



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

School Readiness Indicators

The following set of 10 “Better Off” indicators provide a comprehensive composite measure to show whether young children are ready for success as they prepare to enter kindergarten. These indicators were adopted by the First Things First Board as School Readiness Indicators which will guide the work of FTF over the next several years.

- 1. #/% children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the development domains of social-emotional, language and literacy, cognitive, and motor and physical**
 - **Intent** of indicator is to increase the number of children with equal opportunity to be successful and school and close the achievement gap before kindergarten entry.
 - **Aligned to 4 Priority Roles** in Early Learning, Professional Development, and Family Support and Literacy
 - **NOTE: Data** is in development and not currently available.

- 2. #/% of children enrolled in an early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars**
 - **Intent** of indicator is to increase the number of children with access to affordable high quality early learning programs.
 - **Aligned to 2 Priority Roles** in Early Learning
 - **Data** will be available through the FTF Quality First data system at the statewide and regional levels.

- 3. #/% of children with special needs enrolled in an inclusive early care and education program with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars**
 - **Intent** of indicator is to increase in the number of children with special needs/rights who enroll in high quality inclusive early learning programs.
 - **Aligned to 1 Priority Role** in Early Learning
 - **Data** will be available through the FTF Quality First data system at the statewide and regional levels.

- 4. #/% of families that spend no more than 10% of the regional median family income on quality care and education with a Quality First rating of 3-5 stars**
 - **Intent** of indicator is to increase the number of families that can afford high-quality early learning programs by reducing the tuition cost per child so that it is no higher than 10% of the regional median family income.
 - **Aligned to 1 Priority Role** in Early Learning
 - **Data** will be available through the FTF Quality First data system and DES Market Rate Survey.

- 5. % of children with newly identified developmental delays during the kindergarten year**
 - **Intent** of indicator is to decrease the number of children who are not screened and identified with developmental delays until after they have already entered their kindergarten year. Use of the term “developmental delay” is not intended as a narrowly defined eligibility category; rather it is used in

the broadest sense to include preschool moderate or severe delay in cognitive, physical, communication, social/emotional or adaptive development, and preschool speech language delay. It is also likely that this indicator will initially trend upward as awareness increases about the importance of early identification and intervention.

- **Aligned to 4 Priority Roles** in Early Learning, Health and Family Support
- **NOTE: Data** is in development and not currently available.

6. # of children entering kindergarten exiting preschool special education to regular education

- **Intent** of indicator is to increase the number of children who transition to kindergarten without an identified special need due to timely screening, identification and delivery of effective intervention services prior to their kindergarten year.
- **Aligned to 1 Priority Role** in Early Learning
- **Data** will be available within AZ Department of Education service data.

7. #/% of children ages 2-5 at a healthy weight (Body Mass Index-BMI)

- **Intent** of indicator is to increase the number of children who maintain a healthy body weight.
- **Aligned to 1 Priority Role** in Health
- **Data** is currently obtained in conjunction with the Women Infants and Children - AZ Department of Health Services, service data.

8. #/% of children receiving timely well child visits

- **Intent** of indicator is to increase the number of children with consistent well child visits where there is higher opportunity for immunizations, appropriate screenings and early identification of development delays, other medical healthcare, and support for family members to understand their child's health.
- **Aligned to 1 Priority Role** in Health
- **Data** is obtained through the AZ Health Care Cost Containment System service data.

9. #/% of children age 5 with untreated tooth decay

- **Intent** of indicator is to increase the number of children who begin at an early age and regularly visit an oral health professional to receive preventive oral healthcare and services necessary to treat tooth decay.
- **Aligned to 1 Priority Role** in Health
- **Data** will be available through the AZ Department of Health Services Oral Health Survey.

10. % of families who report they are competent and confident about their ability to support their child's safety, health and well being

- **Intent** of indicator is to increase the number of families who report they are competent and confident to support their child.
- **Aligned to 1 Priority Role** in Family Support and Literacy
- **Data** is currently obtained as a composite of several measures in the FTF Family and Community Survey.