GROWTH AND IMPACT IN EARLY CARE AND LEARNING | 2024

NORTH CAROLINA



EVOLVING



LEVEL

2

32 / 80



Children under 5

716,033

Median family income

\$61,972

Children with all parents working

64%



Rural population

Children living in poverty

33% 21%



The S	The Scale: growth and impact in early care and learning					
X	Emerging	The state plans or initiates programs and/or policies to improve access, affordability, quality, and/or funding in early care and learning.	1			
L	Evolving	The state's early care and learning programs and policies to improve access, affordability, quality, and/or funding are gaining traction.	2			
£	Expanding	The state's early care and learning efforts broaden their reach and consistently improve access, affordability, quality, and funding.	3			
A L	Excelling	The state's early care and learning programs and policies are established and show positive outcomes for children, families, and the economy.	4			

NORTH CAROLINA



Access- is child care accessible to families?			X	3/12
Child care spaces	371,263 LICENSED FCC & CENTER-BASED	-19% ESTIMATED CHILD CARE GAP	EMERGING	1
Public early learning programs	13%	OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN	EMERGING	1
Average hourly wage of early childhood educator	\$13.00	\$21.56 LIVING WAGE (INDIVIDUAL)	EMERGING	1

Affordability- is child care afford	RDABLE FOR FAM	MILIES?	L	5/12
Price of infant care	\$12,251 CENTER-BASED	\$9,617 FCC	-	-
Price of toddler care	\$11,363 CENTER-BASED	\$9,160 FCC	-	-
Center-based infant care as % of two income household	11%	≤7% DHHS RECOMMENDATION	EVOLVING	2
Center-based infant care as % of single income household	38%	≤7% DHHS RECOMMENDATION	EMERGING	1
Loss to the state economy	\$3.5 BILLIONS	.4%5% OF STATE GDP	EVOLVING	2

FCC= FAMILY CHILD CARE
DHHS= DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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Quality- is there quality child care for families?			L	score 20/40
Children receiving Early Intervention	5%	9% CHILDREN BORN WITH LOW BIRTH WEIGHT	EMERGING	1
Number of early intervention policy levers	NO POLICY LEVERS	TOTAL OF 3 POLICY LEVERS	EMERGING	1
Staff : Child ratio (infant)	1:5	1:4 (NAEYC)	EVOLVING	2
Staff : Child ratio (toddler)	1:6	1:6 (NAEYC)	EXPANDING	3
Staff : Child ratio (pre-schooler)	1:15	1:10 (NAEYC)	EMERGING	1
Minimum Credential - Director	CDA+	-	EXPANDING	3
Minimum Credential - Teacher	20 HOURS WITHIN SIX MONTHS	-	EMERGING	1
Minimum Credential - Assistant Teacher	20 HOURS WITHIN SIX MONTHS	-	EVOLVING	2
Annual training hours - Director	20 HOURS	-	EXPANDING	3
Annual training hours - Staff	20 HOURS	-	EXPANDING	3

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Funding- is the level of funding-	L	score 4/16		
Block grant	13%	OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN	EMERGING	1
Early Head Start	9%	OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN	EMERGING	1
Head Start	17%	OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN	EMERGING	1
Preschool	10%	OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN	EMERGING	1



