



Center for Parenting Family Well-Being

Parent Perception Survey

In Spring 2013, the Center for Parenting and Family Well-Being surveyed parents to better understand their perceptions of parent education, barriers to participation, and the types of classes they would like to attend. Parents were primarily recruited through Spring Branch ISD and the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and 1,196 parents completed the survey. The survey was offered in English and Spanish.

Attending parenting classes

- 28% of participants reported having attended a class, workshop, or seminar focused on parenting.
- 55% of participants believed that all parents should attend a parenting class but only 33% of those had attended a parenting class themselves.

Seeking parenting advice

Parents seek parenting advice from a variety of sources. Parents are most likely to seek advice from their parenting partner (69%). Only 11% parents attend a parenting class when they need parenting advice.

When I need parenting advice, I...

Talk to my parenting partner	69%
Talk to my parents or in-laws	48%
Talk to a friend	41%
Look for information on the Internet	36%
Read a book on the topic	32%
Talk to my siblings	29%
Talk to my extended family	19%
Talk to my faith leaders	13%
Attend a class	11%
Talk to my adult children	6%
Ask for information from a community agency	2%

Format of parenting classes

Parents are most interested in attending a small group parenting classes and least interested in attending individual sessions.

I would prefer to attend a parenting session that is...

A small group	62%
A large group	36%
An individual session	19%

Topics

Parents are interested in attending parenting classes that address a variety of topics. Parents are most interested in learning about ways to encourage their children (90%).

I am interested in information on...

Ways to encourage my child	90%
How to talk to my kids	88%
Discipline	88%
How to manage difficult child behavior	87%
How to talk to my children about bullying	86%
How to talk to my children about drugs	83%
How to set and enforce family rules	82%
How to talk to my children about sex	81%
Child growth and development	80%
How to take care of myself as a parent	75%
How to agree on parenting strategies with family members	64%
Sleep/bedtime issues	52%

The name of the parenting class

Parents reported no differences in the likelihood they would attend a parenting class based on the name of the parenting class.

Would you attend educational events on the following topics?

Positive parent child relationships	79%
Family communication	77%
Building strong families	76%
Family strengthening	76%
Parenting	75%
Family life education	73%

Addressing barriers to participation

Location, childcare, and costs are the most important factors to consider when addressing barriers to participation.

Which of the following factors are important to you when deciding to attend an activity?

Location	66%
Childcare	56%
Cost	48%
Help with transportation	15%
Food being offered	12%
Prize for attending	7%