

## MAKING CONNECTIONS CROSS-SITE SURVEY

# BASIC DEMOGRAPHICS

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## INTRODUCTION

**The Making Connections Cross-Site Survey** provides a wealth of information on resident perceptions of services. The survey has entailed interviews with large samples of families in Making Connections neighborhoods in all 10 sites at two points in time: first in 2002 or 2003 (depending on the site), and second in 2005 or 2006. A third wave was then conducted in the selected neighborhoods in 5 of the 10 sites in 2008 or 2009 (Denver, Des Moines, Indianapolis, San Antonio, and White Center).

**These fact sheets** focus on the 2008/09 survey and significant changes between it and earlier waves in the 5 sites. They provide selected data on the demographic makeup of Making Connections neighborhoods and how the relevant indicators had changed over time. We expect that data on these basic indicators will inform understanding of many other branches of research using the survey data. The topics covered are:

- Types of households (households with and without children)
- Race and ethnicity (households with and without children)
- The foreign born (households with children only)
- Age and gender (households with children only)

Gaining clarity at the outset in differences between the characteristics of households with children and childless households is important. These two groups differ from each other in important ways. Families with children have been the focus of the Making Connections mission and, on many dimensions, they need be looked at separately. Lumping households with and without children together can create indicators that are often difficult to interpret.

**Note:** The Making Connections initiative was intended to foster community-wide results in tough neighborhoods over the long-term, particularly in regards to improving young children's health and their success in school, and in increasing families' earnings,

income, and asset levels. However, in the individual sites, the Making Connections strategies have not been operational for long enough or achieved sufficient saturation for there to be a reasonable expectation that such community-wide changes will already be evident. The longitudinal survey data on the Making Connections sites provide useful information on the dynamics occurring in the target neighborhoods. However, the absence of systematic improvements in key indicators to date should not be viewed as a reflection on the efficacy of the Making Connections model for community change.

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## TYPES OF HOUSEHOLDS

- In 2008/09, 42% of all households in the five Making Connections sites had children. That share had not changed significantly overall since 2002/03, but there had been a significant increase in the average size of households with children (from 4.0 to 4.2 persons) and decrease in the size of households without children (from 1.7 to 1.6 persons). (Table 1.1)
  - Across sites, the share of all households that had children ranged from a low of 32% in Denver to a high of 50% in San Antonio. Only one significant change in these shares had occurred since the first survey: a decrease from 44% to 37% in Indianapolis.

Table 1.1  
Households With and Without Children, 2008/09

	Hsehlds w/children % total	Persons/hsehld	
		w/child.	no child.
Total	42	<u>4.2</u>	1.6
<i>By Site</i>			
Denver	32	4.0	1.5
Des Moines	47	<u>4.3</u>	1.6
Indianapolis	<b>37</b>	4.2	<b>1.6</b>
San Antonio	50	4.3	1.8
White Center	45	<u>4.2</u>	1.7
<i>By Race/Ethnicity/Nativity</i>			
NH white	<b>26</b>	<u>4.1</u>	1.5
NH black, US born	49	3.7	1.5
Hispanic, US born	49	4.2	1.7
Hispanic, foreign born	69	4.6	<b>1.9</b>
NH Asian, foreign born	<b>41</b>	4.5	2.1
US born	<b>37</b>	<b>4.1</b>	1.6
Foreign born	61	4.5	<b>1.9</b>

Notes: Statistically significant changes since 2002/03: bold = decrease, bold and underline = increase. NH = non-Hispanic. Too few observations to support estimates for foreign born blacks, US born Asians & other groups not listed

- Among race/ethnicity/nativity groups, a much larger share of foreign born households than US born had children: 61% vs. 37% overall. The highest share with children was 69% (foreign born Hispanics), followed by US born Hispanics and blacks (49%). White households had by far the lowest share with children, 26%.
  - The share of households with children had declined significantly since the first survey for US born households overall: from 40% to 37%. There were also significant declines in the share with children for whites and foreign born Asians.
  - The marked difference in household size between households with children and those without held up across all five sites in 2008/09. The size of households with children ranged only from 4.0 (Denver) to 4.3 (Des Moines and San Antonio). The size of households with no children ranged from 1.5 (Denver) to 1.8 (San Antonio).
  - Since the 2002/03 survey, there were three significant changes in household size: increases for households with children in Des Moines and White Center and a decrease for childless households in Indianapolis.
  - Across groups, sizes of households with children ranged from 3.7 (US born blacks) to 4.6 (Hispanics). For households without children, the range was from 1.5 (whites and US born blacks) to 2.1 (foreign born Asians).
  - There were two significant changes in these relationships since the first survey: an increase for white households with children (from 3.8 to 4.1) and a decrease for foreign born Hispanic households without children (from 2.4 to 1.9).
- **Among families with children in 2008/09, 27% had only one adult, 54% included a married couple and the remaining 19% had two or more adults but no married couple. Interestingly, it was the share of the total in the 2+ adults/no married couple category that increased significantly since the 2002/03 survey, while the share with a married couple declined and the share with only one adult showed no significant change.** (Table 1.2)
    - One adult (i.e., one parent) families are a particular concern in Making Connections because they normally exhibit many more signs of distress than families with two or more adults. Across sites in 2008/09, the one parent share ranged from a low of 24% (Des Moines) to a high of 39% (Denver).

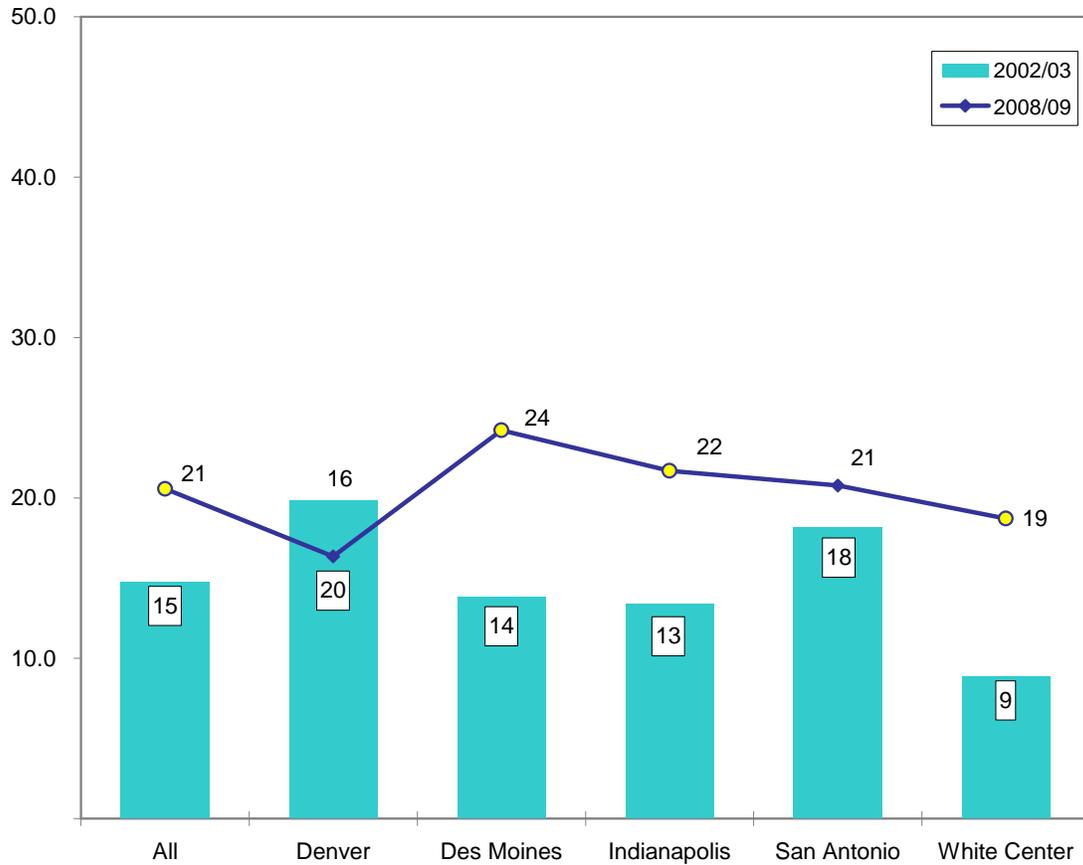
Table 1.2  
**Pct. of Families With Children by Type, 2008/09**

	1 adult only	2+ adults w/married couple	2+ adults no marr. couple
Total	27	<b>54</b>	<u>19</u>
<i>By Site</i>			
Denver	39	48	13
Des Moines	24	53	<u>23</u>
Indianapolis	29	<b>50</b>	<u>22</u>
San Antonio	<u>30</u>	<b>52</b>	18
White Center	19	64	<u>17</u>
<i>By Race/Ethnicity/Nativity</i>			
NH white	26	61	13
NH black, US born	46	<b>25</b>	29
Hispanic, US born	35	<b>45</b>	20
Hispanic, foreign born	10	76	14
NH Asian, foreign born	12	72	17
US born	<u>35</u>	<b>44</b>	<u>21</u>
Foreign born	12	75	14

Notes: Statistically significant changes since 2002/03: bold = decrease, bold and underline = increase. NH = non-Hispanic. Too few observations to support estimates for foreign born blacks, US born Asians & other groups not listed

- The only significant change in the one parent share was an increase of from 21% to 30% in San Antonio.
- Across race/ethnicity/nativity groups the range in the one parent share was dramatic: from lows of 10-12% (foreign born Hispanics and Asians) to a high of US born blacks (46%). For reference, the level for whites was 26%. In the aggregate, the one parent share for families with foreign born respondents was only 12% in contrast to 35% for US born families on average.
- The share of families with children headed by a married couple ranged from 50% in Indianapolis up to a high of 64% in White Center in 2008/09. Since the first survey, there had been significant declines in this percentage in Indianapolis (from 64% to 50%) and San Antonio (62% to 52%).

**Figure 1.1 - Percent of Families with Children That Have 2 or More Adults, But No Married Couple**



*Note: A light-colored dot indicates that there was a statistically significant change between 2002/03 and 2008/09.*

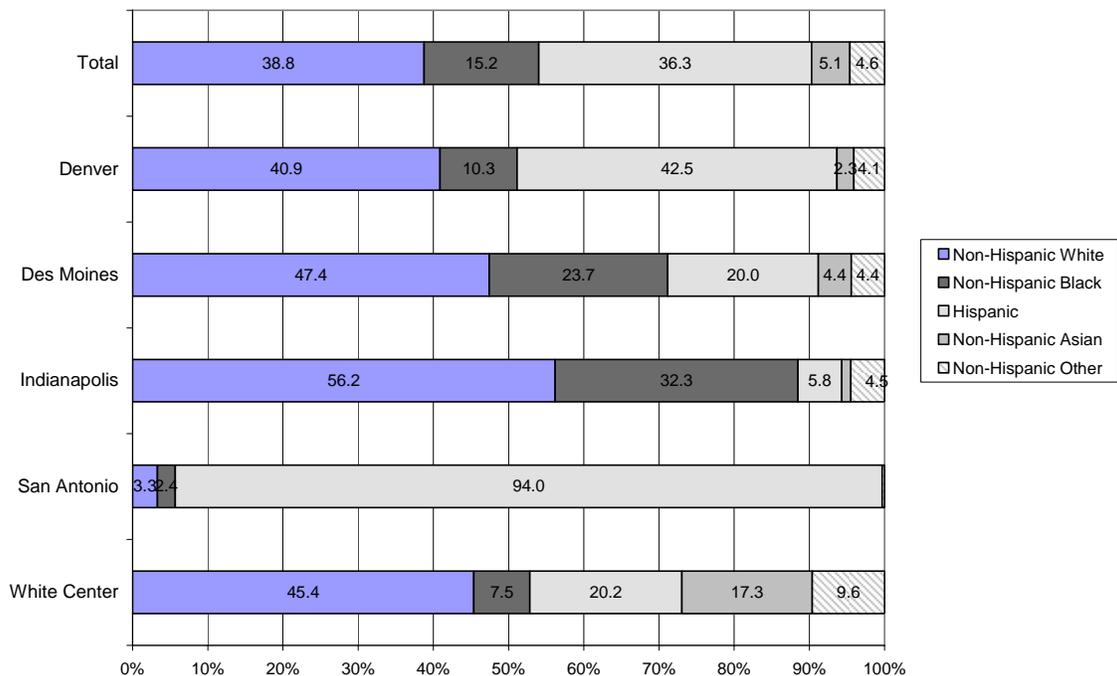
- Again there were wide variations across racial groups by this measure. The range in the share headed by a married couple was from a low of only 25% (US born blacks) to a high of 78% (foreign born blacks) and 76% (foreign born Hispanics)
- Since 2002/03, there had been significant declines in this measure in these neighborhoods: for US born blacks (from 35% to 25%), US born Hispanics (from 53% to 45%) and for the US born overall (from 55% to 44%).

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## RACE AND ETHNICITY

- Overall, the racial/ethnic composition of these sites was quite varied. Of all households in 2008/09, 39% were NH (non-Hispanic) whites, 15% were NH blacks, 36% were Hispanics, 5% were NH Asians, and the remaining 5% were from a mix of other groups. In the aggregate, there had been two significant changes since the 2002/03 survey; a decline for whites (from 44% to 39%) and an increase for Hispanics (from 31% to 36%). (Figure 2.1)

Fig. 2.1 - Race/Ethnicity of Respondent, All Households in Making Connections Neighborhoods, 2008/09



- Site-by-site, however, patterns were more concentrated. The highest concentration was in San Antonio where Hispanics accounted for 94% of the total (a significant increase from 84% in 2002/03).
- Indianapolis was dominated by two groups, whites (56%) and blacks (32%), with small shares for the other groups (There were no significant changes since the first survey).

- In Denver also, two groups predominated but different ones: whites (41%) and Hispanics (43%). The only significant changes was a decline for blacks from 14% to 10%.
  - The Des Moines pattern was more varied: 47% for whites, 24% for blacks and 20% for Hispanics. The most notable change was the significant increase for Hispanics (10% at the first survey) and decline for whites (from 55%).
  - The most varied of all was White Center with whites at 45%, blacks at 7%, Hispanics at 20%, Asians at 17%. The most noteworthy shift here also was an increase for Hispanics (who for the first time outnumber the Asians – up from 14% at the time of the first survey). Whites had seen a significant decline (from 55%) over the period.
  - As would be expected, the racial composition of the foreign born was quite different that that for those born in the US. Across sites, the foreign born households were only 5% white (compared to 48% for the US born), and 5% black (compared to 18%), but 67% Hispanic (compared to 28%) and 21% Asian (compared to 1%).
- **There were stark contrasts between the racial/ethnic composition of households with children and that of households without children in these sites. In 2007/2008, minorities made up 77% of households with children, compared to only 50% of childless households; Hispanics made up 49% of households that had children, but only 27% of childless households.. Blacks constituted 19% of the families with children but only 13% of the childless. (Table 2.1)**
    - San Antonio was the only site where racial/ethnic differences between households with and without children were not great because Hispanics were so dominant in both types of households; e.g., whites made up 4% of families with children and 3% of childless households. In all other sites, the differences were striking. The white percentages in Denver were 13% for families with children but 54% for childless households. The comparable relationships were 30% vs. 62% in Des Moines, 45% vs. 63% in Indianapolis, and 25% versus 61% in White Center
    - Changes in shares of households by racial/ethnic group between surveys were greater for families with children than for childless households. Since the 2002/03 survey there were statistically significant declines in white percentages of families with children in all sites except Denver and significant increases in Hispanic shares in all except Denver and Indianapolis. Indianapolis, however, had seen a significant increase in its black percentage of families with children.

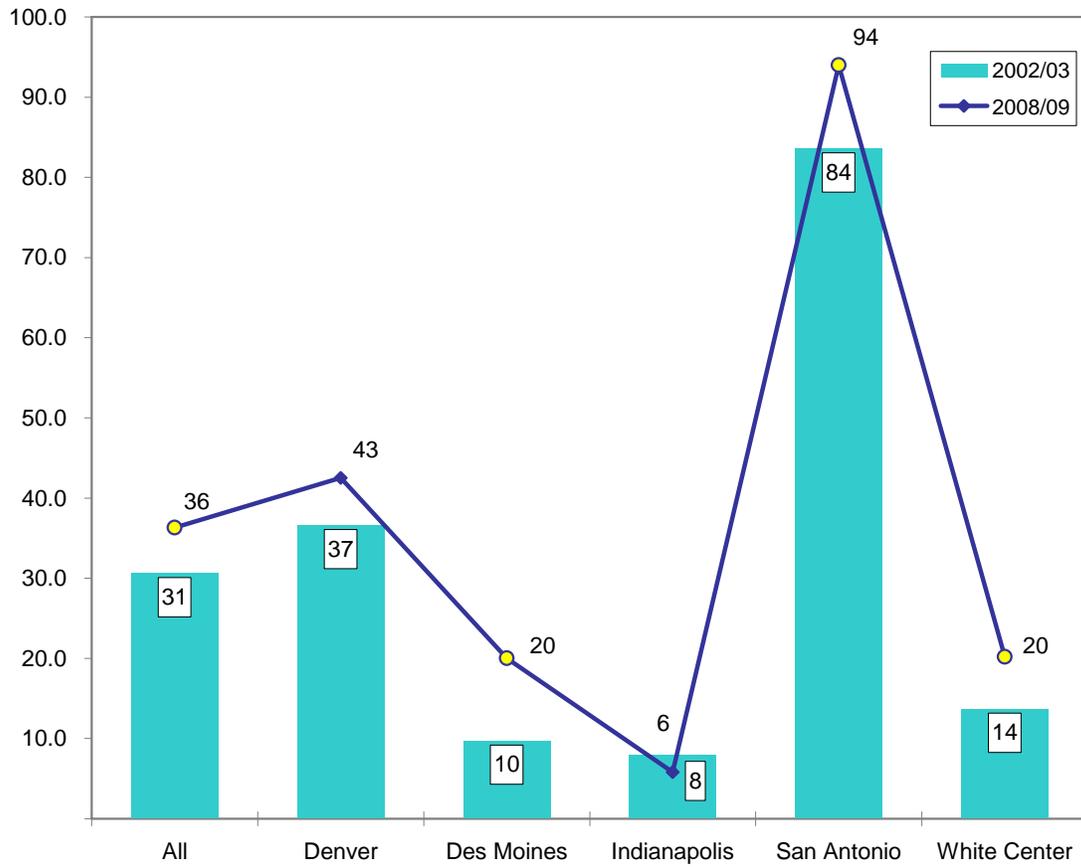
Table 2.1  
**Household With and Without Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2008/09**

	NH white	NH black	Hispanic	NH Asian
Households with children	<b>23</b>	19	<u><b>49</b></u>	5
Denver	13	17	66	1
Des Moines	<b>30</b>	28	<u><b>36</b></u>	3
Indianapolis	<b>45</b>	<u><b>41</b></u>	12	0
San Antonio	<b>4</b>	2	<u><b>93</b></u>	*
White Center	<b>25</b>	11	<u><b>34</b></u>	19
US born	<b>33</b>	25	<u><b>37</b></u>	1
Foreign born	<b>2</b>	6	<u><b>76</b></u>	<b>15</b>
Households without children	<b>50</b>	13	<u><b>27</b></u>	5
Denver	54	<b>7</b>	32	3
Des Moines	62	21	7	5
Indianapolis	63	28	<b>3</b>	2
San Antonio	<b>3</b>	3	<u><b>94</b></u>	*
White Center	61	5	8	17
US born	57	15	23	1
Foreign born	<b>8</b>	3	52	33

Notes: Statistically significant changes since 2002/03: bold = decrease, bold and underline = increase.

- For households without children, the pattern was more stable. There was only one significant decline in the white share (San Antonio). San Antonio also saw the only significant increase for Hispanics.

**Figure 2.2 - Percent of Respondents That Are Hispanic,  
All Households**



*Note: A light-colored dot indicates that there was a statistically significant change between 2002/03 and 2008/09.*

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## THE FOREIGN BORN

- **In 2008/09, the foreign born accounted for 32% of families with children in these sites. The change from 2002/03 was not statistically significant.**  
 (Table 3.1)
  - Indianapolis had by far the lowest share foreign born (9%). White Center was highest at 46%. Foreign born shares fell in the 22%-28% range in the other sites.
  - Across sites, foreign born shares were only 3% for whites at 10% for blacks, but 49% for Hispanics and 90% for Asians.
  - There were no statistically significant changes in these percentages since 2002/03.

Table 3.1  
**Percent of Families With Children With  
 Foreign Born Respondent, 2008/08**

	Pct. of families 2008/09
Total	32
<i>By Site</i>	
Denver	40
Des Moines	32
Indianapolis	9
San Antonio	23
White Center	52
<i>By Race/Ethnicity/Nativity</i>	
NH white	3
NH black	10
Hispanic	49
NH Asian	90

- **Of all families with children whose respondents were foreign born, the largest share by far had been born in Mexico/Central America (70%). Southeast Asia was the second most frequent birth region (15%). The only significant change in these frequencies since the 2002/03 survey was a decline in the share from Other Asia from 5% to 2%. (Table 3.2)**
  - In White Center, Mexico/Central America was the birth region for 42% of the foreign born. Southeast Asia came in second at 31%.
  - In all other sites, Mexico/Central America was solely dominant, accounting for 82% or more.
  - The only statistically significant declines in these share were for Southeast Asia in Des Moines and Africa/West Indies for White Center.
  - The only significant gains were for Mexico/Central America in Des Moines and Indianapolis.

Table 3.2  
**Percent Foreign Born by Region of Birth, 2008/09**  
 (Families with children)

	Europe N. Amer	SE Asia	Other Asia	Africa & W. Indies	Mexico C. Amer.	South Amer.
Total	4	15	<b>2</b>	5	70	4
<i>By Site</i>						
Denver	1	6	*	8	86	*
Des Moines	5	<b>9</b>	*	4	<b>82</b>	1
Indianapolis	*	*	*	*	<b>100</b>	*
San Antonio	*	*	*	*	95	5
White Center	6	31	5	<b>8</b>	42	8
<i>By Race/Ethnicity/Nativity</i>						
NH white	*	*	*	*	*	*
NH black	17	*	*	83	*	*
Hispanic	*	*	*	1	93	5
NH Asian	1	<b>92</b>	6	*	*	*

Notes: \* = Sample size is less than 10. Statistically significant changes since 2002/03: bold = decrease, bold and underline = increase.

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## AGE STRUCTURE AND GENDER

- In 2008/09, just half of the people in families with children in these sites were the children themselves. Working age individuals (ages 18-64) accounted for 48% and the elderly, the remaining 2%. There had been no significant changes in these shares since the first survey. (Table 4.1)
  - Across sites, the child share ranged from a low of 46% in White Center to highs of 52% in Denver, Des Moines and San Antonio.

Table 4.1  
Percent of Population in Families With Children  
by Age Group, 2008/09

	Children (0-17 yrs.)	Working age (18-64 yrs.)	Elderly (65+ yrs.)
Total	50	48	2
<i>By Site</i>			
Denver	52	47	2
Des Moines	52	46	2
Indianapolis	<b>48</b>	<u><b>51</b></u>	1
San Antonio	52	46	2
White Center	46	51	2
<i>By Race/Ethnicity/Nativity</i>			
NH white	48	50	2
NH black, US born	55	43	2
Hispanic, US born	52	45	3
Hispanic, foreign born	47	52	1
NH Asian, foreign born	44	52	4
US born	51	47	2
Foreign born	47	51	1

Notes: Statistically significant changes since 2002/03: bold = decrease, bold and underline = increase. NH = non-Hispanic. Too few observations to support estimates for foreign born blacks, US born Asians & other groups not listed

- The only statistically significant changes in these relationships since the 2002/03 survey were a decline in the children's share (from 52% to 48%) in Indianapolis, accompanied by an increase there for the working age segment.
- Across groups, the child share is highest for US born blacks (55%), followed by US born Hispanics (52%). It is lowest for foreign born Asians (44%).
- There is only modest evidence of a larger share of extended families (where elderly shares are above average) for US born Hispanics (3%) and foreign born Asians (4%).

Table 4.2  
**Percent Population in Families With Children  
 by Gender, 2008/09**

	Female	Male
Total	54	46
<i>By Site</i>		
Denver	54	46
Des Moines	53	47
Indianapolis	54	46
San Antonio	52	48
White Center	<b>56</b>	<b>44</b>
<i>By Race/Ethnicity/Nativity</i>		
NH white	52	48
NH black, US born	58	42
Hispanic, US born	55	45
Hispanic, foreign born	51	49
NH Asian, foreign born	56	44
US born	55	45
Foreign born	52	48

Notes: Statistically significant changes since 2002/03: bold = decrease. bold and underline = increase. NH = non-Hispanic  
 Too few observations to support estimates for foreign born  
 NH black, US born Asians & other groups not listed.

- **Among the population of families with children in these sites in 2008/09, 54% were female (no significant change in this share since the first survey). (Table 4.3)**

- Females constituted the majority in all five sites – a fairly narrow range from 52% (San Antonio) to 56% (White Center). The only statistically significant change in these relationships since 2002/03 had been an increase from 50% to 56% in White Center.
- Across groups, the female share ranged from a low of 51% (foreign born Hispanics) to a high of 58% (US born blacks).