Young Children and their Families in North Carolina

Did you know that...

- 731,005 children under six live in North Carolina?
- 453,223 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 October to help offset the high cost of child care?
- 15,047 children age birth to three and 8,277 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 2017?
- 1,494 children (ages birth through 12) whose families received referrals through child care resource and referral agencies in fiscal year 2017 were given that referral in a language other than English in North Carolina?
- 175,572 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, 62,194 are birth to three years old and 113,378 are children age three to five years old.
- 6,972 children age birth to five are in licensed family child care homes in North Carolina? Of these children, 4,063 children are birth to three years old and 2,909 children are age three to five years old.
- there was funding for **23,312** children in Head Start, Early Head Start and migrant/seasonal Head Start in 2015? 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 December 2016, **27,182** 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 5% were held back in first grade in the 2014 -2015 school year.