Arizona Head Start Association
Office of Head Start Region 9 Updates
February 16, 2023

Agenda

▶ Regional Updates

▶ Budget/Fiscal Updates

▶ Health & Safety

▶ Disasters

▶ Enrollment/School Readiness

▶ Monitoring

▶ Region IX Training and Technical Assistance Events

▶ National Training and Technical Assistance Events

▶ Questions?

FY2023 Federal Appropriation

► FY2023 appropriation is **$11.996** billion for on-going operations, including increases of:

More than a $960 million increase from FY2022

- $596 million for Cost-of-Living Increase
- $262 million for Quality Improvement funding
- $100 million for Competitive Funding

► $25 million for DRS

► $21 million for Research and Evaluation

► $8 million for Tribal Colleges

COVID Flexibilities

► Only remaining COVID flexibilities

- Allowability of costs not normally chargeable
- Salaries of staff not working due to closure
- Prior approval to purchase equipment in response to COVID, threshold increased from $5,000 to $25,000
- Budget modifications up to $1 million
- Procurement by noncompetitive proposals
- Governing Body & Policy Council approvals
- NFS Waiver application
- Admin Waiver

Effective: January 6, 2023

► The final rule removes the requirement for universal masking for all individuals ages 2 and older.

► This final rule requires that Head Start programs have an evidence-based COVID-19 mitigation policy, developed in consultation with their Health Services Advisory Committee.

► This final rule does not address the vaccination and testing requirement, which is still under review. The vaccine requirement remains in effect.

Establishing an Evidence-based COVID-19 Mitigation Policy ACF-PI-HS-23-01

Considerations for an Evidence-based COVID-19 mitigation policy:

► Guidance on how to establish plans that would be responsive to changing circumstances,

► How to ensure the policy is evidence based;

► Recommendations for the latest research and science on layer mitigation policy; and

► Strategies for communicating the COVID-19 mitigation policy to staff and families

The compliance date for the evidence-based COVID-19 mitigation policy specified at § 1302.47(b)(9) is, March 7, 2023

► This IM clarifies reporting requirements of 45 CFR §1302.102(d)(1)(ii)

► Grant recipients are required to,

- *"submit reports, as appropriate, to the responsible U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) official immediately or as soon as practicable, related to any significant incidents affecting the health and safety of program participants."*

    ⇨ The "responsible DHHS official" is your assigned program specialist or the Regional Program Manager

Reporting Timeframe

► All *significant* incidents should be reported to the Regional Office Of Head Start, state licensing and child welfare agencies **immediately or as soon as practicable**

- A *significant* incident is any incident that results in serious injury or harm to a child, violates Head Start standards of conduct 45 CFR §1302.90(c) or results in a child being left alone, unsupervised or released to an unauthorized adult

- Programs should not wait for adjudication though local or state officials to report to OHS

Natural Disasters in Region 9

► These storms have received a "**Major Disaster Declaration**"

► The latest series of storms in 2023 have impacted over 500* OHS Region 9 facilities resulting in closures or damages.

► Examples of damages in our facilities include:

- Mandatory evacuations

- Flooding

- Power Outages

- Trees falling on buildings

- Roof damage/collapse

- Lack of drinkable water

► 1302.102(d)(1)(ii)(B) Programs are required to report any incidents that require classrooms to be closed for any reason.

Program Improvement Requests

► If a program experiences damage to a facility or equipment due to a disaster but the disaster is not in a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declared disaster areas, they can apply for one-time program improvement funds with the Regional Office.

Disaster Recovery Grants

► The Administration for Children and Families has the authority to award funds and is restricted to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declared disaster areas.

► Disaster recovery needs may not fully reflect how services were delivered prior to the disasters but will be responsive to current community needs.

► Eligible programs will receive disaster recovery funds as a separate grant award from their base Head Start and Early Head Start operations grants.

► All disaster recovery funds must be expended by recipient grantees within 24 months of the award date.

► OHS will closely monitor disaster recovery grant awards.

► Six programs from Region 9 currently have disaster recovery funding grants.

Disaster Recovery Grants

▶ Programs should engage in a comprehensive assessment of programmatic and community needs focused on immediate, interim and long-term impacts and associated costs from the disasters.

▶ Application narratives should include:

- Facilities
- Materials, Supplies and Equipment
- Program Operations
- Additional Health, Mental Health, Dental and Nutrition Services
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Disaster Recovery Expenses Incurred Prior to the Availability of the Funds

▶ When submitting requests for disaster recovery funding, grant recipients must explain how the funds relate to a consequence of the disaster.

▶ Grant recipients must provide assurance that requested funds will not be used for costs reimbursed by FEMA, under a contract for insurance, or by self-insurance.

Disaster Recovery Resources

- OHS Disaster Recovery Resource Page – ELCKC
- Psychological First Aid
- Building Healthy & Safe Early Childhood Facilities After a Natural Disaster
- Health and Safety Recovery Checklist
- Children's Responses to Crises and Tragic Events
- General Disaster Recovery Flexibilities | ACF-IM-HS-19-01
- Disaster Recovery Funding or 2018 and 2019 Disasters | ACF-PI-HS-19-01
- Flood Cleanup to Protect Indoor Air Quality
- A Brief Guide to Mold in the Workplace
- OHSA Fact Sheet: Mold Hazards during Disaster Cleanup

School Safety- Other Emergencies

► Preschool preparedness for an active shooter book https://www.gryphonhouse.com/books/details/preschool-preparedness-for-an-active-shooter

► TEDtalk, Surviving an Active Shooter Event

► Run, Hide Fight workplace safety but can be tailored to any situation

► ECLKC Resources
- https://www.cisa.gov/translated-active-shooter-resources
- https://www.cisa.gov/school-safety-and-security
- https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/safety-practices/emergency-preparedness-manual-early-childhood-programs/emergency-preparedness-manual-early-childhood-programs
- https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/responding-potentially-violent-situations
- https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/helping-your-child-cope-after-disaster
- https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/guide-building-healthy-safe-early-childhood-facilities-after-natural-disaster

Full Enrollment Initiative

▶ Head Start's mission is to serve the neediest children and families, promote school readiness, and foster the self-sufficiency of low-income families.

▶ Programs must maintain their funded enrollment level and fill any vacancy as soon as possible.

▶ Any unenrolled slot is a lost opportunity for a family in need and does not maximize federal funds.

▶ The ability to respond to changing community, family, and child needs is a key factor in maintaining full enrollment.

▶ Data is critical for understanding needs, making decisions, evaluating services, and planning for continuous improvement.
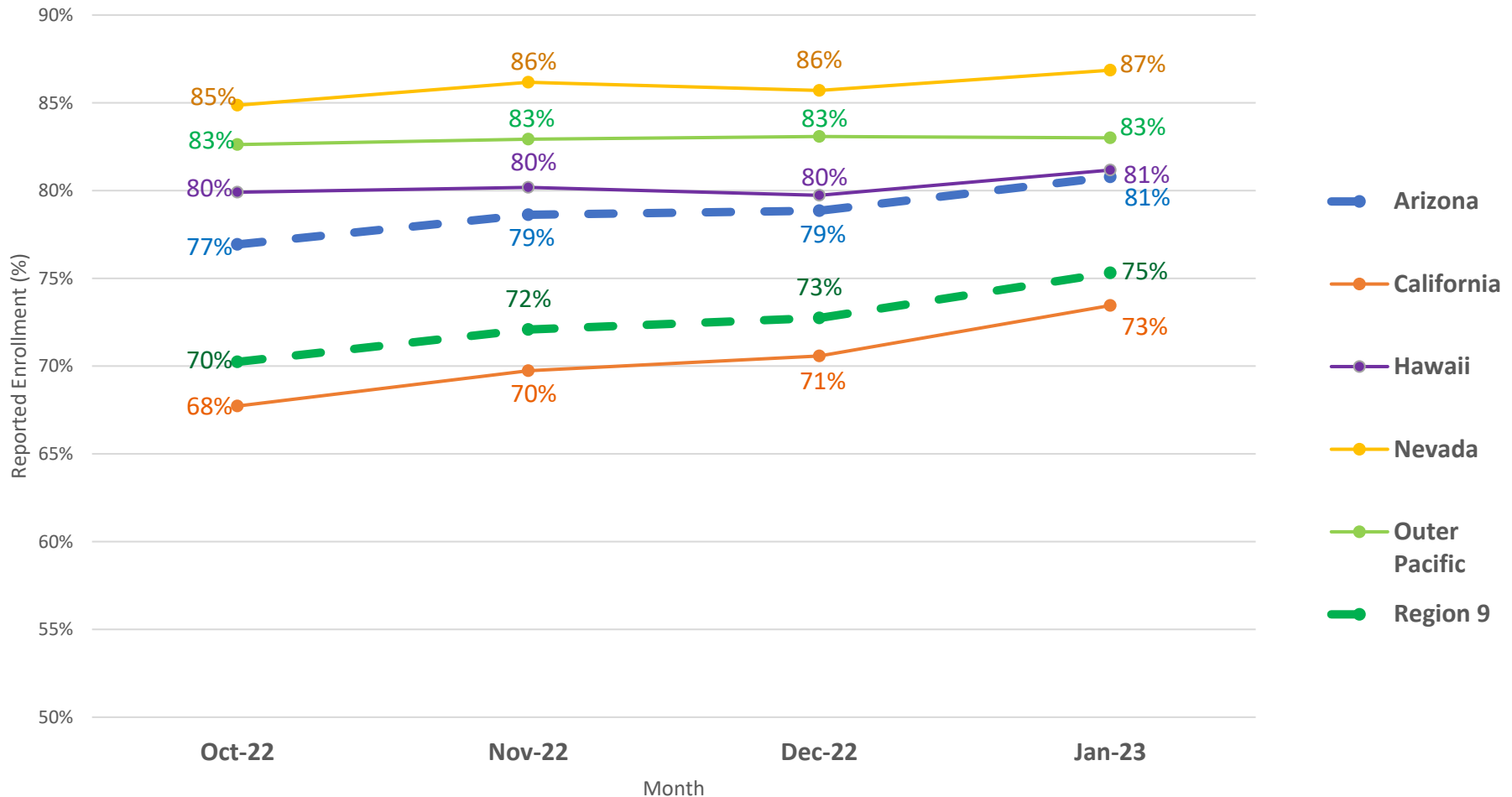
https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/ersea-maintaining-full-enrollment

Head Start Enrollment

State	HS Reported	HS Funded	Difference	Percentage
Arizona	7,720	9,557	-1,837	81%
California	42,401	57,728	-15,327	73%
Hawaii	1,802	2,220	-418	81%
Nevada	1,652	1,902	-250	87%
Outer Pacific	2,168	2,612	-444	83%
Grand Total	**55,743**	**74,019**	**-18,276**	**75%**

Head Start Enrollment

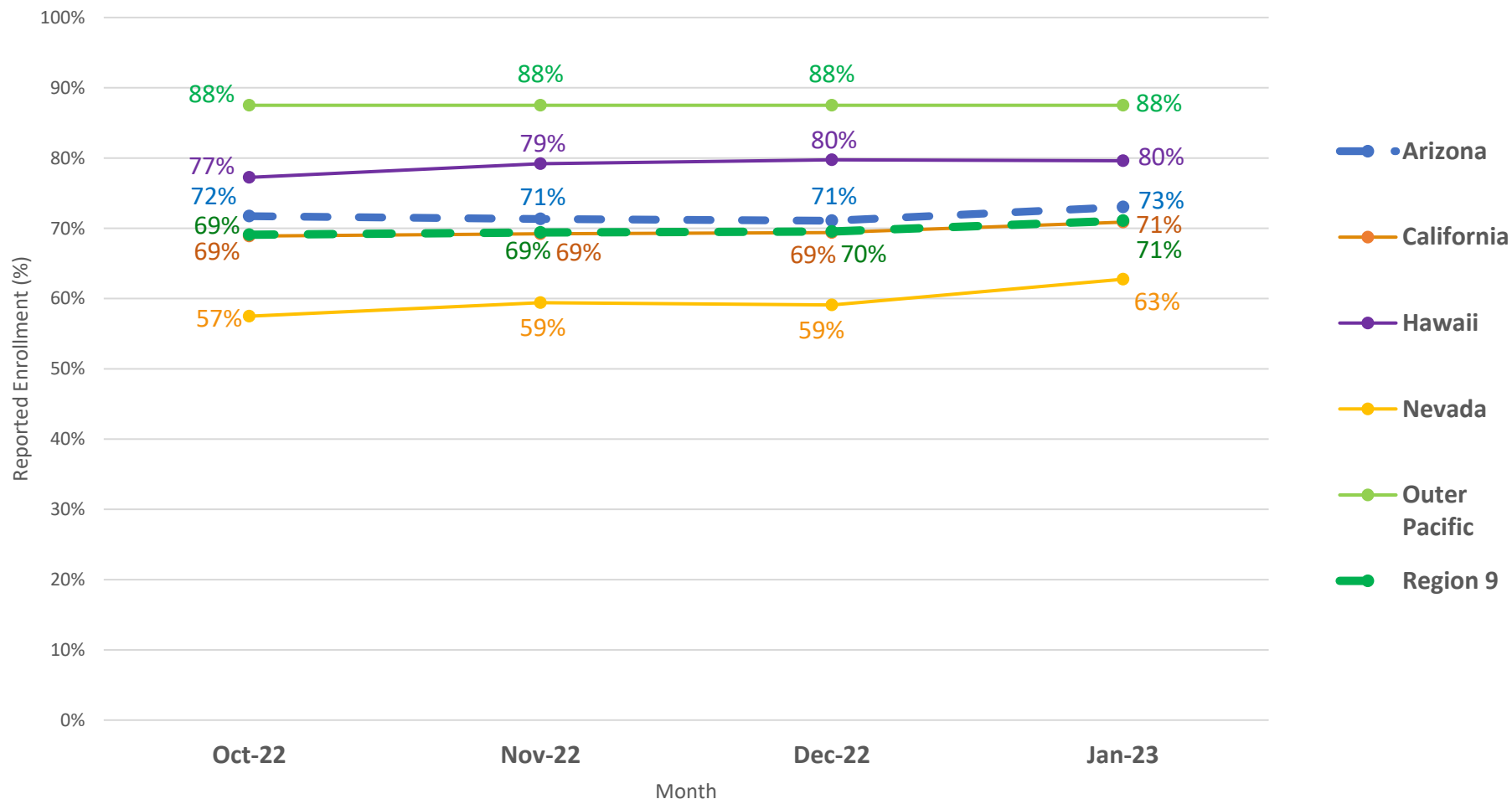Average Reported Enrollment in Region 9 by State (HS)

Early Head Start Enrollment

State	EHS Reported	EHS Funded	Difference	Percentage
Arizona	2,369	3,244	-875	73%
California	18,445	26,025	-7,580	71%
Hawaii	574	721	-147	80%
Nevada	583	929	-346	63%
Outer Pacific	56	64	-8	88%
Grand Total	**22,027**	**30,983**	**-8,956**	**71%**

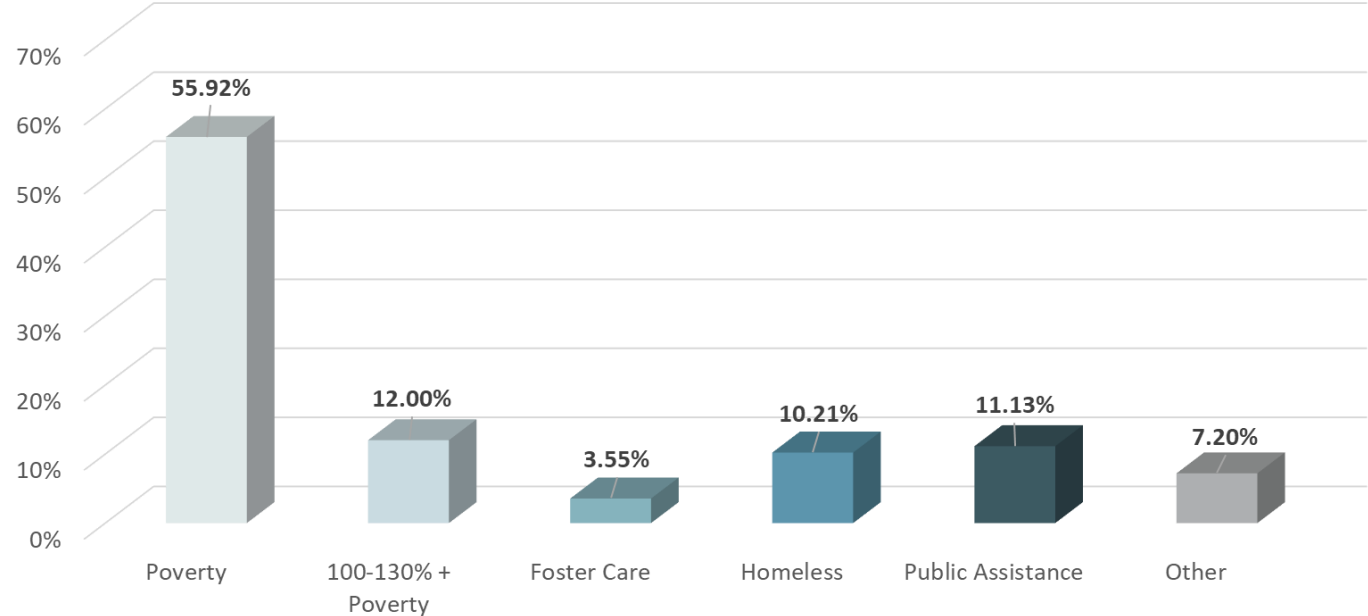# Early Head Start Enrollment

Average Reported Enrollment in Region 9 by State (EHS)

Enrollment in Head Start Programs

Primary Type of Eligibility at Enrollment Region 9 PIR Data 2022

Strategies for Serving Categorically Eligible Children

► Conduct an In-Depth Analysis of the Program's Community Assessment

► Conduct an In-Depth Review of Program's Recruitment Plan (Outreach, Social Media Platforms, Civic Participation, etc.)

► Review Program Selection Criteria and explore opportunities to prioritize children that are categorically eligible

► Develop partnerships with stakeholders (State Agencies, Private referral agencies, foster families, temporary housing agencies, etc.)
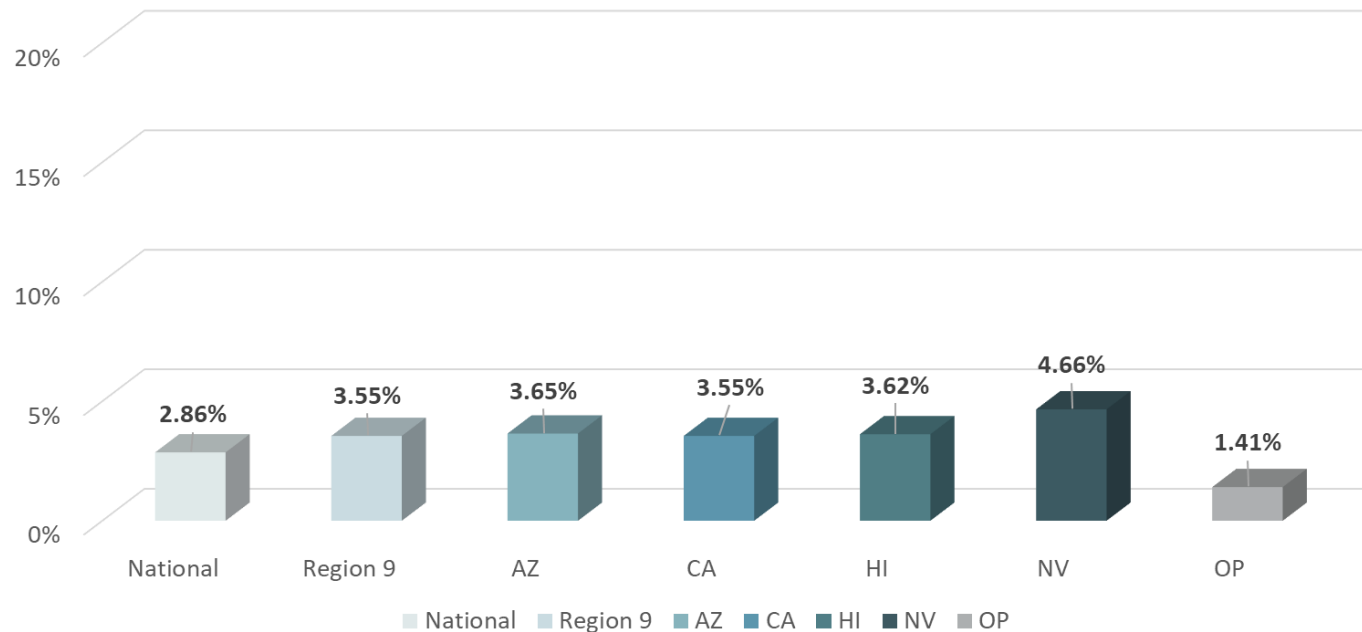
Strategies (cont.)

► Provide Intensive Professional Development for Staff – Communication, Family Dynamics, Social Emotional Needs, Health and Nutritional Needs, etc.

► Form Collaborative Relationships with Social Workers, Family Services Personnel, and residential housing personnel.

► Build Internal Awareness of the needs of families experiencing foster care or homelessness.

Impact of Foster Care In Region 9

Percentage of Children in Foster Care at Enrollment by state, PIR 2022

Trends In Foster Care By Age

Percentage of Children in Foster Care by State: FY 2020

State	Year	<1 Year Old	1 Year Old	2 Year Old	3 Year Old	4 Year Old	5 Year Old	Total
Arizona	2020	21.1%	7.0%	6.7%	5.8%	5.5%	5.4%	**51.5%**
California	2020	21.6%	6.9%	6.4%	5.9%	5.1%	5.1%	**51.0%**
Hawaii	2020	14.8%	6.0%	5.4%	5.3%	6.3%	4.7%	**42.5%**
Nevada	2020	21.8%	8.1%	6.8%	6.0%	5.4%	5.4%	**53.5%**

Data from ACF Children's Bureau, Fiscal Year 2020

Resources-Serving Foster Children

► Head Start and Early Head Start Eligibility for Children in Kinship Care ACF-IM-HS-19-03

  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/im/acf-im-hs-19-03

► Head Start and Child Welfare Partnerships ACF-IM-HS-10-04

  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/im/acf-im-hs-10-04

► Community Partnerships with Child Welfare

  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/video/community-partnerships-child-welfare

► Supporting Full Enrollment

  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/video/supporting-full-enrollment

► Foster Care Statistics

  https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/statistics/foster-care/#reports

► Child Welfare Outcomes Report Data

  https://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/cwodatasite/enteredCare/index

► Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs in Foster Care

  https://www.childtrends.org/publications/children-youth-special-health-care-needs-foster-care

National Monitoring Count

FY23 Review Count - Agency Level	
Review Type	**Count**
FA1	208
FA2	378
*CLASS®	262
AIAN CLASS® Pilot	36
Total Review Count	**884**

*CLASS® reviews conducted at grant level

FA1: Updates

► **Maintain:**

- Discussion format
- Protocol structure
- Virtual Review Process

► **Enhancements:**

- More streamlined review process
- Reduction in protocol questions
- More consistent methodology for collecting program summaries

FA2: Updates

► Minor enhancements to FY22 FA2 Protocol

- Clarify and update protocol language

- Streamlining review process

- Testing Promising Practice questions

Promising Practices

Promising Practice questions gather data on grantee implementation of high-quality practices and performance that lead to strong program results outside of the HSPPS and compliance requirements

Future FA2 Enhancements
An FY23 pilot is planned to test future enhancements to the FA2 Review.

CLASS® Video Pilot

OHS will facilitate a FY23 CLASS® video pilot that will allow recipients to submit classroom videos for scoring.

► **Purpose**

- To engage recipients in the CLASS® review process

- To provide scores and information to support recipient professional development planning

CLASS® 2008 will be used in the CLASS ® Video Pilot.

Monitoring Reminders

► Scheduling – OHS is unable to accommodate requests to reschedule reviews.

► Grant Recipients need to keep calendars updated. Plan for back-up Point of Contacts for the Review Team.

► OHS reserves the right to conduct unannounced reviews at any time.
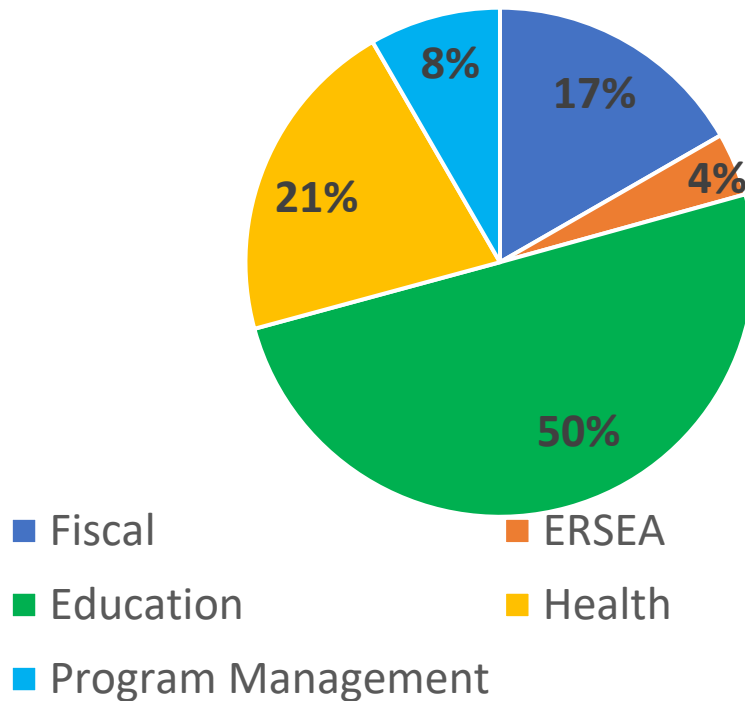
Monitoring: FY22 Top Cited Issues

Challenges Observed through Monitoring FA1 and FA2 Reviews

Areas of Concern	Areas of Noncompliance	Deficiencies*
Early Head Start teacher qualifications 1302.91(e)(1) – 143 citations	Criminal record checks 648A(g)(3) – 28 citations	Governing board oversight 642(c)(1)(E)(iv)(V)(bb) – 2 citations
Head Start teacher qualifications 1302.91(e)(2)(ii) – 68 citations	Inventory of equipment purchased using Head Start funds 75.320(d)(2) – 22 citations	Criminal record checks 648A(g)(3) – 2 citations
Insufficient staffing to operate at full capacity 1302.101(a)(3) – 19 citations	Verifying age and eligibility 1302.12(a)(ii) – 17 citations	Appropriate and timely reporting 1302.102(d)(1)(ii) – 2 citations
Parenting curriculum 1302.51(b) – 12 citations	SF-429A filing and accuracy 75.343 – 16 citations	

Areas of Concern (AOC)

R9 AOC Findings FY2020 - Current

Legend:
- Fiscal (17%)
- ERSEA (4%)
- Education (50%)
- Health (21%)
- Program Management (8%)

Digging Deeper into AOCs:

► **42%** Teacher Qualifications
► **9%** HSAC
► **8%** Coaching
► **8%** Health Status Determinations
► **8%** Staffing
► **5%** SF429 Form
► **4%** Mental Health Consultant
► **4%** Reporting
► **4%** Internal Controls
► **4%** Procurement
► **4%** Disabilities <10%
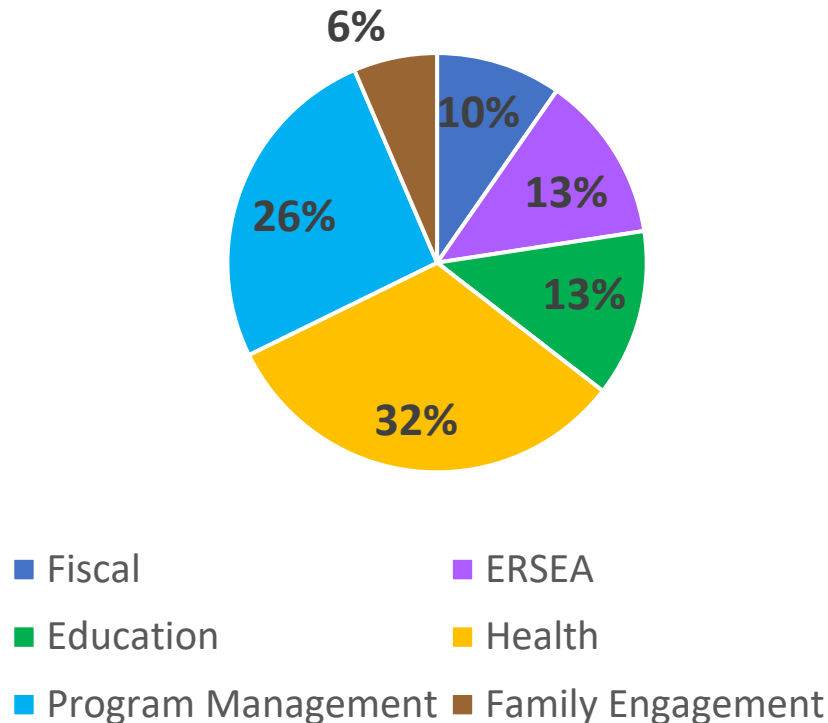
OHS monitoring data as of 11/21/2022

*Total AOCs to date: 24

Areas of Non-Compliance

R9 ANC Findings FY2020 - Current

Legend:
- Fiscal
- ERSEA
- Education
- Health
- Program Management
- Family Engagement

Pie chart values: 10%, 13%, 13%, 32%, 26%, 6%

Digging Deeper into ANCs:
- ► **13%** Health Status Determinations
- ► **13%** Teacher Qualifications
- ► **10%** Systemic Approach to PD
- ► **10%** Health and Safety Reporting
- ► **10%** Background Checks
- ► **10%** Eligibility Based on Income
- ► **6%** Using Data for Continuous Improvement
- ► **6%** Internal Controls
- ► **6%** Family Engagement Approach
- ► **4%** Recording Federal Interest
- ► **3%** Disabilities <10%
- ► **3%** Food Allergies
- ► **3%** Safe Environments
- ► **3%** Board Oversight
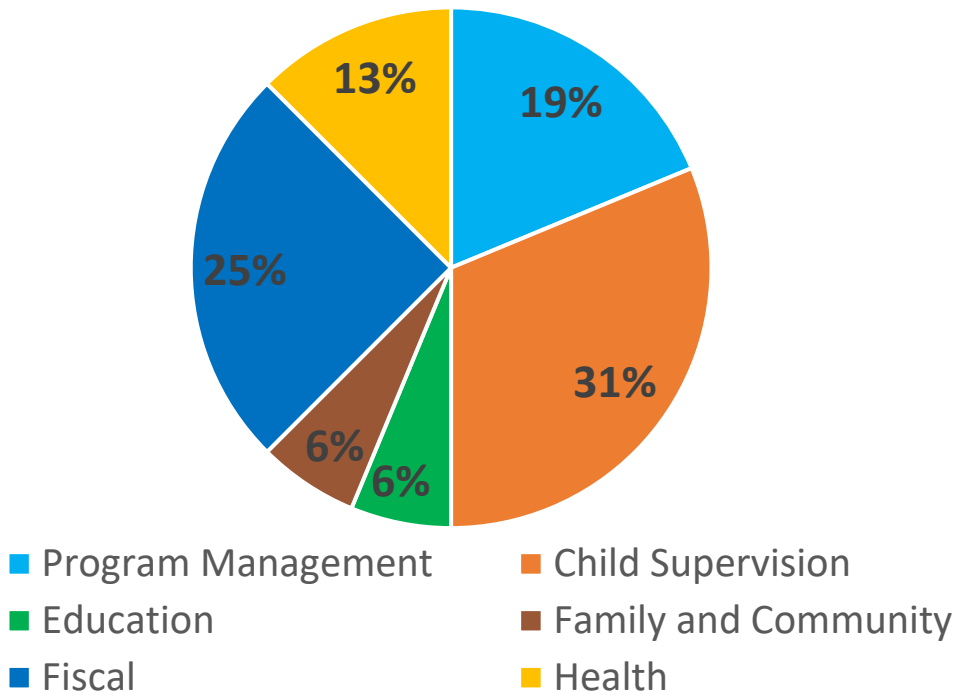
OHS monitoring data as of 11/21/2022

Total ANCs to date: 31

Deficiencies

R9 Deficiency Findings FY2020 - Current

Legend:
- Program Management
- Child Supervision
- Education
- Family and Community
- Fiscal
- Health

Pie chart values: 19%, 31%, 6%, 6%, 25%, 13%

Total Deficiencies to date: 16

Digging Deeper into Deficiencies:
- ► **31%** Child Supervision
- ► **13%** Internal Controls
- ► **7%** Using Data for Continuous Improvement
- ► **7%** Child Rights
- ► **6%** Cost Allocation
- ► **6%** Program Oversight
- ► **6%** Teacher Qualifications
- ► **6%** Family Engagement Approach
- ► **6%** Recording Federal Interest
- ► **6%** Ongoing Monitoring
- ► **6%** Health and Safety Reporting

OHS monitoring data as of 11/21/2022

FY2023 School Readiness

FY2023 School Readiness Discussion Topics

► Staff wellness, retention, and recruitment

- Strategies/Professional Development

- Challenges and adaptations

► Workforce development

- Apprenticeship program

- Challenges and adaptations

- Succession planning

Fiscal Findings

Only 4 Fiscal Findings from FY 2020 to FY 2022 in Region 9

Performance Measure	Count	Fiscal Year	Citation Type(s)
Ongoing Fiscal Capacity[1,2]	2	2022	Deficiency, AOC
Budget Execution[3]	1	2022	AOC
Facilities and Equipment[4]	1	2021	AOC

1,2: **Citation 75.303(a)** Internal controls
   Finding: The recipient did not establish a system of internal controls over assets acquired with Federal funds.

3: **Citation 75.302(b)(7)** Financial management and standards for financial management systems.
   Finding: The recipient did not follow its written policies and procedures when making purchases.

4: **Citation 75.343** Reporting on real property.
   Finding: Grantee did not file the SF-429A Real Property form for properties.

Upcoming Regional TTA Activities*

▶ Leading with Equity CoP- March 28 & 29

▶ HI/OP Institute April 17-22

▶ Fiscal Institute- May 17 & 18

▶ Leading with Equity CoP – June 20 & 21

Trainings in red are open to all grantee recipients

▶ *Monthly Coaching Networks*

▶ *Pyramid Model Cohort Training*

*For more information on other regional TTA opportunities, please contact your assigned TTA Point of Contact (POC) or Program Specialist

Upcoming National TTA Activities

Upcoming events on ECLKC

▶ **Using Brain Science to Inspire and Motivate Education Staff**
https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/3917247/25DECEF69050910972DF311DD997D0AF

 February 21 at 12:00 PM PST

▶ **Prioritizing Father Engagement Using the Head Start Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Framework**
https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/4081069/F7F68915DD59D3A4E92FBFFB68FB2AD9

 March 9 at 12:00 PM PST

Questions & Answers