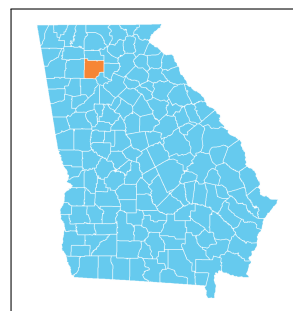


# Cherokee County, Georgia Early Childhood Profile

The Georgia Early Childhood Profiles are produced by GEEARS: Georgia Early Education Alliance for Ready Students, with technical assistance from Neighborhood Nexus. GEEARS is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization whose mission is support high-quality early learning and healthy development for Georgia's youngest children, from birth to five, by championing policies, promoting innovative and evidence-based practices, and building public will. These profiles highlight indicators relevant to early childhood and school readiness. To learn more, please visit [www.geears.org](http://www.geears.org).



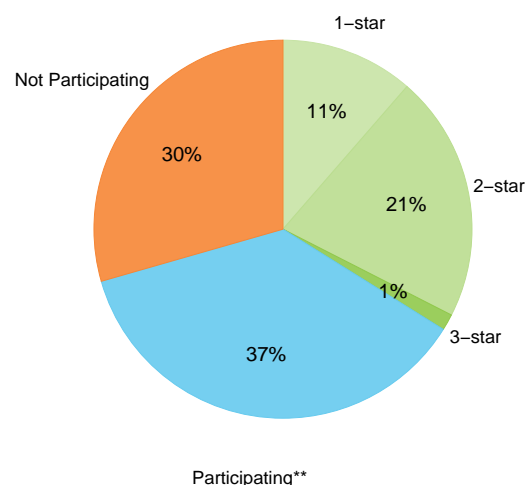
## Third Grade Assessment Results

	County	State
<b>Students Tested, ELA<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>2,898</b>	<b>128,777</b>
Proficient/Distinguished Learners:	50%	42%
White	57%	57%
Black or African-American	39%	27%
Hispanic or Latino	29%	31%
Limited English Proficiency	11%	18%
Economically Disadvantaged	29%	31%
<b>Students Tested, Math<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>2,897</b>	<b>128,610</b>
Proficient/Distinguished Learners:	69%	52%
White	75%	67%
Black or African-American	57%	35%
Hispanic or Latino	49%	45%
Limited English Proficiency	30%	35%
Economically Disadvantaged	48%	41%

## Early Care and Education Providers

	County	State
<b>Total Early Learning Providers<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>77</b>	<b>5,069</b>
Child Care Learning Centers	47	2,725
Licensed to serve infants	96%	86%
Licensed to serve toddlers	98%	93%
Licensed to serve preschoolers	100%	99%
Family Child Care Learning Homes	24	1,408
Licensed to serve infants	92%	85%
Licensed to serve toddlers	96%	96%
Licensed to serve preschoolers	100%	94%
Other Providers <sup>†</sup>	6	936
<b>Total Licensed Capacity<sup>*1</sup></b>	<b>6,904</b>	<b>326,234</b>
Quality Rated: <sup>#</sup>	45%	54%
Child Care Learning Centers	6,760	317,830
Quality Rated: <sup>#</sup>	45%	54%
1-star programs	14%	16%
2-star programs	32%	29%
3-star programs	0%	9%
Family Child Care Learning Homes	144	8,404
Quality Rated: <sup>#</sup>	17%	31%
1-star programs	8%	6%
2-star programs	4%	14%
3-star programs	4%	11%

## Quality Rated Licensed Early Learning Providers<sup>1</sup>



\*\* Participating in the Quality Rated process, but not yet rated as of 1/1/2020.

## Program Enrollment

	County	State
Kindergarten <sup>2</sup>	2,823	126,350
Lottery Funded Georgia Pre-K <sup>1 ‡</sup>	1,617	80,060
At-risk children served <sup>1</sup>	32%	47%
Head Start and Early Head Start <sup>3 ‡</sup>	74	23,629

†The "Other Providers" category represents entities not subject to licensing by The Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning (DECAL) such as local school systems. Only providers known to DECAL are included.

#Quality Rated is Georgia's Quality Rating and Improvement System for child care and early learning programs. For more information, visit [qualityrated.org](http://qualityrated.org).

♣ Licensed Capacity indicates the maximum number of children a facility is permitted to serve based on square footage, and is typically larger than the actual number of children served.

‡There may be overlap between Pre-K and Head Start enrollments due to braided and blended funding sources, so these categories are not summative.

\* Insufficient data

# Cherokee County, Georgia

## Program Utilization

	County	State
Babies Can't Wait <sup>*5</sup>	592	18,465
Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) <sup>*5</sup>	471	48,936
Georgia Home Visiting <sup>*5</sup>	0	2,010

## Parental Employment

	County	State
Population under age 6 living with parent <sup>6</sup>	17,405	754,832
Both parents or only parent in labor force	63%	66%
One parent in labor force, one not	33%	25%
No parent in labor force	4%	9%

## Family, Health, and Services

	County #	County %	State %
Children under age 6 living below: <sup>6</sup>			
100% Poverty	2,233	13%	25%
150% Poverty	3,191	18%	39%
200% Poverty	4,439	25%	50%
Children under age 6 without health insurance <sup>6</sup>	745	4%	6%
Limited English-speaking households <sup>6</sup>	1,998	2%	3%
Substantiated Abuse/Neglect Reports (duplicated) <sup>7</sup>	139	1.9 <sup>‡</sup>	2.0 <sup>‡</sup>
Births to mothers who are not high school graduates <sup>8</sup>	235	8%	14%
Births to girls ages 15-19 <sup>8</sup>	91	10.8 <sup>†</sup>	22 <sup>†</sup>
Low birth weight babies <sup>8</sup>	201	7%	10%
Preterm babies <sup>8</sup>	277	10%	11%
Asthma-related ER visits (ages 0-4) <sup>8</sup>	80	53.9 <sup>‡</sup>	115.1 <sup>‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Rate per 1,000 population

<sup>‡</sup> Rate per 10,000 population

\* Insufficient data

♣ All programs ensure the highest quality data to the extent possible. Numbers represent total children enrolled in the program at *any* time during the year, which is generally greater than than the number enrolled at any given point in time. Each agency and program participating in GA CACDS maintains its own data, and each one has protocols for data entry and data quality. GA CACDS does not conduct any additional data quality measures.

## Economic Status



Of every 20 children ages 0-5 in Cherokee County, Georgia, **5 are economically disadvantaged, including 3 living in poverty.**<sup>6</sup>

## Children by Race and Ethnicity

	County	State
Population under age 5 <sup>6</sup>	14,819	655,810
White	79%	52%
Black or African-American	7%	33%
Asian and Pacific Islander	2%	4%
Other race or multiracial	11%	10%
Hispanic or Latino (any race)	17%	16%

Children who attend high-quality early education are:

**MORE LIKELY**  
to graduate high school, attend college, have a job, and earn higher wages

**LESS LIKELY**  
to drop out of school, depend on social services, or be arrested

**EARLY LEARNING BUILDS THE FOUNDATION**

**\$1 INVESTED**  
in high-quality early education

**=**

**SAVES \$13**  
by lowering demand for social services and reducing crime rates

### Sources:

1. Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, 1/1/2020
2. Georgia Department of Education, FTE 2020-1
3. The Office of Head Start Program Information Report, 9/2019
4. Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement, SY 2019
5. Georgia's Cross-Agency Child Data System (CACDS), 7/2017-6/2018
6. U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2014-18)
7. Fostering Court Improvement, 6/2018-5/2019
8. Georgia Department of Public Health, OASIS (annual average 2016-18)