



Early Care & Education Programs in North Carolina

Did you know that...

- **2,333** teachers, directors and family child care providers living in the State participated in the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project in fiscal year 2023? There were **947** child care programs that sponsored their employees returning to school through this scholarship program.
- programs receive ongoing help through on-site assessments and technical assistance in order to provide the highest quality services for children and family? In fiscal year 2023, **4,605** classrooms serving children birth to five in North Carolina received technical assistance through a child care resource and referral agency.
- **5,389** child care centers and family child care homes are in North Carolina?
- higher stars mean that the program has met a higher standard and provides increased quality for children? In North Carolina there are:

	Centers		Homes	
5 Star	1,996	47%	159	14%
4 Star	963	23%	481	42%
3 Star	651	15%	324	28%
2 Star	14	0%	67	6%
1 Star	110	3%	88	8%
Other	507	12%	29	3%
TOTAL	4,241	100%	1,148	100%

- NC Pre-K serves at-risk children who are four years old, in private and public sites across the state? In North Carolina there were **1,234** sites with one or more NC Pre-K classrooms in fiscal year 2023.
- Head Start provides a range of services for children and families, including classroom settings and home visiting? In North Carolina, **443** sites provided Head Start services in fiscal year 2023.
- to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) means that a program has voluntarily chosen to meet higher national standards related to teacher education and programmatic standards? In North Carolina, **111** child care centers are accredited by NAEYC as of March 2024.
- **2,612** child care centers enroll children birth to three years old and **3,689** child care centers enroll children 3 to 5 years old in North Carolina?
- **988** family child care homes enroll children birth to three years old and **884** family child care homes enroll children 3 to 5 years old in North Carolina?
- on-going professional development ensures that teachers continue to strengthen their skills in providing early care and education to children? In North Carolina, **20,215** early educators participated in professional development activities in fiscal year 2023 provided by or through a child care resource and referral agency.

While considering the data on this factsheet, please note that many of these data points may differ significantly from previous months or years. This may be due to the impacts of COVID-19 on both the information reported and the data collection process.