PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT BIRTH THROUGH FIVE: LEADER SURVEY

SPRING 2022



Suggested citation:

Study of Early Education through Partnerships. (2022). Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) 2022 Leader Survey. [Survey Instrument].

Virginia Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Spring 2022 Leader Survey

GENERAL INFORMATION

The following questions ask for your full name and contact information. Please be sure the information you provide is accurate. We will use it to email you a **\$20 Walmart gift card** about 2 business days after we receive your finished survey. Please note, your responses to this survey may be linked to past PDG B-5 surveys and/or to surveys collected by other UVA research teams. Your information will be kept confidential. Your responses will never be released to anyone in your site, community, or elsewhere.

Please provide your full name, email address, and phone number.

First Name:	
Last Name:	
Maiden Name (if applicable):	
Primary Email Address:	
Alternative Email Address:	

YOU AND YOUR JOB

This section asks about your current or most recent experiences working in early childhood education. Throughout the survey, we define "site" to be the center, home, or school where an early childhood program is located. When we use the phrase "Since August," we are referring to any time since August 1, 2021.

Which of these titles best describes your current or most recent position at [site]?

- **O** Owner and Site Director
- 0 Owner
- **O** Site Director or Principal
- **O** Assistant Director or Assistant Principal
- O Teacher (lead teacher, co-teacher, assistant teacher, aide, paraprofessional, floater, etc.)
- **O** Site Director and Teacher
- O Other (please specify): _____

[*if* "Other" is selected] Are you currently employed in a leadership position at [site]? Leadership positions typically involve managing operations, staffing, budgeting, and/or instruction.

- O Yes
- $0 \, \mathrm{No}$

Are you currently employed at [site]?

- O Yes
- $0 \, \mathrm{No}$

[*if teacher and not "Yes" to leadership position*] In your work at this site, do you regularly teach or care for children <u>age 0-5</u> who are not yet enrolled in kindergarten?

0 No 0 Yes

What is this site's add	lress?
Street Addre	2SS:
Zip Code: _	County or City:
Is there another adm	inistrator or site leader who provides substantial leadership to early childhood teachers at your
site? If so, please pro	vide their full name, email address, and position so we can invite them to complete this survey.
First Name:	
Last Name:	
Email Addre	255:
Role:	
•	have you worked at this site in any position? [dropdown: 0-2 months, 3-5 9-11 months, 1 year – 30 or more years]
0	have you worked as an early childhood educator (in any role and at any site, including this one)? dropdown: 0-2 months, 3-5 months, 6-8 months, 9-11 months, 1 year – 30 or more years]
•	leader at this site, did you previously work as an early childhood teacher (including as a lead assistant teacher, aide, paraprofessional, floater, etc.) for children age 0-5 at any site, including this

CHILDREN SERVED

This section asks questions about enrollment and attendance at your site. Enrollment refers to children who are registered for and/or on your site's roster.

How many children are currently enrolled at this site? [dropdown, 0- more than 600]

How many of the children enrolled are in each of the following age groups? Your best estimate is fine.

	# of children
Infants (0-15 months)	
Toddlers (16-35 months)	
3-year-olds	
4- or 5-year-olds not yet enrolled in kindergarten	
School-age children kindergarten and up	

The following items ask about the XX children enrolled in your program who are **age 0-5 who are not yet enrolled in kindergarten**. If you serve school-age children, in kindergarten or above, please do not include them in your responses.

Of the [XX] children age 0-5 (but not yet in kindergarten) enrolled at this site, how many are... Please count each child only once. Your best estimate is fine.

	# of children
American Indian or Alaskan Native, non-Hispanic	
Asian, non-Hispanic	
Black, non-Hispanic	
Hispanic, regardless of race	
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	
White, non-Hispanic	
Multiracial/other	
Don't know	

As far as you know, how many of the [XX] children <u>age 0-5 (but not yet in kindergarten)</u> you reported have **diagnosed special needs**? By special needs we mean: an IFSP or IEP, a diagnosed disability, chronic illness, or medical problem. _____ [dropdown; don't know, 0 – more than 600]

Aside from the children with diagnosed special needs mentioned above, in your opinion, how many of the [XX] children <u>age 0-5 (but not yet in kindergarten)</u> enrolled at this site have an **undiagnosed social/emotional/cognitive problem and may benefit from an evaluation**? _____ [dropdown; don't know, 0 – more than 600]

As far as you know, how many of the [XX] children <u>age 0-5 (but not yet in kindergarten)</u> you reported are from families who **speak a language other than English** at home? _____ [dropdown; don't know, 0 – more than 600]

As far as you know, how many of the [XX] children <u>age 0-5 (but not yet in kindergarten)</u> you reported are **unhoused or experiencing homelessness**? This includes families who share the housing of other persons because of a loss of housing, economic hardship, or other reason. _____ [dropdown; don't know, 0 – more than 600]

Since August, how difficult has it been to fill all the openings for children age 0-5 (but not yet in kindergarten)?

- **O** Not at all difficult
- O A little difficult
- O Moderately difficult
- **O** Very difficult
- O Don't know

In some Virginia communities, early childhood leaders are working to help sites fill slots and help families find slots. In your community, is there such a collaborative effort?

O No

O Yes

O Don't know

[if yes] Have efforts to coordinate enrollment in your community helped you maintain or expand your enrollment?

- **O** Not at all
- O A little
- **O** Moderately
- **O** Very much
- **O** Not applicable: We have not faced challenges with enrollment.

What more could your community do to help families find early care and education, and/or to help your site fill its slots?

TEACHER-CHILD INTERACTIONS AND THE CLASS

The next set of questions ask about your experience with the Classroom Assessment Scoring System, or the CLASS. The CLASS is a tool that measures the quality of teacher-child interactions.

Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with the following statements. Mark one response per line.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree	Don't know
I have a clear understanding of what the CLASS measures.	О	О	О	О	О	О
Children learn more in classrooms with higher CLASS scores.	О	О	О	Ο	О	Ο
Ensuring high quality teacher-child interactions is a priority for my site.	Ο	О	Ο	Ο	О	Ο

Have you ever attended a training that introduced you to the CLASS observation tool?

- $0 \, \mathrm{No}$
- O Yes
- **O** Don't know

Do you know how to access your teachers' CLASS scores?

- $0 \, \mathrm{No}$
- O Yes

Since August, have you accessed your teachers' CLASS scores?

- O No
- O Yes
- O Don't know

[if yes] How useful have you found seeing your teachers' CLASS scores?

- **O** Not at all useful
- **O** A little bit useful
- **O** Moderately useful
- **O** Very useful

[*if yes, have accessed scores*] Since August, have you used the information from their CLASS scores to support teachers (e.g., discussed their scores and/or strategies for improvement, signed them up for training)?

- $0 \, \mathrm{No}$
- O Yes
- O Don't know

How equipped do you feel to support teachers in improving their CLASS scores?

- O Not well equipped
- **O** Somewhat well equipped
- **O** Very well equipped

How interested would you be in additional training on strategies to support your teachers with improving their CLASS scores?

- **O** Not at all interested
- O A little bit interested
- **O** Moderately interested
- **O** Very interested

In what ways has Virginia's focus on the CLASS been useful and/or challenging at your site?

SUPPORTING TEACHING AND LEARNING

The next set of questions is about curricula and professional development at your site.

How much do you disagree or agree with the following statement? A formal curriculum is important for ensuring quality at my site.

- **O** Strongly disagree
- **O** Disagree
- **O** Neither disagree nor agree
- **O** Agree
- O Strongly agree

Overall, how prepared are the teachers at your site to use the curriculum?

- **O** Not at all prepared
- **O** A little prepared
- **O** Moderately prepared
- **O** Very prepared
- **O** Not applicable: My site does not use a curriculum. *[if selected, skip to ECMHC item]*

[if not NA] How equipped do you feel to support teachers in fully implementing their curriculum?

- **O** Not well equipped
- **O** Somewhat well equipped
- **O** Very well equipped

[*if not* NA] How interested would you be in additional training on strategies to support your teachers with using the curriculum?

- **O** Not at all interested
- O A little bit interested
- **O** Moderately interested
- **O** Very interested

[if not NA] What particular supports do you need to better help teachers use curricula? Please explain.

The following questions focus on supporting and managing children's social-emotional health and challenging behaviors.

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMHC) involves partnering with a consultant to support a child's social-emotional development through activities such as observation, joint problem-solving, use of social-emotional teaching practices, and meeting with families.

If you or your teachers had significant concerns about a child's social-emotional development or wellbeing and could access ECMHC, how likely is it that you would do so?

- **O** Not at all likely
- **O** A little bit likely
- **O** Moderately likely
- O Very likely

Since August, about how many children age 0-5 has your site stopped serving due to behavior problems? *Please do not include kindergarteners*. [dropdown, don't know; 0-more than 600]

If you have stopped serving any children: What behaviors led you to stop serving this child or children?

STAFFING & TEACHER COMPENSATION

The following questions are about your experiences with managing staffing at your site (e.g., retaining current teachers, teachers leaving, staff vacancies) and with hiring new teachers for your site. Only report on staff who work with children age 0-5, not yet in kindergarten.

In the questions below, "lead teachers" refers to the primary instructional leaders and care providers for a classroom or group of children.

"Assistant teachers" (including aides, paraprofessionals, and floaters) refers to teachers or staff who support the lead teacher in providing teaching and care to young children.

How many teachers are currently employed by this site to teach and care for children age 0-5? Do not include yourself.

Lead teachers _____ Drop-down menus (0 – more than 100)

Assistant teachers/aides

At your site, how challenging is staffing (e.g., teachers leaving, vacancies)?

O Not at all challenging

- **O** A little challenging
- **O** Moderately challenging
- **O** Very challenging

The next questions ask about how staffing at your site has changed **since December.** Please enter numerals only. Your best estimate is fine.

Since December, how many **lead teachers** left this site (e.g., quit/resigned, were terminated)? ______ Since December, how many new **lead teachers** were hired to work for this site? ______ Currently, how many unfilled vacancies are there for **lead teachers**? ______

Since December, how many assistant teachers left this site (e.g., quit/resigned, were terminated)?
Since December, how many new assistant teachers were hired to work for this site?
Currently, how many unfilled vacancies are there for assistant teachers?

[if any teachers left] Since December, how many teachers left because of low compensation levels?

How worried are you that current teachers will leave because of low compensation levels?

O Not at all worried

O A little worried

- O Moderately worried
- **O** Very worried

[if hired at least 1 teacher since July OR have at least 1 current vacancy] The next questions ask about finding and hiring new teachers at your site **since December**.

Trying to find and hire new teachers when there are openings can be challenging. Since December, how challenging has it been to find and hire teachers when there are openings?

- **O** Not at all challenging
- **O** A little challenging
- **O** Moderately challenging
- **O** Very challenging

Since December, has your site experienced any of the following challenges when trying to find or hire new teachers? *Mark one response per line.*

	No	Yes	Don't know
There were too few or no applicants.	Ο	Ο	Ο
Applicants were not qualified for the position (e.g., lacked needed education/training, no experience).	Ο	Ο	0
Applicants had unpredictable availability due to COVID (e.g., needing to quarantine).	Ο	Ο	0
Applicants were not a good fit for the position.	Ο	Ο	0
Applicants did not attend scheduled interview.	Ο	Ο	0
Applicants turned down the job because pay/benefits were not sufficient.	Ο	Ο	0

Since December, have difficulties finding or hiring new teachers led to any of the following challenges at your site? *Mark all that apply.*

- **O** Serving fewer children and/or turning families away
- O [if center] Reducing the number of classes or classrooms at this site
- O Hiring an applicant who has less experience and/or qualifications than desired
- **O** Asking current staff to work more hours and/or take on additional duties
- **O** Other (please explain): ____
- **O** Not applicable: No difficulties finding or hiring new teachers

The following questions are about this site's current teachers who work with children.

What are the average wages of **lead teachers** who work for this site? *Your best estimate is fine*. [dropdown by \$0.25 increments, less than 7.50 to more than 25.00]

What are the average wages of **assistant teachers** who work for this site? *Your best estimate is fine*. [dropdown by \$0.25 increments, less than 7.50 to more than 25.00]

In the 2021-2022 school year, have any teachers at your site been eligible to receive payments from the Teacher Recognition Program?

O No

O Yes

O Don't know

[*if yes*] As far as you know, how much has the Teacher Recognition Program impacted the following things at your site? *Mark one response per line.*

	Not at all	Not at all A little	Somewhat	Very	Don't
	INOT at all	bit	Somewhat	much	know
Teachers' decision to start working at your site	О	О	О	О	О
Teachers' decision to keep working at your site	О	Ο	Ο	Ο	О
Teachers' sense of being appreciated	О	Ο	О	Ο	О
Teachers' ability to meet their financial needs	О	Ο	Ο	Ο	О
Teachers' stress levels	О	Ο	О	Ο	О

[If Yes, received the TRP, I don't know, or skipped]: What are the main benefits of receiving the Teacher Recognition Program for your site?

[If Yes, received the TRP, I don't know, or skipped]: What challenges or concerns, if any, has the Teacher Recognition Program created for your site?

Please describe any strategies or investments your site has made since December to retain teachers, reduce turnover, or recruit new staff.

JOB SATISFACTION AND WELLBEING

Working with young children can be both very rewarding and challenging. Supporting young children's learning requires supporting educators' wellbeing as well. These questions ask about you and your current or past work with young children. There are no right or wrong answers.

How likely is it that you will continue working at your site? Please rate how likely you find each of the following statements. *Mark one response per line.*

	Not	A little bit	Moderately	Very
	likely	likely	likely	likely
Thinking ahead to three months from now, I will be	Ο	О	О	Ο
working at [site].				
Thinking ahead to one year from now, I will be working at	Ο	Ο	Ο	Ο
[site].				

Thinking ahead to three years from now, I will be	О	Ο	О	Ο
working at [site].				

To what extent do you agree with the following statement: I view being an early childhood educator (e.g., teacher, leader) as my long-term career.

O Strongly disagree

O Disagree

O Neither disagree nor agree

O Agree

O Strongly agree

Think about your position at your site. How satisfied are you with each of the following? Mark one response per line.

	Not at all satisfied	A little bit satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Very satisfied
The job overall	О	О	О	О
Interactions with teachers and staff at site	О	О	О	Ο
The pay	О	О	О	О
The benefits	О	О	О	О

Please indicate how much you agree with the following statements. Mark one response per line.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree
My work at this site is important.	О	О	О	Ο	О
I really enjoy my present job.	Ο	О	О	Ο	О
I feel I am making a significant difference in the lives of children.	Ο	О	О	Ο	О
If I could start over, I would choose being an educator again as my career.	Ο	О	О	Ο	О
I am optimistic about the future of my site.	Ο	Ο	О	Ο	О

How much do you feel each of these groups value the importance of early childhood educators like you? *Mark one response per line*.

	Not at all	A little bit	Somewhat	Very much
People in my community	О	О	О	О
State policymakers (e.g., Virginia Department of Education, Department of Social Services, Governor's Office)	О	О	Ο	О

Please indicate how often you have felt this way during the past week. Mark one response per line.

 . 0	-	<u>^</u>	*	
Rarely or	Some or	Occasionally	Most or all	Don't
never	a little	or	of the time	know
		moderately		

I did not feel like eating, my appetite	О	О	О	О	0
was poor.					
I had trouble keeping my mind on	Ο	Ο	О	О	Ο
what I was doing.					
I felt depressed.	О	О	О	О	Ο
That everything I did was an effort.	О	Ο	О	О	Ο
My sleep was restless.	О	Ο	О	О	Ο
I felt sad.	О	Ο	О	О	Ο
I could not "get going."	О	Ο	О	О	О

SALARY AND BENEFITS

One common challenge for early childhood educators is making ends meet. This section asks you about the salary you receive from your site and your overall financial security.

Overall, how many hours do you typically work for this site each week? Please count all hours you work, including paid and unpaid hours. Your best guess is fine.

Of the hours you typically work at this site each week, about how many hours are unpaid? Your best guess is fine.

About how much are you paid at this site (before taxes)? You can answer either about your hourly wage or about your annual salary, whichever is easier. *Please mark only <u>one</u> option from the table below. Your best estimate is fine.*

My hourly wage is	<u>(</u>	DR My annual salary is	
Less than \$7.50 per hour	Ο	Less than \$15,000 per year	Ο
Between \$7.50 and \$9.99 per hour	Ο	Between \$15,000 and \$24,999 per year	Ο
Between \$10.00 and \$12.49 per hour	Ο	Between \$25,000 and \$34,999 per year	Ο
Between \$12.50 and \$14.99 per hour	Ο	Between \$35,000 and \$44,999 per year	Ο
Between \$15.00 and \$17.49 per hour	Ο	Between \$45,000 and \$54,999 per year	Ο
Between \$17.50 and \$19.99 per hour	Ο	Between \$55,000 and \$64,999 per year	Ο
Between \$20.00 and \$22.49 per hour	Ο	Between \$65,000 and \$74,999 per year	Ο
Between \$22.50 and \$24.99 per hour	Ο	Between \$75,000 and \$99,999 per year	Ο
Between \$25.00 and \$27.49 per hour	0	Between \$100,000 and \$149,999 per year	Ο
More than \$27.50 per hour	Ο	More than \$150,000 per year	Ο

Please estimate your total household income per year (before taxes) from all sources. Mark one.

O Less than \$15,000 per year

O Between \$15,000 and \$24,999 per year

O Between \$25,000 and \$34,999 per year

O Between \$35,000 and \$44,999 per year

O Between \$45,000 and \$54,999 per year

O Between \$55,000 and \$64,999 per year

- **O** Between \$65,000 and \$74,999 per year
- **O** Between \$75,000 and \$99,999 per year
- **O** Between \$100,000 and \$149,999 per year
- **O** More than \$150,000 per year

Read the three statements below. In the **past three months**, how true was each statement below for you or members of your household? *Mark one response per line*.

	Never	Sometimes	Often
	true	true	true
I/we have worried that my/our food might run out before I/we have money	О	О	Ο
to get more.			
The food that I/we bought just didn't last, and I/we didn't have the money to	Ο	Ο	Ο
get more.			
I/we couldn't afford balanced meals.	Ο	Ο	Ο

Please indicate how often you have felt this way during the past three months. Mark one response per line.

	Rarely or	Some	Occasionall	Most or all	Don't
	never	or a	y or	of the time	know
		little	moderately		
I worry I will run out of money before I am paid	О	О	О	О	О
again.					
I am unable to sleep well because of financial	Ο	Ο	Ο	Ο	Ο
worries.					
I make purchases on credit cards hoping that I	Ο	Ο	О	О	О
will have the money later.					
Many of my bills are past due.	Ο	Ο	Ο	О	О

In the past three months, have you had enough money to pay for: Mark one response per line.

	No	Yes	Not applicable
Education debt (e.g., student loans)	О	О	0
Other debt	Ο	Ο	О
Medical needs	О	Ο	О
Mortgage/rent/utilities	Ο	Ο	О
Transportation (e.g., bus pass, car maintenance, gas)	О	Ο	О
Child care needs	Ο	Ο	О
Unexpected events or emergencies	Ο	Ο	О

In the **past three months**, have you or someone in your household received any of the following forms of assistance? *Mark all that apply. If you have not received any, mark "None."*

- **O** Child care subsidy (CCSP)
- **O** TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)/VIEW (Virginia Initiative for Employment Not Welfare)
- **O** WIC (Women, Infants & Children nutrition service)
- **O** SNAP (food stamps)
- O Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)/FAMIS
- **O** Meals from the school lunch or school breakfast program
- O Food from a food bank, food pantry, or other community organization
- O Medicaid
- **O** Subsidized housing/Section 8 housing
- **O** Unemployment

- O Disability, e.g., SSI (Supplemental Security Income) or SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance)
- O EITC (Earned Income Tax Credit)
- O Other (please specify): _____
- **O** None: I/we have not received any of these supports.

Do you currently have healthcare benefits from any of the following sources? Mark all that apply.

- O No
- **O** Yes, through my site
- **O** Yes, through another employer
- **O** Yes, through my spouse's policy
- **O** Yes, through Medicare/Medicaid
- **O** Yes, through my parents' insurance
- **O** Yes, through the Affordable Care Act/"Obamacare"
- O Other (please specify):

Which of the following benefits are available to you at this site? Mark one response per line.

	No	Yes	Don't know
Paid sick leave	О	О	О
Paid maternity or family leave	О	О	О
Fully or partially paid health insurance	О	О	О
Professional development reimbursement	О	О	О
Free or reduced-price child care for children of employees	О	О	О
Retirement plan	О	О	О
Other (please specify):	О	Ο	О

ABOUT YOU (DEMOGRAPHICS)

This final section is about you, your experiences, and your education. As a reminder, you may skip any items you do not wish to answer.

In what year were you born? _____ [dropdown; 1930 – 2007]

What is your gender?

- **O** Female
- **O** Male
- O Write in:

What is the best description of your race/ethnicity? Mark all that apply.

- **O** American Indian or Alaskan Native
- O Asian
- O Black
- O Hispanic

0	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
0	White
0	Other (please specify):
Are you	fluent in any language(s) other than English? Mark all that apply.
0	No
0	Yes, Spanish
0	Yes, Vietnamese
0	Yes, Arabic
0	Other (please specify):
How m	any people in the following age ranges live in your household?
	5 or younger [dropdown; 0 – 10 or more]
	Between 6 and 17
	18 or older (<i>include yourself</i>)
Are you	 Currently married or living with a partner? O No O Yes
	hold a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential? No
0	No, but I am currently working towards a CDA.
0	Yes, I hold a CDA.
What is	the highest level of education you have completed?
	O Less than high school/no GED (General Education Diploma)
	O A high school diploma or GED (General Education Diploma)
	O Some college, but no degree
	O An associate's degree (A.A.)
	O A bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.)
	O Some graduate work but no degree
	O A graduate degree (M.A. or M.S.)
	O A graduate degree beyond a master's (Ph.D. or Ed.D.)

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this survey, and for sharing your experiences with us. Below, please provide any additional comments about you, your work, and your experiences working with young children.

Thank you for completing the Spring 2022 Virginia PDG B-5 Leader Survey! If you have not received your \$20 Walmart gift card after two business days, please check any alternate email addresses you may have provided and your spam/junk folders. If you cannot find the gift card, or if you have any other questions, please contact Grace Kegley by email (kgk4pu@virginia.edu) or phone (434-297-6882).

[if site was eligible this past year] Registration for the 2022-2023 VQB5 program year will open in early August through LinkB5. Please be sure to register by September 9th, 2022 in order for your teachers to be eligible to participate in the 2022-2023 teacher recognition program, now called RecognizeB5, which provides payments to teachers. For questions about RecognizeB5, please contact our partners at VECF (pdgb5@vecf.org).

[if site was not eligible this past year] Registration for the 2022-2023 VQB5 program year will open in early August through LinkB5. Please be sure to register by September 9th, 2022 in order to be eligible to participate. For questions, please contact our partners at VECF (pdgb5@vecf.org).