

# 2016 Early Childhood Profile

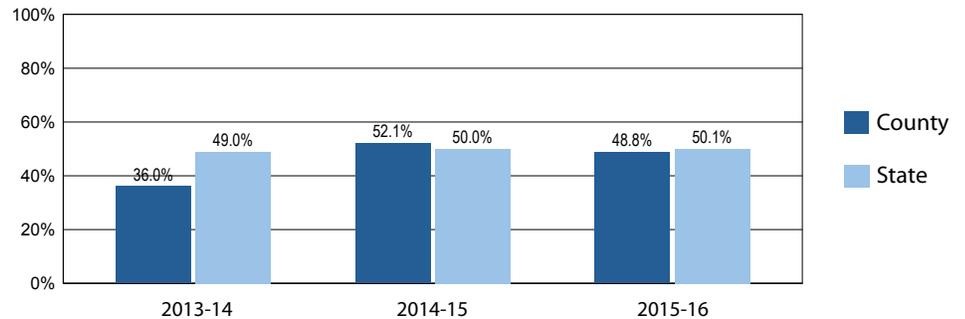
## Mercer County

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 academic/cognitive, language development, and physical development domains.



### Results by Composite Domain

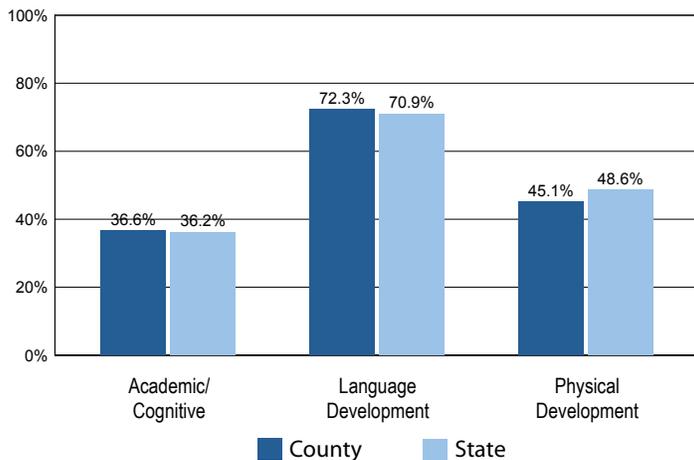


Chart shows percentage of students scoring "average" or "above average". For a detailed explanation, see the technical notes at <http://kcews.ky.gov/reports/earlychildhoodprofiles/>

### Results by Social-Emotional and Self-Help Domains

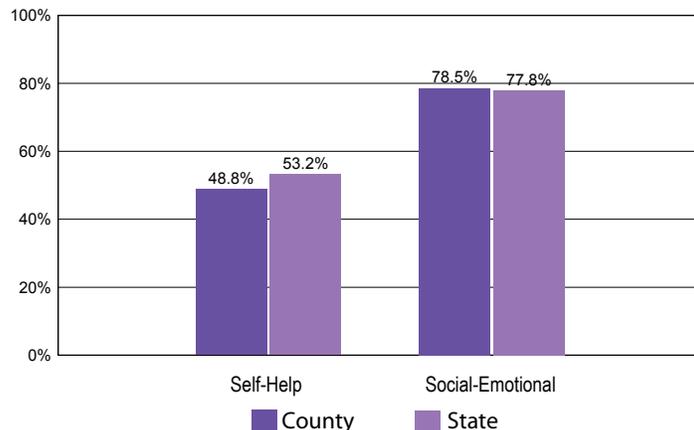


Chart shows percentage of students scoring "average" or "above average". For a detailed explanation, see the technical notes at <http://kcews.ky.gov/reports/earlychildhoodprofiles/>

### Early Care and Education Programs

	County	State
<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>53,953</b>
<b>Preschool</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>21,049</b>
At-risk 4-year-olds at or below 150% of the federal poverty level (FPL)	45	9,249
3- and 4-year-olds with disabilities	70	9,468
3- and 4-year-olds over income or other	2	2,333
<b>Head Start enrollment</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>13,841</b>
3- and 4-year-olds income eligible (at-risk 4s at 150% FPL)	32	11,864
3- and 4-year-olds with disabilities	2	1,696
Other (4s over 150% FPL without disabilities)	0	241
<b>Total child care capacity</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>167,746</b>
<b>Children receiving child care assistance (CCAP program)</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>23,969</b>
CCAP at Licensed Centers	98	23,102
CCAP at Licensed Homes	*	155
CCAP at Certified Homes	*	615
CCAP at Registered Providers	*	149

\* Data suppressed to ensure confidentiality.

### Third Grade Assessment Results

Below are the percentages of 3rd grade students who scored proficient or distinguished in the 2014-15 school year. They were kindergartners in the 2011-12 school year.

	County	State
Math	40.8%	47.6%
Reading	42.8%	54.3%

## Family, Health, and Services

Select Indicators	County #	County %	State %
Number of children:			
0-2 year-olds	732	3.4%	3.8%
3-4 year-olds	554	2.6%	2.5%
Children living below:			
100% poverty	468	31.2%	30.1%
150% poverty	772	51.5%	42.7%
200% poverty	844	56.3%	53.3%
Children 0-17 years old with substantiated child abuse/neglect	138	2.9%	1.9%
Children 0-17 years old being raised by grandparents	258	5.3%	5.4%
Households with non-English language in home	231	2.6%	5.7%
Births to mothers who are not high school graduates**	35	14.0%	16.8%
Births to teenage girls 15-19 years old**	31	48^	41^
Low birth weight babies (born less than 5.5 pounds)**	26	10.2%	8.7%
Preterm babies (born before 37 weeks of pregnancy)	31	12.1%	11.1%

^ Rate per 1,000 females ages 15-19

\*\*Numbers represent 1-year rolling averages calculated from 3-year aggregate data. Rates are 3-year aggregate rates.

## Support Services

	County #	State #
Children receiving Medicaid insurance	2,149	476,909
Children receiving KCHIP health insurance	209	44,854
Families served by the First Steps program	16	4,498
Number of families served by the HANDS home visitation program	31	8,119



## State and Local Contact

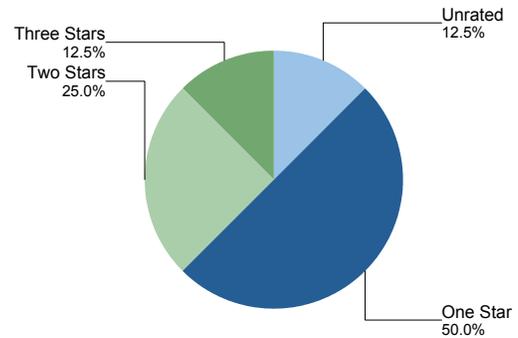
Mercer Co. Community Early Childhood Council Chair  
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Visit the Governor's Office of Early Childhood online at <http://kidsnow.ky.gov> or call 502-782-0200 for more information.

Visit <http://kcews.ky.gov/reports/earlychildhoodprofiles/> 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. For school and district Kindergarten readiness data, please visit the Kentucky Department of Education's Open House website at <http://openhouse.education.ky.gov/>

## STARS Participation

STARS is the rating and improvement system for licensed and certified child care providers. Participants receive resources and technical assistance to continually improve their quality and their star rating. A higher star rating means the provider is meeting quality standards that help children succeed.



Rating	Child Care Centers		Child Care Capacity	
	Licensed	Certified	Licensed	Certified
STARS	6	1	535	6
Not STARS	1	0	220	0

To find a STAR-rated child care provider in your county, click here: <https://prdweb.chfs.ky.gov/kiccspublic/providersearchpublic.aspx>

## Early Childhood Workforce

### KIDS NOW Scholarships

KIDS NOW Scholarships awarded to early childhood educators:

	County #	County \$	State #	State \$
College	3	\$ 3,630	968	\$ 845,047
Non-College	0	\$ 0	380	\$ 89,581

To learn more about scholarships, contact a Professional Development Counselor in your county: <http://www.kentuckypartnership.org/about/map>

### High School Credentials

Family and Consumer Sciences programs offer high school early childhood students an opportunity to earn industry-recognized certificates and credentials.

	County #	State #
Early Care and Education Orientation Certificate	0	515
Commonwealth Child Care Credential	0	564
Child Development Associate	0	11

For more information about these programs, please visit: <http://education.ky.gov/CTE/ctepa/FCS/Pages/default.aspx>