



Young Children and their Families in North Carolina

Did you know that...

- **734,483** children under six live in North Carolina?
- **455,379** children under six in North Carolina live in a household where the sole parent or both parents in the household are working? This number represents **62%** of all children under six.
- **34%** of children five years old or younger in the State live in a family whose income is below the federal poverty level?
- **8%** of children in North Carolina participated in the state subsidized child care program in January to help offset the high cost of child care?
- **14,030** children age birth to three and **9,799** children age three to five years old in the State had a parent or guardian who received consumer education and referrals for child care programs through one of North Carolina's Child Care Resource and Referral agencies in fiscal year 2019?
- **907** children (ages birth through 12) whose families received referrals through child care resource and referral agencies in fiscal year 2019 were given that referral in a language other than English in North Carolina?
- **182,907** children age birth to five are in licensed child care centers in North Carolina? This number includes children in NC Pre-K and Head Start/Early Head Start programs. Of these children, **64,804** are birth to three years old and **118,103** are children age three to five years old.
- **5,587** children age birth to five are in licensed family child care homes in North Carolina? Of these children, **3,291** children are birth to three years old and **2,296** children are age three to five years old.
- there was funding for **21,633** children in Head Start, Early Head Start and migrant/seasonal Head Start in 2017? Head Start is a federally funded, comprehensive preschool program designed to meet emotional, social, health, nutritional and psychological needs of three and four year olds and their families. Early Head Start serves families with children ages birth to three and low-income pregnant women. Most Head Start/Early Head Start programs in North Carolina are licensed.
- As of February 2020, **31,278** children were served in a North Carolina Pre-K (NC Pre-K) program in North Carolina? The NC Pre-K Program is designed to provide high-quality educational experiences to enhance school readiness for eligible four-year-olds. Most NC Pre-K programs are licensed.
- **5%** of children in the State were held back in kindergarten and **4%** were held back in first grade in the 2017-2018 school year.