



**Boys & Girls Club
Of Greater Ventura**

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Members' and Parents' Surveys

For

Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura

August 2018

Acknowledgements

We would like to take this opportunity and thank Ms. Patricia Birmingham, Chief Executive Officer of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura for giving us the opportunity of preparing this report for the club. We acknowledge and are grateful for the support of the staff in taking time, following the instruction for data collection, and making sure that the data is given to us in a timely manner. Without their help, it would not be possible to bring this study to a positive conclusion.

We are indebted to club members and their parents for spending time answering all the detailed questions that were asked in the surveys. The insight they provided enabled us to find what works and what can be done to further improve the efficacy of services provided by the club.

Jamshid Damooei, Ph.D.
Professor of Economics and Chair
Department of Economics, Finance, and Accounting
California Lutheran University
President
Damooei Global Research
Tel: (805) 493-3357
Damooei@callutheran.edu

Contents

1) Introduction:.....	5
2) Executive Summary of the Economic Impact Study of the Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County	6
An Overview of Economic Impact Areas and Their Multipliers	9
MULTIPLIER: Lifetime Gain from High School Graduation	9
MULTIPLIER: Lifetime Savings from Prevented Teen Pregnancies and Births	11
MULTIPLIER: Criminal Justice System Savings	12
MULTIPLIER: Substance Abuse Reduction Benefits	13
MULTIPLIER: Parental Earnings	14
MULTIPLIER: Countywide Output	15
MULTIPLIER: Total Economic Impact	17
ADDITIONAL IMPACT: Development of Healthy Habits at a Young Age	17
The Unmet Needs of the Underserved Families and Their Children.....	19
3) Summary of the Findings from Survey of the Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura.....	20
3.1) Demographic Characteristics of Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura.....	21
3.2) Greater Ventura Club Member Opinions regarding Programs and Sense of Belonging....	23
3.3) Educational Impact and Club Member Attitudes and Aspirations.....	29
3.4) Extent and Impact Physical Education Within the Club	33
4) Summary of the Findings from Survey of Parents of the Club Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura	36
4.1) Demographic and Socio-Economic Characteristics of Parents of Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura	37
4.2) Family Need for Club Services	45
4.3) Impact of Clubs on Child's Self Confidence and Social Aptitude.....	48
4.4) Impact of Clubs on Academic Performance and Aspiration	50
4.5) Club's Impact on Children's Choice of a Better Lifestyle.....	56
4.6) Impact of Club on Family's Economic Prosperity	58
4.7) Feeling of Safety of Children While at the Club	61

5) Unmet Needs of the Area.....	61
---------------------------------	----

1) Introduction:

In the process of collecting data for the economic impact study of Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County, surveys were administered to club members and parents of all seven clubs. This report provides a summary of the data collected from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura.

The economic impact study began by collecting pertinent in-house information on a number of important pieces of data concerning the budget, personnel, programming and membership of each of the seven clubs. This report summarizes the data gathered through these two surveys in the Greater Ventura Club. The information provides a clear and very interesting picture of the way vital stakeholders think about the organization and its impact on their lives.

We prepared this report based on the request of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Ventura so that they can use the outcomes of the surveys for their own communication with clubs members, parents, collaborators, stakeholders, and donors. Moreover, it can serve as a vital management tool; helping club staff understand areas of strength and in need of further improvement.

Section two of this report contains the executive summary of the economic impact study for the all the clubs in Ventura County. Sections three and four provide a summary of the findings found through the club member and parent surveys, which is specific and applicable only to the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura. Finally, section five provides important information about the size of the unmet needs of the children of underserved families and opportunity for expansion of the services that can be provided by the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura in the area.

2) Executive Summary of the Economic Impact Study of the Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County

The findings of the report put a human face on the enormous positive impact of the Boys & Girls Clubs within Ventura County. The current report renews the most recent effort made in 2014 with new data and takes the effort further with the latest available information from the Clubs and the published data about the county and its youth.

During the year, more than 15,000 young people throughout Ventura County attend various Boys & Girls Club locations. This affects the lives of more than 10,000 families in the county. The parents of these young people depend on the Clubs as a safe, nurturing, and cost-effective environment for their children. Nevertheless, the value of the Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County extends beyond the direct benefits received by parents and Club members. The regional community enjoys a private and public funded service that keeps youths positively engaged and out of trouble in the afternoon and early evening.

This report provides a comprehensive collection of information and uses scientifically credible methods to show the ways in which the Boys & Girls Clubs create economic value. Many of these impacts include “positive externalities.” As a non-profit organization, the Clubs provide services directly and indirectly to various community stakeholders. These services are provided without remuneration, but they have value for those that benefit from the Club. There are three primary beneficiaries of the Club: Club members, the parents of Club members, and the community.

Every day, thousands of youth end their school day and head towards the Clubs; similarly, during school holidays and summer vacation, thousands of youths spend their days at the Clubs. These youth are able to socialize with peers and engage in a wide variety of educational and recreational programs. Without the Clubs, many of these youngsters would be without proper supervision, at-risk, and susceptible to negative influences and threats. In some families, a parent would have to stay home from work to

provide such supervision, reducing the family's earnings and economic security. The Clubs are an important social asset serving such working families.

The value of the Clubs extends beyond the direct benefits enjoyed by parents and Club members. The communities where they live also enjoy an important service by having youth positively engaged and away from trouble during non-school hours.

Many of these impacts include "positive externalities," which is an economic term for the extra benefits that spill over from an initial investment. As non-profit organizations, the Clubs provide services directly and indirectly to a network of community stakeholders.

Club members receive perhaps the greatest benefit of all from their participation in the Clubs. When compared with their peers who do not attend the Clubs, they are more likely to graduate from high school and less likely to engage in risky behaviors resulting in juvenile arrest or teenage motherhood. Although exact mechanisms by which Club members outperform their peers are uncertain, the consistency of the trend strongly suggests that membership in the Clubs plays a vital role in explaining the behavior patterns of the group. By having access to a safe and nurturing environment, youth avoid negative influences. Moreover, basic Club services provide critical support to youth members, including academic assistance, health and life skills training, and character development.

While Club members receive the most from their participation, others benefit as well. For instance, parents of Club members are able to be more productive since their children have a safe, supervised place to spend their afternoon during non-school hours. Many parents are able to work or pursue further education because of the services provided by the Boys & Girls Clubs.

Finally, the larger community also receives significant benefits from Club services. It is well known that juvenile crime peaks in the hours immediately following the end of the

school day. Clubs provide the community with safe and constructive after-school options for youth that promote education, healthy living, and good citizenship.

Many of these benefits to parents, Club members, and the community have an economic value. Using data collected through stakeholder surveys and a review of publicly available information, this report places a monetary value on many of these benefits. The total value of all of these economic benefits is simply tremendous. This report focuses on the following mechanisms and services through which the Boys & Girls Clubs in the county create economic value in local communities:

- Impact of better education through higher graduation rates and the resulting improved lifetime earnings among youth who attend the Clubs on a regular basis as opposed to others who do not benefit from such services within the same socioeconomic population.
- Lower teen pregnancy and motherhood rates, which create economic savings.
- Impact of Clubs' enrichment programs that enable youth to resolve conflicts and become more peaceful with their own peers and others in their communities. This is measured by considering reductions in youth crime rates and the savings that such reductions generate in the community.
- Health education and its impact on reducing obesity and related diseases that leads to lower productivity and an increase in long-term chronic diseases.
- Lowering the tendency for substance abuse and lowering of the costs associated with underage drinking, tobacco and drug abuse.
- The ability of Club programs to help parents work or attend school in order to upgrade their skills.
- Total employment and income impact of the Clubs through their annual expenditures, including both operational and capital budgets, as well as the donated labor of volunteers.

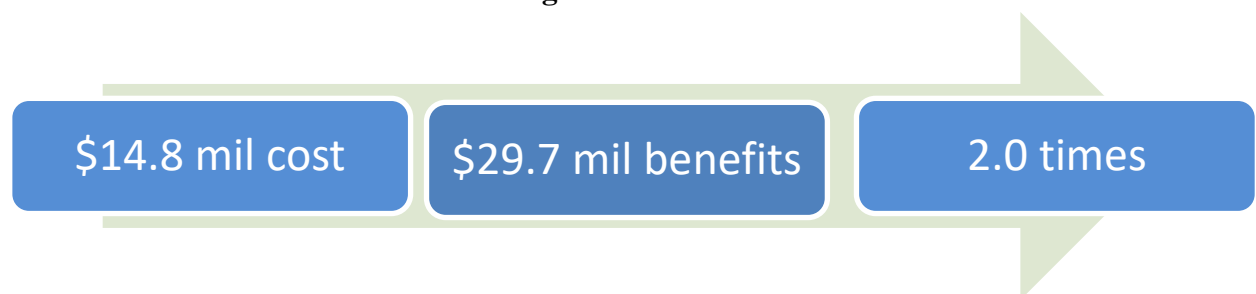
For nearly all of these benefits, a monetary value was calculated. A summary of the analysis is presented below and categorized by the nature of the economic impact. Sections two and three of this report present the methodology developed and data used to calculate these values. Section four provides additional statistics on qualitative questions asked in Club member and parent surveys.

An Overview of Economic Impact Areas and Their Multipliers

One way to illustrate the impact of every dollar spent by the Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County is to compare the aggregate budget of the Clubs with the positive economic impacts that they generate in their communities. This framework can allow for a cost-benefit analysis that cogently illustrates the tremendous value of the Boys & Girls Clubs based on the findings of this study.

In order to consider the economic impact on all stakeholders, we have used the data collected in this study to calculate “multipliers,” which are quantitative measurements of the total economic impact of discrete activities. The areas considered include: the impact of the Clubs on increased high school graduation rates, averted teenage pregnancies and births, reduced juvenile criminal activity, reduction in substance abuse (with emphasis on underage drinking), improved prospects for working parents, and a statewide output stimulus through productivity of budget, capital expenditures, and volunteer labor.

MULTIPLIER: Lifetime Gain from High School Graduation



The Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County play a vital role in helping youth improve their academic outcomes. Clubs provide a variety of academic support and

enrichment services that help youth succeed in school by providing homework assistance and tutoring services. Academic enrichment is also integrated throughout the Club during “high yield activities,” which are fun activities with a built-in learning goal. Moreover, beyond the direct academic enrichment provided by the Clubs, Clubs also provide members with positive role models and a nurturing environment that can help them improve decision-making skills. Such skills can help ensure that Club members make positive choices when it comes to their academic future.

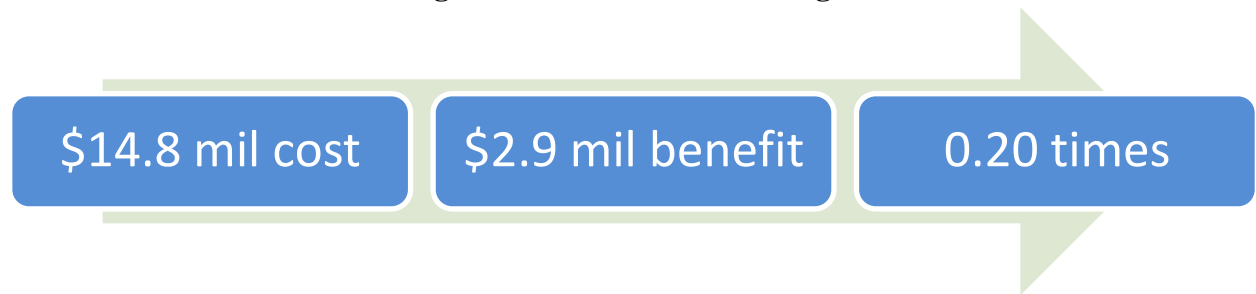
Studies show that students who drop out of high school end up earning much less throughout the rest of their lives relative to their peers who attain a post-secondary degree. Similar studies indicate that those who drop out at some point tend to be less likely to complete college. Specifically, only 5% of those who ever drop out managed to receive a bachelor’s degree, as opposed to 38% of those who never dropped out of high school.

The economic cost of dropping out of school is not limited to the inability to earn a high-income job. High school dropouts face much higher rates of unemployment, live shorter lives, and depend more on government assistance than those who complete high school.

Given the pivotal role that the Clubs have on the academic success of their members, this study quantifies the monetary benefit of such services. The first step in such a calculation is to compare the academic success of Club members with the general population within the county.

In the most recent related graduating class based on our estimation, the Clubs generated a positive economic impact of \$29.7 million through the increased lifetime earnings of graduates influenced by the services of the Boys & Girls Clubs. When compared to the annual budget of California Clubs (\$14.8 million), this generates a multiplier of 2.0; **in other words, for every \$1 spent by the Clubs, \$2 of increased lifetime earnings is generated by impacted Club members.**

MULTIPLIER: Lifetime Savings from Prevented Teen Pregnancies and Births



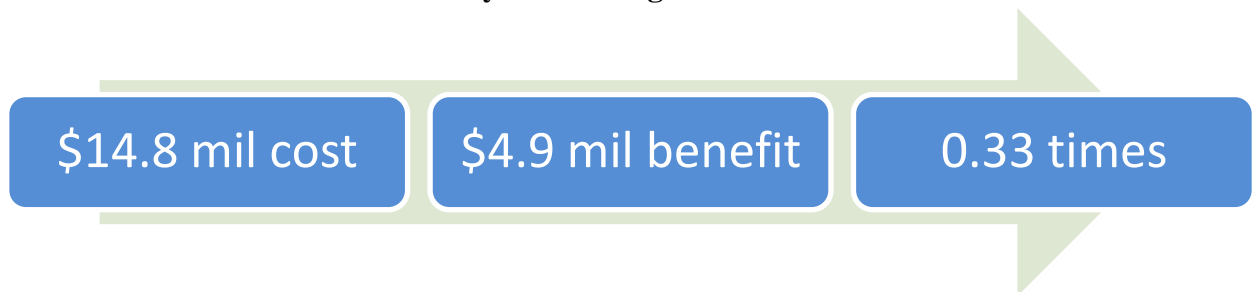
The Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County play a pivotal role in helping youth avoid the serious consequences they will face if they become teenage parents. By providing youth with a nurturing environment, life skills training, positive peer support, and caring role models, the Clubs help youth develop a sense of responsibility for their lives. Such support can help an at-risk teenager develop better decision-making skills that can help them avoid risky behaviors that can lead to teenage parenthood.

According to recent studies, teen childbearing in the United States costs taxpayers at least \$9.1 billion annually at the federal, state, and local levels. On the national level, these costs include \$1.9 billion for increased public sector healthcare costs, \$2.3 billion for increased child welfare costs, \$2.1 billion for increased costs for state prison systems, and \$2.9 billion in lost revenue due to lower taxes paid by the children of teen mothers over their adult lifetimes.

In addition to the costs of teenage pregnancy that burden the taxpayers, it is important to consider the ways in which teenage parenthood changes the future life and prospects of the parent and the child. Teenage parents are less likely to complete high school and more likely to depend on public assistance. The children of teen mothers are more likely to perform poorly in school and are at a greater risk of abuse and neglect. The sons of teen mothers are 13% more likely to end up in prison and are more likely to commit more violent crimes, and the daughters of teen mothers are more likely to become teen mothers themselves.

This study showed that the Clubs generate a positive economic impact of \$2.9 million through savings to taxpayers and society for those teenagers who waited until they are older to have children. Compared with the annual budget of Boys & Girls Clubs in the county, this generates a multiplier of 0.20; **in other words, for every \$1 spent by the Clubs, \$0.20 is saved for taxpayers and the society on costs they would have incurred for teenage pregnancies and births on a yearly basis.**

MULTIPLIER: Criminal Justice System Savings



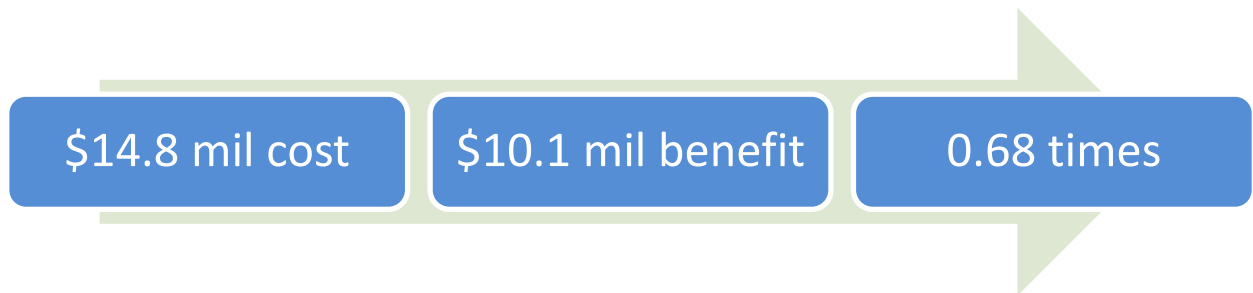
The Boys & Girls Clubs provide positive alternatives to youth that help them avoid risky behaviors and make responsible life choices. Club facilities provide a safe haven for youth to escape the streets, meet with friends, and be part of a positive peer group. Club programs teach life skills, conflict resolution, and focus on the development of character. Perhaps most important of all, caring adult staff and volunteers at the Club serve as role models, giving youth someone to turn to when they need help and guidance.

According to the California Legislative Analyst Office, individuals between ages of 12 to 24 are more likely to both commit and be the victims of violent crimes. The rate of crime spikes upwards dramatically with the highest rate of violent juvenile crimes occurring when youth leave schools between the hours of 3:00 and 4:00 PM. The cost of the juvenile crime is most evident in increased spending in the juvenile justice system, but there are other costs to society as well: medical costs because of injuries suffered due to crime; stolen and damaged property resulting from crime; loss of work time by victims of crime and their families; and loss of property values in neighborhoods with high rates of crime.

The good news is that in recent years, the rates of juvenile crimes have been in decline. The juvenile arrest rate has come down considerably in the last few years. One important observation is that the arrest rate in Ventura County is higher than the state rate and this has been quite consistent during the last several years.

Boys & Girls Clubs reduce juvenile crime rates by providing Club members a safe, nurturing environment, life skills training, and access to positive role models. The lower arrest rate among Club members generates a savings of \$4.9 million per year for taxpayers who support the criminal justice system. When compared to the annual budget of the Clubs, this generates a multiplier of 0.33; in other words, **for every \$1 spent by Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County, taxpayers save \$0.33 on expenditures for the criminal justice system annually.**

MULTIPLIER: Substance Abuse Reduction Benefits



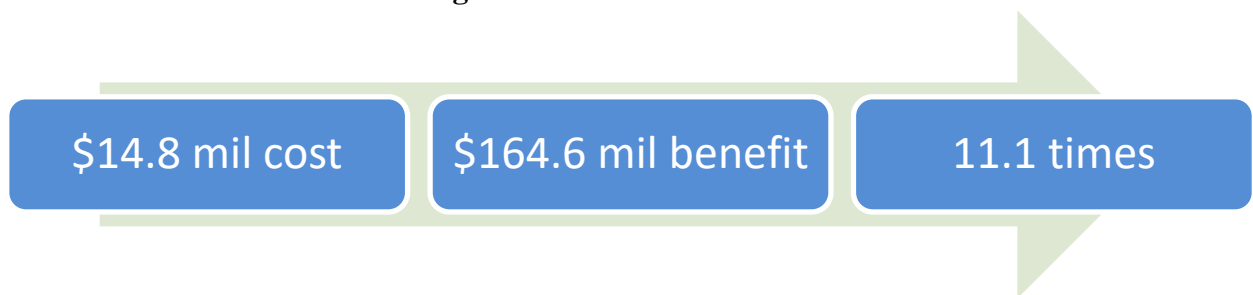
The Boys & Girls Clubs use a team approach involving staff, peer leaders, parents and community volunteers to help youth develop resistance and refusal skills to avoid the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. This team approach assures that youth have a network of support to help them make responsible decisions and resist negative peer pressure.

Underage drinking is widespread in California. Approximately 1,138,000 underage consumers drink each year in California. In 2013, California students in grades 9-12 reported the following:

- 52.3% had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more days during their life.
- 35.7% had their first drink of alcohol, other than a few sips, before age 13.
- 28.1% had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more occasions in the past 30 days.
- 17.7% had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row (binge drinking) in the past 30 days.
- In 2012, underage drinkers consumed 9.9% of all alcohol sold in California, totaling \$2.11 billion in sales (in 2013 dollars). These sales provided profits of \$1.03 billion to the alcohol industry.
- California ranked number 21 out of 50 states based on the percentage of alcohol consumed underage.
 - Both adult and youth drinking levels affect this percentage.
- Annual sales of alcohol consumed by youth in California averaged \$1,853 per underage consumer.

Our study shows that for every dollar spent by the Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County, the economy benefits as much as \$0.68 in the reduction of the cost of the juvenile drinking.

MULTIPLIER: Parental Earnings



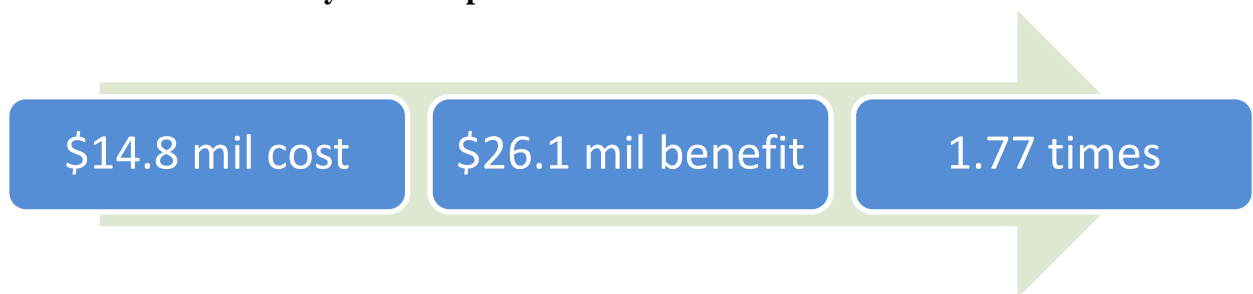
During school hours, parents are free to work as their children are engaged within the school system. However, when the school bell rings and children leave the classroom, parents face a difficult and heart-wrenching decision: to continue working and leave their children with potentially inadequate supervision, or to stop working and reduce their

family's earnings. Both outcomes have their own dangers; however, Boys & Girls Clubs help parents avoid this difficult dichotomy by allowing parents to be productive during non-school hours while having the satisfaction of knowing that their children are adequately supervised.

By enabling parents to work and earn on average \$29,520 a year, Boys & Girls Clubs enable parents to generate \$146.6 million in annual earnings for their families. This tremendous service sustains an enormous level of economic activities across the state. Without the Clubs, these parents would be unable to earn this income. in other words, **for every \$1 spent by Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County, \$11.1 in earnings are generated by parents who can keep their jobs due to the services of the Club.**

This staggering figure shows the vital role that institutions like the Boys & Girls Clubs play in helping families to be economically productive while simultaneously not compromising the wellbeing of their children. It is important to realize that the wellbeing of these families benefits the entire society through reduced burdens on taxpayers for social programs. Beyond the benefit for taxpayers, these individuals and families are able to be more successful and enjoy a better quality of life.

MULTIPLIER: Countywide Output



The economic impact of social interventions resulting from the services provided by the Boys & Girls Clubs represents a broad category of economic value created by the organization. Such social interventions are an important aspect of the value created by a

nonprofit. However, just like any other organization providing services or producing goods, the Clubs create tremendous business activity and tax revenue through their operating budgets, capital expenditures, and use of volunteer labor.

In order to quantify these types of economic outputs, we used the aggregated budgetary and capital expenditures of all the Clubs and employed it in a countywide model that we set up using the IMPLAN Regional Input-Output model. We set up similar models for the capital expenditures and work of the Club volunteers.

In this model, countywide output is defined as the market value of all goods and services produced as the result of a particular economic activity within the state. For the output generated by the Clubs, bear in mind that the total value of the regular budget of all Clubs together amounts to \$14.8 million.

The Boys & Girls Clubs sustain many jobs in the county and their expenditures in the county are helping local, state, federal agencies through the generation of substantial tax revenue. **The model estimates that the Clubs create 260 jobs¹ and that the annual operating budgets of the Clubs generate \$23.6 million in regional output.** A total of \$3,291,289 in tax revenue will also be created for all three levels of government: federal, state and local. Out of this sum, the federal government's share is \$2,291,602 and state and local governments will receive \$1,127,862 in tax revenue.

Our research took a deeper look into the economic impact of volunteerism and goes further than many similar studies to attempt to estimate the output, job creation, and tax impact of volunteers' work, which is a total of 46,919 hours, which amounts to 23 full time jobs, if they were paid employees. This level of cooperation and assistance by

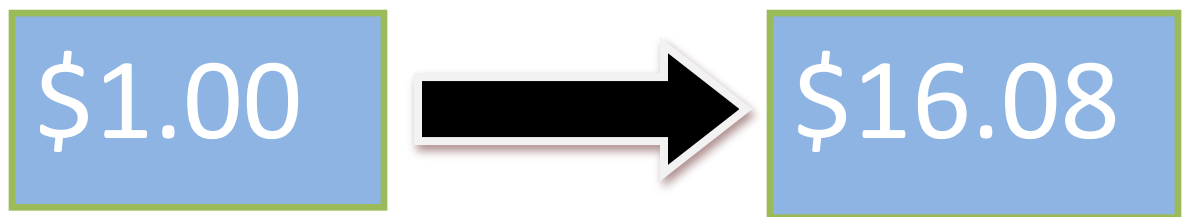
¹ It is important to note that this number calculates employment in terms of full-time equivalents. In other words, a part-time employee would not count as "1." Rather, part-time paid positions are combined to yield this full-time equivalent value. A full-time equivalent value of labor assumes 2,080 hours of work in a year. For instance, a part-time employee only working 1,040 hours in the year would only count as "0.5" in this model.

individuals and groups is noteworthy. This shows the high level of community dedication and commitment to the Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the county. However, as the result of their work, some six additional jobs are created. The regional impact of volunteers' work on the GDP of Ventura County is an additional \$2,566,325.40.

Finally, in order to estimate the overall statewide output of Clubs in Ventura County, the impacts of these three components (operating budgets, capital expenditures and volunteers) were added. Calculations based on the total output generated over the sum of the inputs stemming from the regular budget of the Clubs, their capital expenditures, and the value of volunteer labor resulted in an overall multiplier for a statewide output of 1.77. The overall impact in terms of regional output will reach \$26,189,289.

MULTIPLIER: Total Economic Impact

Taken separately, each of these economic impacts is impressive on its own. However, when the economic impacts are added together, the results are all the more impressive.



For every \$1 spent by the Clubs (donated, or invested in the Clubs), Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County generate \$16.08 of positive economic impact in the region. This tremendous rate of return is a testament to the vital role the Clubs play in shaping the lives and futures of Club members and their parents.

ADDITIONAL IMPACT: Development of Healthy Habits at a Young Age

Many people in the United States, including youth, suffer from a lack of exercise and poor nutritional habits, which can often lead to obesity or chronic conditions such as

diabetes. These negative lifestyle choices have severe health consequences that reduce one's length and quality of life.

The medical care costs of obesity in the United States are high. In 2008 dollars, these costs were estimated to be \$147 billion. The annual nationwide productive costs of obesity and obesity-related absenteeism range between \$3.38 billion (\$79 per obese individual) and \$6.38 billion (\$132 per obese individual). In addition to these costs, data shows the implications of obesity on recruitment by the armed forces. An assessment was performed of the percentage of the U.S. military-age population that exceeds the U.S. Army's current active duty enlistment standards for weight-for-height and percent body fat, using data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys.

In 2007-2008, 5.7 million men and 16.5 million women who were eligible for military service exceeded the Army's enlistment standards for weight and body fat. Data on childhood obesity is just as troubling. A 2005 research brief by Thomson Medstat Research found that the national cost of childhood obesity in terms of medical costs was \$11 billion for children with private insurance and \$3 billion for those with Medicaid. On a per capita basis, this means that the cost is \$3,700 per obese child on Medicaid and \$6,700 per obese child with private insurance. Accounting for inflation, the national cost for those with private insurance is \$12.75 billion or \$7,767 per capita in 2010. Similarly, in current dollars, the cost is \$3.48 billion or \$4,289 per capita for those with Medicaid.

The results of the survey of Club members allowed us to estimate that some 5,783 members exercise every day for a period of 60 minutes a day and some 12,603 do 60 minutes exercise at least three days per week. With 8,635 youth feeling fit and 8,015 feeling that they are reaching or maintaining a healthy weight through participation in the activities of Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura, it is clear that the Clubs are helping their members lead healthier and more physically active lives.

The Unmet Needs of the Underserved Families and Their Children

This report also provides a clear assessment of the unmet needs of low-income families by having their children attend various Boys & Girls Clubs in their neighborhoods. The report estimates that currently, the overall membership of all seven Clubs is 15,502.

Based on our calculations, some 10,151 of them are using Free or Reduced Meal Plans in their respective schools. This makes the ratio of members with FRM (Free and Reduced Meals) over total membership to be 65.5% overall.

By helping the Clubs to provide free or reduced memberships for children of low-income families, some 69,949 potential new members can join the Clubs. We are only serving some 14.5% of them. There is a potential for a 600% increase in membership of mostly low-income families by substantially reducing the fees and enabling them to take advantage of Club membership by facilitating their attendance through logistical and other needed supports. This would provide an enormous potential for one of the best investments that Ventura County even make in its human capital development. The report goes on by giving a detailed account of what the likely return on the potential investment through helping the Boys & Girls Clubs in Ventura County will be if more resources can be given to the Clubs.

3) Summary of the Findings from Survey of the Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura

We can look into and measure the success of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura by providing the club participants with opportunities for emotional growth, self-contentment, improved social skills, and academic growth. This study employed some of the most pertinent themes of evaluation based on the existing literature.

Below are some of the pertinent themes for clusters of questions that were developed to measure members' perception and opinions about their experience at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura. The study also tried to determine areas of unmet needs. The themes of the questionnaire include but are not limited to the following:

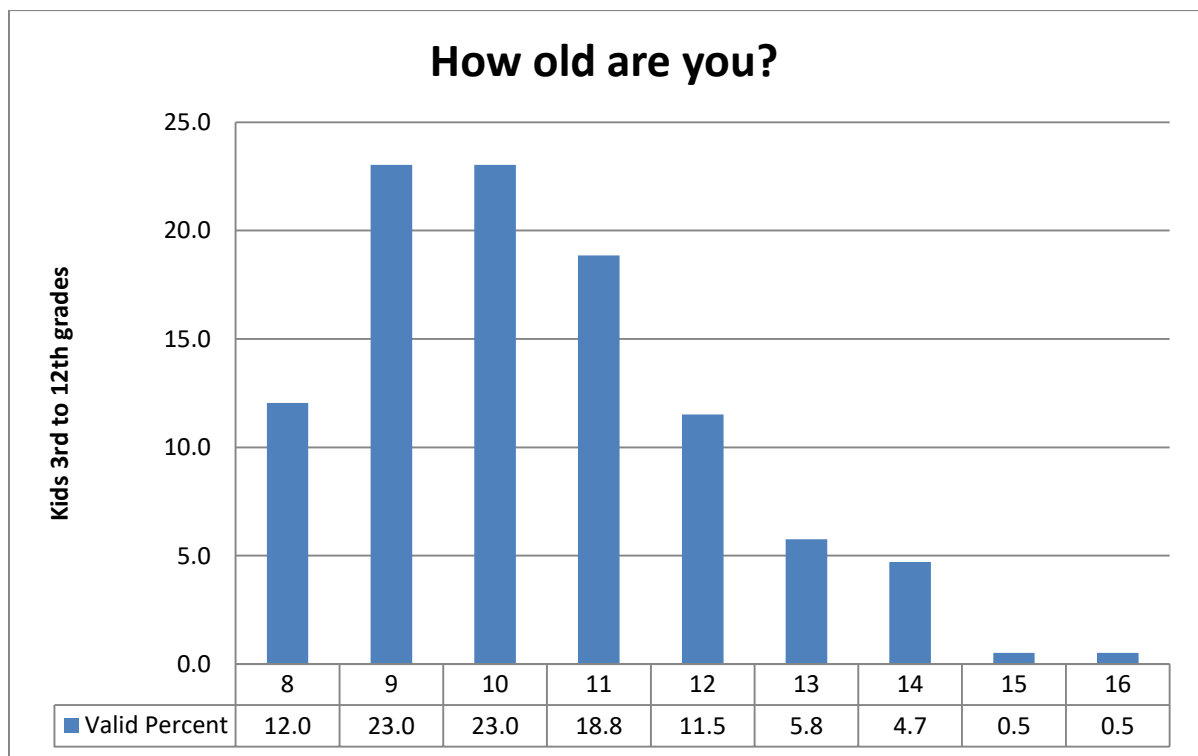
- **Club's Environmental Assessment:** A measure of the psychological climate relating to emotional support, autonomy/privacy, and peer affiliation.
- **Belonging Scale:** Measures members' sense of belonging to their involvement in various club programs.
- **Education Plans:** A measure of the club program's success in assisting its members with their academic work.
- **Lifestyle Choices:** A measure of actively participating in physical education opportunities within the clubs and making better choice of healthier diet.
- **Neighborhood and Home Safety:** A measure of how safe students feel in the after-school environment.

In addition to these inquiries, we asked a number of demographic questions that can be used to cross-tab our findings and learn about how and why respondents may have different perceptions, expectations, or performance levels. This is an area for conduct of greater work with the same data to provide the necessary insights for better future planning of the club.

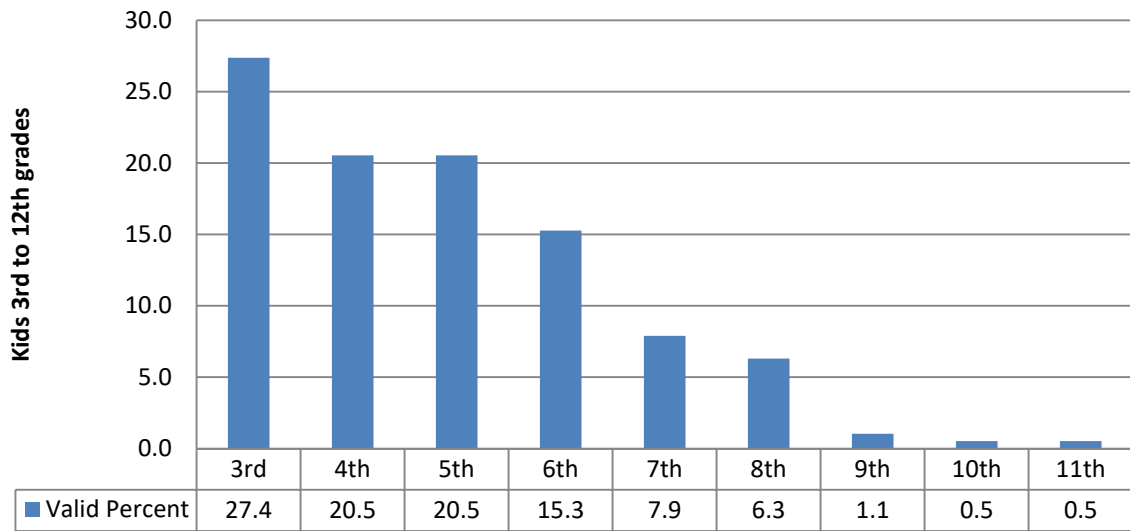
The questionnaire provided a base line for yearly comparison, if the club wishes to pursue such studies on a periodic basis in the years to come. Our survey of club members for Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Ventura resulted in 195 completed club member surveys.

3.1) Demographic Characteristics of Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura

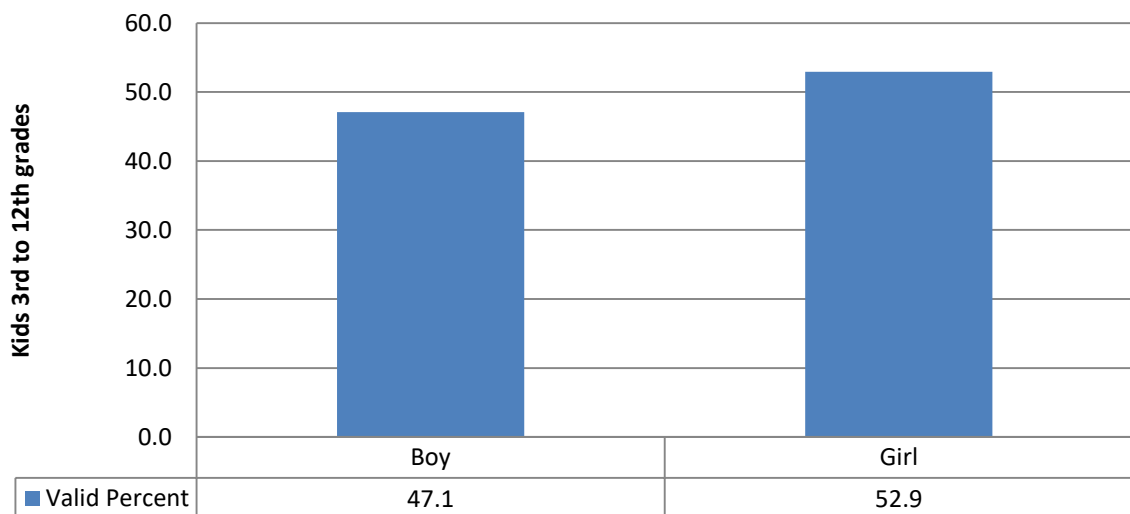
The following charts provide a clear presentation of the demographic particulars of the club members. Demographic characteristics put a human face on the findings and depict clear pictures of who the respondents are. Demographic characteristics can be used to trace the pattern of responses to different questions. This potential if needed can be used to explain some of the differences in various responses and help to explain possible causes of responses.

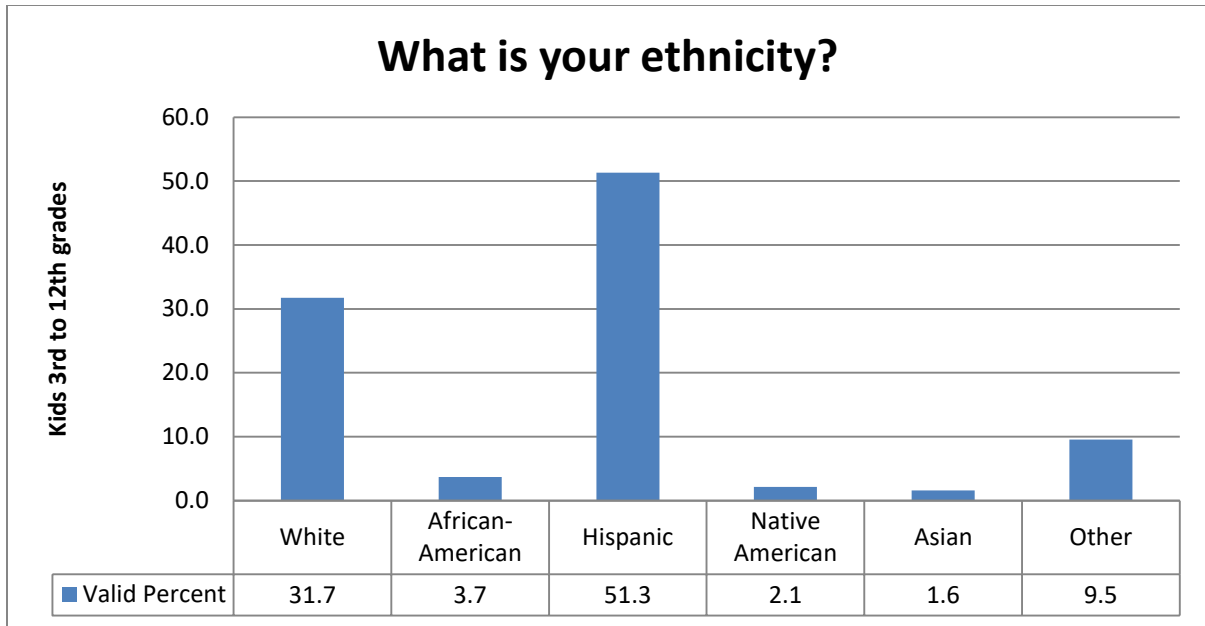


What is your grade?



Are you a?

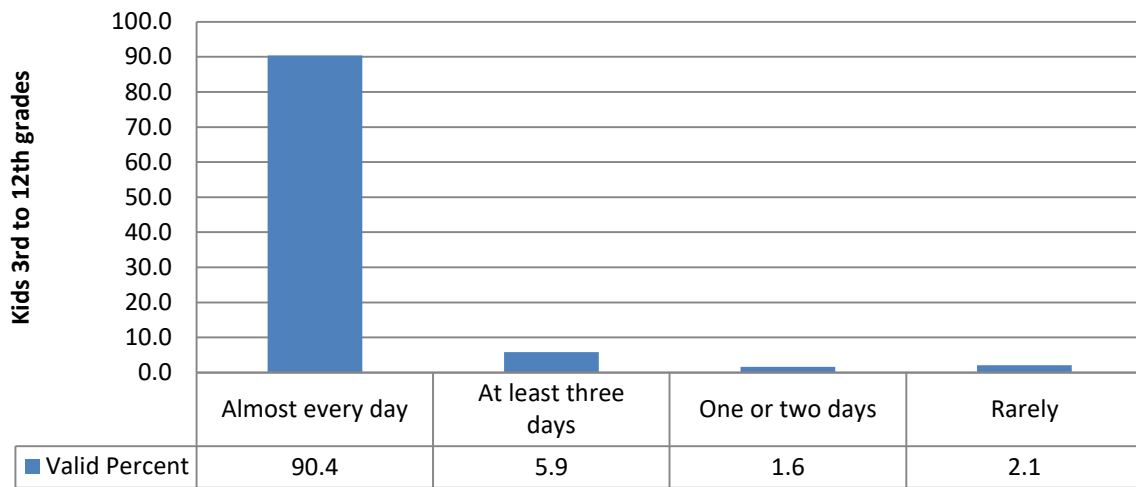




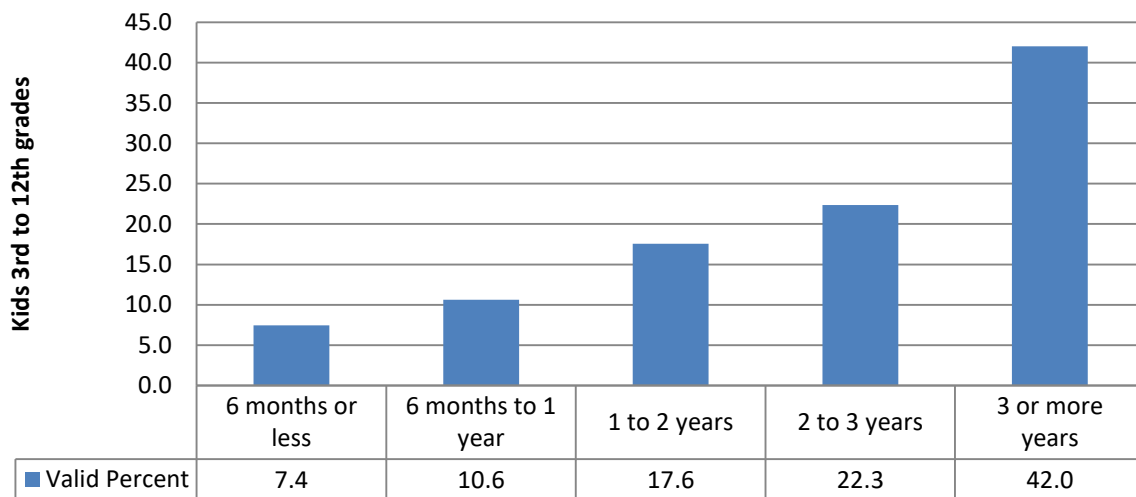
3.2) Greater Ventura Club Member Opinions regarding Programs and Sense of Belonging

In order, for any club to be successful, its programs and staffs must at the very least meet the needs of club members and satisfy their expectations. The club member survey included several questions designed to gauge the satisfaction of club members with the programs and personnel of the clubs.

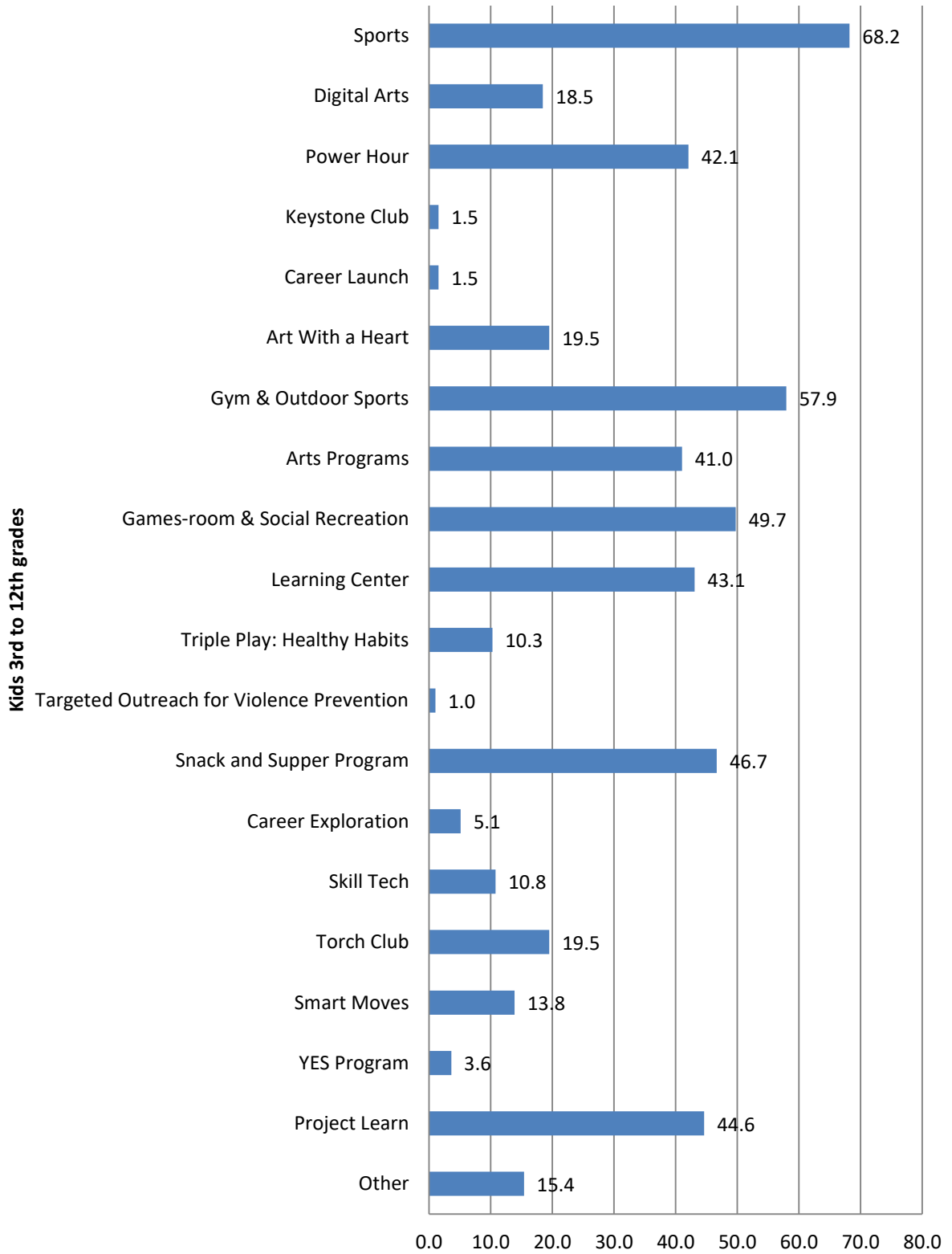
How often do you attend club during the week?



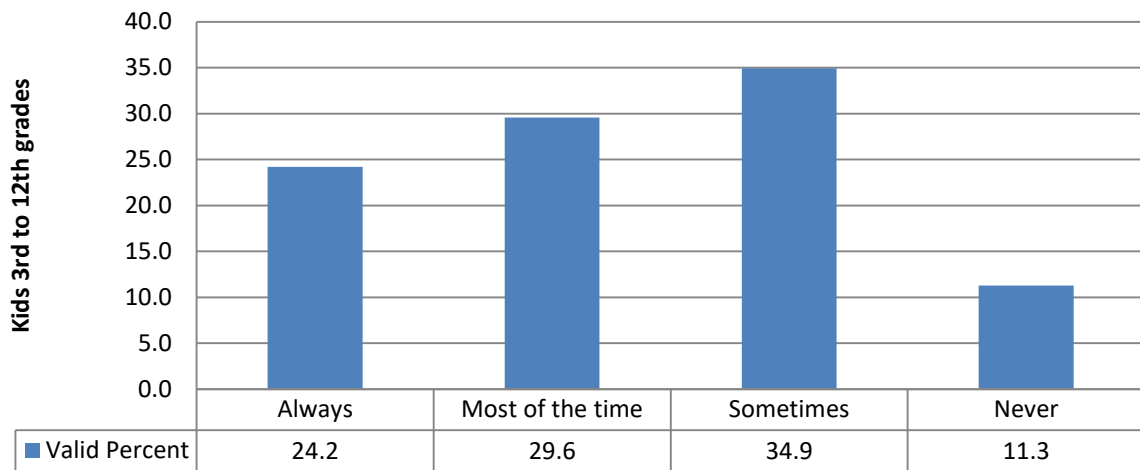
How long have you been attending the club?



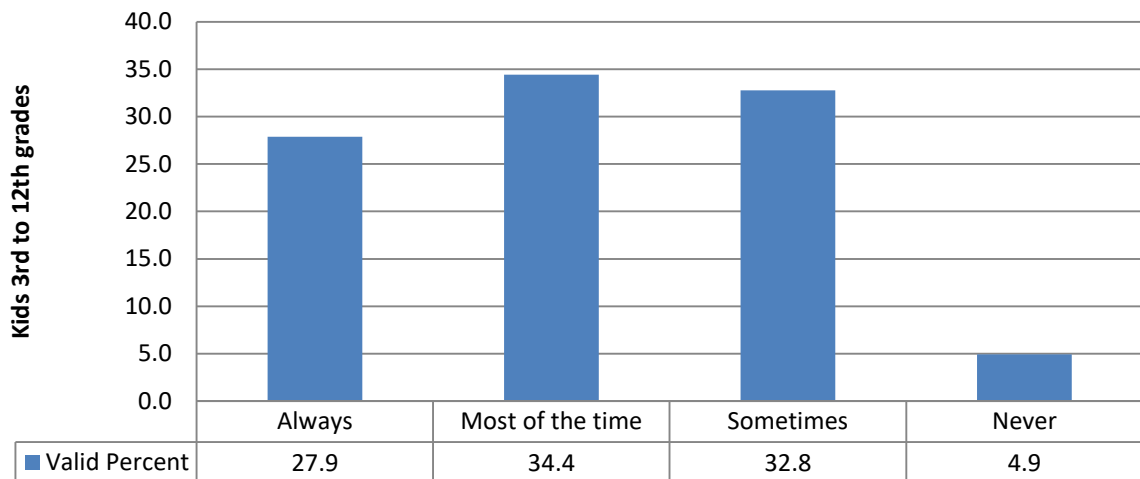
Which programs do you attend at the club?



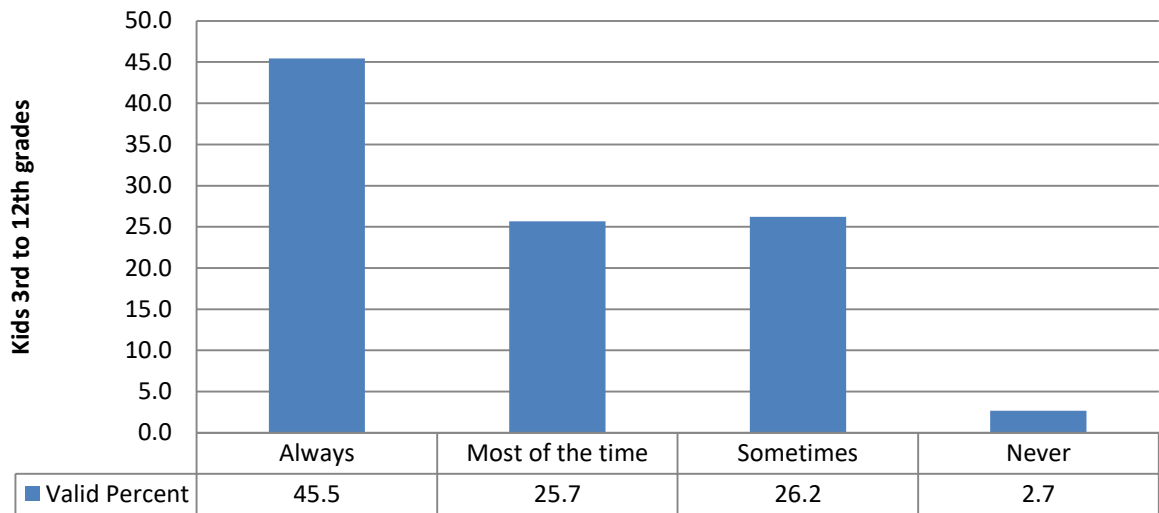
Do you feel that programs you participate in at the club help you with your needs?



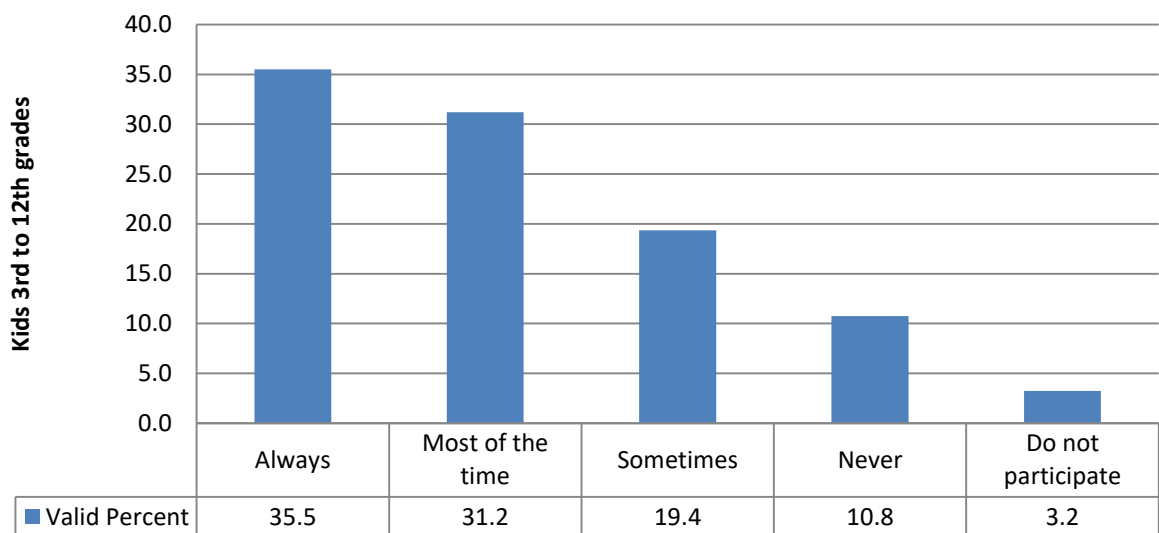
Do you like participating in the club's programs?



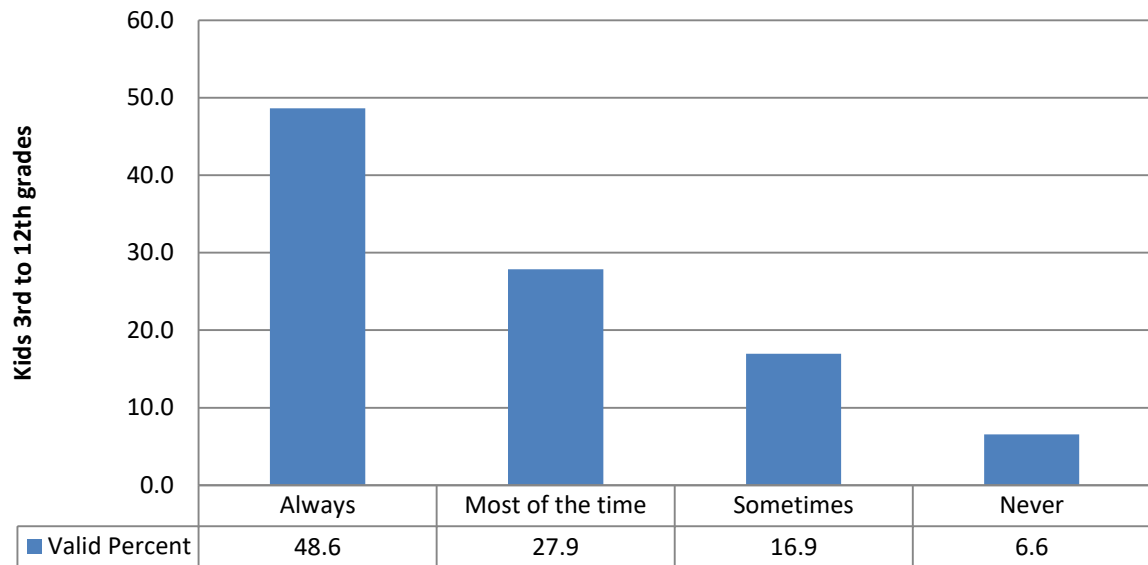
Do you like the staff who work at the club?



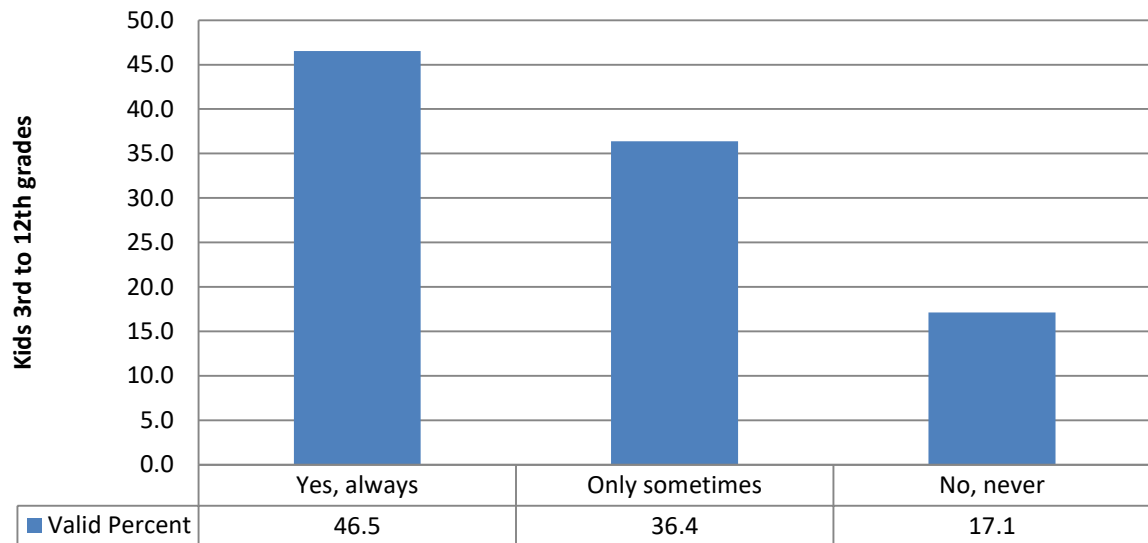
Is the club staff able to help you with your homework during and after power hour?



Do you feel safe when you are at the club?

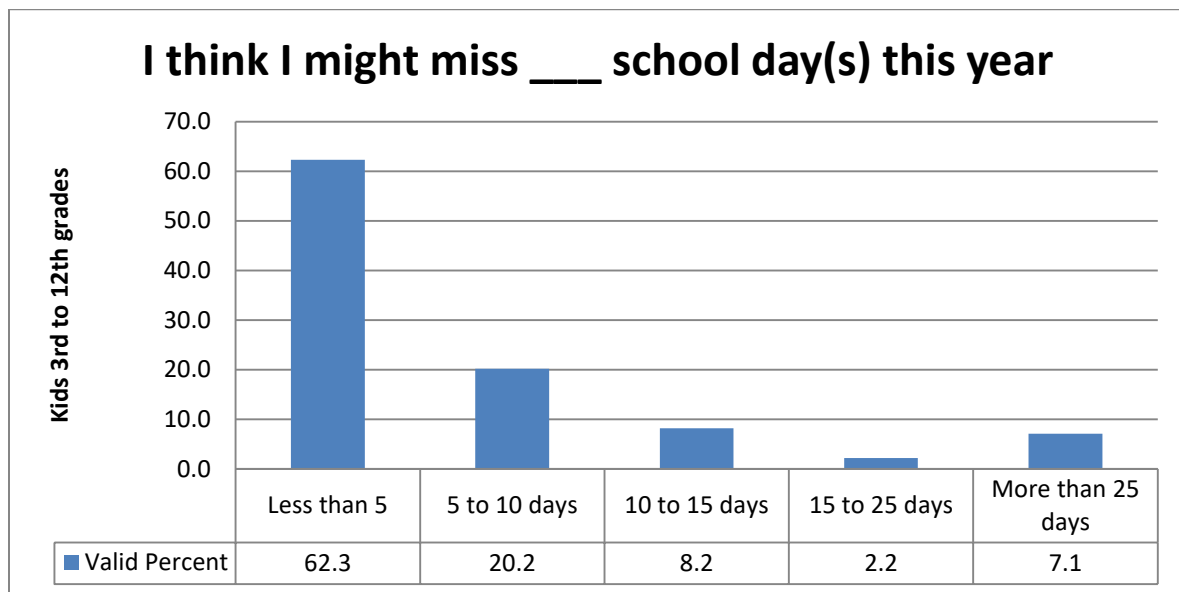


Do you recommend this club to your friends?

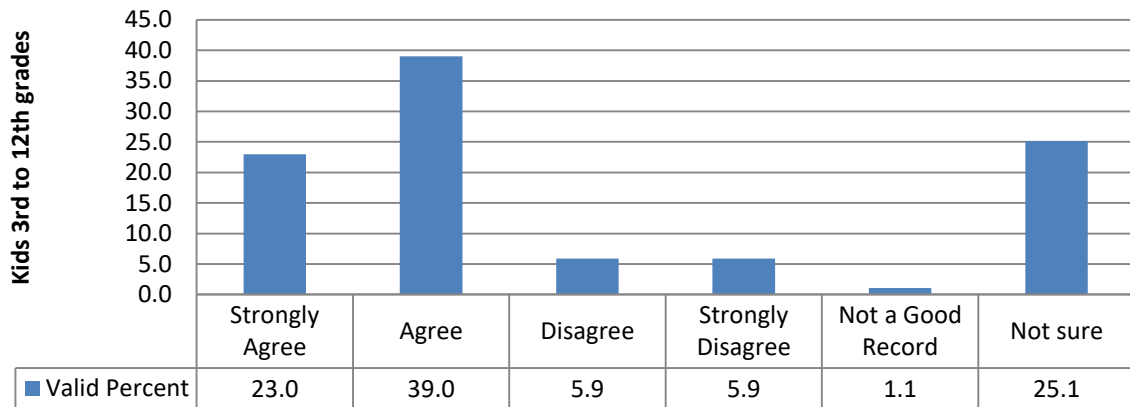


3.3) Educational Impact and Club Member Attitudes and Aspirations

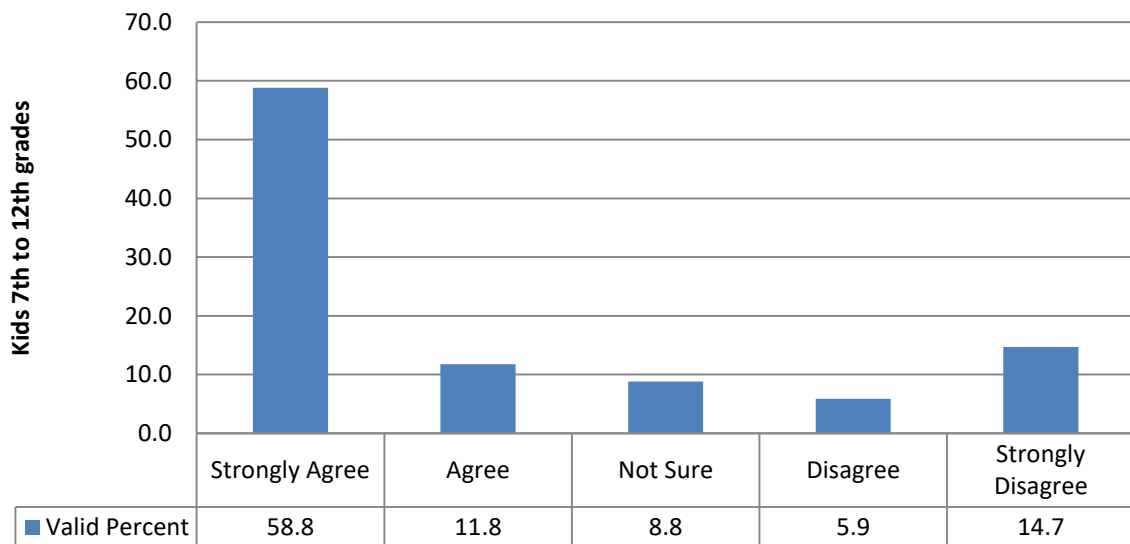
Before they attend the club, members are students. As students, there are certain expectations such as homework and academic proficiency. The Boys & Girls Clubs serve as a vital academic resource. First, they offer programs such as Power Hour that feature homework assistance and tutoring; such academic enrichment provides a competitive edge to club members in school. Second, through exposure to a positive environment including adult role models, the clubs can help young people develop better decision-making skills and long-term goals that can focus their efforts. This section of the report features the response of club members to questions regarding the impact of the clubs on their academics and related attitudes and aspirations.



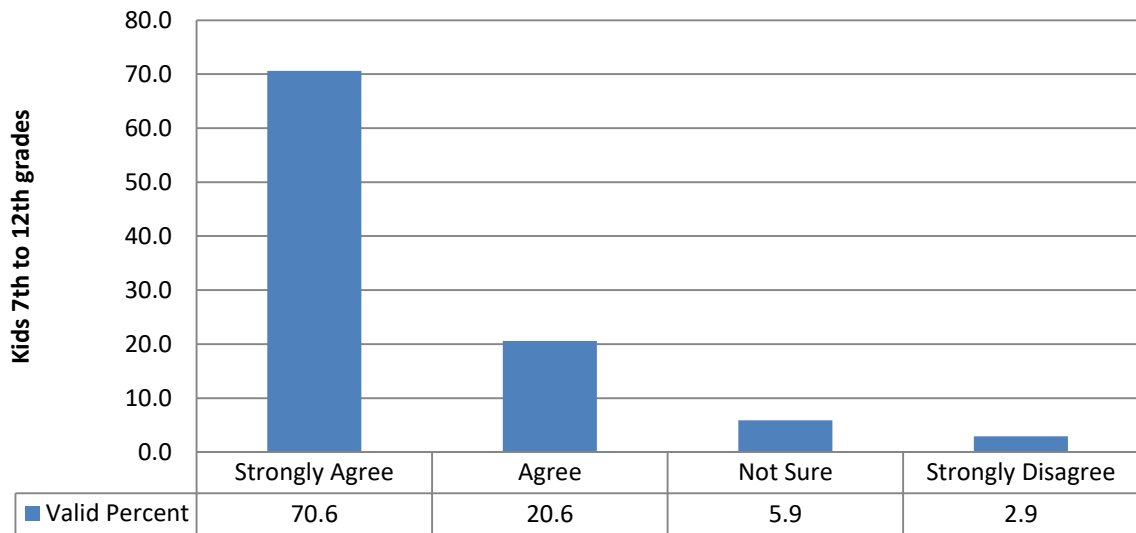
My club membership helps me have good attendance in school.



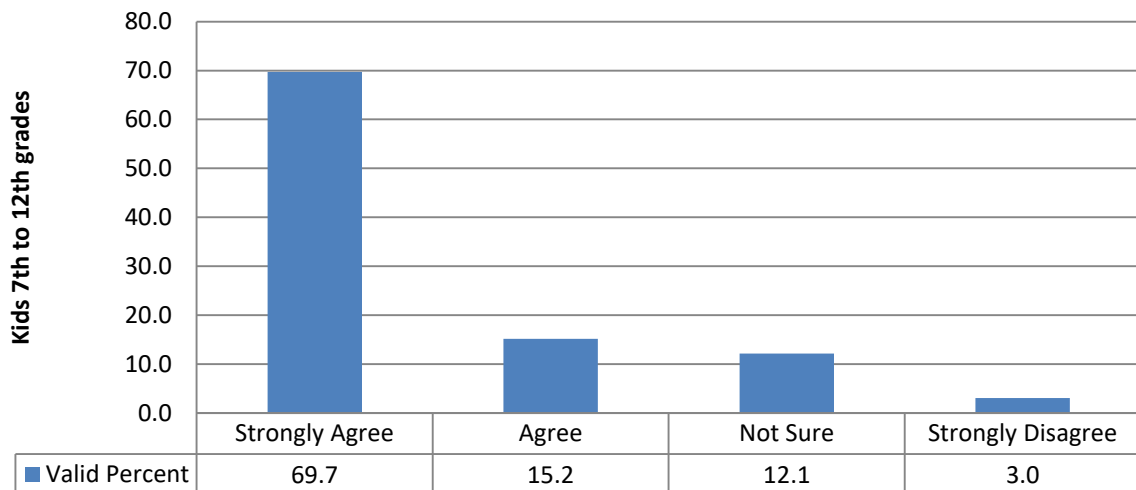
I have no plans to drop out of school this year



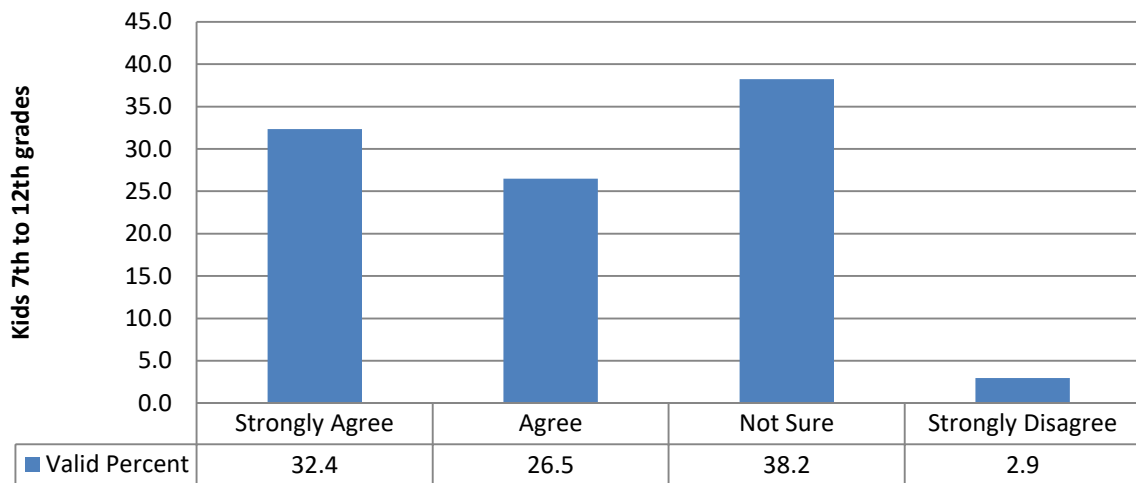
I am certain I will graduate from High School



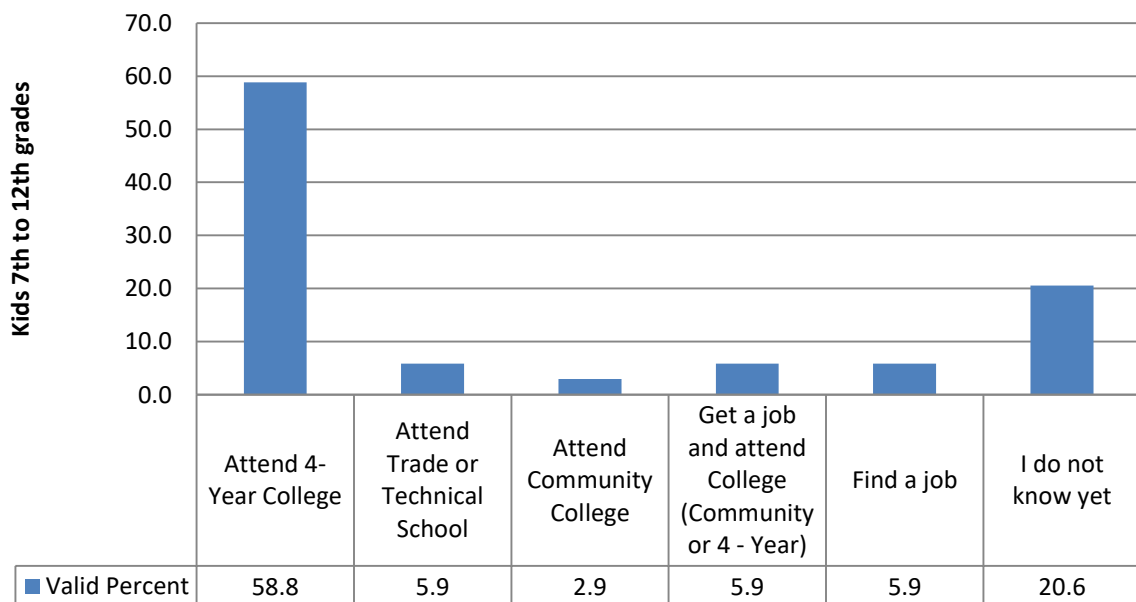
I think going to college is very important for my future life and success

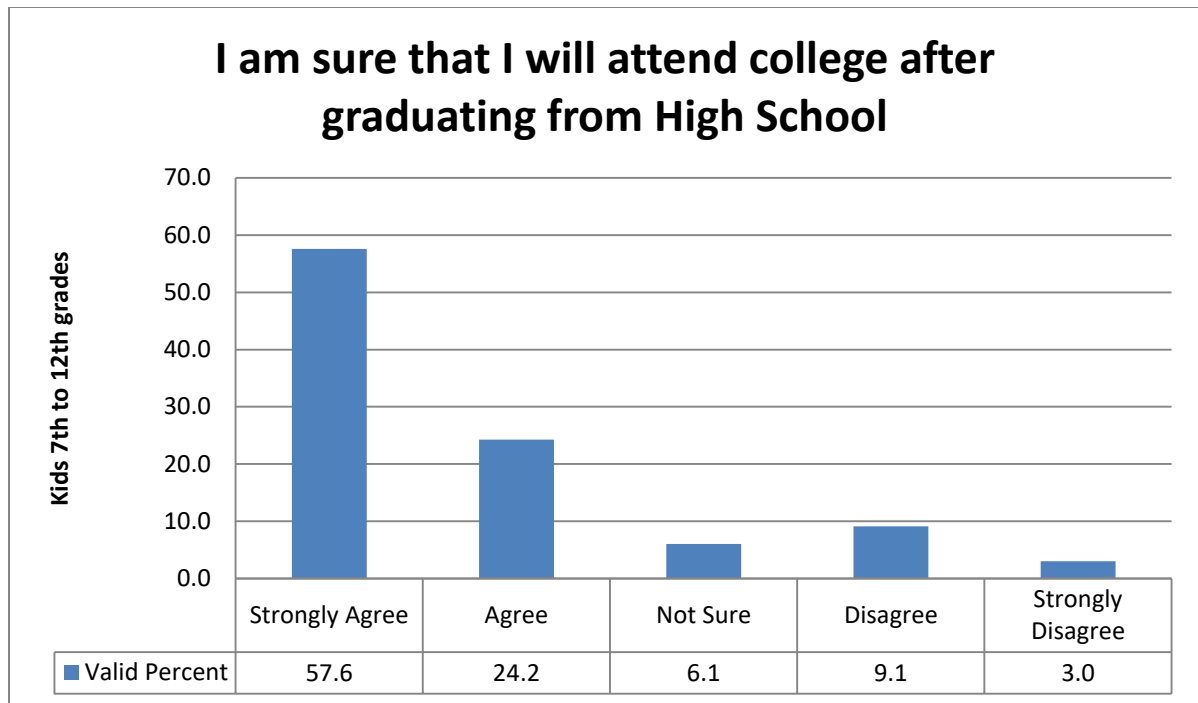


I am planning to take the SAT or ACT test to prepare for college admission



Upon completing my high school I intend to....

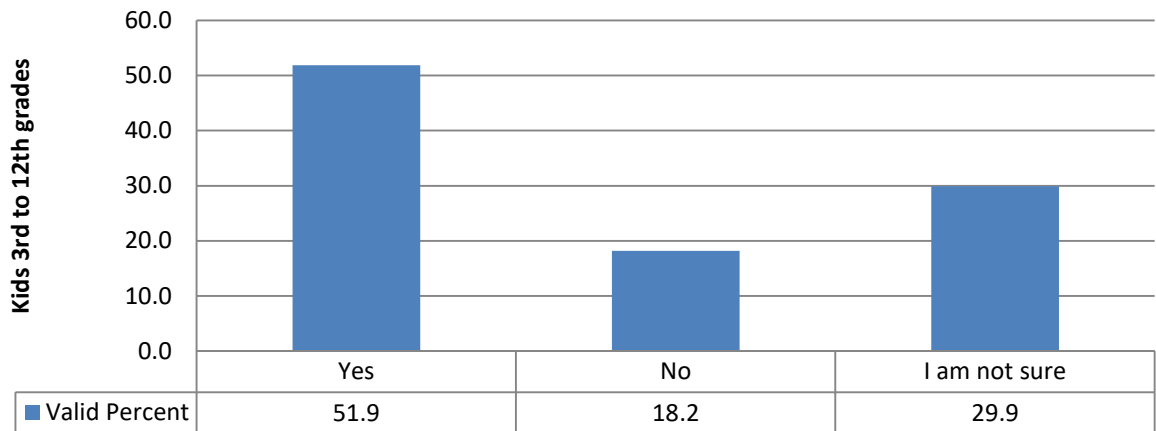




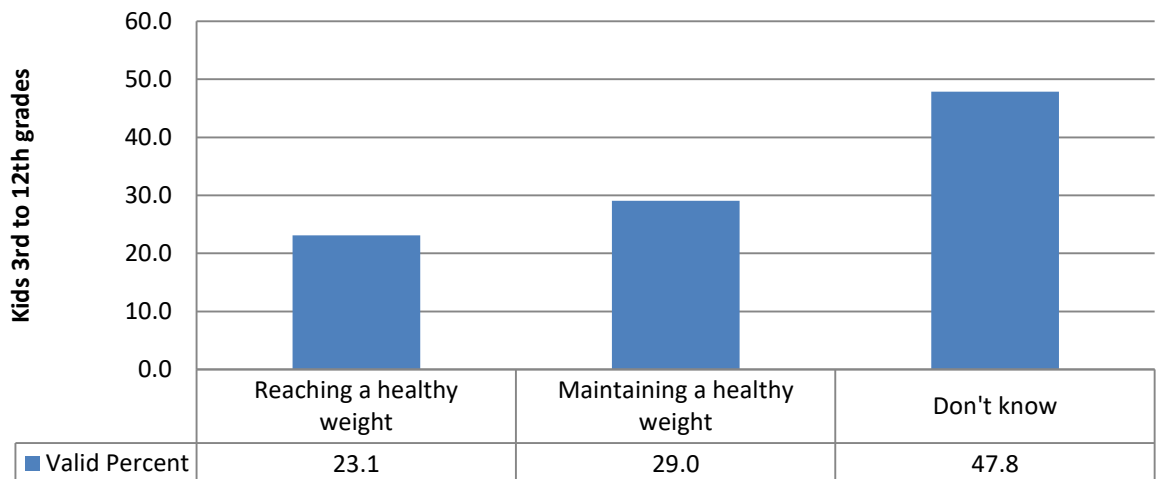
3.4) Extent and Impact Physical Education Within the Club

With the growing epidemic of obesity threatening the nation's youth, programs such as the Boys & Girls Clubs that encourage physical activity directly and indirectly through programs are important assets in the community. The club member survey included several questions to understand the extent and impact of physical activity and education in the club.

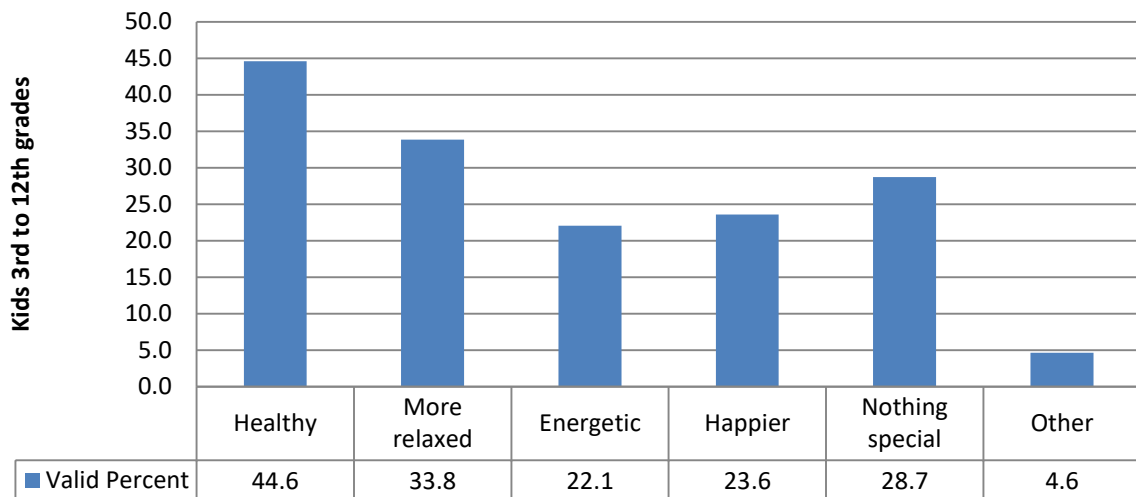
Do you think participation in sports and other physical activities in the club is helping you become more physically fit?



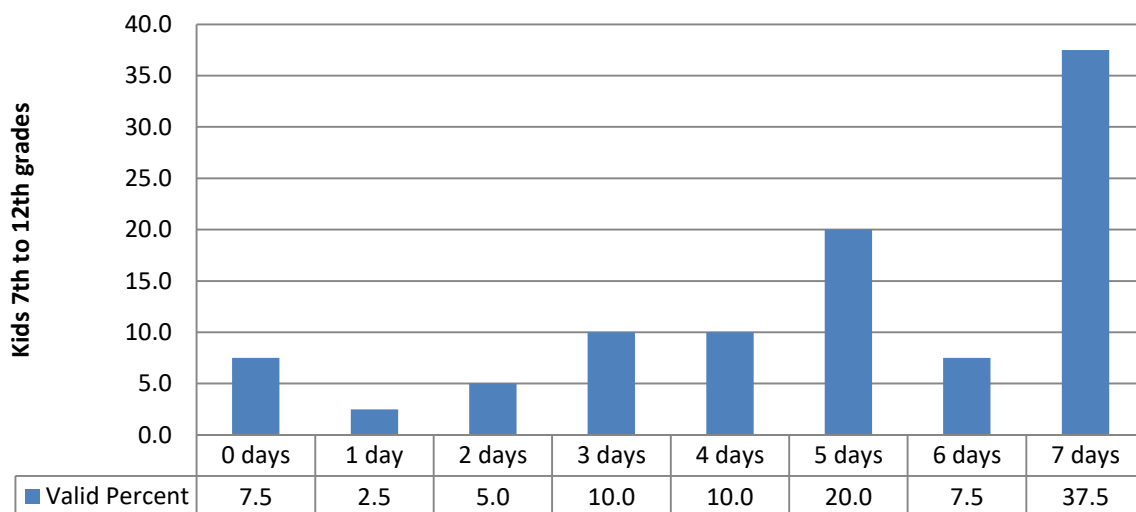
In the last six months that I participated in the club's program, I feel that physical activities in the Boys & Girls club resulted in my ...



Participating in physical activities in the club make me feel



During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at 60 minutes per day? (Add up all the time you spent in any kind of physical activity that increased your heart rate and made you breathe hard some of the time.)



4) Summary of the Findings from Survey of Parents of the Club Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura

Casual observation and research shows that parents have a significant impact on the long-term educational achievement and success of their children. The lifestyles of many working parents and the inevitable struggle of many to make ends meet makes it hard for them to spend quality time with their children. When parents are increasingly spread too thin, organizations such as the Boys & Girls Clubs play a vital role in providing the supervision and guidance children need. Nevertheless, it can be a challenge for institutions such as the Boys & Girls Clubs to discover the factors and dynamics that support the success of children coming from disadvantaged families. Parents can play an important role in providing necessary feedback and insight that can help the clubs better manage the services that they provide. It is for these reasons that the data generated from the parent survey is particularly important. Parents are in a unique position to make observations regarding the clubs: they have special insight into the lives of their children and they are invested in closely observing the impact of the Boys & Girls Clubs on their children.

In order to gauge parent opinions, a survey was administered to the parents of club members with the following themes of inquiry:

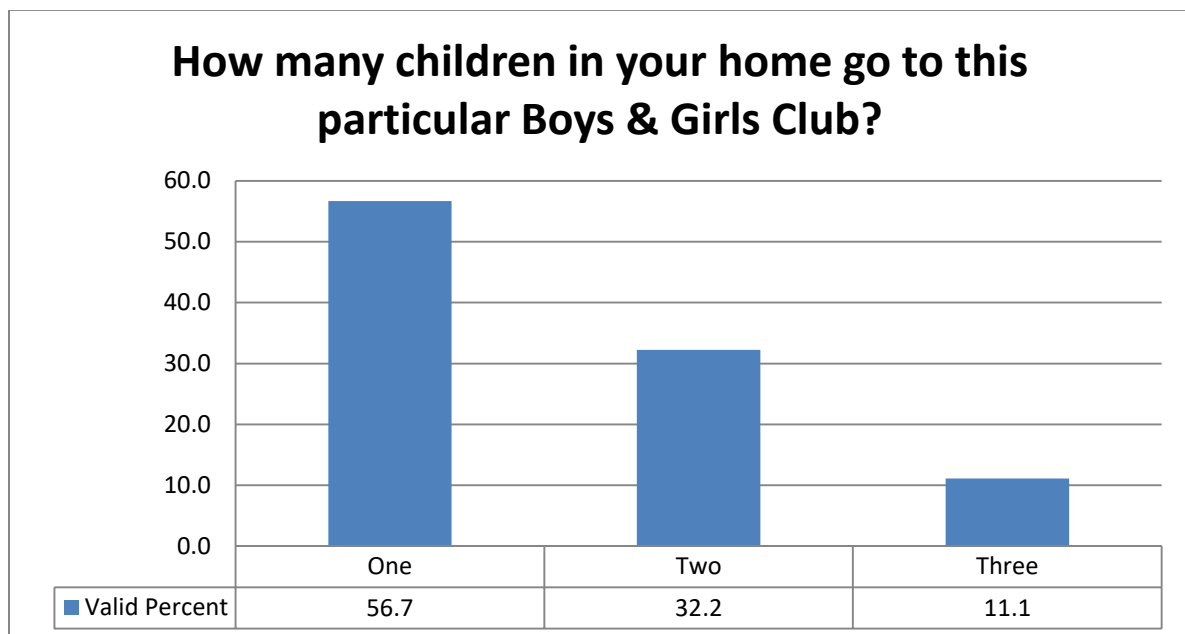
- **Basic Demographic Information:** Important demographic information that allows us to cross-tabulate information and learn more about those served by the alliance.
- **Measuring Positive Change in Children:** Assessment of changes in the behavior of their children as a result of attending the club (assessing the efficacy of the club services).
- **Academic Needs of Children:** Assessment of the success of the club in meeting the academic needs of their children.

- **Health and Healthy Habits of Children:** Inquiry about parent views on the programs ability to help their children to develop healthy habits with regard to eating and exercise.
- **Parents' Needs:** An assessment of how the club services satisfy the needs and demands of parents including the ability of parents to work and pursue further education due to club services.

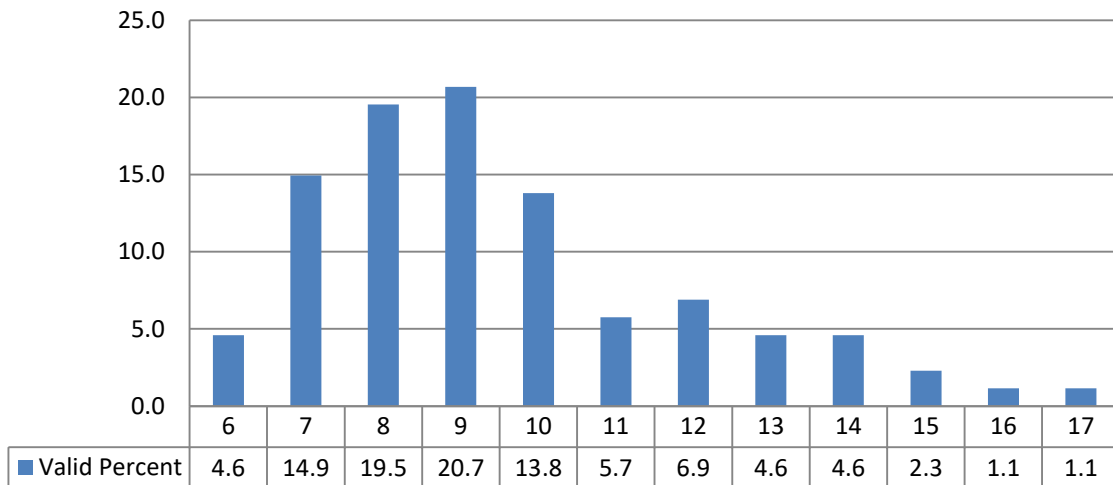
Through this survey, we manage to complete 90 surveys for the parents. This was less than the desired level but the results nonetheless provide an excellent insight into the mindset of parents about the impact of the club on their lives and life of their children. The findings can be used to recognize the importance of the club on the lives of the families that use its services and ideas about what can be done to further improve them.

4.1) Demographic and Socio-Economic Characteristics of Parents of Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura

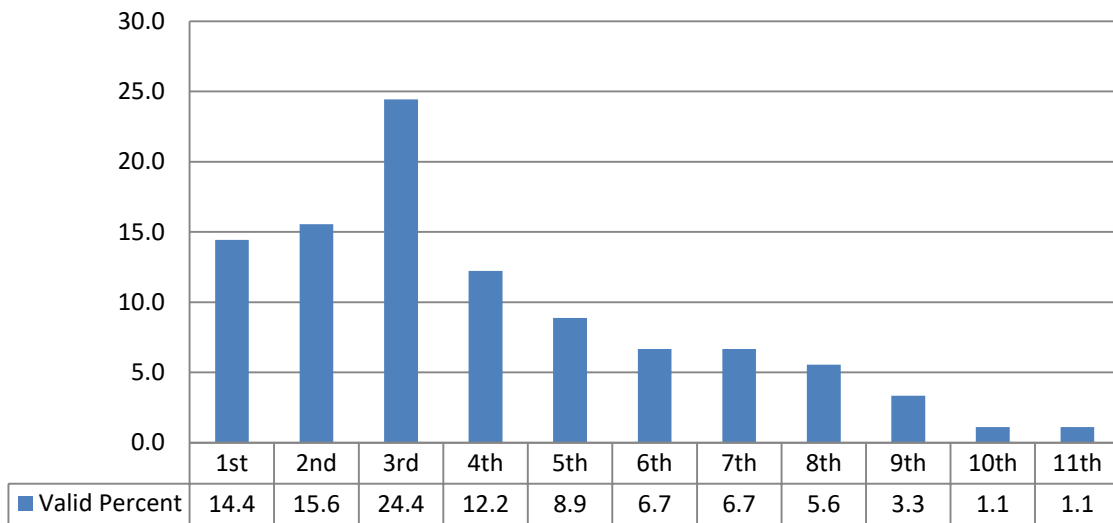
Information regarding the demographics of parents can help club management learn about the background of the families that they serve. As such, several questions concerning socio-economic indicators were included in the parent survey. Such questions and data can also be utilized to cross-tab findings from other questions in the survey.



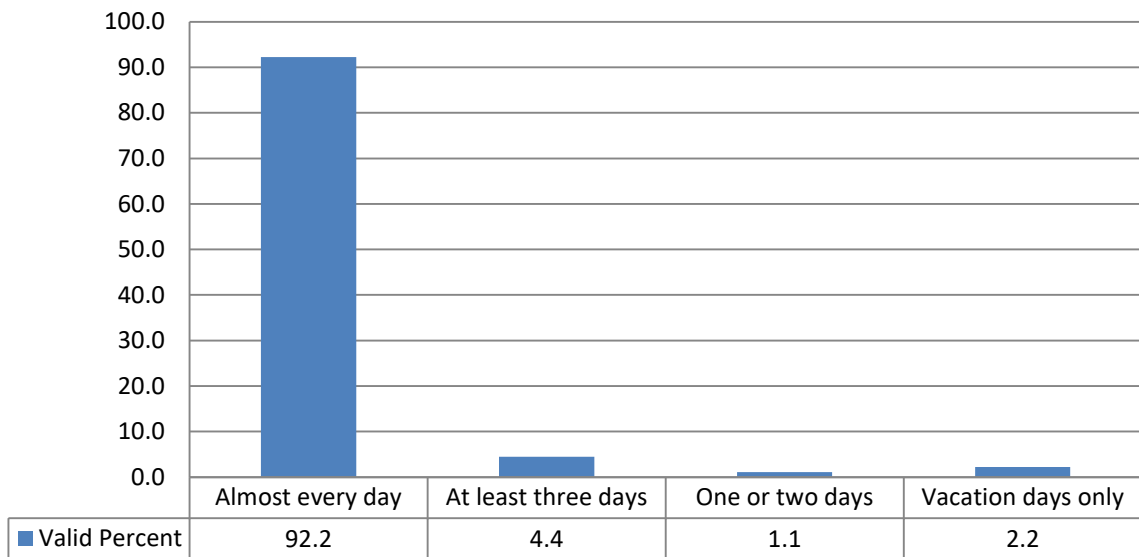
What is the age of your child (years old)?



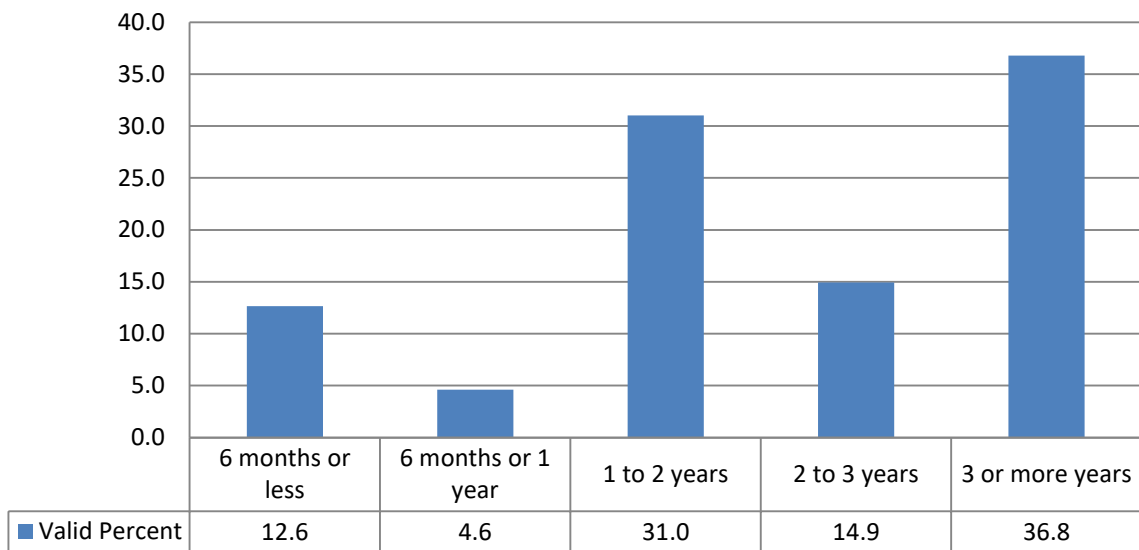
What is the grade of your child?



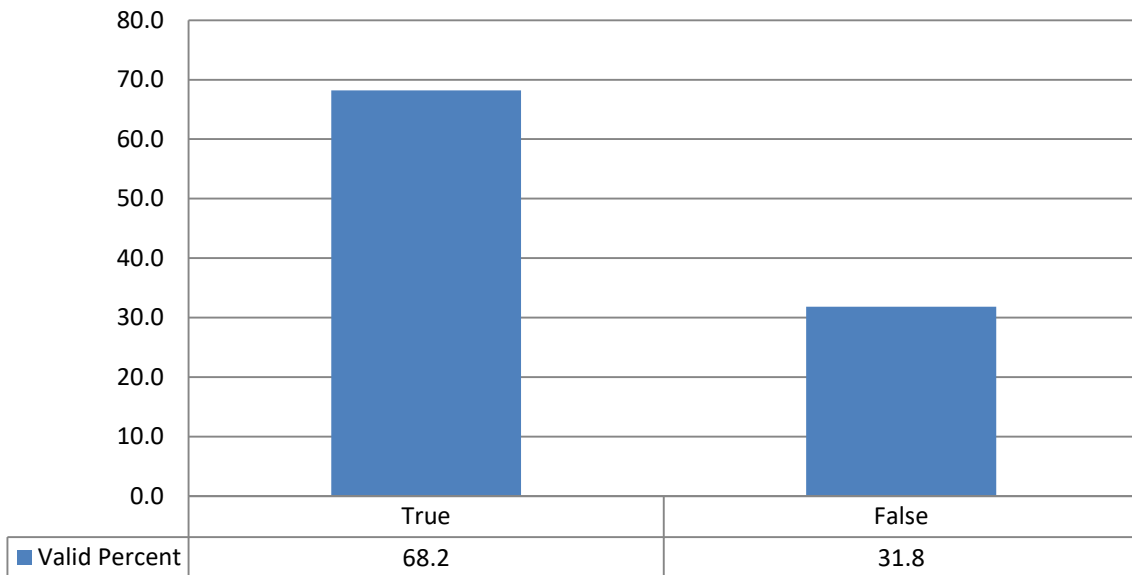
When the club is open how often does your child attend it during the week?



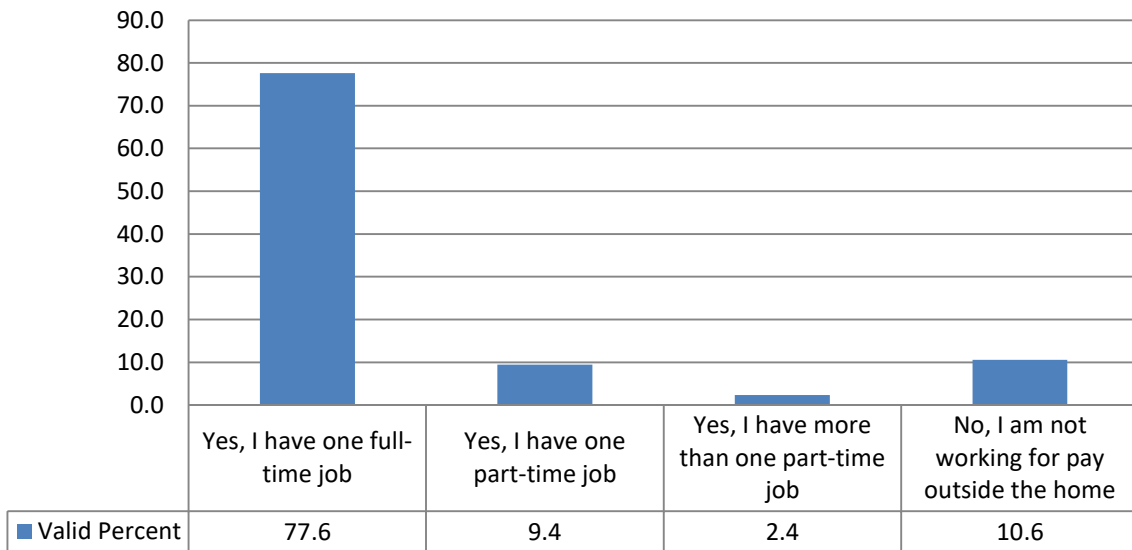
How long has your child attended this club?



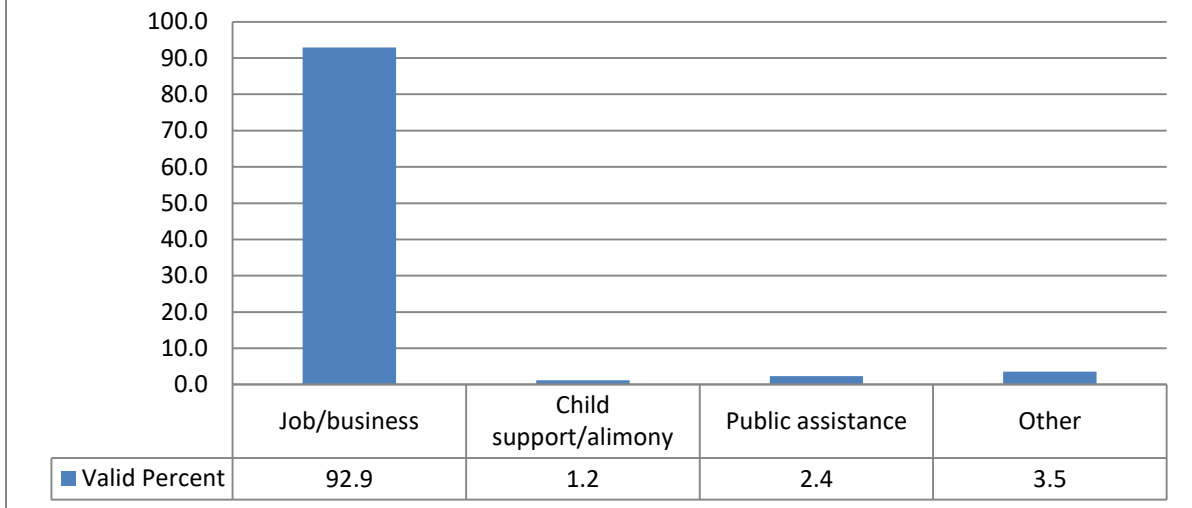
My child receives free lunch at school



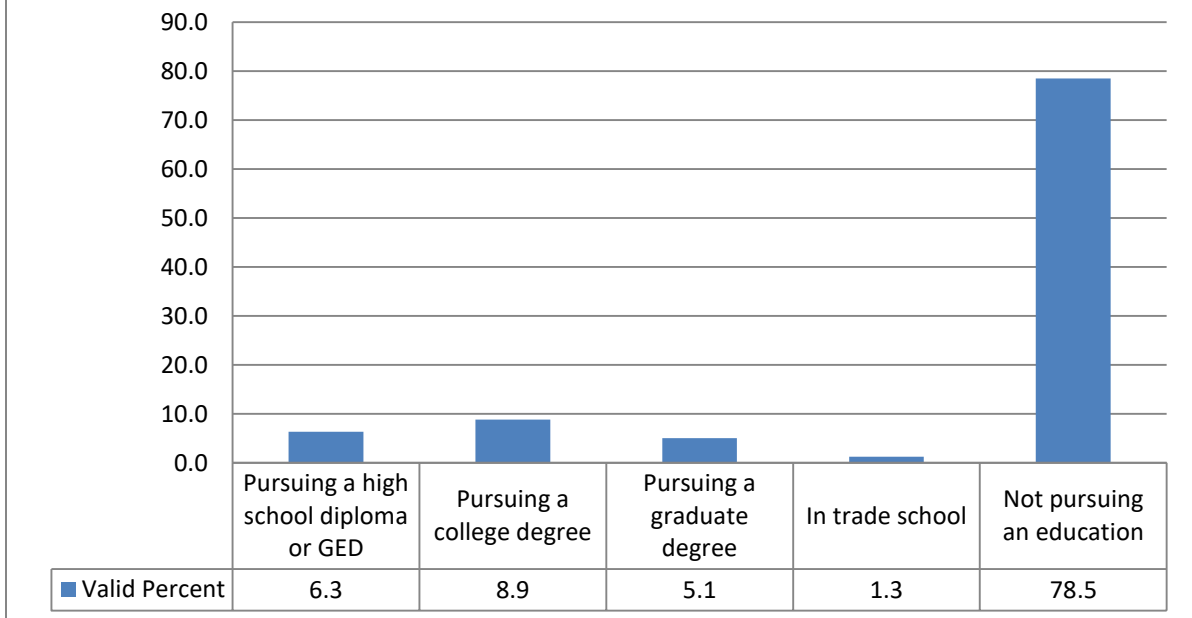
Are you working for pay outside home?



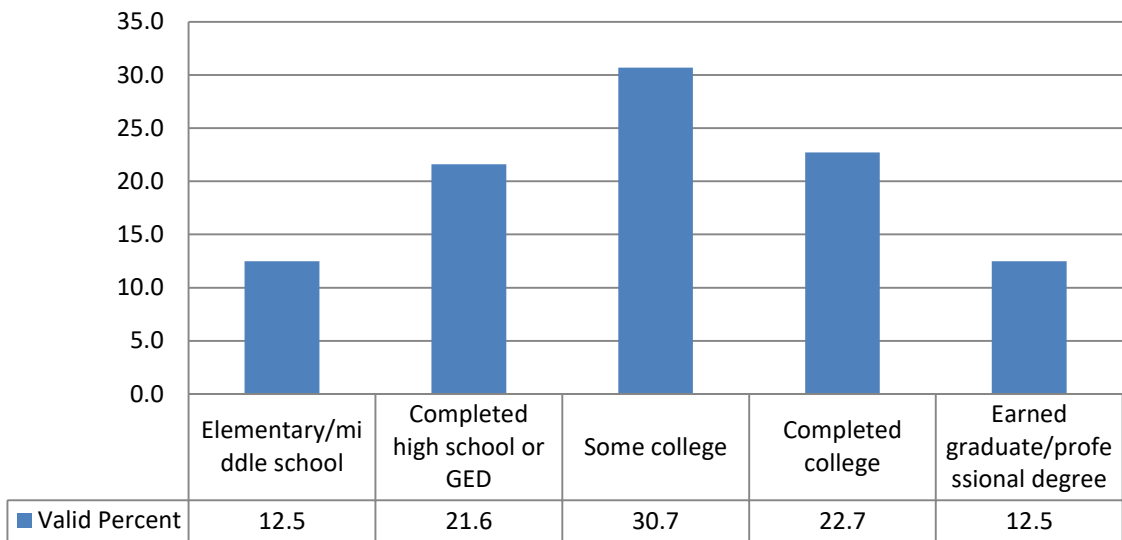
What is your family's primary source of income?



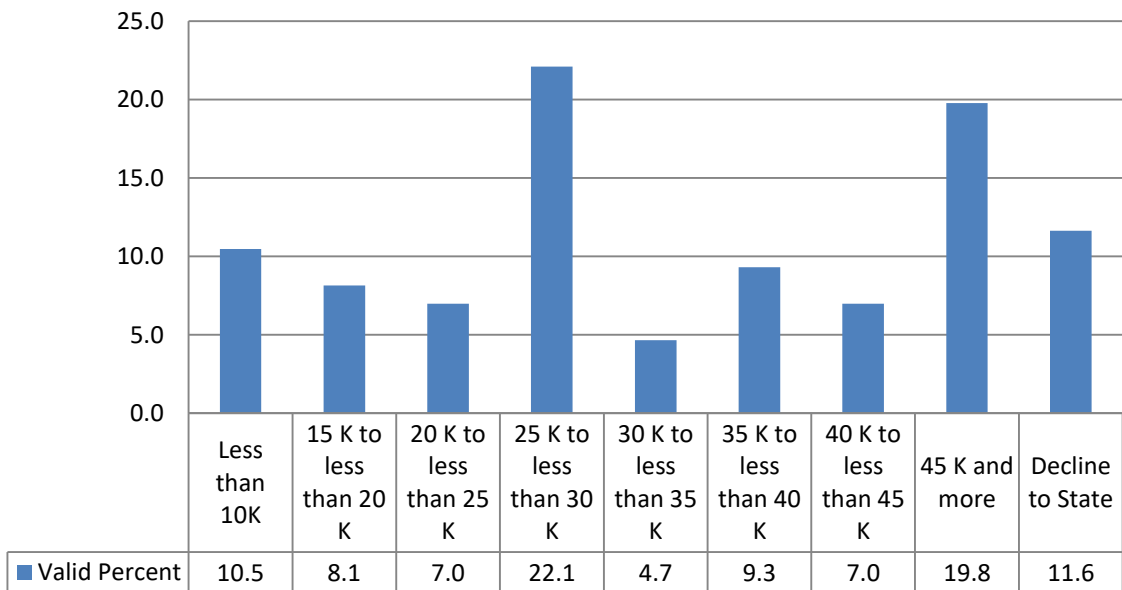
I am currently



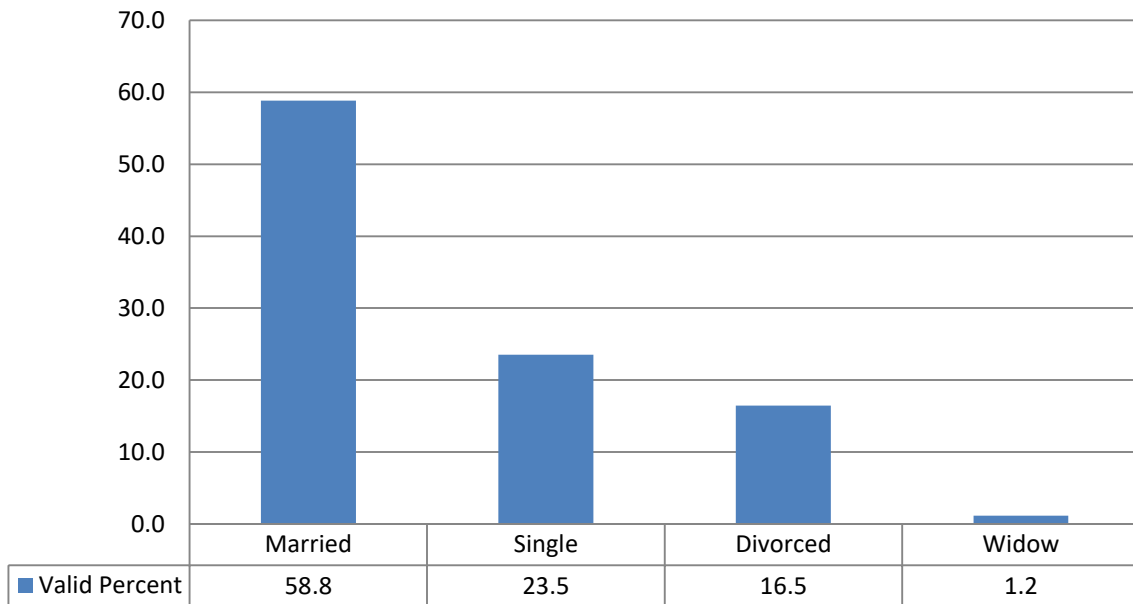
What is the highest level of education that you have completed?



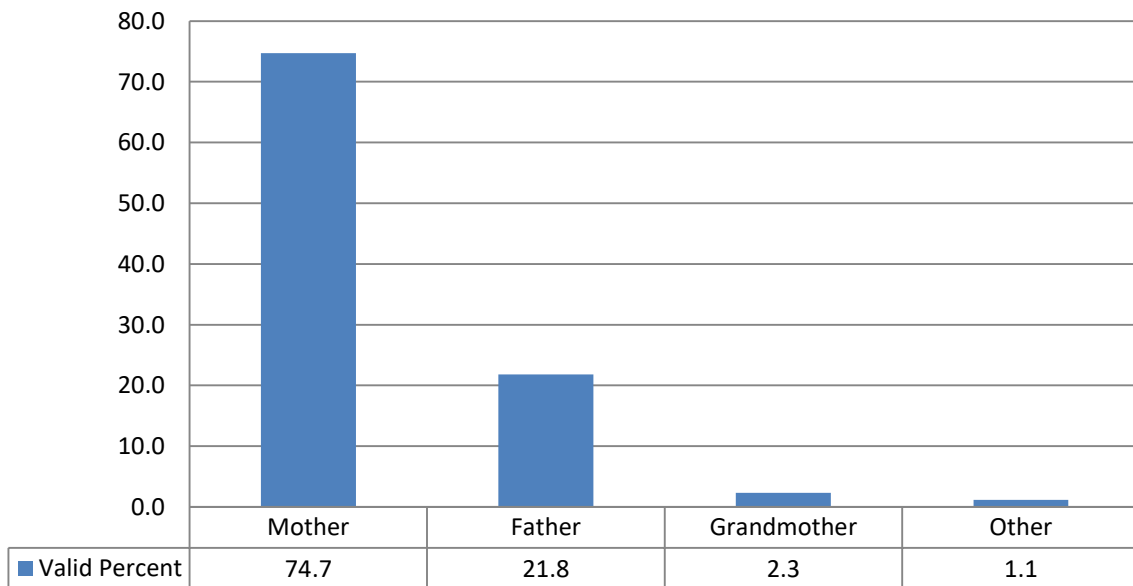
What is your individual annual income?



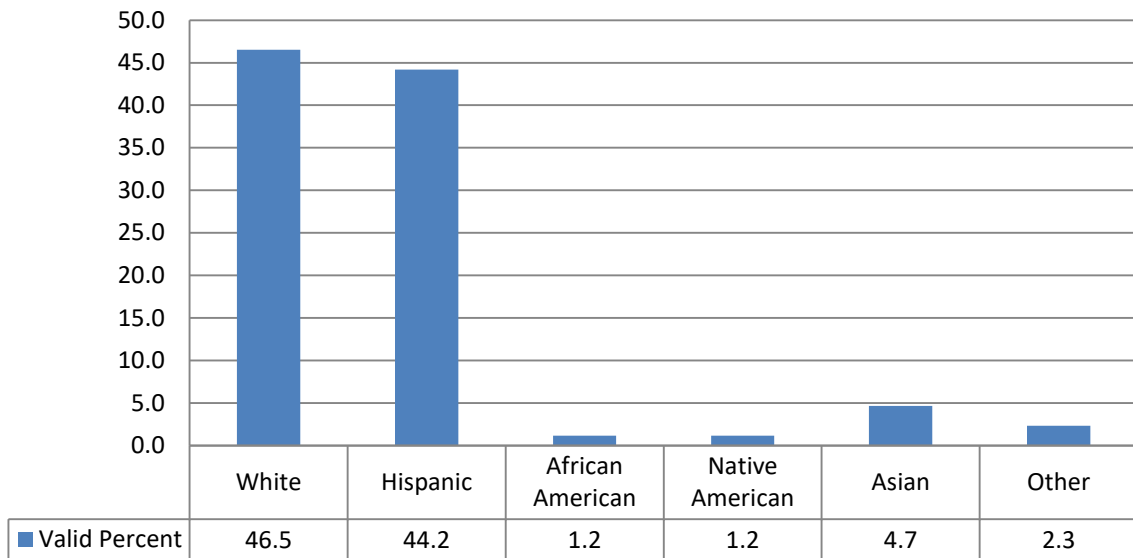
Marital Status



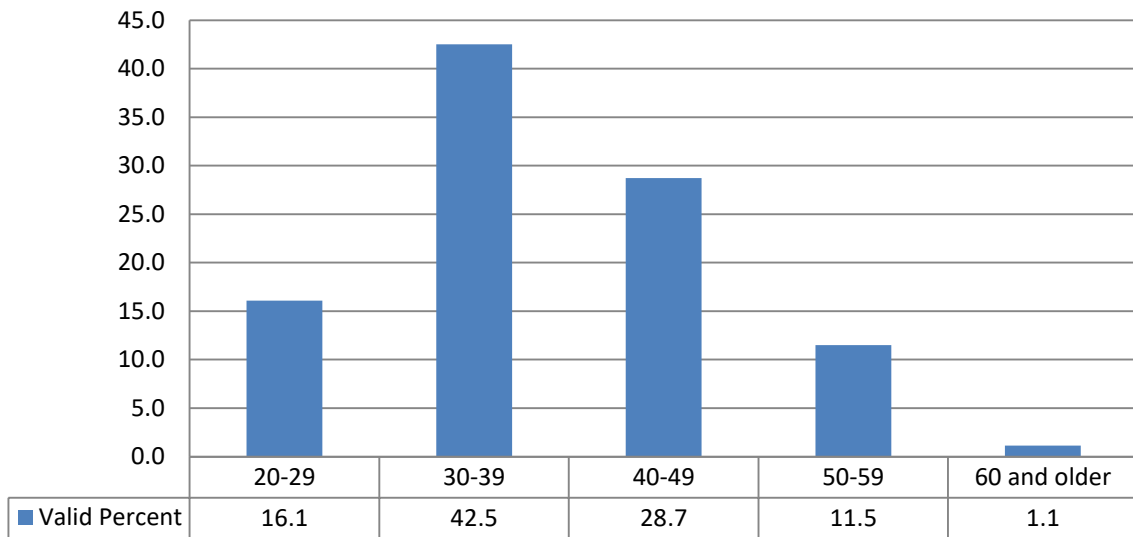
Relationship to the child

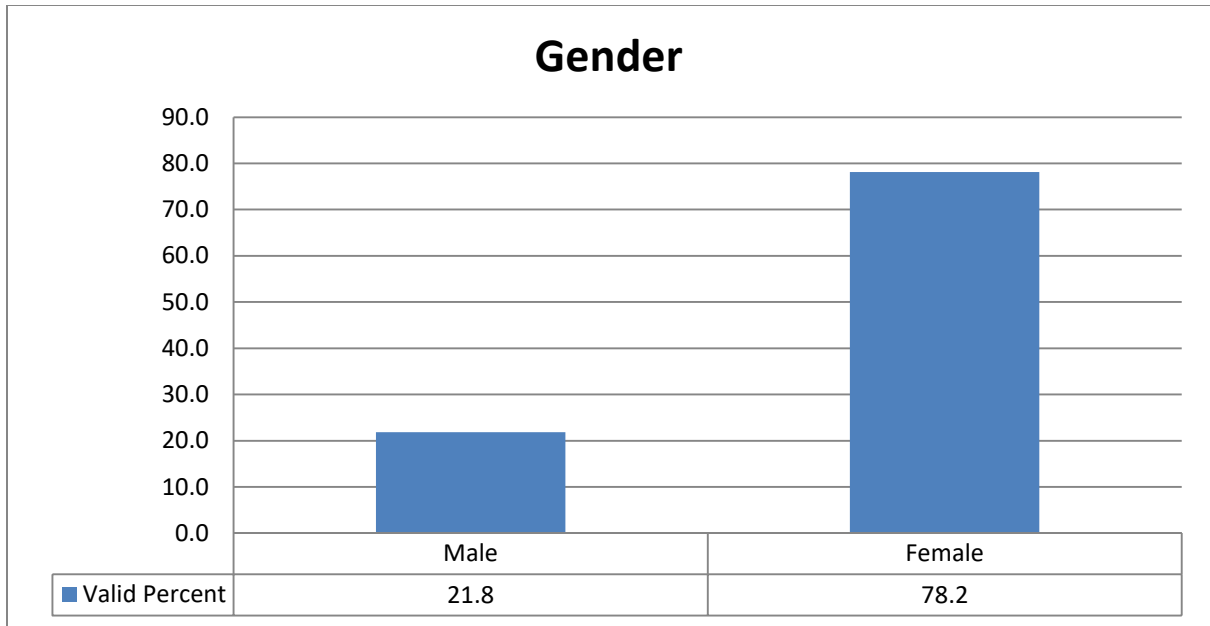


Ethnicity



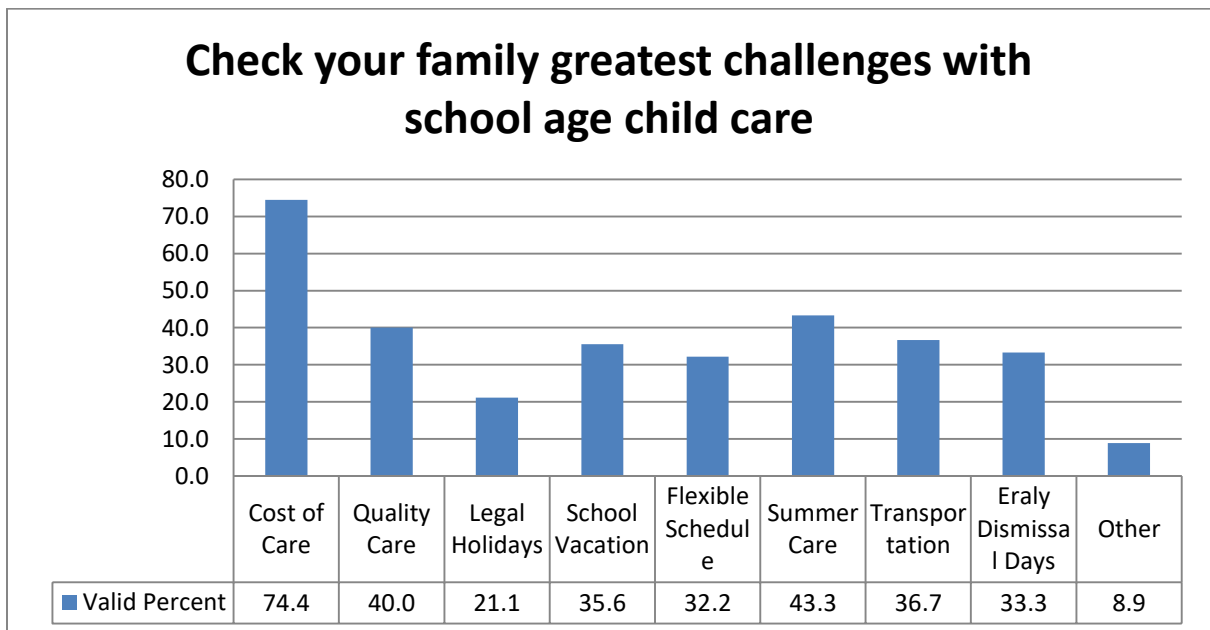
Age



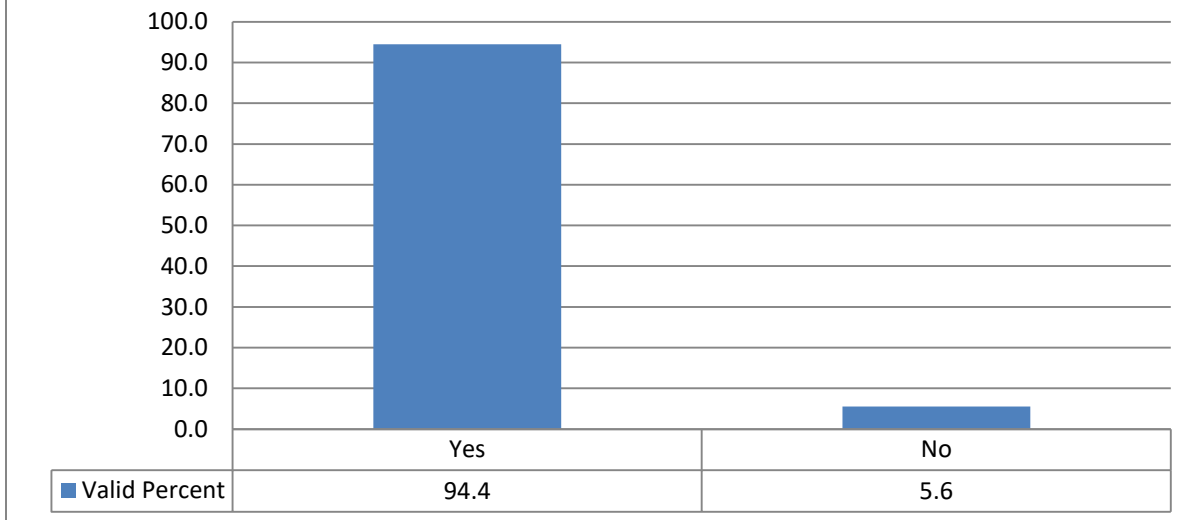


4.2) Family Need for Club Services

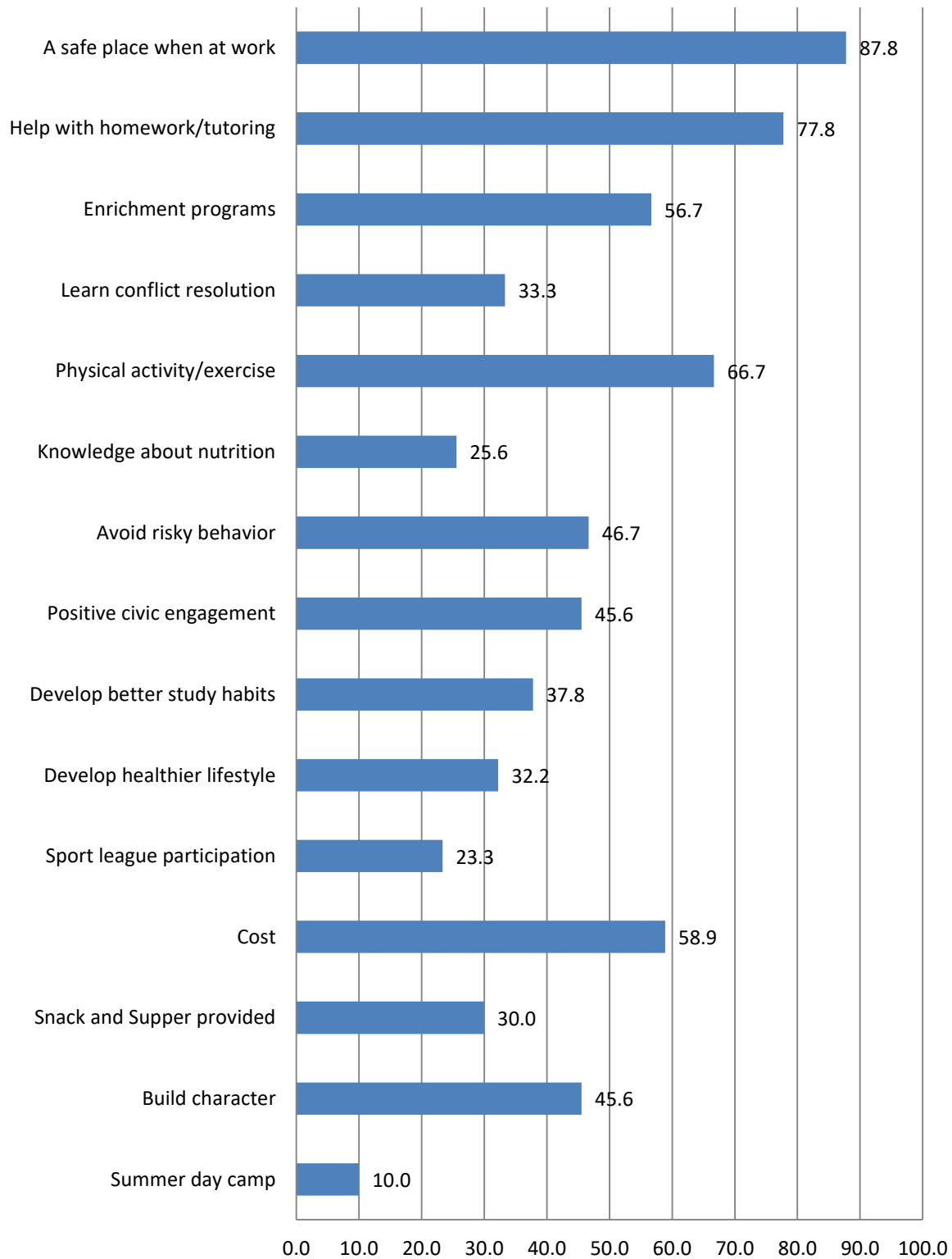
One way to judge the importance of the Boys & Girls Clubs is to assess the degree to which families need the services of the clubs. Such needs can be shaped by constraints facing the family or the desires of parents. This section presents questions focused on this subject in the parent survey.

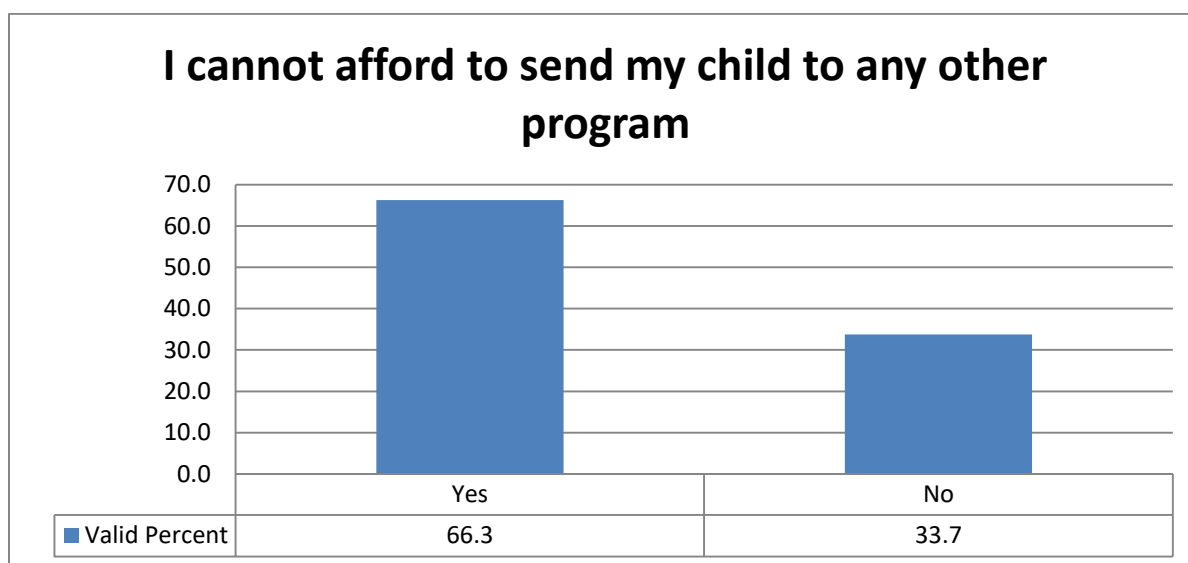


This program is the only program that I send my child to



The reason(s) you need the Boys & Girls Club

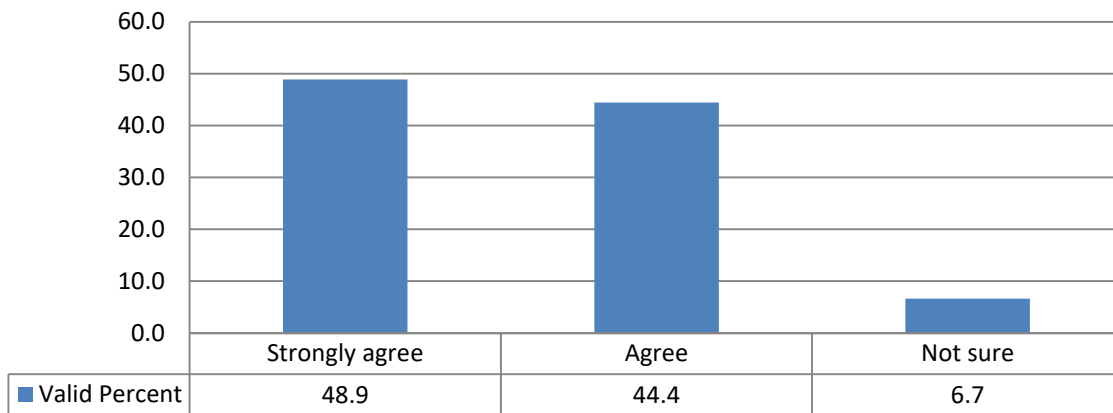




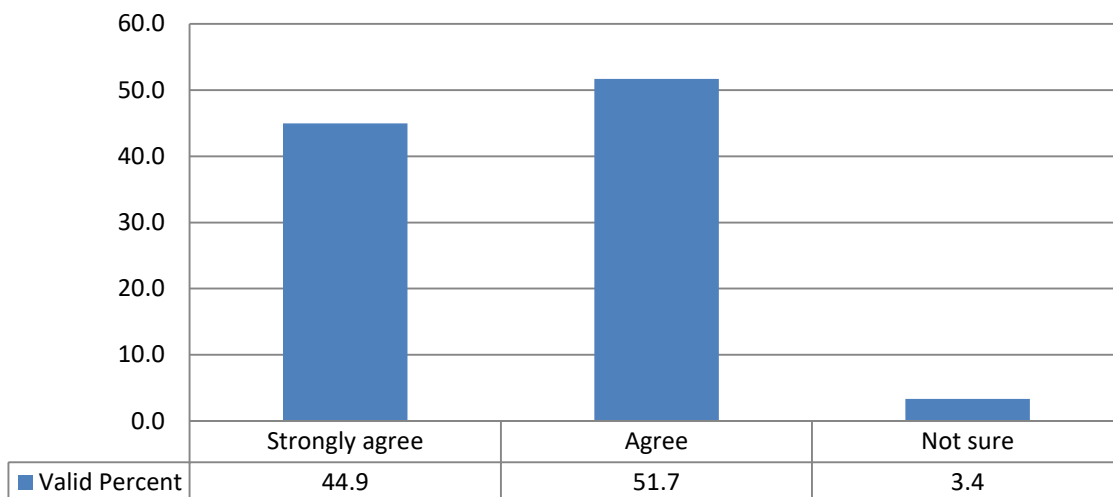
4.3) Impact of Clubs on Child's Self Confidence and Social Aptitude

Due to the special position of parents to assess changes in their children, the parent survey sought to determine the areas in which parents observed changes in their children. One particular area of importance is the area of self-confidence and social skills. Many youths face pressures as they mature that can adversely impact their confidence and ability to make friends. As an environment that promotes social interaction, the clubs can play a role in helping young people develop the self-confidence and social skills that they will need their entire lives. As such, this section presents the views of parents regarding whether they have observed such improvements in their children.

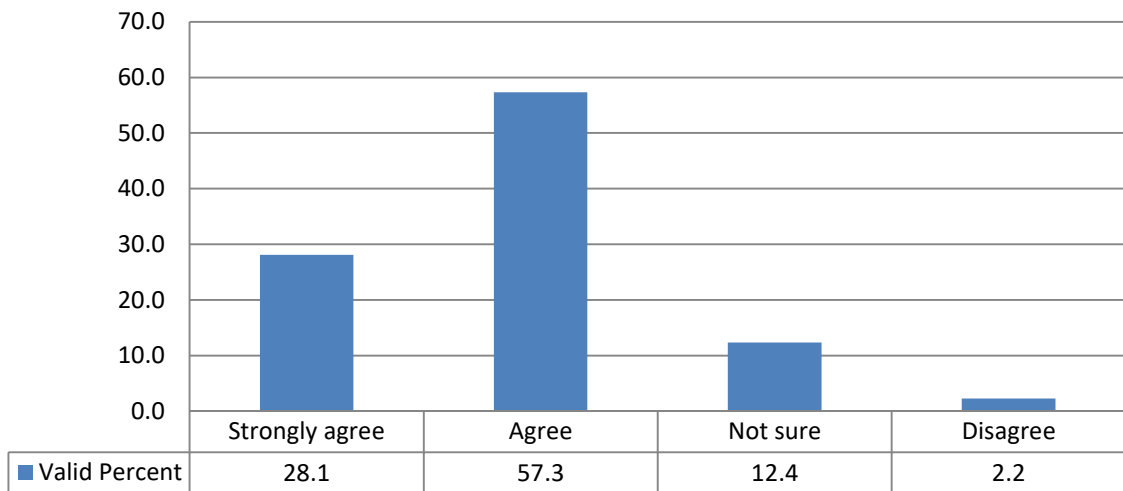
Since attending BGC my child has acquired a greater ability to make friends



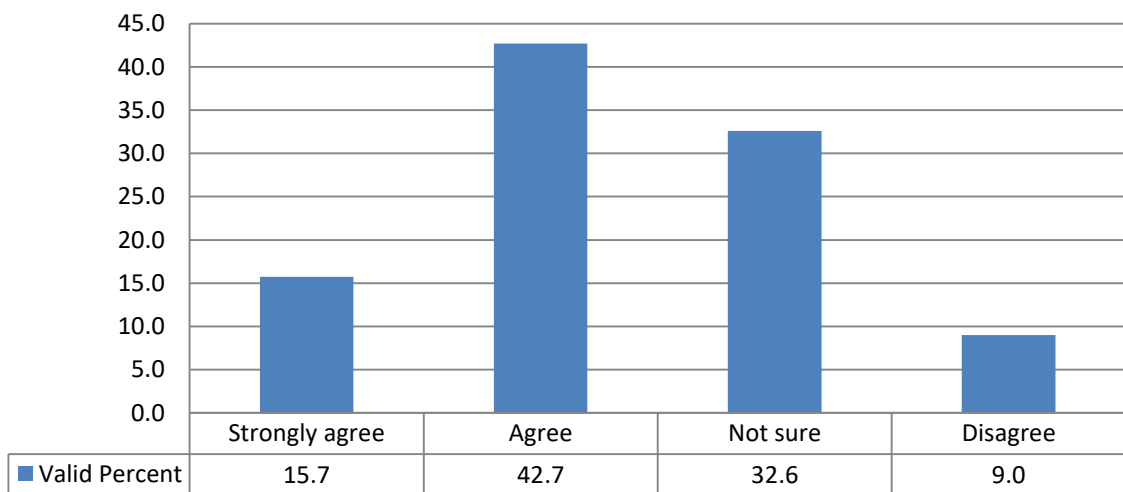
Since attending BGC my child is showing more confidence in himself/herself



Since attending BGC my child is demonstrating a greater ability to get along in the family



Since attending BGC my child seems more interested in doing volunteer work

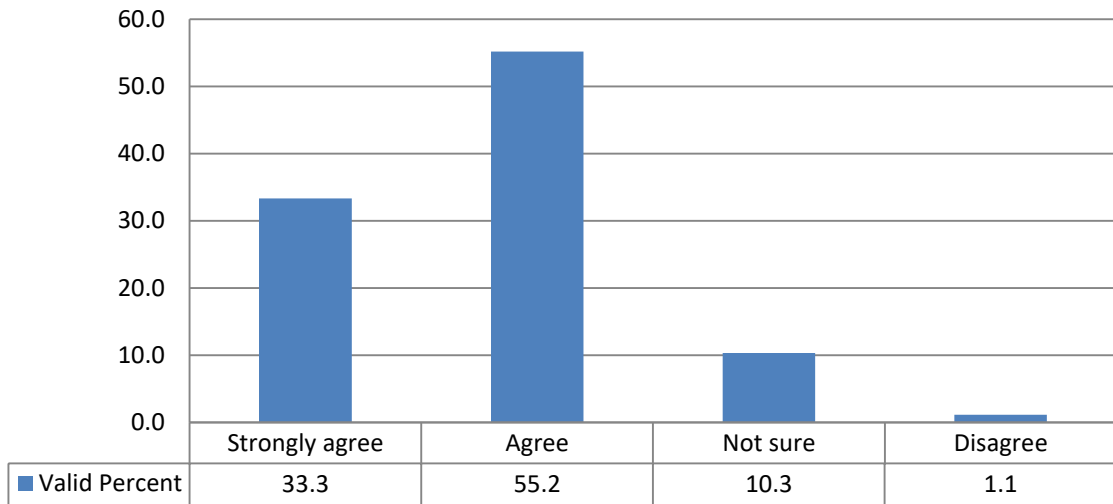


4.4) Impact of Clubs on Academic Performance and Aspiration

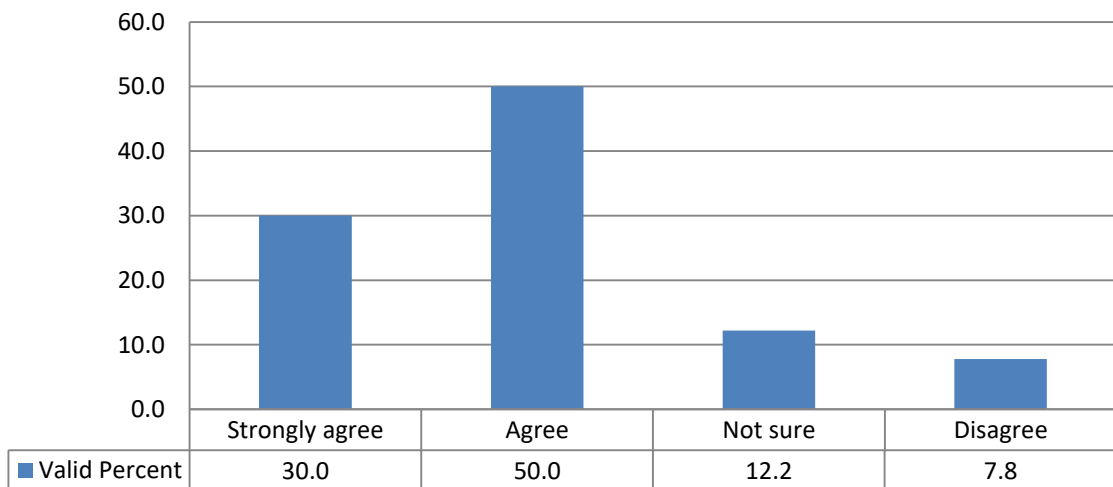
Another area in which parents were asked to share their observations regarding changes in their children since attending the clubs considered academic performance and

aspirations. Given the important role the clubs play in terms of academic enrichment, it is important to learn from the observations made by parents.

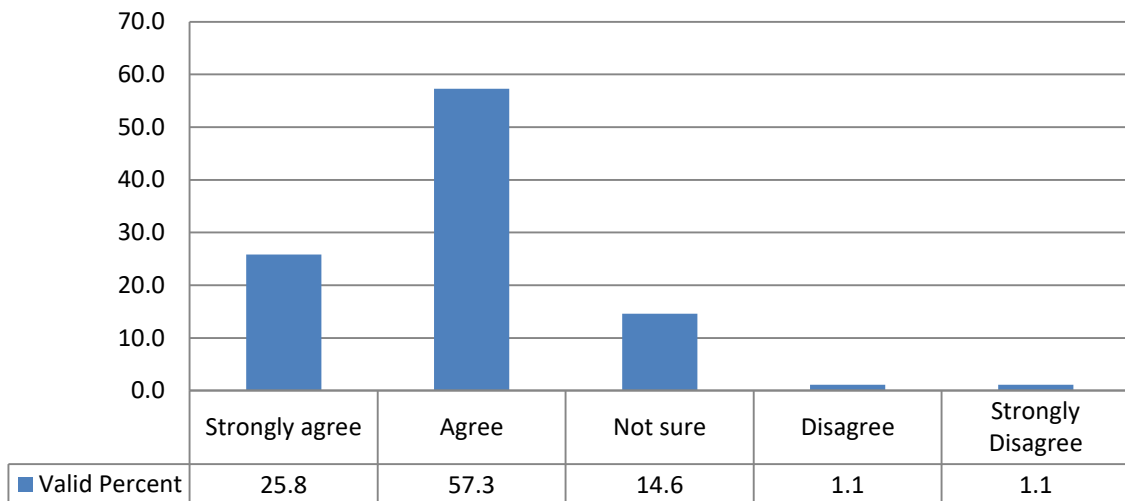
Since attending BGC my child has shown improvement in his/her school performance



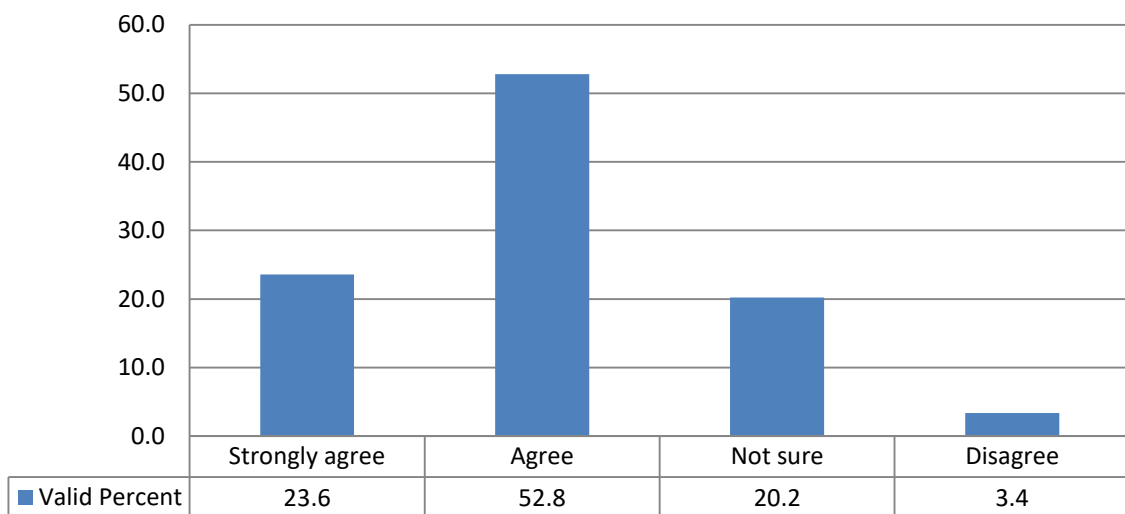
Since attending BGC my child shows me his/her completed homework more often



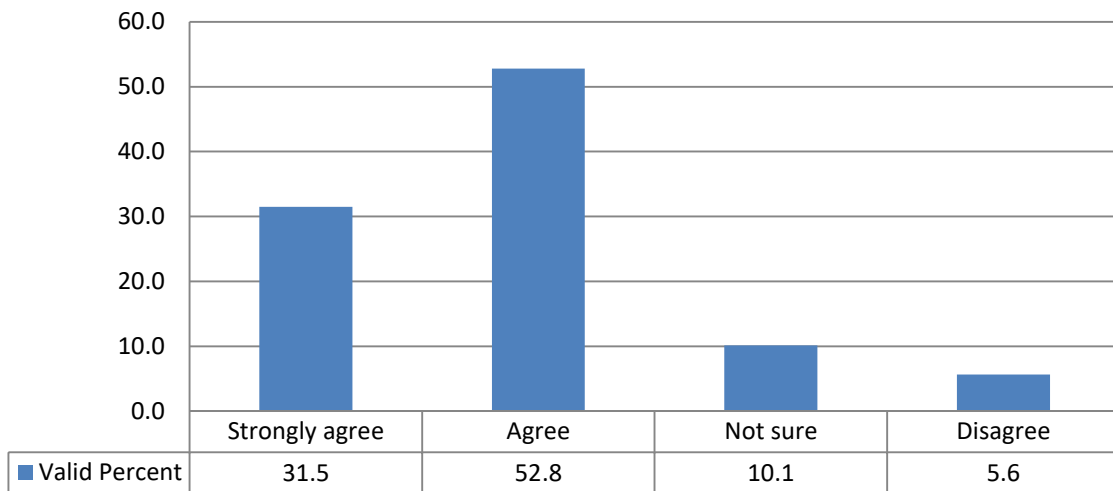
Since attending BGC my child seems to enjoy going to school more



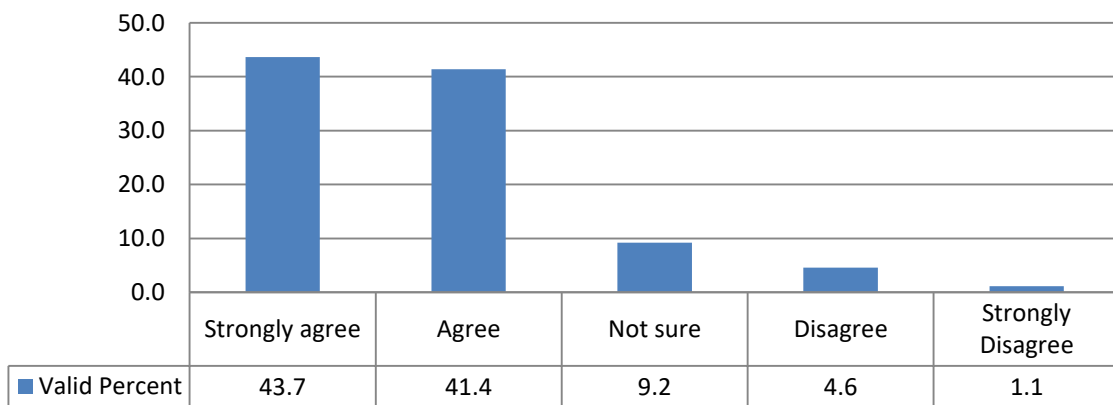
Since attending BGC my child's grades have improved



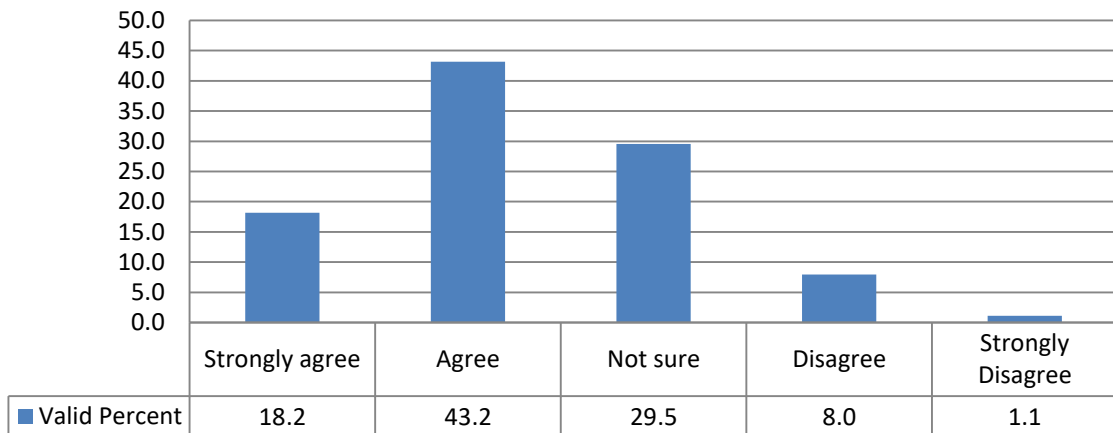
Since attending BGC my child is completing homework assignments more often



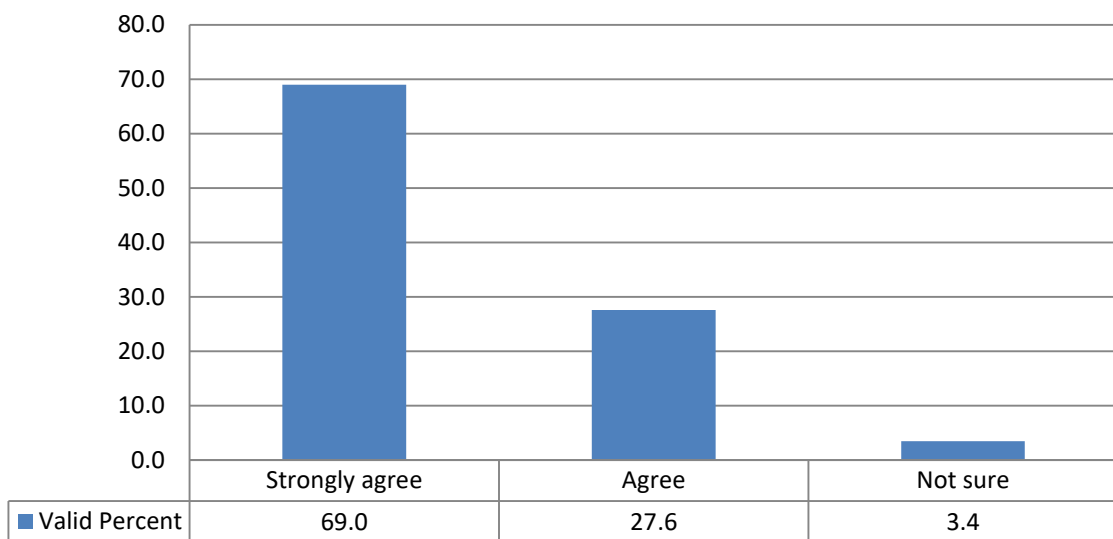
Since attending BGC my child attends his/her school regularly and has good attendance (missing less than 5 school days during the year)



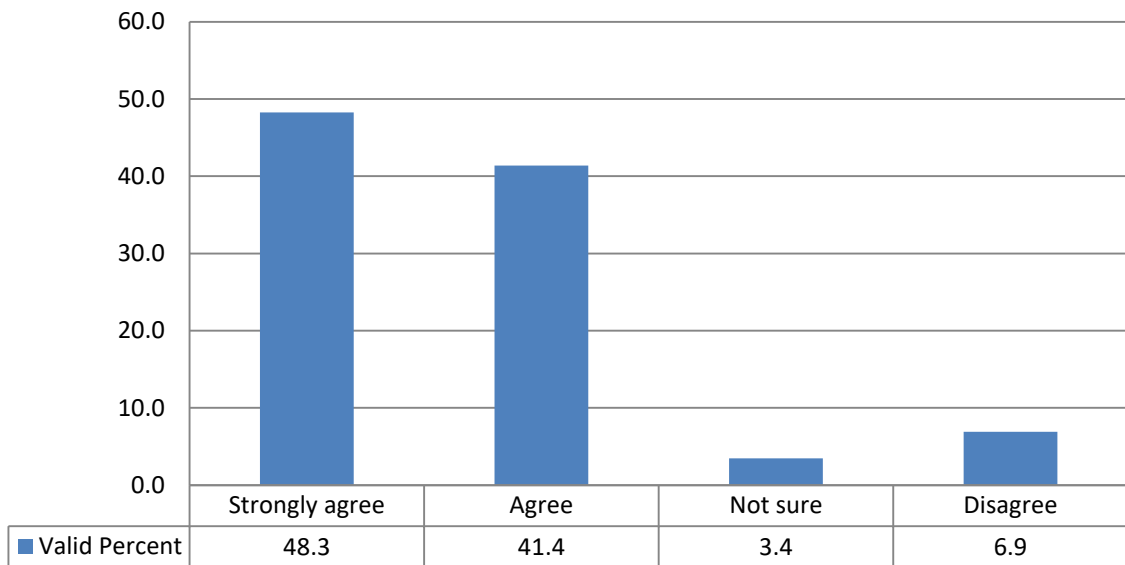
I believe one of the important reasons that my child attends his/her school regularly is his/her involvement in the Boys & Girls Clubs



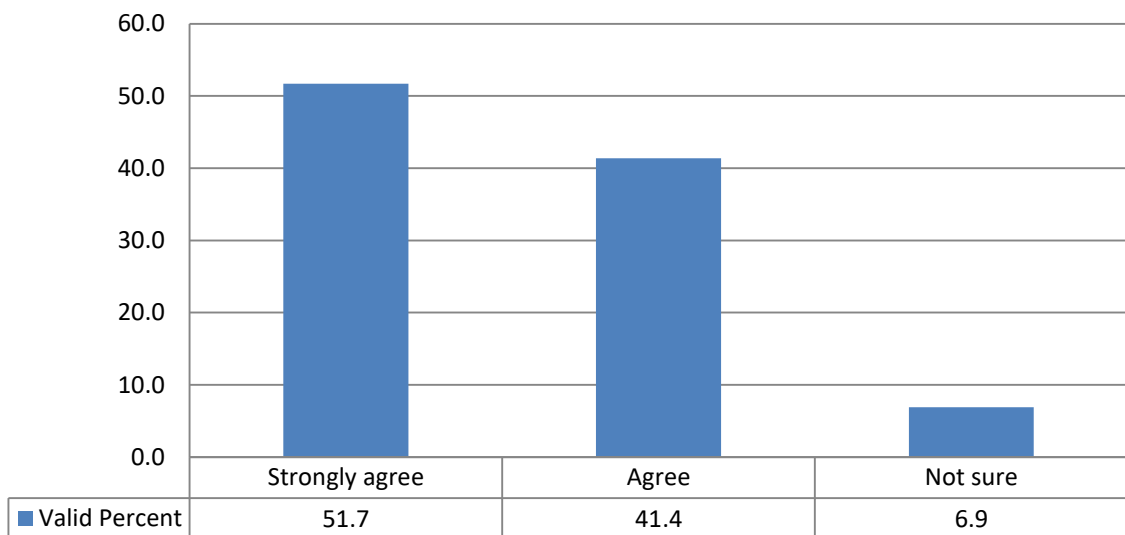
I am certain that my child will not drop out and will complete high school



My child talks about higher education and its importance

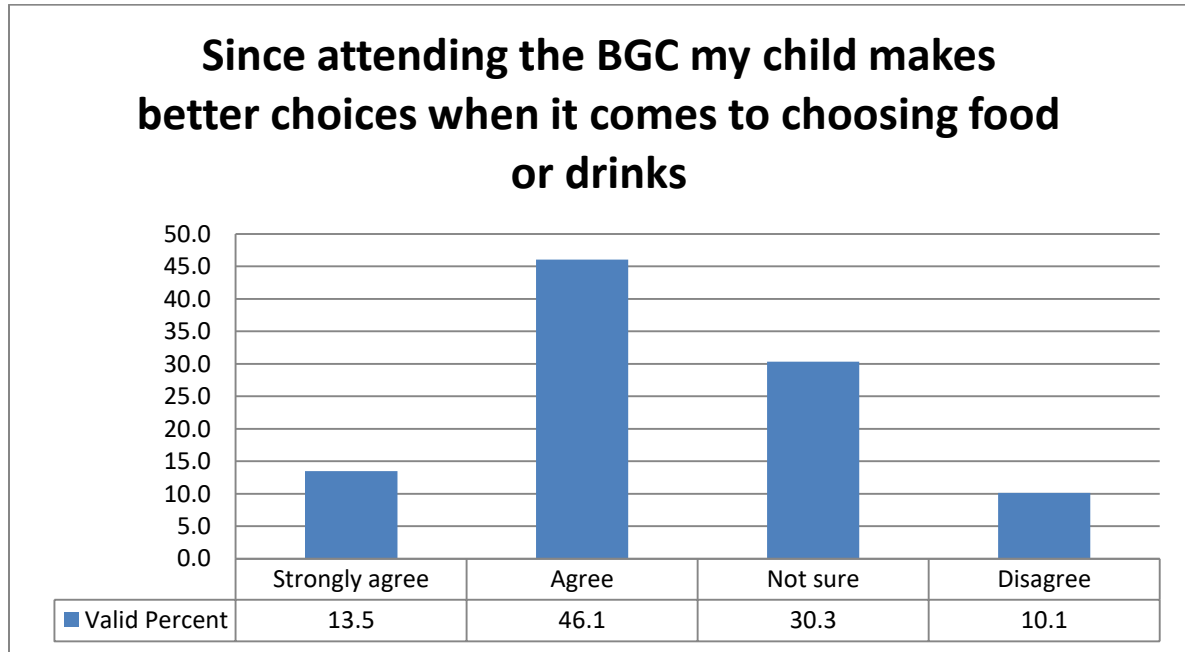


My child is sure that he/she will attend college after graduating from high school

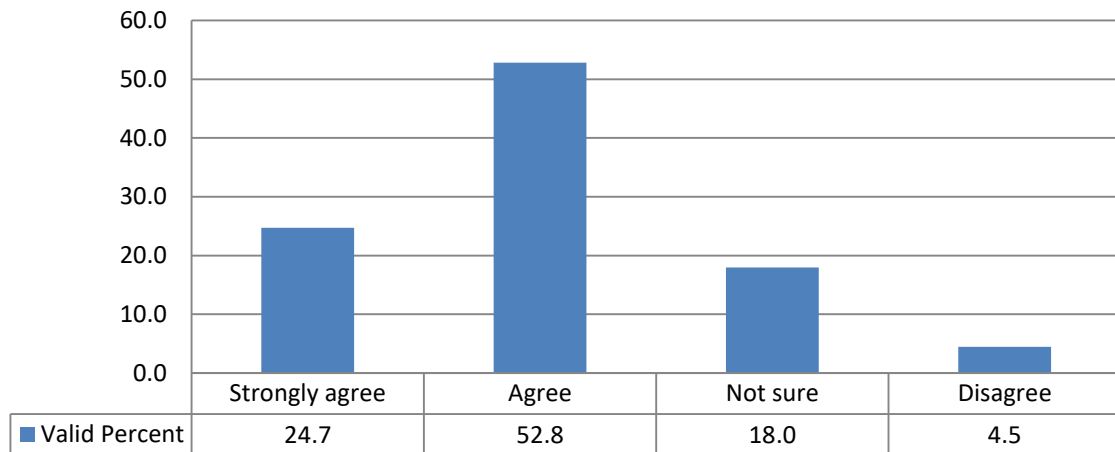


4.5) Club's Impact on Children's Choice of a Better Lifestyle

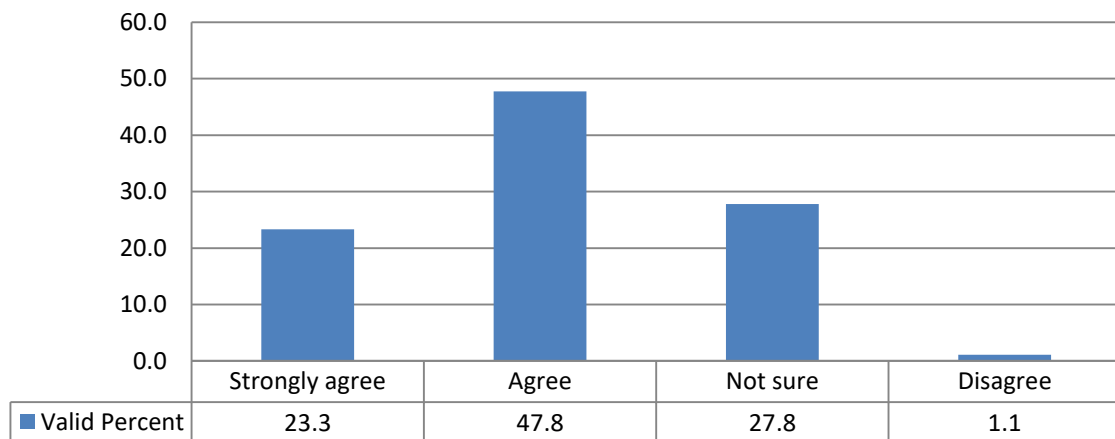
The final area in which we asked parents to share their observations regarding the impact of the clubs on their children was in regards to the impact of the program on their children's physical activity and nutrition. This section presents the results of these questions from the parents' survey.



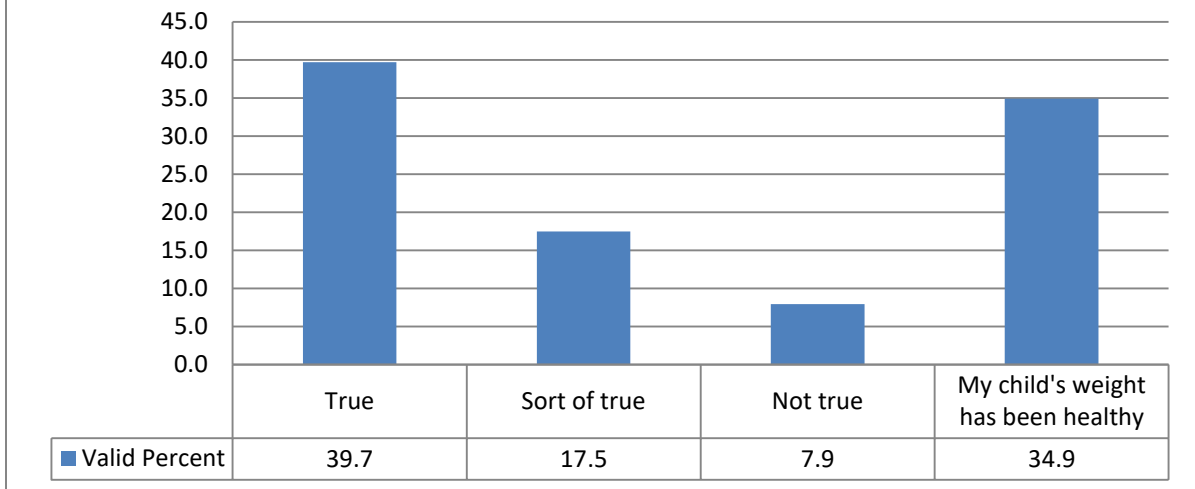
Since attending the BGC my child shows more interest in doing physical exercise on regular base



Since attending the BGC my child spends an hour or more a day doing exercise when at the club



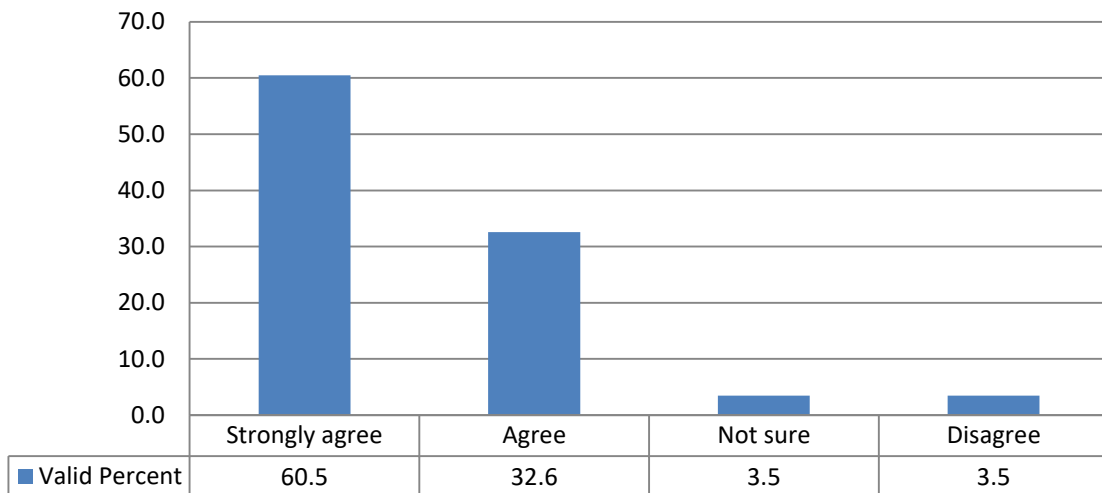
As a result of regular exercise he/she is making progress towards a healthy weight



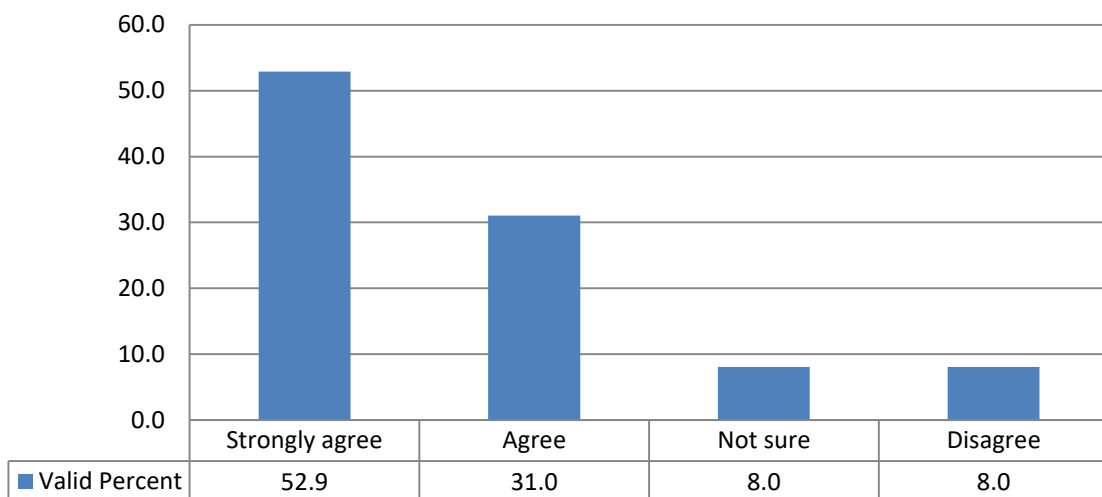
4.6) Impact of Club on Family's Economic Prosperity

One of the important ways in which the Boys & Girls Clubs help families is by supervising children during the afternoon hours when many parents need to work to earn a living or pursue education to improve their long-term earning potential. By providing quality supervision, the clubs allow parents to balance their responsibilities as parents with their duties of earning a living to sustain the family. The parent survey included several questions that were designed to determine the extent to which the clubs help parents keep their jobs and/or stay in school.

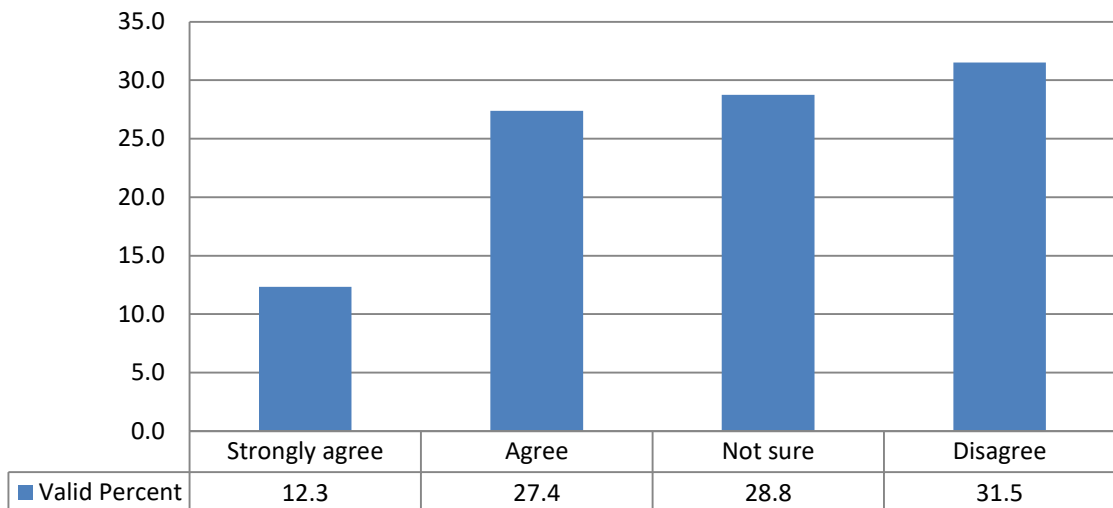
Sending my child(ren) to this club makes it easier for me to keep my job



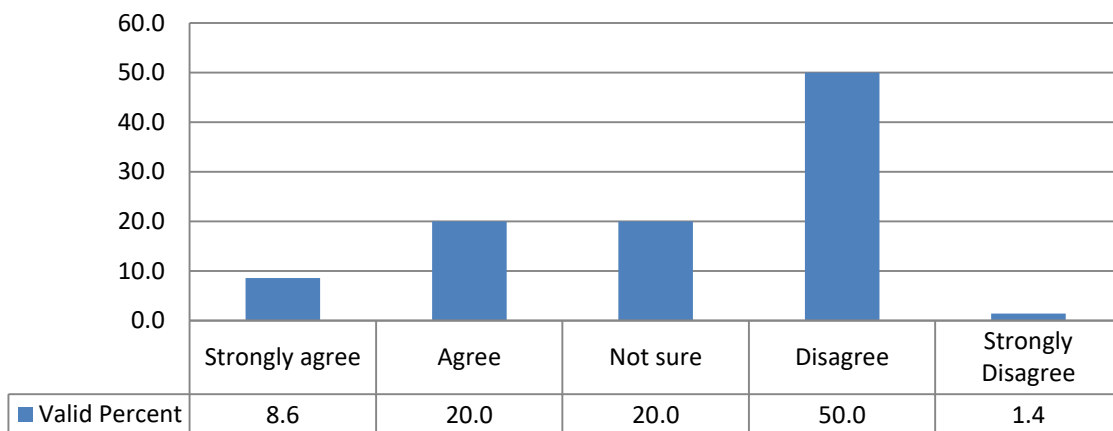
Sending my child(ren) to this club enables me to keep my job



Sending my child(ren) to this club makes it easier for me to go to school

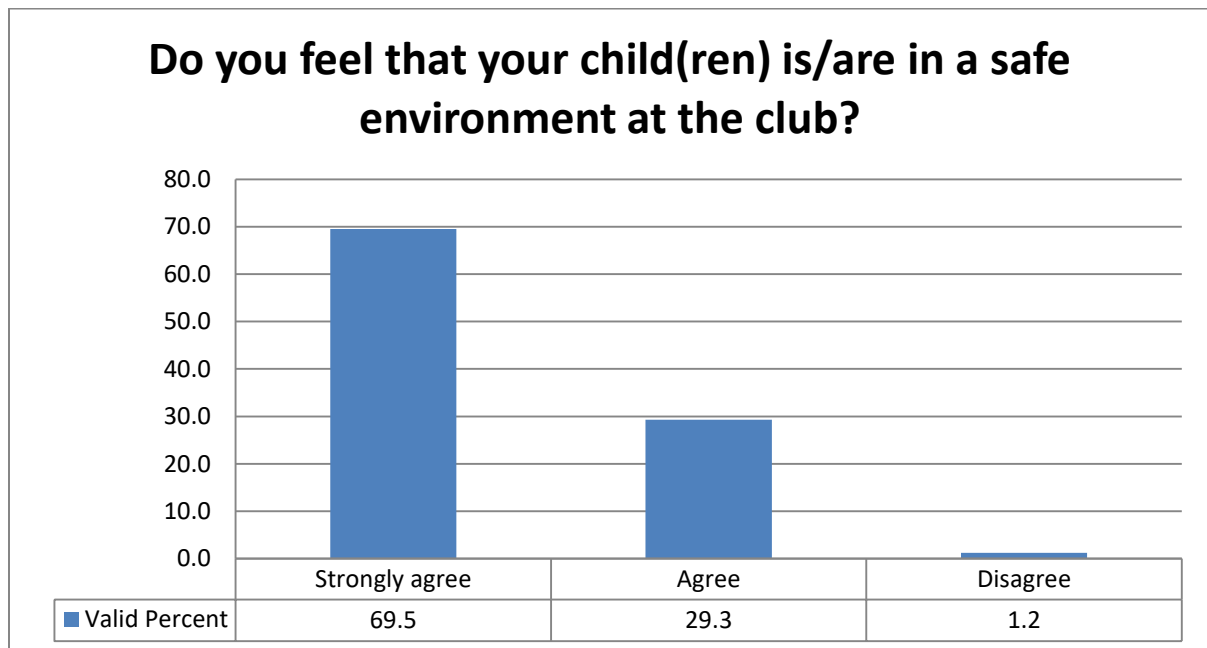


As a result of sending my child(ren) to this club I am now attending school to receive a higher degree or certificate that will help me with my career



4.7) Feeling of Safety of Children While at the Club

The Boys & Girls Clubs have earned the trust of parents. An important consideration in earning this trust is the safety of the environment in the clubs. As such, the parent survey asked parents to assess whether they feel that their children are in a safe environment when they are in the Boys & Girls Clubs.



5) Unmet Needs of the Area

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura provides vital services to hundreds of families and their children in the area. The programs target the most areas of need, which can highlighted below:

Physical Activity and Nutrition Education

- Gym
- SPARKS program to incorporates highly engaging physical activities to promote lifelong wellness
- Healthy Habits program concurrently which provides an educational component of understanding the importance of exercise and movement, physical fitness, how to read and understand nutrition labels, making good

food choices, finding health alternatives, how to shop for health and making positive life choices.

- Members are provided with learning opportunities for healthy snack and meal preparation.
- In the summertime, we offer a surf camp and intramural sports league between our club sites.
- County at the County-wide Olympics
- Triple play

Violence Prevention Programs

- Youth for Unity
- Smart Girls
- Passport to Manhood
- Smart Moves
- Anti-Bullying Programs
- Latino outreach - provides Clubs with effective strategies to reach, serve and empower Latino youth and families.
- Youth for unity - aims to promote and celebrate diversity while combating prejudice, bigotry and discrimination.

Programs Reducing Risky Behavior such as Alcohol or Drug Consumption or teenage Pregnancy

- Smart Moves
- Date Smart
- Passport to Manhood and Smart Girls
- Torch club
- Keystone clubs

Academic Enrichment Programs

- Project Learn

- Fine Arts Program – where we provide youth with a different medium each month for 10 months and then an in-house exhibit is hosted at each club site during our Lights On Afterschool event.
- BE GREAT: Graduate
- Robo Tech
- Skill Tech Basic Training
- Power Hour
- Myclubmylife.com - website to reach and inspire teens.

Services to the Parents of Club Members

- Tax return assistance through AARP.
- Have served as advocates with parents at school for issues of concern with their individual children
- Have worked with Toys for Tots and with the local Sheriff Department to help parents at Christmas time
- Coordinated an informational parent meeting with El Concilio to provide pertinent information about DACA and their rights when there was a recent scare of raids and being deported.

The impact of the Clubs is the same for all those children who come to the Clubs and experience the life-changing impacts as indicated and elaborated on in this study. There is, however, an important issue, which is the ability of parents to pay for membership of the clubs their children attend. It is also true that all clubs make every effort to meet the needs of the children and their families in their own areas. However, ability to serve a larger number of children whose families face greater financial challenges is an important issue, which we tried to address by estimating the potential unmet needs of low-income families in this new report for the first time. This issue is the financial ability of parents to support their children by paying the monthly fees of various Clubs. Each Club has provisions for allowing some members to receive discounts or enter the Club with fees

waived. Having the ability to reduce and waive membership fees is a function of the level of assistance (in financial terms and volunteer work) that each Club can secure.

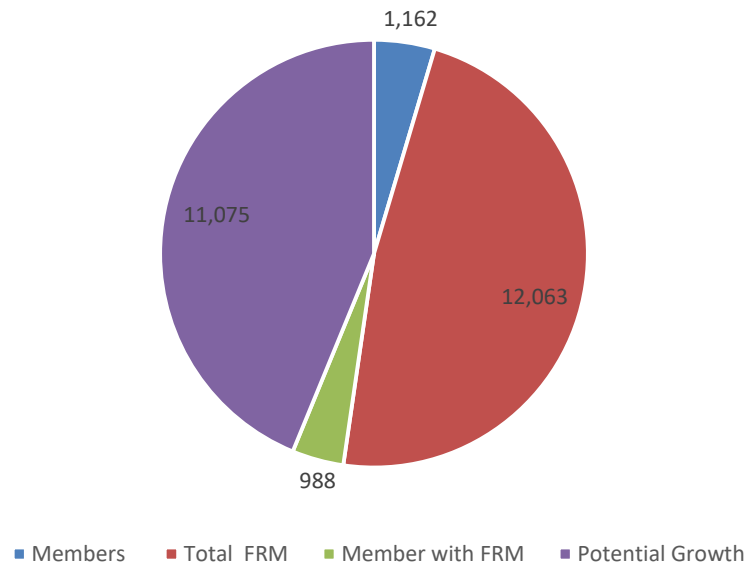
The survey of parents for Boys and Girls Club of Greater Ventura showed that 66.3% of parents cannot afford to send their children to another institution and 94.4% said that this club is the only club to which they can send their children.

The question of affordability brings about an important issue to this study and that is the ability of families in need to take advantage of the opportunity of sending their children to the Clubs. The ability of the Clubs to accept more members from underserved communities will therefore become a function of their ability to offer free or reduced membership fees to families, and in particular, to those who cannot afford the fee.

We asked the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura to provide a list of schools from which they draw their members and also tell us what proportion of the members coming to the Clubs enjoy a Free and Reduced Meals plan from their respective schools. We then made our best effort to determine the total number of the potential pool of children that fall into the category of low-income by the definition of using FRM plans and the actual number of current members who come to the Clubs and benefit from FRM plans.

We then made a comparison for each Club showing the number of members, members who have FRM plans, and the overall total number of children with FRM plans from where the members come from. The idea was to show the number of potential children who can be joining the Clubs but currently are not members of the Club. Our estimation for the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura resulted in the following finding.

Existing and Potential Possibilities to Serve More Children of Underserved Families By Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura



The above chart provides an important information on the potential of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura to serve at least as additional 11,075 children with need and possibility inability to support their children. We also need to draw attention to the fact that serving low-income children is not only a matter of subsidizing their membership fees but also to support other logistical support in order to enable them to attend the club.

Looking at the result of the findings for all the clubs in Ventura County, there should not be any doubt that investing in the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Ventura is to invest in a program for creation of a rich and capable human capital for the future with a return of \$16 for every \$1 invested.