



Geo-mapping Children’s Vulnerability in Santa Cruz County

Project Overview

First 5 Santa Cruz County requested Applied Survey Research to perform a spatial analysis of areas where families with young children may be vulnerable to child maltreatment, low literacy, and challenges in the areas of positive parenting. The outcome of the analysis includes a series of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) maps and the source data to support decision making as part of the First 5 Commission’s strategic planning efforts.

Research Questions

The maps were designed to answer two central questions:

1. Where in the county are young children and their parents/guardians who are most vulnerable to challenges in the areas of positive parenting techniques, child maltreatment and/or low literacy?
2. Which areas in the county have multiple risk factors?

Population Map

Prior to reviewing indicator information, a map is displayed to illustrate the number of children in each zip code. The following table shows these population data by zip code.

Santa Cruz County Population Children and Families by Zip Code

Santa Cruz County	Zip Code	Number of Children Ages 0 – 5	Number of Families with Related Children Ages 0 - 5
Aptos	95003	1,464	1,117
Ben Lomond	95005	399	320
Boulder Creek	95006	664	503
Brookdale	95007	57	40
Capitola	95010	525	414
Davenport	95017	53	33
Felton	95018	492	370
Freedom	95019	489	332
Mount Hermon	95041	2	2
Santa Cruz	95060	2,609	1,948
Santa Cruz	95062	2,356	1,836