

# KEY OUTCOMES FOR THE HEALTHY FAMILIES OREGON PROGRAM 2014–2015



Healthy Families Oregon (HFO) is the largest child abuse prevention program in the state. HFO provided screening and referral services to almost 7,700 parents (17% of all births) and evidence-based intensive home visiting for 2,549 of Oregon’s most at-risk families in fiscal year 2014–15. HFO is a nationally accredited Healthy Families America program, ensuring high-quality implementation of recognized standards of practice for effective home visiting programs. HFO achieves positive outcomes for Oregon’s highest risk families, including supporting children’s readiness for school and improving access to resources and supports.

Below is a summary of key outcomes for HFO families participating in home visiting services during FY 2014-15. To view the complete FY 2014–15 data tables please visit [www.npcresearch.com](http://www.npcresearch.com).

## HEALTHY FAMILIES OREGON REDUCES RISK FACTORS & SUPPORTS SCHOOL READINESS

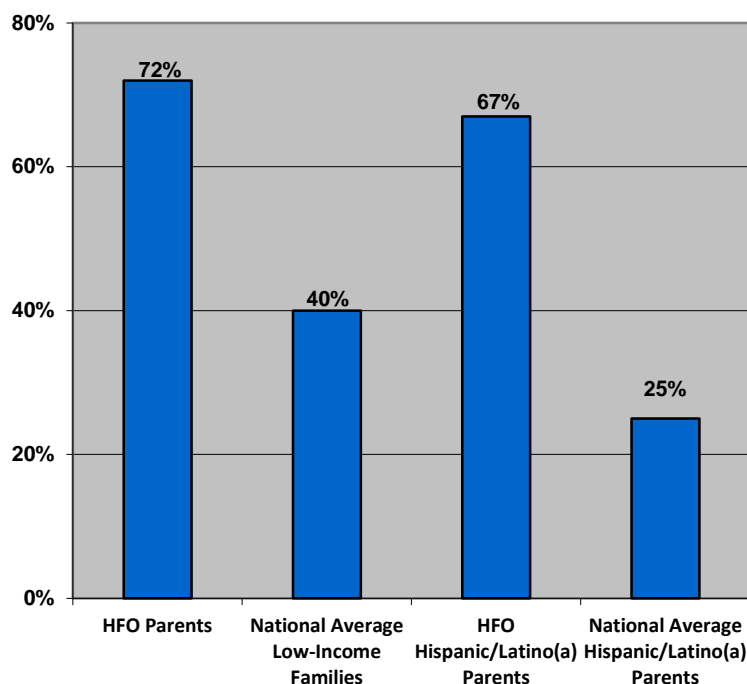
### *Positive Parenting: After at least 6 months in the program:*

- **More Early Literacy Support:** 72% of parents report regular daily reading to their children (at 12 months). Daily reading is a key building block for later school readiness in children.
- **Improved Interactions:** 95% of parents reported that they had positive, supportive interactions with their children.
- **Improved Parenting:** 75% of parents reported that they improved their parenting skills (at 12 months).
- **Decreased Stress:** 66% of HFO parents reported a significant decrease in parenting-related stress, a significant risk factor for child maltreatment.

### *Healthy Children and Families:*

- **Immunizations:** 87% of HFO’s 2-year-olds were fully immunized, compared to only 67% of all Oregon 2-year-olds.<sup>1</sup>
- **Health Care:** After at least 6 months of service, children in families served by HFO exceed Oregon general population rates for connections to preventive health care, including:

Percentage of Parents Reading to Children 0-5 Daily\*



<sup>1</sup> <https://public.health.oregon.gov/PreventionWellness/VaccinesImmunization/Documents/RatesChildNIS.pdf>

\* [http://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/05\\_Reading\\_to\\_Young\\_Children.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/05_Reading_to_Young_Children.pdf)

- 99% of HFO children had health insurance, compared to 88% in Oregon overall;
- 92% of HFO children had a well-child exam in the last 12 months, compared to 80% in Oregon; and
- **Providing Home Visits Prenatally Improves Birth Outcomes:**
  - HFO families who were screened and began services prenatally were much more likely to report breastfeeding their infants (79%) compared to those who began service postnatally (69%).
  - Children of mothers served prenatally were also less likely to be born prematurely (6% vs. 11%).
  - However, the number of families screened and served prenatally (n = 255) is small statewide, suggesting that the need for expansion of prenatal services to more communities may be important.
- **HFO Provides Important Early Developmental Screening and Referral:**
  - 80% of all HFO children received at least one developmental screening using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) during 2014–15.
  - 7% of children were identified with a developmental concern or delay; of these almost all (94%) received a referral to Early Intervention services or other appropriate follow-up action.

## HEALTHY FAMILIES OREGON SERVES FAMILIES AT HIGH RISK FOR ABUSE & NEGLECT

Families receiving HFO home visiting services have an average of three to four serious risk factors for child maltreatment and negative child outcomes. For example, at program enrollment:

- 85% are below the Federal Poverty Level (compared to 15% statewide)
- 75% are single parents (compared to 35% statewide)
- 70% of parents report a childhood history of abuse or neglect
- 44% of parents report having current substance abuse issues
- 39% of parents report having current mental health issues
- 34% have less than a high school education (compared to 20% statewide)
- 31% have prior or current criminal justice involvement
- 27% screened positive for maternal depression symptoms
- 11% are teen parents (compared to 3% statewide)
- Families who agreed to participate in HFO home visiting services have ***more risk factors*** than those who declined services (3.46 risks compared to 3.07 risks).
- Children from families with three or more risk factors ***are over 16 times more likely to be maltreated than children from families with no risk factors.*** (*HFO Maltreatment Prevention Report, 2013–2014*)

## QUALITY CONTINUES TO IMPROVE

- **HFO programs** met five out of six critical research-based Performance Standards for effective service delivery for which data were available at the time of this report, including early screening and referral, effective family engagement and retention, and home visit completion and caseload points, and exceeded the expectation for local program cash matching funds.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HEALTHY FAMILIES OREGON, PLEASE CONTACT:

*Erin Dean, Statewide Coordinator*

*Early Learning Division, Oregon Department of Education*

*503-378-6768 (o), 503-689-3579 (m)*

For more information contact Beth Green ([beth.green@pdx.edu](mailto:beth.green@pdx.edu)) or Jerod Tarte ([tarte@npcresearch.com](mailto:tarte@npcresearch.com)).

For copies of the full report, see [www.npcresearch.com](http://www.npcresearch.com).