

First Steps 4K Family Engagement Survey | January 2022

Survey Administration

The First Steps 4K Family Engagement Survey was administered online from November 15th to December 8th, 2021 (Day 63 - Day 77 of the 2021-22 school year). A text message was sent on November 15th, 2021 to 2,706 parents/caregivers of 4K students with a link to complete the online survey. A reminder to complete the survey was sent via email in the December 1st, 2021 monthly 4K newsletter. There were 383 total respondents (response rate 14%), of which 1 (<1%) completed it in Spanish.

“My child [has] flourished since he started 4K. Speaking clearer & writing were huge steps.”

88%
would highly recommend First Steps 4K to a friend or family member.

Respondent Demographics

Nearly half of survey respondents were 25-34 years old (44%). Most survey respondents were women (89%) and self-identified as Black (54%) or white (31%). Almost all respondents were the parent of the 4K student (86%); however, grandparents (7%) and foster parents and guardians (2%) also completed the survey.

“It’s the best thing that could ever happen to me and my child.”

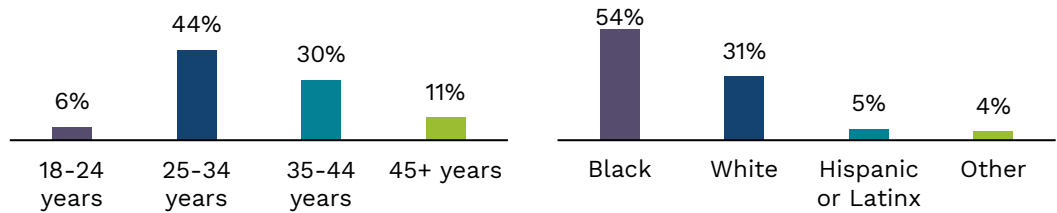
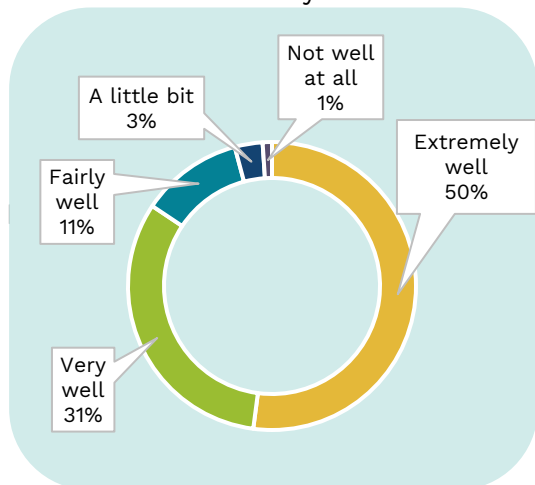


Figure 1. Demographics of survey respondents. Missing age for 31 respondents and race/ethnicity for 38 respondents. For ethnicity, “Other” includes Asian/Asian American (1%), Middle Eastern/North African (<1%), and Native American or Alaska Native (2%).

First Steps 4K Experience

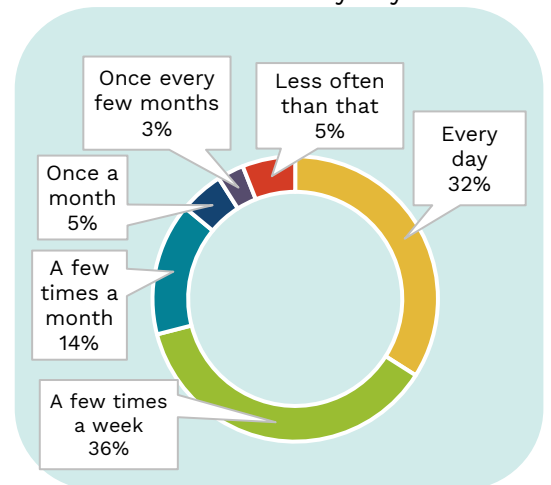
Half of respondents said First Steps 4K has met their 4-year-old’s needs extremely well



66%
are more aware of developmental milestones for their 4K student because of First Steps 4K.

47%
said their 4K student is ready for kindergarten.

One in three respondents interact with their First Steps 4K classroom teacher every day



First Steps 4K empowers parents to work

64%

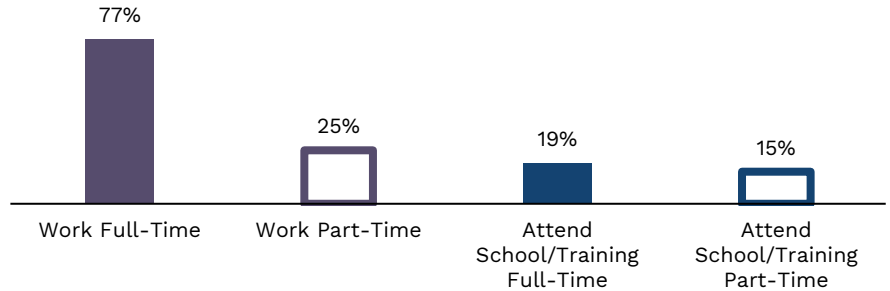
credit their ability to work or go to school to their child's participation in First Steps 4K

“

This is a wonderful program for children to have the opportunity to go to school and help struggling parents find a job.

”

Among those who credit their ability to go to work or school to their child's enrollment in First Steps 4K, more than three out of four of them report being able to work full-time



Because my 4K student is enrolled in First Steps 4K, they...

73%

know some letters of the alphabet

72%

have improved social interaction with other children

65%

are excited about books

64%

are beginning to write their first name

62%

can count to twenty

52%

have improved self-regulation/skills for coping with stress

“

[First Steps 4K is good at] teaching life skills to young children and helping them learn how to write their names, and alphabet and learning to be creative.

”

What is First Steps 4K good at?

- Teaching and preparing kids for school
- Helping children learn
- Interacting with children and parents

What could First Steps 4K do better?

- Communicate more with parents on student progress
- Provide more activities for parent engagement
- Improve curriculum for children who are bilingual or children with disabilities
- Increase 4K availability across state, offer after-school care, and provide transportation