



NCO Head Start

Child Development Program

Annual Report

2021-2022

2021-2022 Annual Report

The Head Start Act requires that each Head Start agency shall make available to the public an annual report. We are pleased to present to the community the 2021-2022 NCO Head Start Child Development Program Annual Report.

About Us

The North Coast Opportunities, inc. Head Start Child Development Program (NCO HSCDP) is a non-profit agency offering a family-focused holistic approach to child development. The program focuses on positive child and family outcomes and build a better future for children, families, and their communities. Services are offered in both English and Spanish.

The program serves the families of low-income pregnant women and children from birth to five-years of age in Lake and Mendocino counties. Services are provided in centers for preschool age children, infants and toddlers in center and home base settings and pregnant women in home base settings only.

During the 2021-2022 school year, HSCDP operated in-person services for the entire program year. Distance learning services were only utilized during cases of short-term classroom closures, child COVID-19 quarantine/isolation and/or staffing shortages due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



2021-2022 Funding

The total funding for the 2021-2022 school year was **\$8,515,379**

- 61% Head Start Grant
- 15% Early Head Start Grant
- 11% State CCTR Reimbursement
- 8% State Preschool Reimbursement
- 2% U.S.D.A Food Program
- 3% HS Disaster, COVID & ARPA

Categories	Budget	Budget %	Actual	Actual %
Personnel (Total)	6,713,455	73%	6,129,373	72%
Occupancy	704,472	8%	893,906	10%
Supplies	590,852	6%	449,914	5%
Client Assistance	6,520	<1%	1,135	<1%
Volunteers	8,511	<1%	1,520	<1%
Equipment and Vehicles	102,705	1%	111,672	1%
Insurance	64,224	<1%	43,218	1%
Travel	30,775	<1%	20,484	<1%
Other Costs (Total)	208,665	2%	226,836	3%
Indirect Costs (Total)	745,930	8%	637,321	7%
TOTAL	9,176,109		8,515,379	100%



Special Budgets

This year, the program received the American Recovery Plan (ARP) grant in the amount of \$408,007 spanning years 2021-2023. This ARP budget has been used to pay staff an ongoing retention increase.



Most Recent Audit & Review

The results from the most recent financial audit found that NCO finances were in order. The outcome of the most recent Federal Monitoring Review (2018) found the program to have met the requirements of all applicable Head Start Program Performance Standards, laws, regulations, and policy requirements.



Eligibility, Enrollment, and Children Receiving Services

The program serves 341 children (aged 0-5) and their families at four Head Start centers located in Lake County, six Head Start / Early Head Start centers located throughout Mendocino County and one Early Head Start Home Based program located in Mendocino County.

The average monthly enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year was 167 for Head Start, and 58 for Early Head Start. Additionally, one pregnant woman was served in the Early Head Start Home Base program.

The program served 10% of the eligible population, although due to COVID-19 the allowed classroom ratios regulations changed per the State guidelines to reduce our classrooms to 50% capacity.

Health Services

The program's health services fell within acceptable completion rates this year. The Health Services team noted challenges throughout the year in regard to obtaining physical and immunization appointments due to COVID-19, staffing and supply shortages.

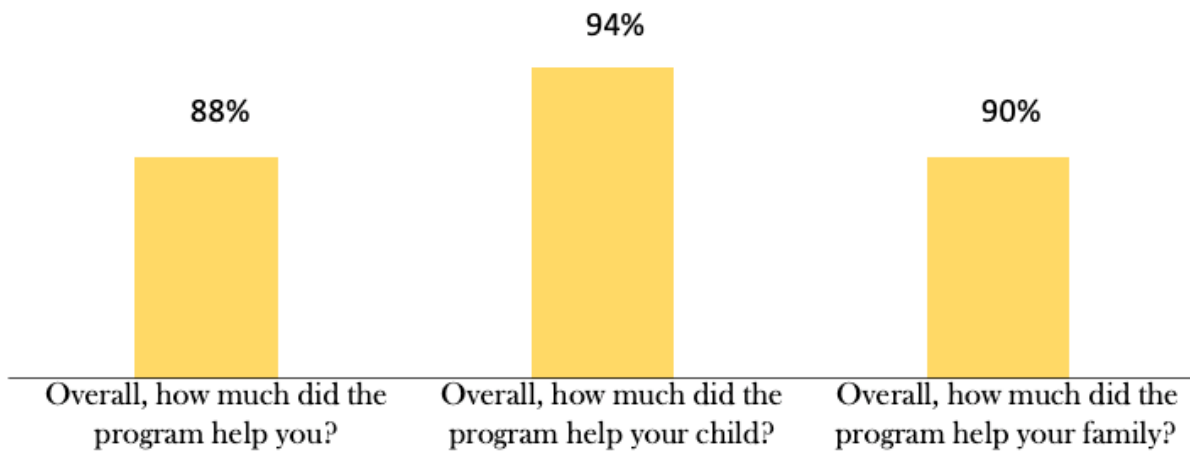
In Early Head Start, 93% of children received well child checks, and in Head Start, 98% of children received physical exams. 88% of Early Head Start and 96% of Head Start children received dental exams.



Parent Involvement

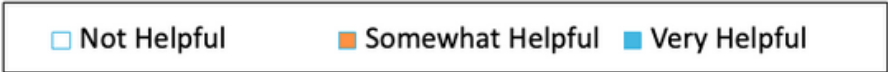
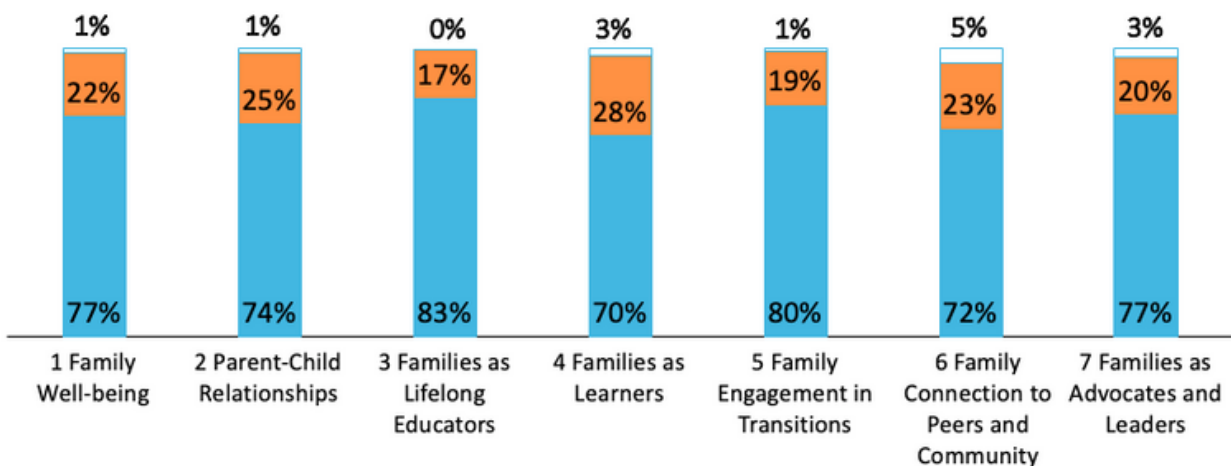
In the Spring of the 2021-2022 school year, 214 parents and guardians of children enrolled in the program completed a survey about how they and their families benefitted from the variety of services they received.

Percentage of Responses "Very Helpful"



How Much Did the Program Help You and Your Family

Percentage by Response



5 Most Helpful Topics

of Families Responding "Very Helpful"

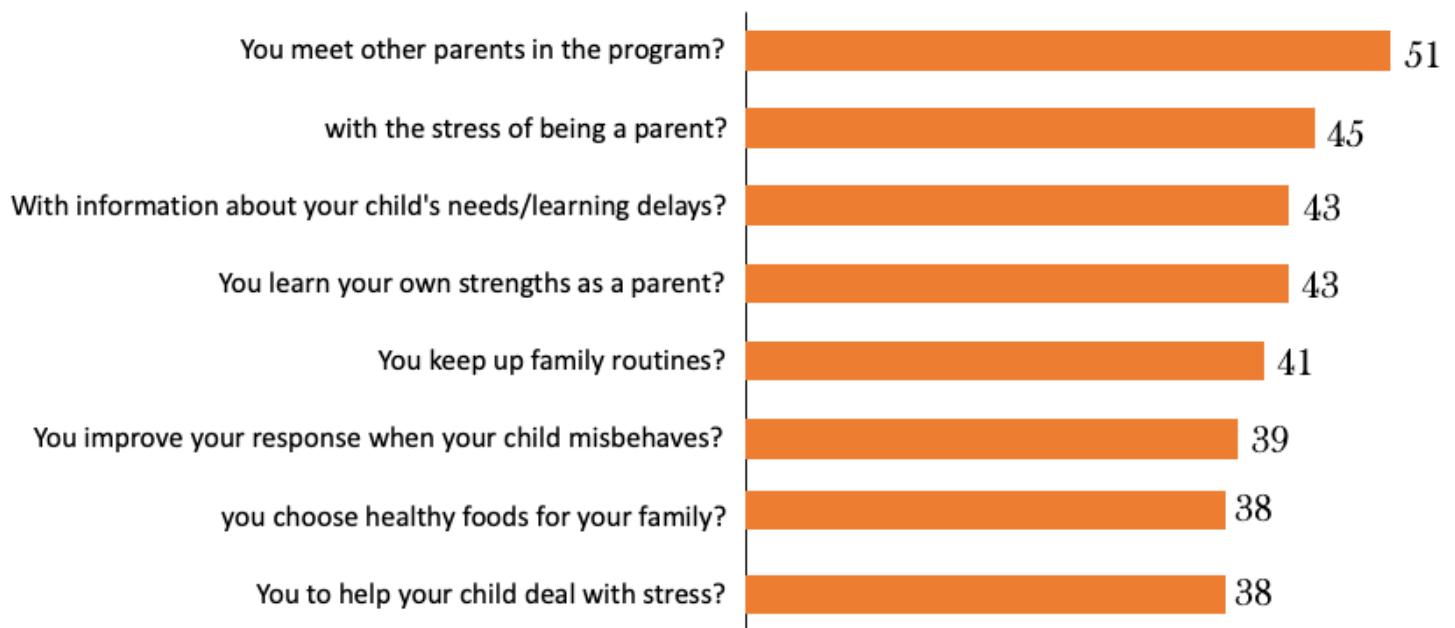


5 Most Popular Topics Where Parents Evaluated Program

1. You encourage creative play at home?
2. You understand the ways your child learns?
3. With activities to help your child learn at home?
4. You understand the importance of your child's regular attendance?
5. You keep up family routines?

8 Least Helpful Topics

of Families Responding "Somewhat Helpful" or "Not Helpful"



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During COVID-19, the program followed all social distancing and health and safety measures, which resulted in our family engagement, events, and socializations being conducted virtually, as often as possible. When technology was not accessible for families, the program was able to accommodate by conducting one-on-one socially distanced meetings, following all health and safety protocols to provide services to the families.



The program also placed a high priority on keeping communication lines open for between the families and sites, which included utilizing apps such as Learning Genie and Remind. These apps gave families the ability to not only receive communications such as invitations to events, messages, and emergency alerts from staff, but also gave families the insight on what activities and projects their child was working on in the classroom and provide a “window’ into the site.

The program’s Family Support Specialists helped support families by providing assistance in creating email accounts, providing instructions, and basic app user knowledge, so that all families felt comfortable with the transition from in-person updates to virtual.



Another aspect of family engagement that became virtual was that of the Program Policy Council (“PPC”). For the entire 2021-2022, except for one instance, the PPC met virtually via Zoom due to COVID-19 safety measures and precautions.

Kindergarten Transition and School Readiness

Kindergarten readiness is a high priority for all Head Starts. The Head Start approach to school readiness mean that children are ready for school and families support their children’s learning, and schools are ready for children.

The program partners with parents in establishing kindergarten readiness goals that support children’s progress across five early childhood learning domains.

These domains include:

1. Approaches to Learning
2. Social and Emotional Development
3. Language and Literacy
4. Cognition, including Math and Science
5. Physical Development and Health

These domains apply to infants, toddlers and preschool-aged children and represent a critical area of learning and development for young children. All goals are aligned with the Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework, State Early Learning Standards, Program Performance Measures and local school expectations.

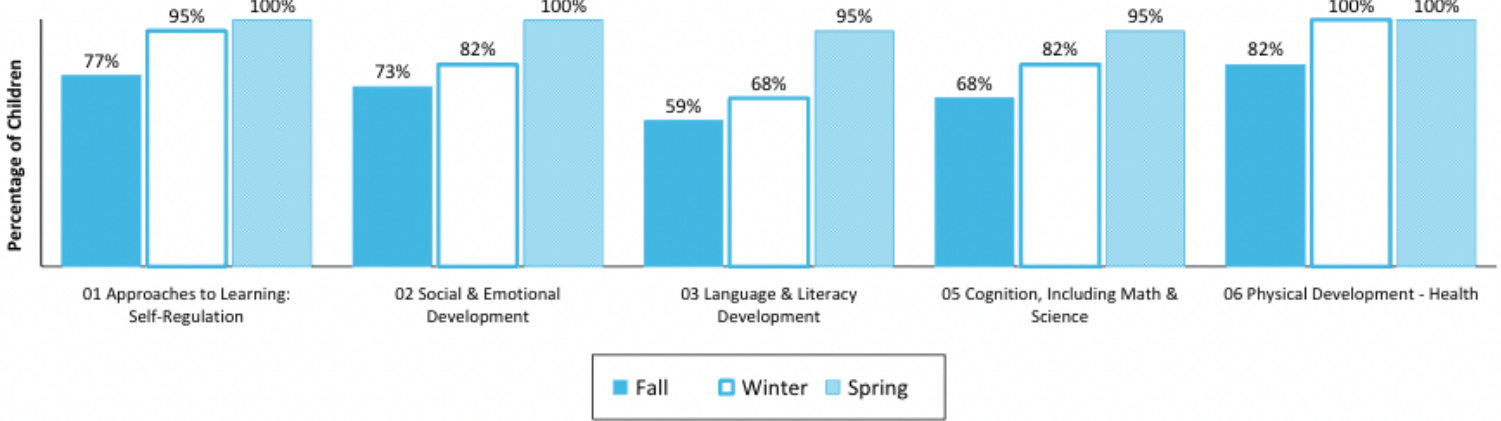
Program staff works in partnership with parents, school districts, and the community to ensure all children are equipped with the necessary skills to be successful in the public-school setting and in life.

Kindergarten transition activities are developed and implemented by the center staff (site supervisor, teachers and family support specialist) and parents to support kindergarten transition planning and preparation through the school year. The main focus of kindergarten transition is to facilitate a smooth transition to the public-school setting. Teachers provide parents with resources such as “Connecting Head Start Parents to the Public-School Setting’ and “100 Days of Summer, a series of learning activities and family engagements to do during the Summer break.

Early Head Start

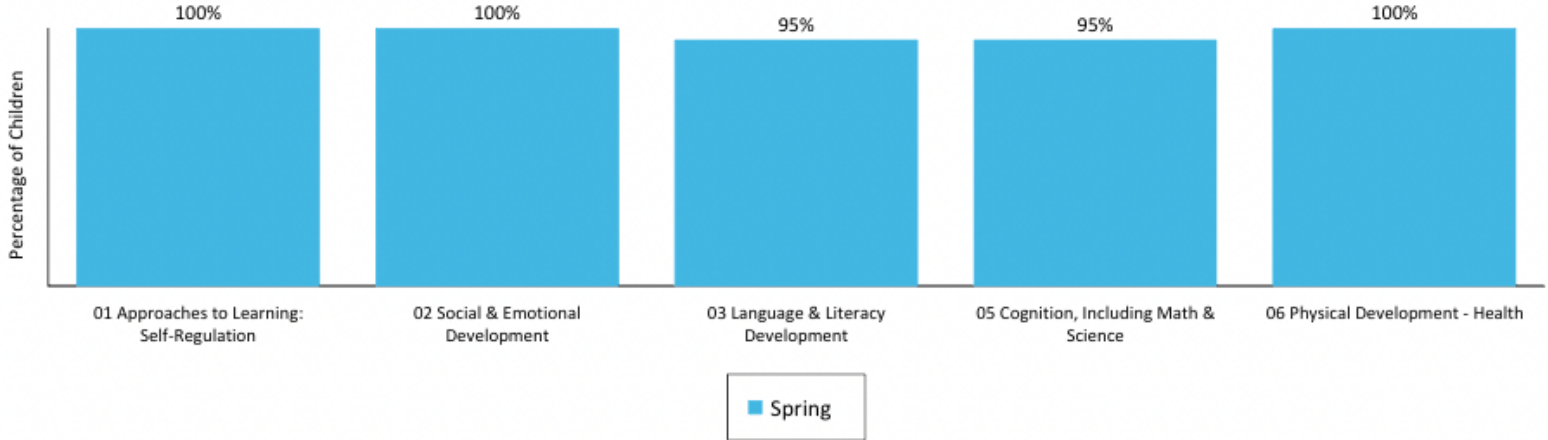
Percentage of Children At or Above CA Early Learning Foundation Expectations All Checkpoints 2021-2022

Based on Age of Child at Time of Assessment

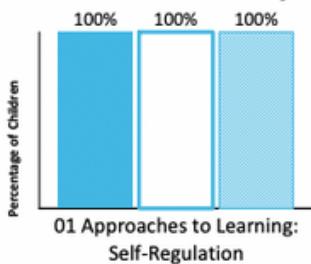


Percentage of Children At or Above CA Early Learning Foundation Expectations Only Spring 2021-2022

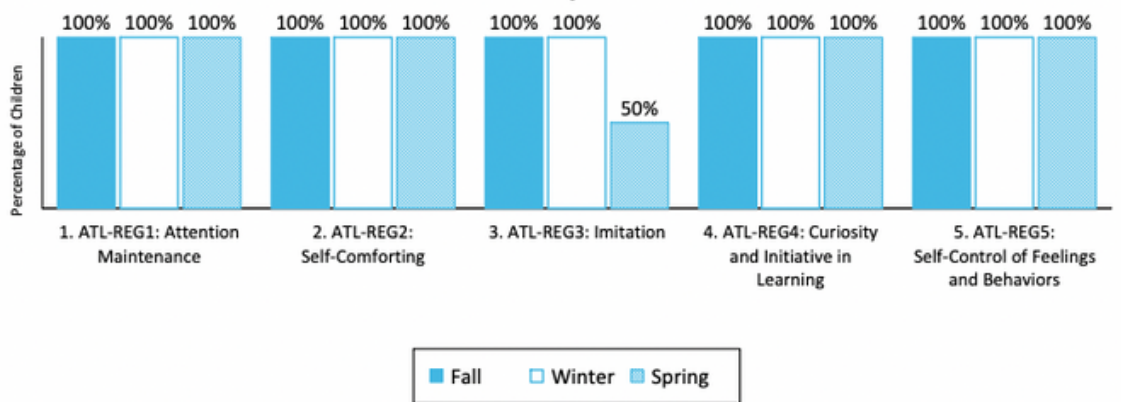
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Domain Summary



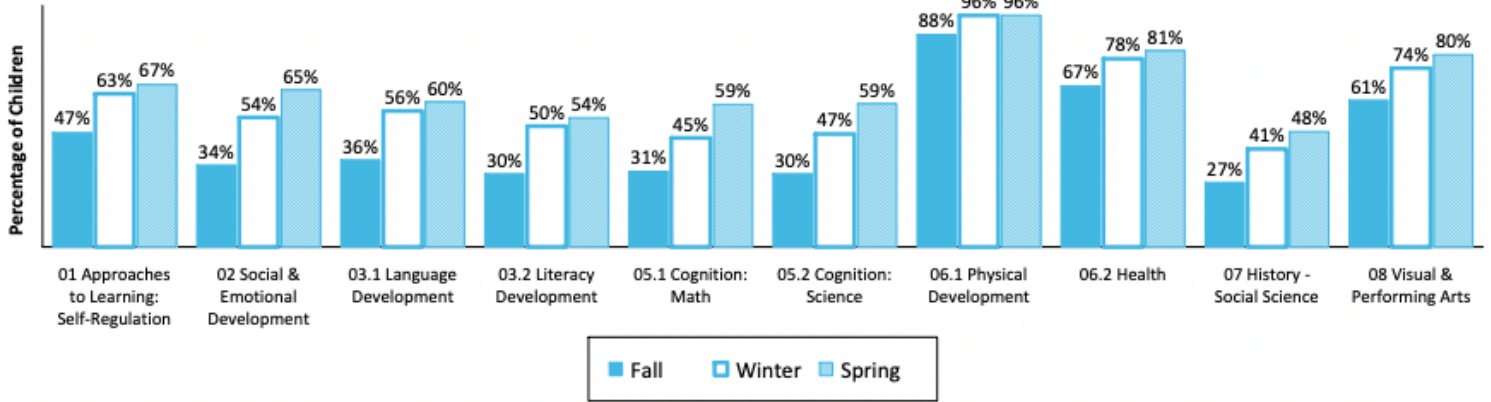
Measure Summary



Head Start

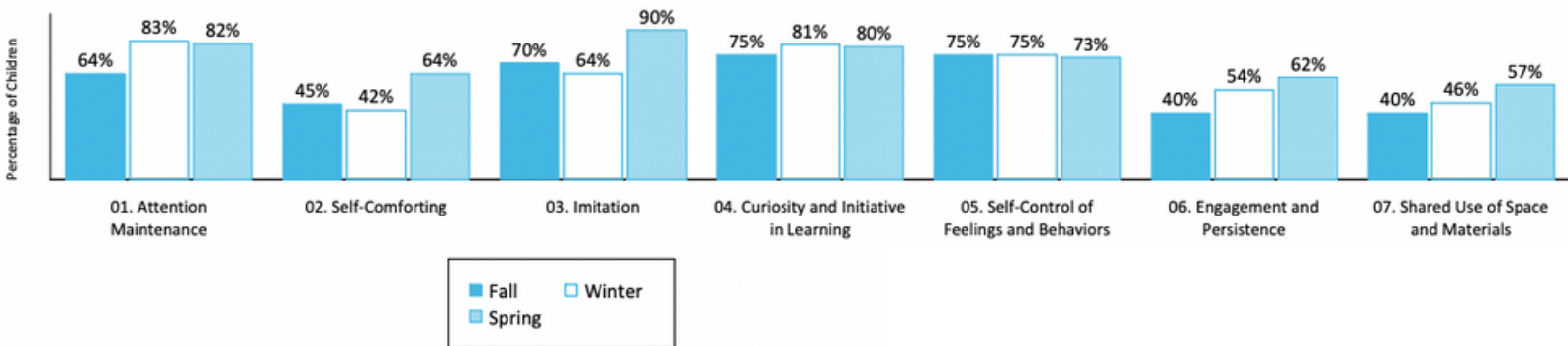
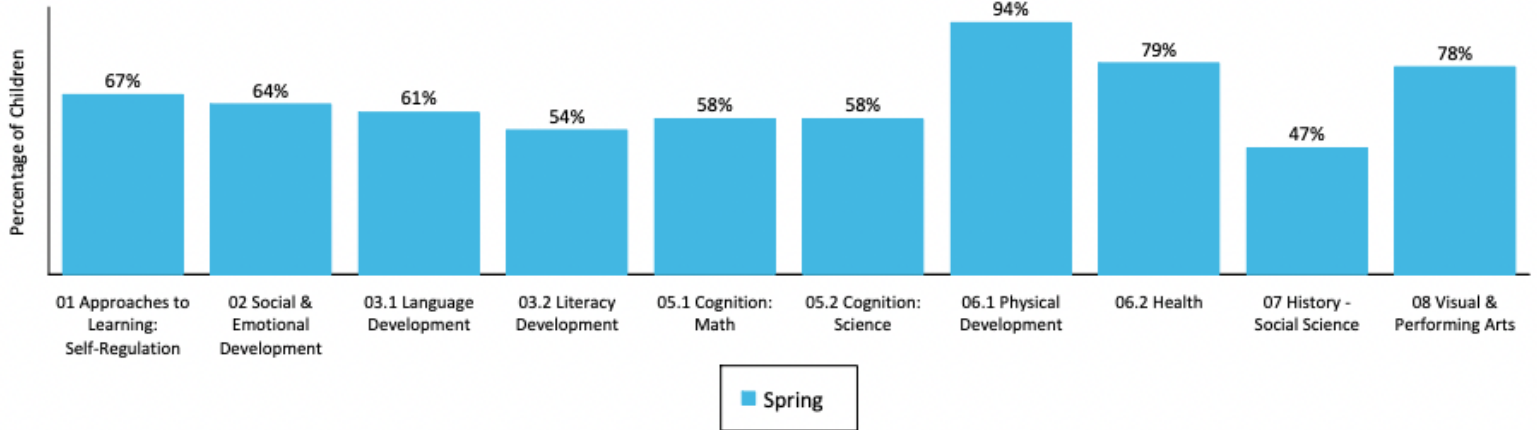
Percentage of Children At or Above CA Early Learning Foundation Expectations All Checkpoints 2021-2022

Based on Age of Child at Time of Assessment



Percentage of Children At or Above CA Early Learning Foundation Expectations Only Spring 2021-2022

Based on Age of Child at Time of Assessment



Covid-19 Impact

In 2022, NCO HSCDP took a closer look at how families felt in regard to COVID-19 safety and communication.

- 92% felt their child was safe attending school during COVID-19.
- 69% felt that the program provided resources needed during COVID-19.
- 50% reported that they were able to obtain alternative childcare when their classroom was closed.

The Program monitored updated COVID-19 guidelines and provided information to staff and families and soon as information was received. Most recently updated program guidelines are available on the website and the site for families to review.

Summary of 2022 Community Needs Assessment

- The unemployment rates for both Mendocino County and Lake County have greatly reduced by 3.5% and 4%, respectively.
- There are 17% less income eligible children in Mendocino County.
- In May 2022 the Head Start Act was changed to allow Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients to become income-eligible for the program.
- Transitional Kindergarten (TK) enrollment has increased 90% in Lake County and 55% in Mendocino County.
- The number of homeless K-12 students in both counties drastically reduced.

