



BACKGROUND

Utah's Pre-kindergarten Entry and Exit Profile (PEEP) is intended to inform various stakeholders, such as parents, educators, and leadership, on the academic and life-long learning practices essential for entering and exiting pre-kindergarten students. The assessment is administered to students in preschool programs who are four years old and will be age-eligible for kindergarten in the following school year. The information gained from the profile will be used to:

- Provide insights into current performance levels upon entry and exit of pre-kindergarten.
- Identify students who may need early intervention instruction and promote differentiated instruction for all students.
- Analyze the effectiveness of programs.
- Provide opportunities for data-informed decision-making and cost-benefit analysis of early learning initiatives.
- Identify effective instructional practices or strategies for improving student achievement outcomes in a targeted manner.
- Understand the influence and impact of pre-kindergarten in both the short- and long-term.

The PEEP entry assessment was first administered in the 2019–2020 school year; however, the PEEP exit assessment was not administered due to COVID-19-related disruptions at the end of the year. The PEEP was first fully administered (entry and exit) in the 2020–2021 school year. In 2023-2024, 7,715 students were tested at entry and 7,390 students were tested at exit.

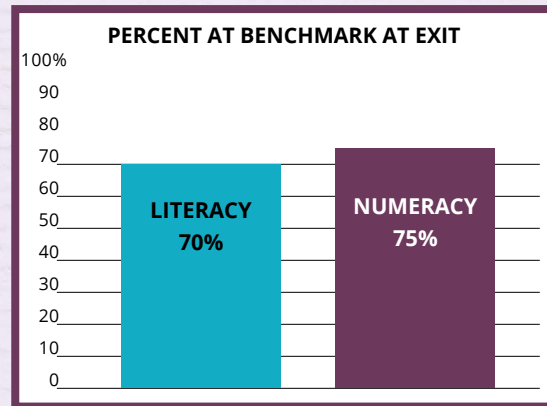
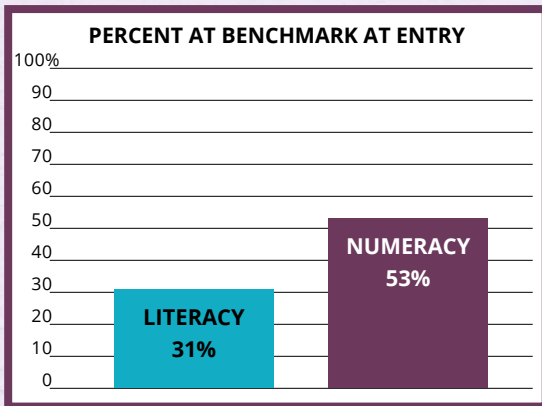
PEEP ENTRY, FALL 2023

There are two performance levels a student can earn on the PEEP Entry. A student is considered either "At Benchmark" or "Support Needed." The performance levels are defined as follows::

- **Support Needed:** A Utah student entering prekindergarten classified as "support needed" demonstrates limited prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy or numeracy.

- **At Benchmark:** A Utah student entering prekindergarten classified as “at benchmark” has sufficient prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy or numeracy.

At school entry in prekindergarten, 31% of students were at benchmark in literacy and 53% were at benchmark in numeracy. This indicates that a majority of Utah preschool students demonstrate limited prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy, while the majority of Utah preschool students demonstrate sufficient knowledge in numeracy.



PEEP EXIT, SPRING 2024

There are three performance levels a student can earn on the PEEP Exit. A student can score a Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3. A student at performance Level 3 is considered “Proficient.” The performance levels are defined as follows:

- Level 1: A Utah student entering kindergarten at Level 1 does not demonstrate prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy or numeracy and may require significant intervention to succeed in kindergarten.
- Level 2: A Utah student entering kindergarten at Level 2 has minimal prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy or numeracy and may require some intervention to succeed in kindergarten.
- Level 3: A Utah student entering kindergarten at Level 3 has sufficient prerequisite knowledge and skills in literacy or numeracy but may require minimal intervention to succeed in kindergarten.

The PEEP Entry and Exit assessments are based on different sets of early learning education standards commensurate with children’s ages at the beginning and end of pre-kindergarten. The PEEP Exit is the same assessment used for the Kindergarten Entry and Exit Profile (KEEP) Entry assessment. As such, PEEP Exit uses a three-tiered performance level to align with the kindergarten test.

At exit, 70% of students were proficient in literacy and 75% were proficient in numeracy. This reflects that a majority of Utah preschool students leave preschool requiring only minimal intervention to succeed in kindergarten.