Findings of the Fall 2021 Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA)

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Recommendation 1. Maintain the educational outcomes data dashboard

In 2021 Education Oversight Committee (EOC) staff piloted an Educational Outcomes Data Dashboard to illustrate early childhood outcomes across educational settings for 4-year-olds, thus satisfying legislatively required reporting requirements in an innovative, user-friendly way. Much of the information was later released in aggregate form and described Kindergarten readiness for Fall 2021. This briefing paper supplements the dashboard, but the interactive nature of data dashboards offers more detail and has the potential to link data from early childhood through post-secondary outcomes. Staff recommends maintaining the data dashboard piloted by the EOC.

Recommendation 2. Include Head Start performance data

Currently, Head Start data cannot be identified and linked to KRA performance level. This omission leaves a gap, and the incomplete information about 4K setting limits the data-driven programmatic decisions that can be made. It is the recommendation of EOC staff that data from Head Start be connected within the data systems so that a complete understanding of 4K experience and KRA performance can be investigated.

Recommendation 3. Conduct Assessment Study

While the KRA is used to determine Kindergarten Readiness at this time, it is unknown how closely related the KRA is to the Kindergarten standards, and how predictive this instrument is of success in 3rd grade reading as measured by the SC READY. EOC staff recommends that a study on assessment validity and alignment be conducted.
Kindergarten Readiness in Fall of 2021

Figure 1: Readiness Level in Fall of 2021

- Did Not Participate: 669 (1.2%)
- Emerging Readiness: 15K (27.7%)
- Demonstrating Readiness: 19K (35.6%)
- Approaching Readiness: 19K (35.5%)

KRA Performance Level Description
- Did Not Participate
- Demonstrating Readiness
- Approaching Readiness
- Emerging Readiness

Figure 2: KRA Performance by Race in Fall of 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Did Not Participate</th>
<th>Demonstrating Readiness</th>
<th>Approaching Readiness</th>
<th>Emerging Readiness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>21.58%</td>
<td>31.32%</td>
<td>47.10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>35.77%</td>
<td>38.71%</td>
<td>25.52%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino/Hispanic</td>
<td>43.08%</td>
<td>35.68%</td>
<td>21.24%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander</td>
<td>54.29%</td>
<td>45.71%</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Recorded</td>
<td>45.77%</td>
<td>30.80%</td>
<td>23.43%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Or More Races</td>
<td>27.77%</td>
<td>37.11%</td>
<td>35.12%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>19.13%</td>
<td>34.41%</td>
<td>46.46%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 3: Pupils not in Poverty Demonstrating Readiness in Fall 2021

Figure 4: Pupils in Poverty Demonstrating Readiness in Fall 2021

Figure 5: KRA Performance for Pupils in Poverty by Prior 4K Experience, Fall 2021

More figures can be found by visiting: https://bit.ly/EDC4KDash