

Lit Scan

Facts & Figures from the Colorado Literacy Research Initiative

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K-1 Teachers Say At Least 2 Out of 5 Children Not Ready for School

According to Colorado's "first-ever" statewide survey of teachers regarding the readiness to learn of kindergartners and first graders,

- ♦ one-third of children are unprepared emotionally and socially for school and
- ♦ two out of five are unprepared to succeed in school academically.

Market Perceptions, Inc., a Denver-based market research firm, compiled and analyzed survey data for Educare Colorado and the Colorado Children's Campaign.



According to a February 21, 2002, article in the **Rocky Mountain News**, "numerous factors contribute to the lack of school readiness, including the fact that 25% of Colorado mothers lack a high school diploma."

A February 2001 report from the U.S. Census Bureau sheds some light as to how a lack of parental educational attainment affects the readiness to learn of children. Compared to children of college graduates, children whose parents never earned a high school or GED diploma were:

- ♦ ten times more likely not to be read to at least once a week (22.5% vs. 2.4%) and
- ♦ half as likely to be read to on at least a daily basis (30% v. 63.4%).

Sources

- ♦ **First-Ever Statewide K-1 Teacher Survey on School Readiness**, Educare Colorado and Colorado Children's Campaign, February 20, 2002. Available at: <ftp://128.121.126.126/Educare%20Presentation.pdf>
- ♦ *40 percent of children unprepared for school*, **Rocky Mountain News**, February 21, 2002. Excerpts available at: http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/education/article/0,1299,DRMN_957_995267,00.html and http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/education/article/0,1299,DRMN_957_996074,00.html
- ♦ **A Child's Day: Home, School, and Play (Selected Indicators of Child Well-Being)**. U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Reports, issued February 2001. Available at: <http://www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/p70-68.pdf>

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Family Reading Practices with 3 to 5 Year Olds by Parental Education, Fall 1994

