

# Impact and Lessons Learned from VPI+

Presentation to Joint Subcommittee  
on VPI



Virginia Preschool Initiative-**PLUS**

# Objective

*This presentation provides overview of VPI+ and demonstrates the impact of this high quality preschool program on Virginia children.*

1. Overview
2. Evaluation Findings from VPI+
3. Where Do We Go From Here
4. Questions



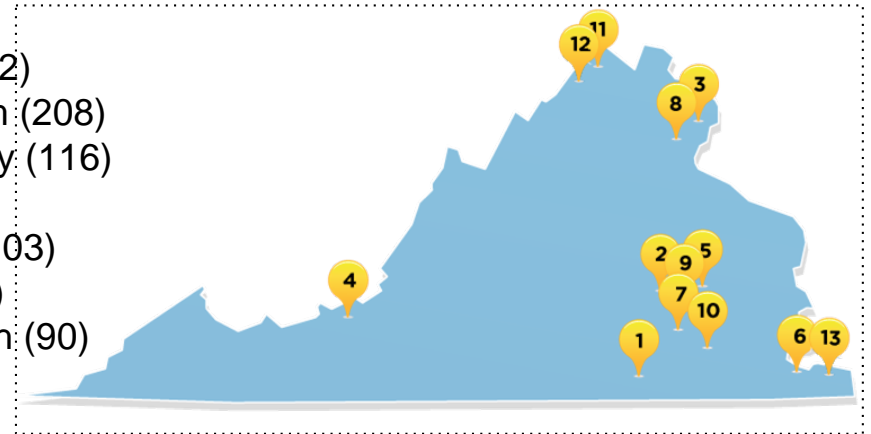
# Overview of VPI+

*More than 10,000 Virginia children across 13 communities have benefited from VPI+, including 1,500 children who are currently in VPI+ slots.*

Thirteen divisions currently offer 1,522 VPI+ (slots in parentheses):

1. Brunswick (22)
2. Chesterfield (208)
3. Fairfax (87)
4. Giles (36)
5. Henrico (360)
6. Norfolk (142)
7. Petersburg (72)
8. Prince William (208)
9. Richmond City (116)
10. Sussex (24)
11. Winchester (103)
12. Frederick (54)
13. Virginia Beach (90)

**Year 1-3**  
4,077 children in VPI+ classes  
5,474 in VPI improved classes  
**9,551 Total**

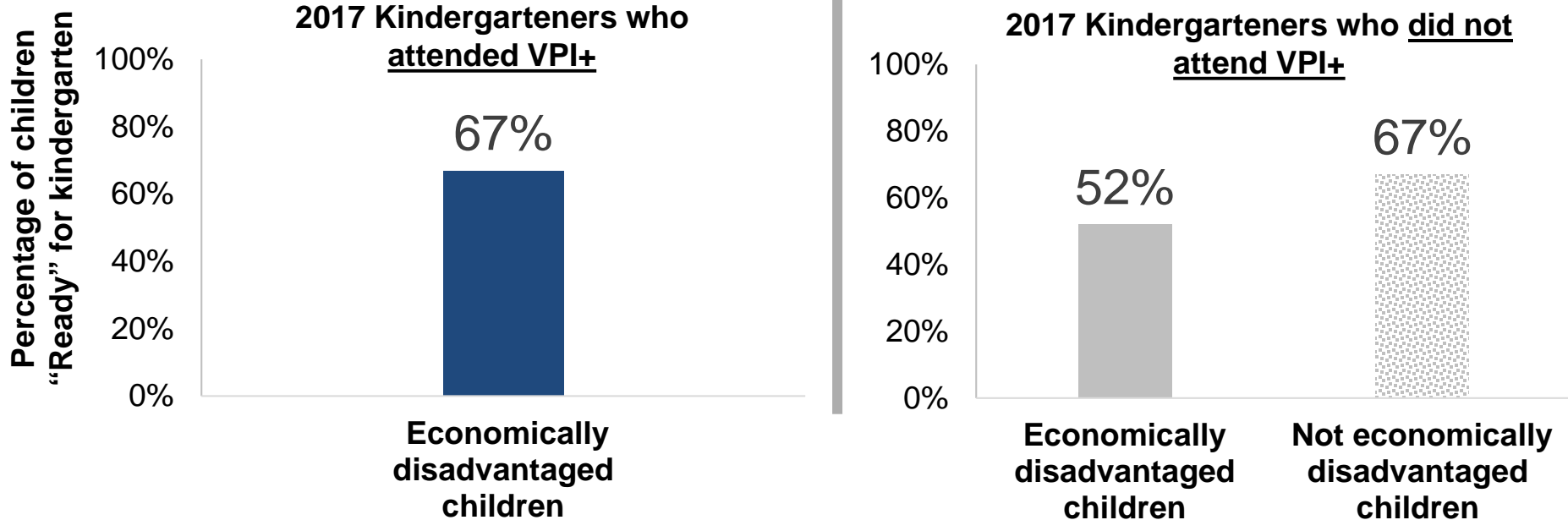




# Implementation and Impacts of the Virginia Preschool Initiative+: Interim Evaluation Findings

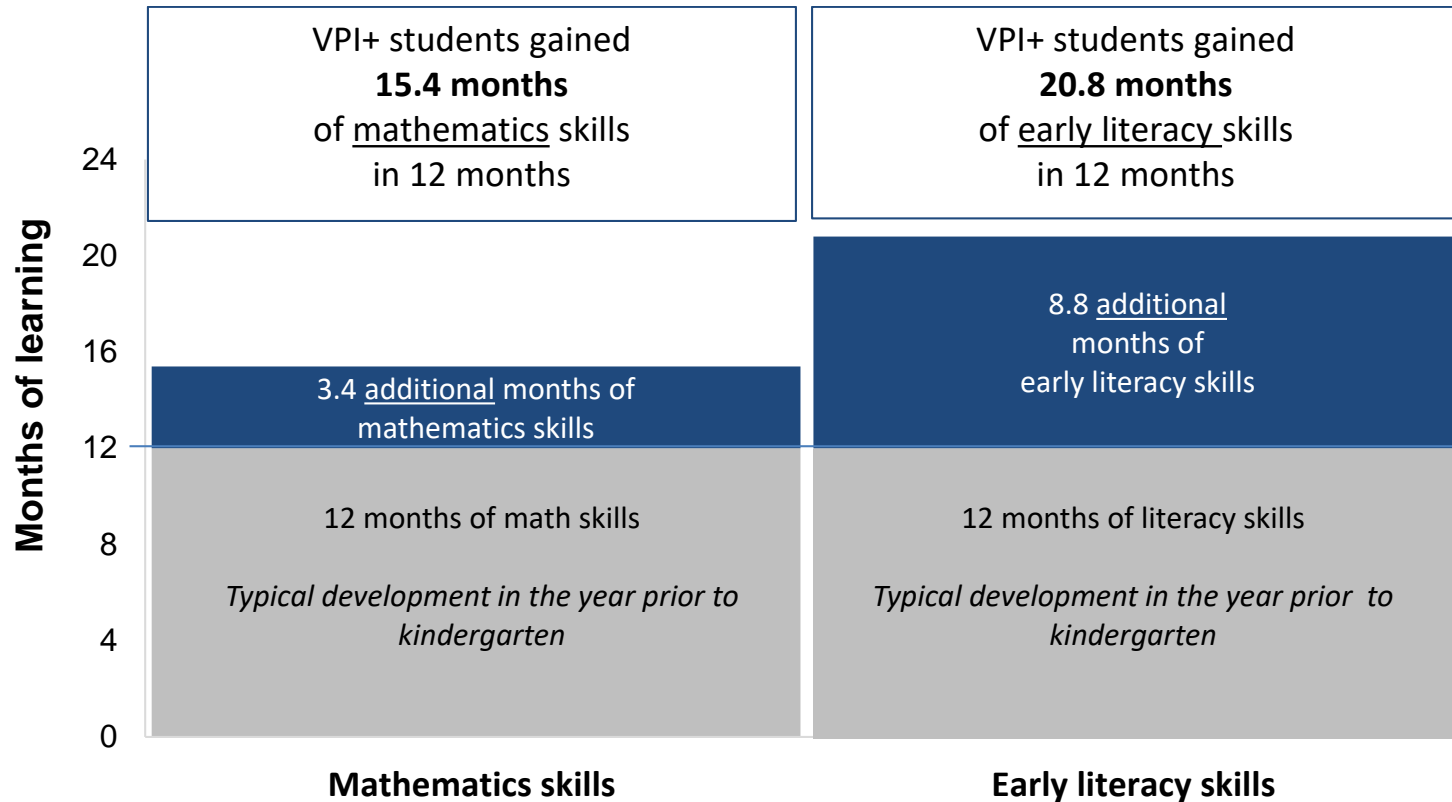
Todd Grindal, Erika Gaylor, Kirby Chow, and Shari Golan  
SRI International

# More Than Two-thirds of VPI+ Children are Ready for Kindergarten



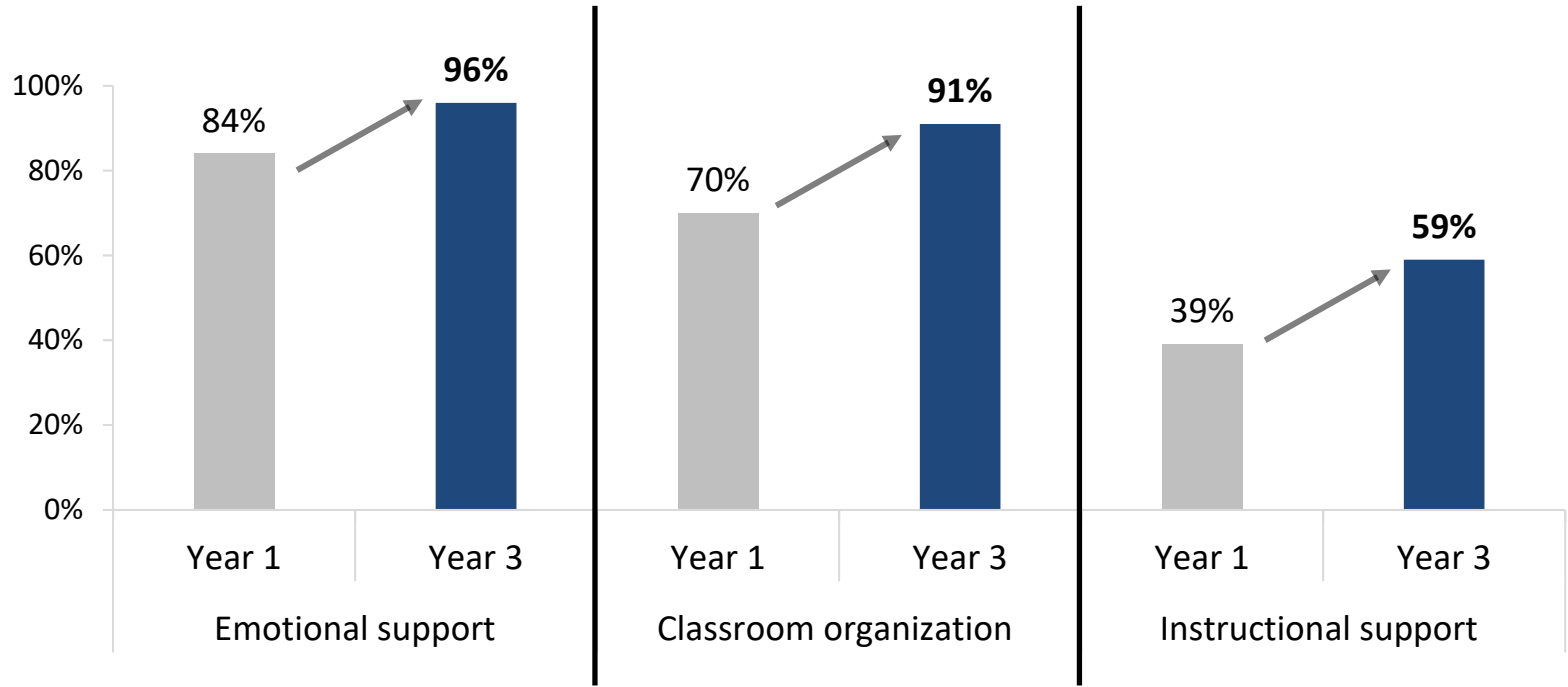
*Note: Measures for kindergarten readiness differed slightly between children who attended VPI+ and children who did not attend VPI+. Kindergarten children who did not attend VPI+ group includes 21,944 children from 64 school divisions (see Williford, Whittaker & McGinty "Presentation to Virginia's Children's Cabinet" November 13, 2018)*

# VPI+ Dramatically Improved Students' Literacy and Math Skills



# The Quality of Instruction in VPI+ is High and Improving

Percentage of classrooms that met or exceeded *Virginia Quality* thresholds



## Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Domains

2015-2016 (n = 64 classrooms)

2017-2018 (n = 70 classrooms)

# VPI+ Successfully Implemented Key Components of Quality Preschool

## Developmentally appropriate classrooms

- Child-to-adult ratios of no more than 9 to 1
- Class sizes of no more than 18 children
- Evidence-based curricula
- Full-day (5.5 hours per day)

## Well trained and compensated teachers

- Nearly all teachers (99%) have a bachelor's degree and 53% have a masters degree or higher
- Salaries commensurate with local kindergarten teachers

## Ongoing observation and feedback

- 3 hours of coaching per month
- At least 1 CLASS observation every other year (some more frequently)
- Regular training on:
  - curriculum
  - classroom organization & management
  - teacher-child interactions
  - use of assessments

## Supports for children outside of the classroom

- On-site vision and hearing screenings, mental health, and adult education
- Referrals to additional community-based services

*These are similar components to VPI classrooms under November 2018 Plan.*



# Where Do We Go From Here

*More than 10,000 Virginia children have benefited, schools and teachers have built capacity and families are overwhelmingly positive about VPI+.*

- Virginia communities and families want to sustain slots in order to ensure more children enter school ready for success.
- VPI+ classrooms are already implementing the VPI plan, serving as a model for others:
  - Using integrated, evidence-based curriculum
  - Regularly assessing and improving teacher-child interaction quality (CLASS ratings)
  - Providing individualized, data-driven professional development
- Virginia can continue to fund these slots, potentially at a lower amount per child, to help these communities prepare children for kindergarten.



## Questions?

### SRI

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