

KIDS COUNT in Colorado!

*Arapahoe County highlights
from the 2022 Edition*

April 24, 2023



COLORADO CHILDREN'S CAMPAIGN
Every Chance for Every Child

About KIDS COUNT in Colorado!



- Part of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's national KIDS COUNT project
- Tracks child well-being at the state and county levels
- Provides decision makers and child advocates with quality, non-biased information about the status of children and families



As of March 2022, COVID-19's direct impacts on kids and families were staggering.



COVID-19 SNAPSHOT

.....

1.3 million

confirmed COVID-19
cases among
Coloradans

13,300

COVID-19 deaths
among Coloradans

265,000

COVID-19 cases
among Colorado kids

2,200

Colorado kids
hospitalized with
COVID-19

31

child deaths in
Colorado due to
COVID-19

Together, we must ensure our leaders keep the ongoing needs of kids and families at the forefront.





Notes on the 2022 report:

- Experimental estimates from the ACS, resulting lack of comparability
- Challenges for advocates in the years ahead





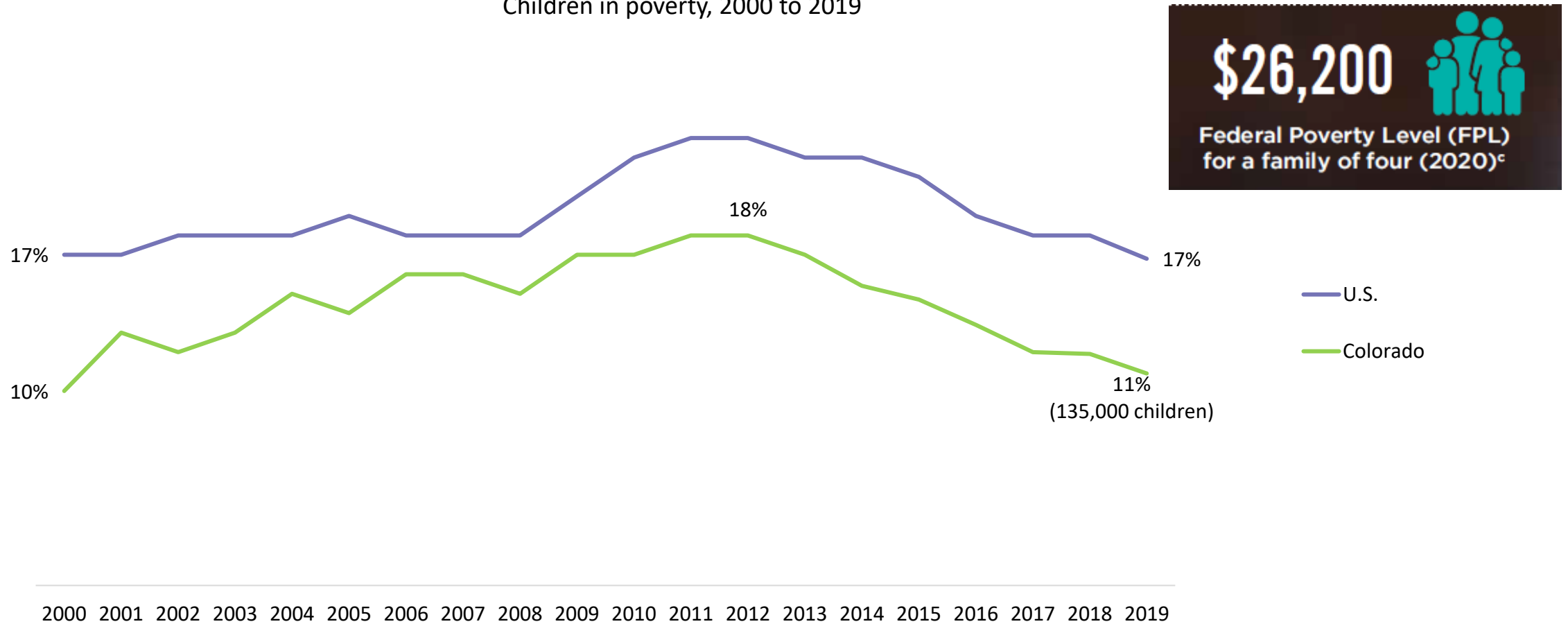
**Family Economic
Security**



Prior to the pandemic, Colorado's child poverty rate had fallen to its lowest level since 2000.

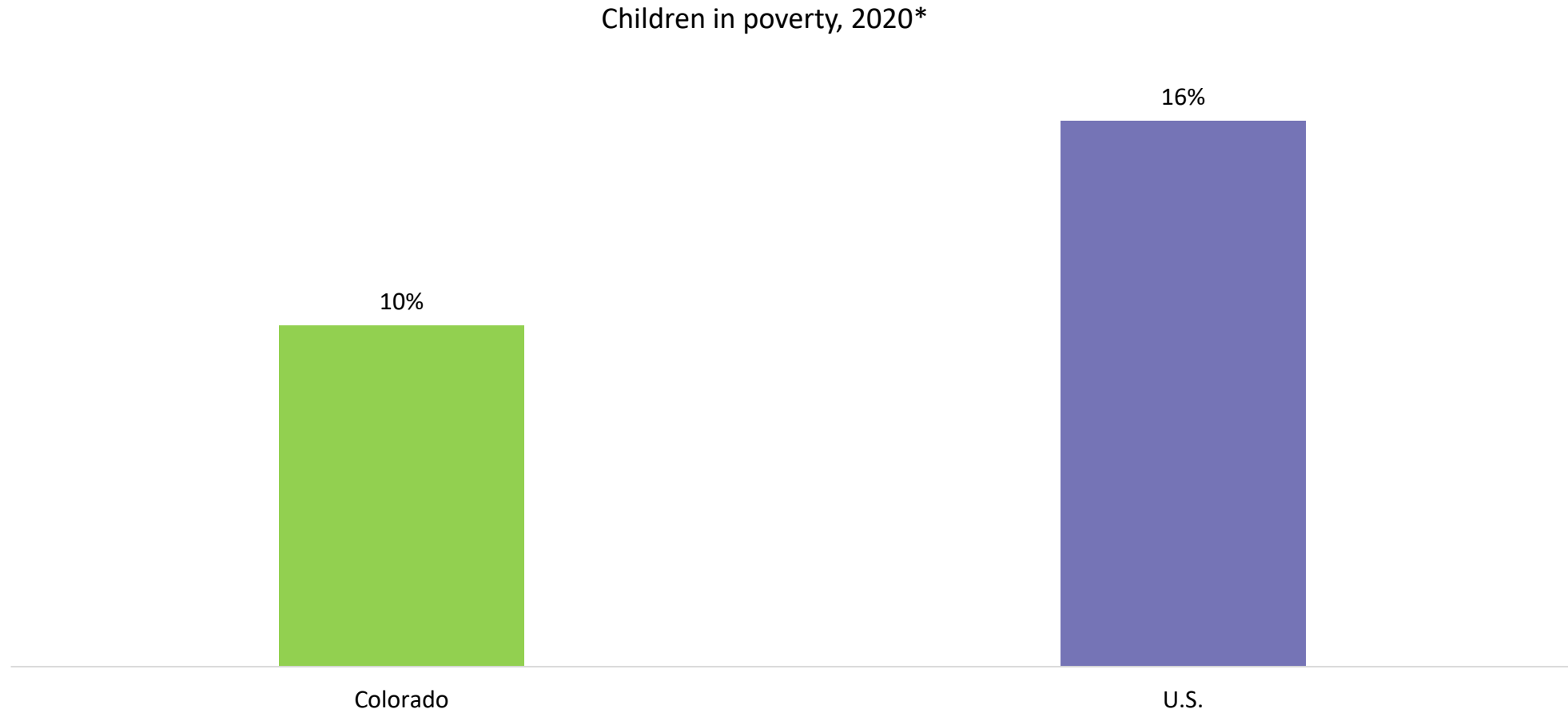


Children in poverty, 2000 to 2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey.

Major disruptions to data collection in 2020 limit our ability to understand how Colorado's child poverty rate changed during the pandemic.

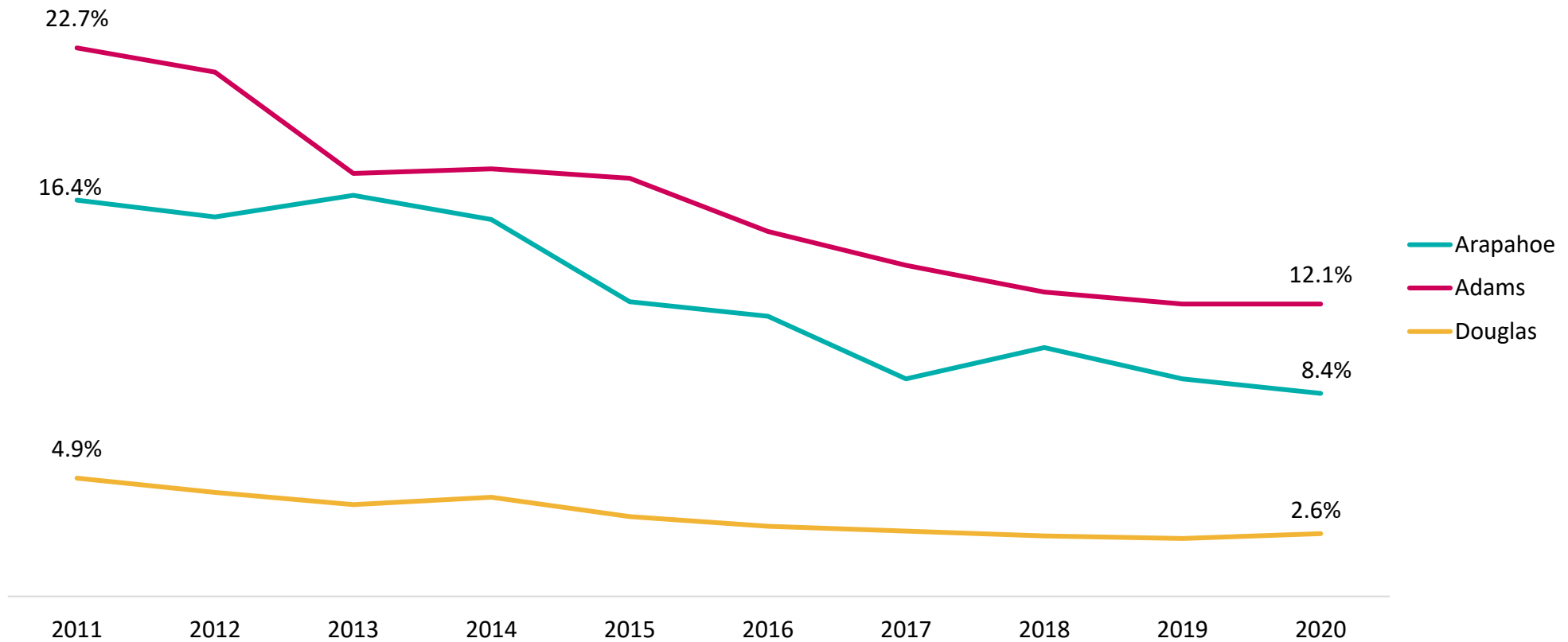


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 ACS Experimental Estimates.
*2020 estimates are not comparable to previous years of data.

Child poverty rates in Arapahoe, Adams and Douglas have seen improvements over the last decade.



Children in poverty by select Colorado county, 2011-2020

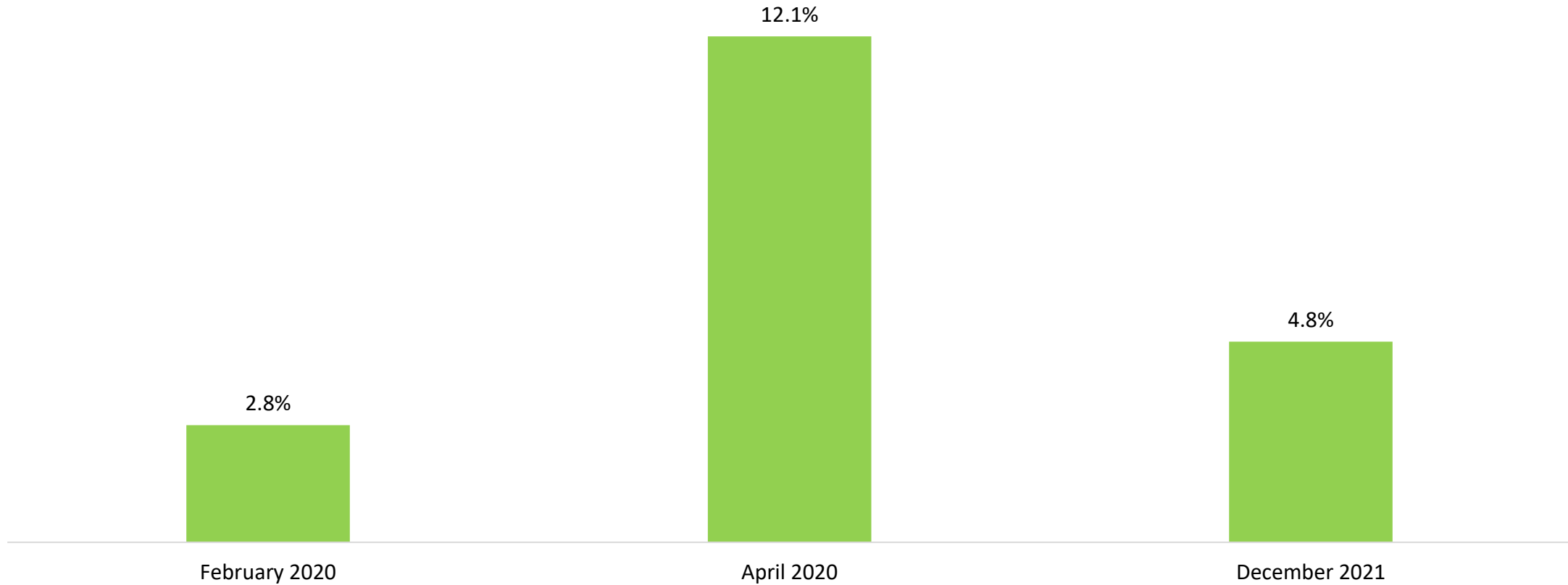


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE) Program.

This is only part of the story; other indicators point to ongoing economic hardship for Colorado families with children.



Unemployment rate in Colorado, seasonally adjusted, select months

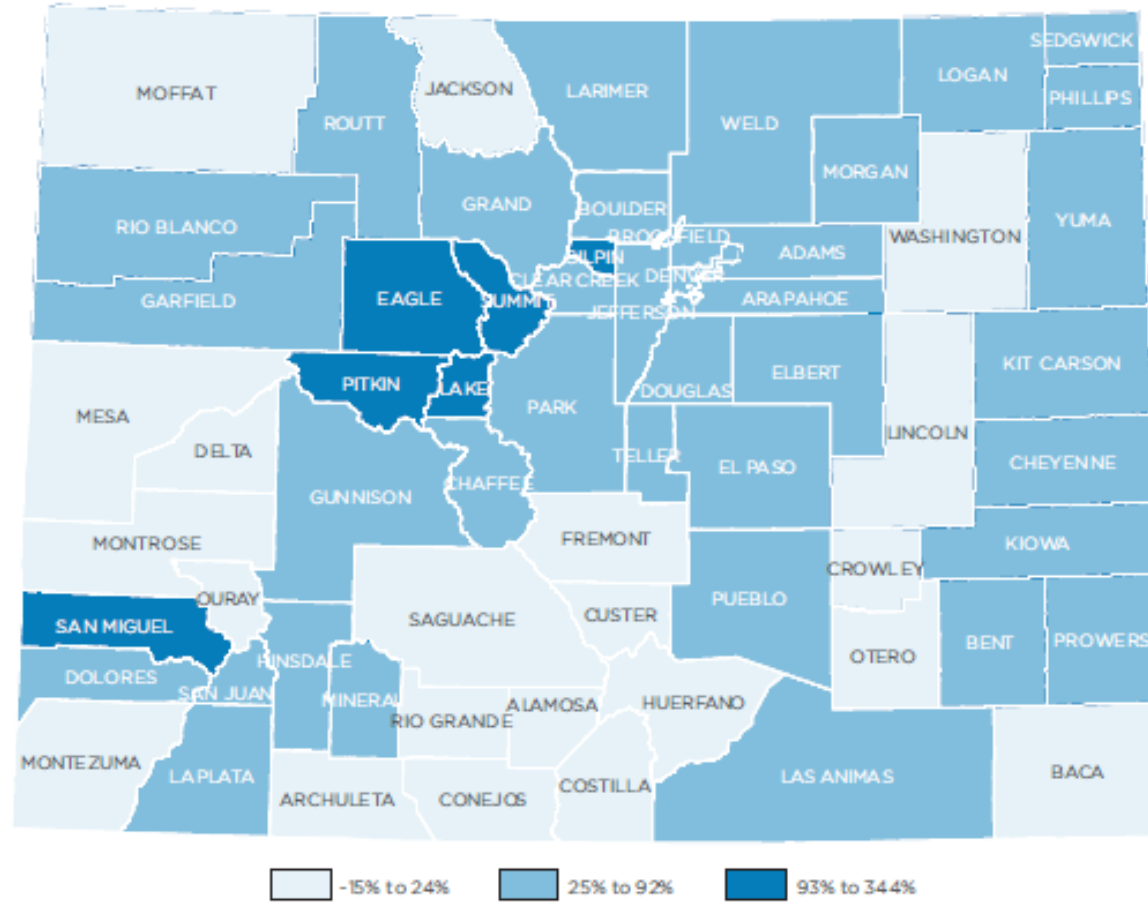


Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Rising unemployment hit some Colorado communities much harder than others.



PERCENT CHANGE IN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY COLORADO COUNTY, FEBRUARY 2020—NOVEMBER 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Other indicators point to ongoing economic hardship for Colorado families with children.



AMONG COLORADO HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN:



About
1/2
reported a **loss of household income** since the start of the pandemic.



As of early 2022, about
1/3
reported **difficulty paying for usual household expenses**, including medical care or food.

Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020-2022.



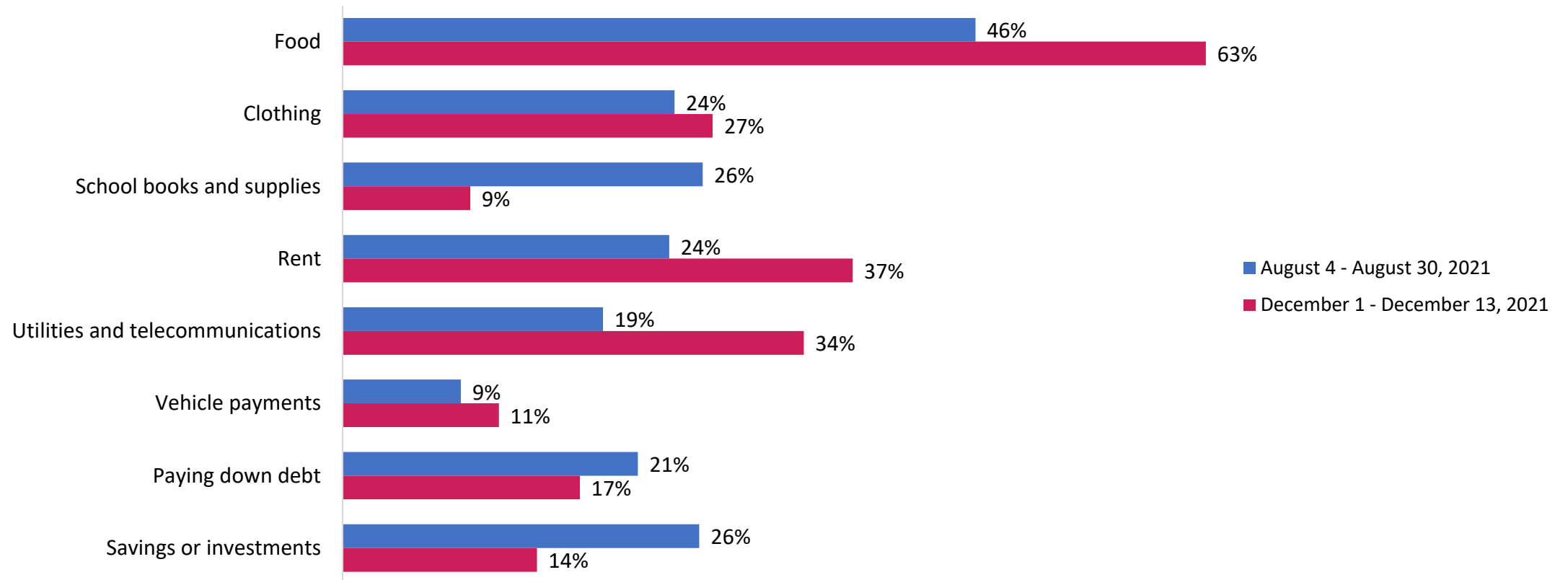
16%
increase in the number of people in families with children in Colorado shelters between 2020 and 2021

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 2021.

Policy choices made during the pandemic kept millions of U.S. children out of poverty and helped Colorado families meet basic needs for food, housing and school supplies.



Common uses of Advance Child Tax Credit payments among Colorado households who reported receiving them, select time periods



Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2021-2022.



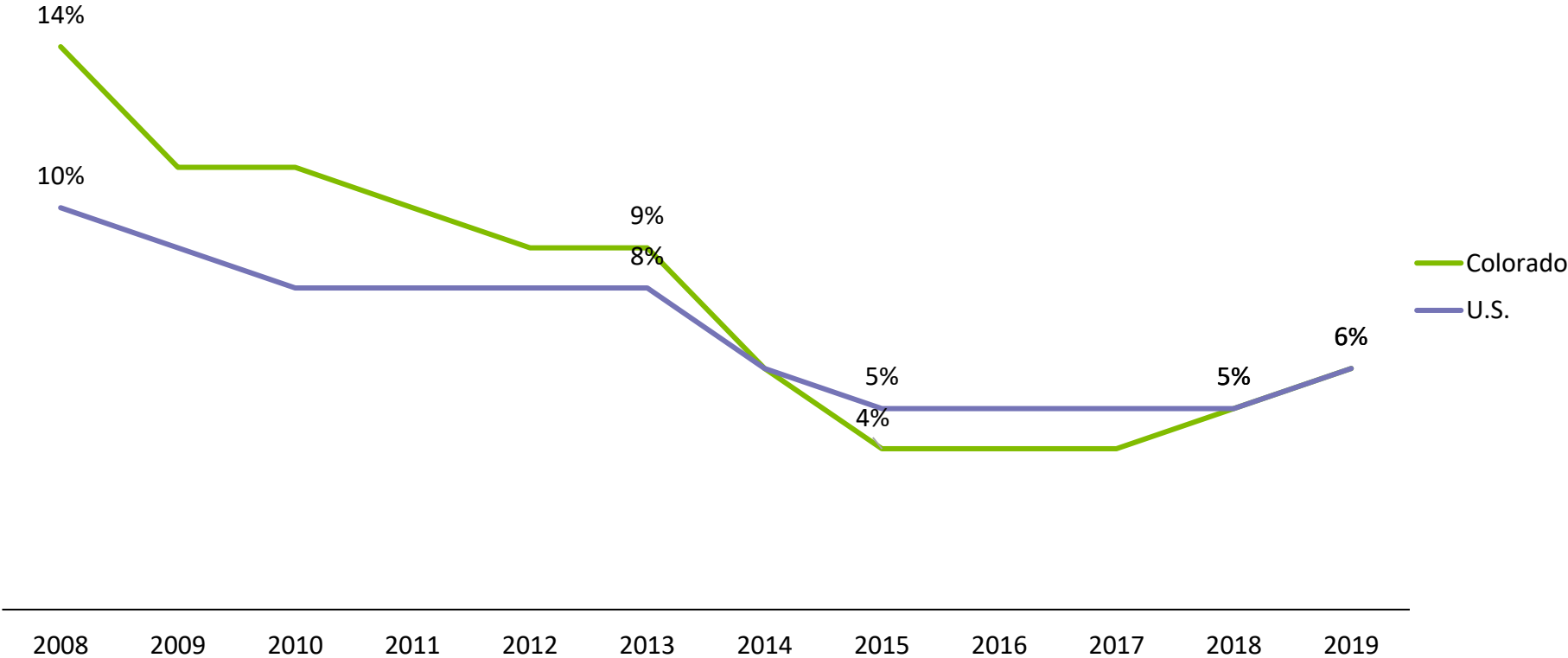
Child and Family Health



Colorado's important progress with reducing the child uninsured rate had stalled in the years before the pandemic.



Children under 19 who were uninsured, 2008-2019



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Health Insurance Historical Tables.

Comparability issues in 2020 make it difficult to understand where we are now.



Children under 19 who are uninsured, 2020*

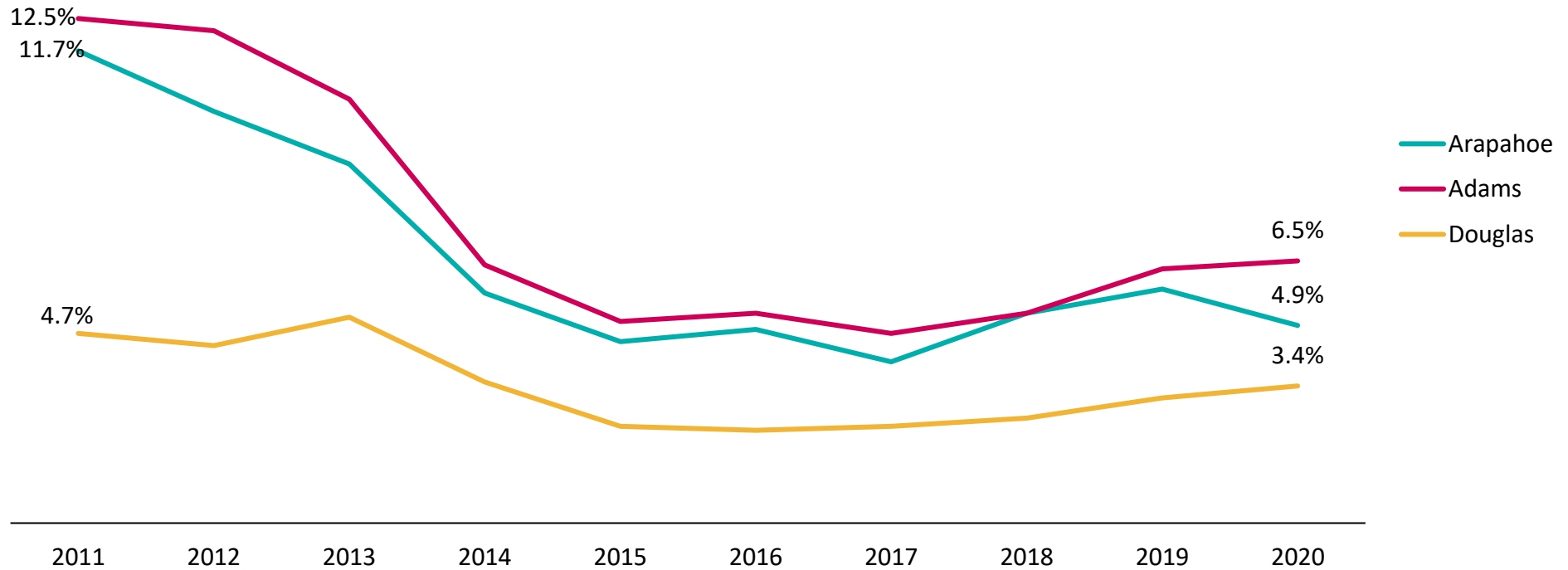


Source: 2020 American Community Survey Experimental Estimates.
**2020 estimates are not comparable to previous years.*

The trend for counties looks similar, with lots of progress in the early 2010s and a slight reversal of progress in the second half of the decade

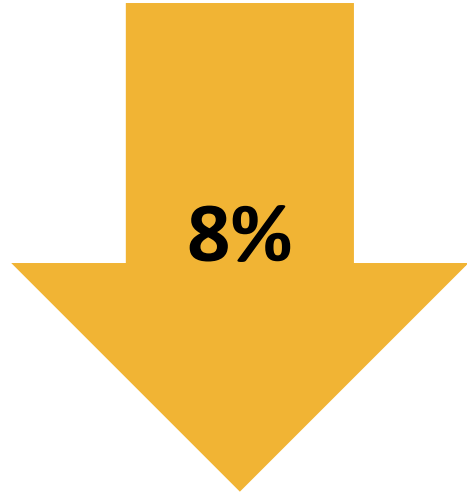


Children under 19 who are uninsured by select Colorado county, 2011-2020

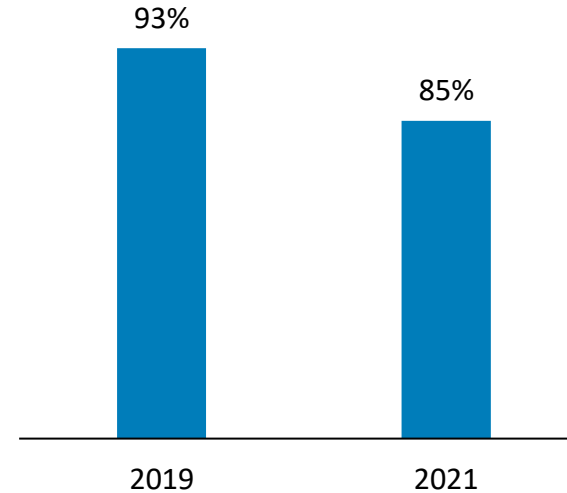


Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE) Program.

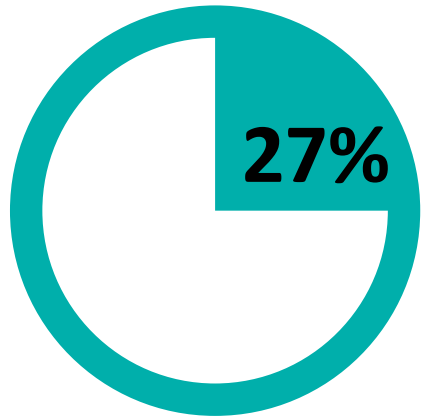
Children and families accessed care at lower rates amid the disruptions of COVID-19



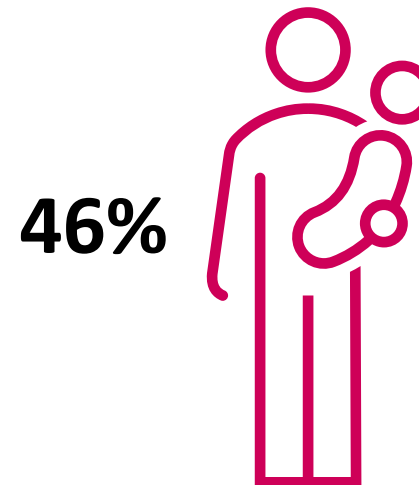
Drop in routine, non-COVID vaccine doses for CO children during the pandemic.



8% drop in Colorado parents reporting their child had seen a healthcare professional in the last 12 months.

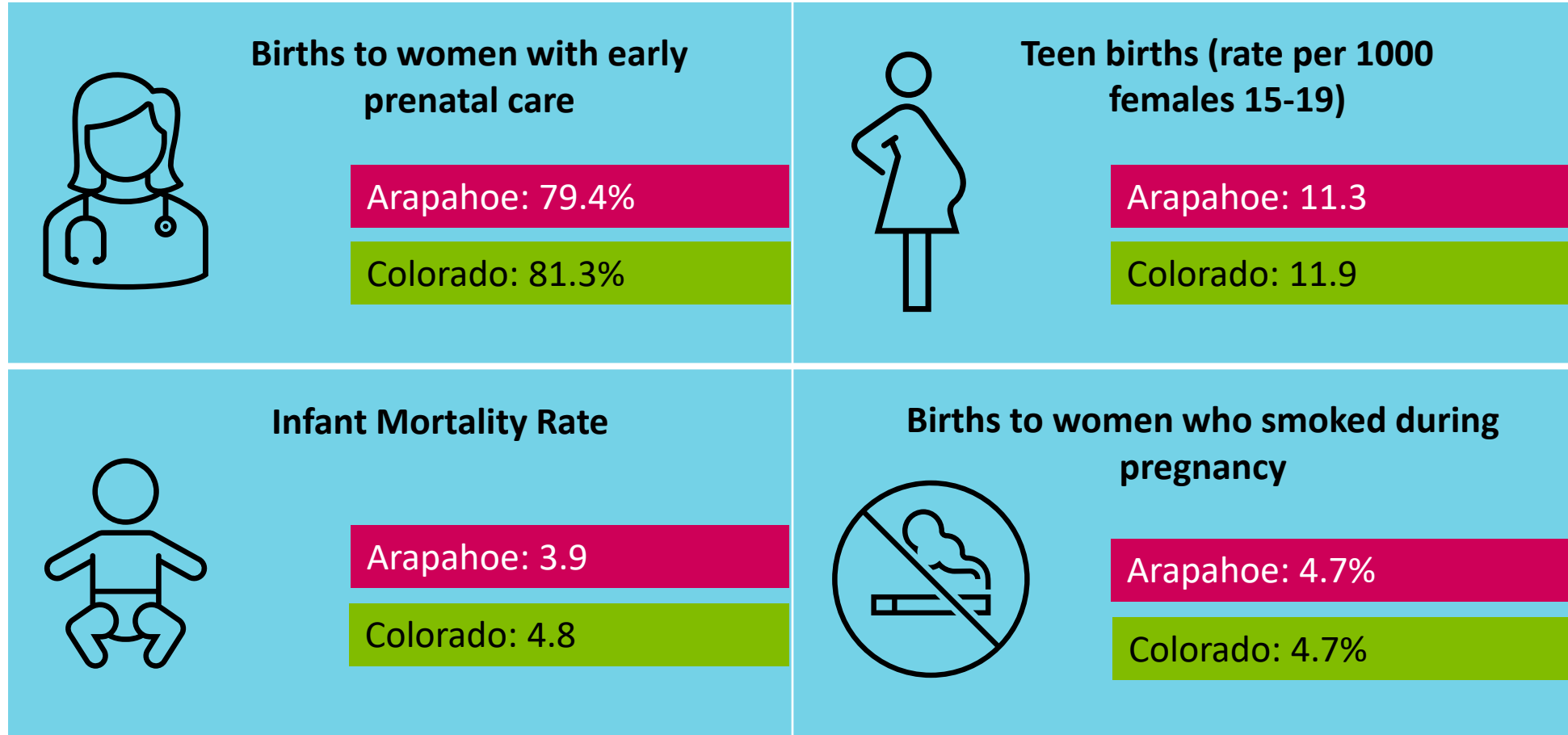


Percent of parents reporting their child had missed a well-child or well-baby visit since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Percent of Colorado birthing parents with children ages 0 to 3 reported their mental health had gotten worse since the onset of the pandemic

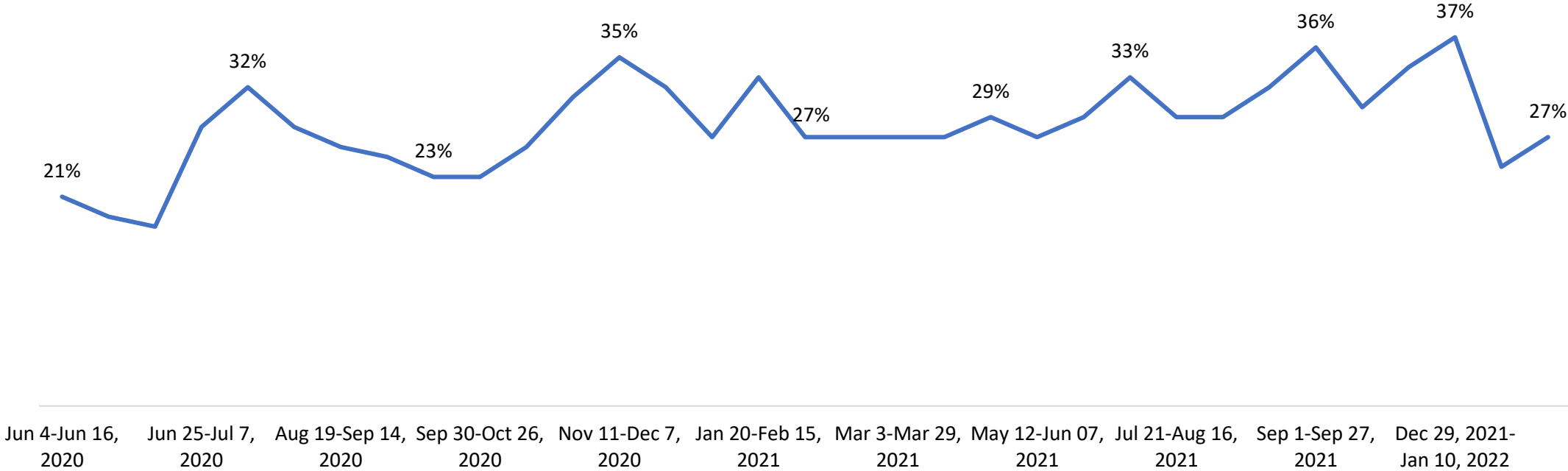
Pandemic-related disruptions may have impacted many types of health outcomes.



At some points during the pandemic, nearly 2 in 5 households with children reported their kids weren't eating enough because food was unaffordable.



Colorado households with children where children were not eating enough because food was unaffordable, June 2020—March 2022

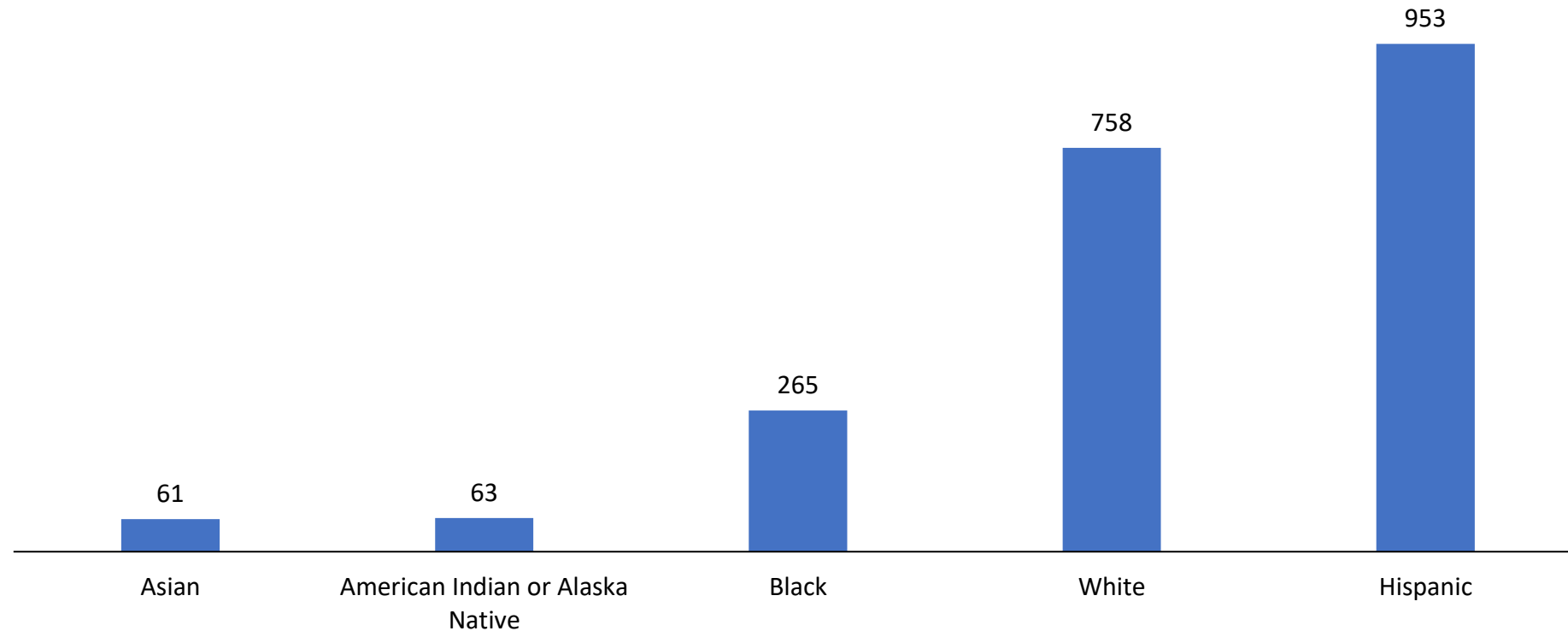


Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2020-2022.

Thousands of Colorado kids have experienced the trauma of losing a parent or primary caregiver to COVID-19 since the pandemic began, with children of color being particularly hard hit.



Estimated number of Colorado children experiencing the death of a primary caregiver due to COVID-19 by race/ethnicity



Source: Hillis, S.D. et al. (2021). COVID-19-associated orphanhood and caregiver death in the United States.

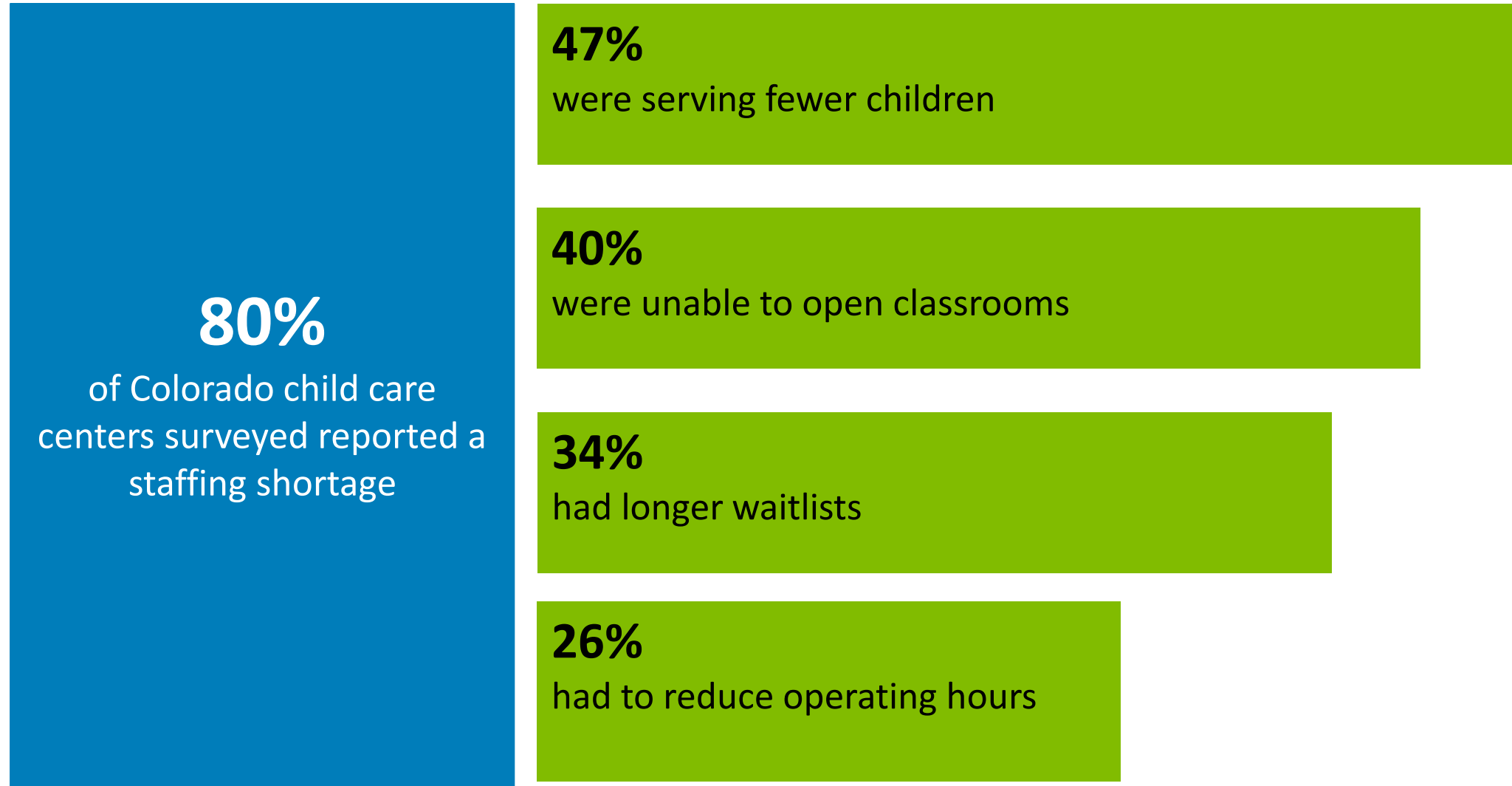
Early Childhood



Colorado's child care system has long been under-resourced. The pandemic exacerbated existing workforce and affordability challenges.



According to the National Association for the Education of Young Children, in mid-2021:

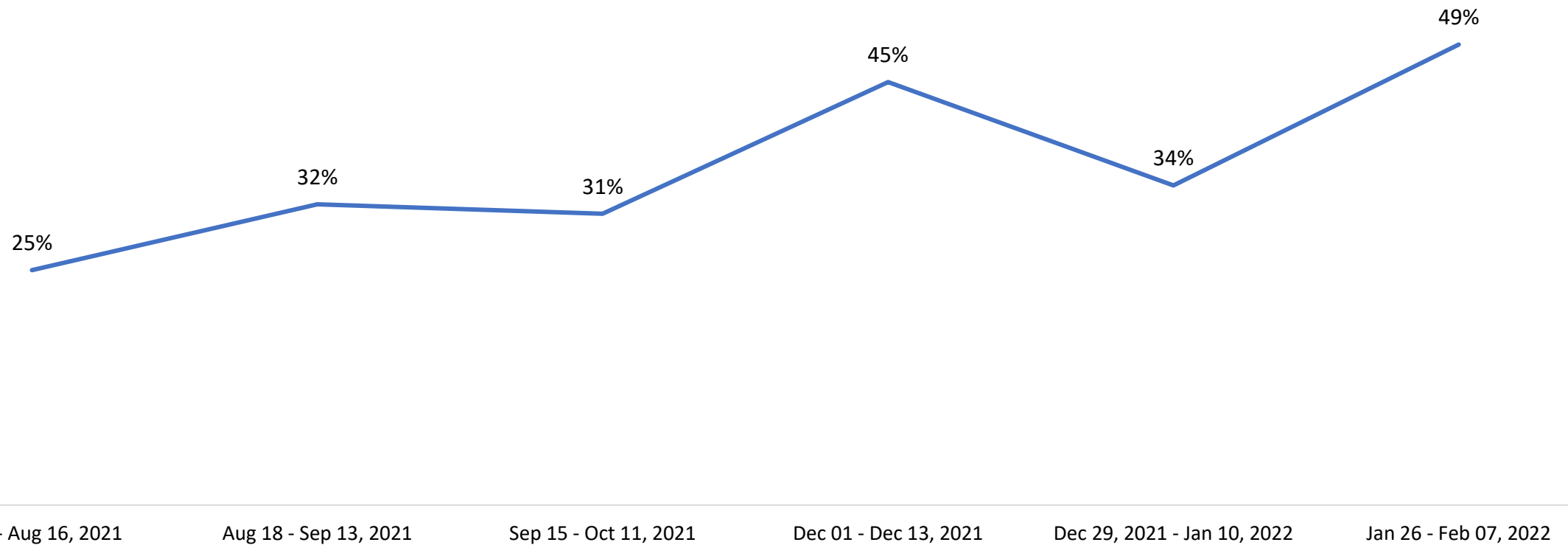


Source: National Association for the Education of Young Children, 2021.

Child care disruptions have been common throughout the pandemic, affecting nearly half of all Colorado households with children under 5 as of early 2022.



Colorado households with children under 5 reporting a child care disruption caused by COVID-19 for at least one child in the household in the past four weeks

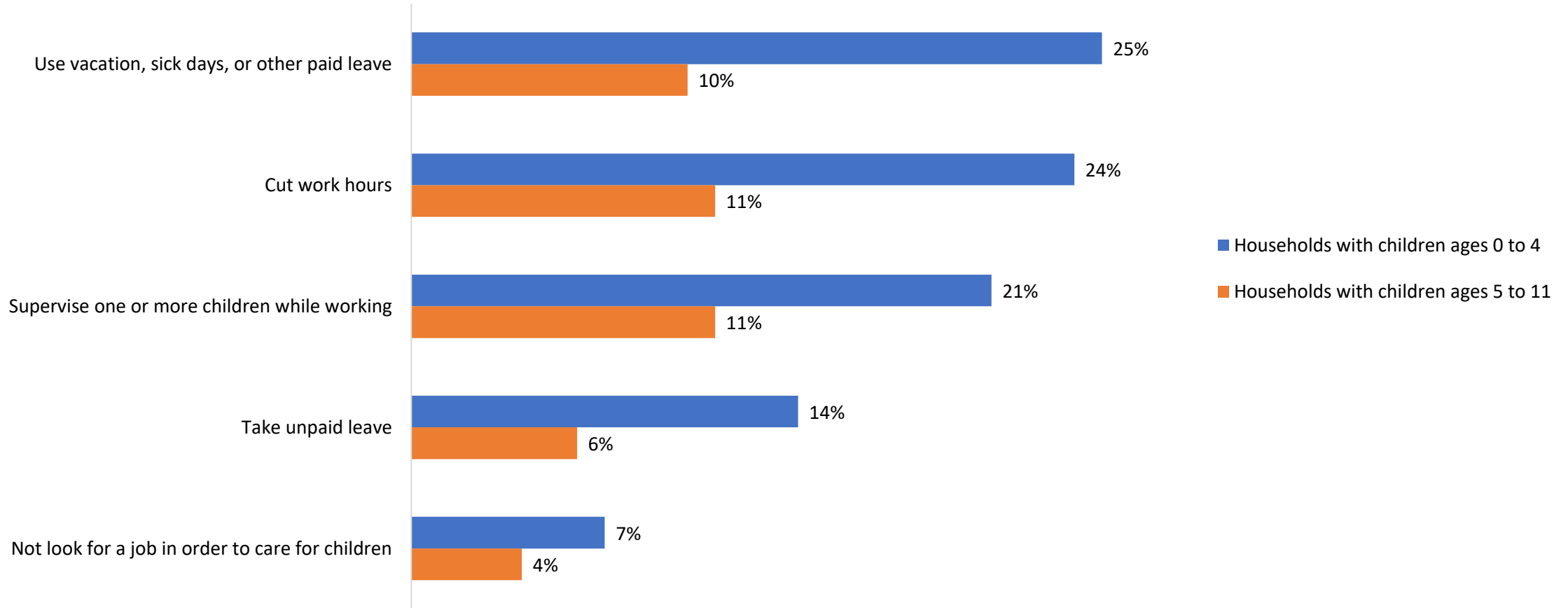


Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2021-2022.

These child care disruptions caused frequent employment challenges for parents of kids under 5.



Percent of Colorado households with children under 5 who reported various employment impacts related to child care disruptions, January—February 2022

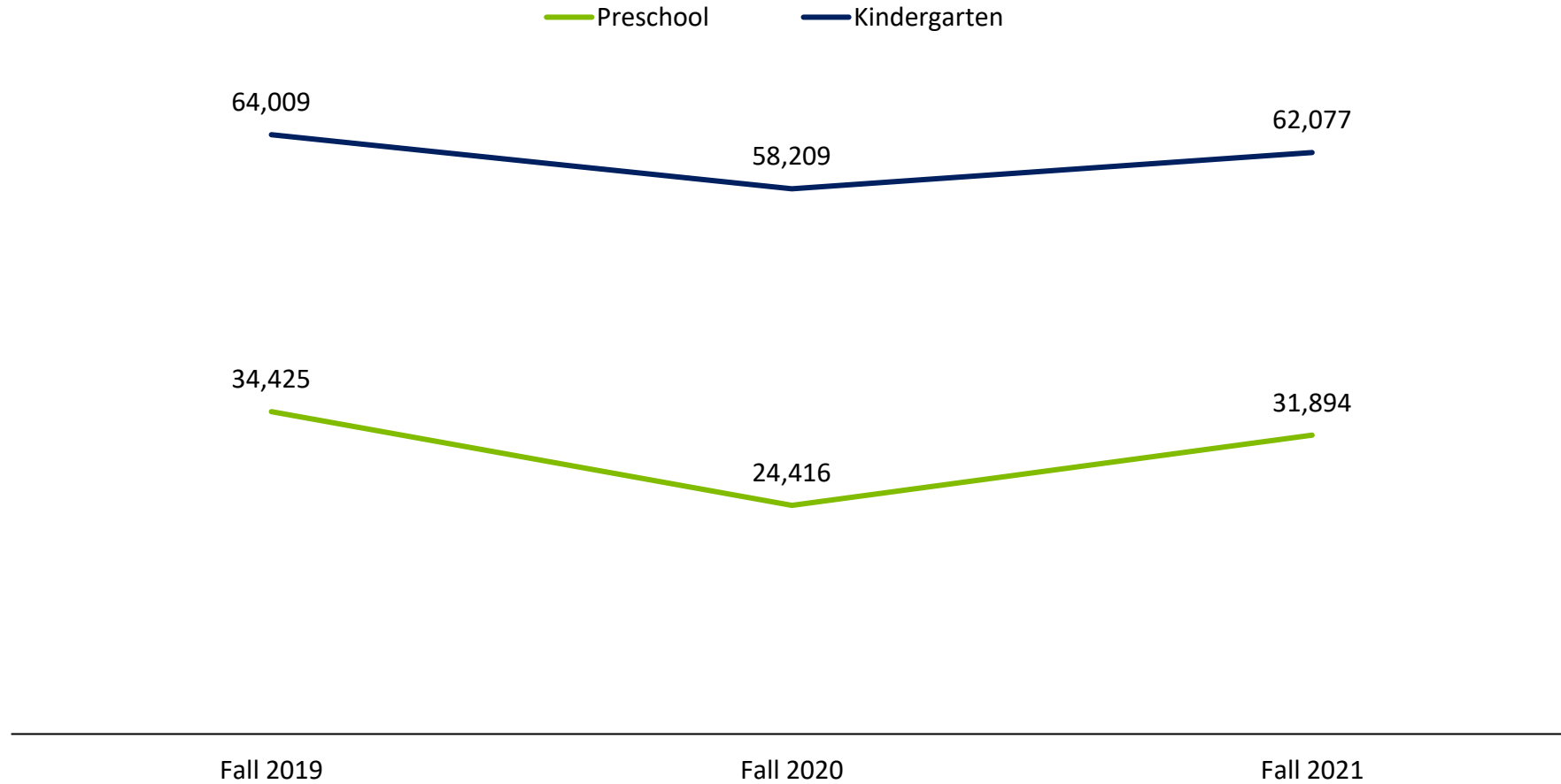


Source: Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey, 2021-2022.

Preschool and kindergarten enrollment remained below pre-pandemic levels, despite a marginal rebound in 2021.



Students enrolled in Colorado school district preschools and kindergartens classrooms, Fall 2019—Fall 2021

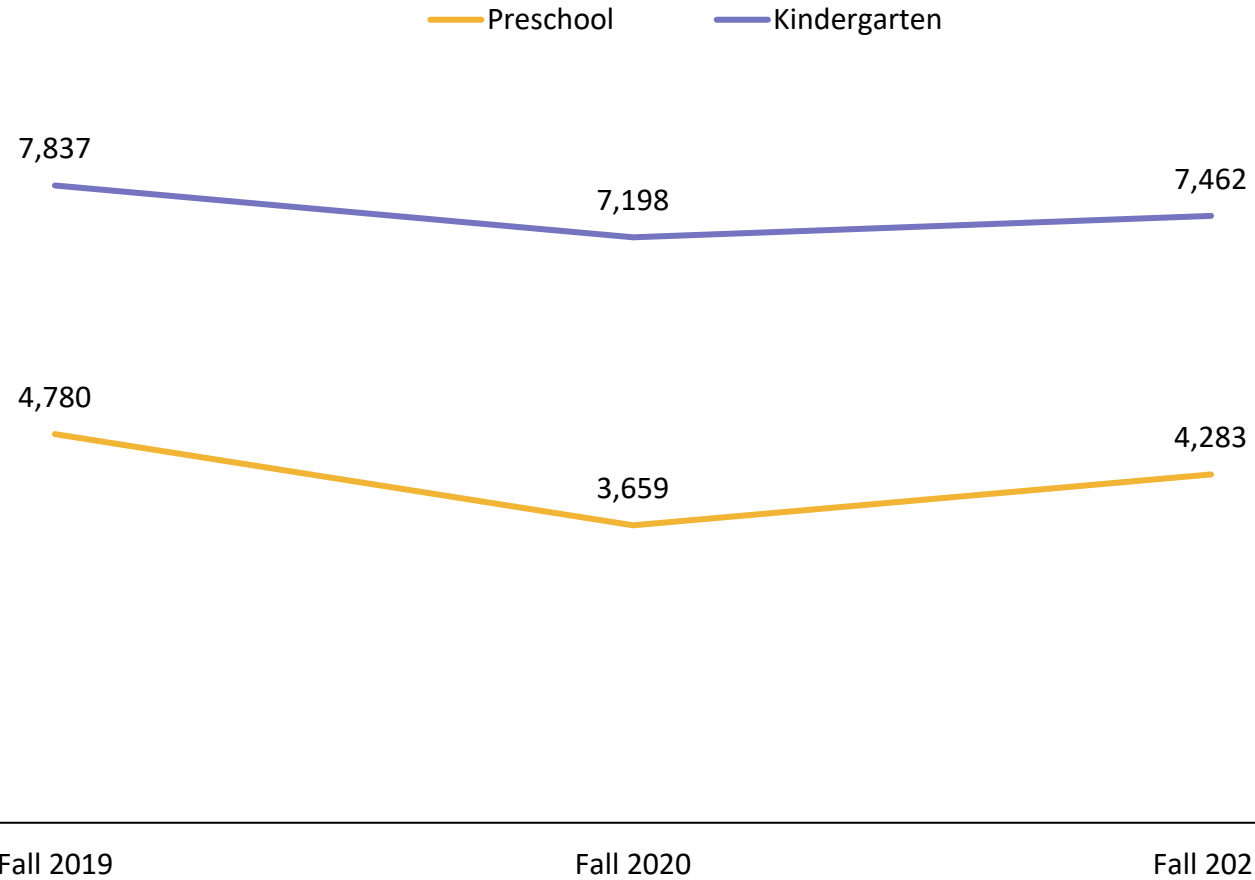


Source: Colorado Department of Education.

Preschool and kindergarten enrollment in Arapahoe County looked similar to the state.



Students enrolled in preschool and kindergarten classrooms in school districts in Arapahoe County, Fall 2019—Fall 2021



Source: Colorado Department of Education.



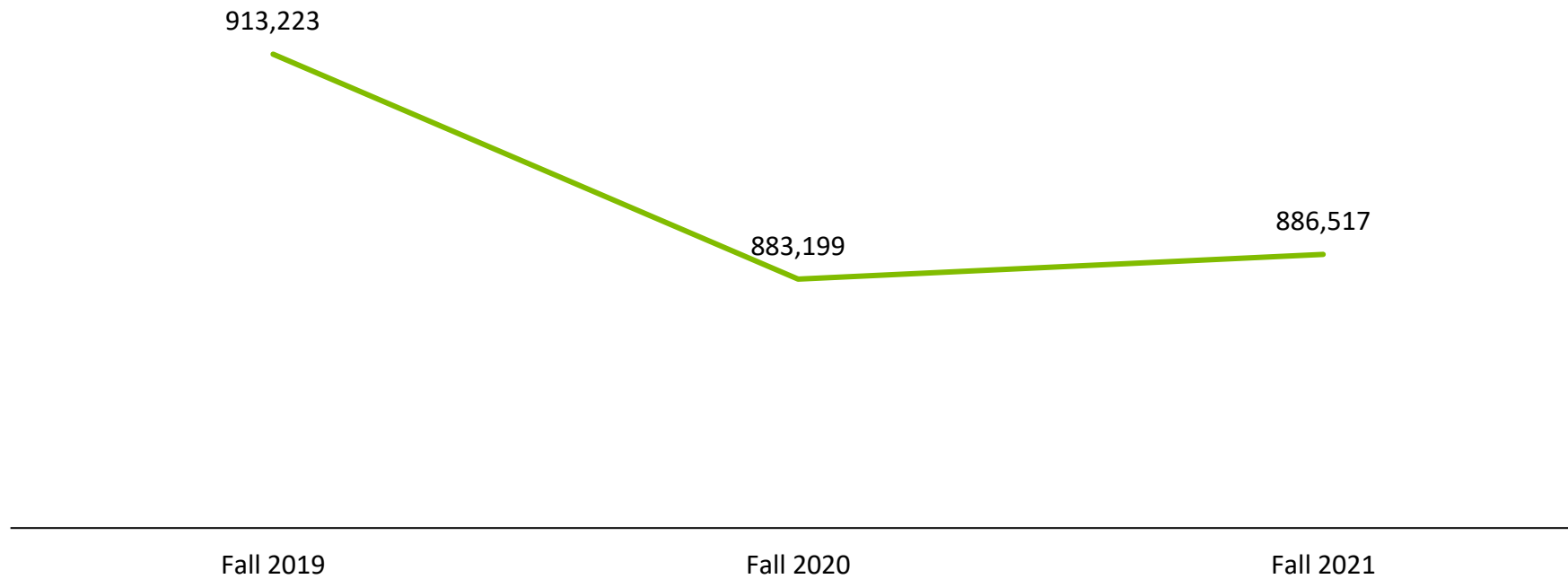
K-12 Education



Colorado's public PK-12 enrollment numbers increased in the fall of 2021 but remained far below pre-pandemic levels.



Number of students enrolled in Colorado public schools, 2019-2021

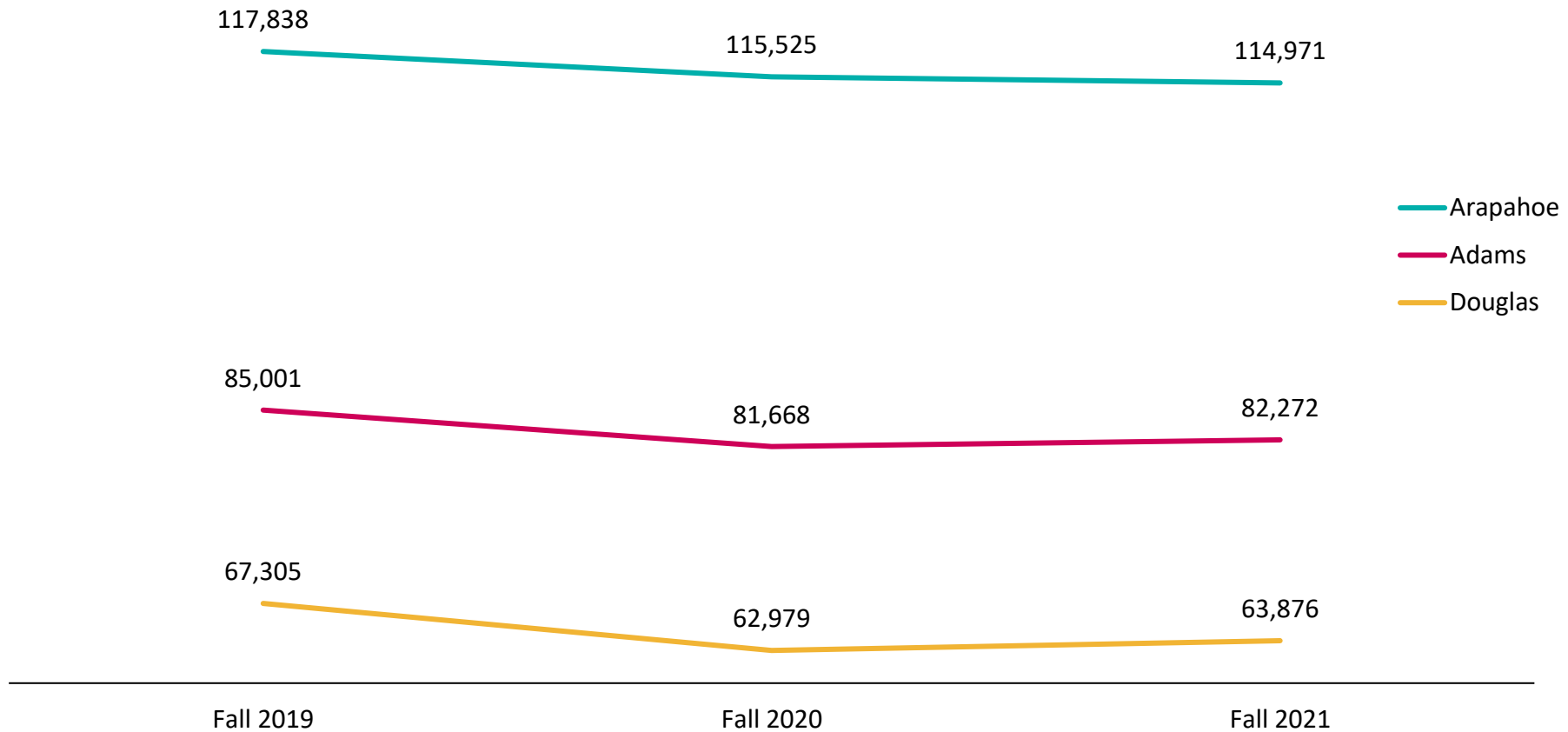


Source: Colorado Department of Education.

Districts in Adams, Douglas and Arapahoe saw similar enrollment shifts, but Arapahoe County did not see the same slight rebound in fall of 2021.



Number of students enrolled in Colorado public schools in select districts, Fall 2019-Fall 2021

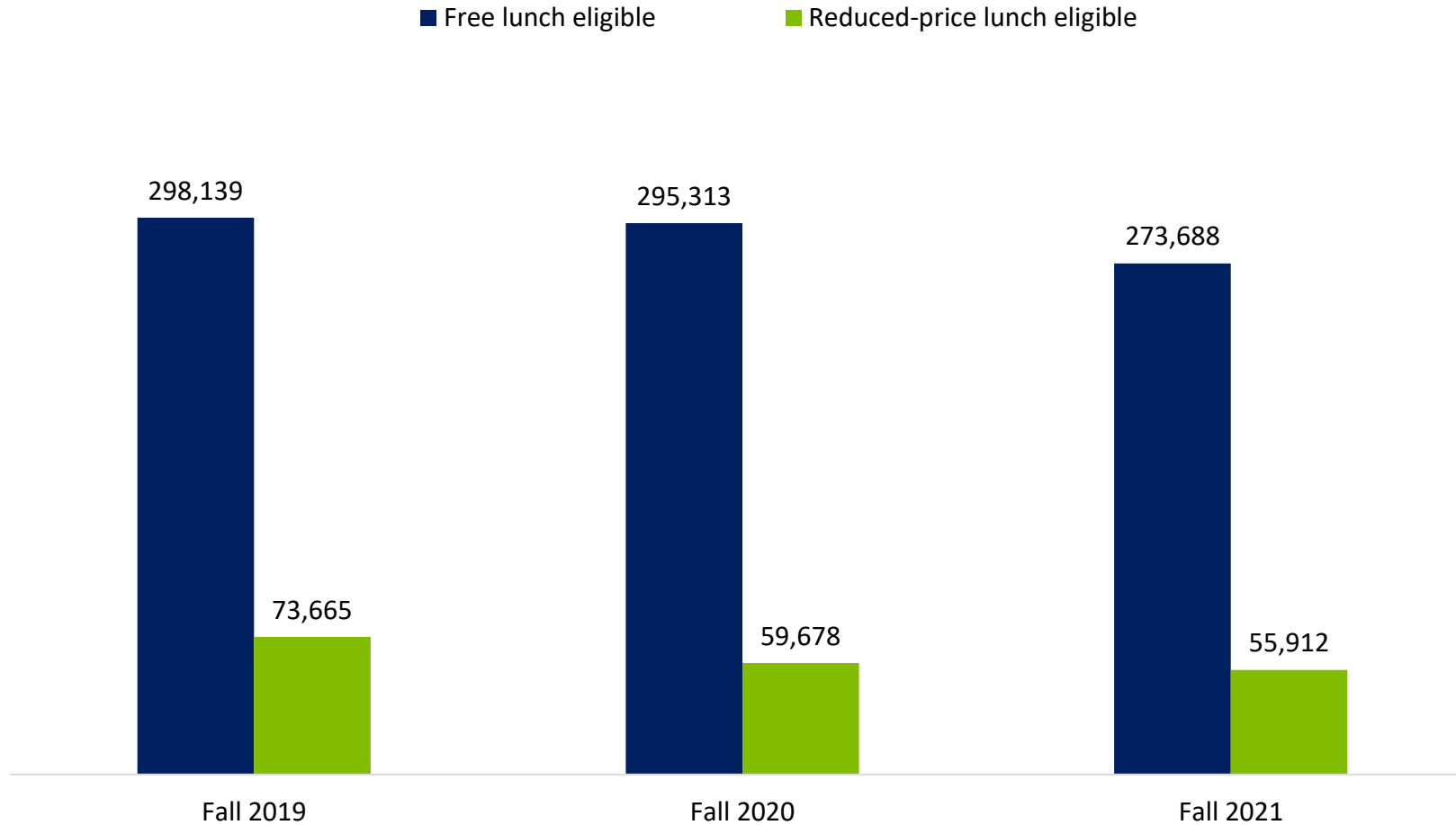


Source: Colorado Department of Education.

2021 student enrollment data also show a likely undercount of kids eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (FRL) in Colorado



Fall count of Colorado public school students identified as eligible for FRL, 2019-2021

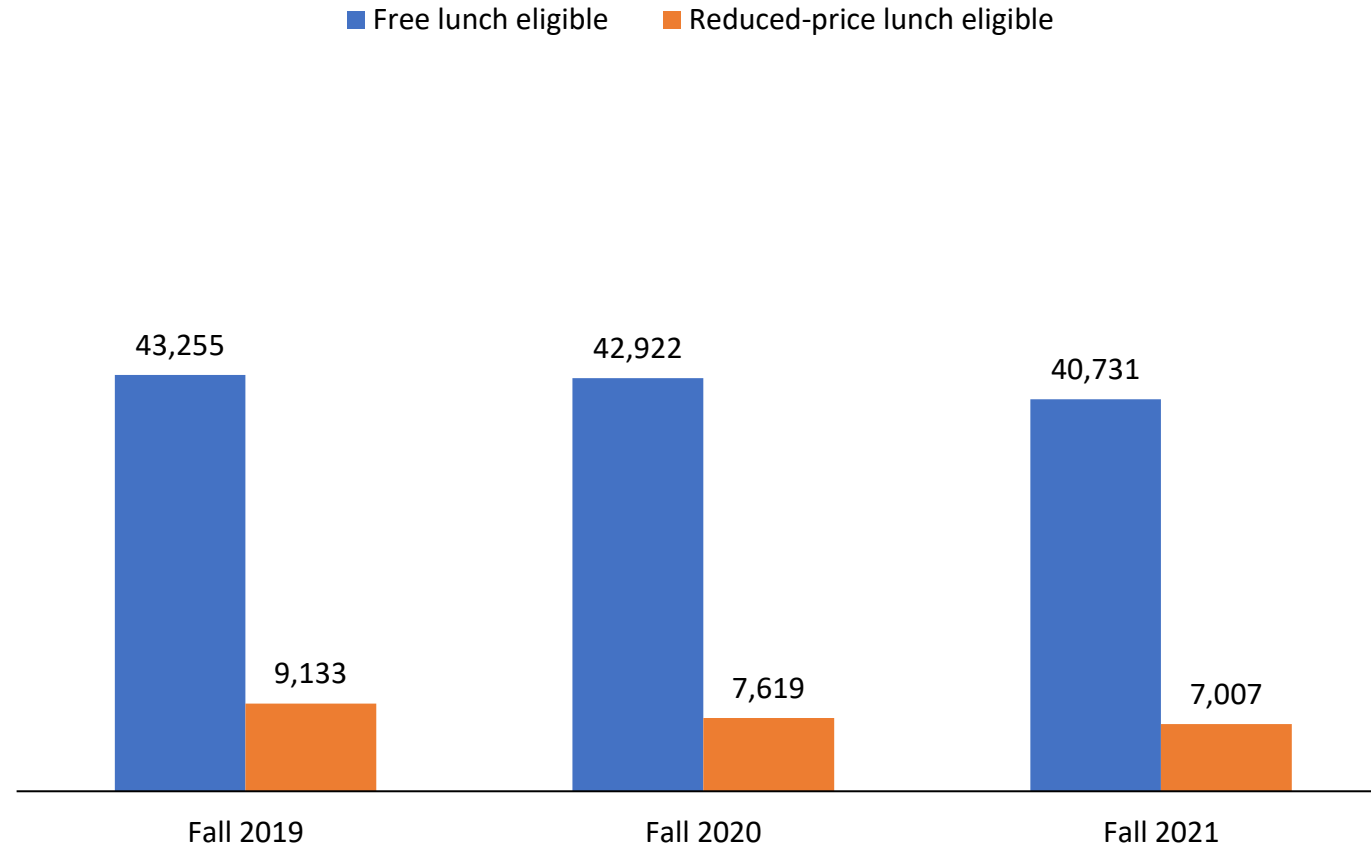


Source: Colorado Department of Education.

In Arapahoe, the drops in students identified as eligible for FRL saw some similarities to the state.



Fall count Arapahoe County public school students identified as eligible for FRL, 2019-2021



Source: Colorado Department of Education.

CMAS results must be interpreted with caution given significantly lower participation rates in 2021.



In spring 2021:

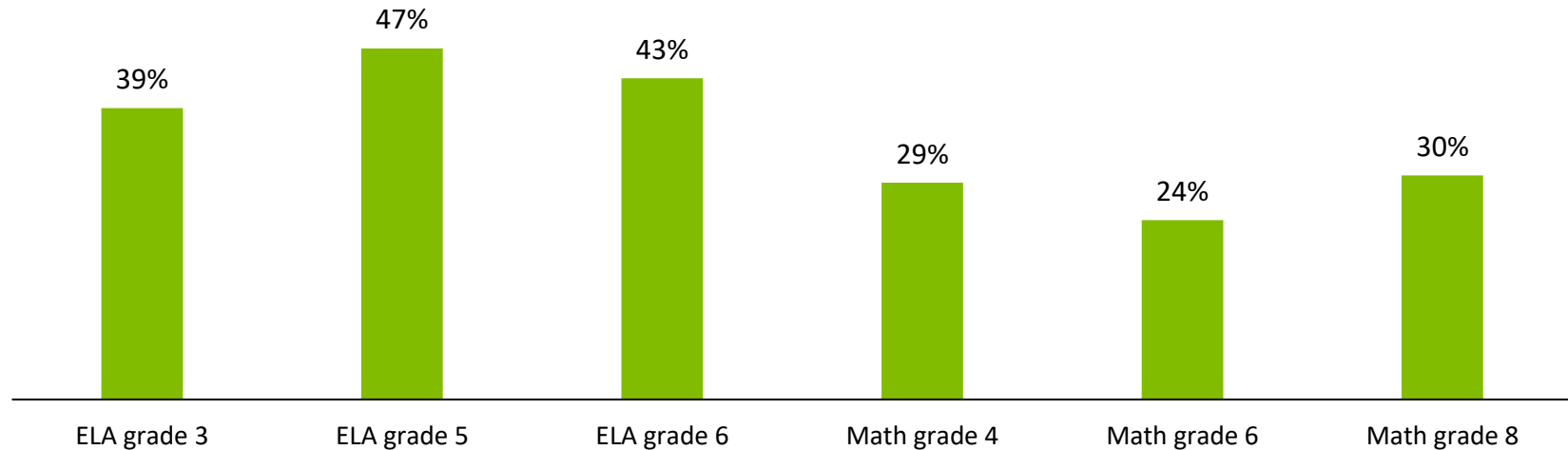


ELA assessments were given to grades 3, 5 and 7



Math assessments were given to grades 4, 6 and 8

Percent of students meeting or exceeding expectations on CMAS assessments by grade level, 2021



Source: Colorado Department of Education.

CMAS results must be interpreted with caution given significantly low participation rates in 2021.



In spring 2021:

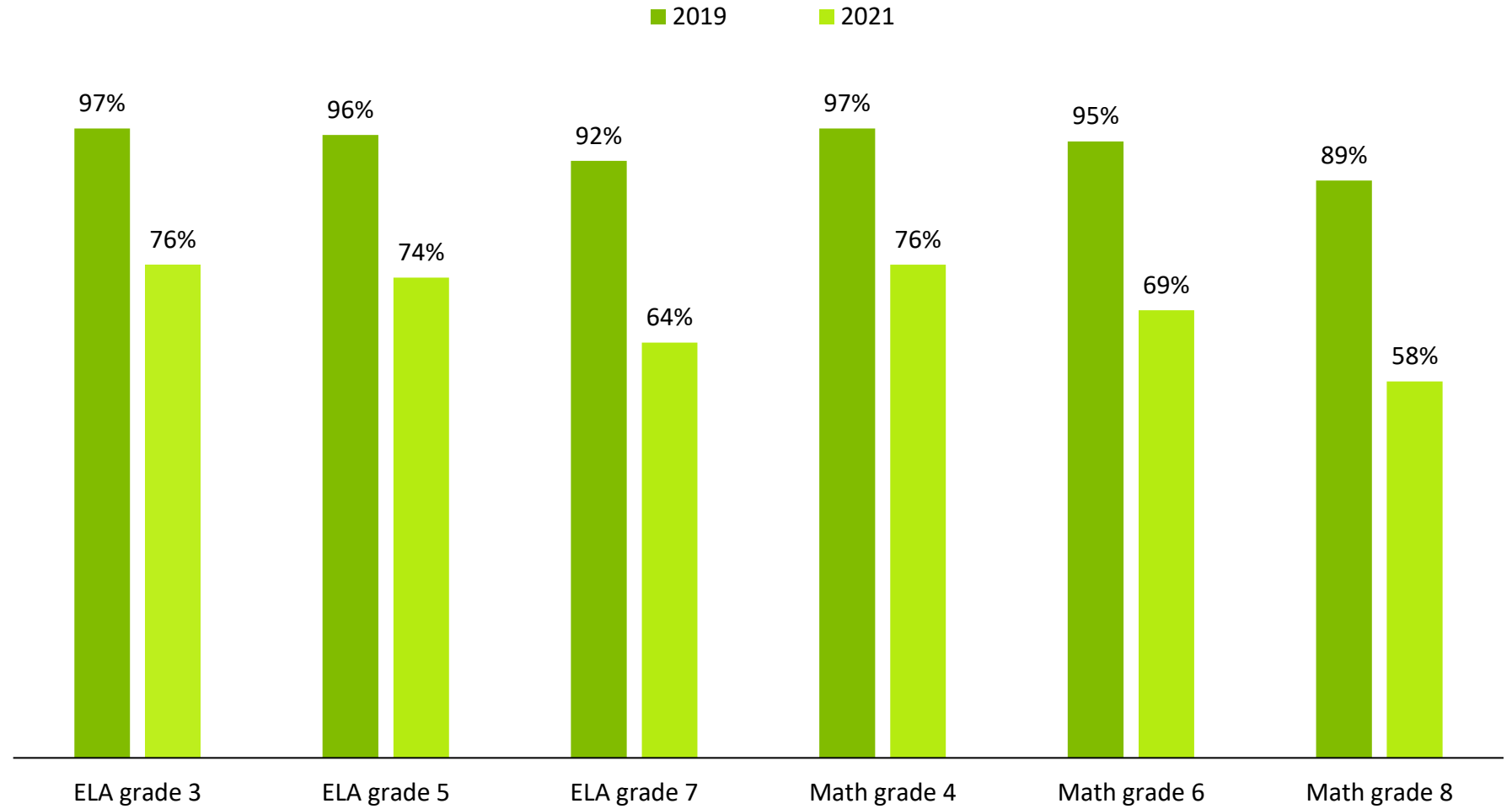


ELA assessments were given to grades 3, 5 and 7



Math assessments were given to grades 4, 6 and 8

Participation on CMAS ELA and math assessments by grade level, 2019-2021



Source: Colorado Department of Education.

CMAS results must be interpreted with caution given significantly low participation rates in 2021.



In spring 2021:

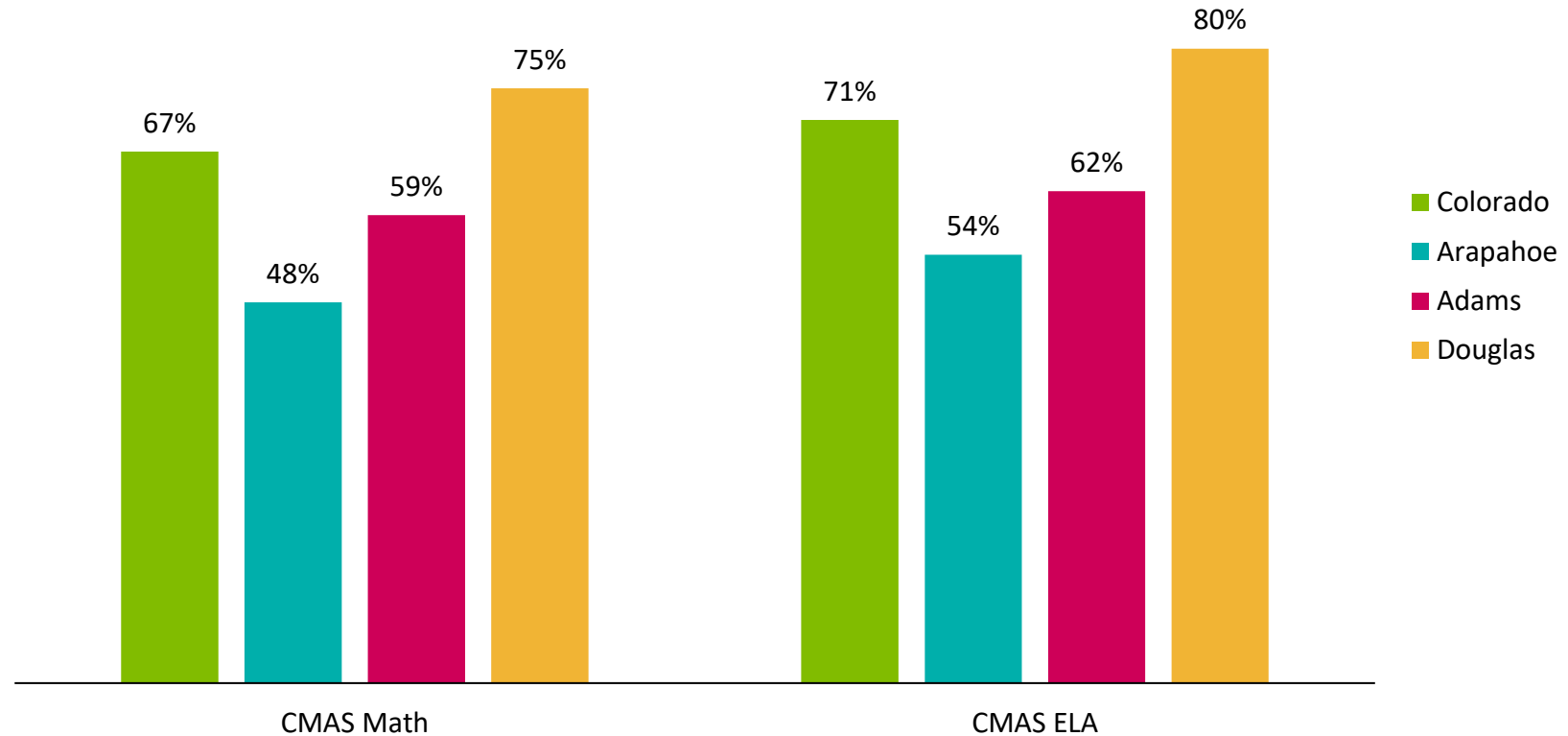


ELA assessments were given to grades 3, 5 and 7



Math assessments were given to grades 4, 6 and 8

Participation rates on CMAS assessments, select geographies, 2021



Source: Colorado Department of Education.

Join us in helping make Colorado a better place to be a kid.

