

## Participation Data

### — FAST FACTS —

**43,298** kindergartners  
(**52%** of all kindergartners in the state)  
**193** school districts, **623** schools  
**2,110** teachers



Washington  
Kindergarten Inventory  
of Developing Skills

# Fall 2014 Data Summary

The Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) helps ensure that children in Washington get a great start in kindergarten. WaKIDS is mandatory in state-funded full-day kindergartens.

Nearly **44 percent** of Washington’s kindergartens are state-funded, full-day. The Legislature’s goal is to fund full-day kindergarten for all students by the 2017–18 school year, prioritizing schools with the highest number of students receiving free and reduced-price lunch.

As the percentage of students who enroll in state-funded full-day kindergarten continues to increase, the WaKIDS demographics will change. The number of state-funded full-day kindergartens this year is the same as last year. However, because some districts and schools volunteered to participate in WaKIDS, **52 percent** of the state’s kindergartners were served in 2014–15. Annual data are not comparable to previous data until all students participate.

#### WaKIDS is a way to:

- Welcome families to school by having teachers meet with them one-on-one before or just after the school year begins.
- Learn about students’ strengths through an observational assessment in the first seven weeks of school.
- Share information with pre-kindergarten communities that will help improve the transition for students and families into kindergarten.

This growing source of data can help teachers tailor instruction to the needs of individual students, begin meaningful conversations in communities to prioritize next steps, and help inform state-level decisions about education policy and investments.

Kindergarten Student Demographics		
	2014–15 WaKIDS	State- wide K
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.7%	1.3%
Asian	4.2%	6.1%
Black/African American	5.3%	4.3%
Hispanic	32.1%	24.6%
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	1.3%	1.0%
White	44.7%	54.1%
Two or more races	7.6%	8.5%
Not provided	3.2%	0.0%
Male	50.8%	51.6%
Female	49.2%	48.4%
Special education	3.2%	2.7%
Limited English	25.0%	17.7%
Free-reduced lunch	51.8%	39.3%
Total students	43,298	83,433

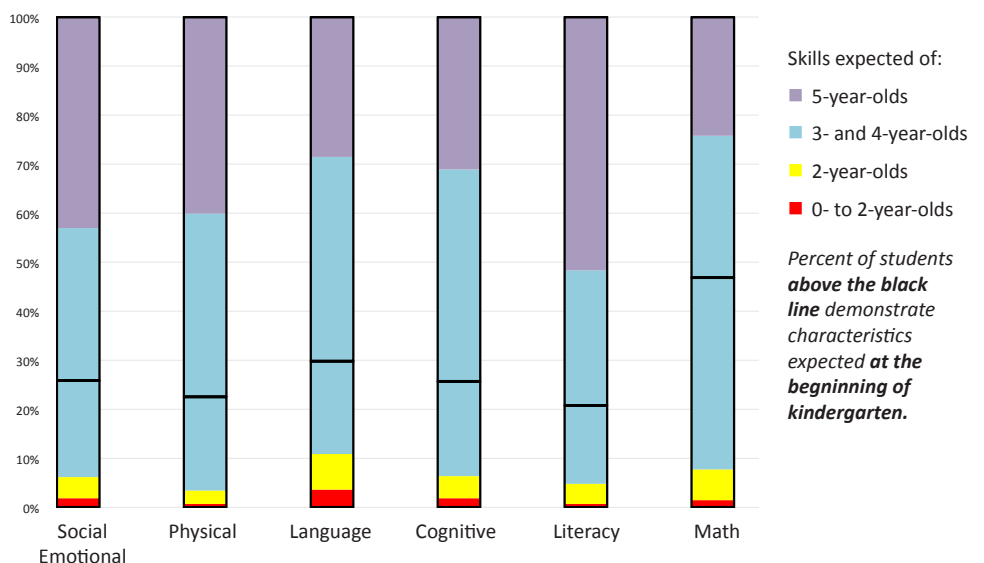
## Students have a wide range of skill levels in the first few weeks of kindergarten.

In the *Teaching Strategies GOLD*® assessment system, students whose skill levels appear in the *purple band* in the chart to the right demonstrate skill levels that are widely expected by the **end** of kindergarten.

Students whose skill levels appear at or above the *black line* in the chart demonstrate skill levels that are widely expected of students as they **enter** kindergarten.

**More WaKIDS data:**  
[www.k12.wa.us/WaKIDS](http://www.k12.wa.us/WaKIDS)

Percent of Entering Kindergartners by Range of Demonstrated Skills

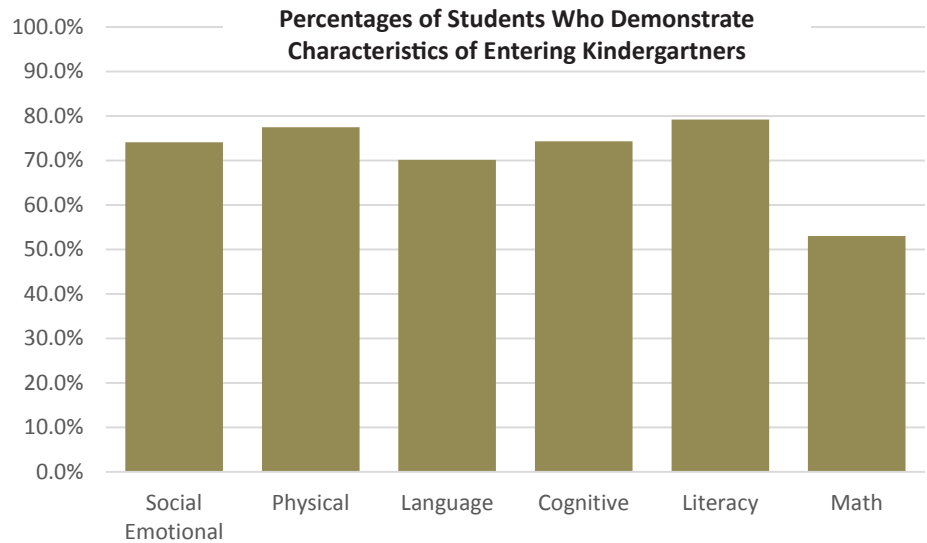


## Skill levels vary across areas of development and learning.

The percentage of students demonstrating the characteristics of entering kindergartners ranged from 52.9% (math) to 79.1% (literacy).

In descending order, among the six areas assessed, the percentages represented in the chart below are as follows:

1. Literacy (79.1%)
2. Physical Development (78.0%)
3. Cognitive Development (74.1%)
4. Social Emotional Development (74.3%)
5. Language (70.3%)
6. Math (52.9%)

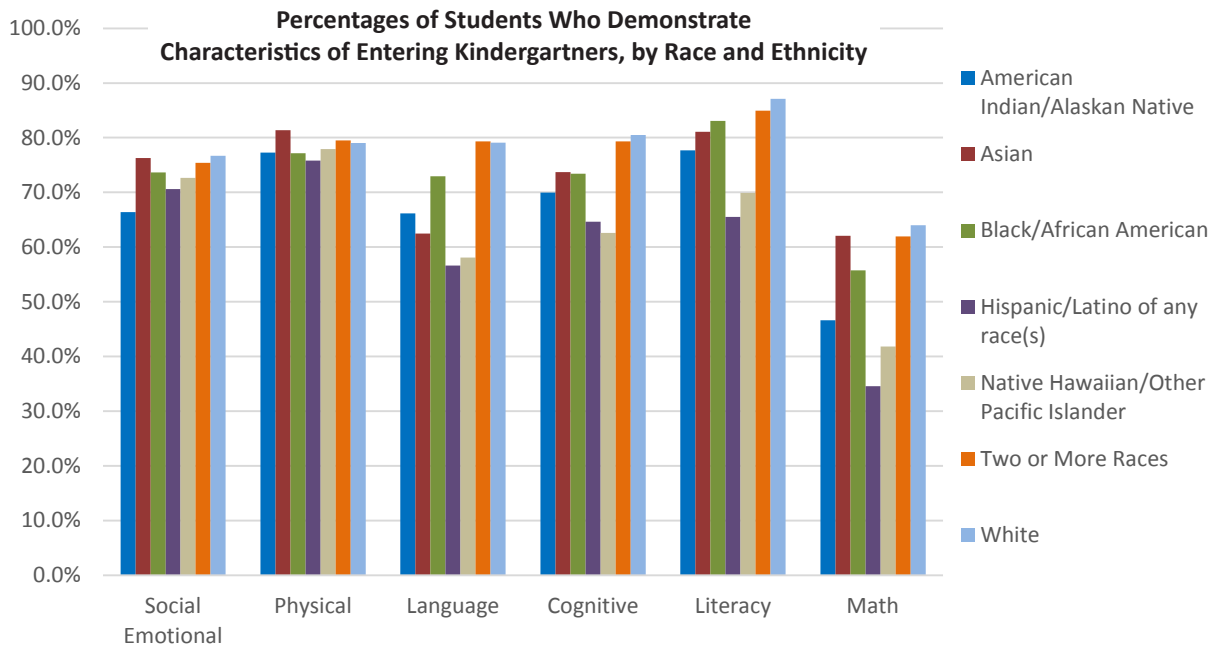


Number of Areas in Which Students Demonstrate Characteristics of Entering Kindergartners

Domains	0 of 6	1 of 6	2 of 6	3 of 6	4 of 6	5 of 6	6 of 6
2014–15*	5.9%	6.7%	7.5%	8.8%	12.2%	19.5%	39.4%

\* Based on 41,126 students with complete records in all six areas.

## The opportunity gap is evident in the first few weeks of kindergarten.



The percentages of students demonstrating characteristics of entering kindergartners varied by race and ethnicity in each of the six areas assessed in WaKIDS. For instance, while the chart at the top of the page shows that 74.1% of students statewide demonstrated characteristics of entering

kindergartners in cognitive development, the percentages in the chart at the bottom of the page vary from 62.6% to 80.5% in cognitive development, depending on the racial group or ethnicity.