



# Yolo Quality Counts Evaluation

City of West Sacramento & Yolo County Office of Education



harder  co | community  
research

## Background

---

- **Overview:** Yolo Quality Counts is a partnership between the City of West Sacramento and the Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE)
- **Goal:** Provide resources and support to improve program practices and ratings
- **Funding:** CDE and First 5 (state and local)

# Key Evaluation Questions

---

- What are the **characteristics of sites** that participated in Yolo Quality Counts?
- How did sites **improve** the quality of their program after participating in Quality Counts?
- How did the **partnership** between the City of West Sacramento/YCOE strengthen quality improvement efforts?

# Methods

---




**Survey** with child care providers who participated in Yolo Quality Counts (n=79)



**Interviews** with a sample of providers, coaches, and Yolo Quality Counts content experts (n=14)



**Secondary data** analysis including site characteristics, CLASS and ECERS assessment data, and QRIS tier scores

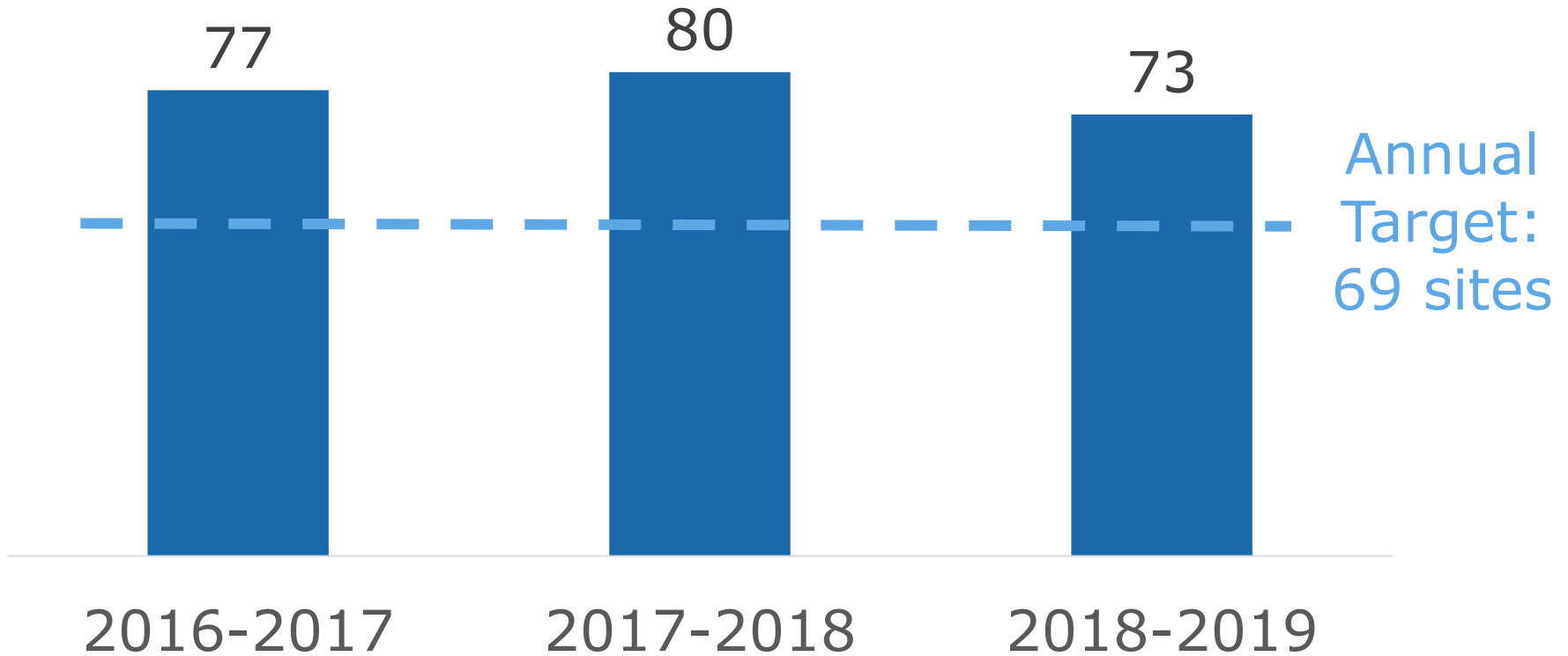


What are the characteristics of sites that participated in Yolo Quality Counts?



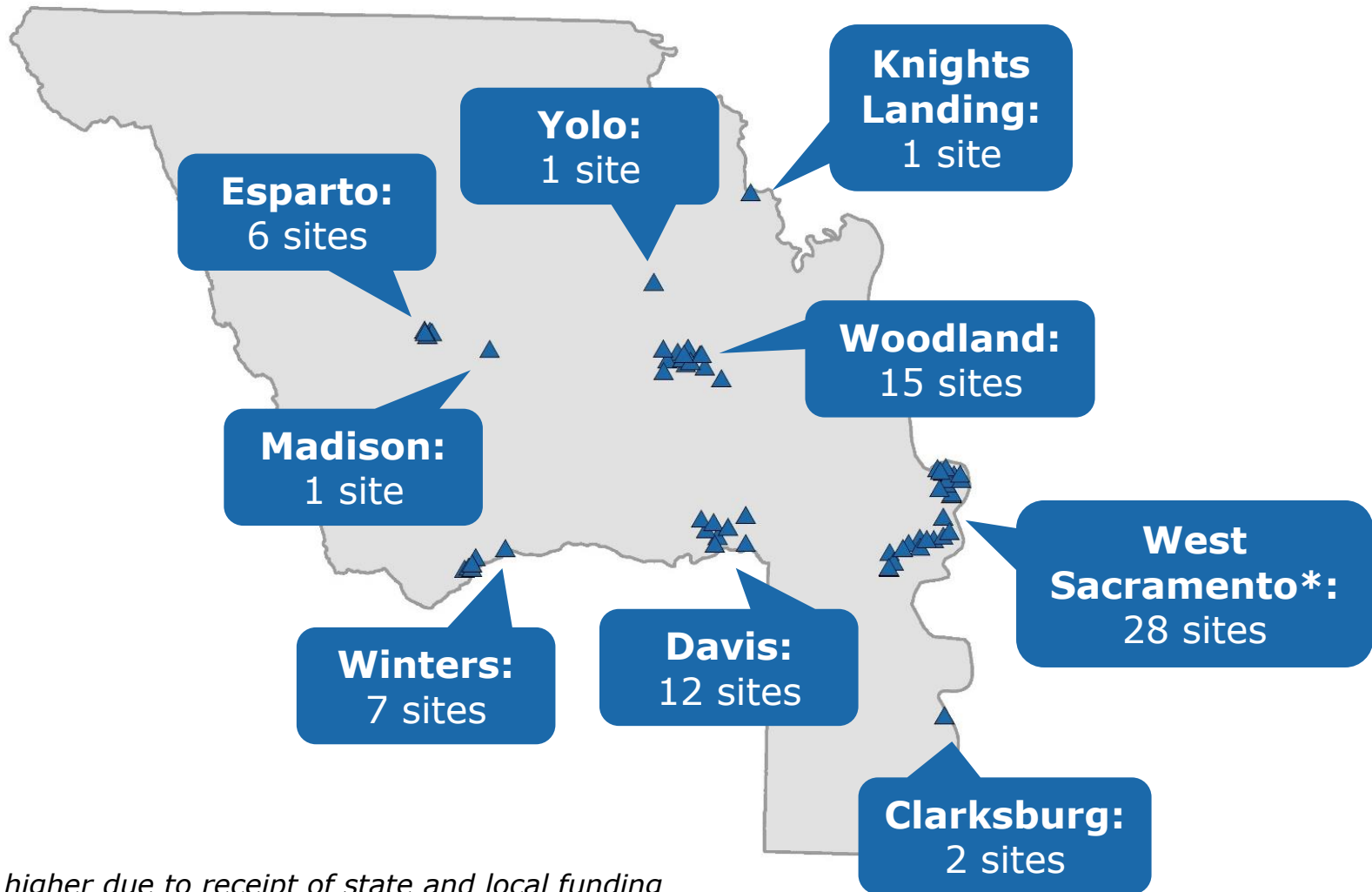
# On average, 76 child care provider sites participated in Yolo Quality Counts every year

---





# Sites throughout Yolo County participated in Quality Counts

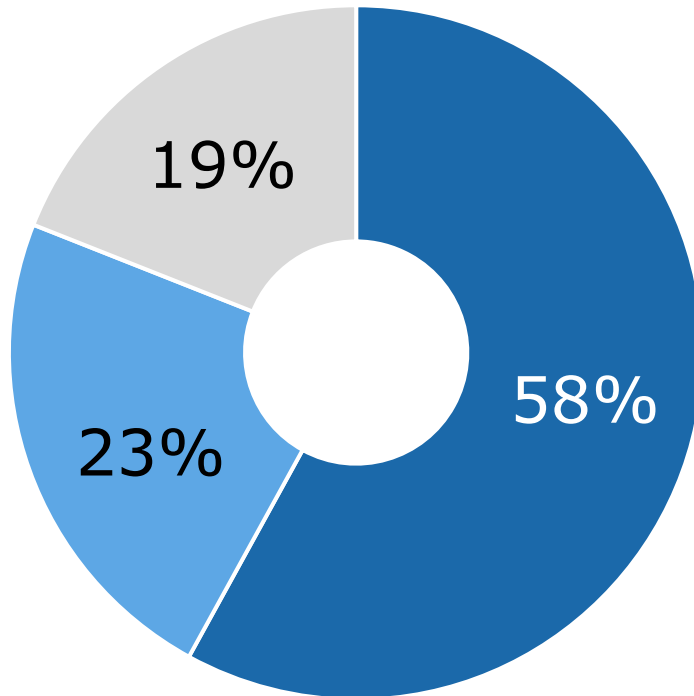


\* Numbers are higher due to receipt of state and local funding



# Nearly one-quarter of participating sites were family child care homes

---



- Center-based care
- Family child care home
- Other





# Last year, over 2,000 children were served by Yolo Quality Counts sites

---

**85** **infants**  
served

**328** **toddlers**  
served

**1,686** **preschoolers**  
served

---

**2,099** **total children**  
served



# Over 2,000 children were served by Yolo Quality Counts sites

---

85

infants  
served

328

toddlers  
served

1,686

preschoolers  
served

2,099


total children  
served

33% of  
children spoke  
a language  
**other than  
English** at  
home



# The ethnicity of children served by Quality Counts is similar to Yolo County overall

	Yolo Quality Counts	Yolo County Overall
White	40%	36%
Hispanic/Latinx	39%	46%
Asian	8%	9%
Black/African American	4%	3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1%	<1%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	<1%	<1%
Other	8%	6%

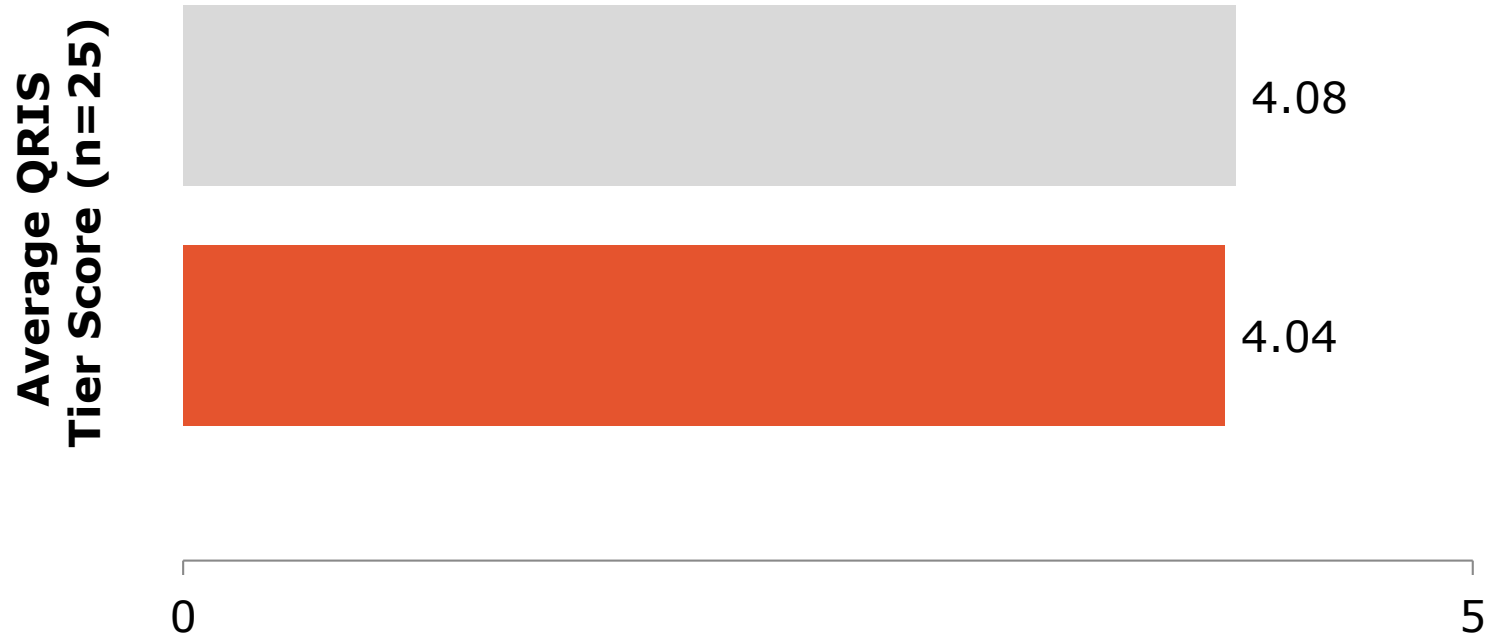


How did sites improve  
the quality of their  
program?



# The average QRIS tier score was above a 4, which is considered high quality

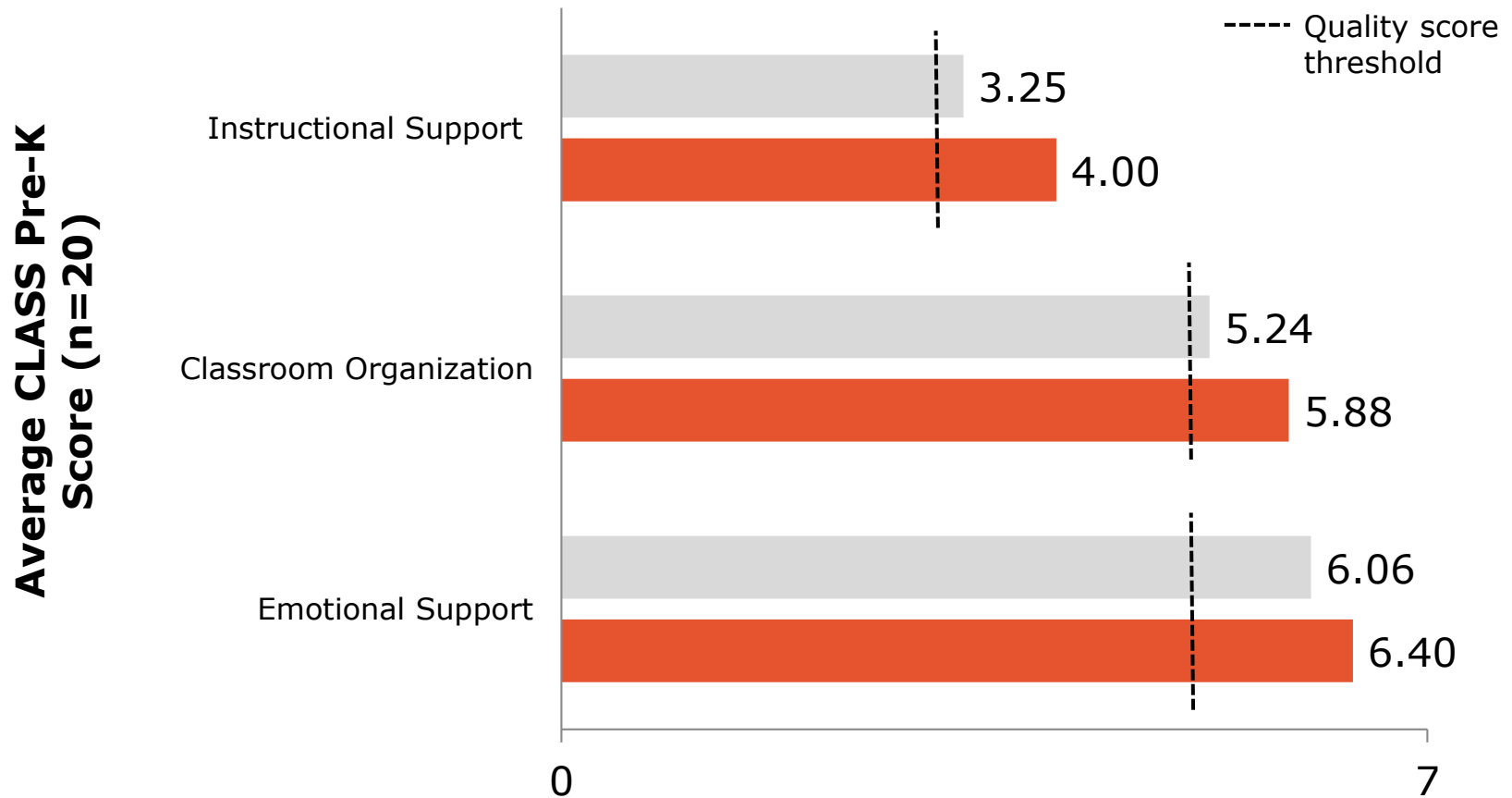
For sites that had a Time 1 and Time 2 rating...





# Average scores in all three CLASS domains were above the quality threshold

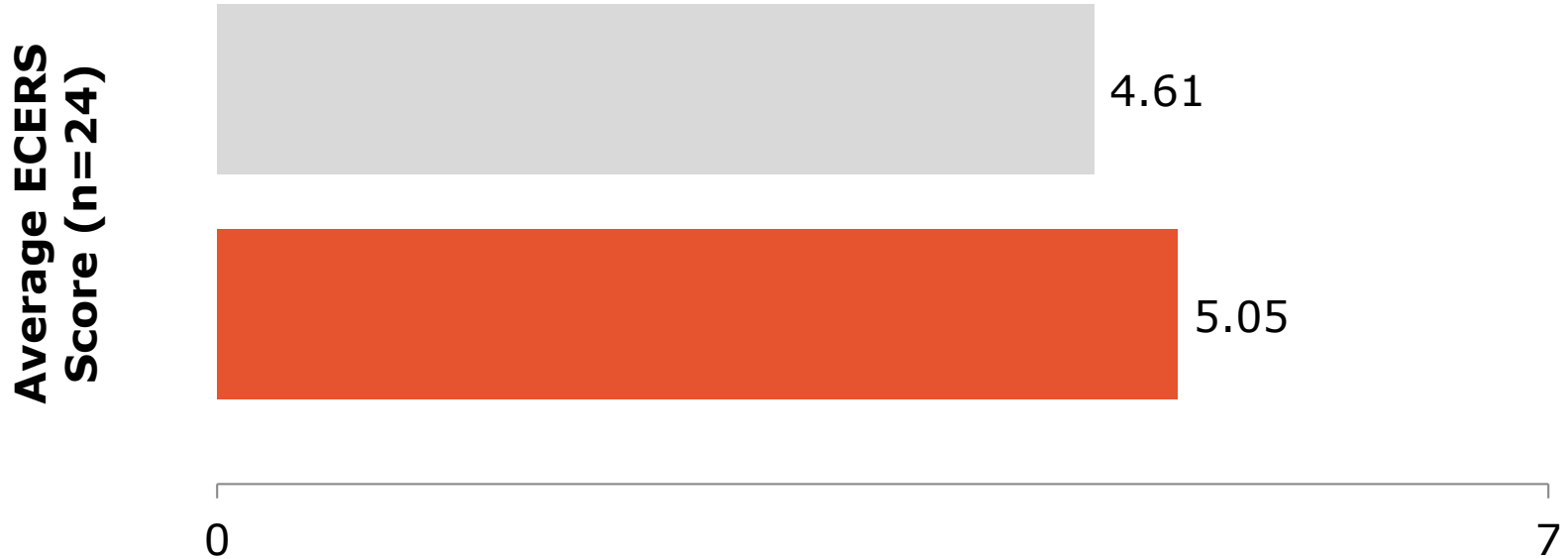
For sessions that had a Time 1 and Time 2 rating...





# Average overall ECERS-R score at Time 2 met the quality threshold of 5

For sessions that had a Time 1 and Time 2 rating...





# Providers identified a number of ways they increased program quality

---



Improved **teacher-child interaction**



Established new **routines**



Improved **parent communication**



Increased quality of **physical environment**





# Providers identified a number of ways they increased program quality

---

“Thanks to the training, I learned strategies for how to work with children emotionally and develop better communication with families.”

“The stipends have been used to purchase new learning materials for all areas of the classroom that would have otherwise been out of the budget.”

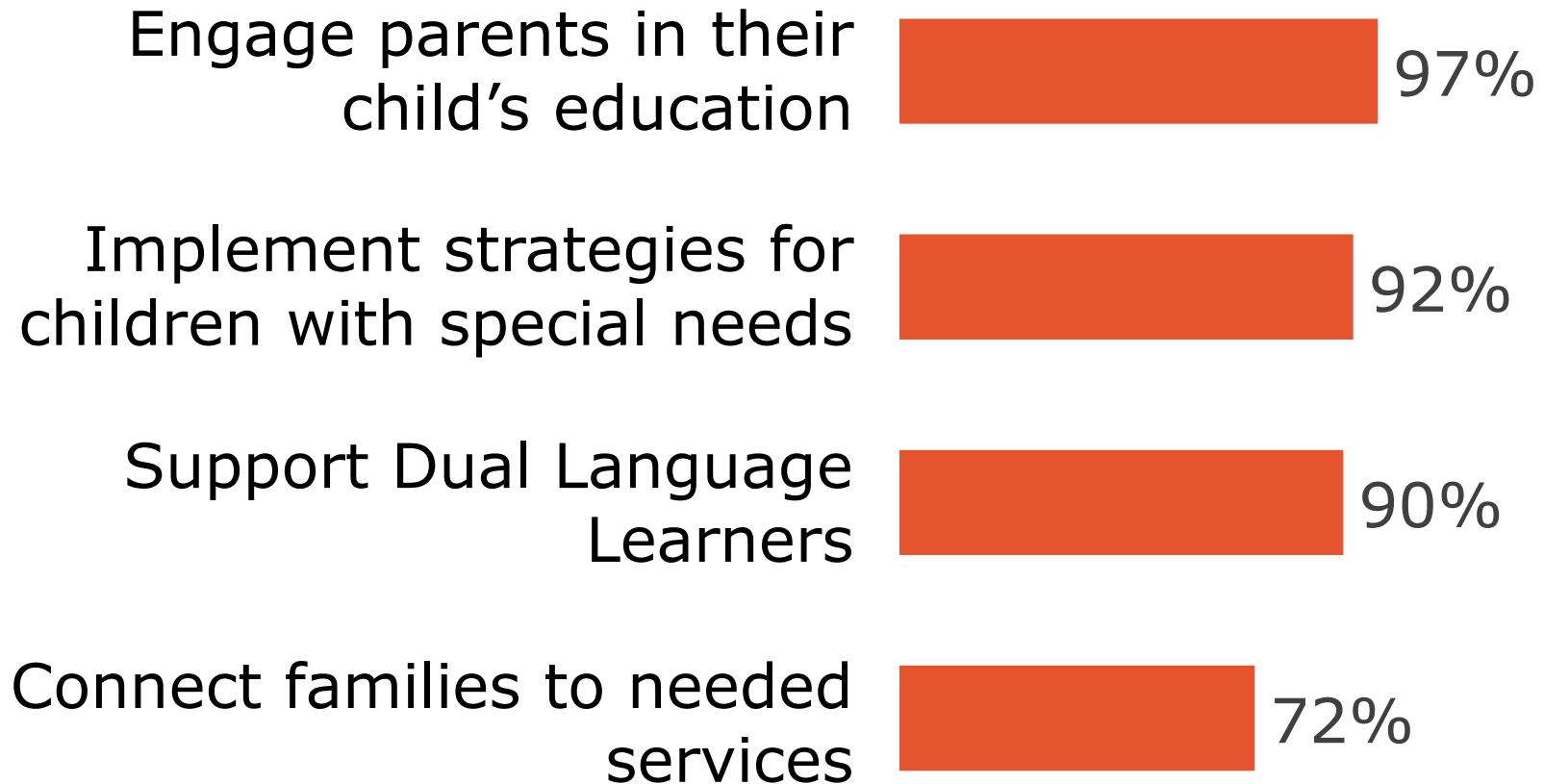
“I love receiving support from our coach. She is readily available when needed. We love that feeling of support!”




# Providers also reported being better able to engage parents and high-need populations

---

*Providers who agree they are better able to...*





How did the partnership strengthen quality improvement efforts?



## Key stakeholders reported the partnership supported quality improvement efforts

---

- Partners skills, experiences, and abilities **complement each other**
- The partnership allowed for **increased accessibility** to quality child care programs
- The partnership provides for a **consistent approach** to program improvement



# Key stakeholders reported that the partnership supported quality improvement efforts

---

- Partners have **complementary skills**, experiences, and abilities
- The partnership allowed for **increased accessibility** to quality child care programs
- Provides a **consistent approach** to program improvement

“The partnership...is critical. Without it, we could not do the work we are doing on behalf of our children and families. We definitely could not do it as extensively or with this high of quality.”

*- Quality Counts  
Key Stakeholder*



What opportunities  
exist moving forward?

## Program opportunities

---

- Continue to offer **one-on-one coaching and stipends** for materials and supplies
- Continue to offer provider requested **trainings**
- Continue to support providers to **help parents** understand the role they play as their child's first teacher
- Support providers to better **connect families** to available community resources

# Opportunities for Quality Counts staff

Theme	Related quote
Increase partnerships	"Through the local childcare planning council, there's opportunity to leverage resources from other organizations. I would say there's also an opportunity with First 5 Yolo."
Expand reach to family, friends, and neighbor providers	"We have talked about trying to engage the entire spectrum of providers..."
Involve more parents	"When parents see what's going on...it encourages them to carry out some of those same kinds of activities at home."



# Opportunities for Quality Counts staff

Theme	Related quote
Share successes with policymakers	“I'd love to see [Yolo Quality Counts] get more involved in some of the political dialogue...maybe showcasing what the impact has been in newspaper articles, online, or at events where candidates or current policy makers might be.”
Track state budget	“Understanding not just the funding that's coming from the CDE and First 5 California, but also understanding the larger landscape.”



# Questions & Discussion