Young Children and their Families in North Carolina

Did you know that...

- 727,886 children under six live in North Carolina?
- 451,289 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?
- 9% of children in North Carolina participated in the state subsidized child care program in March to help offset the high cost of child care?
- 13,193 children age birth to three and 7,948 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 2014?
- 1,021 children (ages birth through 12) whose families received referrals through child care resource and referral agencies in fiscal year 2014 were given that referral in a language other than English in North Carolina?
- 104,342 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, 36,960 are birth to three years old and 67,382 are children age three to five years old.
- 6,034 children age birth to five are in licensed family child care homes in North Carolina? Of these children, 3,489 children are birth to three years old and 2,545 children are age three to five years old.
- 17,928 children received early care and education services through Head Start and/or Early Head Start (excluding migrant Head Start) in North Carolina in fiscal year 2013? 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 January 2015, **28,437** 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 2012 -2013 school year.