

Securing Florida's Future, Together





Learners to Earners Workforce Solution Seminar

Part 4: Improving Access and Outcomes for Early Learning
and Kindergarten Readiness

Mark Wilson, President & CEO, Florida Chamber of Commerce

**FLORIDA
CHAMBER**
Foundation

Community Development Partners Are Unifying Florida Business for Good



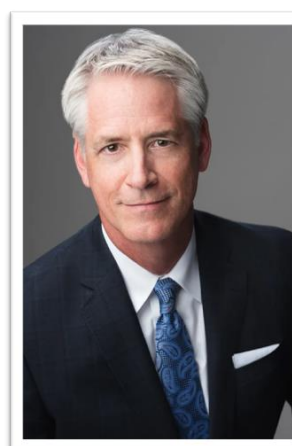
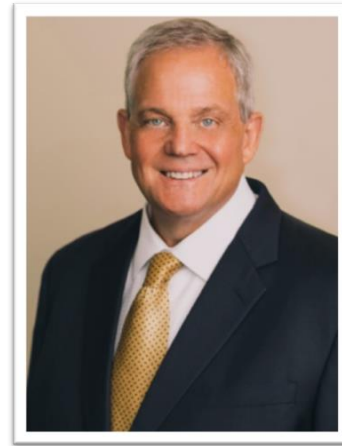
Contact Aaron Kinnon at akinnon@flfoundation.org

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Learners to Earners Workforce Solution Seminar

A FREE 4-Part Workforce Solution Webinar Series



Today's Discussion Leaders



Kim Reckley
*SVP, Client & Community
Relations Director*
PNC Bank



Shan Goff
Executive Director
Office of Early Learning (OEL)



Vance Aloupis
CEO
The Children's Movement of Florida



Eric Hall
Senior Chancellor, Innovation
Florida Department of Education

The Florida 2030 Blueprint: Uniting Businesses For Good

17th to 10th



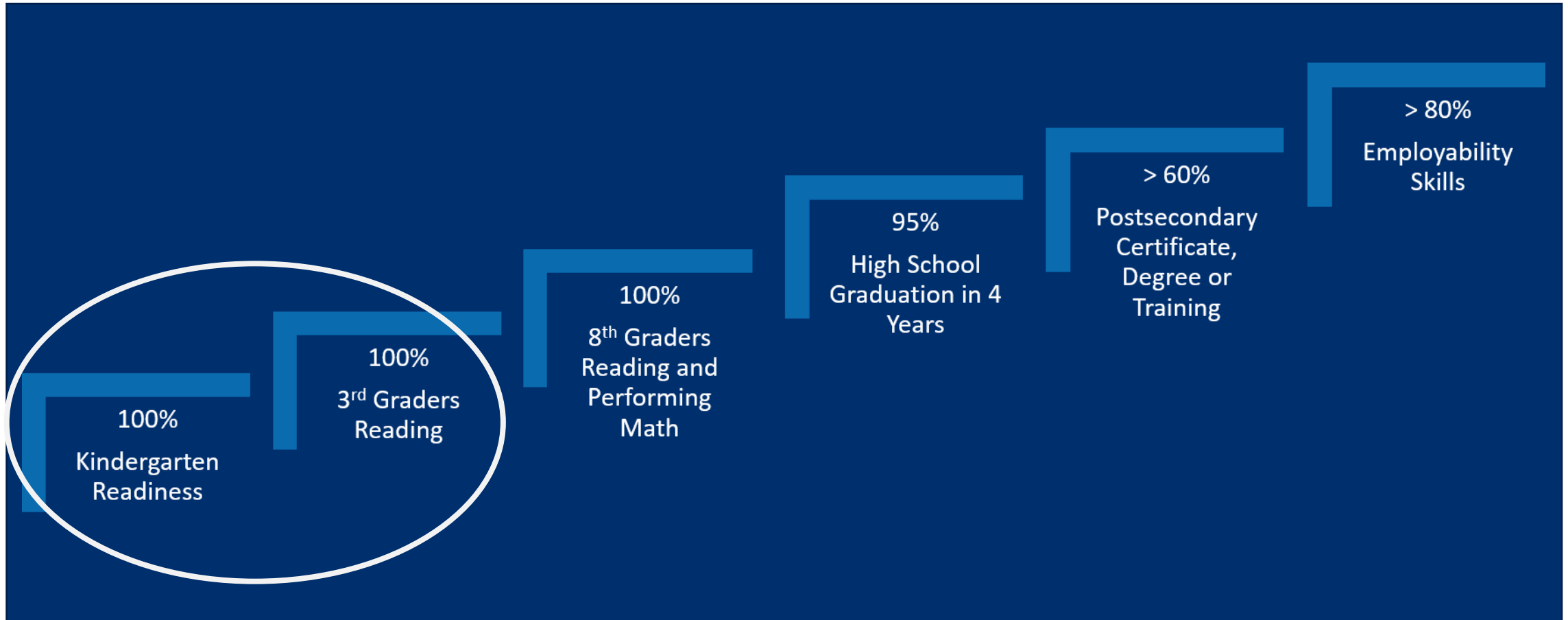
39 Goals

FLORIDA 2030
THE BLUEPRINT TO SECURE FLORIDA'S FUTURE

KEY TARGETS & STRATEGIES

FLORIDA CHAMBER Foundation
1968 • 2018

Florida 2030 Blueprint (6 Talent Goals): Improving Florida's Talent Pipeline for a Better Workforce



Florida 2030 Goals & Goal Leaders

GOAL LEADER:

The **Children's Movement**
of Florida



**KINDERGARTEN
READINESS**

53%
(Unchanged)

100%
2030 Goal

GOAL LEADER:

Business Alliance for Early Learning



**3RD GRADE
READING SCORES**

58%
(Improving)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

100%
2030 Goal

How Does Early Learning Impact a Child's Future?

Children Who Receive Quality Adult Interaction and Early Learning in Their First Years Are:

- 50% less likely to need special education
- 70% less likely to be arrested for a violent crime
- 50% less likely to become teen parents

Approximately, 50% of children that grow up in low-income households are already behind by the time they reach Kindergarten.

100% of Children are Ready for Kindergarten



There is no more important voice in this [early learning] fight than that of the business community.

- VANCE ALOUPIS
CEO, The Children's Movement
Florida House of Representatives, District 115

By 2020, **65%** of all U.S. jobs will require post-secondary education and training beyond high school.¹

An illustration of four graduation caps (mortarboards) in a row, representing post-secondary education.

Three quarters of high school students who are poor readers were poor readers in third grade.⁵

A white icon of an open book on a dark blue background.

Business Alliance for Early Learning



WHO WE ARE

In support of our goals to have **100 percent** of children ready for kindergarten and **100 percent** of third graders reading on grade-level by the year 2030, the Florida Chamber Foundation established the Business Alliance for Early Learning to tackle a number of issues impacting children today and engage businesses, families, and community leaders in securing Florida's future.

Business Alliance for Early Learning

Established to bring together Florida business leaders who understand the impact early learning has on Florida's future workforce.

Priorities of the Business Alliance include:

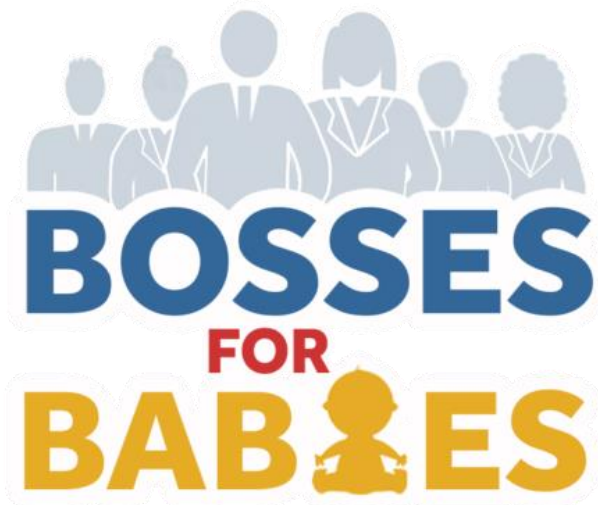
- Building support of early learning among businesses through regional outreach efforts,
- Creating and distributing collateral materials to inform businesses and their employees,
- Developing a repository of best practices and related research and
- Facilitating partnerships that will assist in informing businesses and their communities.

Business Alliance for Early Learning

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
BUSINESS ALLIANCE FOR EARLY LEARNING
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Promising Practices



Nemours Reading BrightStart!

Achieve
Escambia
Cradle to Career

 PNC  Grow Up Great®

FLORIDA
GRADE-LEVEL
READING
CAMPAIGN

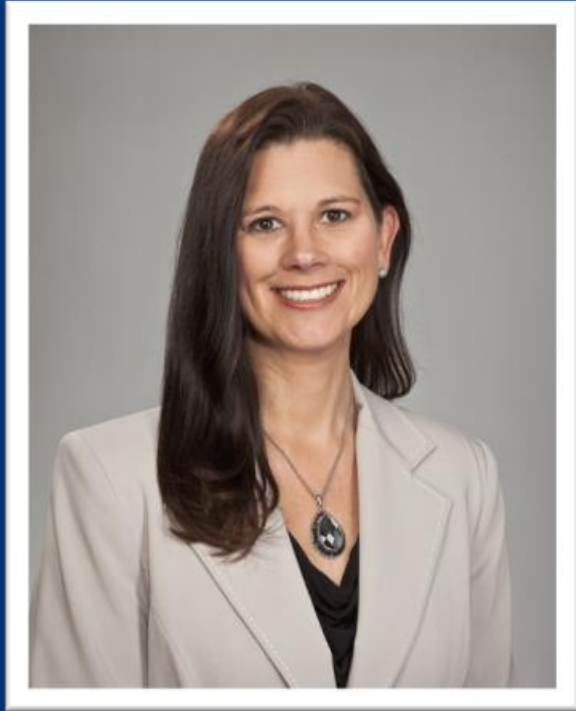
Bb



The Children's Movement
of Florida



Building Strong Foundations: The Importance of Early Learning to K-12 Success

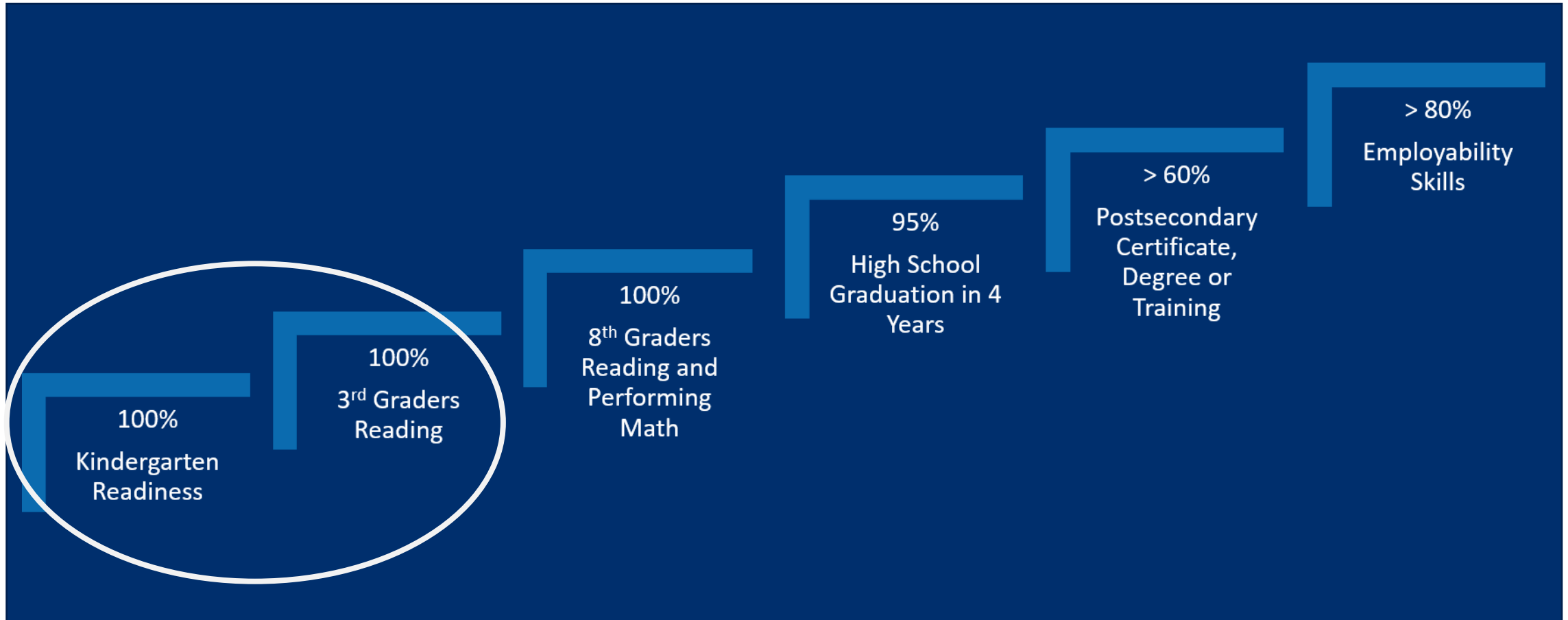


Kim Reckley

—
*SVP, Client & Community
Relations Director*

PNC Bank

Florida 2030 Blueprint (6 Talent Goals): Improving Florida's Talent Pipeline for a Better Workforce

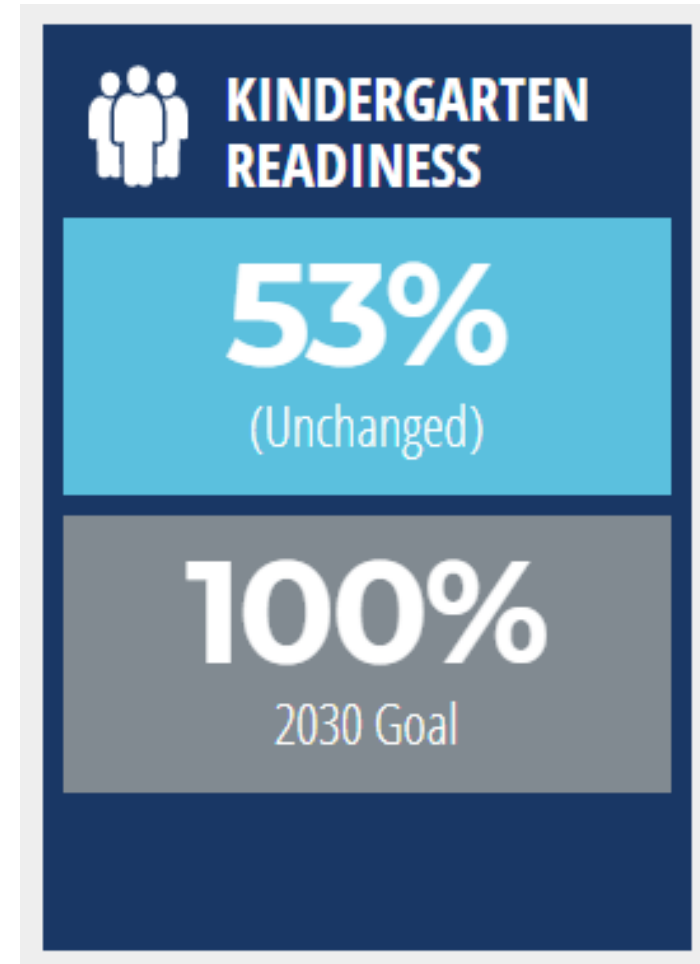


Developmental Milestones

- **At Birth...** an infant's brain already has about all of the neurons it will ever have.
- **By One Year Old...** the child's brain has doubled in size.
- **By the Age of Three...** the brain has reach 80% of its adult volume.

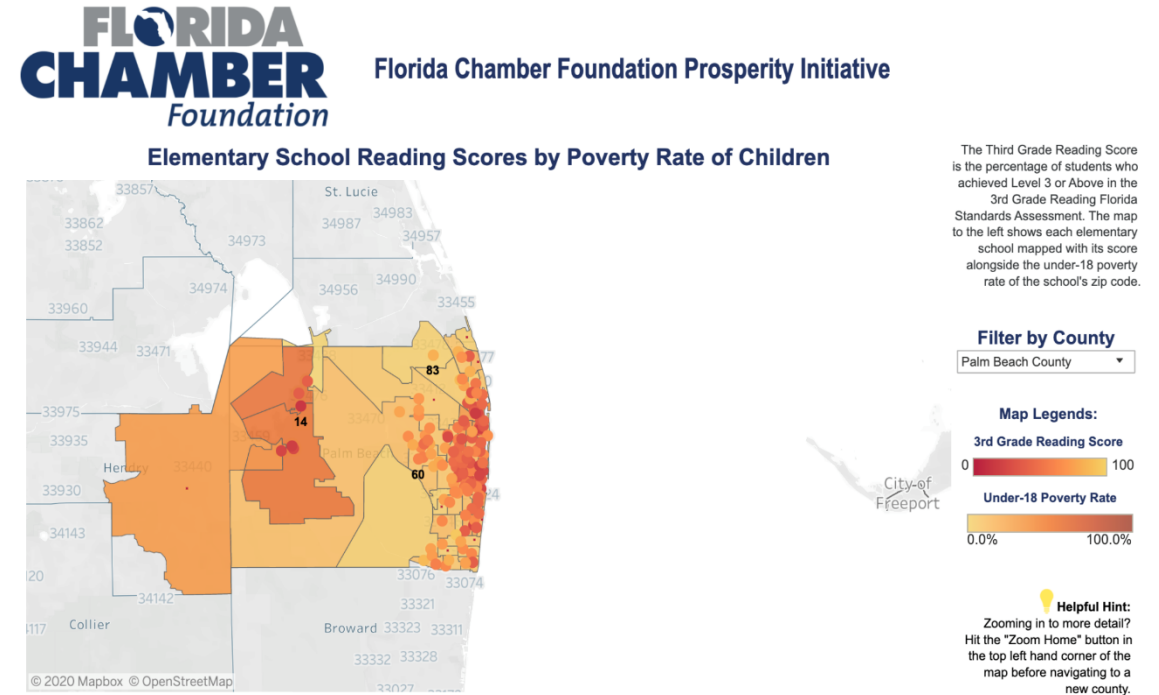
Florida 2030 Blueprint

By 2030:
100% of children are
ready for kindergarten



How to Move the Needle

- Utilize the Florida Gap Map
- Implement Family-Friendly Practices
- Share Resources/Best Practices
- Partner with Statewide & Local Organizations



Why It All Matters



Shan Goff

—

Executive Director

Office of Early Learning
(OEL)



Why it all Matters

Florida Chamber Foundation Learners to Earners: Improving Access to Early Learning for Kindergarten Readiness

Shan Goff
Executive Director
Office of Early Learning

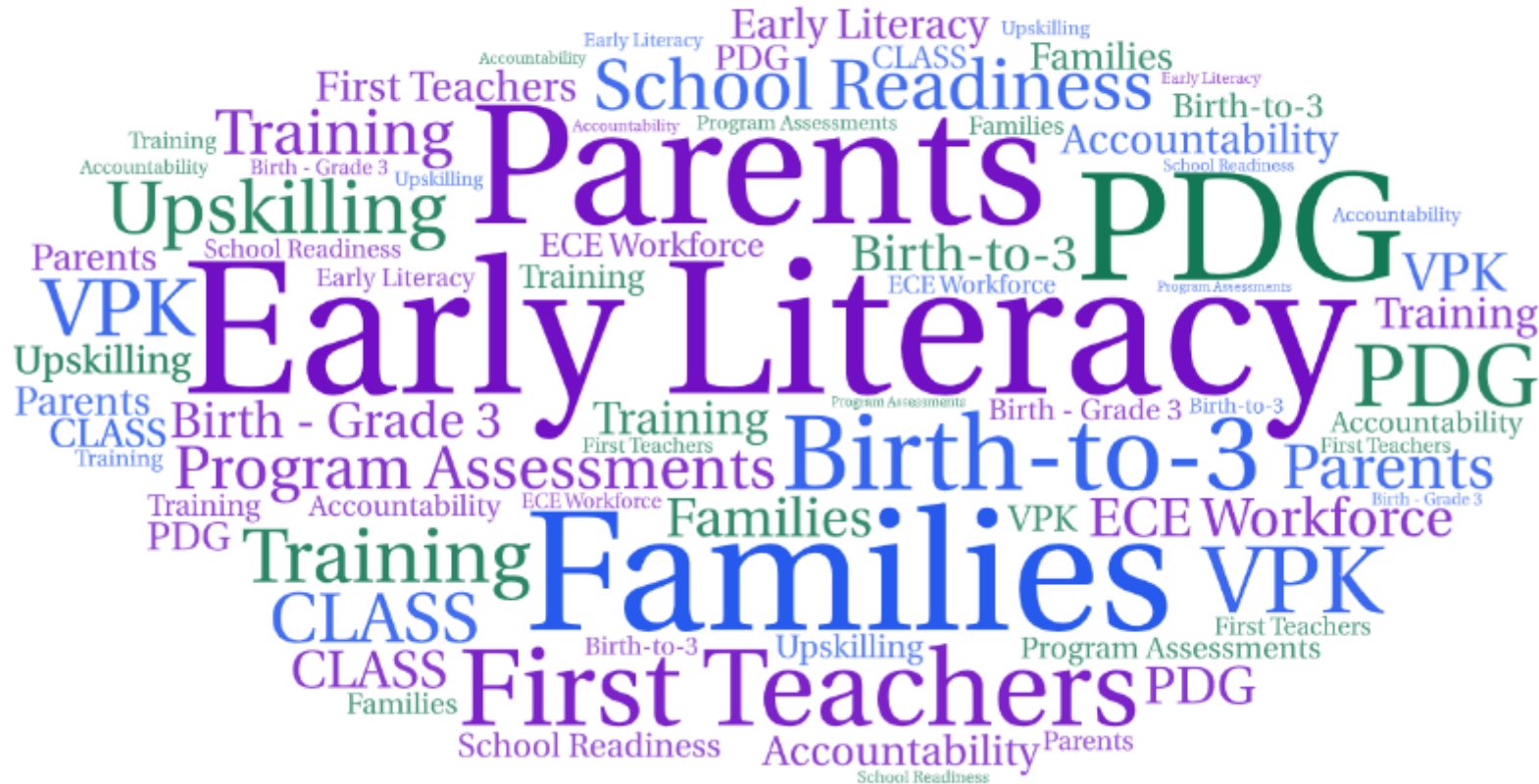
Zoom Meeting

November 19, 2020



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoc.org

Bridging PreK & K-3 Early Learning Policy & Practices



Florida Chamber Scorecard

State of Florida Metrics (What is this?)

State of Florida FutureCast

Talent Supply & Education

Click any metric to get more information!



**KINDERGARTEN
READINESS**

53%

(Unchanged)

100%

2030 Goal



**3RD GRADE
READING SCORES**

58%

(Improving)

[View Statewide Heat Map](#)

100%

2030 Goal



**3RD GRADE MATH
SCORES**

62%

(Unchanged)



**8TH GRADE
READING SCORES**

56%

Reading (Declining)

100%

2030 Goal



**8TH GRADE MATH
SCORES**

46%

Math (Improving)

100%

2030 Goal



**8TH GRADE
SCIENCE SCORES**

48%

Science (Declining)



**NATIONAL 4TH
GRADE RANKINGS**

4th

Math (Improving)

6th

Reading (Declining)



**NATIONAL 8TH
GRADE RANKINGS**

35th

Math (Declining)

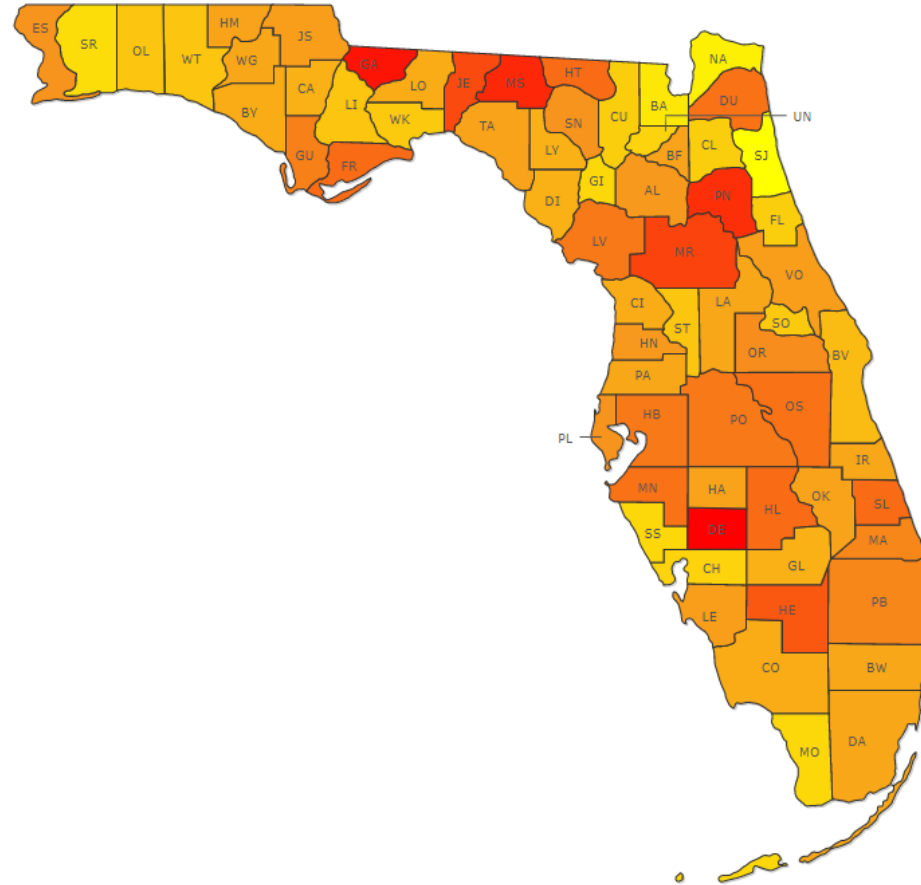
22nd

Reading (Improving)



Florida Chamber Scorecard

Grade 3 Reading Scores



Early Learning Population

1.3 million children younger than 6¹

42% percent of those are from low-income families¹

- Of the 42%, 27% participated in the SR Program²
- 221,715 children are enrolled in Fiscal Year 2019-20³

71% of Florida's 4-year-olds participated in the VPK Program⁴

- 166,726 children enrolled in Program Year 2019-20

Sources:

¹US Census Bureau - Census 2010; American Community Survey 2013-2017; Florida Demographic Estimating Conference, February 2019, Florida Demographic Database, 2019.

²EFS Modernization payment data as of October 8, 2020.

³Ibid.

⁴VPK Estimating Conference, August 4, 2020.

CARES Act Funding

Successful Transition to Kindergarten

Rising Kindergarten Program - \$10,915,461 CARES

- Funding to 37 school districts via coalitions
- **Provide an emphasis on closing/remediating achievement gaps.**
- Minimize potential learning loss due to program closures this spring.
- Set students up for success.
- Help students acclimate to kindergarten.
- Provide a jump start to the kindergarten concepts and skills.
- Provide instruction to fill any early literacy achievement gaps for children in need.

CARES Act Funding

VPK Progress Monitoring Pilot Program

Overview

- Provide opportunity for VPK providers to implement Star Early Literacy in their VPK programs in the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years.
- Provide a more comprehensive overview of the learning and growth continuum during critical early learning years.
- Funded through Child Care Development Fund/CARES (\$2.9M).
- Voluntary participation available on an application basis.
- Approved 1,578 VPK providers with almost 49,000 VPK students.

VPK Works!

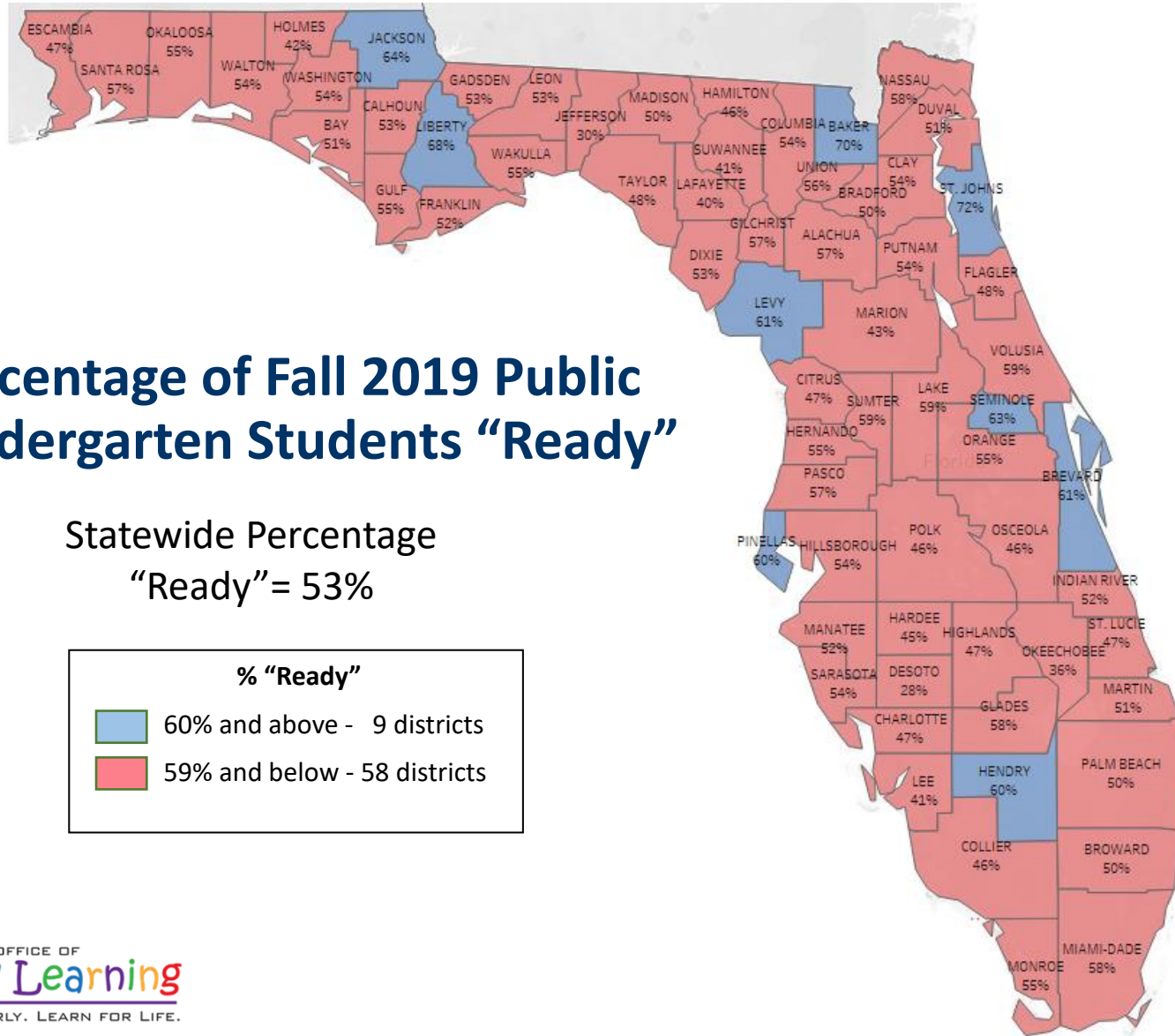
Readiness of Incoming Kindergarten Students Statewide – Fall 2019

Category	Total Children	Percent “Ready”
All Public School Kindergartners	190,805	53%
VPK Completers	126,238	63%
VPK Non-Completers	26,487	47%
Non-VPK Participants	55,184	39%
SR Only Kindergartners	3,723	31%

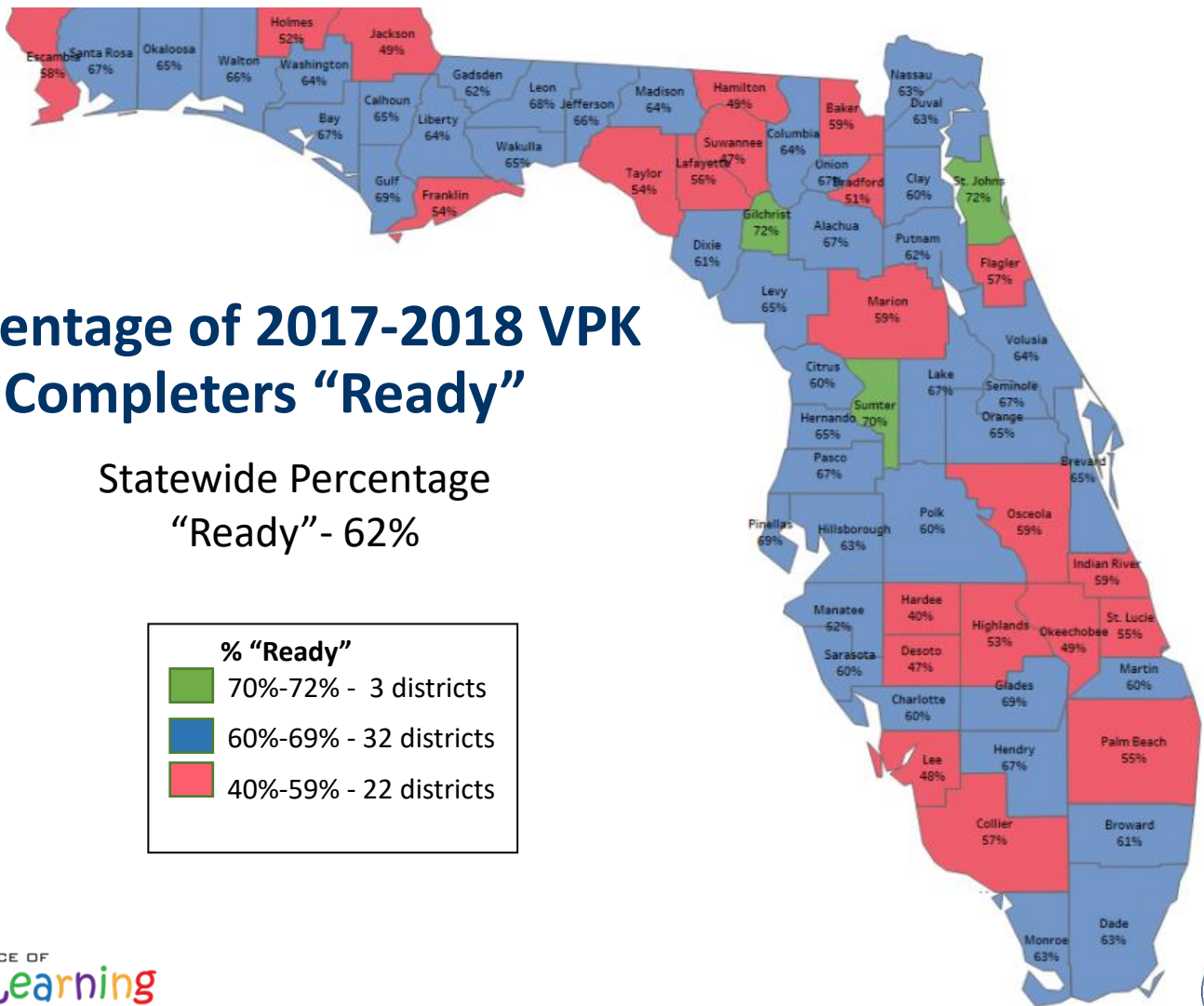
Source: 2018-19 VPK Readiness Rate match files and 2019 FLKRS final data files.



2019 Kindergarten Readiness by County



Kindergarten Readiness by County

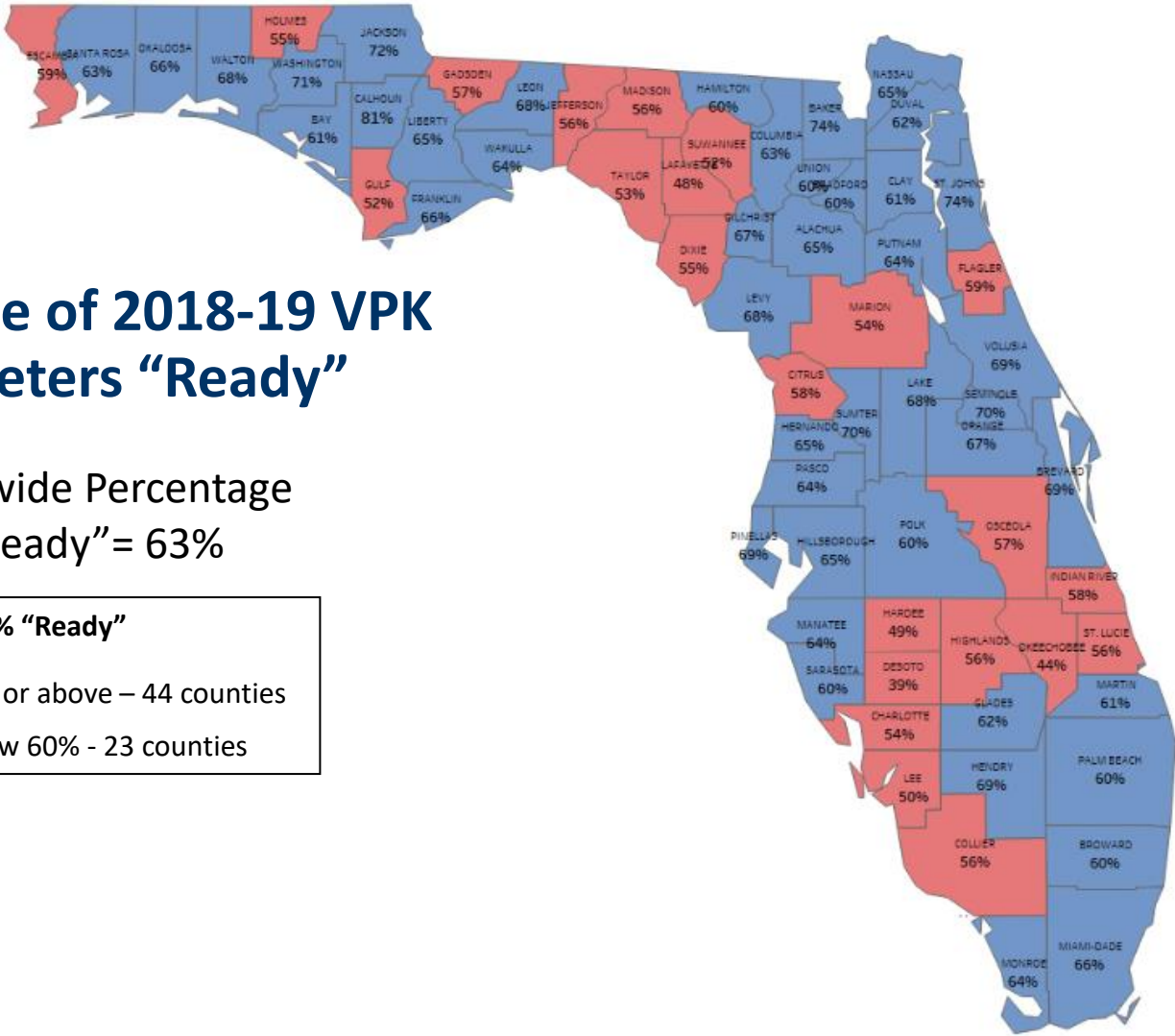


Percentage of 2017-2018 VPK Completers "Ready"

Statewide Percentage
"Ready" - 62%

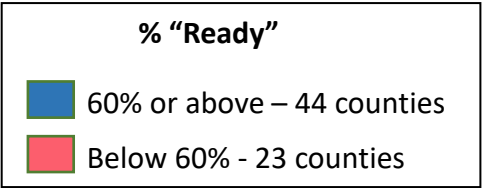
% "Ready"	
Green	70%-72% - 3 districts
Blue	60%-69% - 32 districts
Red	40%-59% - 22 districts

Kindergarten Readiness by County



Percentage of 2018-19 VPK Completers "Ready"

Statewide Percentage
"Ready" = 63%



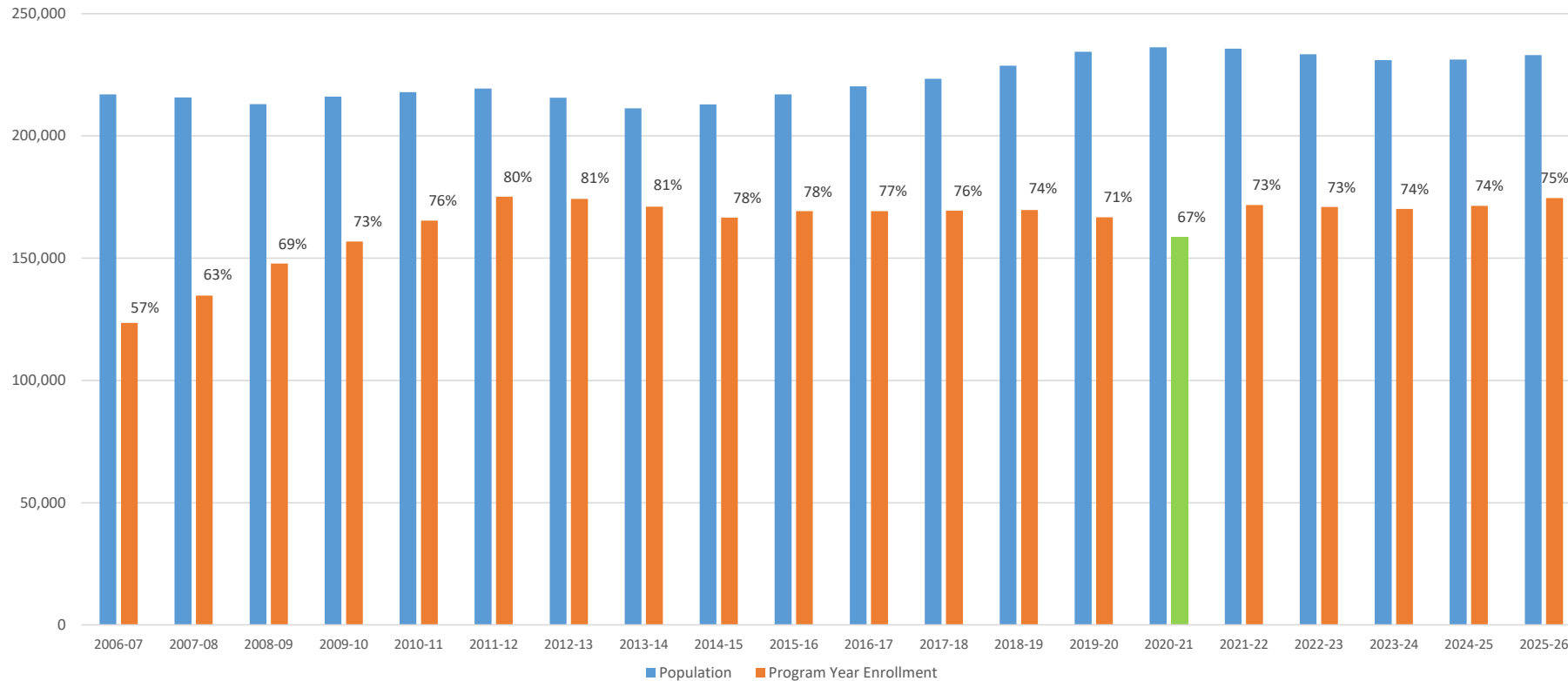
Kindergarten Screening Results

2019 Kindergarten and 2017-18 VPK Completers - Proficiency by Domain

Domain	2019 All Kindergartens	2017-18 VPK Completers
Visual Discrimination	68.1%	72.3%
Concept of Words	59.4%	63.8%
Alphabetic Principle	58.4%	62.6%
Vocabulary	38.4%	42.1%
Phonemic Awareness	37.4%	41.2%
Phonics	35.5%	39.2%
Early Numeracy	55.5%	59.8%

VPK Program Participation

VPK Program Participation Rate 2006-2007 to 2025-2026*



Source: Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Estimating Conference, August 4, 2020. * 2005-2006 – 2019-2020 are actual enrollments, 2020-2021 are estimated enrollments and 2021-2022 to 2025-2026 are projected enrollments.



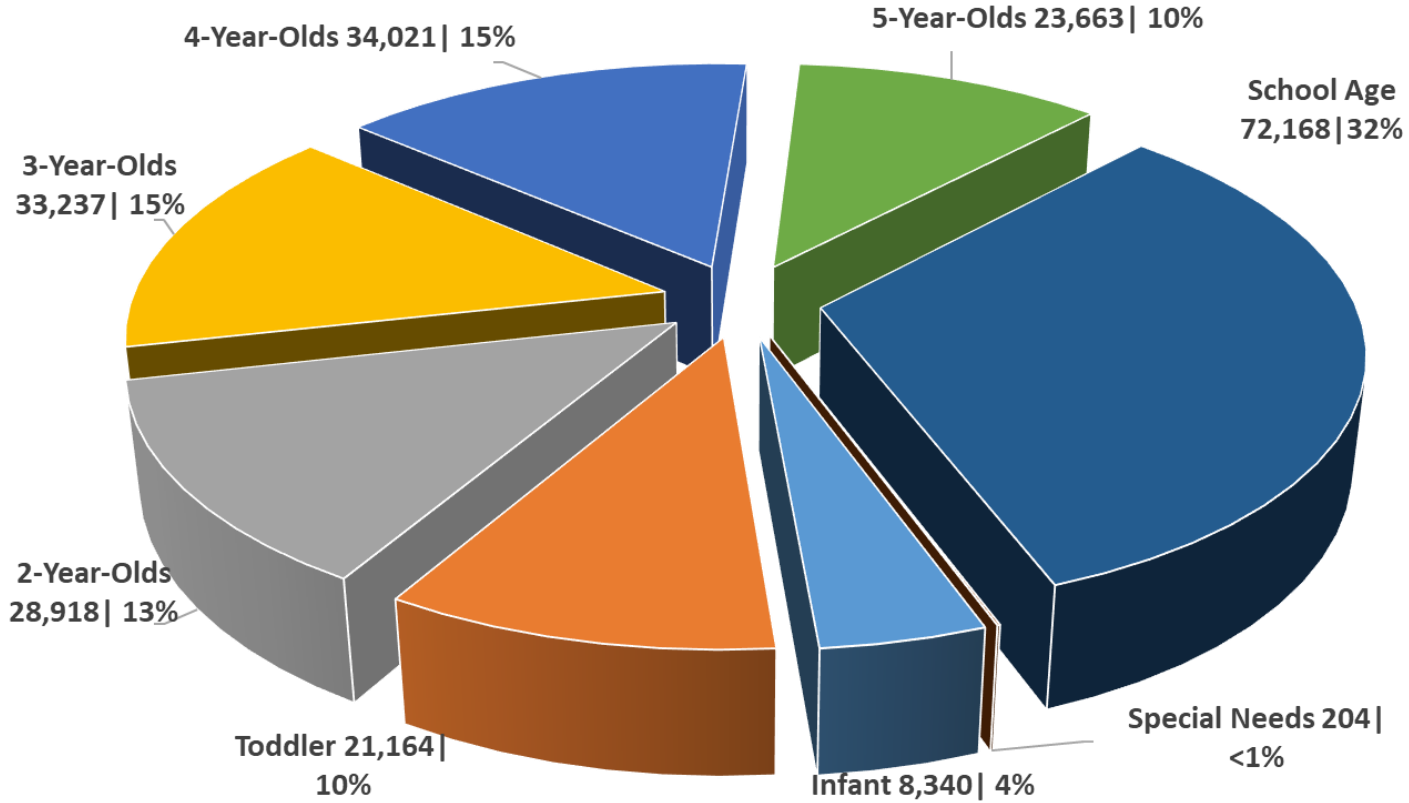
VPK Provider Readiness Rates

- Beginning with the 2018-2019 VPK Provider Kindergarten Readiness Rates, the final readiness rates consist of a combination of the percentage of children ready on FLKRS and the learning gains shown by children on the Florida VPK assessment.
- 67% of the 2018-19 VPK programs met or exceeded the minimum readiness rate of 60.
- Inclusion of learning gains for the first time added as much as 10 points to each program's rate.



School Readiness Children/Families

2019-20 SR Children Served by Age Groups – 221,715



Funding SR Programs and Improving Quality

- \$895,877,228 Total Funding
 - \$689,927,228 – Allocation to Coalitions
 - \$ 60,000,000 – Fund Waitlist
 - \$ 50,000,000 – Provider Rate Increases
 - \$ 40,000,000 – QPI/Differentials
 - \$ 30,000,000 – Match Program
- Raised minimum program assessment score required for contracting for SR services
- Incentives for higher CLASS scores and child assessments – up to 15%

Meaning of CLASS Scores



What Does a CLASS® Score Mean for My Child's Early Learning Experience?

Florida's School Readiness providers are measured on the effectiveness of teacher-child interactions that drive a child's learning outcomes. The Office of Early Learning requires trained, certified observers to use the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) to assess interactions that lead to higher-quality teaching practices. These assessment scores can help you choose a quality child care program. CLASS® assessments vary by age level and include the following areas of interactions:

Infant (Birth-18 months)	Toddler (19-35 months)	Pre-Kindergarten (36 months-5 years)
Responsive Caregiving	Emotional and Behavioral Support	Emotional Support
	Engaged Support for Learning	Classroom Organization
		Instructional Support

Provider CLASS® scores are created by averaging observation scores from their classrooms.

CLASS® Score 1 to 2	CLASS® Score 3 to 5	CLASS® Score 5 to 7
<i>Providers with these scores are not eligible to participate in the School Readiness Program.</i>	<i>Provider must have a score of 3.5 or higher to participate in the School Readiness Program.</i>	
Reflects ineffective teaching practices demonstrated by few, if any, displays of effective teaching behaviors described in the high range. For example, in the low range, teachers routinely ignore or dismiss children's needs or feelings; rarely engage children in meaningful activities or conversation; rarely smile or make eye contact; and, rarely provide children with choices.	Reflects a mix of teaching practices, demonstrated by teachers displaying the behaviors described in the high range some of the time, but at other times only providing basic supervision. For example, in the middle range, the daily routine may be followed on some days but not others; teachers may talk to children and ask questions about their play on some days, but just sit nearby and watch on other days; and, teachers may respond promptly to children's needs at some times, but at other times simply ignore or dismiss the child.	Reflects good teaching practices demonstrated by a clear lack of negativity in the classroom and frequent displays of effective teaching behaviors such as eye contact, smiling, friendly interactions, sensitivity to children's needs and feelings, providing opportunities for choice and leadership, consistent rules and routines, engaging children in meaningful activities and conversation and positive behavior support.



Meaning of CLASS Scores

What are some of the teacher-child interactions that CLASS® measures?

The teacher:

- Establishes warm, supportive relationships between and with children.
- Follows the child's lead and interest during play.
- Helps children understand expectations and effectively redirects misbehavior.
- Acknowledges accomplishments and efforts.
- Uses discussions and activities to promote higher-order thinking skills.
- Stimulates language and vocabulary development.

How do I find the score for my provider or a provider I am considering for my child?

You can find if a provider has a CLASS® score through the Florida Department of Children and Families' Child Care Search (CARES) website at <https://cares.myflfamilies.com/PublicSearch>. You will see a score displayed like the one below:

The screenshot shows a search result for a provider named "Child Care Facility". The provider is listed as a School Readiness (SR) Program provider. The CLASS® Composite Score is 4.33 out of 7.00, with a date of score of 05/09/2019. The text explains that CLASS® is an observation-based tool that measures the quality of teacher-child interactions in the classroom. It notes that all SR Program providers are required to have an annual program assessment using CLASS®. For more information, it suggests contacting the local early learning coalition.

If my provider does not have a CLASS® score, does it mean they do not provide quality care and education?

No, it means the rules may not require them to have an assessment because they:

- Serve only school-age children.
- Have a low number of School Readiness children.
- Provide only overnight School Readiness services.

CLASS® is a registered trademark of Teachstone Training LLC.

Preschool Development Grant

- Three-year grant period began January 1, 2020 for \$40.2 million total (\$13.4 million/year).
 - Improving **program quality**.
 - Expanding access to targeted **professional development**.
 - Facilitating better **partnerships** between programs.
 - Improving **transitions** from ECE programs into elementary school.
 - Increasing program operating and cost **efficiencies**.
 - Expanding **parental choices and involvement**.
 - Ensuring **families are linked** to the full range of services they need.



Selected Initiatives

- Promoting high-quality early literacy training opportunities
- Upskilling our SR instructors in targeted areas
- Aligning instructor/teacher competencies – prek-grade 3
- Schools of Hope/Contracted Slots for Child Care Deserts
- Renewing our focus on social emotional and early literacy supports for birth – 3



Why it all matters....

The First Five Years Impact Success in School and Life

Every year 40 percent of children walk into kindergarten one-to-three years behind.

These students struggle to catch up. Sadly, most of them never do.

There is something YOU can do to help children succeed.

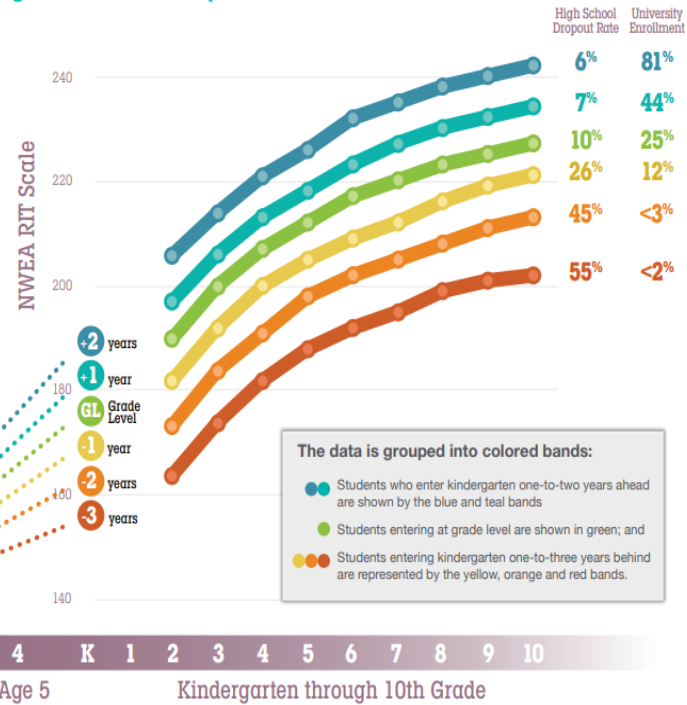
A child's learning from birth to age 5 is critical; it determines their kindergarten starting point. Students who enter kindergarten behind have a monumental undertaking to catch up with their classmates.

This chart represents the reading scores of 2.3 million students nationwide, based on real data from the Northwest Evaluation Association – so this isn't a projection.

As students progress through school, they typically only make one year of academic growth for each year in school. For those behind, it's extremely hard to catch up because they need to achieve their normal year of growth PLUS another year of growth or more.

So for students who enter kindergarten one-to-three years behind (the yellow, orange and red bands) it is very difficult to make sufficient progress to move up even ONE level without a massive amount of intervention.

All children can and will improve, but for those who enter kindergarten behind, around 75 percent will never catch up to their classmates. **THIS MEANS EACH CHILD'S KINDERGARTEN STARTING POINT MATTERS!**



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The Workforce of Today and Tomorrow



Vance Aloupis

—

CEO

The Children's Movement
of Florida



Eric Hall

—

*Senior Chancellor,
Innovation*

Florida Department
of Education

2021 Learners to Earners Workforce Solution Summit



SAVE THE DATE:

June 15, 2021

Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek

Registration Opening Soon!

Thank You to Our Event Sponsors and Partners



If you would like to join this group in securing Florida's future, consider sponsorship opportunities for the June 15, 2021 Learners to Earners Solution Summit **contact Aaron Kinnon at akinnon@flfoundation.org**

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DECEMBER 8-9, 2020
A Virtual Event

Registration deadline Friday, December 4



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Part 4: Improving Access and Outcomes for Early Learning
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