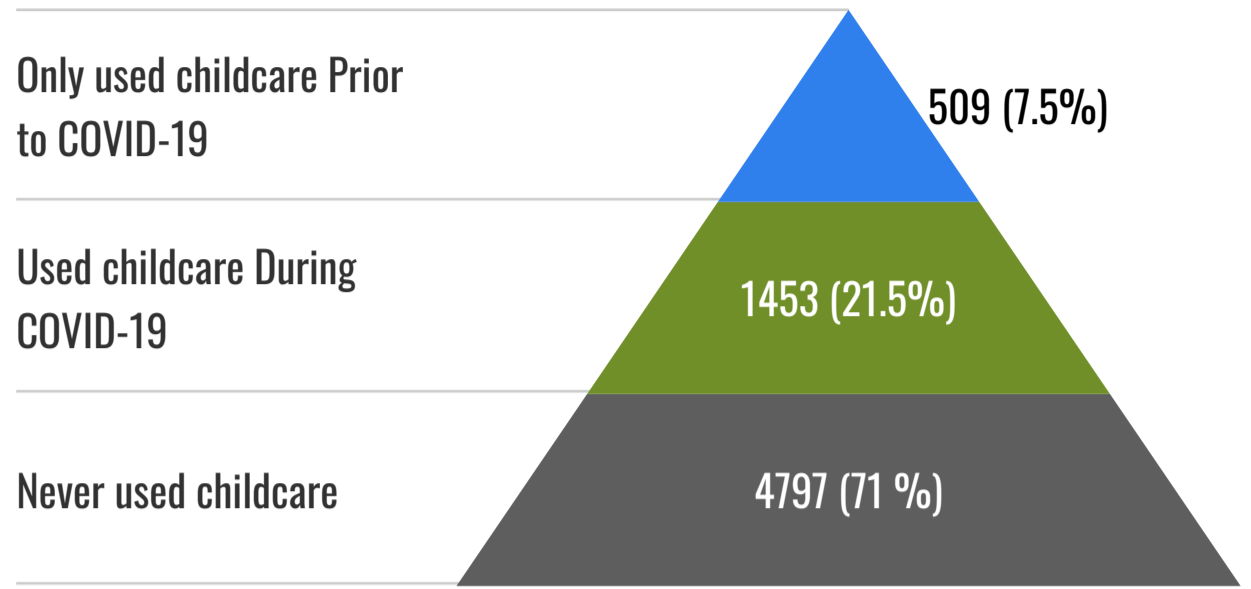


**COVID-19 Pandemic - CA statewide lockdown**  
March 16, 2020

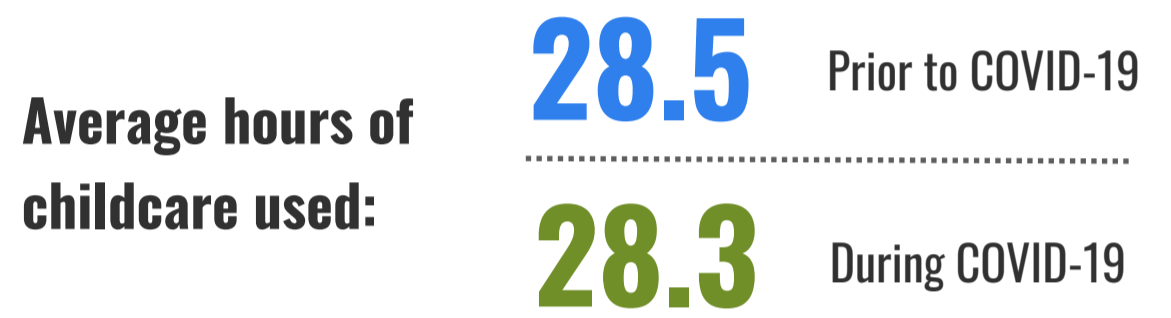
**2020 Los Angeles County WIC Survey:**  
July - Dec 2020

The Los Angeles County WIC Survey is a triennial phone survey conducted with WIC participants throughout the county. Data were collected from 6,367 participating children: 4405 did not use childcare at any time, 1453 used childcare during the pandemic and 509 used childcare only prior to COVID-19. Moms who reported being currently pregnant were not asked these questions. March 2020 was used as the point of interest to define before and after COVID-19 throughout this survey. Childcare use data was collected from families who reported at least 1 hour of current childcare use during a typical week for their household. If families did not report any current childcare use, a follow-up question was asked to determine if these families had previously used childcare before COVID-19.

**Survey Sample Breakdown:**

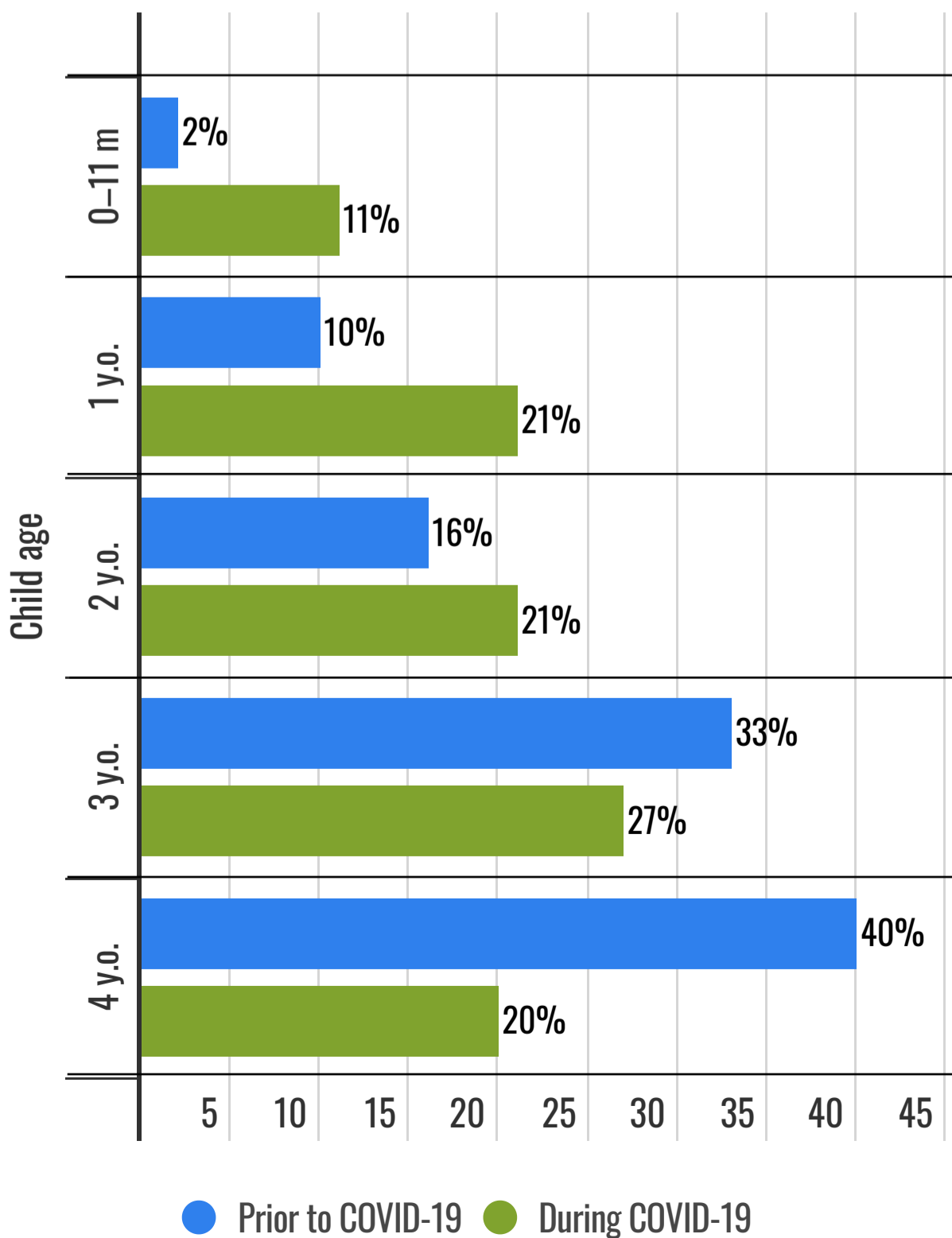


The average hours of childcare used during and prior to COVID-19 remained relatively similar but varied based on the type of childcare used.



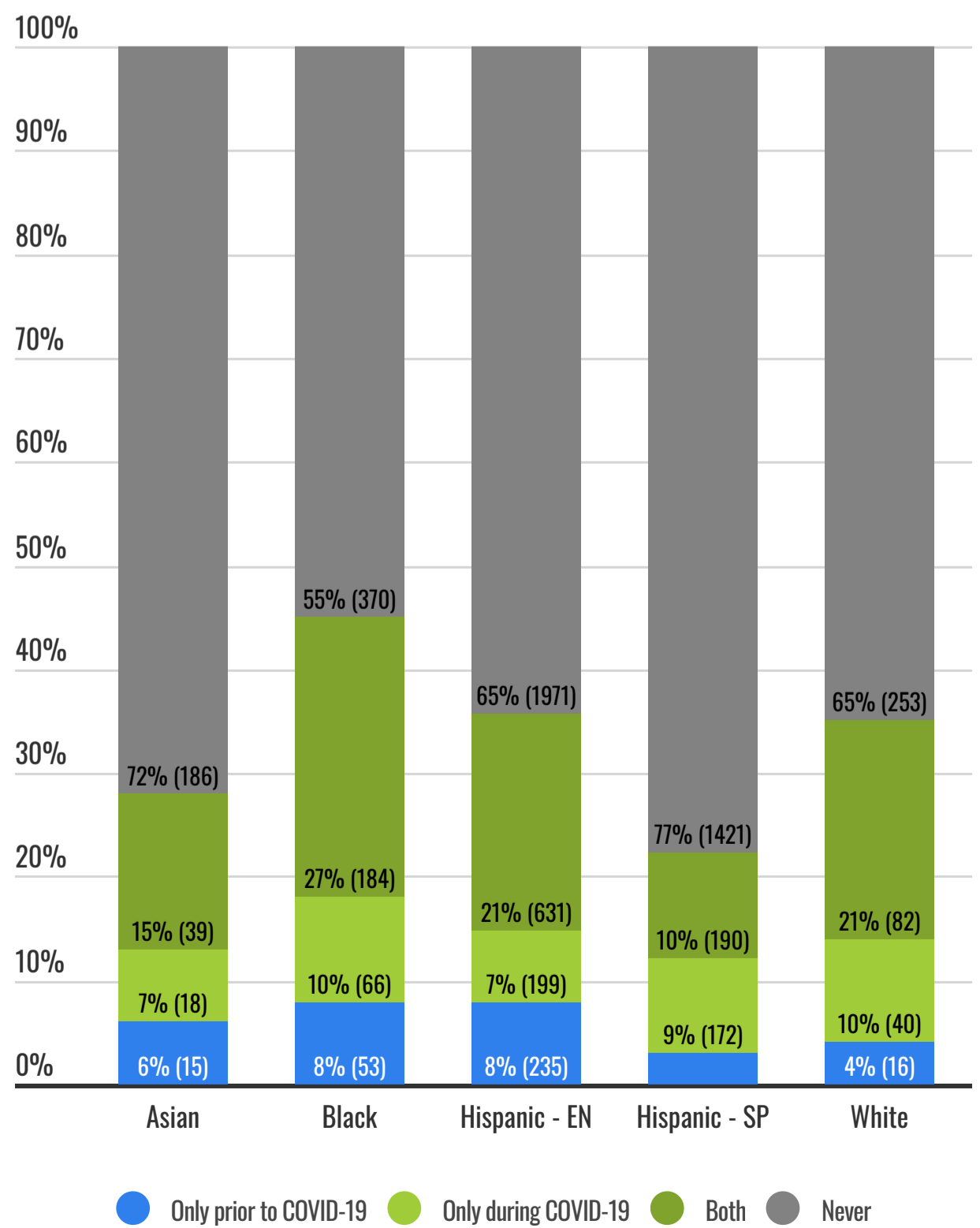
**Childcare Use & Child Age Distribution**

The age distribution of the survey sample is balanced around 20% for each child age from birth to age four. There are some differences in the types of childcare used based on the age of the child. Most notably, use of childcare before versus during COVID-19 shifted substantially based on child age, with younger children (0-2) accessing more childcare during COVID-19 and older children (3-4) accessing less. One factor that could have led to this shift is the closures of childcare centers and preschools during COVID-19.



**Childcare Use & Race Ethnicity**

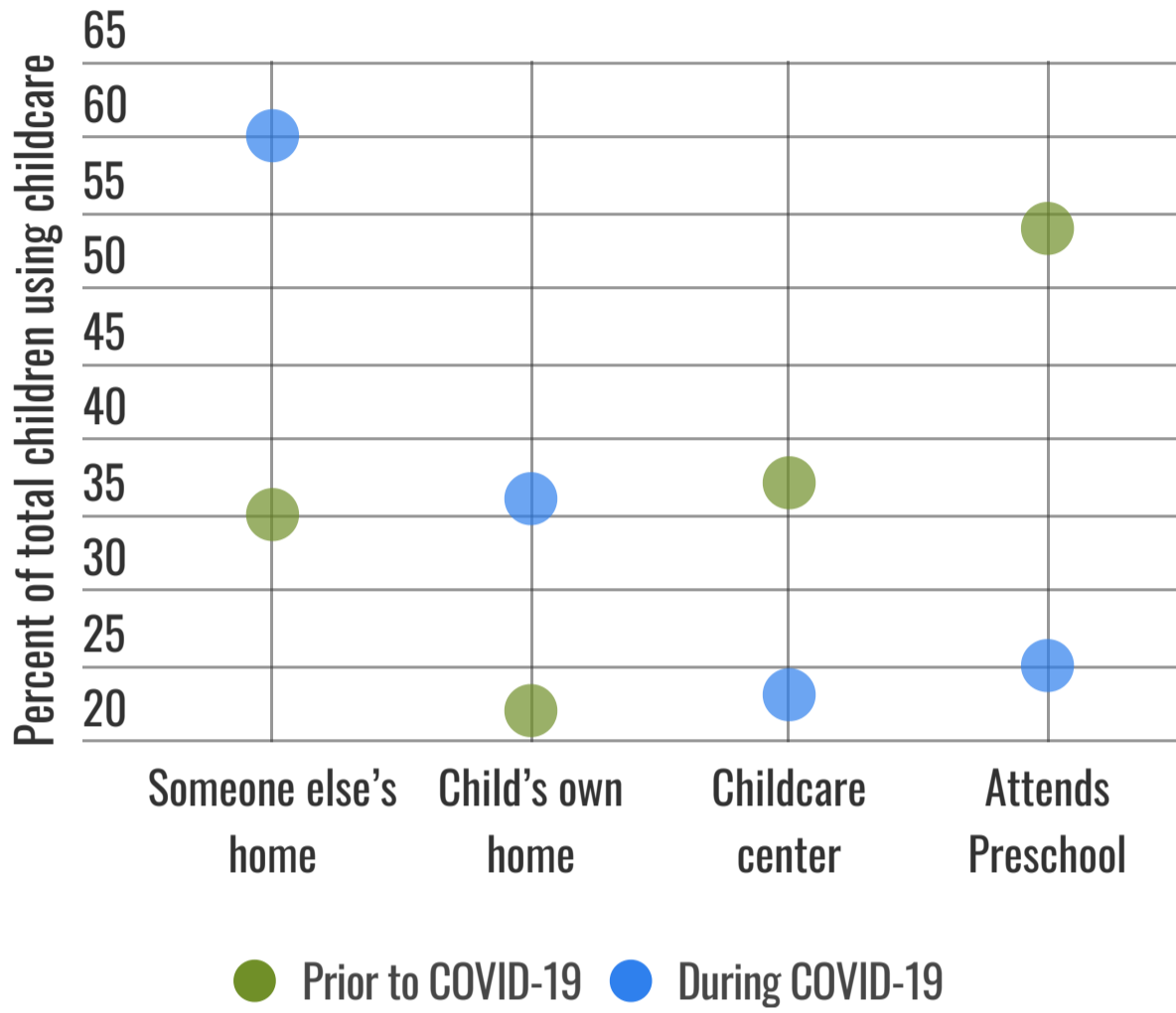
Childcare use history among survey respondents is presented by race/ethnicity of the respondent. Due to oversampling of Asian and Black families for the 2020 survey year, racial ethnic data has been weighted. Figure 2 shows the prevalence of childcare use during the survey. The time points include: only prior to COVID-19, only during COVID-19, or both prior to and during COVID-19. Childcare, regardless of time point, is most used by Black families, followed by Hispanic English-speaking and White families.



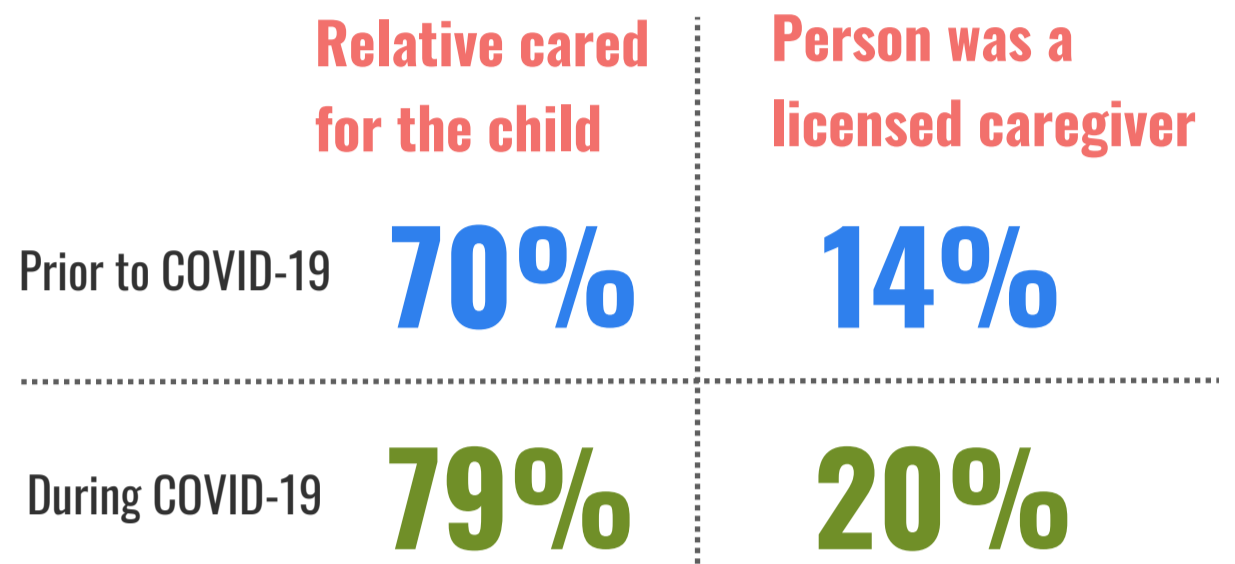
## Home vs Center Based Childcare

### Types of Childcare Used

Participants were asked whether they utilized childcare from someone else's home, in their own home, a childcare center or preschool. Home and center based care were analyzed by whether the caregiver was a relative of the child and if the caregiver/center was licensed. Home based care refers to someone taking care of the child at home. When comparing home versus center, center based care does not include preschool. The use of childcare centers and preschool during COVID-19 decreased compared to prior to COVID-19.



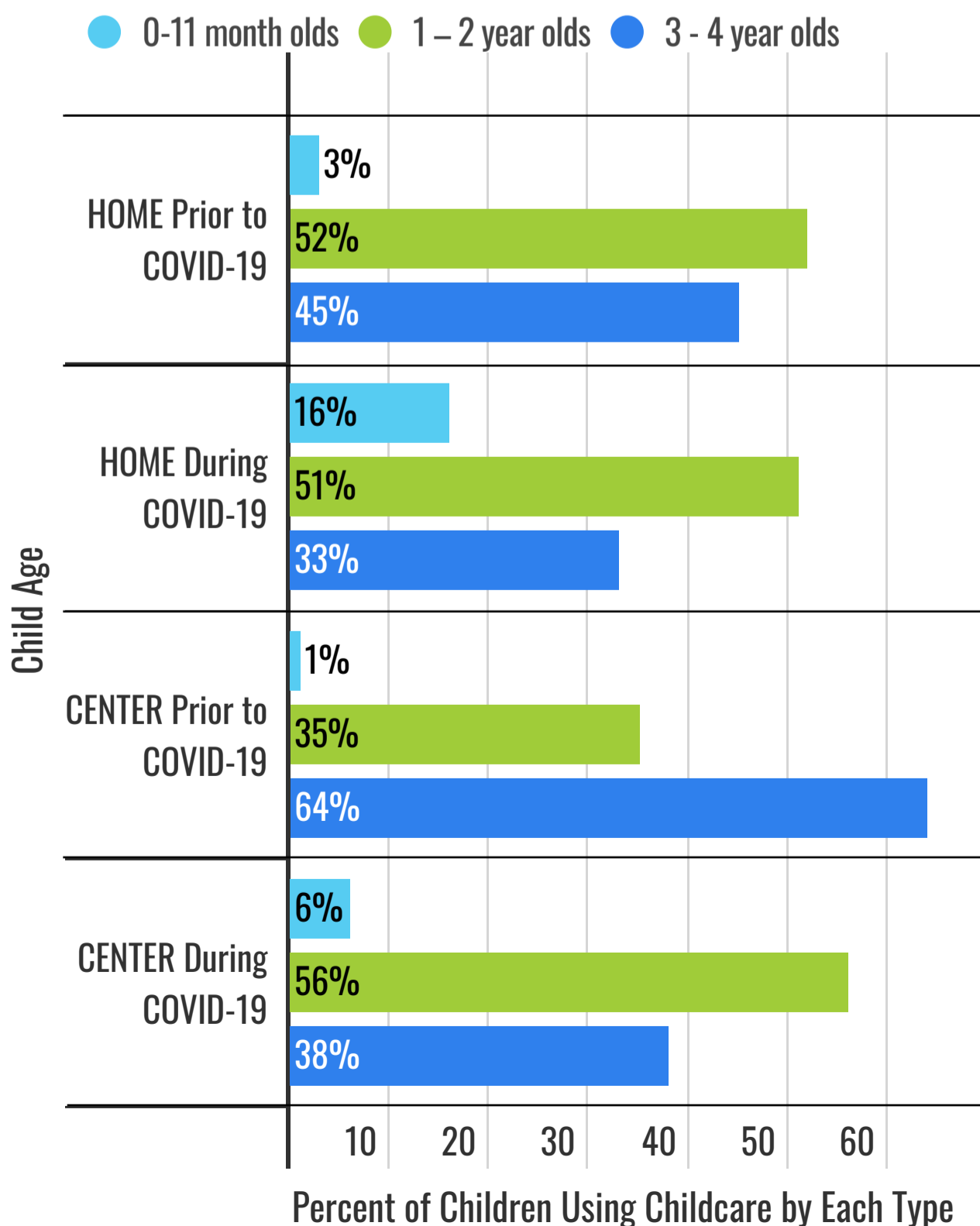
### Is the home caregiver a relative and/or licensed?



Over **90%** of center based care was licensed at both time points.

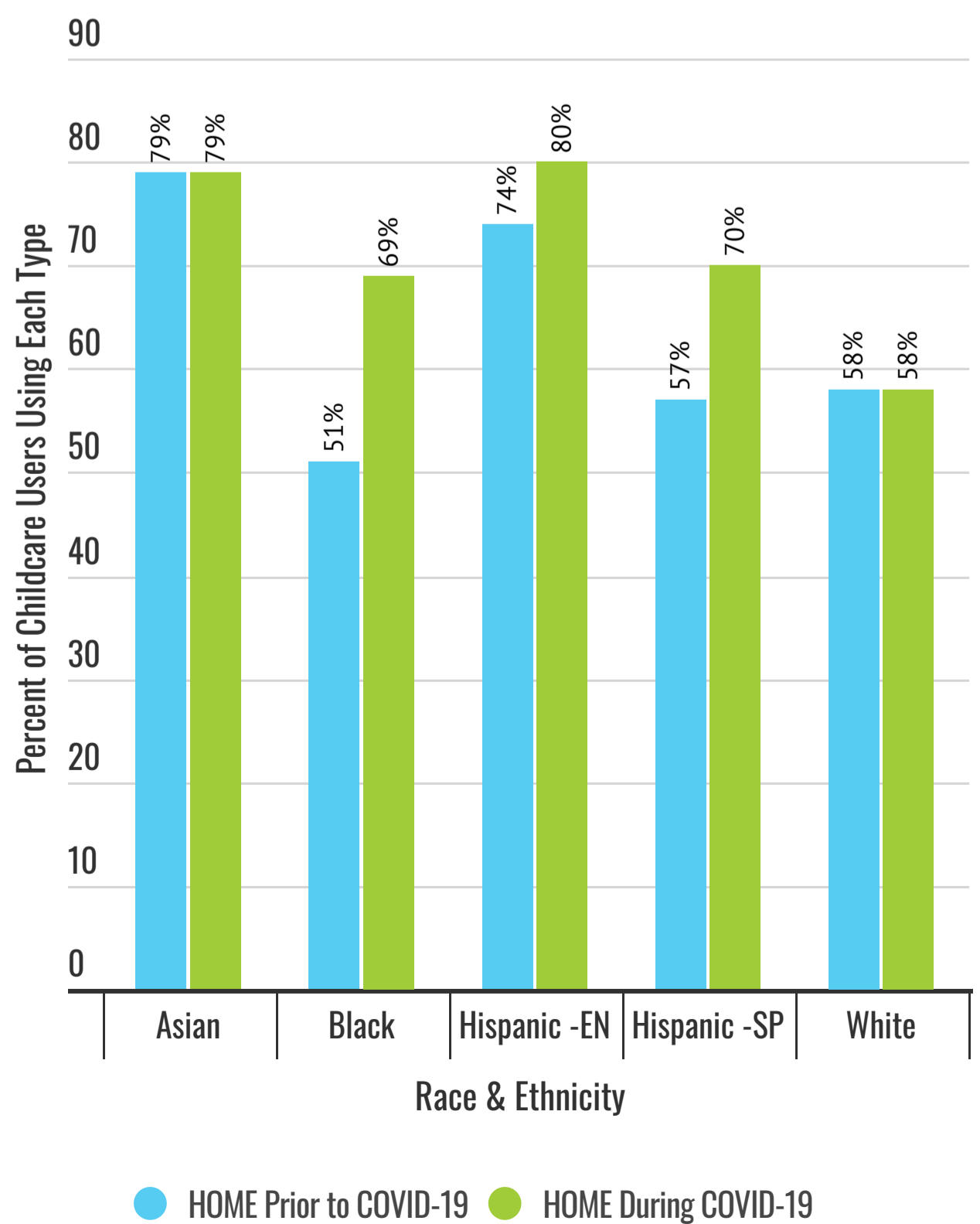
### Home & Center Based Care by Child Age

Home and center based care tends to vary by child age with younger children using more home based care while older children tend to use center based care or preschool. For families with children 0-11 months, home based childcare increase from 3% prior to COVID-19 to 16% during COVID-19. A similar increase was seen in 1-2 year olds in center-based care: 35% of 1-2 years olds used center-based childcare prior to COVID-19 and it increased to 56% during COVID-19.



### Home Based Care by Race and Ethnicity

There are some notable differences in type of childcare utilized between racial ethnic groups. Black and Hispanic families shifted to more home based care during COVID-19, with the largest change seen among Black families: 51% of Black families using home based childcare prior to COVID-19; this increased to 69% during COVID-19. Not far behind were Hispanic Spanish-speaking families who increased to 70% using home based care during COVID-19 from 57% prior to COVID-19.



## Preschool Use

Preschool was the most used system for childcare prior to COVID-19 and was highly impacted by the closures brought on by COVID-19. Among families reporting childcare use, preschool use fell to 25% during COVID-19 from 54% prior to COVID-19.



● % in Preschool Prior to COVID-19



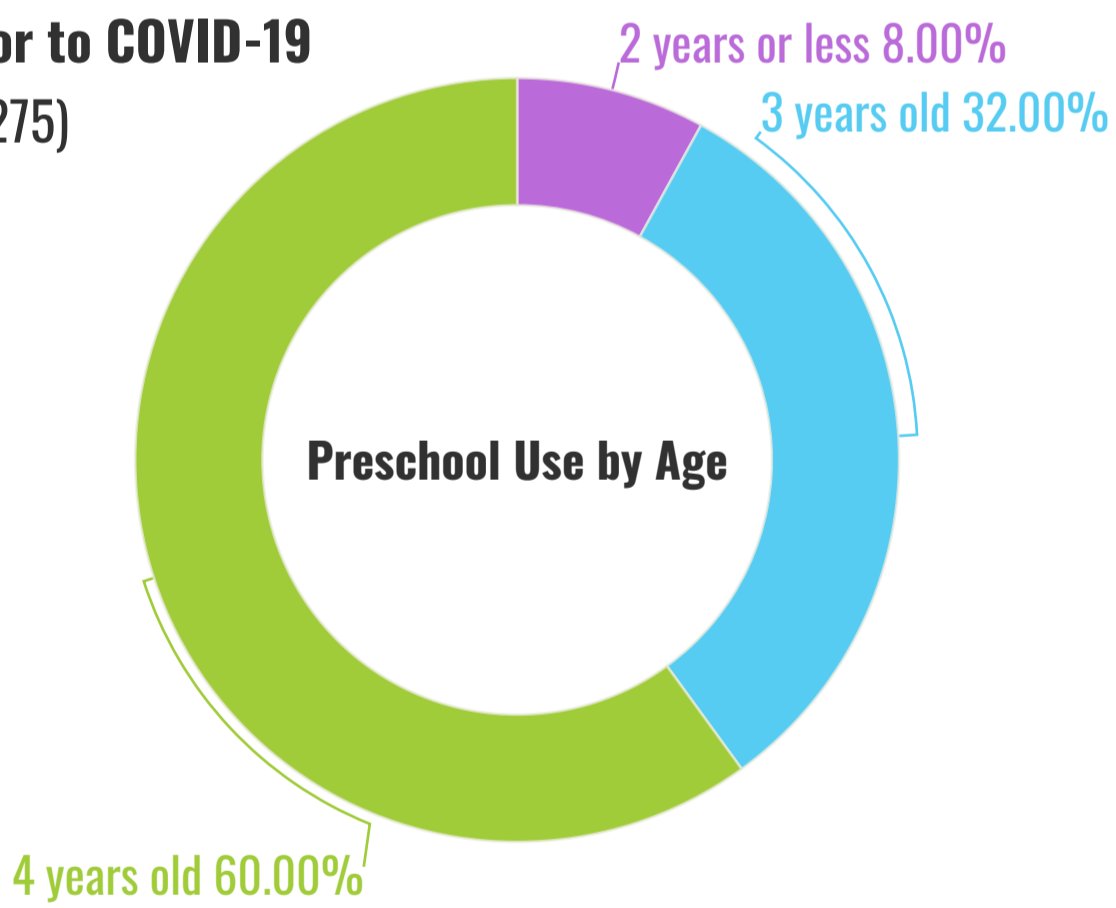
● % in Preschool During COVID-19

## Preschool Use by Child Age

Children ages 3 years or older are the age group typically using preschool. During COVID-19, the number of children 2 years or younger accounted for a greater percent of those attending preschool compared to before COVID-19.

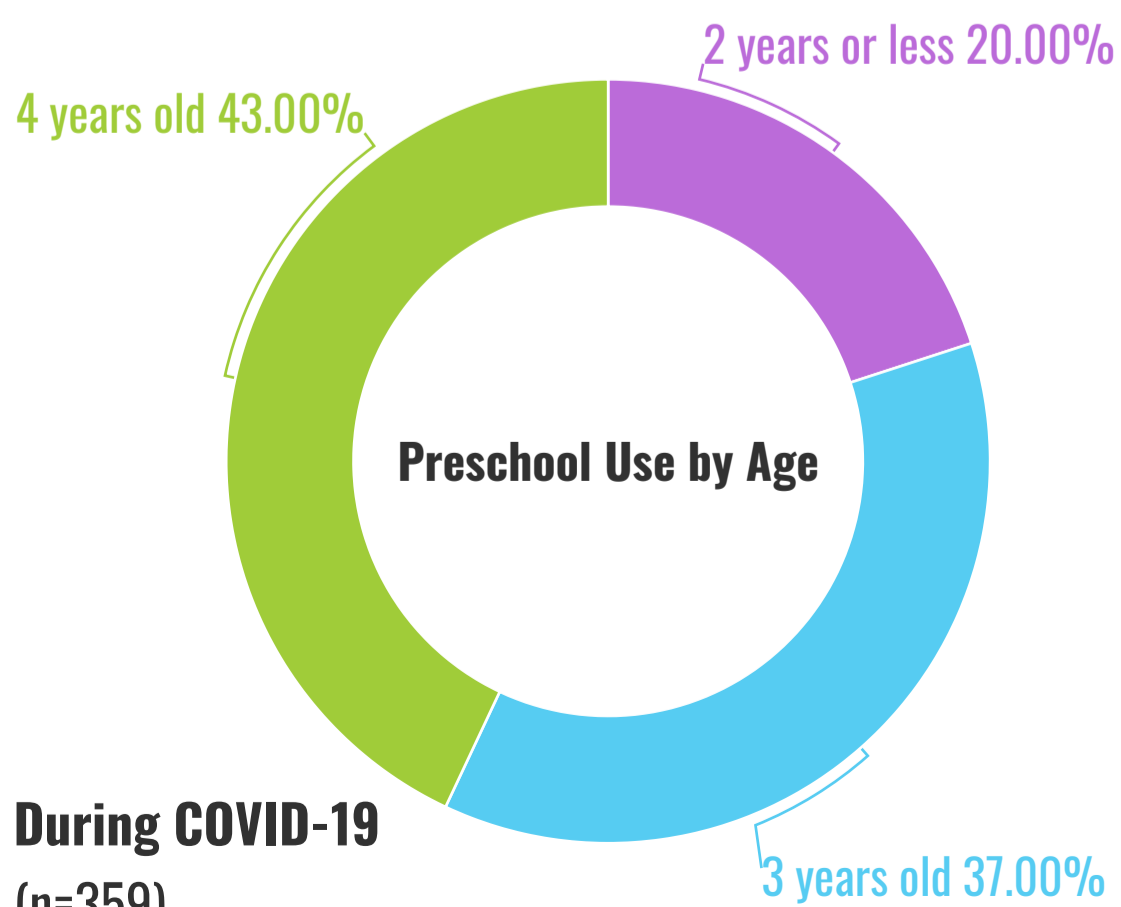
### Prior to COVID-19

(n=275)



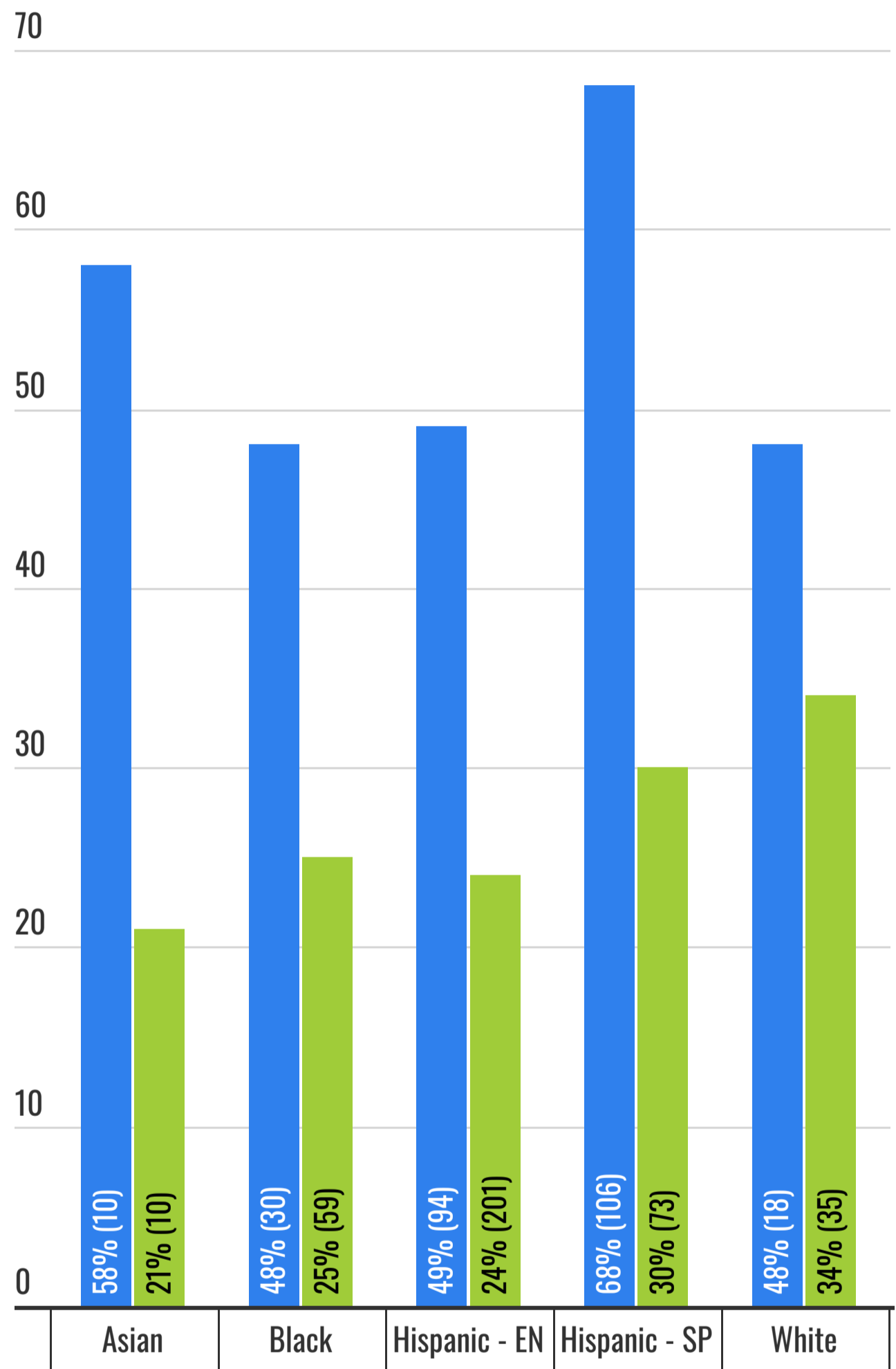
### During COVID-19

(n=359)



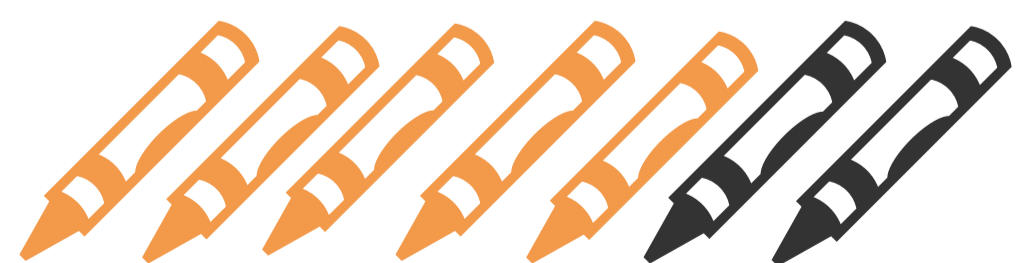
## Preschool Use by Race & Ethnicity

A decrease in the use of preschool during COVID-19 was present across all racial ethnic groups. As a percent of childcare users, Hispanic Spanish-speaking families were the group using preschool the most compared to other forms of childcare: 68% of Hispanic - Spanish speaking families in the survey used preschool as childcare prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.



● Preschool Prior to COVID-19 ● Preschool During COVID-19

For families who do not currently use childcare, the majority of parents



**5 out of 7**

reported that they planned to enroll their child in preschool in the future.