

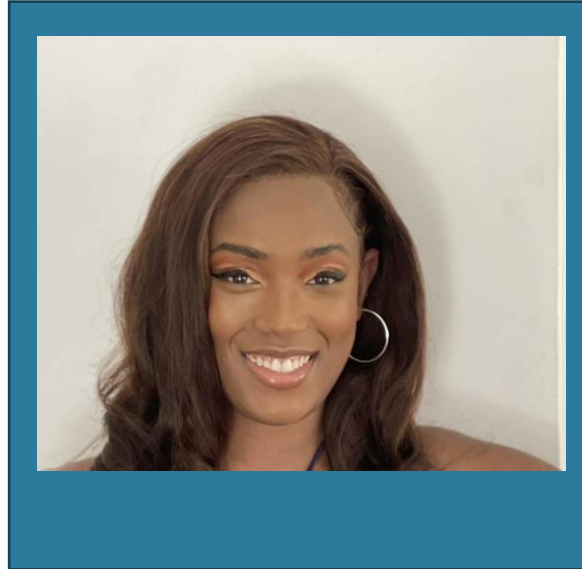
Parents Perspectives on the Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine

Carolyn Boumila-Vega, Keiana Cox, Bethany Morales
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Community Evaluator Team



Bethany Morales
Community Evaluator
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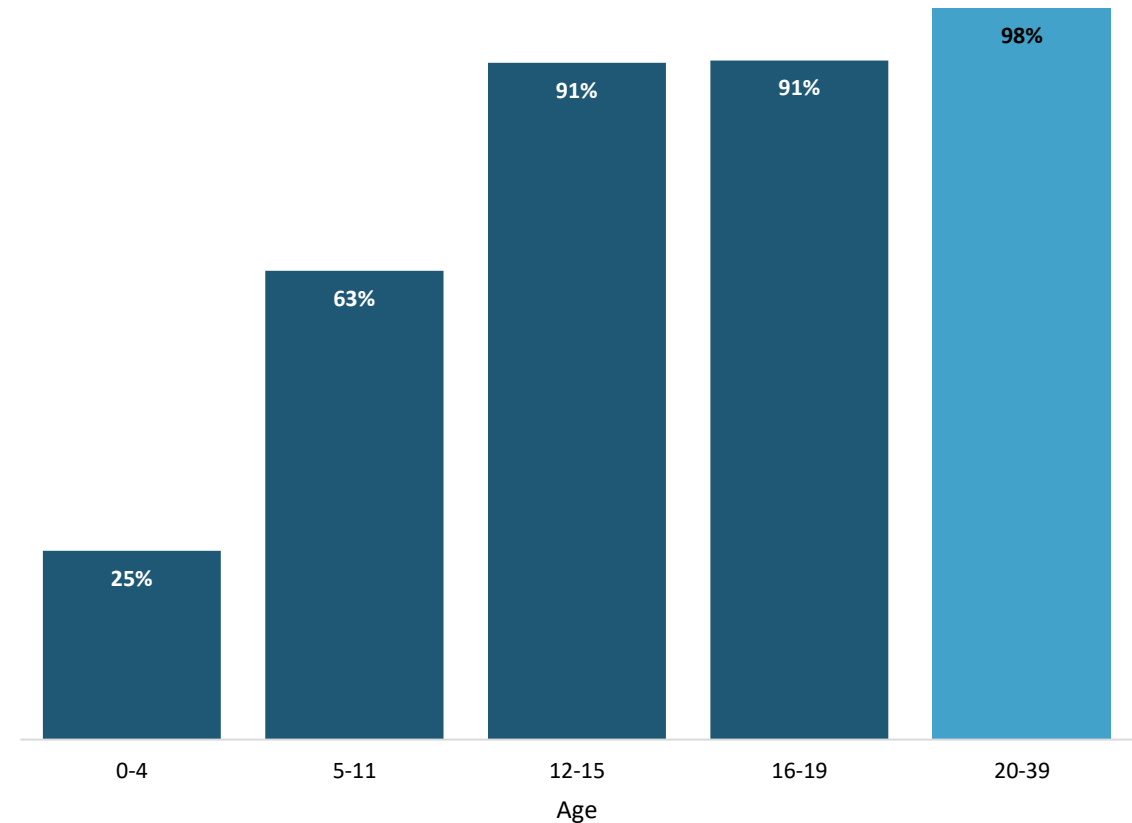


Carolyn Boumila-Vega
Community Evaluator
Chelsea

Pediatric COVID-19 Vaccine Background

- COVID-19 vaccine authorized for children over 6 months on 6/18/22
- Last age group to receive authorization
- Age group with the lowest COVID-19 vaccination rates
- Little known from parents at the community level

Vaccination Rates (First Dose) by Age: Massachusetts



Data reflects vaccination rates through 3/27/2023: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-equity-initiative-community-specific-vaccination-data>

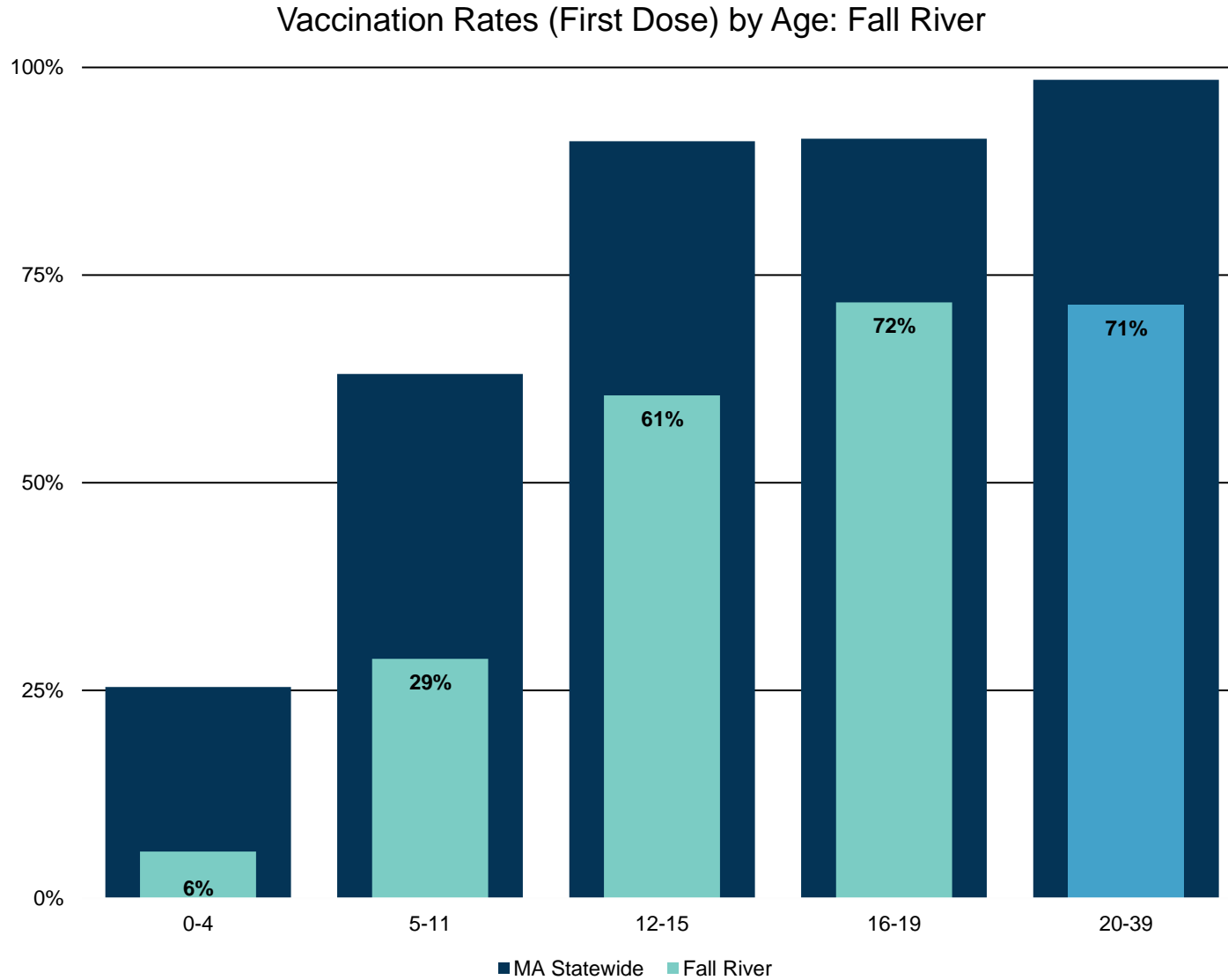
Project Focus

- Perspectives and decision-making processes
 - *Parents themselves*
 - *Their children*
- Information received about the vaccine
- Barriers & facilitators to vaccine access
- Recommendations for MDPH

Participant Population:

- Parents/caregivers of children under 5
 - Young parents (Fall River)
 - Latino parents/caregivers (Spanish-speaking) (Chelsea)
 - Black parents (Boston)
- 5 focus groups (+ 2 interviews)
 - n= 26

Fall River: COVID-19 Vaccination by Age



Pediatric
COVID-19
Vaccination
Focus Group



What are your
thoughts about
the the Pediatric
COVID-19
Vaccine?
We want to hear
from you!



ARE YOU A FIRST-TIME PARENT BETWEEN THE AGES OF
18-21, AND RESIDE IN FALL RIVER?

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR
COMMUNITY?

PARTICIPANTS WILL JOIN A 90-MINUTE FOCUS GROUP
AND RECEIVE A \$50 GIFT CARD FOR THEIR
PARTICIPATION.

To sign up for the focus group,
scan this QR code, or click [here](#).



If you have questions, contact
Bethany Morales to learn more!

617-627-1016 bethany.morales@tufts.edu



“I’m strongly against
putting something in my
daughter's body that we
don't have enough
research about.”

-Participant

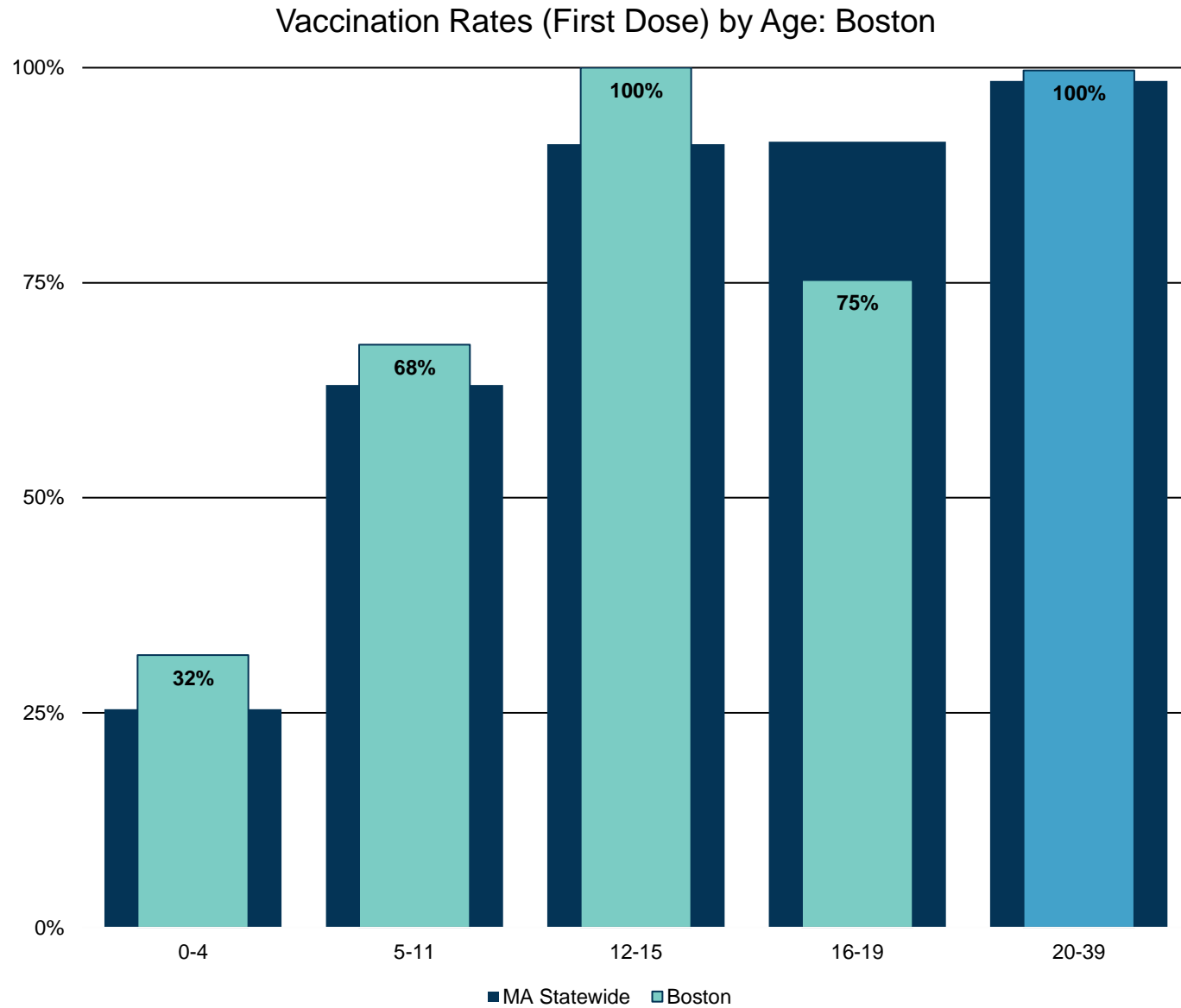
“The Covid
vaccine is a
setup, and there
is something in
the shot”

-Participant

“Someone said it earlier but DPH, the
pediatrician, center for disease control
and mass.gov, they'll know more about it
because they were the ones doing the
studies. They'll be able to tell me hard
facts, like I don't care. I want to know the
scary information, and I want to know all
the real information.”

-Participant

Boston: COVID-19 Vaccination by Age

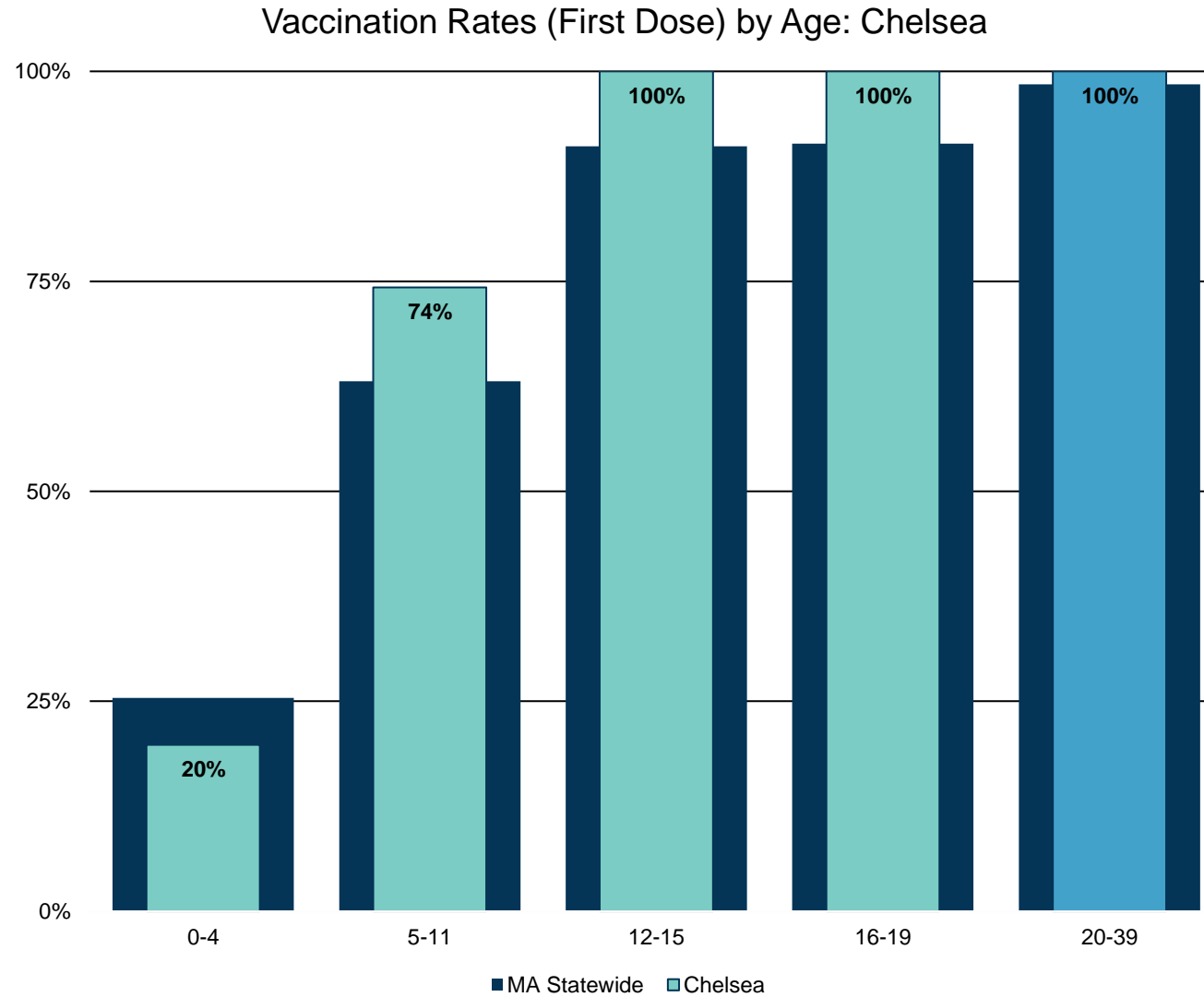


Boston

“I think that was like a big thing with minorities like kinda like there was a lot of like conspiracy theories that the vaccine was put out there to kind of get people infected with Covid...but like generally, history, Hasn't been too kind to minorities associated with healthcare.” -Mother

“My daughter’s life is a huge factor”
-Father

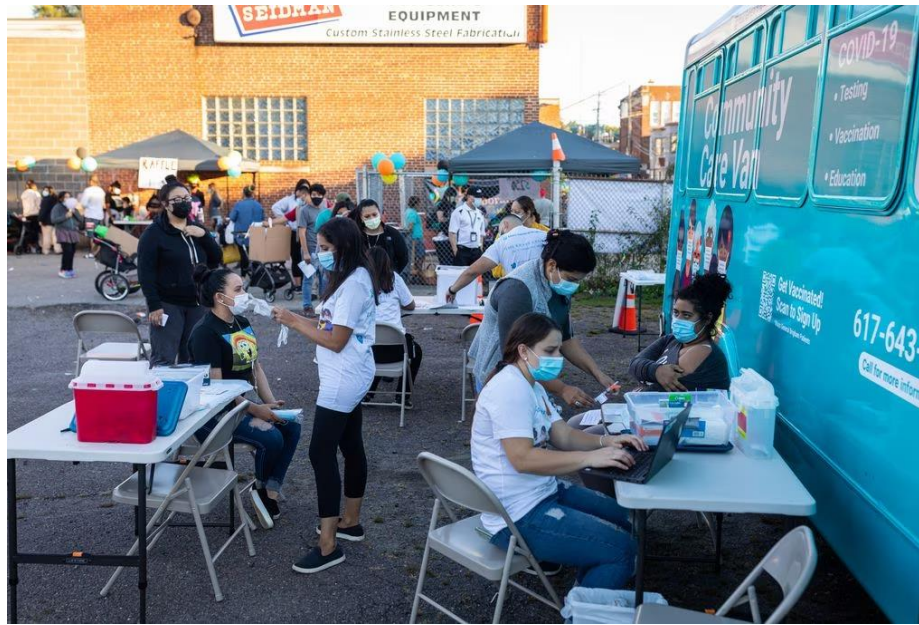
Chelsea: Vaccination by Age



Data reflects vaccination rates through 3/27/2023: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-equity-initiative-community-specific-vaccination-data>

Chelsea context:

- 1.8 square miles
- Sanctuary city
- Large undocumented population
- ~70% Latino



Residents getting vaccinated at La Colaborativa



La Colaborativa hosted food banks during the Pandemic.



Vaccination line

Recommendations

- 1. Leverage pediatricians**
- 2. Provide comprehensive information**
 - People can do own cost/benefit analysis
- 3. Let people hear from the source**
 - For example: scientists, researchers
- 4. Incentives & choice:** Are people vaccinating because they want to?
 - Incentives are complex – how do you roll them back?
- 5. People want their voices to be heard, with follow through.**
 - What's being done based on people's voices and perspectives?
- 6. Build trust** (community organizations, leaders, healthcare)
 - Parents not taking decisions lightly
- 7. Parents don't want vaccine mandates for this age group**
 - Many didn't feel they had a choice themselves