

Kentucky Board of Education  
April 9, 2014  
Report from the Secretary  
Education and Workforce Development Cabinet

**Early Childhood Profiles**

In March, the Governor's Office of Early Childhood released county-specific Early Childhood Profiles that highlight barriers to school readiness. For the first time, these data profiles provide kindergarten readiness data about every county in the state, thanks to results from a new kindergarten screener used in every school district last fall.

The profiles, produced by the Kentucky Center for Education and Workforce Statistics, are compiled to help community leaders, Community Early Childhood Councils and school districts with data to help develop local strategies for helping every child in their community arrive at kindergarten ready to do kindergarten work.

The reports include information about the quality and availability of child care, results from the 2013 statewide kindergarten screener and information about participation in publicly funded preschool, Head Start and child care. Finally, demographic data, participation in public health and social service programs, and key indicators of possible obstacles to success for young children and their families are also provided on the profiles.

State and county profiles may be found at: <http://kidsnow.ky.gov/School%20Readiness/Pages/profiles.aspx>

**Kentucky Workforce Investment Board Director:** The interview process has been completed and an offer has been made. If all goes well, the new Executive Director will be announced at the upcoming KWIB meeting on May 15.

**Kentucky Skills Initiative:** Governor Beshear hosted a Kentucky Skills Initiative breakfast recently with a representative of the Republic of Germany for the purpose of continuing dialogue between Education, Workforce, and Economic Development and industry representatives on utilizing elements of the German Apprenticeship model in Kentucky. There are several Germany-based companies located in or looking at locating in Kentucky. German companies have identified job skills as a key challenge to their success here in the U.S. There are a number of best practices in the German model related to vocational training that can be utilized by U.S. based companies.