Family Literacy in the U.S.: Where are we in 2021?

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Goodling Institute for Research in Family Literacy

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Presentation Agenda

- Overview of research project
- Data from survey of state directors of adult education
- Data from survey of local Family Literacy(FL) programs
- Takeaways and discussion

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Updating Our Study of FL in the U.S.

Goodling Institute's original report on FL programming (2017)

Overview of 2017 Report

Purpose of report was to determine if AEFLA funds were used to continue FL programming after Even Start demise.

Information gathered from 47 states plus District of Columbia (D.C.).

Eleven states & D.C. fund FL at varying levels (AEFLA, state).

Most states use braided funding.

Eight of 11 states and D.C. require four components (Adult education, parent education, interactive literacy activities, early childhood).

Updating Report in 2020

Two different surveys sent out to all state AE directors & local family literacy programs (convenience sample)

Response Totals:

State Directors: 46

Local Programs: 134

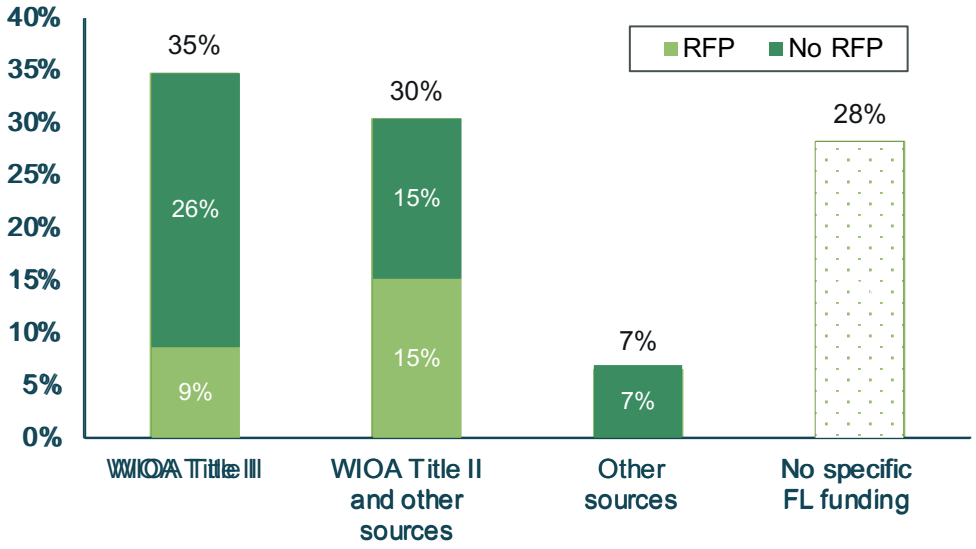
2

Data from State Directors' Survey

33

The number of states funding some form of family literacy

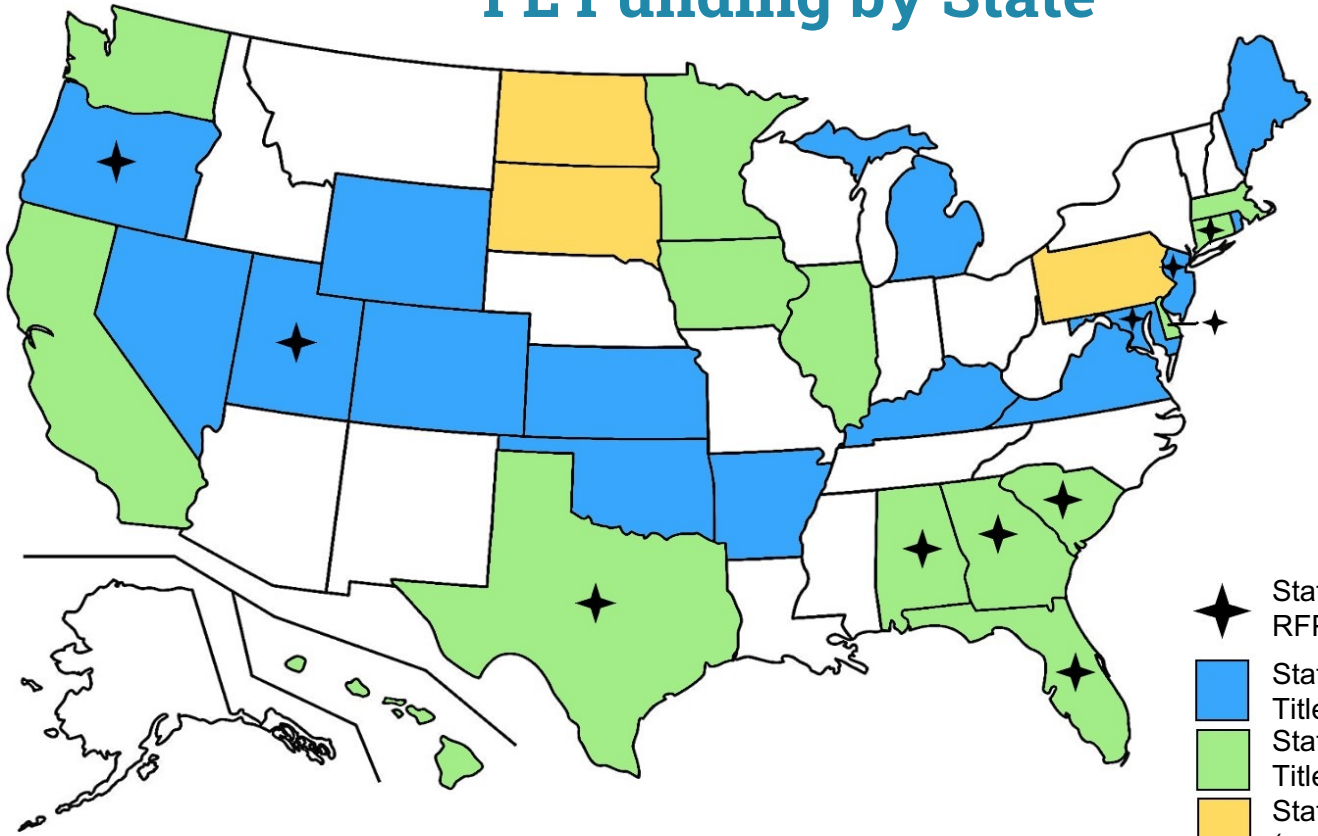
WIOA Title II & other funding sources



Out of 46 states,

- 72% provide financial support for FL
  - 65% WIOA Title II
  - 7% Other state resources
  - 24%: RFP for FL
- 28% no indication of financial support for FL

FL Funding by State



15

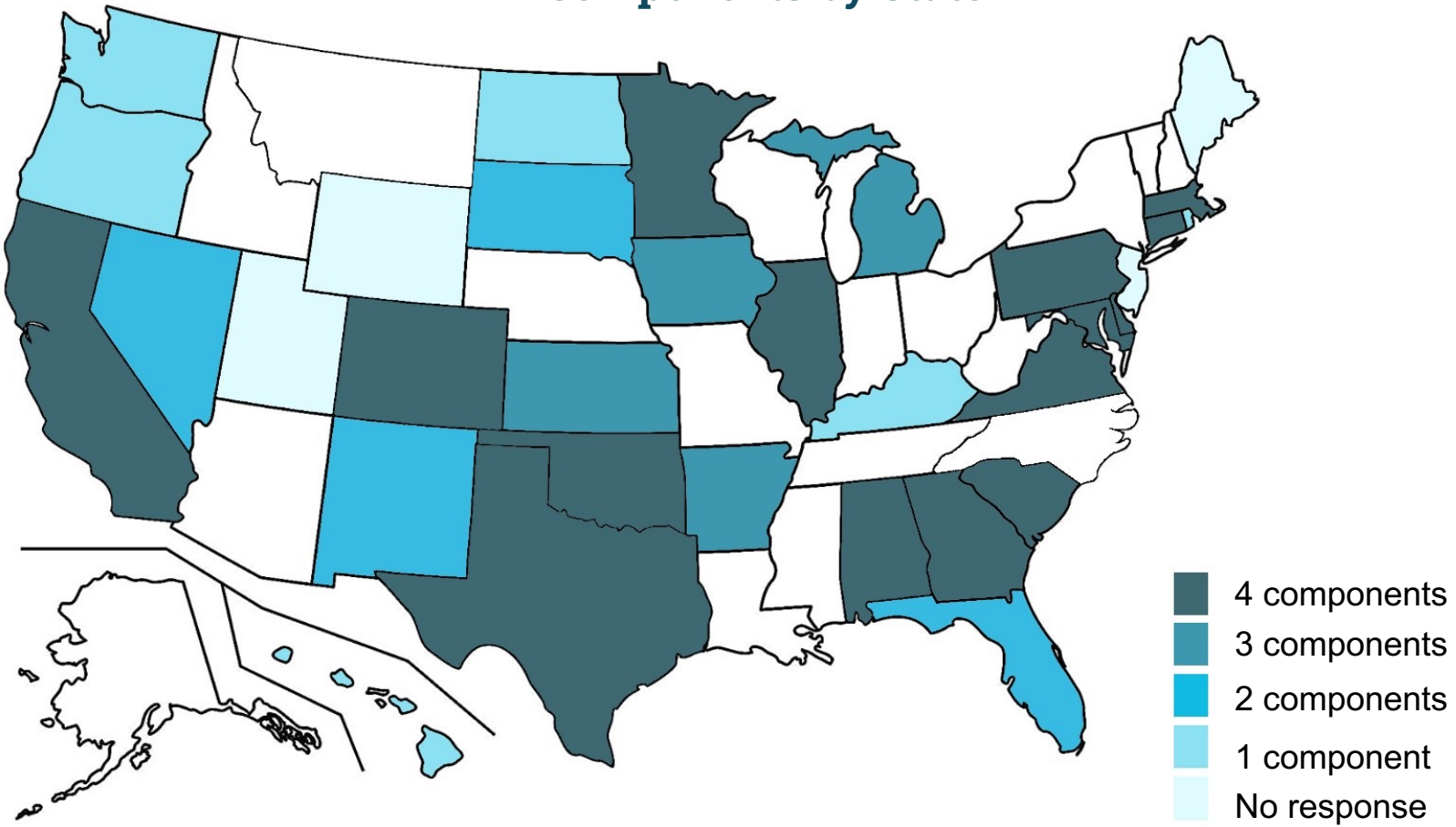
The number of states indicating they offer 4-component family literacy programming

Family Literacy: 4 Component Model

Family literacy based on Kenan's model of 4 components:

- Adult education
- Early childhood & school-age education
- Parent education
- Interactive literacy activities

FL Components by State

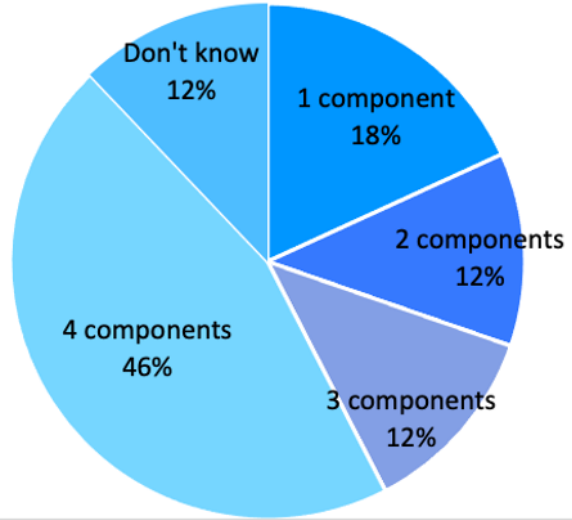


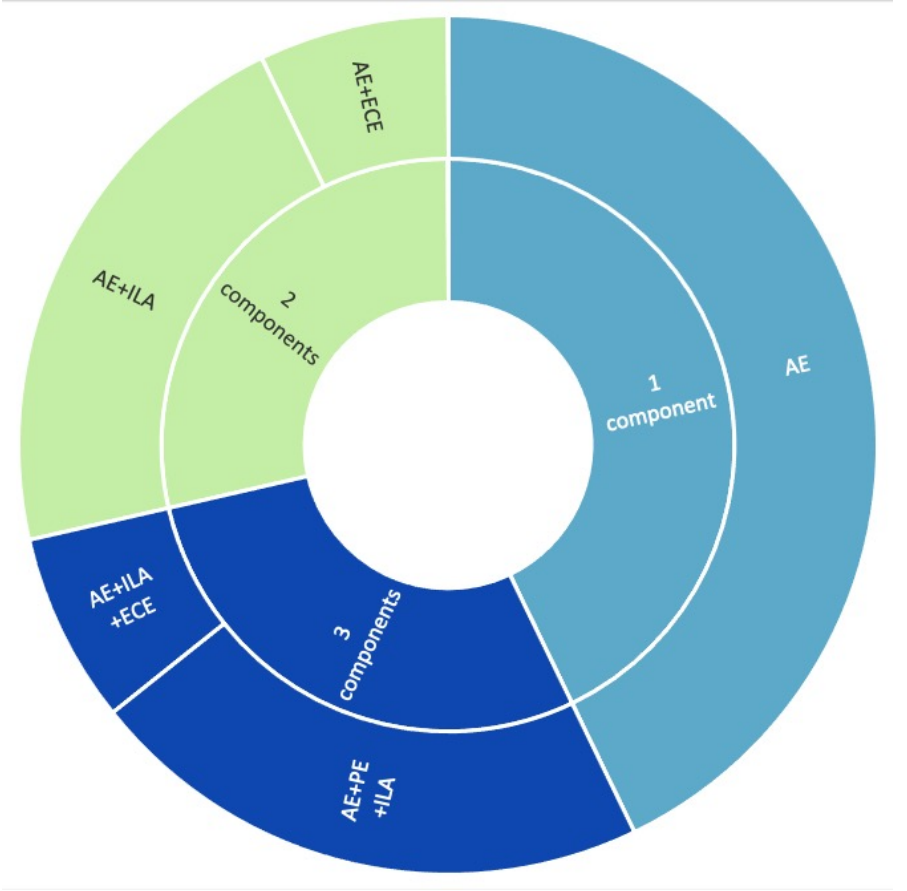
FL Components by State

Of 33 states providing financial supports for FL:

46% offer ALL four components (n=15)

18% offer only AE component (n=6)





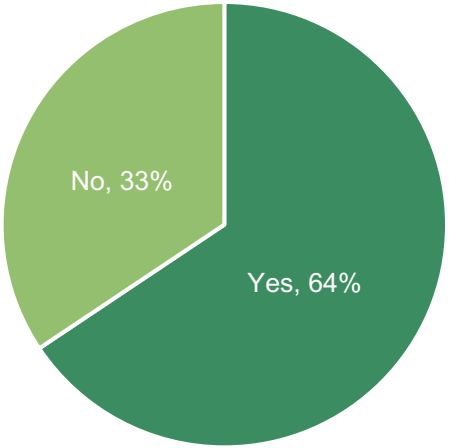
Number of FL components offered (n= 33)

21

The number of states collecting & managing outcome data for FL programs

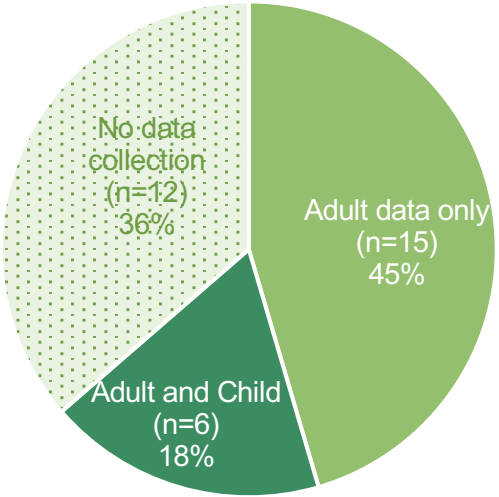
Data Collected by States

21 states collect & manage outcome data for FL programs, including data on adult and child participation



States funding for FL program (n=33)

States' Data Collection



States with funding for FL program (n= 33)

Outcome data include data on adult and child participation for FL program

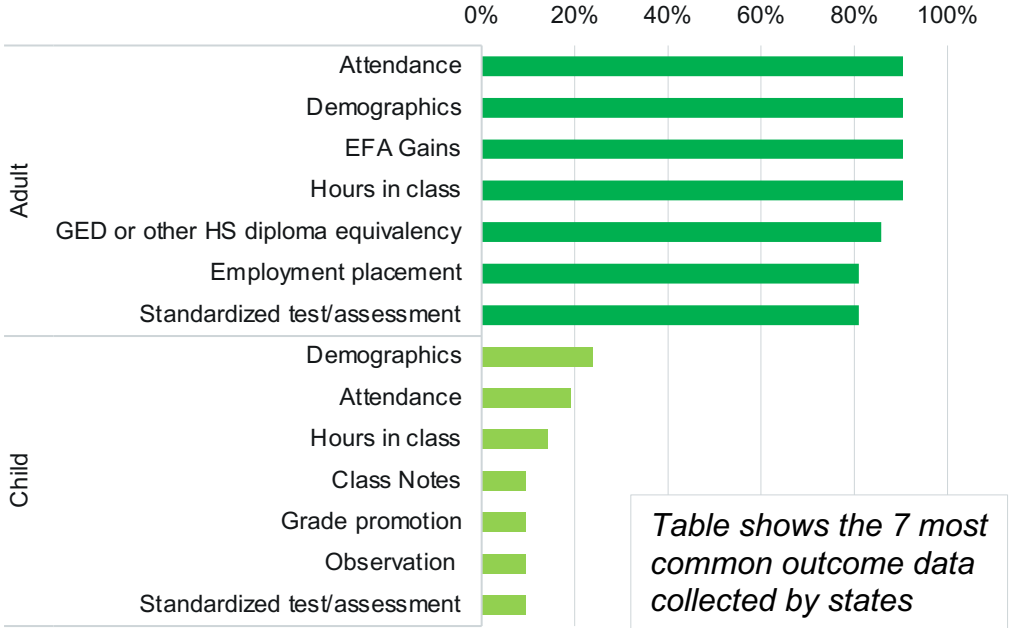


Table shows the 7 most common outcome data collected by states

State's data collection for FL program (n= 21)

3

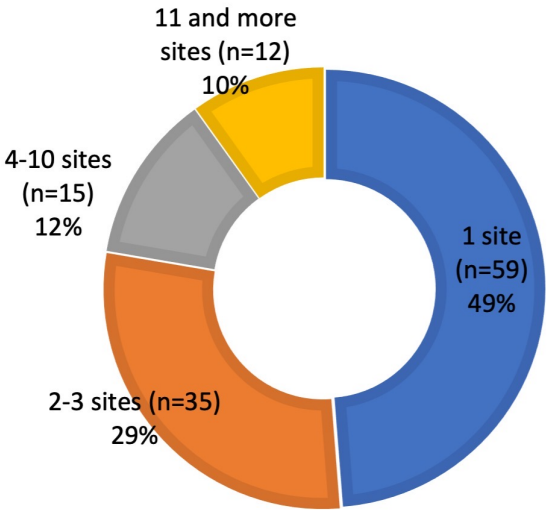
Data from Local Organizations' survey

121

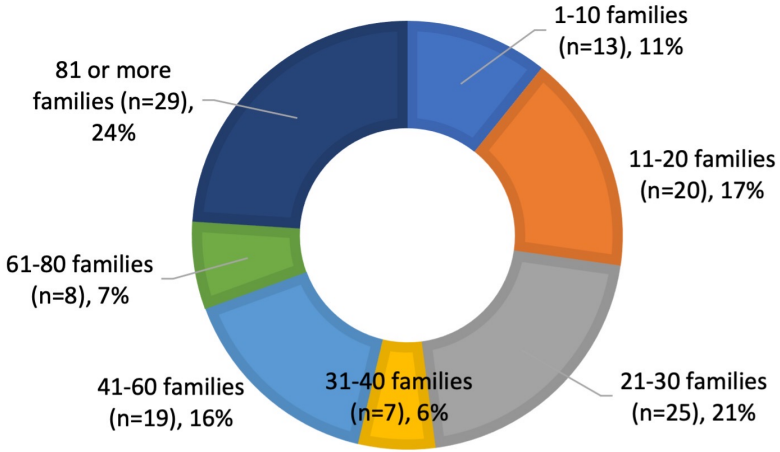
The number of organizations providing family literacy programs out of 134 local programs surveyed

Programs Overview

Number of program sites



Number of families served



87%

of programs have existed 3+ years

56%

of programs have existed 11+ years

26%

Ever received Even Start Funds

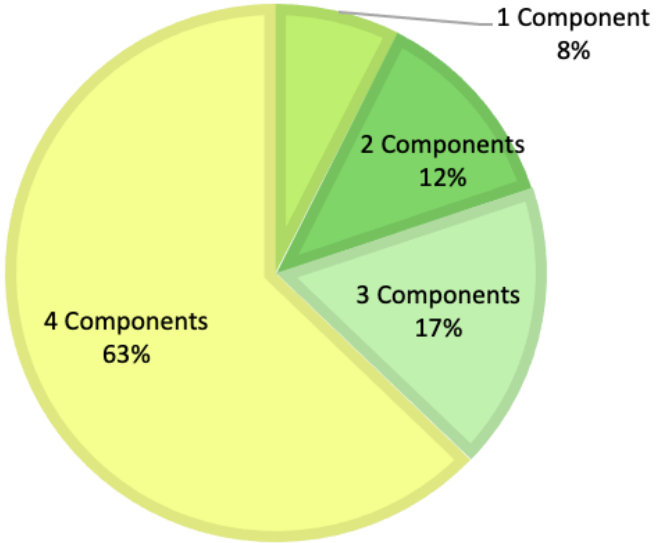
63%

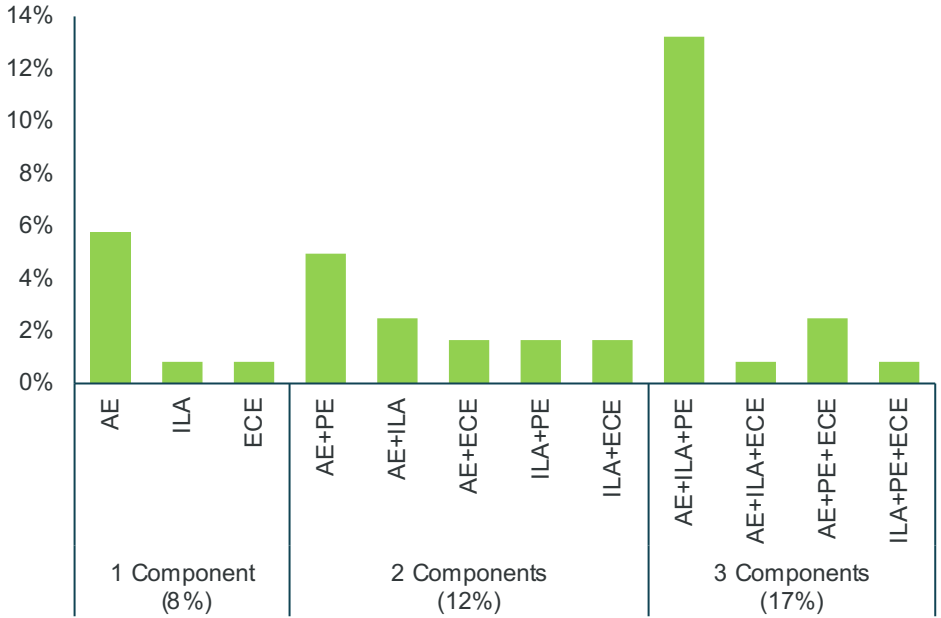
Percent of programs reporting they offer all 4 FL components

Components Offered

Of 121 local FL programs,

- **63% offer ALL four components (n=76)**
- **8% offer only one component (n=9)**





Number of components offered (n= 121)

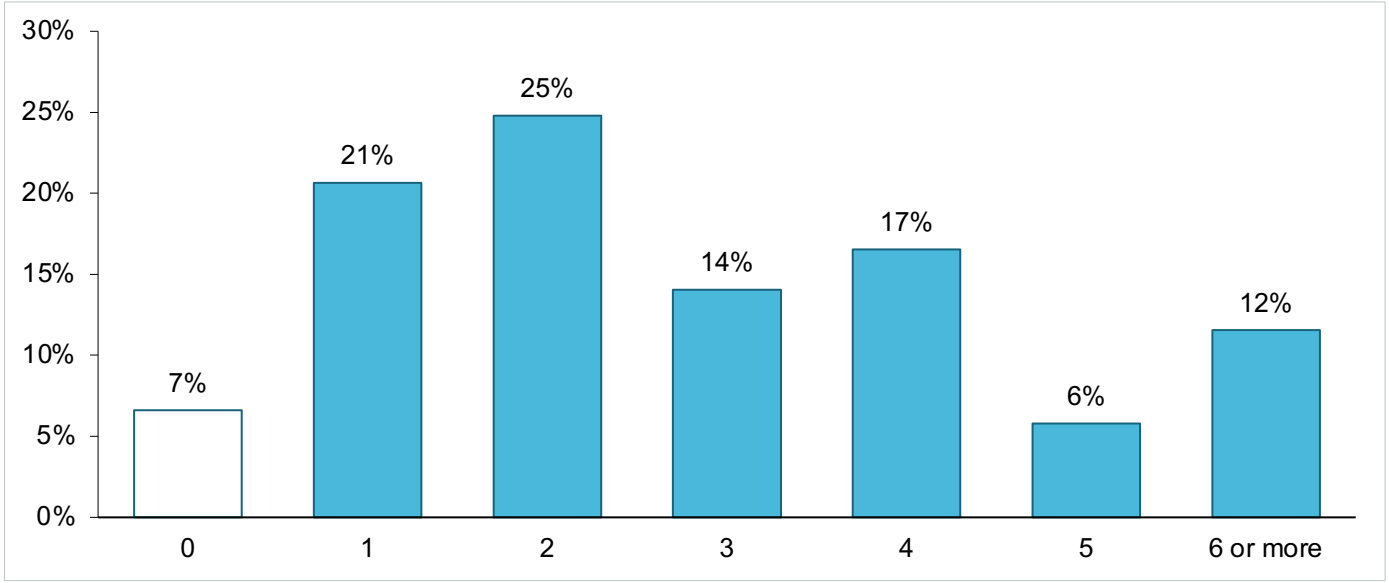
3.2

Average number of funding sources for FL programs

Number of Funding Sources Programs Use

Of 121 local FL programs,

- **7% do not receive funding (n=8)**
- **60% receive 1-3 funding sources (n=72)**

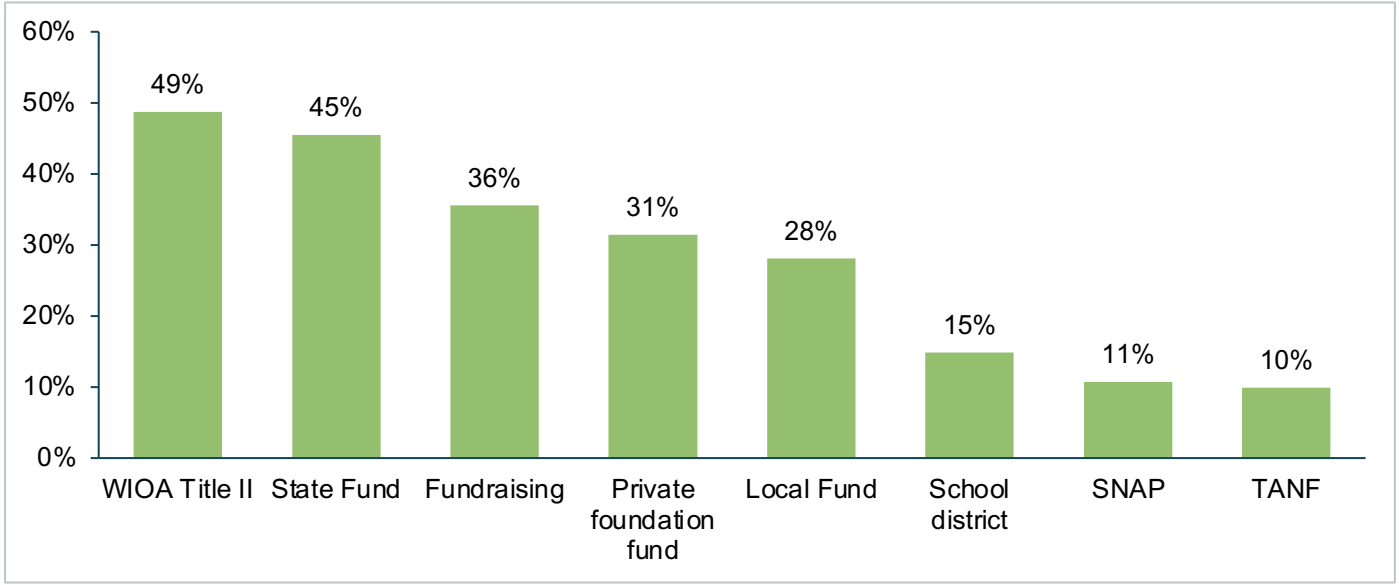


Number of funding sources (n=121)

Types of funding sources mostly used

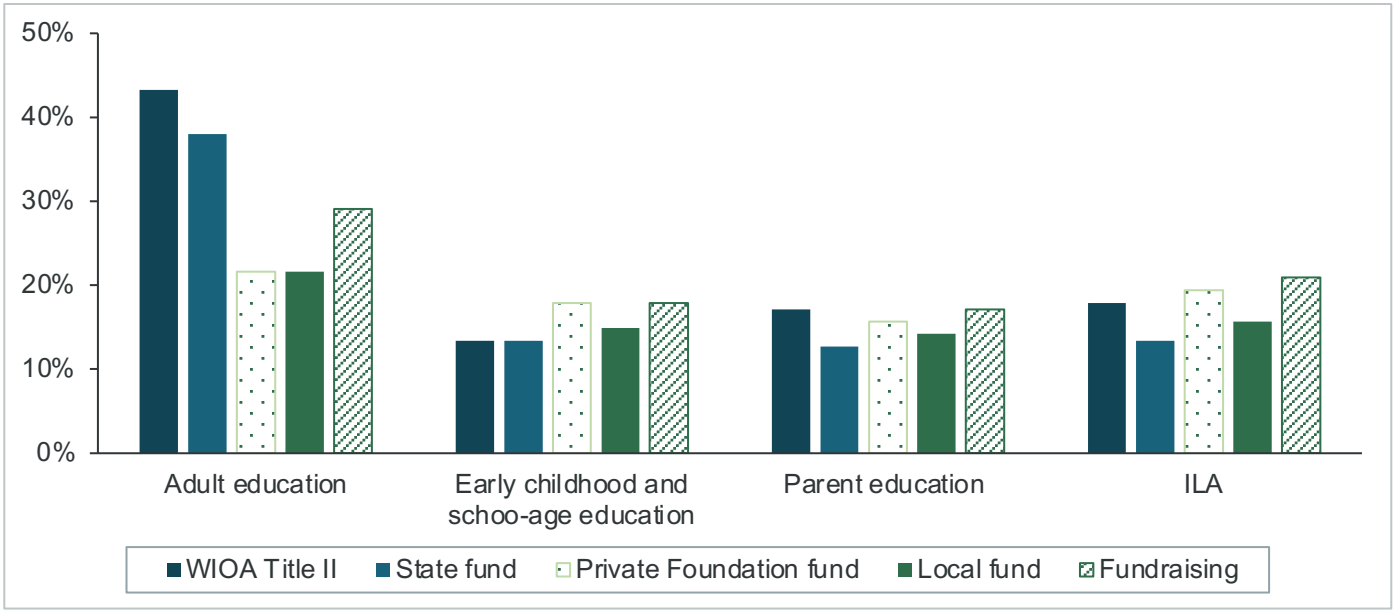
Other funding sources:

- **Community Services Block Grants (7%)**
- **Family and Child Education (FACE) (6%)**



Types of funding mostly used (n= 121)

Components & Their Funding Sources

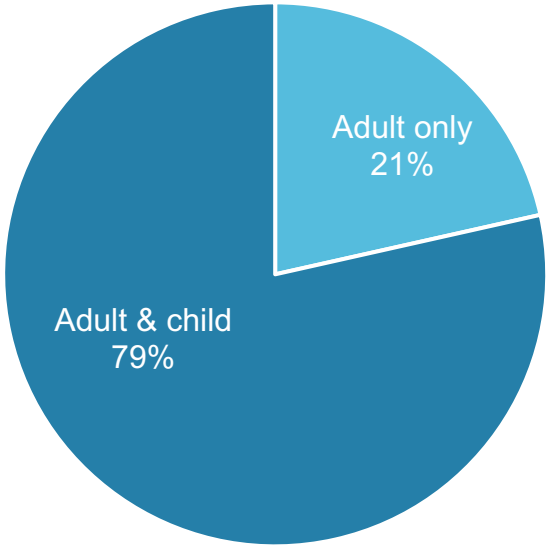


Types of funding used for each component (n= 121)

121

The number of programs collecting & managing outcome data for FL programs

Programs' Data Collection



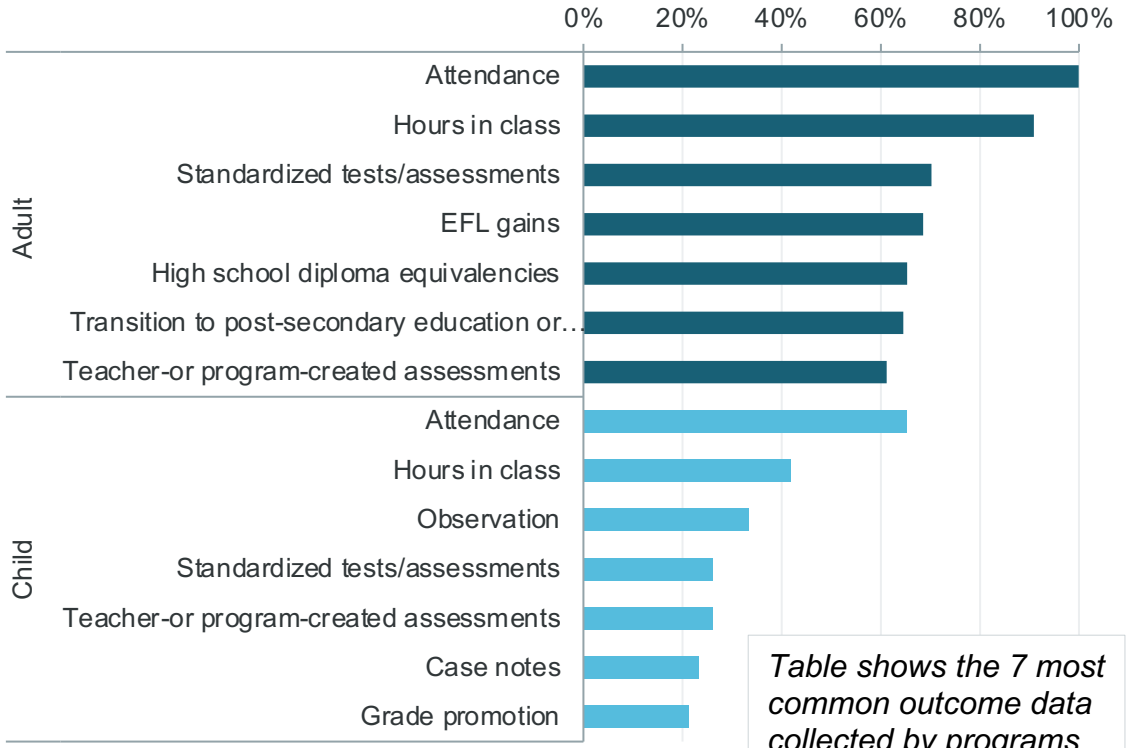


Table shows the 7 most common outcome data collected by programs

Program's data collection (n= 121)

4

Our Takeaways

Our Takeaways

A little more than half of local programs have been in service for a decade or more, suggesting that many programs have continued to offer FL services despite a changing funding landscape

FL programming is very diverse

Both states and programs braid together sources to fund family literacy

What are your takeaways from the presentation?

Thank you!

For additional information:

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