Review of 2020-2021 Head Start Beginning of the Year (BOY) Student Outcomes







The Office of Head Start requires programs to conduct standardized and structured assessments for each child that provide ongoing information to evaluate the child's developmental level and progress in outcomes aligned to the goals described in the *Head Start Early Learning Child Outcomes Framework* (*HSELOF*): Ages Birth to Five. Such assessments must result in usable information for teachers, program staff, and parents and be conducted with sufficient frequency to allow for individualization within the program year.

The City of San Antonio Department of Human Services (DHS) Head Start Program utilizes CIRCLE Progress Monitoring System (CIRCLE), a standardized, criterion-referenced measure that relates well to established standardized tests and is sensitive to growth in children's skills over time for children ages 3-5 years old enrolled in the Head Start Prekindergarten Program. The results of CIRCLE are used to generate a detailed picture of each child's growth and development across 15 areas so that individualized, developmentally appropriate activities can be planned and implemented. The 15 areas are listed below in *Table 1*. Students are assessed three times a year, Beginning of the Year (BOY), Middle of the Year (MOY), and End of the Year (EOY).

Assessment Areas						
Rapid Letter Naming (RLN)	Book & Print Knowledge	Speech Production &				
		Sentence Skills				
Rapid Vocabulary Naming	Story Retell & Comprehension	Motivation to Read				
Phonological Awareness (PA)	Science	Early Writing				
Mathematics (Math)	Social Studies	Approaches to Learning				
Letter-Sound Correspondence	Social & Emotional	Physical Health &				
	Development	Development				

Proficiency

The CIRCLE Progress Monitoring System provides a score for each area assessed. Children are described as *PROFICIENT* if they score at or above the cut point or threshold listed in accordance with their age and indicates the child is on track and has a developed understanding of the measure. Children are described as *NOT PROFICIENT* if they score below the cut point or threshold listed in accordance with their age and indicates an underdeveloped understanding of the measure and there is a need for more skill development or intensive intervention. Children may be described a *OUT OF RANGE* is they are not within the specified age range for the measure or there are no established cut points or thresholds for the area assessed.

Student Outcome Results

The tables below provide student outcome data for CIRCLE for the 2020-2021 school. The three tables show the percentage of children who are PROFICENT in each area. *Table 2* provides data for all children enrolled in the program. *Table 3* provides data for non-transitioning three-year-olds. *Table 4* provides data for four-year-old children transitioning to kindergarten.





Table 3: All Children enrolled in the program - Percentage identified as PROFICIENT

Program Total - Non-transitioning and Transitioning children Percentage of children PROFICIENT				
CIRCLE Assessment Areas		2020-2021		
		MOY	EOY	
RLN	25%	-	-	
Rapid Vocabulary	32%	-	-	
РА	55%	-	-	
Math	70%	-	-	
Story Retell & Comp.	47%	-	-	
Book & Print Knowledge		-	-	
Science	75%	-	I	
Social Studies		-	I	
Social & Emotional Dev.		-	-	
Early Writing		-	-	
Approaches To Learning		-	-	
Physical Health & Dev.		-	-	
Speech Production & Sentence Skills		-	-	
Motivation to Read	92%	-	-	

N=1578





Table 4: Non-Transitioning three-year olds - Percentage identified as PROFICIENT

Non-Transitioning three year old children Percentage of children PROFICIENT			
CIRCLE Assessment Areas	2020-2021		
		MOY	EOY
RLN	15%	-	-
Rapid Vocabulary	48%	-	-
РА		-	-
Math		-	-
Story Retell & Comp.	38%	-	-
Book & Print Knowledge		-	-
Science	73%	-	-
Social Studies		-	-
Social & Emotional Dev.		-	-
Early Writing		-	-
Approaches To Learning		-	-
Physical Health & Dev.		-	-
Speech Production & Sentence Skills		-	-
Motivation to Read	93%	-	-

N=625





Table 5: Transitioning four-year olds - Percentage identified as PROFICIENT

Program Total - Non-transitioning and Transitioning children Percentage of children PROFICIENT			
CIRCLE Assessment Areas	2020-2021		
		MOY	EOY
RLN	25%	-	-
Rapid Vocabulary	32%	-	-
PA	55%	-	-
Math	70%	-	-
Story Retell & Comp.	47%	-	-
Book & Print Knowledge		-	-
Science	75%	-	-
Social Studies		-	-
Social & Emotional Dev.		-	-
Early Writing		-	-
Approaches To Learning	89%	-	-
Physical Health & Dev.		-	-
Speech Production & Sentence Skills		-	-
Motivation to Read	92%	-	-

N=953

Data Analysis

The DHS Head Start Program began using the CIRCLE Progress Monitoring System during the 2020-2021 school year. Year over year comparison data is not available. Student outcome data for the Middle of the Year (MOY) is pending.

At the Beginning of the Year (BOY), the percentage of children identified as PROFICIENT is lowest for Rapid Letter Naming (RLN) and highest for Social & Emotional Development for both non-transitioning three-year olds and transitioning four-year olds. Story Retell and Comprehension is an area of focus for non-transitioning three-year olds and Rapid Vocabulary is an area of focus across the program