

# Neighbors In Need Of Services, Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start 2017-2018 Public Report



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*NINOS, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer*

*"Creating a brighter future for our children and la familia"*



## 2017-2018 Annual Public Report

**N**eighbors In Need Of Services, Inc. (NINOS, Inc.) Head Start/Early Head Start program focuses on the holistic approach and its core values of promoting school readiness for children under the age of 5 years from low-income families through education, health, social and other services. NINOS incorporated in 1990 as a non-profit organization, as described in the IRS Code Section 501 (c)3. NINOS, Inc. is funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services to operate three grants: Head Start, Early Head Start, and Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA). Furthermore, the children’s meals are reimbursed by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). The service area covers Cameron and Willacy counties. The program serves children and their families from before they are born through four (4) years of age. Head Start and Early Head Start children receive services that include: educational, nutritional, dental, health, transitional, and special services. One of the criteria for receiving Head Start services is that the families must meet federal income poverty guidelines.

The agency has a total of 45 Head Start centers, 7 Head Start/Early Head Start centers, and 3 Early Head Start centers. The program serves 2,706 children in Head Start and 208 in Early Head Start. The mission statement of the agency is “Creating a brighter future for our children and la familia”.

NINOS, Inc. is governed by a nine member Board of Directors and a 110 member Policy Council. The composition of the Board of Directors includes an attorney, a certified public accountant, retired public school administrators, an early childhood educator and representatives from the community. The Policy Council is composed of a parent representative and an alternate from each center, and 5 community representatives from the different service areas. The governing bodies establish policy and approve the operating budgets. The Executive/Head Start Director recommends and implements policy and manages personnel.

### **FISCAL**

The management staff formulates the annual budget in collaboration with the Board of Directors and Policy Council finance committees. The proposed budget is categorized with 5 line items as mandated by The Office of Head Start. The line item categories are as follows: Personnel, Fringe Benefits, Travel, Equipment (optional), Supplies, and Other. The annual refunding application, along with the proposed budget, are presented to the Board of Directors and Policy Council for approval.

NINOS, Inc. is in compliance and in good standing with the Administration for Children and Families, Head Start Bureau and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) . The program received a positive audit for fiscal year 2017-2018 from an independent auditor.

The total amount of public and private funds received for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 are as follows:

<b>2017-2018 Total Operating Grants</b>	
Head Start	\$19,214,180
Early Head Start	2,255,373
TDA	2,975,054
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,444,607</b>
<b>2017-2018 Non-Federal Share</b>	
Head Start	\$4,803,545
Early Head Start	569,349
<b>Total Non Federal Share</b>	<b>\$5,372,894</b>

<b>2017-2018 Budgetary Expenditures</b>	
Travel	\$94,000
Training and Technical Assistance	257,319
Supplies	696,051
Equipment	0
Other	2,319,893
Fringes	4,597,942
Salaries	13,504,348
TDA	2,975,054
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,444,607</b>



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## HEALTH SERVICES

The Health Services Department focuses on educating, screening and advocating for the health of Head Start and Early Head Start children, families and community. The department also provides training on health procedures, monitors and conducts vision, hearing, and dental screenings. Children are referred to physicians for physicals and immunizations, as needed. The agency also has a Health Advisory Committee comprised of community health professionals that meet 3 times a year to discuss health issues within the community and health services for the families.

The following statistical data is based on the 2017-2018 cumulative Head Start enrollment of 2,977:

<b>Head Start Body Mass Index</b> (based on children's age and sex)	
Underweight (BMI less than 5th percentile)	6.3%
Healthy weight (at or above 5th percentile and below 85th percentile)	59%
Overweight (BMI at or above 85th percentile and below 95th percentile)	13.3%
Obese (BMI at or above 95th percentile)	21.4%

<b>Head Start Medical and Dental Services - Children</b>	
Percentage of children who are up-to-date on a schedule of age appropriate preventive and primary health care, according to the relevant state's EPSDT schedule for well child care	96.7%
Percentage of children with continuous, accessible dental care provided by a dentist	99.8%

<b>Head Start Mental Health Referrals - Children</b>	
Number of children who were referred by the program for mental health services outside of Head Start	60

The following statistical data is based on the 2017-2018 cumulative Early Head Start enrollment of 324:

<b>Early Head Start - Medical Services</b>	
Percentage of children who have been determined by a health care professional to be up-to-date on all immunizations appropriate for their age	95.4%
Percentage of children with an ongoing source of continuous, accessible health care	95.4%

## RECRUITMENT

A target survey is conducted annually that covers the entire service area of Cameron and Willacy counties. Low income sectors are targeted for this survey. NINOS, Inc.'s personnel conduct this survey using a door-to-door interview method. Recruitment is ongoing to ensure that a waiting list is maintained. Recruitment activities are promoted through announcements posted in community and local service buildings, businesses, churches and circulated through the local newspapers. All distributed information is made available in both English and Spanish. The recruitment effort includes recruiting children who have disabilities. Ten percent of enrollment opportunities are made available to children with disabilities.

## ENROLLMENT

Month	Enrollment	% of Funded Enrollment
August - 2017	2914	100%
September - 2017	2914	100%
October - 2017	2914	100%
November - 2017	2914	100%
December - 2017	2914	100%
January - 2018	2914	100%
February - 2018	2914	100%
March - 2018	2914	100%
April - 2018	2914	100%
May - 2018	2914	100%
June - 2018*	719	100%
July - 2018*	719	100%

\*Funded only partially for summer

The cumulative enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year was 2,977 in Head Start and 324 in Early Head Start.

The total number of families served for the 2017-2018 school year was 2812 in Head Start and 284 in Early Head Start.

<b>Type of Eligibility - Head Start/Early Head Start</b>		
Income Below 100% of federal poverty line	3,118	94.4%
Public assistance such as TANF, SSI	119	3.6%
Status as a foster child	64	2%

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## **FAMILY SERVICES**

Parent Involvement is all about empowering and engaging parents in their child's growth and development. Through various aspects of the program the Family Services Department assists parents to advocate for themselves and their families. Parents play an integral part of the program as decision-makers, program volunteers, and advocates for their children and families. The Policy Council consists of parents and community volunteers that assist in setting and revising policies for NINOS, Inc. Each Head Start center is represented at the Policy Council by a Representative and an Alternate elected at their parent committee meetings. The parents are empowered to make major decisions for the agency such as hiring, budgeting, and monitoring program services. An average of 85% of the families attended these meetings and trainings every month throughout the year.

## **PARENT TRAININGS**

NINOS, Inc. provides parents with an array of ongoing training sessions, which enhance personal growth opportunities. Topics include parent orientation, pedestrian safety, domestic violence, child abuse and prevention, transition, expanded nutrition program, prenatal care, education and early childhood development, safety practices, continuing education, marriage enrichment, health education, oral health, fatherhood, parent enrichment, disability services, hurricane preparedness and transportation laws.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Policy Council has a scholarship program, which awarded twelve (12) scholarships of \$1,200 each; these were awarded to former Head Start students and former and current parents in support of their higher education. The scholarships awarded for the 2017-2018 school year totaled \$14,400.

## **PARENT AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

A special recognition banquet was held on July 11, 2018, to honor parent and community volunteers. A total of 2,907 volunteers served the children and families of NINOS, Inc. throughout the year.

## **TRANSITION**

Transition is a priority at Head Start. Children can't begin to learn if they are frightened or uncomfortable with their surroundings. The transition services focus

on assisting and preparing parents and staff as a child leaves the comforts of home to enter the Early Head Start, Head Start, or the Public School. A total of 1,110 children were transitioned into kindergarten at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

## **COLLABORATION**

Head Start has a working relationship with all thirteen (13) school districts, eight (8) public libraries, and one (1) state-chartered school within its service area. There are written local agreements with each entity. The agreements are updated annually or as specified in the agreements.

## **PARENT INVOLVMENT ACTIVITIES**

Some of the activities in the Parent Involvement area include: Parent and Youth Mini-Conference, participation in the National Head Start Association Parent Training Conference, Parent Committee and Policy Council Officers' Training, Governance Training, fatherhood activities and the Annual Volunteer and Recognition Banquet.

The Annual Father and Child Day at the Zoo Activity was held on Saturday, March 10, 2018 and Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the Gladys Porter Zoo and then had a picnic at Dean Porter Park. A total of 2,857 fathers/father figures and their Head Start/Early Head Start children attended this activity making it a great success. This activity is part of the Fatherhood Initiative intended to strengthen the role of fathers in families.



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## CHILDREN SERVICES

The shared vision of the NINOS, Inc.'s Head Start/ Early Head Start program is to prepare all children for kindergarten and future successes through collective leadership, planning, accountability, and professional development. The program adopted the definition of school readiness, primarily underpinned from the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007 which requires programs to maintain and sustain a birth to five comprehensive, developmental system framework. Therefore, the NINOS, Inc. program bases its educational approach by drawing from the definition of school readiness as the state of development that enables children to successfully transition from Head Start to function and gain knowledge from learning experiences in kindergarten classrooms.

NINOS, Inc. utilized leadership teams of staff, parents, and community partners to respond systematically by using a variety of resources and data to establish goals and age-specific indicators. The leadership team members referenced the national and state guidelines and resources such as the Head Start Performance Standards, Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, Parent and Community Engagement Framework, Partners for Healthy Babies Pregnant Mothers' Curriculum, Play Bright Early Learning System, Scholastic Early Learning Curriculum, Frog Street Early Childhood 0-5 Curriculum, Texas Prekindergarten Guidelines, and the Texas State Early Learning Infant Toddler Framework. In addition, data sources were examined for patterns in the progress and well-being of the children, which included the Learning Accomplishment Profile 3 (LAP3) and Early Learning Accomplishment Profile (ELAP) child assessment results, as well as the NINOS Self-Assessment Report, the Program Information Report (PIR), and the Early Development Instrument (EDI) Community Profile.

The 2017-2018 school readiness goals addressed the needs of all children, including dual language learners and children with disabilities. The goals attended to health and nutrition, relationships, eagerness to learn, ability to connect known and new experiences, communication, and print and book awareness. It is also important to note that these goals did not represent the full breadth of development occurring during

the first five years of life, nor typify the number of goals the program develops. Nonetheless, these goals and age-specific benchmarks enabled staff, families, and school partners to implement effective practices necessary to promote the school readiness informed by both research and data. Throughout the year, the NINOS, Inc.'s community of staff, parents, and supportive educational agencies worked side by side to support children's development.

### 2017-2018 School Readiness Goals

- Children will understand and demonstrate healthy and safe habits. (Perceptual, Motor, and Physical)
- Children will engage in healthy relationships and interactions with others as they develop a healthy concept of their personal identity. (Social-Emotional)
- Children will demonstrate interest, curiosity, persistence, and eagerness to learn. (Approaches to Learning)
- Children will develop and demonstrate the ability to retain and connect new and familiar experiences to numerical knowledge. (Cognitive)
- Children will increase their oral language abilities and pre-literacy skills. (Language and Literacy)

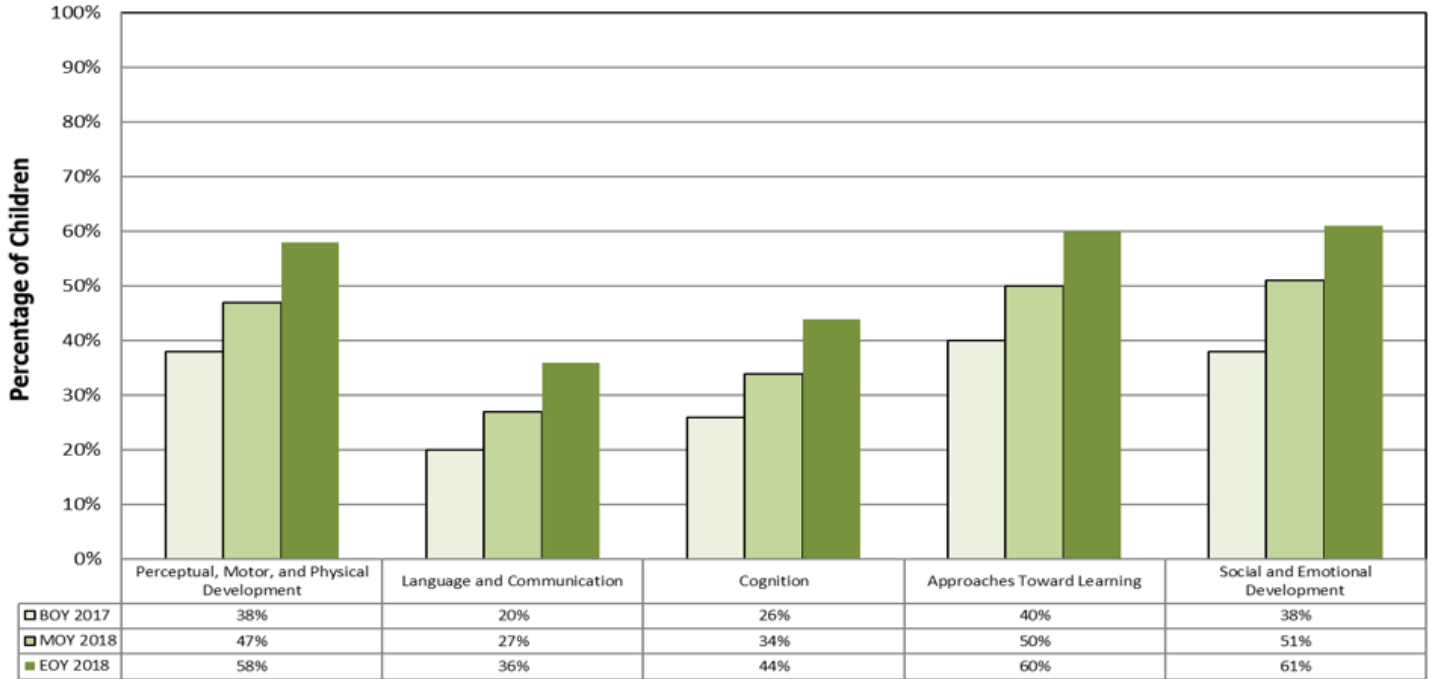


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## ASSESSMENT

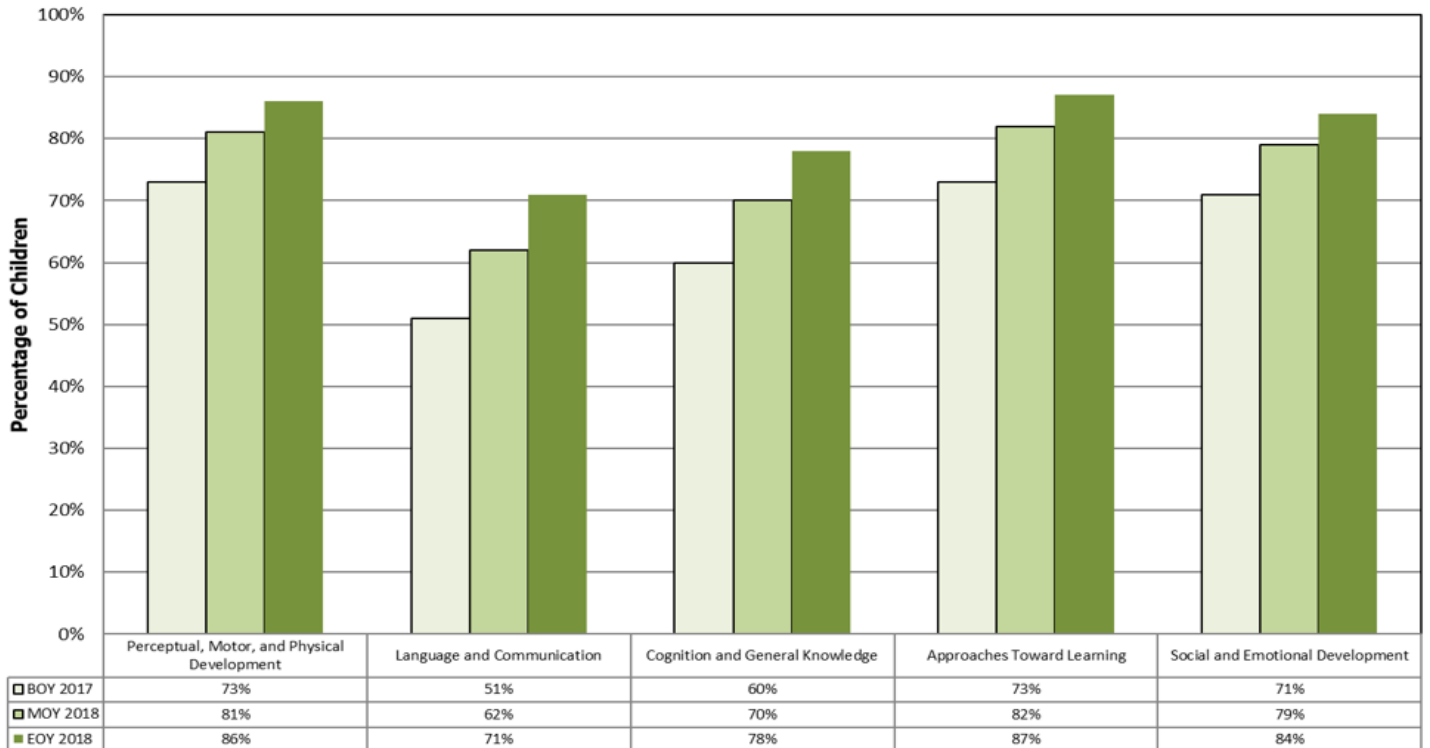
The children are formally assessed three times a year to follow their developmental progress and to determine the effectiveness of the curriculum. The growth percentages are a comparability of the first, second and third assessments of the 2017-2018 school year. There was growth in all areas.

### 2017-2018~ Infants 0-12 Months ~ ELAP Results by Domain



### Domains

### 2017-2018~ Older Infants 12-24 Months ~ ELAP Results by Domain



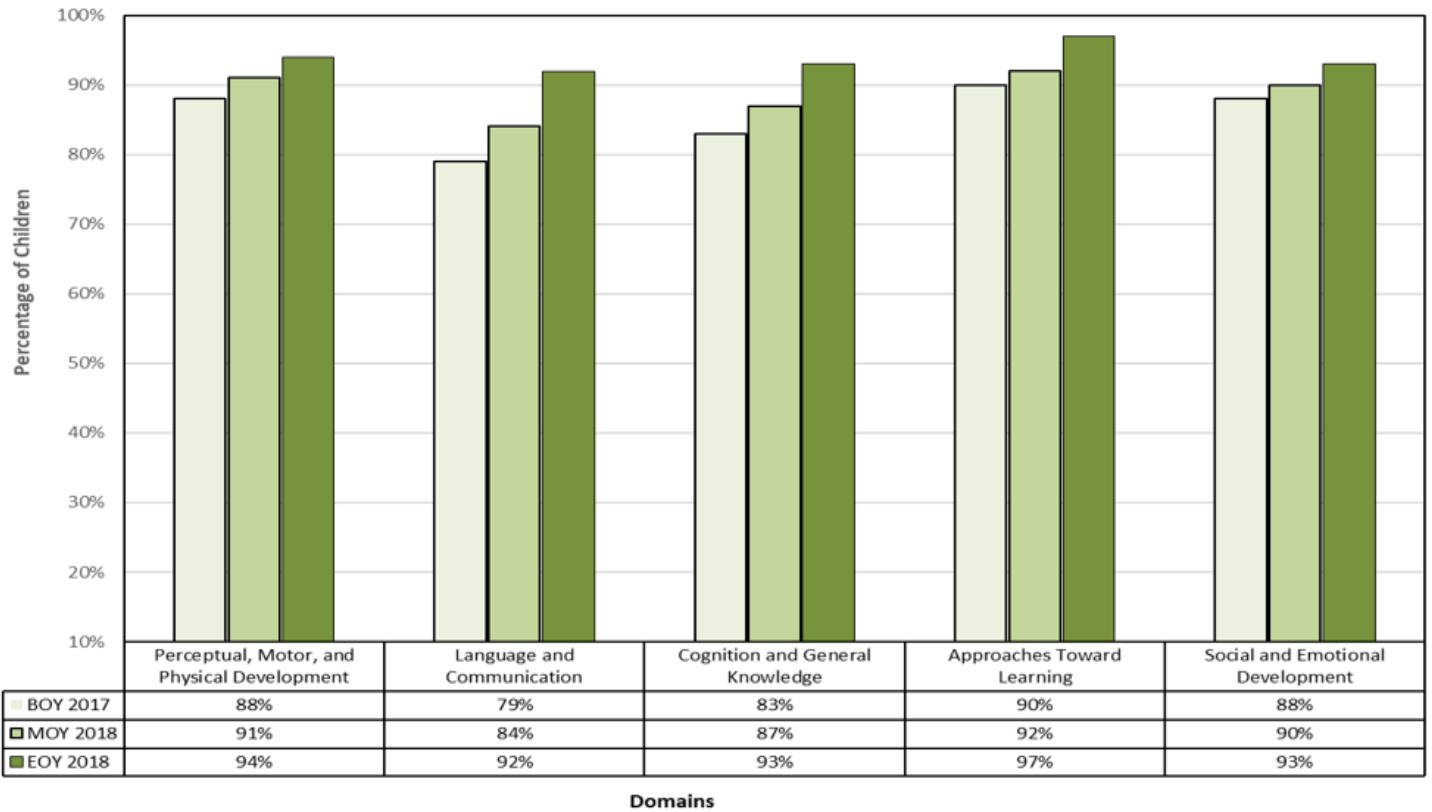
### Domains

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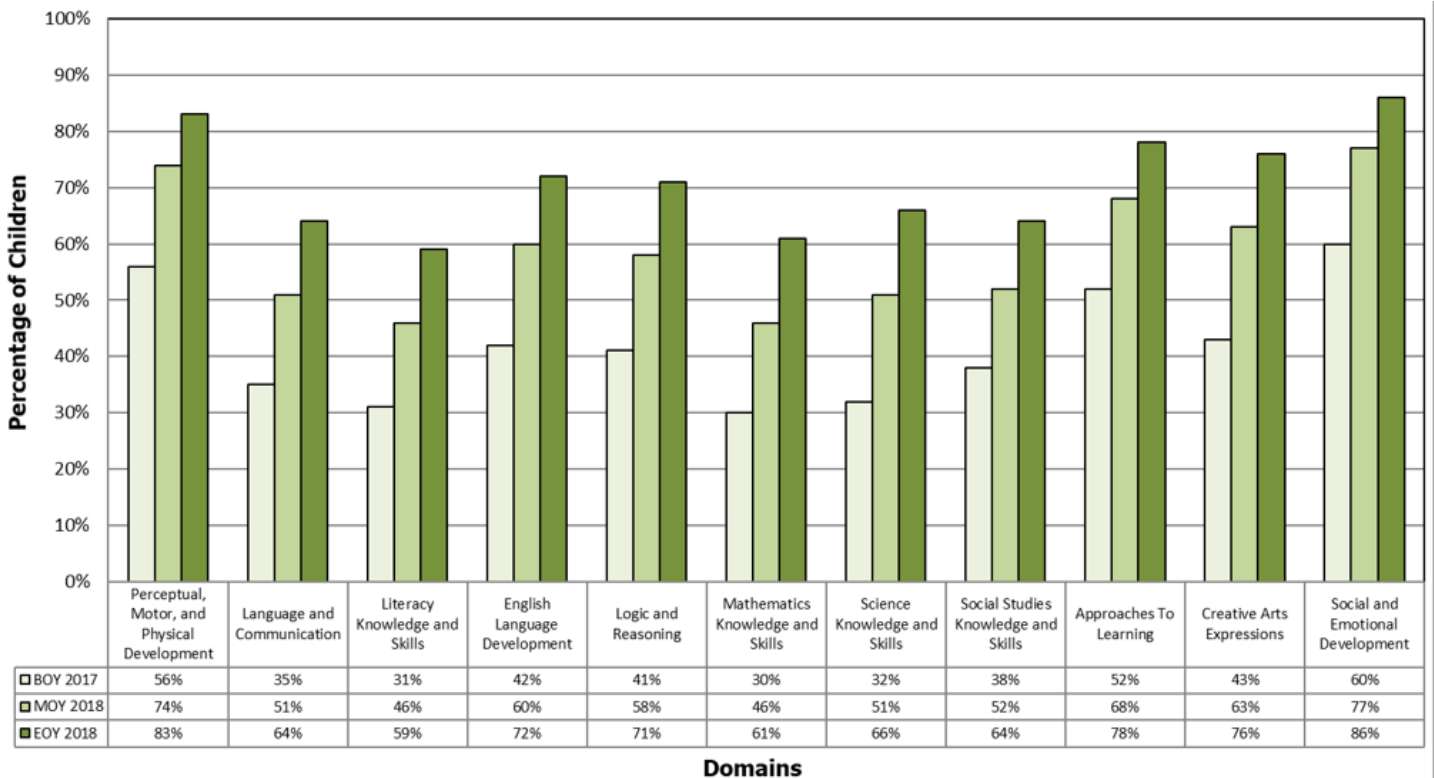


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## 2017-2018- Toddlers 24-36 Months ~ ELAP Results by Domain



## 2017-2018- 3 Year Old's ~ LAP 3 Results by Domain

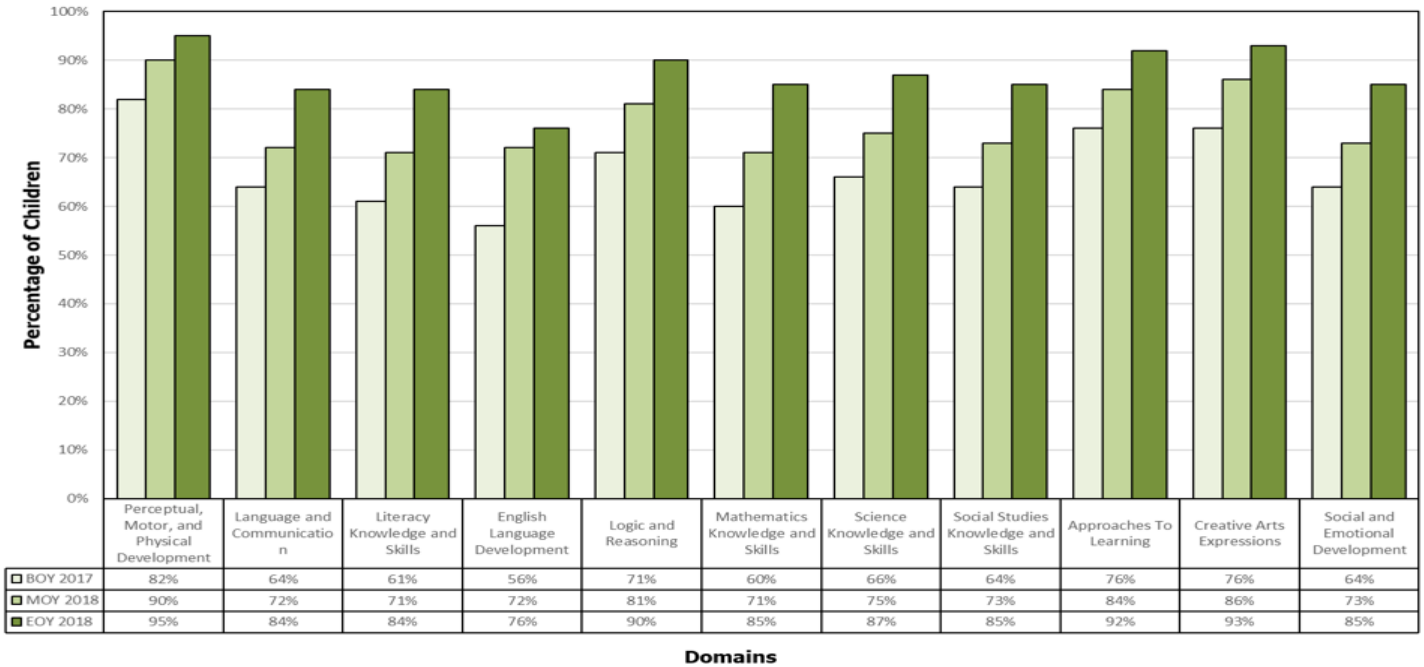


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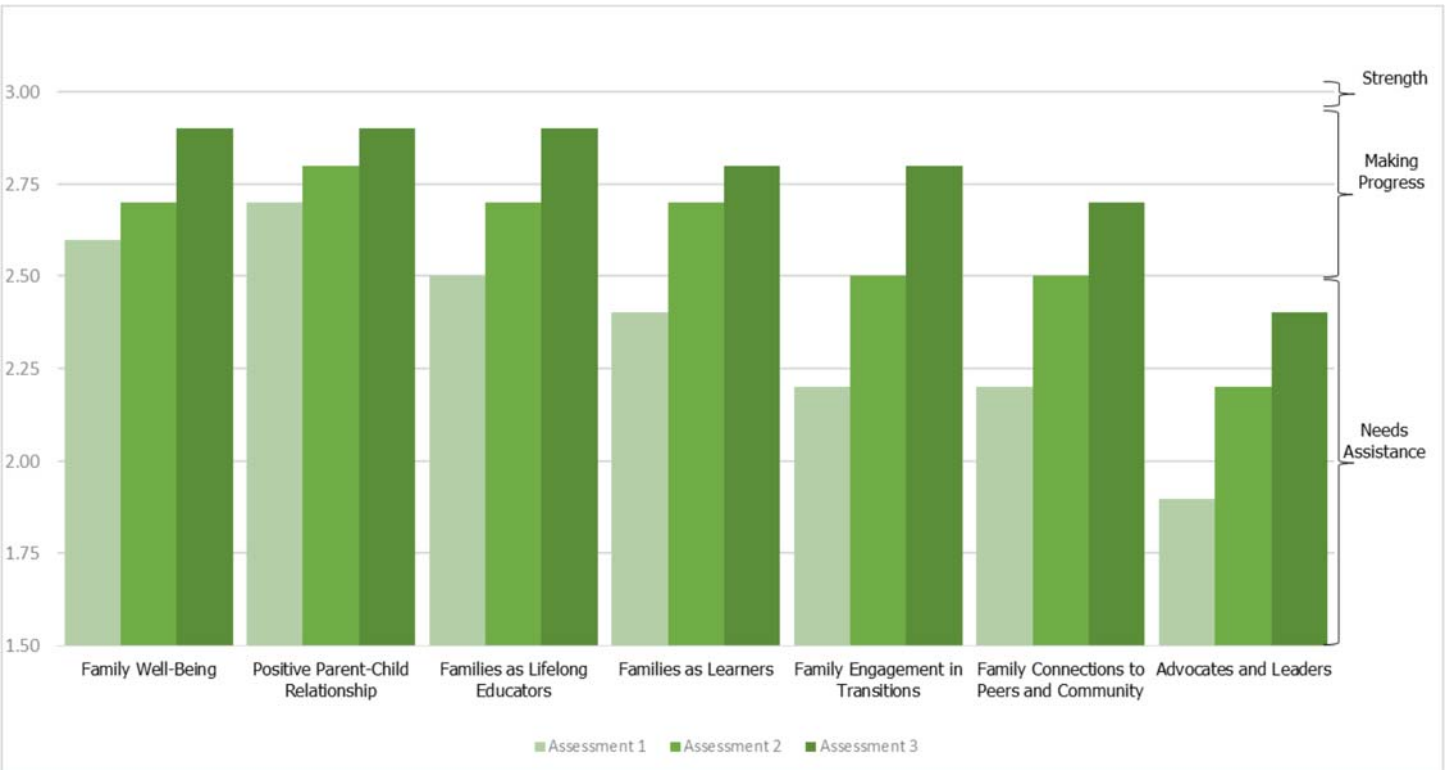
## 2017-2018- 4 Year Old's - LAP 3 Results by Domain



### FAMILY GOALS

The program recognizes that goalsetting with individual families is a critical component to achieving positive outcomes for children and families. Families are formally assessed three times a year to follow their developmental progress in Family Goals that were developed in conjunction with the children’s School Readiness Goals. There was growth in all areas.

## 2017-2018 - Family Outcomes



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