



**ANNUAL REPORT
2023-2024**



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MISSION

Educating children and families with innovative, high-quality early childhood learning opportunities and family partnerships to build better communities, one person at a time.

VISION

**Nurturing Children And Families Today,
Strengthening Communities for Tomorrow.**



Dear Friends,

Mid-Columbia Children's Council's (MCCC) 2023-2024 program year was full of change and growth. Our agency implemented corrective action plans, navigated through funder reviews, and increased our enrolment to the highest its been since Covid. These developments are strengthening our services to children and families once again. Due to the hard work and dedication of our employees, Policy Council, and Board of Directors, the program year was full of positive steps forward in our rebuilding. If I had to describe MCCC's 2023-2024 program year in one word, it would be "Strengthening".

Changes are challenging, and our attention has focused on strengthening our agency's foundation, staffing, and training. Steps were implemented such as increasing employee input, transparency, restoring our workforce, , and rebuilding relationships and reputations in our local communities. These areas are big, and it takes time to develop them. We will continue this work and keep growing into the new program year.

MCCC still has a challenging road ahead and we will face everything as a team. Together we will continue to strengthen our agency. This will be achieved by supporting and growing our employees every day. In return, this will increase our stability throughout our communities and better serve the children and families within them. Any challenges will be faced with dedication, teamwork, and passion. We strive toward excellence through continuous quality improvement. MCCC is stronger and better today, and we will continue to learn and grow to become even stronger tomorrow.

Freddy Gonzalez

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR⁴

FINANCIAL REPORT

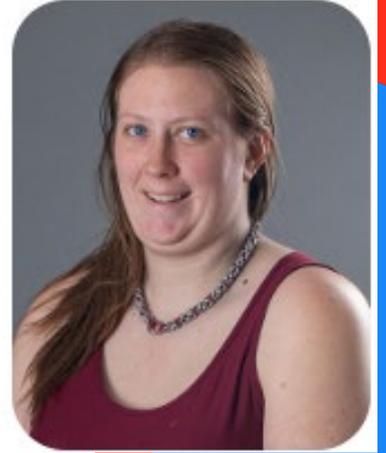
SUPPORT & REVENUE	FOR YEAR ENDED 11/30/2022 Audited	FOR YEAR ENDED 11/30/2023 Audited	2023-2024 Budgeted
US Department of Health & Human Services	5,677,598	5,765,656	6,163,604
Oregon & Washington State Grants	3,272,122	3,908,166	3,645,529
US Department of Agriculture-Child Care Food Program	142,139	209,618	200,400
Program Income	85,585	(72,509)	52,290
Other Grants	2,623	0	0
Cash and In-Kind Contributions	6,167	10,601	0
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	9,186,234	9,821,532	10,061,823

Functional Expenses			
Personnel	5,415,237	6,335,656	7,224,265
Program Services	2,328,054	2,661,639	1,802,766
Management and General	1,136,558	1,140,136	1,034,792
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,879,849	10,137,431	10,061,823

A Parent Leadership Success Story:

Kaelene Sanders first joined Mid-Columbia Children's Council as a parent at the Klickitat Center. Teacher Allie Spino and her home visitor Stacey Morris made her feel seen and valued. The unconditional positive regard Kaelene felt led her to become an active member of Klickitat's parent committee and our Policy Council. Through Policy Council, Kaelene has had the opportunity to attend several different regional and national conferences. At these conferences she has been presented with information she has used to ask our administrators questions and suggest improvements. She has found a passion for advocacy, and she has developed herself into a leader.

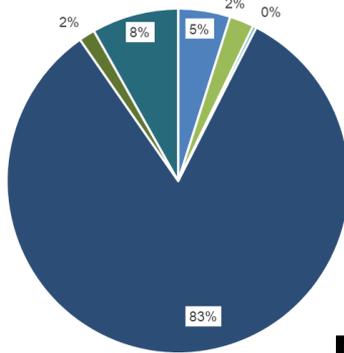
Kaelene is currently a Parent Ambassador for the Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP (WSA) representing Washington's 14th district. As a Parent Ambassador, Kaelene is participating in advocacy campaigns to urge state legislators to increase funding for early learning programs like Head Start and ECEAP. This year she also served as White Salmon's parent committee president and organized several fundraisers, parent engagement events, and their end of the year celebration. Kaelene's story is a reminder that a warm and welcoming environment can make all the difference.



COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHICS

Race Demographics of Participants
2023-2024

Indian/Alaskan Native Asian Pacific Islander White Black Multi-Racial

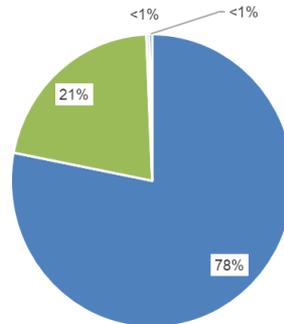


Participants by Race:

- White 83 %
- Multi-Racial 8.3 %
- Indian/Alaskan Native 5 %
- Black 1.5 %
- Pacific Islander and Other .3 %
- Asian 2.3%

Language of Participants
2023-2024

English Spanish Far East European



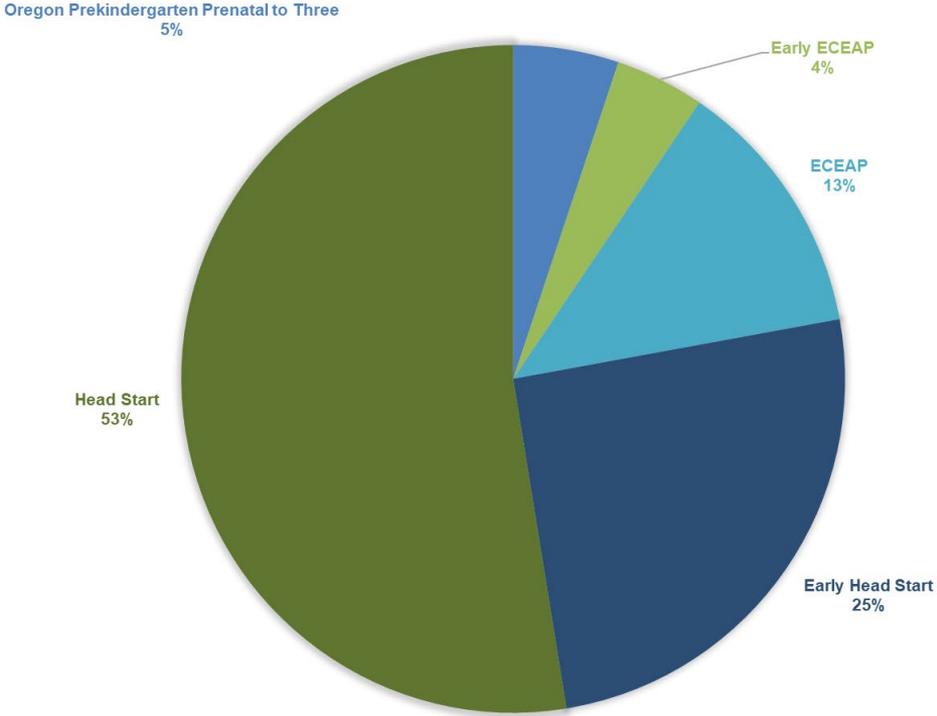
- Hispanic/Latino 40 %
- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino 60 %

Indicate Primary Languages:

- English 77.8 %
- Spanish 21.2 %
- Asian .3 %
- European .3 %
- American Sign .3 %

Cumulative Enrollment

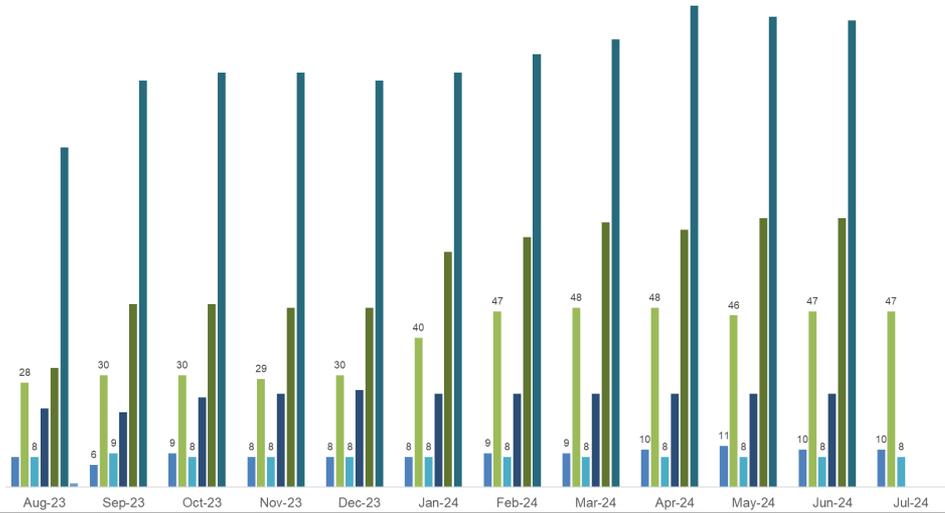
CUMULATIVE ENROLLMENT 2022-2023
N=416



Enrollment

Monthly Enrollment by Funder 2023-2024

- Oregon Pre-Kindergarten Prenatal to Three
- Early ECEAP
- Oregon Pre-Kindergarten
- Early Head Start
- Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program
- Head Start



- Head Start, Oregon Prekindergarten, and ECEAP serves children 3-5 years old.
- Early Head Start, Early ECEAP, and Oregon Prekindergarten Prenatal to Three serves expectant parents and children birth to three

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN BY INCOME LEVEL PROGRAM YEAR 8/2023-7/2024



Parent Leadership Conference

On October 21st, 2023, our first annual Parent Leadership Conference took place at our site in The Dalles. We invited elected Policy Council representatives, parent executive officers, and classroom volunteers to participate in the event. We offered roundtrip transportation, translation services, limited on-site childcare, and childcare and mileage reimbursement to facilitate attendance. 14 parents attended.

Our day started bright and early at 8am with continental breakfast and a game of Cross the Line to break the ice. Afterwards, the parent leaders were separated into their different tracks and spent the first half of the day training for their positions. During lunch, catered by LILOs, we heard from our keynote speaker Sabrina Erslund, who shared her powerful journey as a formerly incarcerated mother. Sabrina's story resonated with parents and staff members, moving several people to tears. Her vulnerability inspired our parent leaders to share their own stories during our advocacy training in the afternoon. We concluded the day with a parent panel, where past parent leaders earnestly answered questions related to their experiences with MCCC.

We received positive feedback from the parents that participated in the event, and we noticed more active participation from our leaders throughout the school year. We are excited to continue this event.

A huge thank you to our Family Services team and all our Family Health Advocates who graciously worked on a Saturday to help this event become a success.



The graphic features a blue header with the MCCC logo (Mid-Columbia Children's Council) and a photograph of a snow-capped mountain peak. The title 'Parent Leadership Conference 2023' is displayed in white text on the right. A vertical list of six benefits is shown on the right side, each with a corresponding icon and a colored box: Networking (green), Free Childcare or childcare reimbursement (blue), Leadership training (yellow), Free Transportation or mileage reimbursement (red), Parent panel (green), and Wellness activities (blue). A red arrow-shaped box at the bottom left contains contact information. At the bottom right, a white box states 'This institution is an equal opportunity provider.'

MCCC
Mid-Columbia Children's Council

Parent Leadership Conference 2023

- Networking
- Free Childcare or childcare reimbursement
- Leadership training
- Free Transportation or mileage reimbursement
- Parent panel
- Wellness activities

Register online!
<https://tinyurl.com/MCCCcon23>

When: Saturday, October 21st 2023 8am-4:30pm
Where: 1717 W 10th St. The Dalles, OR 97058
Who: all elected parent officers, policy council members, and interested parent volunteers

Contact Us

- 541-386-2010 x 204
- 1100 E Marina Way #215 Hood River, OR 97031
- jeseniarobles@mcccheadstart.org

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

HEALTH & NUTRITION

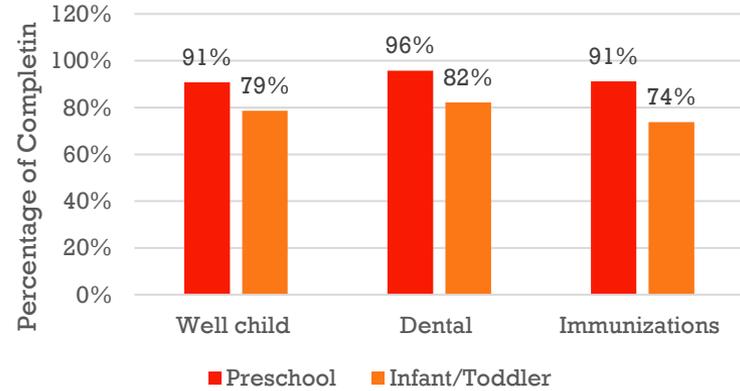
Because of our focus on child health and well-being, our families experience better health outcomes!



Meals and Snacks Served



Medical and Dental Services



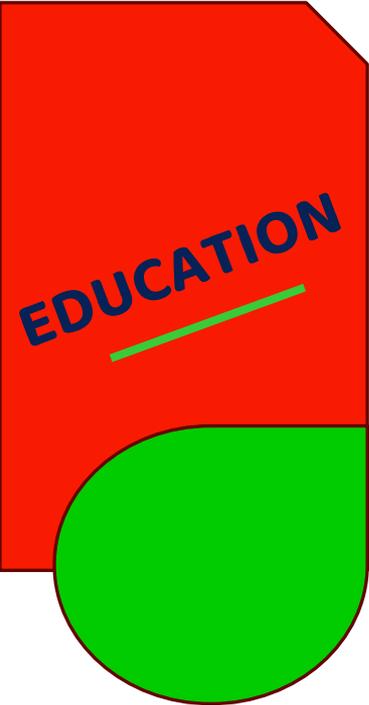
All children receive health and development screenings, time for physical activity, nutritious meals, oral health and mental health support. Health services include hearing and vision screenings, monitoring of height and weight, and ensuring all children are up to date on their well-child health and oral health schedule.

EDUCATION

Mid-Valley Preschool Center

At Mid-Valley Center, we celebrate the strong partnership between parents and teachers. Our classroom activities showcased enthusiastic parental involvement, with 8-9 parents attending regularly to support their children's learning. The revitalization of our SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) program has created exciting reading opportunities, fostering a love for literacy among students. Parents engaged with their children in meaningful ways, reinforcing the importance of reading and collaboration. Together, we're building a vibrant learning community!





Engaging Families of Children with Disabilities:

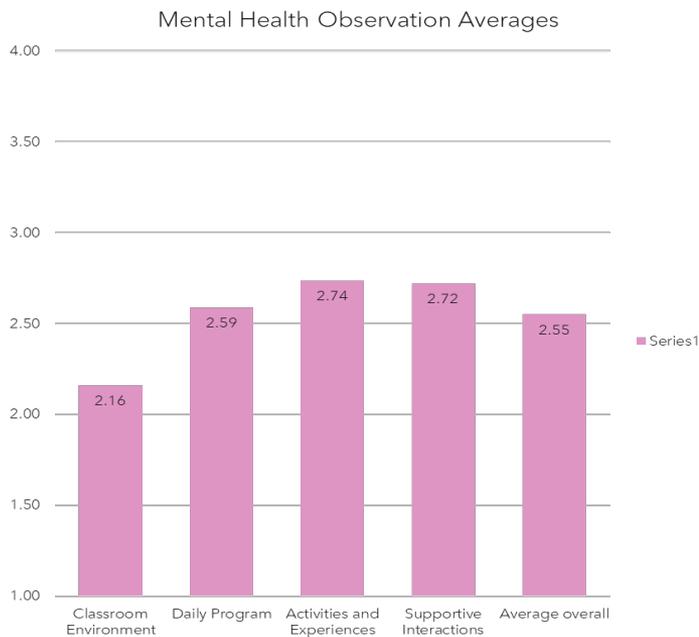
As of **June 1st, 2024**, **25.6%** of the children within our classrooms were identified and being served with disabilities.

Engaging families of children with disabilities is essential to supporting children's learning and development.

- All classroom environments support an inclusive community of workers.
- Classrooms are set up so all children have access to materials for learning and exploration.
- Our classroom staff receive training and resources to best support each child with their individual needs
- We work closely with EI/ECSE to help get children referred, evaluated and served.

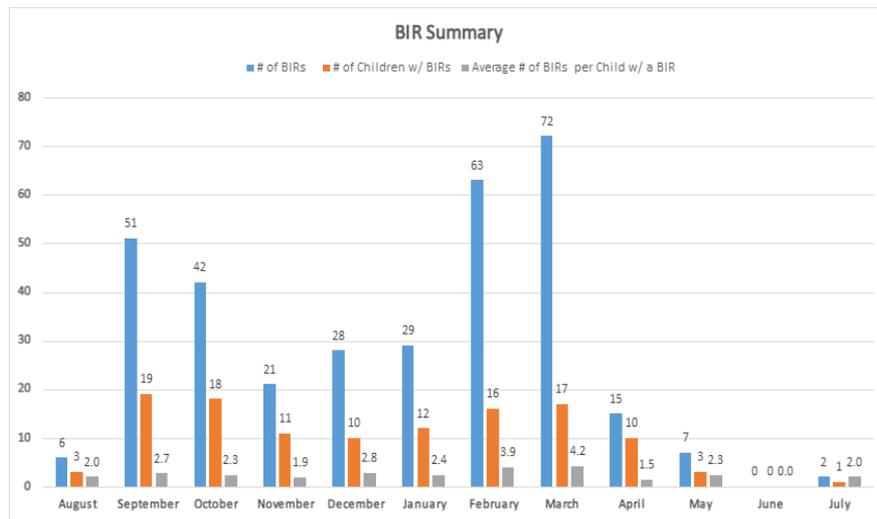
Mental Health & Behavioral Support Services

This year MCCC contracted with Chastain Consulting Services, LLC as our mental health specialist. In conjunction with our two Behavioral Specialists to our Mental Health team has strengthened mental health supports for the children in our program by providing classroom and family support services.



Updated Services

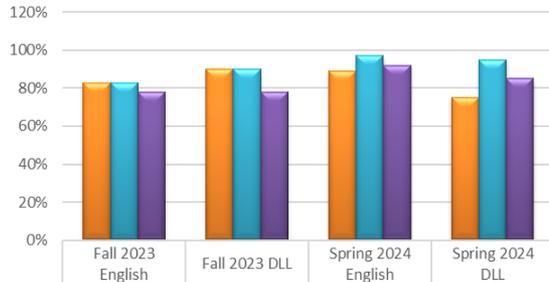
- Classroom Mental Health Observations
- Monthly Conscious Discipline Training for All Classroom Staff
- Development and Implementation of Tiered Classroom Support Structure
- Intensive Classroom Supports
- Enhanced reporting process allowing for targeted interventions as needed



School Readiness

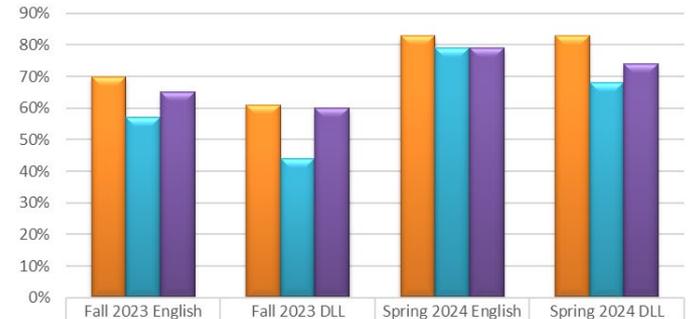
Social Emotional Development

0-3 Year Old Social Emotional Development



	Fall 2023 English	Fall 2023 DLL	Spring 2024 English	Spring 2024 DLL
0-3 Year Olds Regulates own emotions and behaviors	83%	90%	89%	75%
0-3 Year Olds Establishes and sustains positive relationships	83%	90%	97%	95%
0-3 Year Olds Participates cooperatively in group situations	78%	78%	92%	85%

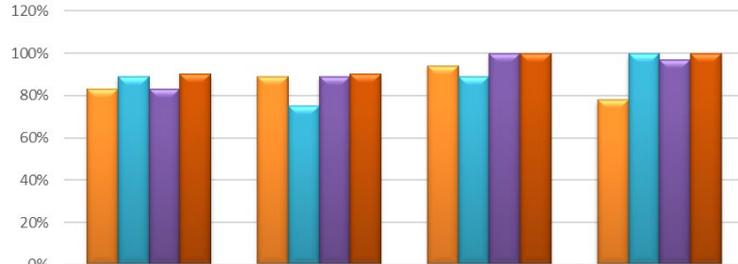
3-5 Year Old Social Emotional Development



	Fall 2023 English	Fall 2023 DLL	Spring 2024 English	Spring 2024 DLL
3-5 year Olds Regulates own emotions and behaviors	70%	61%	83%	83%
3-5 year Olds Establishes and sustains positive relationships	57%	44%	79%	68%
3-5 year Olds Participates cooperatively in group situations	65%	60%	79%	74%

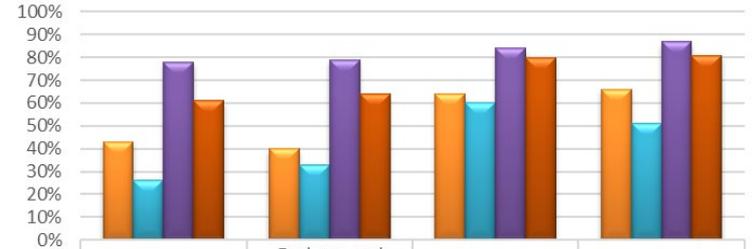
School Readiness Math Skills

0-3 Year Olds



	Uses number concepts and operations	Explores and describes spatial relations and shapes	Compares and measures	Demonstrates knowledge of patterns
Fall 2023 English	83%	89%	94%	78%
Fall 2023 DLL	89%	75%	89%	100%
Spring 2024 English	83%	89%	100%	97%
Spring 20124 DLL	90%	90%	100%	100%

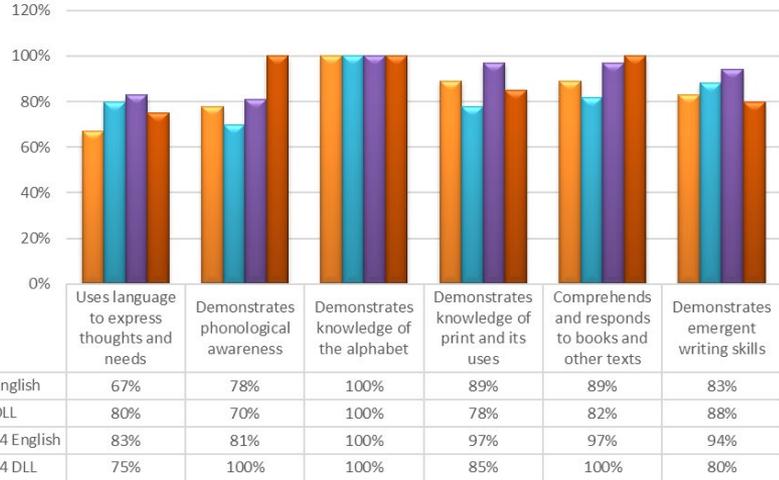
3-5 Year Olds



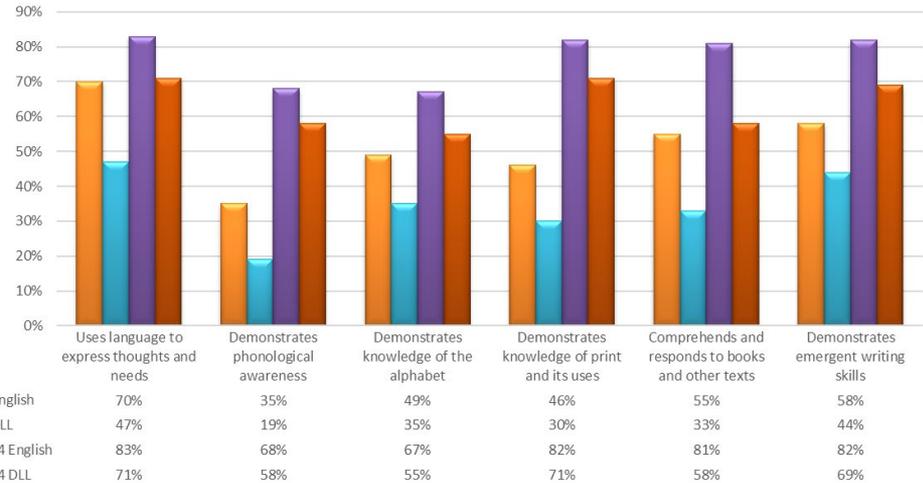
	Uses number concepts and operations	Explores and describes spatial relations and shapes	Compares and measures	Demonstrates knowledge of patterns
Fall 2023 English	43%	40%	64%	66%
Fall 2023 DLL	26%	33%	60%	51%
Spring 2024 English	78%	79%	84%	87%
Spring 20124 DLL	61%	64%	80%	81%

School Readiness Literacy

0-3 Year Old



3-5 Year Old Literacy



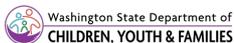
All publications that mention USDA Child Nutrition Programs must include the following revised nondiscrimination statement:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, pro-gram information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information re-quested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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