Office of Early Learning Update

Florida Organization of Instructional Leaders (FOIL)

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Agenda

– District kindergarten screening results & domain data
– Resources for VPK teachers
– Data on VPK programs by district, public and private programs and trends over time
– Expansion of VPK programs
– Sharing of district promising practices
Florida’s Early Learning Population

– 1.3 million children younger than 6\(^1\)

– 36% percent of those are from low-income families\(^1\)
  • Of the 36%, 29% participated in the SR Program\(^2\)
  • 211,677 children are enrolled in 2018-19\(^3\)

– 75% of Florida’s 4-year-olds participated in the VPK Program\(^4\)
  • 169,986 children enrolled in Program Year 2018-19

Sources:
\(^1\)U.S. Census Bureau (2017). Age by Ratio of Income to Poverty Level in the Past 12 Months American Community Survey 1-year estimates.
\(^2\)Florida Demographic Database for 2017-18.
\(^3\)From EFS Mod enrollment data as of Sept. 10, 2019.
# Kindergarten Screening Results

## Readiness of Incoming Kindergarten Students

**Statewide – Fall 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total Children</th>
<th>Percent “Ready”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Public School Kindergartners</td>
<td>122,860</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All VPK Participants</td>
<td>150,053</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR &amp; VPK Participants</td>
<td>13,347</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPK Non-Completers</td>
<td>27,193</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-VPK Participants</td>
<td>52,717</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR-Only Participants</td>
<td>3,538</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** 2017-18 VPK Readiness Rate match files and FLKRS final data files.
Kindergarten Screener Content Domains

Star Early Literacy Assessment Content Domains

• **Alphabetic Principal** - knowledge of letter names, alphabetic letter sequence and the sounds associated with letters.

• **Concept of Word** - understanding the difference between words and letters and that words are separated by a space within a sentence.

• **Visual Discrimination** - differentiating both upper- and lowercase letters, identifying words that are different and matching words that are the same.

• **Phonemic Awareness** - understanding of rhyming words and the ability to hear, identify, and manipulate beginning, ending and middle sounds in spoken words (without print).

• **Phonics** - understanding the relationship between sounds and written symbols.

• **Vocabulary** - knowledge of words and their meanings.

• **Early Numeracy** - ability to identify and name numbers, understand number-object correspondence, complete sequences, create and take apart groups of up to ten, and compare sizes, weights and volumes.
Kindergarten Screening Results

2017-2018 VPK Completers and Proficiency by Domain

62% of VPK completers were “ready.”

On the Star Assessment:

- 62.6% scored “proficient” in Alphabetic Principle
- 63.8% scored “proficient” in Concepts of Words
- 72.3% scored “proficient” in Visual Discrimination
- 41.2% scored “proficient” in Phonemic Awareness
- 39.2% scored “proficient” in Phonics
- 42.1% scored “proficient” in Vocabulary
- 59.8% scored “proficient” in Early Numeracy
Kindergarten Readiness by County

Percentage of Fall 2018 Public Kindergarten Students “Ready”

Statewide Percentage
“Ready” = 53%

% “Ready”
- 67%-71% - 1 district
- 60%-66% - 5 districts
- 27%-59% - 61 districts
Percentage of 2017-18 VPK Completers “Ready”

Statewide Percentage “Ready” = 62%

% “Ready”
- 70%-72% - 3 districts
- 60%-69% - 42 districts
- 40%-59% - 22 districts
VPK Program Updates

Years 2009-2010 to 2017-2018

History of VPK Provider Readiness Rates

Source: Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rate website as of Sept. 11, 2019.
Breakdown of 2017-2018 VPK Programs

Statewide Average
– 2,801 of VPK programs with a readiness rate below 60
– 42% of VPK programs with a readiness rate below 60

Breakdown by VPK Program Type
– Total number of VPK programs – 6,623
– Number of school year programs – 6,276
– Percent of school year programs – 95%
– Number of summer programs – 347
– Percent of summer programs – 5%
– Number of private programs – 5,317
– Percent of private programs – 80%
– Number of public programs – 1,306
– Percent of public programs – 20%
Resources for VPK Teachers

• Free or low-cost **professional development** available from the Department of Education/Office of Early Learning at http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/vpk/vpk-providers/professional-development-training

• **Activity Plans** and other resources available on the Early Learning Standards Website at http://flbt5.floridaearlylearning.com

• **Bright Beginnings website** with resources and tools that teachers may use to meet the individual needs of children in the VPK classroom https://brightbeginningsfl.org
VPK Program Expansion

VPK Program Participation Rate
2005-2006 to 2024-2025*

VPK Program Expansion

VPK Program Year Enrollments

District Promising Practices

– Align and provide professional development for Pre-K through grade 3 teachers.
– Use data to inform instruction and supports.
– Provide transition to kindergarten activities and resources for teachers, schools and families.
– Provide structured opportunities for Pre-K and kindergarten teachers to network.
– Utilize available funding streams.
Questions?

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