


Ready For Kindergarten! Survey

2015-2016

Fast Facts

<p>What is New?</p> <p>The 2015-16 Ready for Kindergarten! Survey (R4K!S) marks the deployment of a new survey instrument*, changes in scoring methods, and criteria used for identification of students as “ready.”</p> <p>The new R4K!S also includes new and revised questions, including six in the Physical Development and Health domain.</p>	<p>What Constitutes “Readiness”?</p> <p>Vermont’s concept of children’s readiness is multidimensional; it includes social and emotional development, communication, physical health, as well as cognitive development, knowledge, and approaches to learning. Vermont’s concept also reflects the belief that “school readiness” is interactional: children need to be ready for schools, and schools need to be ready to accommodate the diverse needs of each and every child.</p>
<p>What R4K!S in Not</p> <p>The R4K!S is not a direct assessment of children; rather it relies on the accumulated observational knowledge the teacher has developed about the child during the first few weeks of kindergarten.</p> <p>The R4K!S should not be used to make comparisons between this years’ R4K!S data and all previous years of KRS Survey data. Apparent differences in results are attributable to the use of a new method to determine and define readiness, not to changes in the population of kindergarten students. Any comparisons made are considered invalid.</p>	<p>The R4K!S consists of 34 items across the following domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Physical Development and Health ➤ Social and Emotional Development ➤ Approaches to Learning ➤ Communication ➤ Cognitive Development <p>Kindergarten teachers are required to rate each child’s skills as “beginning,” “practicing,” or “performing independently” on 28 items in addition to six additional questions related to health and well-being.</p>
<p>Discussion of SU and Statewide R4K!S Results Tables include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Readiness and Average Total Score: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Number ready, percent ready, average total score ➤ Readiness rating groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Number and % of students in each of the 4 new categories of readiness ✓ Number and percent ready ➤ Domain Scores (Calculated for comparative purposes only, not for readiness determination): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Average score each domain ✓ Average score total of all domains ➤ Comparison of Readiness Scores--Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) Eligible Students with Non-FRL Eligible Students 	<p>4 New Categories of Readiness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Not Yet Ready ➤ Approaching Ready ➤ Ready and Practicing ➤ Ready and Performing Independently
	<p>New Scoring and Readiness Calculations</p> <p>Using 4 New Categories of Readiness above, students whose Total Scores fall into categories of “Ready and Practicing,” and “Ready and Performing Independently” are identified as ready.</p> 

*The new R4K!S, along with its scoring and readiness identification methods, is based on recommendations made as a result of an independent validity review conducted by American Institutes for Research (AIR) funded by Vermont’s Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant and Private Funders