What percentage of NC jobs are estimated to require some post secondary education by 2020?

- 39%
- 48%
- 67%
- 80%
38 45 57
percent of North Carolina 4th graders in 2015 scored at or above proficient in reading as measured by NAEP

34 51 68
percent of North Carolina high school students met ACT college readiness benchmarks in reading in 2016
End of third grade reading predicts:
- academic achievement
- career success.
We can do this!

Each child can have the opportunity to be on track by third grade with aligned state and local policies and practices rooted in child development, including:

- Health and Development on Track, Starting at Birth
- Supported and Supportive Families and Communities
- High Quality Birth-to-Eight Learning and Education with Regular Attendance
Now what?
What would be possible . . . .

If we adopted shared, whole-child, birth-to-eight measures that put children on a pathway to grade-level reading?

If we coordinated strategies to support children’s optimal development beginning at birth?

If we aligned policies and practices that were rooted in how children develop?
NC’s Pathways to Grade-Level Reading
Pathways Shared Vision
All North Carolina children, regardless of race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status, are reading on grade-level by the end of third grade, so that they have the greatest opportunity for life success.

To get there, children need:
- Health and Development on Track, Starting at Birth
- Supported and Supportive Families and Communities
- High Quality Birth-to-Eight Learning and Education with Regular Attendance
Phase 1

How do we know children are on a pathway to grade-level reading?
State leaders – working with a Data Action Team composed of 30 experts from NC’s leading universities, research institutes, government agencies, businesses and think tanks – identified shared birth-to-eight, whole-child measures of success to put children on a pathway to grade-level reading.

95% of stakeholder respondents said they “felt confident that if the state made progress on these measures, we would improve third grade reading outcomes.”
Children reading at grade level by the end of 3rd grade

Support and Supportive Families and Communities

- No child maltreatment
- Skilled & knowledgeable parents
- Family meals
- Reading with children
- Social supports for families
- Positive parent-child interactions

Children’s language skills on track at 24, 36 and 48 months

Children developmentally on-track at kindergarten entry

Children meeting expected growth in reading (K-3)

Children reading at grade level by the end of 3rd grade

Housing Stability

Family Economic Security

Safe Neighborhoods

The Environment

High Quality Birth to Eight Learning Environments with Regular Attendance

- High quality early education enrollment
- Child care and school stability
- Regular attendance in early education programs and schools
- Schools integrate social-emotional strategies
- Fewer suspensions
- Fewer expulsions
- Promotion to next grade
- Summer learning

Environmental Health

Trauma-Informed Communities

Economically Viable Neighborhoods

Literacy Milestones
Phase 2
How are we doing? Where should we begin?
Check out this awesome team!

Health and Development on Track Beginning at Birth Learning Team Co-Chairs

Meghan Shanahan
UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

Amy Hawn Nelson
UNC Charlotte Urban Institute

High Quality Birth-to-Eight Education Learning Team Co-Chairs

Jennifer Zuckerman
BlueCross Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation

Amy Hawn Nelson
UNC Charlotte Urban Institute

Tamika Williams
The Duke Endowment

Terry Stoops
John Locke Foundation

Khari Garvin
Great Expectations

Supported and Supportive Families and Communities Learning Team Co-Chairs

Terry Stoops
John Locke Foundation

Jennifer Zuckerman
BlueCross Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation

Meghan Shanahan
UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

Amy Hawn Nelson
UNC Charlotte Urban Institute

Tamika Williams
The Duke Endowment

Terry Stoops
John Locke Foundation

Khari Garvin
Great Expectations
70 leaders from state agencies, nonprofit organizations, foundations and the private sector served on Learning Team and committed to monthly meetings to make sense of the trends, inequities, patterns and connections in the NC data.

They identified seven measures with a focus on disparities to recommend for action first.

- Healthy Birthweight
- Early Interventions
- Social Supports for Families
- Positive Parent-Child Interactions
- Social-Emotional Health
- High Quality Birth-to-Eight Learning Environments
- Regular Attendance
Phase 3
What do we need to do?
Design Teams will create policies, practices and program/capacity-building agendas to advance the prioritized measures of success in North Carolina.

- What needs to change in our state to see shifts in the prioritized measures of success?

- Policies, practices and program/capacity-building agendas will serve as Pathways’ platform for progress on grade-level reading.

- Pathways will work to implement the recommendations through the state’s public, nonprofit and private sectors as appropriate and will seek the creation of a birth-to-eight grade-level reading task force.
March 10th Stakeholder Meeting
- Recommendations on indicators to prioritize
- Consider momentum
- Finalize where we will start

April: Begin Community Conversations
- NCPC, IEI, NC Child and other partners will convene across the state
- Gather input from providers, parents, community leaders and local officials

May: Begin Design Teams
- Understand the Root Causes
- Build and Implement Action Plans
- Feedback loop with Community Conversations
General Assembly Recognizes Shared Measures
Our work is in the 2016 budget provisions calling for greater birth-to-eight coordination across agencies and organizations.

Communities Take Action
Local organizations and statewide groups are using the Pathways measures to plan change in their communities.
- The NC Perinatal Health Strategic Plan incorporated Pathways into its recommendations.
- Prevent Child Abuse NC is aligning community child abuse prevention plans with Pathways
- The Essentials for Childhood is aligning its work with the Pathways measures.
- Smart Start is aligning its accountability system with the Pathways Measures of Success.
- Communities are using the framework in their strategic planning.
Join us!

- Stay informed. Sign up for updates by leaving your card in the box labeled NC Pathways to Grade-Level Reading.
- Attend the March 10 stakeholder meeting.
- Participate in a Design Team.
- Host a community conversation.
When each child is given the best opportunity to realize his/her potential and contribute as productive citizens – NC prospers.
Promote Understanding

Promote public understanding of and support for policies that promote children’s birth-to-eight years for academic and lifelong success.

Spearhead Collaboration

Convene and spearhead collaboration to bridge North Carolina’s birth-to-five and kindergarten-to-third grade systems.

Advance Policies

Advance policies that create a stronger NC today and tomorrow by supporting each child’s birth-to-eight development.

www.buildthefoundation.org
ncecf@buildthefoundation.org
/north-carolina-early-childhood-foundation

@ncecf
/buildthefoundation