## Annual NC Pre-K Report State Fiscal Year 2018-2019

Session Law 2017-57, Section 11B.1.(e)



## Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

## **Office of State Budget and Management**

## **Fiscal Research Division**

## By North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

November 13, 2023

#### **Reporting Requirements**

Session Law 2017-57, Section 11B.1.(e) requires the Division of Child Development and Early Education to submit an annual report no later than March 15 of each year to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services, the Office of State Budget and Management, and the Fiscal Research Division. The report shall include the following:

- (1) The number of children participating in the NC Pre-K Program by county.
- (2) The number of children participating in the NC Pre-K Program who have never been served in other early education programs such as childcare, public or private preschool, Head Start, Early Head Start, or early intervention programs.
- (3) The expected NC Pre-K expenditures for the programs and the source of the local contributions.
- (4) The results of an annual evaluation of the NC Pre-K Program.

#### The number of children participating in the NC Pre-K Program by county:

In Program Year 2018-2019, there were a total of 29,509 children participating in NC Pre-K services, see below for the distribution by county.

| County    | # Total Children | Percent |
|-----------|------------------|---------|
| Alamance  | 467              | 1.58    |
| Alexander | 69               | .23     |
| Alleghany | 62               | .21     |
| Anson     | 152              | .51     |
| Ashe      | 134              | .45     |
| Avery     | 109              | .36     |
| Beaufort  | 158              | .53     |
| Bertie    | 125              | .42     |
| Bladen    | 215              | .72     |
| Brunswick | 250              | .84     |
| Buncombe  | 421              | .14     |
| Burke     | 391              | .13     |
| Cabarrus  | 411              | .14     |
| Caldwell  | 214              | .72     |
| Camden    | 58               | .20     |
| Carteret  | 250              | .85     |
| Caswell   | 80               | .27     |
| Catawba   | 384              | 1.30    |
| Chatham   | 269              | .91     |
| Chowan    | 70               | .23     |
| Cleveland | 421              | 1.42    |
| Columbus  | 340              | 1.15    |
| Craven    | 280              | .95     |

| Cumberland     | 1,825 | 6.18 |
|----------------|-------|------|
| Currituck      | 45    | .15  |
| Dare           | 115   | .39  |
| Davidson       | 356   | 1.21 |
| Davie          | 178   | .60  |
| Duplin         | 292   | .99  |
| Durham         | 580   | 1.97 |
| Forsyth        | 713   | 2.42 |
| Franklin       | 159   | .54  |
| Gaston         | 865   | 2.93 |
| Gates          | 31    | .11  |
| Granville      | 177   | .59  |
| Guilford       | 2,096 | 7.10 |
| Halifax-Warren | 360   | 1.22 |
| Harnett        | 320   | 1.08 |
| Henderson      | 162   | .55  |
| Hertford       | 189   | .64  |
| Hoke           | 401   | 1.36 |
| Hyde           | 31    | .11  |
| Iredell        | 304   | 1.03 |
| Johnston       | 366   | 1.24 |
| Jones          | 78    | .26  |
| Lee            | 302   | 1.02 |
| Lenoir/Greene  | 257   | .87  |
| Lincoln        | 191   | .65  |
| Madison        | 48    | .16  |
| Martin         | 127   | .43  |
| McDowell       | 194   | .66  |
| Mecklenburg    | 1,638 | 5.55 |
| Mitchell       | 34    | .12  |
| Montgomery     | 195   | .66  |
| Moore          | 52    | .18  |
| Nash/Edgecombe | 555   | 1.88 |
| New Hanover    | 570   | 1.93 |
| Northampton    | 120   | .41  |
| Onslow         | 752   | 2.55 |
| Orange         | 309   | 1.05 |
| Pamlico        | 58    | .20  |
| Pasquotank     | 152   | .52  |
| Pender         | 266   | .90  |
| Perquimans     | 36    | .12  |
| Person         | 134   | .45  |
| Pitt           | 512   | 1.74 |

| Polk         | 89     | .30  |
|--------------|--------|------|
| Randolph     | 328    | 1.11 |
| Richmond     | 231    | .78  |
| Robeson      | 828    | 2.81 |
| Rockingham   | 234    | .79  |
| Rowan        | 337    | 1.14 |
| Rutherford   | 239    | .81  |
| Sampson      | 345    | 1.17 |
| Scotland     | 258    | .87  |
| Stanly       | 314    | 1.06 |
| Stokes       | 180    | .61  |
| Surry        | 272    | .92  |
| Transylvania | 101    | .34  |
| Tyrrell      | 18     | .06  |
| Union        | 350    | 1.19 |
| Vance        | 155    | .53  |
| Wake         | 1,648  | 5.58 |
| Washington   | 111    | .38  |
| Watauga      | 107    | .36  |
| Wayne        | 574    | 1.95 |
| Wilkes       | 391    | 1.33 |
| Wilson       | 128    | .43  |
| Yadkin       | 164    | .56  |
| Yancey       | 38     | .13  |
| Multiple     | 594    | 2.01 |
| Total        | 29,509 | 100  |

# The number of children participating in the NC Pre-K Program who have never been served in other early education programs such as childcare, public or private preschool, Head Start, Early Head Start, or early intervention programs:

Of the children participating in NC Pre-K in SFY 2018-19, 58% or approximately 17,115 fouryear-olds, were never previously served in other early education programs.

#### The NC Pre-K expenditures for the programs and the source of local contributions:

The total SFY 2018-2019 expenditures, from all funding sources, for NC Pre-K were \$169,361,350.

The source of local contributions as certified and reported by NC Pre-K contractors from July 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018 (part year) are noted in the chart below. Certification of expenditures of other resources in each NC Pre-K Program through November 30 is an annual reporting requirement. Certified Other Resources are reported to the Division of Child

Development by local contractors each year and should represent up to five (5) months of actual expenditures. These expenditures listed by funding source represent the amount of cash – not inkind contributions- that has been spent during this time period from other sources to support the NC Pre-K Program. NC Pre-K subcontractors serve children for ten months. If a similar amount of funds were expended for the remaining five months of services, a total of \$75.5 million of other resources may be expended.

| Certified Other Resources         | Expenditures Reported through 11/30/18 |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Title I                           | \$ 8,298,034                           |  |
| Smart Start                       | \$ 3,363,532                           |  |
| Child and Adult Care Food Program | \$ 1,969,726                           |  |
| Preschool Disabilities Program    | \$ 5,712,175                           |  |
| Head Start                        | \$11,284,130                           |  |
| Local Appropriations              | \$ 1,966,629                           |  |
| Private Providers                 | \$ 1,169,611                           |  |
| Other                             | \$ 3,962,454                           |  |
| Total (Five months)               | \$ 37,726,291                          |  |

### The results of an annual evaluation of the NC Pre-K Program<sup>1</sup>

The Division of Child Development and Early Education contracts with the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute to conduct an annual evaluation of the NC Pre-K Program. The primary purpose of the 2018-2019 NC Pre-Kindergarten (NC Pre-K) evaluation was to examine the effectiveness of the NC Pre-K Program by looking at the second year of the longitudinal randomized controlled trial (RCT) Study.

Significant findings of the 2018-2019 NC Pre-K evaluation included: overall positive effects of NC Pre-K participation through pre-K for language and literacy skills, including vocabulary and word and letter recognition (two key measures related to subsequent school readiness, as well as, later reading and school success); gains on the measures of literacy, language, math and executive function skills during pre-k and from the end of pre-k to the end of kindergarten; good quality standards for classrooms with 80% of programs at the highest five-star licensing level; majority of children served from families with low incomes with 87% eligible for free or reduced-price lunches; and a continuing trend of improvement in levels of teacher education and credentials with almost all NC Pre-K lead teachers in both public schools (>99%) and private settings (98%) having at least a Bachelor's degree, and nearly all NC Pre-K lead teachers in both public schools (96%) and private settings (95%) also holding a Birth-Kindergarten (B-K) teaching license.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Peisner-Feinberg, E., Kuhn, L., Zadrozny, S., Foster, T., & Burchinal, M. (2020). *Kindergarten Follow-up Findings from a Small-Scale RCT Study of the North Carolina Pre-Kindergarten Program.* Chapel Hill, NC: The University of North Carolina, FPG Child Development Institute.