

2014 Early Childhood Profile

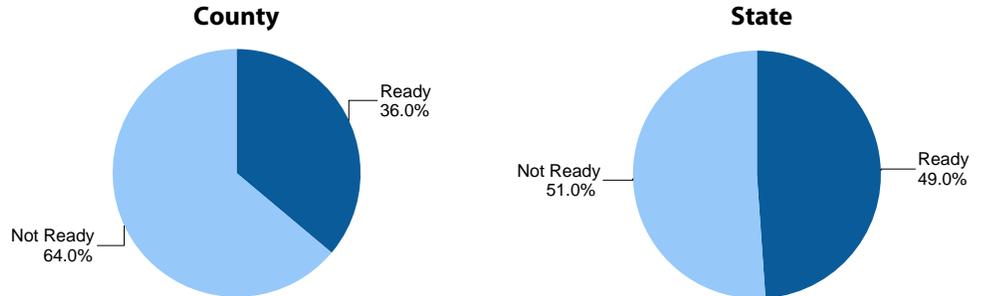
Mercer County

The Early Childhood Profile is produced by the Kentucky Center for Education and Workforce Statistics (KCEWS) for the Governor's Office of Early Childhood (GOEC) and the Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) utilizing data from the Kentucky Longitudinal Data System (KLDS).



Kindergarten Readiness

Kindergarten readiness means that each child enters school ready to engage in and benefit from early learning experiences that best promote the child's success. The kindergarten screener measures readiness in five important domains. The composite readiness score reflected here is comprised of the cognitive/general knowledge, language and communication and physical well-being domains.



Results by Composite Domain

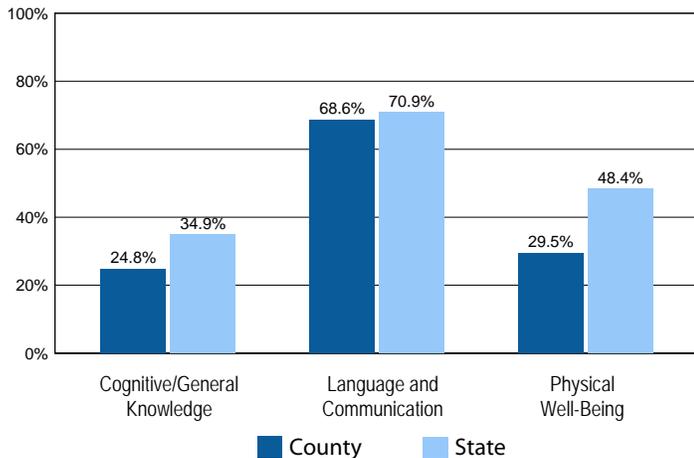


Chart shows percentage of students scoring "average" or "above average". For a detailed explanation, see the technical notes at <http://kcews.ky.gov/reports/earlychildhoodprofiles/>

Results by Social-Emotional and Self-Help Domains

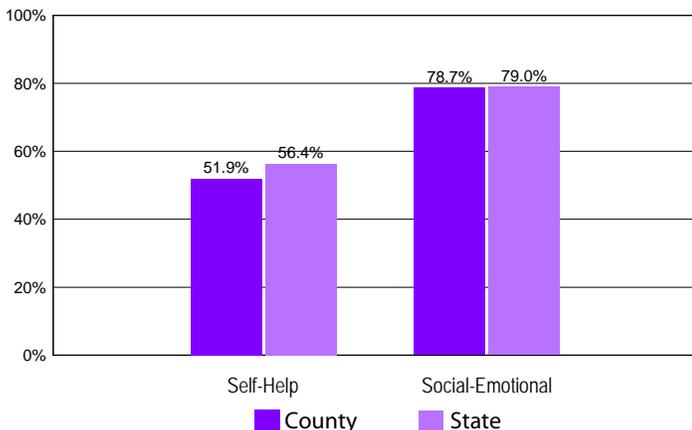


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Early Care and Education Programs

	County	State
Kindergarten	265	55,877
Preschool	148	22,492
At-risk 4-year-olds at or below 150% of the federal poverty level	57	11,156
3- and 4-year-olds with disabilities	83	9,661
3- and 4-year-olds over income or other	8	1,675
Head Start enrollment	44	14,659
3- and 4-year-olds income eligible (at-risk 4s at 150% FPL)	42	12,726
3- and 4-year-olds with disabilities	2	1,719
Other (4s over 150% FPL without disabilities)	0	214
Total child care capacity	614	176,688
Children receiving child care assistance (CCAP program)	96	23,761
CCAP at Licensed Centers	89	21,831
CCAP at Licensed Homes	*	275
CCAP at Certified Homes	*	1,084
CCAP at Registered Providers	*	571

Third Grade Assessment Results

Below are the percentages of 3rd grade students who scored proficient or distinguished in the 2012-13 school year. They were kindergartners in the 2009-10 school year.

	County	State
Math	42.8%	43.6%
Reading	50.0%	47.7%

Family, Health and Services

Select Indicators	County #	County %	State %
Number of children 0-2 years old	797	3.7%	3.8%
Number of children 3-4 years old	554	2.6%	2.6%
Children living below 100% poverty	449	28.0%	29.9%
Children living below 150% poverty	793	49.5%	42.2%
Children living below 200% poverty	817	51.0%	53.1%
Children with substantiated child abuse/neglect	68	1.4%	1.6%
Households with non-English language in home	235	2.8%	5.6%
Births to mothers who are not high school graduates**	47	16.0%	18.0%
Births to teenage girls 15-19 years old**	37	56^	43^
Low birth weight babies (born less than 5.5 pounds)**	32	11.0%	9.0%
Preterm babies (born before 37 weeks of pregnancy)**	30	11.0%	11.0%

^ Rate per 1,000 females ages 15-19

**Previous reports used a three-year total. These totals are for one year.

Workforce Quality

Since 2001, early childhood educators have had access to college and non-college scholarships to improve knowledge and skills.

	County Number	County Amount	State Number	State Amount
College Scholarships Awarded	7	\$ 5,448	1,025	\$ 849,560
Non-College Scholarships Awarded	16	\$ 3,360	757	\$ 148,838

Find an Early Childhood Professional Development Counselor in your county here:
<http://www.kentuckypartnership.org/info/ECPD/scholar/pdc.aspx>

State and Local Contact

Mercer County
 Ann Goodwin aegoodwin@gmail.com
<http://kidsnow.ky.gov/Mobilizing-Communities>

Visit the Governor's Office of Early Childhood online at <http://kidsnow.ky.gov> or call 502-782-0200 for more information.

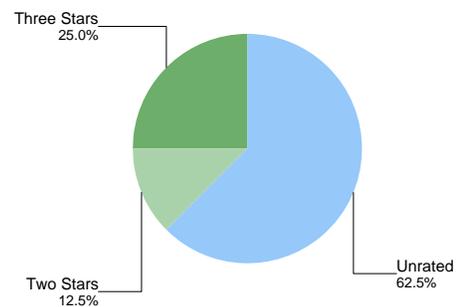
Visit <http://kcews.ky.gov/reports/earlychildhood/> for sources, technical descriptions of each data element in this profile, notes for how to use this report, and links to other sources of information for the early childhood community.

Support Services

	County	State
Children receiving Medicaid insurance	1,818	412,249
Children receiving KCHIP health insurance	356	70,867
Families served by the First Steps program	15	4,480
Number of families served by the HANDS home visitation program	21	10,113

STAR Ratings for Child Care

Early child care facilities can voluntarily participate in the STARS for KIDS NOW rating. A higher quality rating means better child-to-caregiver ratios, program curriculum, child care staff training, program regulatory compliance, and personnel policies.



Rating	Child Care Centers		Child Care Capacity	
	Licensed	Certified	Licensed	Certified
STARS	3	0	237	0
Not STARS	4	1	371	6

The following charts show the percentage of STAR-rated and unrated program centers and the percent of total capacity in STAR-rated and unrated program centers.

