



## Early Care & Education Use In North Carolina

### Did you know that...

- families sought consumer education and referrals for **20,990** children from birth to five years of age from a child care resource and referral agency in North Carolina in fiscal year 2016?
- **63,126** children from birth to three years of age and **116,853** children from three to five years of age are currently enrolled in a licensed early care and education center in North Carolina? Of these children under three years of age, **69%** are in 4- and 5-star centers. Of these children three to five years of age, **77%** are in 4 or 5-star centers.
- **4,392** children from birth to three years of age and **3,026** children from three to five years of age are currently enrolled in a licensed family child care home in North Carolina? Of these children under three years of age, **49%** are in 4- and 5-star homes. Of these children three to five years of age, **49%** are in 4 or 5-star homes.
- many families receive help paying for early care and education for their children through one of three major programs: Head Start/Early Head Start, NC Pre-K and child care subsidy?
- there was funding for enrollment for **23,312** children in Head Start, Early Head Start and migrant/seasonal Head Start in 2015? This program uses federal funds and serves preschool children in families living in poverty. This program uses federal funds and serves preschool children in families living in poverty.
- as of December 2016, **27,182** children are participating in NC Pre-K in North Carolina? This program uses state funds and serves four-year-old children who are at risk for school failure.
- **58,842** children in North Carolina participated in the state subsidized child care program in March? This program uses federal and state funds and targets working families with low income and/or in crisis. Additional children may be served through the N.C. Smart Start subsidy program.
- of the **58,842** children who participated in the state subsidized child care program in North Carolina, **31%** were under three years of age and **41%** were three to five years of age?
- **26,608** eligible children from birth to twelve years of age were on the state subsidized child care program waiting list in the State?

