Bachelor's degree or higher	2,085	5.6	33,021	16.4	259,691	27.7
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B16010 and derived from B16010. Notes: *Includes people who earn a GED. **Includes people with an Associate's degree, but not a Bachelor's degree. Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table.						

Table 4-2 Educational Attainment among Persons Aged 25 Years and Older, Bexar County, Texas, the United States, 2018-2022

	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
People 25 years and over	1,297,977	100.0	18,910,948	100.0	226,600,992	100.0
No high school diploma	183,190	14.1	2,792,334	14.8	24,599,698	10.9
High school graduate or equiv.*	318,848	24.6	4,626,129	24.5	59,741,825	26.4
Some college, no Bachelor's**	400,942	30.9	5,390,698	28.5	64,508,122	28.5
Bachelor's degree or higher	394,997	30.4	6,101,787	32.3	77,751,347	34.3
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B16010 and derived from B16010. Notes: *Includes people who earn a GED. **Includes people with an Associate's degree, but not a Bachelor's degree. Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table.						

Table 4-3 School Enrollment by Level of School for the Population 3 Years and Over, Edgewood ISD, San Antonio ISD and San Antonio, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
People 3 and over	61,541	100.0	319,028	100.0	1,468,283	100.0
Enrolled in school:	17,059	27.7	83,504	26.2	410,917	28.0
Enrolled in nursery school, preschool	981	1.6	4,818	1.5	22,458	1.5
Enrolled in kindergarten	1,310	2.1	5,243	1.6	22,527	1.5
Enrolled in grade 1 to grade 4	4,562	7.4	17,941	5.6	85,143	5.8
Enrolled in grade 5 to grade 8	3,888	6.3	17,261	5.4	84,788	5.8
Enrolled in grade 9 to grade 12	4,076	6.6	16,861	5.3	83,499	5.7
Enrolled in college, undergraduate years	1,958	3.2	17,883	5.6	90,938	6.2
Graduate or professional school	284	0.5	3,497	1.1	21,564	1.5
Not enrolled in school	44,482	72.3	235,524	73.8	1,057,366	72.0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B14001

Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table.

Table 4-4 School Enrollment by Level of School for the Population 3 Years and Over, Bexar County, Texas, the United States, 2018-2022

	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Total	Percent	Total	Percent	Total	Percent
People 3 and over	1,898,567	100.0	27,470,942	100.0	315,075,830	100.0
Enrolled in school:	541,574	28.5	7,719,304	28.1	80,497,960	25.5
Enrolled in nursery school, preschool	30,289	1.6	453,297	1.7	4,879,858	1.5
Enrolled in kindergarten	29,178	1.5	407,459	1.5	4,003,118	1.3
Enrolled in grade 1 to grade 4	113,833	6.0	1,628,633	5.9	15,900,533	5.0
Enrolled in grade 5 to grade 8	113,086	6.0	1,681,082	6.1	16,606,090	5.3
Enrolled in grade 9 to grade 12	110,459	5.8	1,655,352	6.0	16,879,255	5.4
Enrolled in college, undergraduate years	115,596	6.1	1,543,942	5.6	17,869,758	5.7
Graduate or professional school	29,133	1.5	349,539	1.3	4,359,348	1.4
Not enrolled in school	1,356,993	71.5	19,751,638	71.9	234,577,870	74.5
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B14001 Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table.						

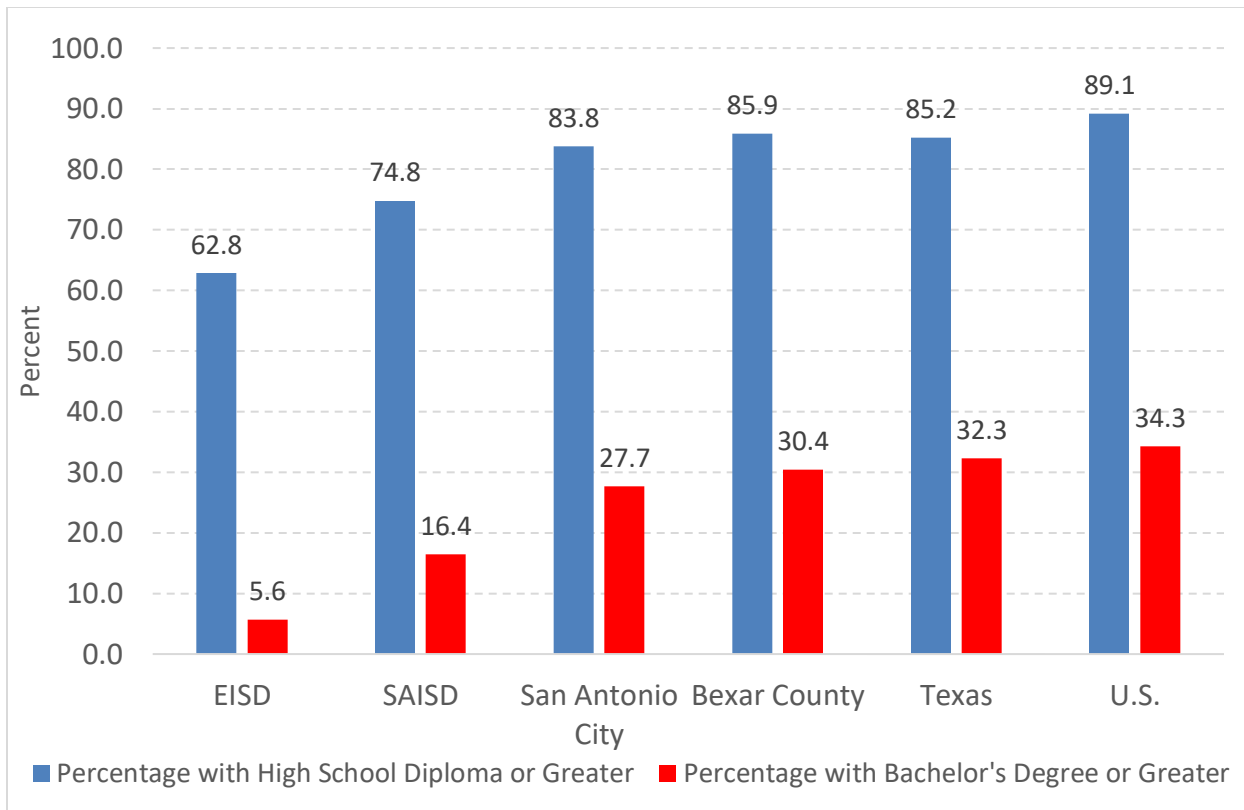


Figure 4-1 Percent of Adults 25 Years and Older with High School Diploma or Greater and with Bachelor's Degree or Greater, 2018-2022

Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Sample, 2018-2022, B16010

Health and Nutrition

Food insecurity is a significant issue for families and children in Bexar County, as evidenced by the participation rates in federal assistance programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). Tables 4-5 through 4-7 offer insights into the extent of reliance on these programs among households and children.

Households in Edgewood ISD (EISD) and San Antonio ISD (SAISD) show higher reliance on public assistance compared to the broader City or State populations. From 2017 to 2022, the percentage of EISD households utilizing food assistance programs increased from 31.5% to 39.8%, while SAISD saw a smaller increase from 24.6% to 25.1%. Among these, SNAP was the most commonly used form of assistance, followed by Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and cash public assistance. Between 2018 and 2022, over one-third of EISD households and one-quarter of SAISD households received SNAP benefits, compared to 16.2% of households in the City of San Antonio and 11.5% in Texas. Additionally, 11.4% of EISD households and 9.1% of SAISD households received SSI, in contrast to 6.2% of San Antonio households and 4.5% of Texas households. While cash public assistance use is more comparable across different areas, EISD (4.1%) and SAISD (3.1%) households use it at higher rates than those in the City (2.7%) and State (2.0%).

The Kids Count Data Center, part of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, provides data specific to children aged 0 to 17 years (see Table 4-7). In 2022, a smaller percentage of children in Bexar County relied on TANF (0.19%) compared to their peers in Texas (0.22%). Conversely, a higher proportion of Bexar County children depended on SNAP (26.84%) compared to children across Texas (23.94%). Additionally, the number of children under 5 receiving WIC increased by 4,611 (13%) in Bexar County and by 59,746 (12%) statewide between 2019 and 2023.

Table 4-5 Percent of Public Assistance Received by Residents of DHS Head Start Service Area, San Antonio, and Texas, 2013-2017

Program	2013-2017							
	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio		Texas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Households	17,350	100.0	107,262	100.0	494,260	100.0	9,430,419	100.0
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	2,684	15.5	11,873	11.1	33,136	6.7	455,016	4.8
Cash public assistance*	421	2.4	2,574	2.4	8,484	1.7	141,939	1.5
Food stamps (SNAP)	5,470	31.5	26,384	24.6	75,092	15.2	1,196,016	12.7
Note: This data reflects households earning public assistance income and does not reflect age-eligible children alone. Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. *Cash public assistance includes TANF.								
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2013-2017, DP03								

Table 4-6 Percent of Public Assistance Received by Residents of DHS Head Start Service Area, San Antonio, and Texas, 2018-2022

Program	2018-2022							
	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio		Texas	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Households	18,963	100.0	115,262	100.0	542,817	100.0	10,490,553	100.0
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	2,155	11.4	10,518	9.1	33,785	6.2	472,537	4.5
Cash public assistance*	786	4.1	3,561	3.1	14,797	2.7	209,959	2.0
Food stamps (SNAP)	7,544	39.8	28,968	25.1	87,992	16.2	1,209,485	11.5
Note: This data reflects households earning public assistance income and does not reflect age-eligible children alone. Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. *Cash public assistance includes TANF.								
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2018-2022., DP03								

Table 4-7 Percent of Public Assistance Received by Children 0-17 or 0-4 Years of Age, Bexar County, Texas, 2019-2023

Program	Bexar County					Texas				
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Percent of Child Receiving TANF*	0.40%	0.45%	0.40%	0.19%	-	0.60%	0.51%	0.39%	0.22%	-
Percent of Children Receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP, formerly Food Stamps)*	28.00%	29.60%	25.99%	26.84%	-	24.80%	26.30%	23.06%	23.94%	-
Number of Children Receiving WIC (0-4 years)	36,107	36,043	35,319	36,212	40,718	494,688	307,026	486,476	507,415	554,434
* data for 2023 TANF and SNAP are not available Source: Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT, 2019-2023										

Public assistance programs are used extensively among DHS Head Start families, with higher reliance compared to households in EISD, SAISD, San Antonio, and Texas overall (see Table 4-8 compared to Table 4-6). Among these families, SNAP is the most frequently utilized program (53.7%), followed by WIC (35.8%), SSI (5.0%), and TANF (0.9%).

A significant proportion of Bexar County households and their children rely on public assistance programs such as SNAP, TANF, and WIC. The level of dependence on these programs is even more pronounced among families enrolled in the DHS Head Start Program. This reliance highlights the critical role that food and food-related assistance plays for Bexar County residents, particularly those within the COSA DHS Head Start service area. However, it is important to note that these statistics only reflect those who are eligible, maintain their eligibility, and successfully apply for these benefits. They do not account for the potentially large number of children and families who are eligible but do not apply for or receive these benefits.

Table 4-8 Social Services Utilized by DHS Head Start Families, 2023

	DHS Head Start Families	
	Total	Percent
TANF	29	0.9
SSI	155	5.0
WIC	1,102	35.8
SNAP	1,651	53.7
Total Cumulative Enrolled Families	3,074	100.0
Note: Families may receive assistance from more than one program so totals do not add to 100%. Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023		

Social Services

The prevalence of child abuse and neglect is a significant factor impacting the quality of life for residents in San Antonio and Bexar County. The number and rate of confirmed child abuse cases can provide insight into the need for social services. From Fiscal Year 2014 to 2023, Bexar County experienced a steady decline in the rate of confirmed child abuse victims. Specifically, the rate decreased from 11.1 to 8.4 confirmed victims per 1,000 children. Texas also saw a reduction in this rate, from 9.4 to 7.5 during the same period.

In Bexar County, the most notable decrease was among children aged 6 to 8, with confirmed cases dropping from 975 to fewer than 671—a reduction of approximately 300 cases. This decline may suggest improvements in the overall quality of life for Bexar County and Texas families. However, it is also possible that the decrease reflects a reduction in the reporting of child abuse and neglect cases rather than an actual improvement in conditions.

Table 4-9 Confirmed Victims of Child Abuse/Neglect for Bexar County, FY 2014-2023

	FY 2014		FY 2018		FY 2023	
	Bexar County	Texas	Bexar County	Texas	Bexar County	Texas
Age 0-2	1,783	21,011	2,100	23,062	1,571	19,645
Age 3-5	1,189	14,306	1,122	13,741	936	11,771
Age 6-8	975	11,649	845	10,301	671	8,551
Total Confirmed Victims	5,433	66,551	5,865	66,362	4,675	58,101
Rate of Confirmed Victims per 1,000 Children	11.1	9.4	11.3	9.0	8.4	7.5
Source: Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, 2014, 2018 & 2023. Note: The rate of confirmed victims per 1,000 children is the same by gender and race/ethnicity. Thus, these sections were removed from the chart this year.						

Income and Poverty

Residents in Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs have notably lower incomes compared to the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, and the State of Texas. A higher percentage of households in these districts earn less than \$10,000 annually, with 6.6% in Edgewood ISD and 7.2% in San Antonio ISD, compared to 4.3% in the City, 3.7% in the County, and 3.5% in the State. Conversely, fewer households in these districts earn over \$200,000, with only 1.4% in Edgewood ISD and 3.9% in San Antonio ISD, compared to 7.7% in the City, 10.1% in the County, and 13.5% in the State. The median household income is lower in these districts—\$41,345 in Edgewood ISD and \$50,774 in San Antonio ISD—compared to \$72,452 in the City, \$80,748 in the County, and \$87,594 in Texas. Per capita income is also lower, with Edgewood ISD at \$17,580 and San Antonio ISD at \$24,466, while the City, County, and State report \$31,148, \$33,963, and \$37,514, respectively. Moreover, Edgewood ISD and San Antonio ISD have higher percentages of families with children under 5 living below the poverty threshold—26.0% and 26.7%, respectively—compared to the City (17.9%), County (15.2%), and State (14.4%)..

Table 4-10 Income and Poverty in Selected Geographies, 2018-2022

Geography	Percent of households with less than \$ 10,000 income	Percent of households with more than \$ 200,000 income	Median household income	Per capita income	Percent of all families with related children under 5 whose income is below poverty level
Alamo Heights ISD	1.1	43.9	175,656	82,010	0.0
East Central ISD	3.7	7.7	80,940	30,315	20.7
Edgewood ISD	6.6	1.4	41,345	17,580	26.0
Fort Sam Houston ISD	0.6	10.6	96,250	24,161	13.6
Judson ISD	3.1	5.3	81,505	31,824	15.2
Lackland ISD	6.5	9.4	76,094	23,812	26.2
North East ISD	2.5	13.3	91,442	40,037	13.5
Northside ISD	2.8	11.9	92,637	36,747	10.9
Randolph Field ISD	0.0	9.7	127,875	36,648	0.0
San Antonio ISD	7.2	3.9	50,774	24,466	26.7
South San Antonio ISD	8.4	0.8	53,376	18,612	30.5
Somerset ISD	2.8	6.9	75,128	25,148	13.4
Southside ISD	3.1	1.2	68,903	23,560	4.2
Southwest ISD	4.2	2.6	65,181	22,677	27.2
City of San Antonio	4.3	7.7	72,452	31,148	17.9
Bexar County, Texas	3.7	10.1	80,748	33,963	15.2
Texas	3.5	13.5	87,594	37,514	14.4
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP03.					

Employment

The American Community Survey (ACS) offers insights into the employment characteristics of residents in Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs (see Tables 4-11 and 4-12). Less than 60% of residents in Edgewood ISD (57.9%) and San Antonio ISD (58.8%) are in the labor force, meaning they are either employed or actively seeking employment. This is lower compared to the labor force participation rates in San Antonio (65.8%), Bexar County (66.2%), Texas (65.1%), and the U.S. (63.5%), indicating that a slightly larger proportion of residents in these districts are not in the labor force. The unemployment rates in Edgewood ISD (8.4%) and San Antonio ISD (7.2%) are higher than those in the City (5.9%), County (5.5%), State (5.2%), and Nation (5.3%). Additionally, less than 1% of residents in both ISDs are part of the armed forces.

Table 4-11 Employment Characteristics in Selected School Districts and City of San Antonio, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population 16 years and over	45,330	100.0	240,506	100.0	1,137,897	100.0
In Labor Force	26,234	57.9	141,356	58.8	748,564	65.8
Civilian Labor Force	26,107	57.6	140,295	58.3	737,615	64.8
Employed	23,918	52.8	130,181	54.1	694,269	61.0
Unemployed	2,189	4.8	10,114	4.2	43,346	3.8
Armed Forces	127	0.3	1,061	0.4	10,949	1.0
Not in Labor Force	19,096	42.1	99,150	41.2	389,333	34.2
Own Children under 6 years, all parents in labor force	2,535	50.6	13,636	63.1	68,827	64.0
Unemployment Rate	8.4	-	7.2	-	5.9	-
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP03						

Table 4-12 Employment Characteristics in Bexar County, Texas, and the United States, 2018-2022

	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Population 16 years and over	1,566,254	100.0	22,698,396	100.0	266,411,973	100.0
In Labor Force	1,036,953	66.2	14,784,312	65.1	169,093,585	63.5
Civilian Labor Force	1,014,064	64.7	14,674,135	64.6	167,857,207	63.0
Employed	957,948	61.2	13,908,128	61.3	158,913,204	59.6
Unemployed	56,116	3.6	766,007	3.4	8,944,003	3.4
Armed Forces	22,889	1.5	110,177	0.5	1,236,378	0.5
Not in Labor Force	529,301	33.8	7,914,084	34.9	97,318,388	36.5
Own Children under 6 years, all parents in labor force	97,619	63.3	1,388,145	62.1	14,763,552	67.3
Unemployment Rate	5.5	-	5.2	-	5.3	-
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP03						

As shown in Tables 4-13 and 4-14, workers in Edgewood (69.5%) and San Antonio (70.4%) ISDs are less likely to drive alone to work compared to those in the City (72.2%), County (72.5%), State

(75.1%), and Nation (71.7%). In contrast, a higher percentage of the labor force in these ISDs carpool or use public transportation than in other geographies, with the exception of public transportation use at the national level. Additionally, a smaller proportion of workers in Edgewood ISD (4.4%) and San Antonio ISD (7.0%) work from home compared to the City (9.8%), County (10.7%), State (11.0%), and national (11.7%) levels. Regardless of their primary mode of transportation, workers across all areas have an average commute time of 23-27 minutes.

Table 4-13 Means of Transportation to Work in Selected School Districts, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Workers 16 Years and Older	23,102	100.0	128,741	100.0	690,443	100.0
Drove Alone	16,045	69.5	90,578	70.4	498,278	72.2
Carpooled	4,276	18.5	16,599	12.9	84,120	12.2
Public Transportation	1,000	4.3	5,246	4.1	14,711	2.1
Walked	350	1.5	4,041	3.1	13,333	1.9
Other Means	426	1.8	3,225	2.5	12,569	1.8
Worked at Home	1,005	4.4	9,052	7.0	67,432	9.8
Travel Time to Work	26.6	-	23.3	-	24.5	-
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP03						

Table 4-14 Means of Transportation to Work in Bexar County, Texas, and the United States, 2018-2022

	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Workers 16 Years and Older	960,800	100.0	13,755,352	100.0	156,703,623	100.0
Drove Alone	696,295	72.5	10,327,933	75.1	112,314,702	71.7
Carpooled	110,946	11.5	1,337,464	9.7	13,388,082	8.5
Public Transportation	16,365	1.7	142,353	1.0	5,945,723	3.8
Walked	18,084	1.9	201,384	1.5	3,807,792	2.4
Other Means	16,218	1.7	233,706	1.7	2,930,639	1.9
Worked at Home	102,892	10.7	1,512,512	11.0	18,316,685	11.7
Travel Time to Work	25.7	-	26.6	-	26.7	-
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP03						

Most employees residing in Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs held service occupations, with 28.5% of EISD and 25.3% of SAISD workers employed in these roles, compared to lower percentages in the City (20.1%), County (18.6%), State (16.4%), and Nation (16.8%) (see Tables 4-15). The percentage of workers in sales and office occupations was fairly consistent across all geographies, ranging from 19.0% to 23.5%. However, a smaller proportion of EISD (15.1%) and SAISD (26.5%) workers were employed in management, business, science, and arts occupations compared to the City (34.9%), County (37.5%), State (39.1%), and Nation (41.0%).

In contrast, occupations related to natural resources, construction, and maintenance made up a larger share of employment in EISD (21.9%) and SAISD (14.4%) than in other geographies (8.7% to 10.4%). Additionally, production, transportation, and material moving occupations accounted for a higher percentage of jobs in EISD (15.5%) and SAISD (12.9%) compared to the City (11.4%), County (11.3%), State (12.9%), and Nation (13.1%).

In summary, lower-skilled occupations constituted a larger portion of the workforce in EISD and SAISD than in other geographies, while higher-skilled jobs, which typically offer more benefits and lower risks, were more prevalent in the City, County, State, and Nation. This disparity may be due to unmet needs for education and job training in EISD and SAISD. Enhancing access to education, job training, and employment opportunities could help residents qualify for higher-skilled positions, leading to increased income and benefits for their households..

Table 4-15 Type of Occupation in Selected School Districts and City of San Antonio, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	23,918	100.0	130,181	100.0	694,269	100.0
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	3,614	15.1	34,539	26.5	242,538	34.9
Service occupations	6,825	28.5	32,872	25.3	139,646	20.1
Sales and office occupations	4,533	19.0	27,181	20.9	162,880	23.5
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	5,250	21.9	18,750	14.4	69,878	10.1
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	3,696	15.5	16,839	12.9	79,327	11.4
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP03						

Table 4-16 Type of Occupation in Bexar County, Texas, and the United States, 2018-2022

	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Civilian employed population 16 years and over	957,948	100.0	13,908,128	100.0	158,913,204	100.0
Management, business, science, and arts occupations	359,381	37.5	5,439,313	39.1	65,164,340	41.0
Service occupations	177,740	18.6	2,282,396	16.4	26,632,838	16.8
Sales and office occupations	221,469	23.1	2,947,928	21.2	32,500,088	20.5
Natural resources, construction, and maintenance occupations	91,230	9.5	1,443,024	10.4	13,773,265	8.7
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	108,128	11.3	1,795,467	12.9	20,842,673	13.1
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP03						

Housing

The housing stock in the City of San Antonio (12.1%), Bexar County (17.3%), and Texas (16.8%) features a relatively higher share of new single-family homes (built after 2010) compared to the national average (8.8%). However, the DHS Head Start service areas have a smaller share of new homes, with only 4.0% in EISD and 8.4% in SAISD (see Table 4-17). In contrast, SAISD has the largest share of older housing stock (homes built before 1940) at 19.7%, surpassing all other geographies. Additionally, the vacancy rates in Edgewood ISD (10.1%) and San Antonio ISD (12.5%) are higher than those in the City (8.6%) and County (7.9%).

Homeowners in Edgewood ISD (3.1) and San Antonio ISD (2.8) have larger average household sizes compared to homeowners in other geographies (ranging from 2.7 to 2.9). Renters in Edgewood ISD also have a larger average household size (3.2) than renters elsewhere (ranging from 2.3 to 2.5). The percentage of housing units with no available vehicle is highest in San Antonio ISD (14.0%), followed by Edgewood ISD (12.9%), the City (7.7%), County (6.4%), and State (5.3%). Overcrowding, indicated by more than 1.5 occupants per room, is also most prevalent in EISD (2.3%) and SAISD (2.1%), compared to the City (1.7%), County (1.5%), State (1.5%), and Nation (1.1%).

Median home values are lowest in SAISD (\$95,200) and EISD (\$79,800), significantly below those in the City (\$198,000), County (\$222,300), State (\$238,600), and Nation (\$281,900). Overall, these housing characteristics reflect broader socioeconomic patterns within the population, underscoring that EISD and SAISD residents generally face greater socioeconomic disadvantages.

Table 4-17 Housing Characteristics for Selected School Districts, City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, and the United States, 2018-2022

	Edgewood ISD	San Antonio ISD	City of San Antonio	Bexar County	Texas	United States
Percent of Housing Units Vacant	10.1	12.5	8.6	7.9	10.0	10.8
Percent of Housing Units Built After 2010	4.0	8.4	12.1	17.3	16.8	8.8
Percent of Housing Units Built Before 1940	3.3	19.7	5.3	4.4	3.2	12.0
Percent of Housing Units Renter-occupied	42.2	52.1	48.1	41.3	37.6	35.2
Average Household Size of Owner- occupied Units	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.7
Average Household Size of Renter- occupied Units	3.2	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4
Percent of Housing Units with No Vehicles Available	12.9	14.0	7.7	6.4	5.3	8.3
Percent of Housing Units with More than 1.5 Occupants per Room	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.1
Median Home Value	\$95,200	\$79,800	\$198,000	\$222,300	\$238,000	\$281,900
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, DP04						

Foster Children

The number of foster children in Bexar County is relatively small and has been steadily declining over the past five years. On average, 1,885 children were in paid foster care in Bexar County between fiscal years 2019 and 2023 (see Table 4-18). Within specific areas, an estimated 225 foster children (1.3%) lived in EISD, 1,401 (2.0%) in SAISD, 6,005 (1.7%) in the City of San Antonio, and 8,767 (1.7%) in Bexar County as a whole (see Tables 4-19 and 4-20). These figures encompass all foster children aged 0-17, rather than those specifically eligible for the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership or Head Start Program.

Table 4-18 Monthly Average of Children in Paid Foster Care (0-17 Years), Bexar County, 2019-2023

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	5-Year Average
Number of Children in Foster Care (0-17 Years)*	2,115	2,073	2,039	1,690	1,507	1,885
Number of Children**	506,594	508,130	505,885	508,916	510,639	508,033
Rate per 1,000 children ages 0-17	4.17	4.08	4.03	3.32	2.95	3.71
Note: The number and rate per 1,000 of children, ages 0-17, in foster care. Source: *Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. ** Census Bureau Population Estimate – 2023 Vintage. Footnotes: The term foster care refers to care given to children under the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services' (DFPS) legal responsibility who are placed in foster homes, foster group homes, institutions, residential treatment facilities, juvenile facilities, and who are in a placement paid by DFPS or some other public facility.						

Table 4-19 Number of Children (Under 18) by Relationship to Head of Household, Selected School Districts and City of San Antonio, 2018-2022

Geography	Edgewood ISD		San Antonio ISD		City of San Antonio	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	17,106	100.0	70,261	100.0	347,120	100.0
Own child	11,980	70.0	54,021	76.9	287,973	83.0
Grandchild	3,983	23.3	12,546	17.9	42,995	12.4
Other relatives	918	5.4	2,293	3.3	10,147	2.9
Foster child or other unrelated child	225	1.3	1,401	2.0	6,005	1.7
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B09018						

Table 4-20 Number of Children (Under 18) by Relationship to Head of Household, Selected School Districts, 2018-2022

Geography	Bexar County		Texas		United States	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total	503,684	100.0	7,377,744	100.0	73,025,646	100.0
Own child	425,365	84.5	6,433,447	87.2	64,085,302	87.8
Grandchild	55,540	11.0	649,076	8.8	5,819,998	8.0
Other relatives	14,012	2.8	199,577	2.7	1,824,973	2.5
Foster child or other unrelated child	8,767	1.7	95,644	1.3	1,295,373	1.8
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B09018						

Between 2018 and 2022, foster children accounted for a very small percentage of the household population in Edgewood ISD (0.03%) and San Antonio ISD (0.06%) (see Table 4-21). These proportions were lower than those in the City of San Antonio (0.11%), Bexar County (0.09%), Texas (0.08%), and the nation (0.09%) (see Tables 4-21 and 4-22). According to Texas Education Agency (TEA) data for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, approximately 86 foster children were estimated to live in San Antonio ISD, while fewer than 10 foster children resided in Edgewood ISD (see Table 4-23). Both districts had a smaller share of foster students (< 0.11% in EISD and 0.14% in SAISD) compared to the state share of 0.21%. Overall, less than one percent of enrolled students in these service areas were in the foster care system, consistent with Census ACS data from Tables 4-19 and 4-20, which combined foster children with other unrelated children.

Table 4-21 Children's Relationship to the Household, Selected School Districts and City of San Antonio, 2018-2022

Geography	Edgewood ISD	San Antonio ISD	City of San Antonio
Total Population	60,157	303,738	1,445,662
In households	59,801	292,133	1,421,460
Child:	21,416	89,602	443,676
Biological child	20,567	84,588	413,413
Adopted child	275	1,974	9,786
Stepchild	574	3,040	20,477
Grandchild	4,928	16,728	55,026
Nonrelatives: Foster child	17	188	1,595
Foster child %	0.03%	0.06%	0.11%
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B09019			

Table 4-22 Children's Relationship to the Household by Type of Household, Bexar County, Texas, and United States, 2018-2022

Geography	Bexar County	Texas	United States
Total Population	2,014,059	29,243,342	331,097,593
In households	1,979,747	28,634,506	322,994,302
Child:	637,843	9,219,154	94,862,942
Biological child	591,357	8,607,643	88,824,358
Adopted child	15,183	192,584	2,111,774
Stepchild	31,303	418,927	3,926,810
Grandchild	70,522	834,950	7,741,535
Nonrelatives: Foster child	1,816	21,778	282,384
Foster child %	0.09%	0.08%	0.09%
Note: Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B09019			

Table 4-23 Foster Care Students, Selected Districts, 2023-2024

District	Total Foster Care Students	Total Enrollment	Percent Foster Students
EISD	<10	7,930	<0.11
SAISD	86	44,670	0.19
Texas	11,497	5,531,236	0.21
Source: Texas Education Agency, Student Program Reports, 2023-2024			

Children with Disabilities

The Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) administers Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) programs for Texas families with children aged 0-3 who have disabilities and developmental delays. In Bexar County, three ECI programs served 7,761 children in FY 2022, representing 5.95% of the county's 0-3 year old population (see Table 4-24). This is notably higher than the state average of 3.79% for the same age group, highlighting a greater need for and reliance on special needs services for young children in Bexar County.

Table 4-24 ECI Enrollment for Bexar County and Texas*, FY 2022

Geography	Birth-to-3 Population	Total Children Served	Percent of Population Served
Bexar County	130,524	7,761	5.95%
Texas	1,757,864	66,621	3.79%
*Note: Bexar County area is serviced by three Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) centers, which are the Easter Seals Rehabilitation Center, the Center for Health Care Services, and the Brighton Center. Source: Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Early Childhood Intervention, 2022.			

In the 2023 program year, the COSA DHS Head Start Programs served approximately 527 children with disabilities, representing 15.8% of the total enrolled students. The most common disability was speech and language impairments, affecting 296 children (8.9%). Other frequent disabilities included non-categorical developmental delays (122 children, 3.7%) and autism (78 children, 2.3%) (see Table 4-25). All children identified with a primary disability received special services through the DHS Head Start Programs.

Table 4-25 Number of Children Served by DHS Head Start by Disability, 2023

Disability	Number with Disability	Percent with Disability	Number Receiving Special Services	Percent Receiving Special Services
Health Impairment	18	0.54%	18	0.54%
Emotional Disturbance	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Speech Impairment	296	8.86%	296	8.86%
Intellectual Disabilities	5	0.15%	5	0.15%
Hearing Impairment	2	0.06%	2	0.06%
Orthopedic Impairment	4	0.12%	4	0.12%
Visual Impairment	1	0.03%	1	0.03%
Specific Learning Disabilities	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Autism	78	2.33%	78	2.33%
Traumatic Brain Injury	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Non-Categorical/ Developmental Delay	122	3.65%	122	3.65%
Multiple Disabilities (excluding Deaf-blind)	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Deaf-blind	1	0.03%	1	0.03%
Total Cumulative Enrollment	3,341	100.00%	3,341	100.00%
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023				

Estimated Number of Children with a Disability by Type

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) provides data on school-age children enrolled in special education (see Table 4-26). For the 2023-2024 school year, the most prevalent disabilities among students in Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs were other health impairments, learning disabilities, and speech impairments. These three categories account for over two-thirds of the primary disabilities reported in these districts: 794 out of 1,174 in EISD and 5,158 out of 7,304 in SAISD. It is important to note that these figures represent primary disabilities and include all ages, not just children eligible for Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) or Head Start.

To better understand the needs of children under age five, age-specific disability rates were estimated for children aged 0 to 2 and 3 to 4 (see Table 4-27). This estimation suggests that approximately 2,114 children aged 0 to 2 and 1,716 children aged 3 to 4 in Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs have special needs, totaling 3,830 children. However, these numbers may be overestimates, as disability rates typically increase with age due to better identification and diagnosis.

Table 4-26 Disability Counts by School District, 2023-2024

School District	Orthopedic Impairment	Other Health Impairment	Auditory Impairment	Visual Impairment	Deaf/Blind	Intellectual Disability	Emotional Disturbance	Learning Disability	Speech Impairment	Autism	Developmental Disabilities	Traumatic Brain Injury	Non-categorical Early Childhood	Total**
Edgewood ISD	2*	216	10	2*	0	195	40	332	246	112	0	2*	17	1,174
San Antonio ISD	31	792	47	20	2*	570	461	3,115	1,251	859	0	2*	154	7,304
Note: * Indicates numbers that have been masked to comply with FERPA ** Total refers to an estimate number of students with at least one disability and FERPA masked values are added as 2 Source: Texas Education Agency, PEIMS Standard Reports, Special Education Reports, 2023-2024														

Table 4-27 Estimated Number of Age-Eligible Children with Disabilities by School District, Bexar County, 2022-2023

District	Enrolled Students 2023-2024*	Students with Disabilities 2023-2024*	Percent of Population that is Disabled	Children Aged 0 to 2 Years, 2018-2022**	Estimated Number of 0 to 2 Year Old Children with Disabilities	Children Aged 3 and 4 Years, 2018-2022**	Estimated Number of 3 and 4 Year Old Children with Disabilities
Edgewood ISD	7,930	1,174	14.8	2,517	373	1,884	279
San Antonio ISD	44,670	7,304	16.4	10,646	1,741	8,791	1,437
					2,114		1,716
Source: *Texas Education Agency, Student Program Reports, 2023-2024 **U.S. Census Bureau, 2018-2022 American Community Survey, B09001 Note: Estimated Number of Children is calculated by multiplying the exact, unrounded percentage of disability with the number of age-eligible children provided by the ACS.							

Homeless Children

In the 2023 program year, the COSA DHS Head Start Program served 282 families experiencing homelessness (217 in Head Start and 65 in Early Head Start), representing 9.2% of the families served (8.0% in Head Start and 18.3% in Early Head Start). This rate is higher compared to 4.4% of families served by Head Start Programs in Bexar County (excluding COSA DHS) and 4.9% across the State (see Tables 4-28, 4-29, and 4-30). Thus, the COSA DHS Head Start Program has a larger share of homeless families compared to the averages in Bexar County and Texas.

Data from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) indicates that 1.8% of students in Edgewood ISD and 4.0% in San Antonio ISD experience homelessness, higher than the State proportion of 1.4% (see Table 4-31). These figures encompass all students aged 0-17, meaning the numbers for Head Start-eligible children (aged 0-5) are likely smaller. Therefore, only a portion of the total 1,908 homeless students in these school districts are likely age- and income-eligible for the DHS Head Start programs.

Table 4-28 Enrolled Families Experiencing Homelessness, 2023

	Head Start		Early Head Start	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Number of Families	2,719	100.0	355	100.0
Number of Families Experiencing Homelessness Served	217	8.0	65	18.3
Families Experiencing Homelessness that Acquired Housing	40	18.4	11	16.9
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Performance Indicator Report (PIR), 2023				

Table 4-29 Enrolled Families Experiencing Homelessness in Bexar County, 2023

	Head Start		Early Head Start	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Number of Families	3,426	100.0	1,304	100.0
Number of Families Experiencing Homelessness Served	104	3.0	104	8.0
Families Experiencing Homelessness that Acquired Housing	21	20.2	20	19.2
Note: These numbers include counts from local Head Start providers in Bexar County, excluding the City of San Antonio. Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Performance Indicator Report (PIR), 2023				

Table 4-30 Enrolled Families Experiencing Homelessness in Texas, 2023

	Head Start		Early Head Start	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Number of Families	50,438	100.0	15,226	100.0
Number of Families Experiencing Homelessness Served	2,158	4.3	1,028	6.8
Families Experiencing Homelessness that Acquired Housing	485	18.4	239	23.2
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Performance Indicator Report (PIR), 2023				

Table 4-31 Homeless Students in DHS Head Start Service Area and Texas, 2023-2024

District	Total Homeless Students	Total Enrollment	% of Homeless Students
Edgewood ISD	140	7,930	1.8
San Antonio ISD	1,768	44,670	4.0
Combined School Districts	1,908	52,600	3.6
Texas	77,942	5,531,236	1.4
Source: Texas Education Agency, Student Program Reports, 2023-2024			

5. Eligibility Estimates

Method Used to Estimate Age and Income Eligibility

For the COSA DHS Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP), Early Head Start (EHS), and Head Start (HS) eligibility estimates in Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs, the report now relies solely on U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey data. This decision was made due to the discontinuation of sub-county level vital statistics by the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, which previously supported estimates using the Vital Statistics Method.

U.S. Census Bureau Method

For age-income eligibility estimates, the population of children under 5 years old in 2022 is sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2022 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year estimates. Specific figures for children aged 0 to 2 years and 3 to 4 years are derived from ACS table B09001 for each geography. The percentage of children under 5 years living in poverty is also obtained from the ACS (2018-2022 5-year sample). This percentage is applied uniformly to both age groups (0-2 and 3-4 years) to estimate the number of children eligible for Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership and Head Start programs.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Tables 5-1 and 5-2 highlight a substantial gap in the availability of Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start (HS) slots compared to the number of age- and income-eligible children within the COSA DHS service area. Specifically, there is an estimated shortfall of 2,590 slots for EHS, with 2,931 eligible children and only 341 currently enrolled. Similarly, for HS, there is a deficit of approximately 1,509 slots, given that there are 4,555 eligible children and 3,046 enrolled.

Additional context is provided in Tables 5-3 and 5-4, which detail the number of age- and income-eligible children in Edgewood ISD (EISD), San Antonio ISD (SAISD), and surrounding districts. The data suggest that SAISD, in collaboration with the COSA DHS Head Start administration, has the largest number of age- and income-eligible children for both the Early Head Start and Head Start programs compared to other school districts in Bexar County. This highlights a significant need for early childhood education services in SAISD, indicating that targeted expansion and support in this district could address a substantial portion of the demand for these programs.

Despite these significant deficits shown in Table 5-1 and 5-2, several factors may alleviate the perceived need. During the 2023-2024 school year, San Antonio school districts provided pre-kindergarten and early education services to over 18,000 children (see Table 6-3), including 808 in EISD and 4,250 in SAISD. Additionally, local childcare facilities offered capacity for 8,023 children aged 0-2 years and 10,335 children aged 3-4 years (see Table 6-1 and 6-2). Pre-K 4 SA

also enrolled 394 children from EISD and SAISD combined (see Table 6-4). Moreover, other Head Start programs in Bexar County (excluding the COSA DHS Head Start Program) served over 1,448 Early Head Start and 3,663 Head Start children (see Table 6-5).

These figures suggest that while there may be adequate services for children aged 3-4 years, there is a pronounced need for additional Early Head Start slots. The existing resources, including the EHS-CCP Expansion grant, have partially mitigated this issue, but challenges such as low enrollment in early education programs, limited awareness among families, and affordability issues persist. With approximately 2,590 age- and income-eligible children (see Table 5-1) not currently served, further expansion of Early Head Start programs appears necessary to better address the needs of children aged 0-2 years in the service area.

Table 5-1 Estimates of Age and Income Eligible Children by Zip code for Children 0-2 Years of Age, Program Year 2023

	Population of 0 to 2 Year Old Children*	Estimated % of Children Under 5 Years Old Living Below Poverty*	Estimated Number of Children 0 to 2 Years Old Living Below Poverty	Funded Enrollment by ISD (2023)**	Estimated % of 0 to 2 Year Old Children Enrolled in EHS	Estimated % of Income Eligible 0 to 2 Year Olds Enrolled in EHS	Estimated Number of Income Eligible 0 to 2 Year Olds Not Being Served by EHS
EHS Service Area	5,984	49.7	2,931	341	5.7	11.6	2,590
78202	243	57.1	139				
78203	270	23.9	65				
78204	466	13.8	65				
78205	0	49.7	0				
78207	2,031	62.8	1,275				
78208	217	79.2	172				
78210	1,375	45.1	620				
78237	1,382	43.1	596				
*American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Sample B09001 & B17001 ** Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023							

Table 5-2 Estimates of Age and Income Eligible Children by District for Children 3-4 Years of Age, Program Year 2023

	Population of 3 and 4 Year Old Children*	Estimated % of Children Under 5 Years Old Living Below Poverty*	Estimated Number of 3 and 4 Year Old Children Living Under Poverty	Funded Enrollment by ISD (2023)**	Estimated % of 3 and 4 Year Old Children Enrolled in HS	Estimated % of Income Eligible 3 and 4 Year Old Children Enrolled in HS	Estimated Number of Income Eligible 3 and 4 Year Olds Not Being Served by HS
Edgewood ISD	1,884	44.2	832	777	41.2	93.4	55
San Antonio ISD	8,791	42.3	3,723	2,269	25.8	61.0	1,454
Total	10,675	42.7	4,555	3,046	28.5	66.9	1,509
*American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Sample B09001 & B17001 **Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023							

Table 5-3 Estimates of Age and Income Eligible Children by District, Children 0-2 Years, 2022

School Districts	Population of 0 to 2 Year Old Children*	Estimated % of Children Under 5 Years Old Living Below Poverty**	Estimated Number of 0 to 2 Year Old Children Living Under Poverty
Alamo Heights ISD	612	0.0	0
East Central ISD	2,957	23.7	700
Edgewood ISD	2,517	44.2	1,112
Fort Sam Houston ISD	184	18.1	33
Harlandale ISD	1,860	30.5	567
Judson ISD	5,575	15.8	882
Lackland ISD	180	14.7	27
North East ISD	14,641	22.8	3,333
Northside ISD	26,108	13.6	3,538
Randolph Field ISD	42	0.0	0
San Antonio ISD	10,646	42.3	4,508
South San Antonio	2,058	27.4	565
Somerset ISD	714	14.1	101
Southside ISD	1,342	30.6	411
Southwest ISD	2,939	22.1	650
* American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Sample, B09001			
** American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Sample, B17001			

Table 5-4 Estimates of Age and Income Eligible Children by District, Children 3-4 Years, 2022

School Districts	Population of 3 and 4 Year Old Children*	Estimated % of Children Under 5 Years Old Living Below Poverty**	Estimated Number of 3 and 4 Year Old Children Living Under Poverty
Alamo Heights ISD	691	0.0	0
East Central ISD	1,807	23.7	427
Edgewood ISD	1,884	44.2	832
Fort Sam Houston ISD	186	18.1	34
Harlandale ISD	1,688	30.5	515
Judson ISD	4,302	15.8	681
Lackland ISD	105	14.7	15
North East ISD	11,379	22.8	2,591
Northside ISD	19,720	13.6	2,673
Randolph Field ISD	41	0.0	0
San Antonio ISD	8,791	42.3	3,723
South San Antonio	1,687	27.4	463
Somerset ISD	436	14.1	61
Southside ISD	875	30.6	268
Southwest ISD	2,355	22.1	521
* American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Sample, B09001			
** American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Sample, B17001			

Projections from the Texas Demographic Center (TDC) indicate that the demand for Early Head Start (EHS) and Head Start (HS) services in Bexar County will continue to grow through 2033, driven by the increasing population of young children. This anticipated growth is in line with the rising share of minority populations in the county and the corresponding increase in age- and income-eligible children for these programs (see Tables 5-5 and 5-6). As outlined in Table 5-7, addressing the need for Early Head Start services will be especially crucial, given the projected rise in age- and income-eligible children by 2033. This trend highlights the urgent need to expand and adapt early childhood education services to meet the evolving demands of Bexar County's growing and diverse population.

Table 5-5 Projected Bexar County Population, by Race: Ages 0-2 Years, 2023-2033

Year	Total	% NH White	% NH Black	% Hispanic	% NH Asian	% NH Other
2023	98,774	18.9	6.1	69.0	2.9	3.0
2024	100,062	18.7	6.2	69.1	3.0	3.0
2025	101,275	18.5	6.2	69.1	3.1	3.1
2026	102,407	18.2	6.3	69.1	3.2	3.1
2027	103,460	18.0	6.3	69.2	3.3	3.2
2028	104,439	17.8	6.4	69.2	3.4	3.2
2029	105,356	17.5	6.4	69.2	3.6	3.3
2030	106,236	17.3	6.4	69.2	3.7	3.3
2031	107,114	17.1	6.5	69.2	3.8	3.4
2032	108,009	17.0	6.5	69.2	3.9	3.4
2033	108,945	16.8	6.5	69.2	4.0	3.5
Source: Texas State Data Center, Texas Population Projections for 2010-2050, 2018						

Table 5-6 Projected Bexar County Population, by Race: Ages 3-4 Years, 2023-2033

Year	Total	% NH White	% NH Black	% Hispanic	% NH Asian	% NH Other
2023	65,098	19.7	6.1	68.3	3.0	2.9
2024	66,080	19.5	6.2	68.3	3.1	2.9
2025	67,021	19.2	6.2	68.3	3.2	3.0
2026	67,914	19.0	6.3	68.4	3.3	3.0
2027	68,748	18.8	6.3	68.4	3.4	3.1
2028	69,521	18.5	6.4	68.5	3.5	3.1
2029	70,241	18.3	6.4	68.5	3.6	3.2
2030	70,917	18.0	6.4	68.5	3.8	3.2
2031	71,540	17.8	6.5	68.5	3.9	3.3
2032	72,123	17.6	6.5	68.5	4.0	3.3
2033	72,690	17.4	6.6	68.5	4.1	3.4
Source: Texas State Data Center, Texas Population Projections for 2010-2050, 2018						

Table 5-7 Projected Number of Bexar County Age- and Income-Eligible Children: 0-2 and 3-4 Years Old, Bexar County, 2023-2033

Year	Projected number of 0 to 2 years old Children	Projected number of age and income eligible children for Early Head Start	Projected number of 3 to 4 years old Children	Projected number of age and income eligible children for Head Start
2023	98,774	21,834	65,098	14,390
2024	100,062	22,118	66,080	14,607
2025	101,275	22,387	67,021	14,815
2026	102,407	22,637	67,914	15,012
2027	103,460	22,870	68,748	15,197
2028	104,439	23,086	69,521	15,367
2029	105,356	23,289	70,241	15,527
2030	106,236	23,483	70,917	15,676
2031	107,114	23,677	71,540	15,814
2032	108,009	23,875	72,123	15,943
2033	108,945	24,082	72,690	16,068
<p>Note: The Bexar County poverty rate for Related Children Under 5 Years is 22.1% (5-Year American Community Survey, 2018-2022, B09001 & B17001. Estimates from survey data have associated sampling error not presented in this table. Source: Texas Demographic Center, Texas Population Projections for 2010-2050, 2018</p>				

6. Social Services

Health

San Antonio Metropolitan Health District's (Metro Health) Immunization Division implements the Immunization Outreach, Education, and Partnership program (IOEP) to reduce missed vaccine opportunities, enhance vaccination rates, and decrease vaccine-preventable diseases within the community (Metropolitan Health District, Outreach & Education, 2024). The IOEP program is dedicated to providing educational presentations to the community and local schools, attending health/resource fairs, and participating in conferences and lectures. Targeting under-immunized communities through the Texas Vaccines for Children and Adult Safety Net programs, the IOEP program works to establish diverse partnerships throughout the city to increase vaccine awareness and improve vaccination rates in underserved populations.

The IOEP program also facilitates the Immunize San Antonio (IZSA) Coalition, which promotes immunizations across diverse populations through collaboration and education. The coalition strives for a community where all residents are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases. Educational services are delivered through three outreach programs: Infant/Childhood, Adolescent/Adult, and the Immunization/Women Infant and Children (WIC) Linkage. The WIC Linkage program specifically focuses on increasing immunization coverage among WIC clients and children from birth through five years of age, using immunization assessments, reminders, provider referrals, and targeted education efforts. The program also conducts reminder/recall activities for WIC clients who are behind on their immunizations.

In addition to IOEP, Metro Health has established the Healthy Neighborhoods Program, which targets inner-city neighborhoods with the goal of reducing health disparities (COSA Healthy Neighborhoods 2024). A health worker or *promotora* is assigned to each of the eleven neighborhoods to identify and collaborate with community resident leaders. These leaders form resident leadership teams and, alongside a community health worker, engage in community asset mapping to identify local resources such as individuals, agencies, and physical assets. This process helps develop tailored health asset assessments and action plans for each neighborhood. Additionally, residents passionate about healthy eating and active living receive support and resources from Metro Health to plan and implement evidence-based childhood obesity prevention strategies at the neighborhood level.

Restoring oral health in children is a crucial focus of Metro Health's dental projects. Program staff collaborate closely with parents and caregivers to connect children to essential dental treatments, including those who are uninsured or underinsured. One of the key initiatives under this effort is the Miles of Smiles (MOS) program, which provides limited oral evaluations, fluoride treatments,

and sealants at participating elementary schools (Metro Health Dental Services, 2024). This program specifically targets unmet dental needs among children, particularly those lacking adequate insurance coverage for necessary care.

In addition to the MOS program, Metro Health administers Head Start/Early Head Start Oral Health Services, which operates within four Head Start (HS) programs. These services include limited oral evaluations, fluoride varnish applications, and oral health education for young children. The program also extends its reach by providing oral health assessments for community groups and hosting educational fairs focused on oral health. A critical aspect of this initiative is linking children in need of urgent dental care—who may not have a regular dental provider—with service providers who can offer the necessary care at little or no cost.

In addition to Metro Health, Bexar County Health Collaborative manages the Pathways to Coverage Program, a collaborative initiative designed to address broader healthcare needs (Bexar County Health Collaborative Website, 2024). This program partners with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Certified & Government-Funded Navigators to provide free, year-round assistance with marketplace health plan enrollment and education to individuals across Bexar, Atascosa, DeWitt, Karnes, Uvalde, and Wilson counties. The program primarily focuses on populations that are largely uninsured and medically underserved, aiming to reduce significant healthcare disparities in these communities.

Through these initiatives, Metro Health and the Bexar County Health Collaborative demonstrate a comprehensive approach to improving public health. By addressing both oral health and broader healthcare access, particularly in underserved and at-risk communities, they are enhancing immunization rates, reducing health disparities, and promoting healthy living across the region.

Nutrition

The San Antonio Food Bank (SAFB) plays a vital role in addressing food insecurity across Southwest Texas. Serving a vast 29-county area, SAFB provides food and grocery products to over 600 non-profit organization partners, distributing millions of pounds of food to more than 100,000 individuals each week (San Antonio Food Bank, 2024). In FY 2023, SAFB made a significant impact by distributing over 91.5 million pounds of food to vulnerable populations within these communities. The SAFB's mission is to combat hunger through food distribution programs, education, and advocacy.

SAFB's efforts are particularly crucial for children and seniors. Approximately 35% of their clients are children under the age of 18, underscoring the importance of their services in ensuring that

young people have access to nutritious food. For seniors, the situation is often dire, with many forced to choose between purchasing food and medicine due to limited income. The SAFB also serves households with at least one working adult, highlighting the ongoing issue of food insecurity among the working poor. Among the most vulnerable groups they serve are single parents, veterans, and homeless individuals, who rely heavily on SAFB's resources to meet their basic needs.

Complementing these efforts is the City of San Antonio's FitCitySA.com initiative, guided by the Mayor's Fitness Council (MFC), which focuses on improving the health and fitness of San Antonio's residents (Fit City SA website, 2024). The MFC is a community-wide movement aimed at reducing obesity and transforming San Antonio into a healthier, more active city. One of the key initiatives under this movement is the Healthy School Meals Initiative, led by the MFC's Healthy School Committee. This initiative is dedicated to enhancing nutrition and physical activity in schools across San Antonio.

The Healthy School Meals Initiative works closely with school districts to provide training, tools, and resources focused on improving the nutritional quality of school meals. The initiative promotes innovative approaches to nutritious meals and works to increase access to fruits and vegetables for students. Research has shown that children significantly increase their consumption of fruits and vegetables when they have access to a school salad bar, a key component of the initiative's strategy. By focusing on school meals, the initiative aims to create healthier eating habits that can last a lifetime.

Together, the San Antonio Food Bank and the FitCitySA initiative, along with the Mayor's Fitness Council, are making significant strides in addressing food insecurity and promoting healthier lifestyles in San Antonio. These efforts are crucial in ensuring that vulnerable populations, especially children and seniors, have access to nutritious food and that the broader community is encouraged to adopt healthier habits.

Child Abuse and Neglect

Texas Child Protective Services (CPS) is a crucial component of the state's efforts to protect children and support families. CPS becomes involved with children and families when they are referred by the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) Investigations division. This division is responsible for investigating allegations of child abuse and neglect. CPS provides a range of services, including in-home support for children and families, foster care placement, and services designed to help youth in foster care transition successfully to adulthood. Additionally, CPS facilitates adoption for children who cannot safely remain in their homes.

Child Protective Investigations (CPI), a subset of CPS, plays a key role in examining reports of child abuse or neglect. Their work involves determining whether any child in the family has been abused or neglected, and they often collaborate with law enforcement on joint investigations. CPI takes custody of children who are deemed unsafe in their current environments, refers children and families to community resources that promote safety and well-being, and actively participates in the fight against human trafficking.

In addition to CPS, several organizations in San Antonio work to support victims of abuse and violence. Family Violence Prevention Services, Inc. (FVPS) / the Battered Women and Children's Shelter (BWCS) have been instrumental in helping victims of domestic violence since 1977 (Family Violence Prevention Services, Inc., About Us, 2024). Originally established as an emergency shelter for women and children, FVPS now offers a comprehensive range of services. These include shelter, transitional housing, counseling, and legal services aimed at helping individuals and families recover from the trauma of domestic violence. The organization also operates a 24-hour hotline, providing immediate assistance, crisis intervention, and referrals to other necessary services. FVPS extends its support through comprehensive case management, individual counseling, emergency food and clothing, legal advocacy, and access to primary medical and dental care.

ChildSafe, another critical organization in Bexar County, serves as a children's advocacy center dedicated to helping children traumatized by abuse and neglect (ChildSafe, About Us, 2024). As the only nonprofit in Bexar County that coordinates efforts across child protection, law enforcement, family advocacy, medical, and mental health professionals, ChildSafe plays a unique role in addressing the needs of children and adolescents who have suffered from sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, neglect, or exploitation. The services provided by ChildSafe include medical referrals, family support specialists, and counseling. Between 2022 and 2023, ChildSafe served an average of 478 clients per month, totaling 5,733 clients, and provided training to 5,365 individuals. The organization strives to create a safe, child-friendly environment that facilitates healing for both the child and their family. ChildSafe also works to remove barriers to investigation and treatment, enhancing criminal prosecution through a multidisciplinary approach to complex child abuse cases.

These organizations, in conjunction with CPS, form a comprehensive network of support and intervention for vulnerable children and families in Texas. Their collaborative efforts are essential in providing safety, healing, and justice for those affected by abuse and violence.

Housing

San Antonio and Bexar County are served by a variety of housing assistance programs that address the diverse needs of the community. Opportunity Home San Antonio, formerly known as

the San Antonio Housing Authority, is one of the leading providers of these services. This organization offers housing through programs such as Public Housing, Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers, and Mixed-Income Housing. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life for residents by providing affordable, high-quality housing and fostering sustainable, thriving communities.

Opportunity Home San Antonio, formerly known as the San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) has significantly impacted the community, offering housing assistance to over 62,500 individuals, including adults, children, and senior citizens. The agency operates with a substantial annual budget of \$200 million and manages real estate assets valued at over \$500 million. The organization is notable for its focus on vulnerable populations; nearly half (46%) of those served are under 18, 94% of the families are single-parent households, and more than half (52%) of the heads of households are elderly or disabled. The agency manages 6,070 public housing units across 74 properties, administers 13,789 Housing Choice Vouchers, and provides 4,270 mixed-income units through its nonprofit entities and partnerships (Opportunity Home San Antonio, About Us, 2024).

In addition to the services provided by Opportunity Home San Antonio, the Housing Authority of Bexar County (HABC) also offers various programs tailored to meet the needs of the local population (Housing Authority of Bexar County, HABC Programs, 2024). The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program, the government's primary program to assist low-income households, is a central component of HABC's offerings. The program helps eligible families afford safe and sanitary housing, with eligibility determined by total annual income, family size, and assets. HABC also administers several specialized programs, including:

- **Mainstream Vouchers:** These assist non-elderly persons with disabilities, following the same rules as other housing choice vouchers but with separate funding.
- **Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV):** Initiated under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, this program aims to reduce homelessness by subsidizing rent for families referred by the South Alamo Regional Alliance for the Homeless (SARAH).
- **Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program:** A voluntary five-year program allowing residents to build savings in an escrow account as their income increases, which they can access upon program completion.
- **HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program:** This program provides rental assistance combined with case management and clinical services for homeless veterans, who are screened by the VA and referred to HABC.
- **Foster Youth Initiative (FYI) Program:** This program supports youth with a history of child welfare involvement who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, offering targeted housing choice vouchers in partnership with public child welfare agencies.

- **Energy Assistance Programs:** These programs help low-income households reduce their home energy costs, with priority given to elderly individuals, persons with disabilities, and households with young children.

Beyond these programs, Bexar County also offers the HOME Investment Partnership Program, which was created under the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. The HOME Program focuses on expanding affordable housing options for low- and very-low-income families and individuals by constructing new housing, rehabilitating existing housing, and improving sites for development. Additionally, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), supports local governments in providing affordable housing, essential services to vulnerable populations, and job creation through business expansion and retention efforts.

These various housing programs administered by the City of San Antonio and Bexar County collectively demonstrate a robust commitment to addressing housing needs in San Antonio and Bexar County, particularly among the most vulnerable populations.

Homeless Population

Opportunity Home San Antonio reports significant growth in programs aimed at reducing homelessness in the city. The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program, offered by Opportunity Home, includes special initiatives such as the Set Aside Homeless Voucher Program (SHVP). This program provides voucher assistance to homeless individuals through a collaborative referral process, with case management and supportive services offered by the Center for Health Care Services (CHCS) and San Antonio Metropolitan Ministries (SAMB). Once referred to Opportunity Home, applicants' information is verified for accuracy and eligibility.

In addition to Opportunity Home, Bexar County's Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program is designed to identify both sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals, as well as those at risk of homelessness, and provide the necessary services to help them regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis or homelessness. The ESG program funds essential services for shelter residents, rapidly re-houses homeless individuals and families, and prevents others from becoming homeless. It also aims to curb the rise in homelessness through the support of preventive programs and services.

Beyond government agencies, Haven for Hope, a non-profit organization in downtown San Antonio, also provides critical services for the homeless population. Haven for Hope addresses the root causes of homelessness through education, job training, and behavioral health services. The organization has 75 partners (43 on-campus partners, 26 referral partners, and 6 community

partners) that offer access to various services, including counseling, education programs, life skills training, and legal services. Haven for Hope serves as a place of hope and new beginnings for people in Bexar County experiencing homelessness. The organization operates two major programs: the Courtyard and the Transformational Campus. The Courtyard is a low-barrier, safe sleeping program offering shelter, basic needs, and access to numerous resources, while the Transformational Campus provides services and shelter with a focus on addressing the root causes of homelessness.

Childcare

In 2024, there were approximately 600 licensed childcare facilities serving children aged 0 to 2 and 3 to 4 in Bexar County. Most of the county's childcare capacity is concentrated in the northern and northwestern regions, with notably fewer centers in the central, southern, and eastern areas (see Figures 6-1 and 6-2). Additionally, childcare facilities in the northern and northwestern regions tend to have larger capacities, often exceeding 150 enrollment slots, to better accommodate the needs of families requiring childcare services. In contrast, the central and southern regions of the city have fewer available childcare facilities, and those that do exist generally have smaller capacities (fewer than 150 enrollment slots). This disparity highlights the significant need for additional childcare services for families residing in these areas, particularly within school districts located in central and southern San Antonio, including the service area of the COSA DHS Head Start Program (see Figures 6-3 and 6-4).

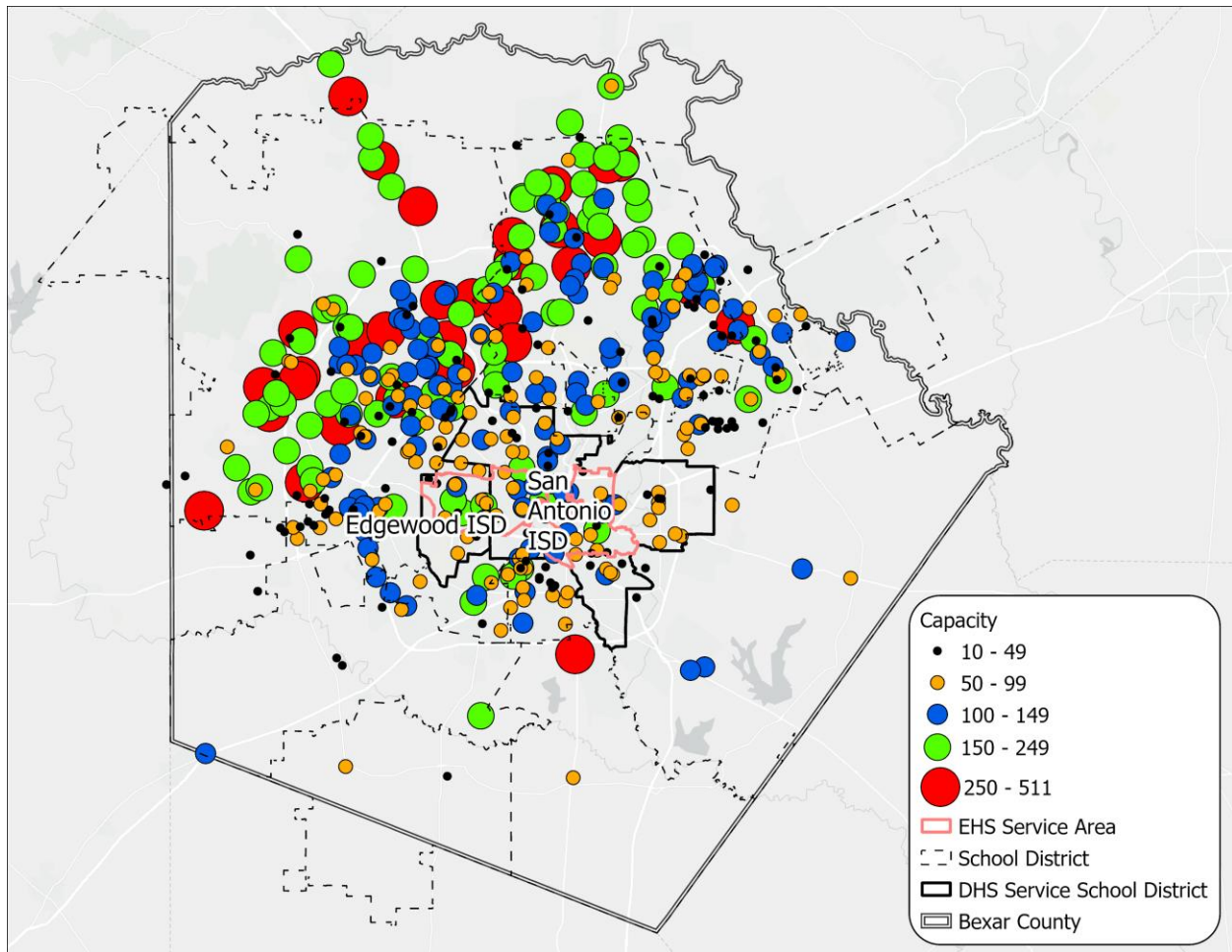


Figure 6-1 Licensed Childcare Facilities that Accept Children Aged 0 to 2 by Capacity, Bexar County, 2024

Source: Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Custom Childcare Search, 2024

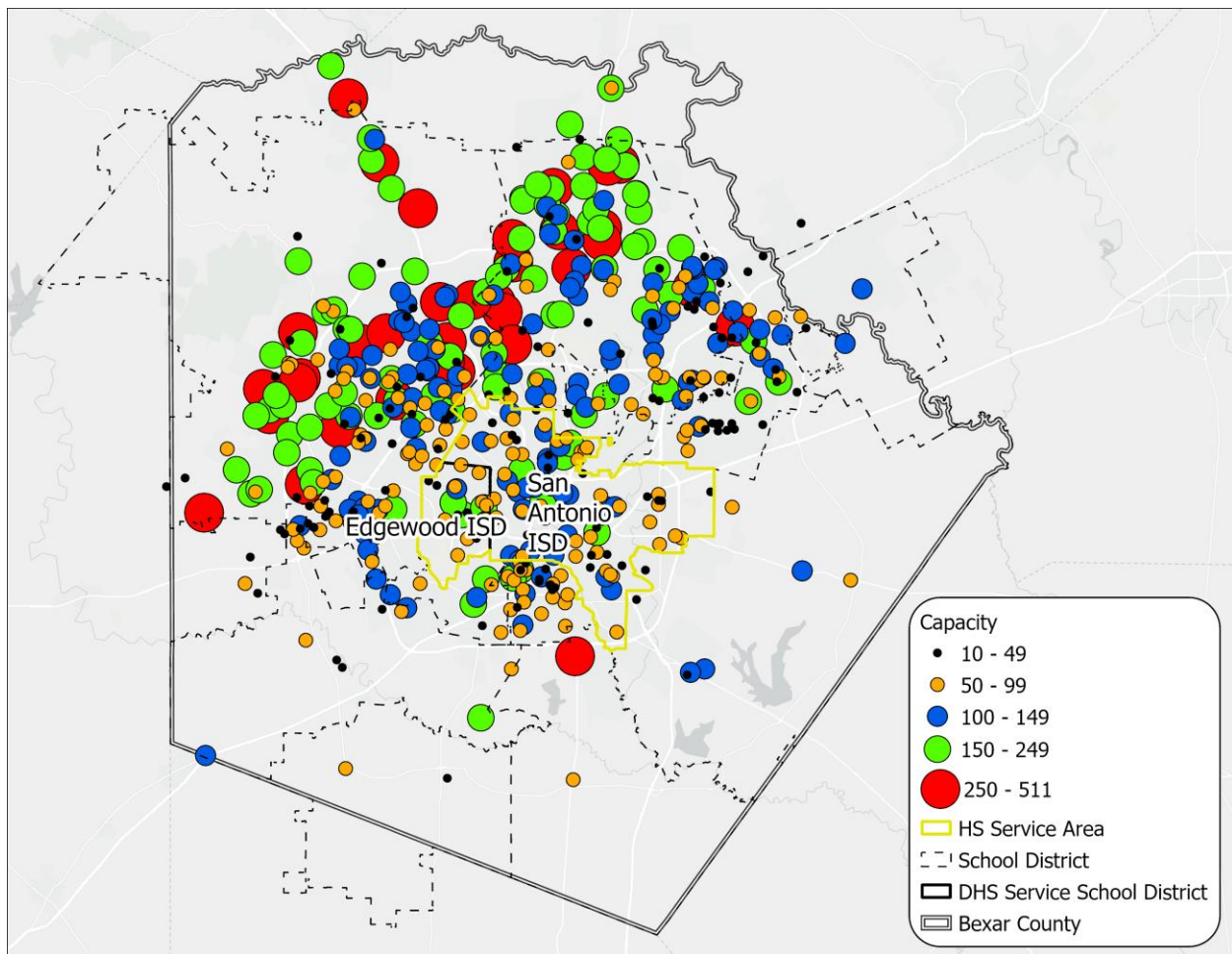


Figure 6-2 Licensed Childcare Facilities that Accept Children Aged 3 to 4 by Capacity, Bexar County, 2024

Source: Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Custom Childcare Search, 2024

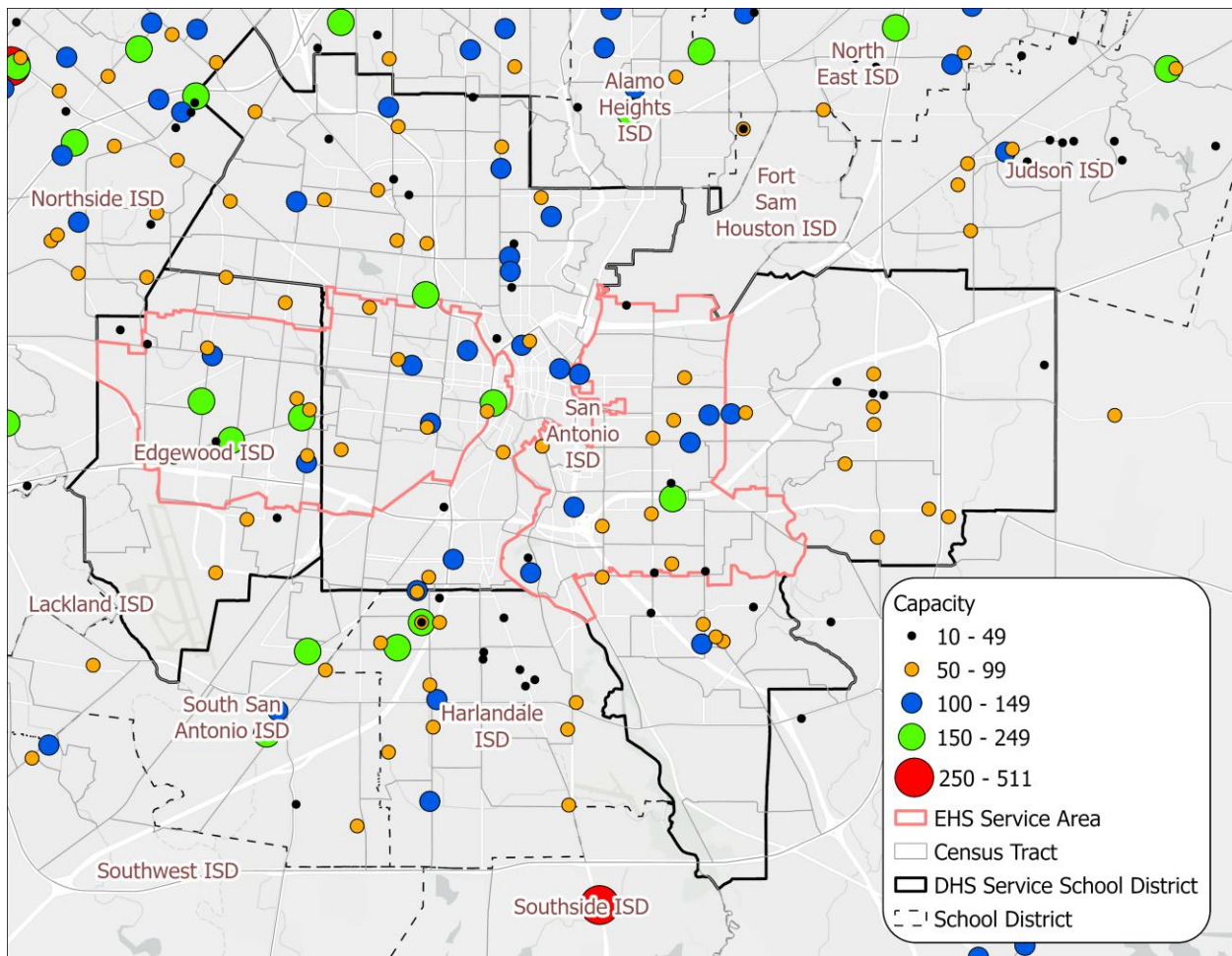


Figure 6-3 Licensed Childcare Facilities Accepting Children Aged 0 to 2 by Capacity, COSA DHS Early Head Start Service Area, 2024

Note – capacity refers to the total capacity of the facility, not necessarily for children aged 0 to 2.

Source: Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Custom Childcare Search, 2024

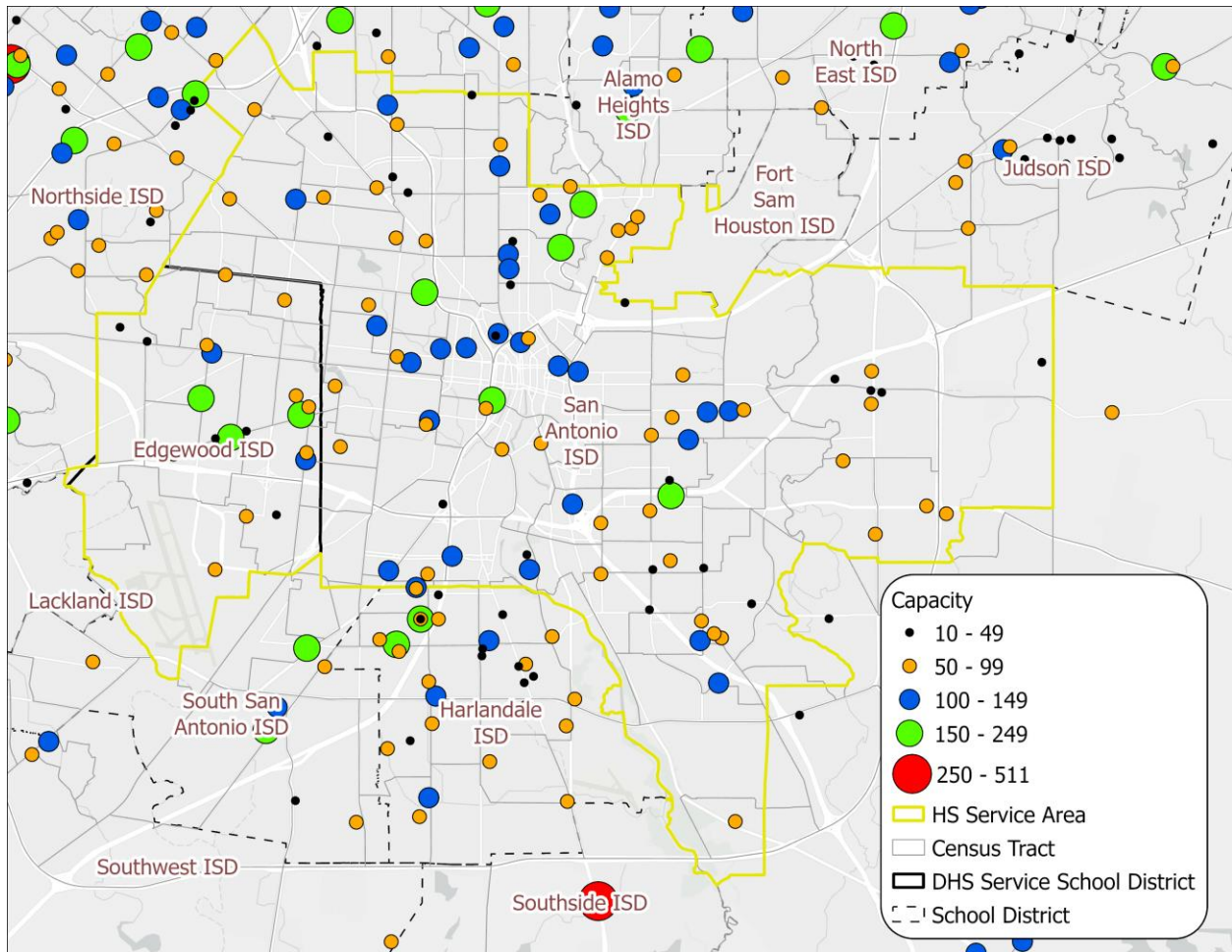


Figure 6-4 Licensed Childcare Facilities Accepting Children Aged 3 and 4 by Capacity, COSA DHS Head Start Service Area, 2024

Note – capacity refers to the total capacity of the facility, not necessarily for children aged 3 and 4.

Source: Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Custom Childcare Search, 2024

In Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs, there are 97 facilities serving children aged 0-2 years and 112 facilities serving children aged 3-4 years. The gap between the capacity of these facilities and the demand for services is especially pronounced for infants (aged 0 to 17 months) and toddlers (18 months to 2 years) within the COSA DHS Early Head Start service area (see Table 6-1). While some of these children may be served by other resources, there remains a significant unmet need for infant and toddler childcare, with a deficit of 901 slots in Edgewood ISD and 4,239 slots in San Antonio ISD. Similarly, as shown in Table 6-2, there is an unmet need for pre-kindergarten-aged children (3 to 4 years) in San Antonio ISD, with a deficit of 467 slots. In contrast, the total capacity of childcare facilities in Edgewood ISD shows a surplus of 127 slots, indicating that capacity exceeds actual demand in this ISD (see Table 6-2).

Overall, children aged 3 to 4 seem to be more adequately served by the DHS Head Start Program and other area resources compared to children aged 0 to 2. However, many families may not be aware of these available resources, or they may be unable to afford the cost of local childcare. The potential lack of awareness, combined with financial barriers and the large population of age- and income-eligible children in the service area, underscores the need to promote the services provided by the DHS Head Start Program to address the existing childcare needs among children aged 3-4 years as well.

Table 6-1 Childcare Capacity and Child Population Aged 0 to 2 Years by School District, 2024

	Childcare Capacity in Facilities with Pre-School Programs*	Number of children aged 0 to 2 years**	Difference in Capacity and 0 to 2 years old population
Edgewood ISD (18 facilities)	1,616 (mean capacity = 90)	2,517	-901
San Antonio ISD (79 facilities)	6,407 (mean capacity = 81)	10,646	-4,239
Total (97 facilities)	8,023 (mean capacity = 83)	13,163	-5,140
Source: * Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Custom Childcare Search, 2024 ** American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Sample, B09001			

Table 6-2 Childcare Capacity and Child Population Aged 3 and 4 Years by School District, 2024

	Childcare Capacity in Facilities with Pre-School Programs*	Number of children aged 3 to 4 years**	Difference in Capacity and 3 to 4 years old population
Edgewood ISD (19 facilities)	2,011 (mean capacity = 106)	1,884	127
San Antonio ISD (93 facilities)	8,324 (mean capacity = 90)	8,791	-467
Total (112 facilities)	10,335 (mean capacity = 92)	10,675	-340
Source: * Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Custom Childcare Search, 2024 ** American Community Survey, 2018-2022, 5-Year Sample, B09001			

Resources and Services for Children with Disabilities

On September 1, 2016, the Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) Program, previously a division of the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), was transferred by the Texas Legislature to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). The ECI programs serve Texas families with children aged 0-3 years who have disabilities and developmental delays (Health and Human Services Commission, 2022). Funded through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the State of Texas, ECI provides evaluations, assessments, and services at little or no cost to families. Once children turn 3, they are no longer eligible for ECI services and are referred to their local school districts for further assistance. Local school districts offer Early Education classes for children with disabilities aged 3 and older. In FY 2022, the three ECI programs operating in Bexar County served 7,761 children, representing 5.95% of the total population of 0–3-year-olds in the area.

ReadyKidSA, funded by United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County, is a coalition of organizations across Bexar County that builds on successful child and family programs in San Antonio (ReadyKidSA Website, 2024). The agency has two primary purposes: to create a comprehensive early childhood system that promotes the social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development of children aged 0-8, and to provide parents and caregivers with the tools and resources needed to better support their families. ReadyKidSA serves as a broker, helping parents with special needs children identify supportive resources, including local organizations for young children with autism, intellectual disabilities, and physical disabilities. The agency also provides referrals to schools for children with special needs, such as the Brighton Center, the Sunshine Cottage School for Deaf Children, and the Winston School of San Antonio.

In addition, Texas Health and Human Services has made significant updates to its childcare facility search engine. Notably, the filter for facilities providing services to children with special needs has been removed. This change reflects the state law requiring all childcare operations to conduct individualized assessments to determine whether they can meet a child's specific needs. It is illegal for childcare providers to refuse care to a child solely because of their special needs. Consequently, all licensed childcare facilities in the county are theoretically required to provide services to children regardless of whether they have special needs.

Public Pre-Kindergarten and Early Education

Local school districts in San Antonio offer Pre-Kindergarten (PK) and Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs for young children. According to the Texas Education Agency (TEA), PK enrollment includes any students aged three to four years enrolled in a state- or locally-funded PK program within a district's boundaries. These PK programs also extend to special needs children aged three to five years through the Preschool Program for Children with Disabilities (PPCD), which requires a minimum of two hours of instruction per day for student participation.

In contrast, early education encompasses a broader age range, including children from birth to five years old who are not enrolled in PK or kindergarten. The Early Education program includes special needs children who do not meet PPCD requirements, Head Start children ineligible for state funding, and children taught by PPCD teachers in licensed childcare facilities working with school districts.

Public school options are widely utilized by families living in the DHS Head Start Service Area (EISD and SAISD). The percentage of student enrollment in pre-kindergarten and early education was notably higher in Edgewood ISD (10.3%) and San Antonio ISD (9.6%) compared to the state average of 5.0% (see Table 6-3). This higher-than-average enrollment suggests that a larger proportion of San Antonio families enroll their children in EE and PK/PPCD programs compared to families across Texas. Nearly all San Antonio school districts had higher utilization rates for PK and early education services than the state average, with enrollment ranging from 2.5% in Randolph ISD to 10.3% in Edgewood ISD.

The strong utilization of pre-kindergarten and early education resources in San Antonio reflects a solid demand for early childhood education in the city. This demand is particularly pronounced in central San Antonio districts, where young children constitute a larger share of total enrollment compared to the state average.

Table 6-3 Childcare Capacity in Public Pre-Kindergarten and Early Education Classes in Participating San Antonio Districts, 2023-2024

District	Pre-Kindergarten	Early Education	Total Enrollment	% Enrolled in PK, PPCD & EE
Alamo Heights ISD	49	79	4,698	2.7%
East Central ISD	33	656	11,176	6.2%
Edgewood ISD	9*	808	7,930	10.3%
Fort Sam Houston ISD	11	92	1,611	6.4%
Harlandale ISD	14	827	11,814	7.1%
Judson ISD	119	1,527	23,848	6.9%
Lackland ISD	9*	68	1,035	7.4%
North East ISD	285	1,903	57,374	3.8%
Northside ISD	1,139	3,553	101,095	4.6%
Randolph Field ISD	9*	29	1,494	2.5%
San Antonio ISD	17	4,250	44,670	9.6%
Somerset ISD	15	280	4,252	6.9%
South San Antonio ISD	9*	486	7,429	6.7%
Southside ISD	9*	504	6,033	8.5%
Southwest ISD	91	787	14,202	6.2%
Bexar County	1,797	18,053	353,664	5.6%
Texas	26,847	248,576	5,531,236	5.0%
<p>Source: Texas Education Agency, Student Enrollment Reports, 2023-2024</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cells containing in the original data were suppressed if there were five or fewer students because of FERPA regulations. * Marked cells contain fewer than 10 students, so the value 9 was used to help estimate the number of children served in these districts. PPCD enrollment has been rolled into the Pre-Kindergarten enrollment column Not all ISDs contain Pre-Kindergarten and/or Early Education Programs. 				

Pre-K 4 SA

Pre-K 4 SA is an education-based initiative that provides pre-kindergarten education to young children living in San Antonio (Pre-K 4 SA, About the Program, 2024). Four-year-old children can enroll in a full-day program at one of four centers—North, South, East, and West Education Centers—which include meals, educational enrichment, and transportation if needed (see Figure 6-5). Bilingual instruction is also available at each center.

Launched in 2013, Pre-K 4 SA has served multiple cohorts of students. During the 2020-2021 school year, the program enrolled a total of 2,005 children. The majority of these students were from Northside ISD (588), followed by San Antonio ISD (296), and North East ISD (274) (see Table 6-4). Within the DHS Head Start Service Area, Edgewood ISD (98 enrolled) and San Antonio ISD (296 enrolled) accounted for nearly one-fifth (19.7%) of the total Pre-K 4 SA enrollment in San Antonio.

Eligibility for Pre-K 4 SA is primarily determined by age, with all San Antonio families able to enroll their four-year-old children. However, some residents qualify for free services based on specific criteria, including eligibility for the National Free and Reduced Lunch Program or receipt of SNAP or TANF benefits; limited English proficiency; homelessness; status as a child of active-duty military personnel; being a child of a member of the armed forces injured or killed during active duty; or being in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services. This makes Pre-K 4 SA a valuable early childhood education resource for at-risk children in San Antonio, though its full potential has yet to be fully realized.

It's important to note that both Pre-K 4 SA and the DHS Head Start programs offer similar services to children, including full-day early childhood education with certified teachers, family engagement components, and meals. However, the COSA DHS Head Start program also provides additional educational services for families with children aged 3-5 years, particularly those with disabilities. While Pre-K 4 SA serves as a viable alternative to Head Start, it primarily benefits families with age-eligible children who can either afford tuition or qualify for free services, and who do not require the additional support services offered by DHS Head Start.

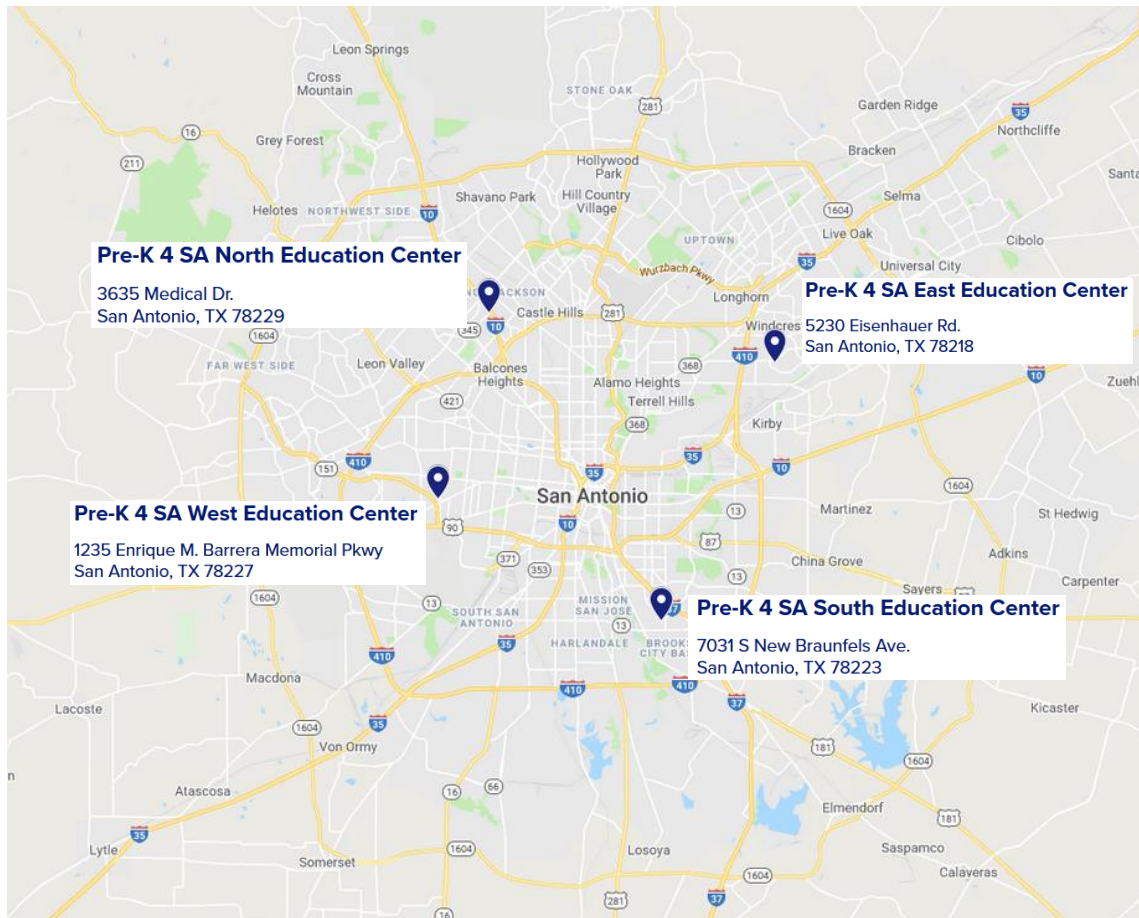


Figure 6-5 Map of Pre-K for San Antonio Centers, 2024

Table 6-4 Pre-K 4 SA Enrollment by District, 2020-2021

School District	Allocated Slots**	Number of Enrolled Children	Percentage of Enrolled Children
East Central	100	66	3.3
Edgewood	124	98	4.9
New Frontiers	-	64	3.2
Harlandale	120	50	2.5
North East	259	274	13.7
Northside	564	588	29.3
San Antonio	572	296	14.8
Southside	61	15	0.8
Southwest	100	48	2.4
DHS Service Area	696	394	19.7
Scholarship	50	130	6.5
Tuition	50	376	18.8
Total	2,000	2,005	100
Source: Pre-K 4 SA Evaluation Report, Year 7 (https://prek4sa.com/community/program-results/) **Pre-K 4 SA has a number of slots that they allocate to eligible children living in each of the school districts that they serve. Each enrolled child is one less remaining slot for Pre-K 4 SA. However, enrollment may be greater than the number of allocated slots when parents pay tuition for their children (who were ineligible for free services) to attend these centers.			

Local Early Head Start and Head Start Programs in Bexar County

Multiple organizations in San Antonio, in addition to the COSA DHS Head Start Program, have received grants from the Office of Head Start (OHS). In Bexar County, eight grant recipients operate 115 centers within a five-mile radius of the county boundary (OHS, Head Start Center Locator, 2024). These grant recipients include the City of San Antonio, AVANCE-San Antonio, South San Antonio ISD, Parent Child Incorporated (PCI), Family Service Association of San Antonio, Inc. (FSA), Lutheran Social Services of the South, Inc. dba Upbring, Ascension DePaul Services, and the Educational Service Center (Region 20). Together, these organizations provide Early Head Start and Head Start services across San Antonio.

The following discussion evaluates the characteristics of these local Head Start programs and their enrollees, supported by grant-based data from the programs. Overall, there are eight Head Start and nine Early Head Start programs operating in Bexar County, including the City of San Antonio's DHS programs. Most of the enrollments are center-based and provided on a full-day basis. Approximately 574 classes are offered by these programs, which are supported by about 2,828 full-time and part-time staff members, as well as 4,068 volunteers (Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Summary Report, 2023).

Table 6-5 indicates that during the 2023 program year in Bexar County, there were 1,448 Early Head Start enrollees and 3,663 Head Start enrollees across the non-COSA DHS Head Start programs. Parent & Child Incorporated served the majority of Early Head Start enrollees (656), while the Family Service Association of San Antonio provided services to the largest number of Head Start enrollees (968). In comparison, COSA DHS Head Start programs provided cumulative enrollment services to 409 Early Head Start (including Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership) children and 2,932 Head Start children, making COSA DHS the largest Head Start program provider in Bexar County.

In total, approximately 1,857 families participated in Early Head Start programs, and 6,595 families participated in Head Start programs in Bexar County (see Table 6-6). A larger proportion of Early Head Start children were enrolled for multiple years compared to Head Start (42% vs. 28%). Additionally, a significantly higher percentage of Early Head Start enrollees were enrolled for less than 45 days before leaving the program without re-enrolling (36% vs. 12%). About 83% of Early Head Start families received at least one family service, compared to nearly 82% of Head Start families.

Table 6-5 Enrollment Characteristics for Bexar County Head Start Providers, 2023

Program Name	Cumulative Enrollment	
	Early Head Start	Head Start
Ascension	61	63
AVANCE-San Antonio	355	665
Education Service Center, Region 20	-	880
Family Service Association, San Antonio	320	968
Parent & Child Incorporated	656	757
South San Antonio ISD	-	330
Upbring	56	-
Non-COSA Total Enrollment	1,448	3,663
COSA Total Enrollment	409	2,932
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Performance Indicator Report (PIR), 2023		

Table 6-6 Service Characteristics for Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, Bexar County Providers, 2023

Service Level Characteristics (PIR)	Combined Head Start		Combined Early Head Start	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Cumulative Enrollment	6,595	100.0%	1,857	100.0%
Enrolled for Multiple Years	1,819	27.6%	784	42.2%
Enrolled Less than 45 Days	220	3.3%	92	5.0%
Left the Program & Did Not Re-Enroll	820	12.4%	691	36.0%
With an IFSP or IEP	919	13.9%	267	14.4%
Number of Families	6,145	100.0%	1,659	100.0%
Received at Least One Family Service	5,015	81.6%	1,383	83.4%
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Performance Indicator Report (PIR), 2023				

Children enrolled in the combined COSA DHS, Early Head Start, and Head Start programs were predominantly three or four years of age, comprising approximately 73.0% of the total enrollment (see Table 6-7). Most children qualified for these programs due to their family's income being below the poverty threshold (45.0%), followed by those receiving public assistance (33.8%), being homeless (7.9%), and those with family income within 100-130% of the poverty threshold (7.0%). Additionally, 4.1% of the enrolled children had income over the eligibility threshold but still received services through Early Head Start or Head Start.

During the 2023 program year, 1,186 children were eligible to receive special education services (see Table 6-8). Of these, 919 children were eligible due to having an Individualized Education Program (IEP), representing 13.9% of the enrolled children, and 267 children were eligible due to having an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), representing 14.4%. The most common primary disabilities identified among the children were speech or language impairments (9.2%), Non-categorical/Developmental Delay (2.2%), and autism (1.6%).

Table 6-7 Children's characteristics for Combined Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, Bexar County Providers, 2023

Summary Characteristics	Combined Programs	
Age	Number	Percent
< 1	525	6.2%
1	700	8.3%
2	1,047	12.4%
3	3,035	35.9%
4	3,135	37.1%
5+	10	0.1%
Eligibility Reason		
Below Poverty	3,833	45.0%
Public Assistance	2,880	33.8%
Foster	175	2.1%
Homeless	676	7.9%
Over Income	350	4.1%
100-130% Poverty Line	599	7.0%
Subsidized Childcare	136	1.6%
<p>*Note. Age and eligibility breakdowns reflect cumulative enrollment numbers. Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Summary Report, 2023</p>		

Table 6-8 Service Characteristics for Combined Early Head Start and Head Start Programs, select Bexar County Providers, 2023

	Combined Programs	
	Number	Percent
Total Funded Enrollment	8,186	100
Disability Characteristics		
Have Individualized Education Program (IEP) and are eligible by LEA to receive special education services	919	13.93%
Have Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and are eligible by Part C Agency to receive early intervention services under the Individuals with Disabilities Act	267	14.38%
Diagnosed Primary Disability		
Health Impairment	25	0.38%
Emotional Disturbance	0	0.00%
Speech or Language Impairments	606	9.19%
Intellectual Disabilities	9	0.14%
Hearing Impairment, including Deafness	2	0.03%
Orthopedic Impairment	4	0.06%
Visual Impairment, including Blindness	1	0.02%
Specific Learning Disability	0	0.00%
Autism	107	1.62%
Traumatic Brain Injury	0	0.00%
Non-categorical/Developmental Delay	147	2.23%
Multiple Disabilities (excluding Deaf-Blind)	0	0.00%
Multiple Disabilities (including Deaf-Blind)	2	0.03%
Source: Head Start Enterprise System, Grant recipient Program Disability Report, 2023		

7. Strengths of the Community

On average, families residing in the Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs face greater socioeconomic challenges compared to those in other areas, including the city of San Antonio, Bexar County, the state of Texas, and the nation. These families often belong to minority groups, have lower incomes, live in older and less valuable housing, and are more likely to be in single-parent households. Despite these difficulties, residents of EISD and SAISD benefit from a rich network of community resources available throughout the City of San Antonio and Bexar County. These resources encompass a wide range of services, including health, nutrition, housing, childcare, and social support. Given that poverty is concentrated in the city's core, many of these resources are specifically targeted to the central San Antonio areas, which include EISD and SAISD. It is evident that families in these districts extensively utilize these resources, as reflected by the significantly higher public assistance utilization rates compared to those in other geographic areas. The extensive network of support services available to San Antonio's residents, particularly those in EISD and SAISD, represents a substantial strength of the community.

Additionally, the City of San Antonio's Department of Human Services (DHS) Head Start program exemplifies the strength of community collaboration. The program's administrative team and policy council work diligently to foster a cohesive support system through dedicated program teachers, enthusiastic family service advocates, supportive program staff, and engaged parents. This strong network is essential to the success of the Early Head Start and Head Start programs, highlighting its critical role in addressing the needs of the community.

Looking forward, the growing prominence of the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), especially in light of the proposed merger with UT Health San Antonio, promises to be another significant community asset. UTSA's rising status as a research institution, coupled with the integration of UT Health San Antonio, will provide valuable contributions to the community. This merger is poised to offer a bright future by inspiring children with aspirations for higher education and by producing high-quality research. The research conducted at this expanded institution will address various challenges facing the community, guiding policy-making and exploring innovative approaches to alleviate these issues. As such, UTSA's evolving role will further strengthen the community's capacity to address educational and social challenges effectively.

8. Summary and Conclusion

This assessment of the social and economic characteristics of the population in the Edgewood and San Antonio ISDs highlights an ongoing need for additional Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership and Early Head Start services. Families in these districts generally experience lower socioeconomic conditions compared to those in the City, County, State, or Nation. Residents are typically poorer, less well-educated, and more likely to belong to minority or foreign-born groups. They also have lower median household and per capita incomes, live below the poverty threshold, are more likely to be in single-parent households, and have larger family sizes. Providing opportunities for children from such underserved backgrounds to engage in enriched learning environments is crucial for improving their educational outcomes, socioeconomic status, and overall quality of life.

Current estimates indicate that the existing services fall short of meeting the demand. Approximately 2,590 children who are age-and-income eligible for Early Head Start and 1,509 children eligible for Head Start are not being served by the City of San Antonio's DHS Head Start program. While local resources such as childcare facilities, public schools, Pre-K 4 SA programs, and other EHS and HS providers address some of this need, they are unlikely to fully meet the demand for Early Head Start services.

Determining the exact number of children with disabilities in EISD and SAISD that align with Head Start's criteria is challenging. Estimates from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the American Community Survey suggest there are around 2,114 children aged 0-2 years and 1,716 children aged 3-4 years with disabilities, which highlights that the DHS Early Head Start and Head Start programs served only a small proportion of these children during the 2023 program year. This discrepancy may be due to variations in disability definitions across different surveys and programs. Nonetheless, other local resources, including special needs childcare, local school districts, Pre-K 4 SA, and the Early Childhood Intervention Program, may address some of these needs.

In conclusion, while the City of San Antonio provides a range of services aimed at addressing the needs of individuals and families living in poverty and those with disabilities, gaps remain, particularly in areas with concentrated poverty. Addressing these gaps and preparing for the future needs of the rapidly growing San Antonio population will be crucial for ensuring the success of children in these communities.