

The following secondary data profile provides a description of your region, including some assets and challenges with respect to youth development. This information is intended to complement what you are learning through your work with other sources of secondary data and primary data.

Community Description

There are approximately 3090 youth ages 10-15 attending public schools (not including charter schools) in the Galt Area Coalition’s footprint area, and according to the 2000 U.S. Census, approximately 3085 10-14 year olds residing in the zip code areas associated with the area.ⁱ Across zip codes the percentage of households inhabited by families with children under 18 varied from one-third to close to one-half.ⁱⁱ

Percentage of Households that are families with children under 18

	95632 (Galt)	95686 (Thorton)	95638 (Herald)	95220 (Acampo)
percentage	46.6	41.8	36.1	33.1

Most of these households included married couples with children, although many heads of households were women or grandparents.ⁱⁱⁱ It is important to note that migrant families and undocumented residents are often undercounted by the U.S. Census, and this population might not be well-represented by the census data used in preparing this profile.

Most local residents commute anywhere from approximately 25 minutes (Thorton) to 35 minutes (Acampo) to work, so many people leave their residential communities for jobs. There is a big difference in household income across these zip code areas and, in some cases, within them.

Local household income by zip code

	95632 (Galt)	95686 (Thorton)	95638 (Herald)	95220 (Acampo)	Sacramento County
Median Household income	46,319	30,469	72,708	48,830	43816
Median range within zip code	30977-72302	30000-30000	54659-77236	30000-55479	8292-97501

The Galt region is home to a predominantly White and Hispanic/Latino population. The racial/ethnic breakdown of students enrolled in the local district’s public schools (not including any charter schools) is as follows.

Public School Student Racial/Ethnic Breakdown

	African American	American Indian/ Native Alaskan	Asian	Filipino	Pacific Islander	White	Hispanic/ Latino	Multiple/no response
Galt Area	2.0%	1.0%	2.0%	1.2%	0.6%	46.4%	45.3%	1.5
County	15.9	1.2	13.3	2.8	1.4	40.4	23.6	1.4

Latinos make up the largest population in the public schools. However, the distribution of students varies substantially across local elementary schools. For example, at Arcohe, River Oaks, and Oak View Union, more than 55% students are white, approximately 35% are Latino; at Fairsite, Valley Oaks, and New Hope and less than 35% of students are White, and more than 60% are Latino. At New Hope Elementary School, over 80% of the students are Latino.

While English language skills can present a barrier for youth and family engagement with local institutions, there are many people who could bring skills in languages other than English to help make these connections.

	95632	95686	95638	95220
% born in another country	16.0	33.1	2.3	9.8
% speak language other than English at home	27.6	60.0	3.3	20.5
% not speaking English "very well"	12.7	37.5	1.4	8.4

Across all communities, the largest percentage of people who do not speak English "very well" speak Spanish.^{iv} Local residents who were born in another country, are learning English, and speak a language other than English at home tend to live in Thorton and Galt.^v

Many youth speak languages other than English; the large majority speak Spanish, but other languages include Hmong, Punjabi, Mandarin, Khmer, Farsi, Mien (Yao), Pilipino, Portuguese, Ilocano, Tongan, Vietnamese, and Pashto. At the elementary level, anywhere from less than 10% (Arcohe Elementary) to over 60% of students (New Hope Elementary School) are learning English. At local secondary schools, while only 6.6% of McCaffrey Middle School students are classified as English learners, approximately 27% of Greer and Estrellita students are classified as English learners, as are about 13% of students at Galt High School. This suggests that youth themselves bring tremendous language and cultural resources to bear upon efforts to enhance youth well-being. Also, any efforts must be reflective of this linguistic and cultural diversity, and sensitive to the challenges and possibilities of growing up in and negotiating a region that is both very racially, culturally, linguistically and economically diverse, and divided into communities that are racially, culturally and economically more homogeneous.

Meeting Basic Needs: Housing and Nutrition

The percentage of families whose income is below poverty level across Galt area zip codes range from 1.8% in Herald to 25.5% in Thorton, which is significantly higher than the county poverty rate of 10.5%.^{vi} Housing costs more than 30% of household income for approximately 25% of residents in Thorton, suggesting that many in this community are likely to have limited disposable resources to spend on youth programs, activities, etc., and meeting basic needs is likely a significant challenge for some. This is reflected in the 85% free/reduced meal rate at New Hope Elementary School. Fairsite Elementary School (81%) also has relatively high free/reduced meal rates, in comparison with other elementary schools, where approximately one-third to one-half of students receive this service.

Safety

Children and youth in this neighborhood contend with a variety of safety issues in their homes, schools and neighborhoods.

In comparison with Sacramento county, the Galt zip code area had medium-low numbers of youth entering the foster care system in 2004 for the first time; data were not available for the other zip codes, which fall in San Joaquin County^{vii} In the last quarter of 2005, Sacramento County had high rates of substantiated abuse with respect to the state, while San Joaquin County had medium-high levels.

Substantiated Abuse of Youth Ages 11-15 by Ethnicity in Sacramento County^{viii}

Race	# per 1000 youth
White	15.4
Black	24.0
Hispanic	12.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	4.4
Native American	3.6
Total	13.8

Neglect and abuse referral rates (not substantiated) were medium-low in Galt in comparison with Sacramento County; data are not available for San Joaquin County.^{ix} While it is clearly negative to have high substantiated and referral rates, high referral rates are also potentially an indicator that safety networks are working, and adults are looking out for potential problems.

Healthy Kids survey data are available for Galt Elementary and Galt Union High School Districts (not Thorton, Herald and Acampo). District-wide, in 2004, approximately 51% of 5th grade students who took the CHKS reported feeling very safe at school. This number decreased to 24% in 7th grade and 11% in 9th grade. Rates of reported fighting, or being afraid of being beaten up were highest amongst 7th grader survey respondents (25%), while reports of harassment were highest amongst 9th graders (30%). Reports of carrying a gun or other weapon were highest amongst high school students 9th grade respondents. In comparison with students statewide, Galt 7th and 9th graders reported similar levels of violence-related experiences, but 9th graders reported somewhat higher levels of harassment because of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Galt 9th grader respondents reported somewhat higher levels of protective school assets in comparison with students statewide, while 7th grade respondents reported substantially higher levels (44% in comparison with 30%).^x

Health

According to the CA Physical Fitness Test results, children’s physical fitness varies somewhat across neighborhoods and communities, and in some cases is quite poor. This table displays the percentage of students that are in the “healthy fit zone” in terms of aerobic capacity, body composition, and having at least 5 of 6 fitness standards.

Students in the Healthy Fit Zone (HFZ)

School	Grade	% in Aerobic HFZ	% in Body Comp HFZ	% meeting at least 5 of 6 fitness standards
<i>Sacramento County ESs</i>	5	61.2	69.2	53.7
Arcohe	5	64.4	76.3	67.8
New Hope	5	37.5	66.7	50
Oak View Union	5	75.0	65.0	52.5
Fairsite	5	38.9	47.8	36.7
Marengo Ranch	5	70.4	69.6	73.3
River Oaks	5	61.7	80.9	63.8
Valley Oaks	5	75.6	61.0	58.5
Lake Canyon	5	85.0	75.0	84.0
<i>Sacramento County MS</i>	7	61.2	69.2	53.7
Vernon E. Greer	7	56.8	58.2	46.4
McCaffrey	7	71.9	69.8	73.3
New Hope	7	65.2	73.9	47.8
Oak View Union	7	82.4	55.9	50.0
Arcohe	7	73.5	66.2	67.6
<i>Sacramento County</i>	9	57.0	70.3	57.8
Galt HS	9	41.0	70.5	48.5
Estrellita Continuation HS	9	47.6	100.0	61.9

While some schools are posting higher scores than the county average, others are quite a bit lower. There is substantial variation across schools in the region.

Galt Elementary and High School District-wide data on alcohol, drug and tobacco use suggests that 7th grade students who took the CHKS in 2004 were involved with high-risk behaviors at slightly lower rates than students of the same age statewide who took the California Student Survey in 2003, while 9th grade respondents were involved at somewhat higher rates with respect to being drunk or sick after drinking and binge drinking.

Support for Positive Identity development/cross-cultural engagement

There are few easily available types of secondary data that allow us to look at support for students’ racial identity development and learning to engage with people of different backgrounds. Three types of data are the racial/ethnic make-up of the teacher population in comparison with the student population, the racial/ethnic make-up of the local population and its distribution across neighborhoods, and student reports of harassment on the CHKS.

Teachers are one population of adults that is positioned to support youth as they negotiate their own racial identity development and their relationships to other racial/ethnic groups. While teachers’ racial/ethnic backgrounds do not necessarily predict their capacity to support youth and families in this process, an ethnically diverse staff presents opportunities for students to learn to engage with adults from a variety of backgrounds; staff who share the racial and ethnic background of their students bring their own experiences negotiating racial/ethnic identity, as well as cultural competence, that might be a basis for important connections with students and their families. In general, the Galt area student population is much more ethnically diverse than the teacher population, which is predominantly white; Marengo Elementary particularly stands out as having an all-white teaching staff. However, some schools do have substantial numbers of teachers of color, and they are an important resource for local youth and families.

As noted above, the Galt area is home to a rich diversity of residents, although Whites and Latinos make up the largest racial/ethnic groups; a breakdown of the largest racial groups (>3%) is shown below.

% Population by Race/Ethnicity (largest groups only)

Race	95632 (Galt)	95686 (Thorton)	95638 (Herald)	95220 (Acampo)
White	75.1	46.9	90.7	84.6
Latino/any race	30.0	59.3	9.6	19.1
Some other race	16.6	42.3	2.5	8.0
Asian	2.5	3.5	1.4	3.0
Two or more races	5.4	4.7	3.9	2.7

These populations are not distributed evenly across the Galt area—that is, people of particular racial and ethnic backgrounds tend to live in certain areas. The large majority of Acampo and, especially, Herald residents are White, while Galt and Thorton residents are primarily White and Latino. Within Galt, certain neighborhoods are predominantly white, while the most predominantly Latino census tracts are almost 48% Latino; in Thorton, all tracts are approximately 45% Latino. This means that while some young people have opportunities to connect with youth and adults who do not share their background in their residential neighborhoods, others do so primarily in school.

The 2005 CHKS district level findings report that 26% of 7th grade and 30% of 9th grade survey participants had been harassed at school based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.^{xi} 43% of 5th grader survey participants report having been bullied. These data suggest the likely importance of increased support for local youth around developing their own sense of identity and engaging with people of different backgrounds.

Support for Academic Learning and negotiating educational transitions

Across the Galt area, there is great variation in adults’ educational backgrounds.

Educational Attainment	95632 (Galt)	95686 (Thorton)	95638 (Herald)	95220 (Acampo)	Sacramento County
High School Degree	28.8	23.1	32.0	28.2	22.9
Batchelor's or higher	13.8	4.4	19.2	15.6	24.8

In, many fewer adult residents have received high school and 4-year college degrees in comparison with residents of Herald and the county as a whole.^{xii} These numbers, in combination with the large number of foreign-born residents, suggest that in some communities many parents/caretakers are likely unfamiliar with U.S. school systems and systems of higher education, so youth are more dependent on the support of peers and others in negotiating educational transitions.

Average class size across elementary schools is approximately 21. McCaffrey Middle and Galt High school average class sizes are larger than those of the county (26.8) and state (27.3), except at Estrellita Continuation High School and local . While 100% of Oak View Union teachers are fully credentialed, most other schools have closer to the county average of 95% fully credentialed teachers. Several schools have significantly fewer fully credentialed teachers than the county average: Valley Oaks Elementary, Estrellita Continuation High School, and New Hope Elementary School.^{xiii}

Secondary school pupil services-student ratios supports in Galt are noticeably higher than those of the county.

Pupil Services Staff to Student Ratios (Middle and High School Grades)

	Pupil Services Ratio
Sacramento County	1:280.9
Arcohe	1:937
New Hope	0
Oak View	0
Galt High School	1:424.4
Estrellita Continuation High School	1:430

As of December 2006, New Hope Elementary School was the only school with state or federal afterschool funding; however, in the January 2007 preliminary award of state afterschool funding, Fairsite, Valley Oak and Greer (Galt Joint ES District) had received funds.^{xiv} As of spring 2006, there were only several licensed school-age childcare centers in Galt, but none in Arcohe, New Hope and Oak View districts.^{xv}

Standardized test outcomes

Test scores are only one way of examining academic outcomes, and there is ongoing debate about their accuracy, particularly in the case of students of color and English learners. Nonetheless, they are an important gauge, with real consequences for local schools. In the Galt area, most schools did not meet the “target” percentage of students scoring “proficient and above” in both English and math (24.4% English, 26.6% math) for their English learner sub-groups, with the one exception being River Oaks Elementary School. Schools serving more affluent populations were more likely to exceed target proficiency rates.

These data were not available for the continuation high school. Population data suggests that African American and Latino youth are over-represented at the continuation high school in comparison with the comprehensive high school, which suggests the importance of learning more about why this is the case.

Youth Development Assets (based on CHKS data)

The California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) asks a range of questions intended to measure students’ access to the types of support, or “assets” that research has linked to healthy youth development. Of the 5th graders district-wide who participated in CHKS, 57% reported high

levels of external developmental assets in their school, 83% in their homes, and 54% amongst their peers.^{xvi} Of middle and high school student participants, 44% of 7th graders and 26% of 9th graders reported high levels of school assets for youth development. These data suggest the importance of better understanding and increasing students' access to caring relationships, high expectations and meaningful opportunities for participation in their schools and neighborhoods, especially as they transition into middle and high school.

Non-profit Sector

The Galt area includes rich resources for supporting youth development, including public agencies, many committed individuals, and active religious institutions and associations. However, a brief review of non-profit organizations incorporated in this zip code area reveals a very small non-profit sector. Within Galt, organizations focused on youth include sports programs, a Boys and Girls Club, 4-H and FFA. Herald has 4-H; both Herald and Acampo appear to have some type of family services or substance abuse treatment programs. There are no youth-serving non-profit organizations incorporated in Thornton.^{xvii} There is some evidence of social and service organizations that are reflective of the language and cultural diversity of the area (for example, a Mexican-American Concilio in Galt, Portuguese and Italian groups), but the extent to which they have adopted a focus on youth is unclear; however, such organizations may exist as more informal networks, or local branches of organizations based elsewhere. The small size of the non-profit sector raises important questions about how existing local organizations can be brought into the coalition and whether/how their services can be expanded, whether it makes sense to catalyze the development of new organizations (or organizational branches), and how public sector agencies can connect with key informal community leaders to tap local skills and knowledge.

ⁱ There are 3090 10-15 year olds based on adding 2005-2006 grade 5-9 enrollment in local public schools; there are 3085 10-14 year olds based on 2000 U.S. Census data. It is unclear whether the difference in numbers of children enrolled in local schools versus the numbers of children recorded in the 2000 U.S. Census is due to enrollment in charter and/or private schools, the extension of zipcode areas into other school attendance areas, population changes, or some combination thereof.

ⁱⁱ US Census 2000

ⁱⁱⁱ US Census 2000. In 95686/95638/95220/95632 33.6 /30.4/26.9/46.6% of householders are married couples with children and 5.6 / 4.0/3.7/6.5% are female householders with children and no husband present. Of grandparents living in a household with one or more of their own grandchildren (7/100/ 240/443), 42.9/ 63.2/45/43.6% of them are responsible for their grandchildren.

^{iv} US Census 2000

^v US Census 2000 data maps

^{vi} U.S. Census 2000

^{vii} 95632: Med-low (0.9-3.0 children/youth per 1000); no data available for other San Joaquin County zip codes.

<http://cssr.berkeley.edu/cwscmsreports/maps/showEntriesCountymap.asp?page=Sac>

^{viii} Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Shaw, T., Dawson, W., Piccus, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Smith, J., Dunn, A., Frerer, K., Putnam Hornstein, E., & Ataie, Y. (2006). *Child Welfare Services Reports for California*. Retrieved 1/17/07, from University of California at Berkeley Center for Social Services Research website. URL: <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/CWSCMSreports/>, based on 2006 2nd quarter DSS data.

^{ix} <http://cssr.berkeley.edu/cwscmsreports/maps/showRefsCountymap.asp?page=Sac>. Retrieved 1/17/07.

^x Fall 2005 CHKS District level report, Approximately 51% of 5th graders, 54% of 7th graders, 65% of 9th graders participated in the survey. Note that WestEd and the California Department of Education suggest that at least a response rate of 60% is needed across schools and classrooms to generalize results to the full population.

^{xii} US Census 2000

^{xiii} California Department of Education

^{xiv} After-School Education and Safety (ASES) and/or 21st Century Community Learning Center funds

^{xv} Based on DSS list of licensed school-age childcare accessed Spring 2006.

^{xvi} Fall 2004 USD Findings for the Fall 2005 CHKS. 51% of 5th graders, 54% of 7th graders, and 65% of 9th graders participated in the survey. Note that WestEd and the California Department of Education suggest that at least a response rate of 60% is needed across schools and classrooms to generalize results to the full population.

^{xvii} see www.guidestar.org search for organizations by zip code