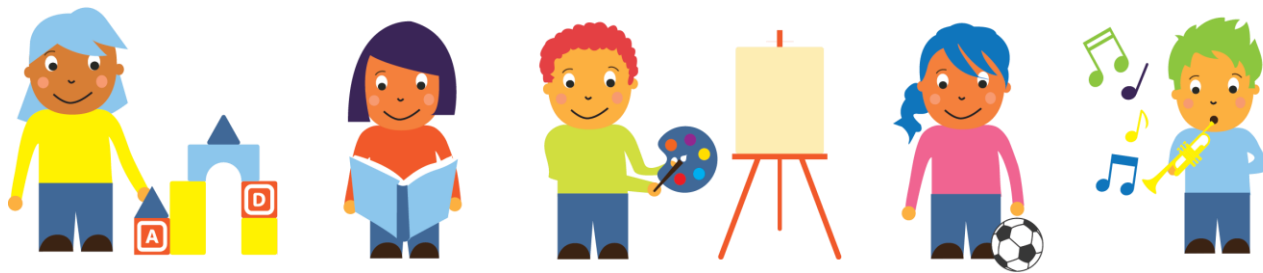


Ensuring Children Are Ready to Learn by Reducing Chronic Early Absence





About Us

Attendance Works advances student success and closes equity gaps by reducing chronic absence. Operating at the local, state, and national level, Attendance Works:

- ✓ Advances better **policy**
- ✓ Nurtures proven and promising **practice**
- ✓ Promotes meaningful and effective **communication**
- ✓ Catalyzing needed **research**

Since our launch in 2010, we have become the nation's “go-to” resource for improving student attendance.

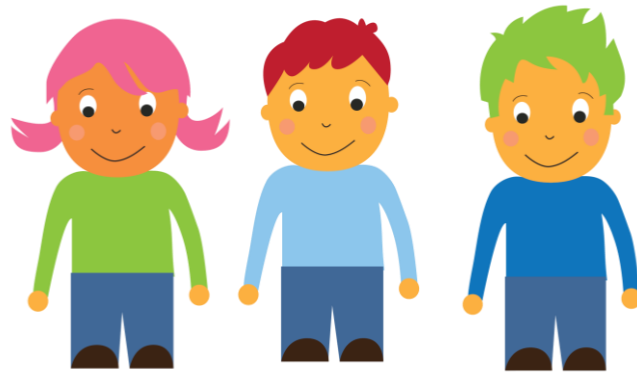
To learn more, go to: www.attendanceworks.org



Welcome and Introductions

- Name
- Agency
- Position
- Share one reason you were motivated to join this session today

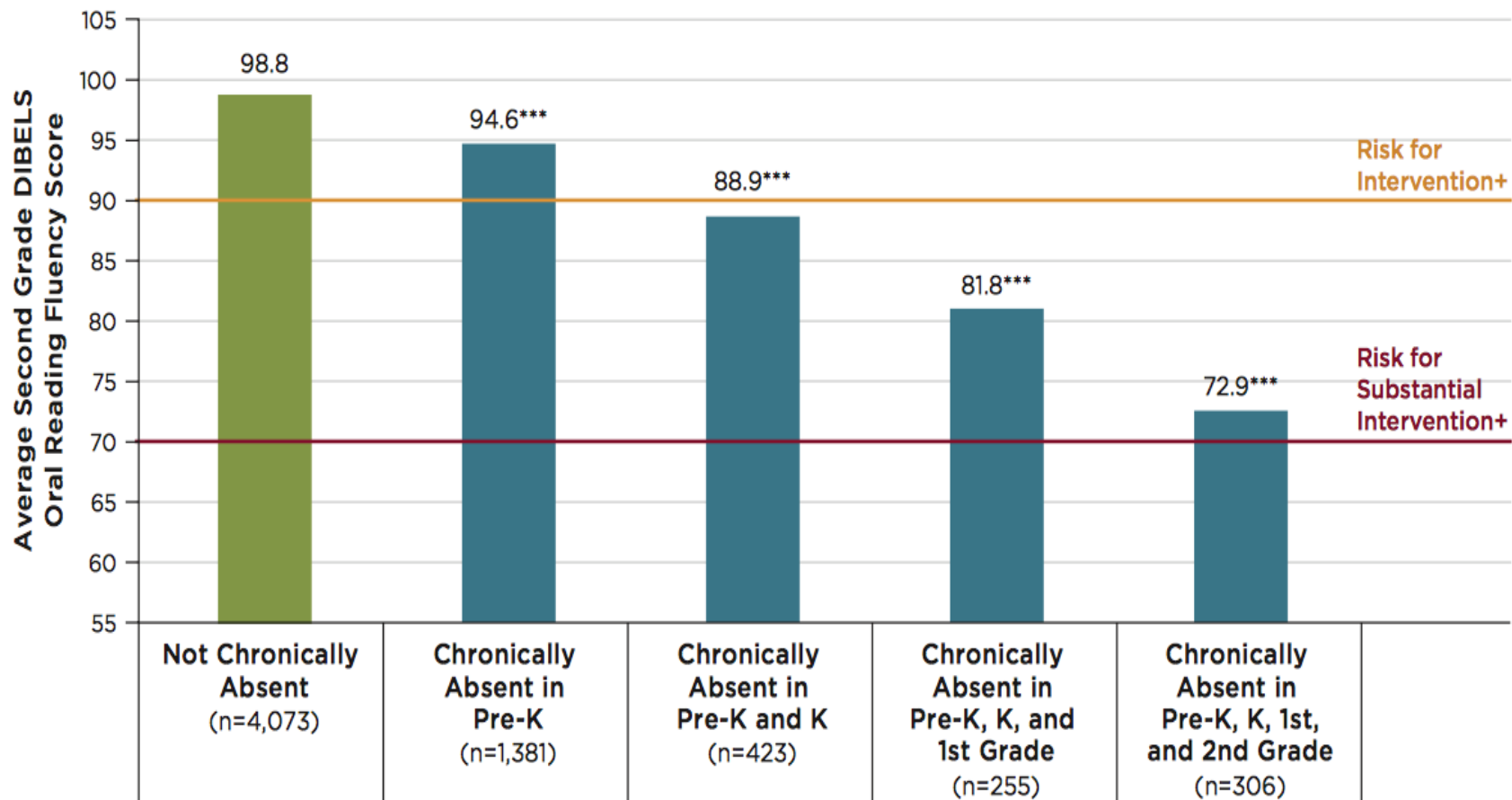
Illustrating the Gap



Instructions found on Bringing Attendance Home Toolkit

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/for-parents/bringing-attendance-home-toolkit/>

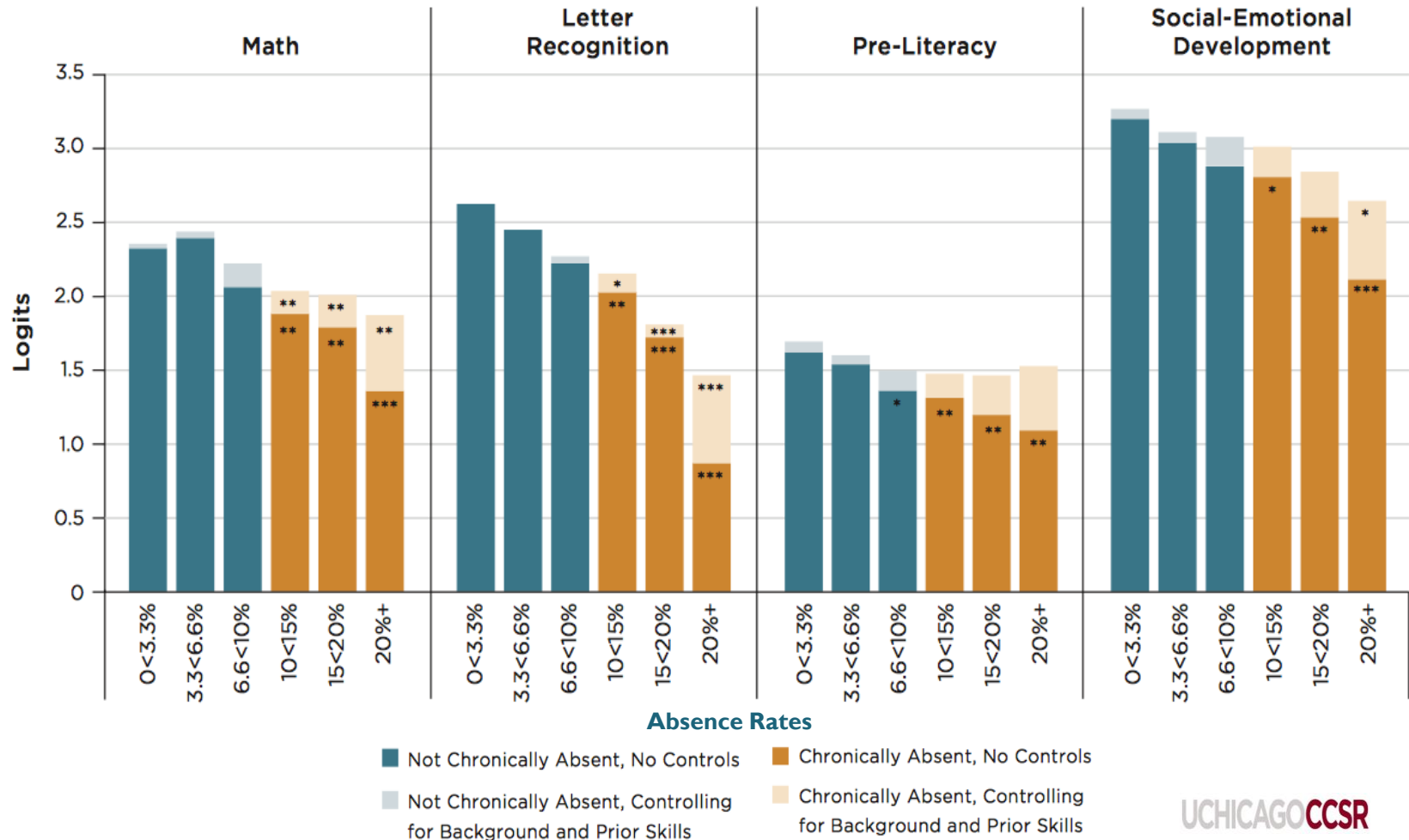
Multiple Years of Chronic Absenteeism = High Risk for low 3rd Grade Reading Skills



Note: ***Indicates that scores are significantly different from scores of students who are never chronically absent, at p<.001 level. + In the DIBELS 6th Edition Assessment and Scoring Guide (Good & Kaminski, 2002), these are labeled as “Some Risk,” indicating the need for additional intervention and “At Risk,” indicating the need for substantial interventions.

UCHICAGO CCSR

Lower Preschool Attendance = Lower Kindergarten Readiness Scores



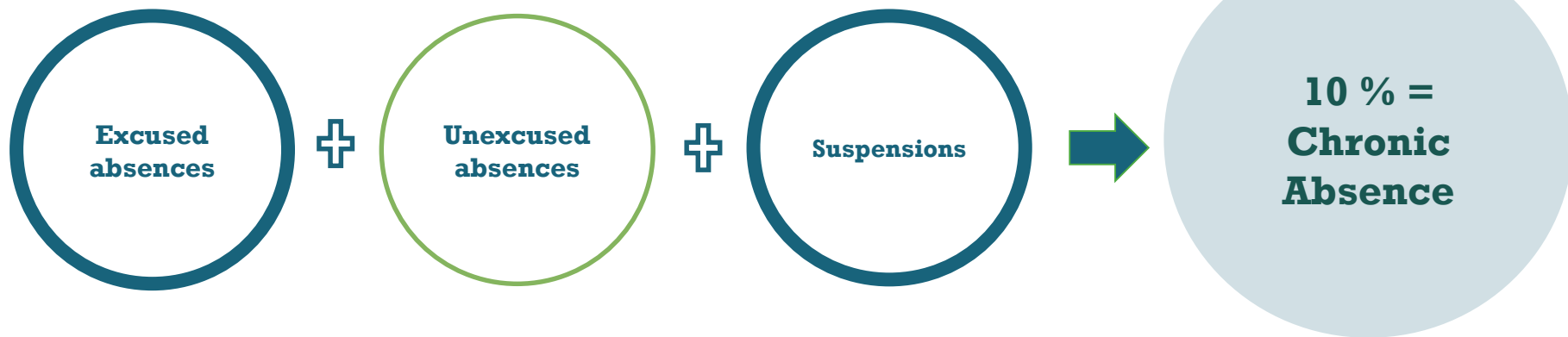
Note: (1) The sample for these analyses include four-year-old students who took both the Woodcock-Johnson III at the beginning of the school year and the KRT at the end of the school year in 2010-11 (n=1,265); * p<.05; **p<.01; ***p<.001.

What is Chronic Absence?



What is Chronic Absence?

Chronic absence is missing so much class time for any reason that a child cannot experience the full benefit of preschool or school. Attendance Works recommends defining chronic absence as **missing 10% or more of school or preschool for any reason.**



Chronic absence is different from **average daily attendance** (how many students show up to school each day) because it is child-focused and counts **all** absences.



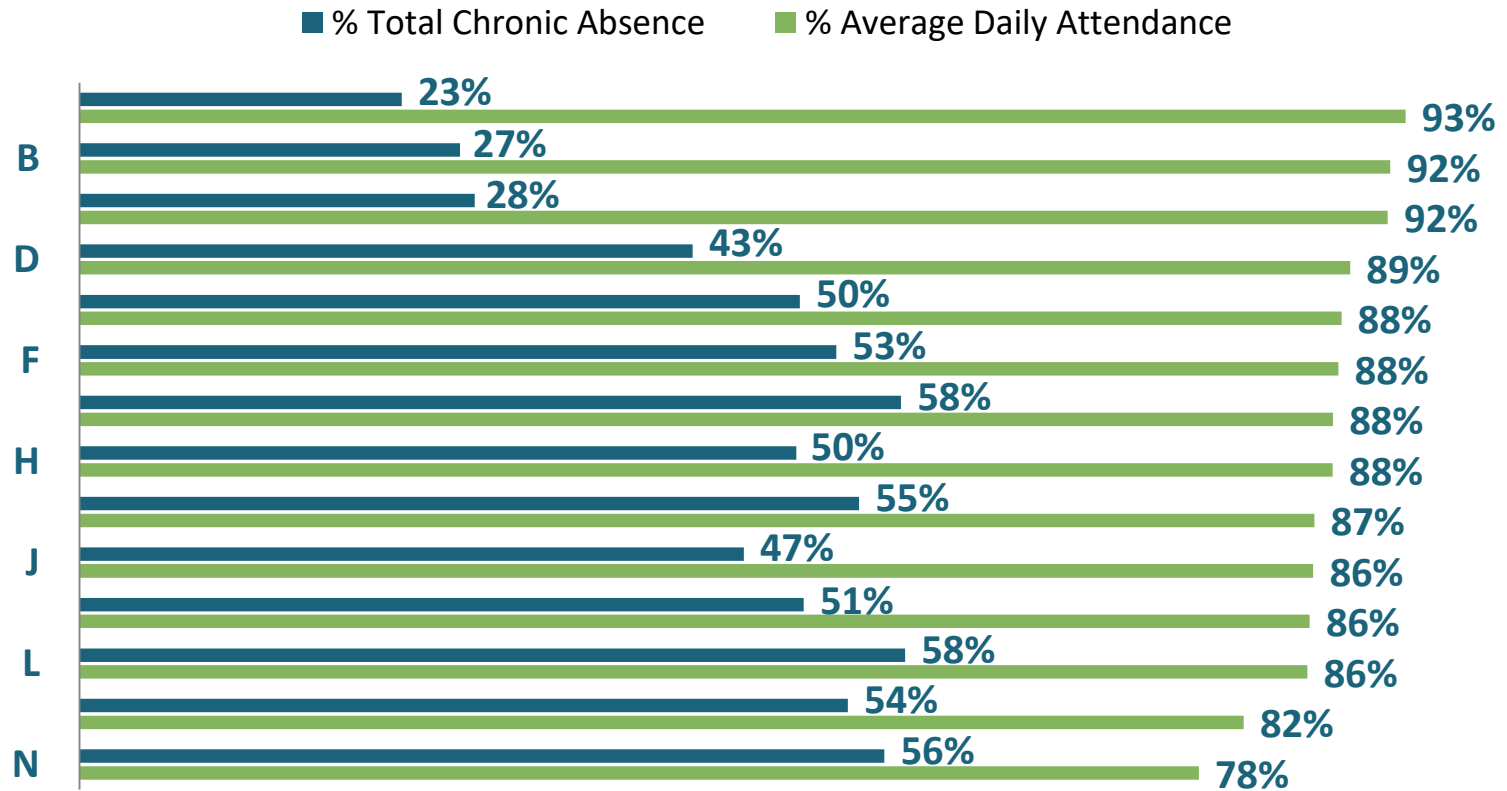
Chronic absence is easily masked if we only monitor missing consecutive days

September					October					November					December					January					
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	
													X				X								
							X				X														
		X	X					X				X			X	X					X	X	X		
February					March					April					May					June					
M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	M	T	W	TH	F	
				X						X															
X	X													X		X						X	X		
							X						X												

*Chronic Absence = 18 days of absence = **As few as 2 days a month***



Average daily attendance easily masks high levels of chronic absence

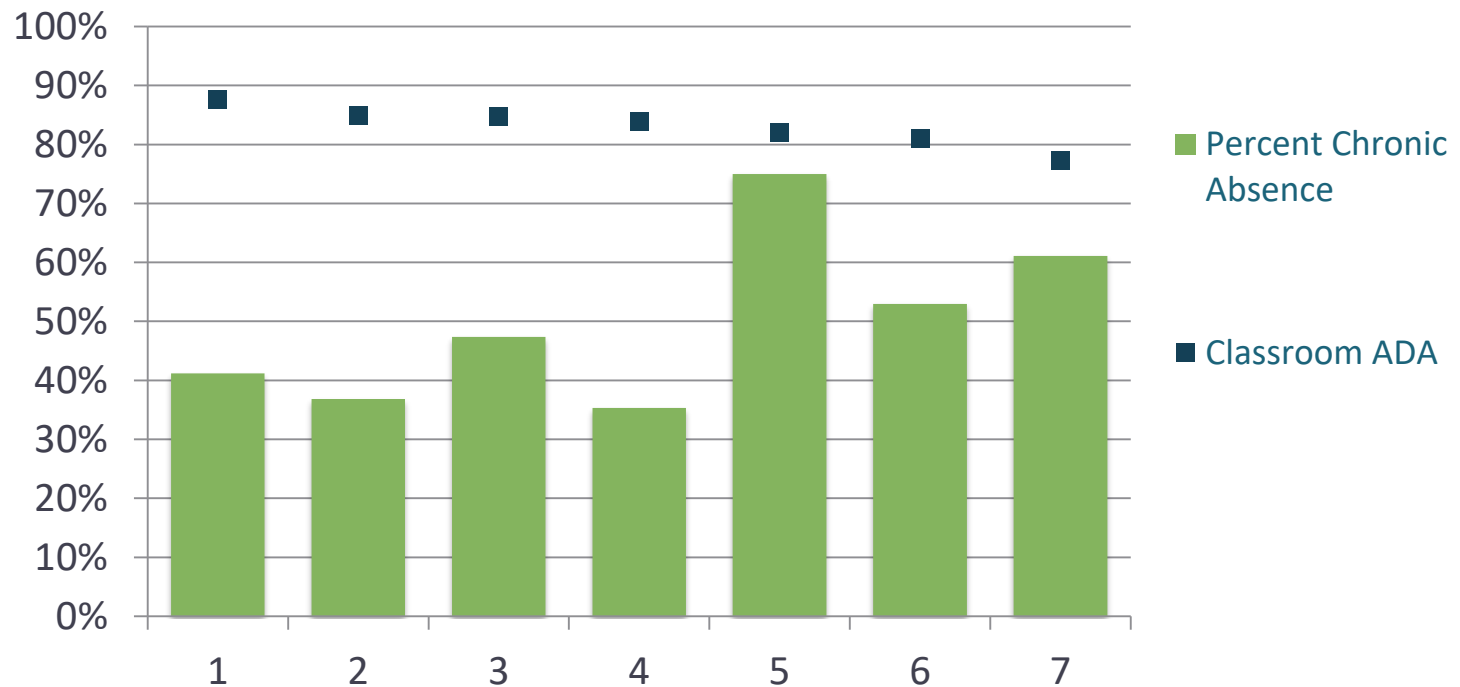


Source: Minnesota Head Start Association for sample of Programs in 2015-16



Chronic Absence Can Vary Widely by Classroom

Chronic absence vs. ADA across 7 preschool classrooms in one early childhood center with 84.46% ADA



Source: Average Enrolled Attendance for month of February 2013



**One set of data:
Two information points**

Daily Attendance Record

1. Average Daily Attendance

Average number of children present each day

- Purpose:** *Level of agency compliance*
- Impact:** *Finances of agency*

2. Chronic Absence

Individual children missing 10% or more of class cumulatively

- Purpose:** *Early sign of challenges for students and/or family*
- Impact:** *Ability to intervene early and make a difference*



Requires Nurturing A New Data Mindset

Expands focus from

Attendance = Compliance

to

***Attendance = Opportunity to Learn**

***Attendance Data = Action Alert**

Chronic Absence = A Solvable Problem





Find Out Why Children Are Chronically Absent



Misconceptions

- Absences are only a problem if they are unexcused
- Sporadic versus consecutive absences aren't a problem
- Attendance only matters in the older grades



Barriers

- Lack of access to health or dental care
- Chronic illness such as asthma
- Poor Transportation
- Trauma
- No safe path to program
- No clearly identified support network



Negative Experiences

- Child struggling with “academic” skills
- Child struggling with peer relationships
- Lack of engaging instruction
- Poor preschool climate or ineffective discipline
- Parents had negative school experience



How Does This Relate to Your Experience?

How does this relate to what you see and experience in your work?

(Share with your neighbor)



Chronic Absence Strategies & Effective Early Childhood Practices

Chronic absence strategies promote a holistic approach to attendance that reflects effective early childhood practices.

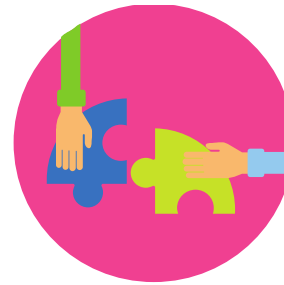
- ✓ Relationships with families
- ✓ A warm, welcoming environment
- ✓ Positive reinforcement – not penalty



Who and What Can Make a Difference



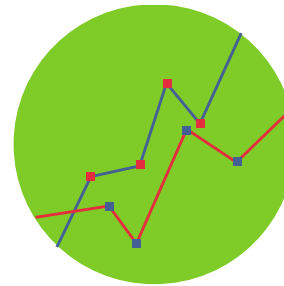
Families
Understand Value



Staff
Works as a Team



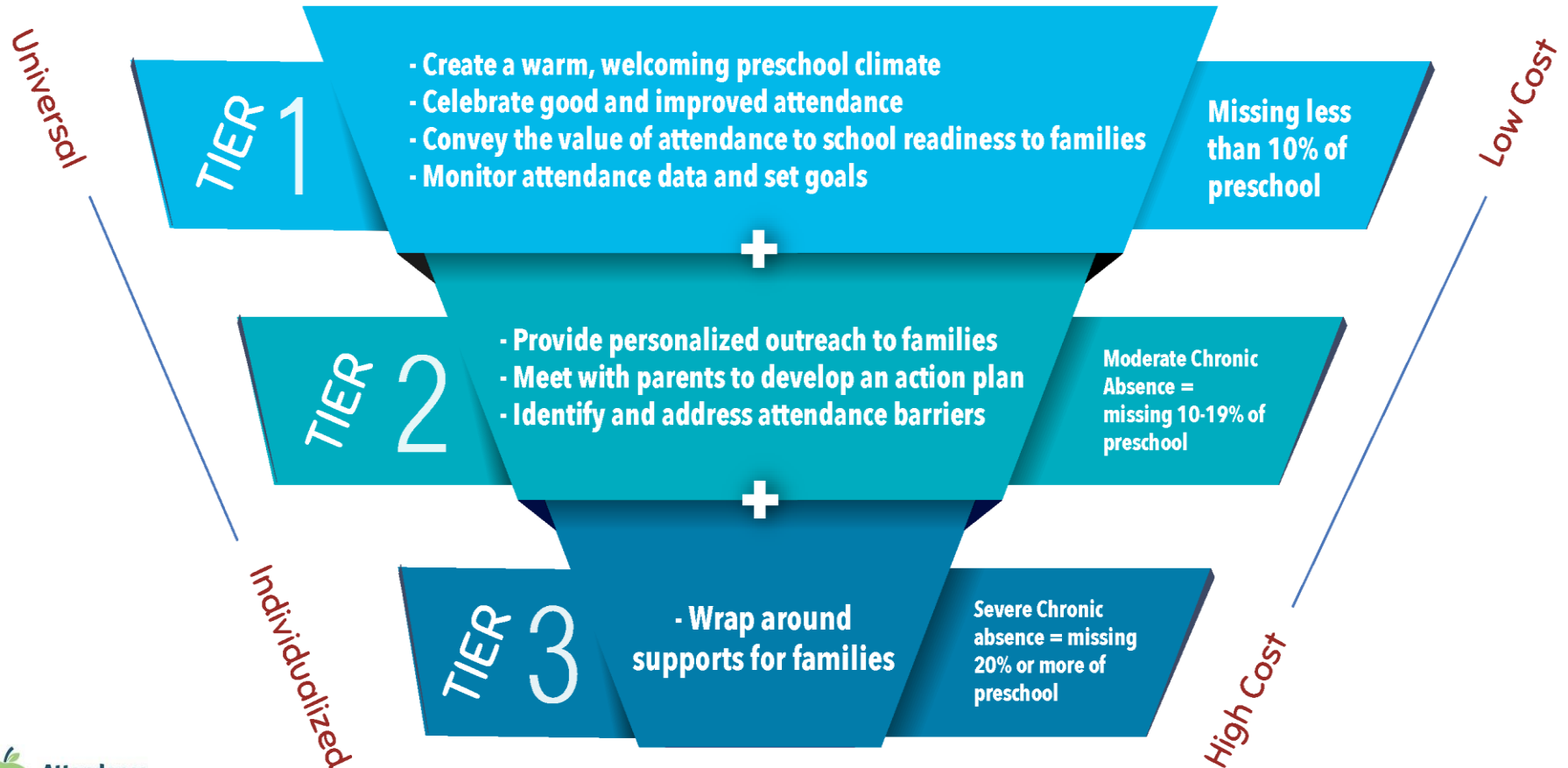
Preschoolers
Are Engaged



Attendance Data
As Alert for Action



Invest First in Prevention and Early Intervention





Key Actions for Tier 1

TIER 1

- **Create a warm welcoming school climate**
- **Celebrate good and improved attendance**
- **Convey the value of attendance to school readiness**
- **Monitor data and set goals**



Engage Children

- ✓ Greet children warmly by name on arrival every day
- ✓ Establish Classroom Routines that Emphasize Attendance and Notice Absences
- ✓ Use Stories, Songs and Games to Convey the Importance of Attendance to Children

Acknowledge & celebrate positive change!



Engage Families

Universal Activities

- ❖ **Welcome**, involve and support families
- ❖ **Use large gatherings** to introduce the importance of preschool attendance and the need to monitor absences
- ❖ **Provide information** to help families keep students healthy
- ❖ **Continue messaging** and recognition events all year long



Bringing Attendance Home Video (6.5 minutes)



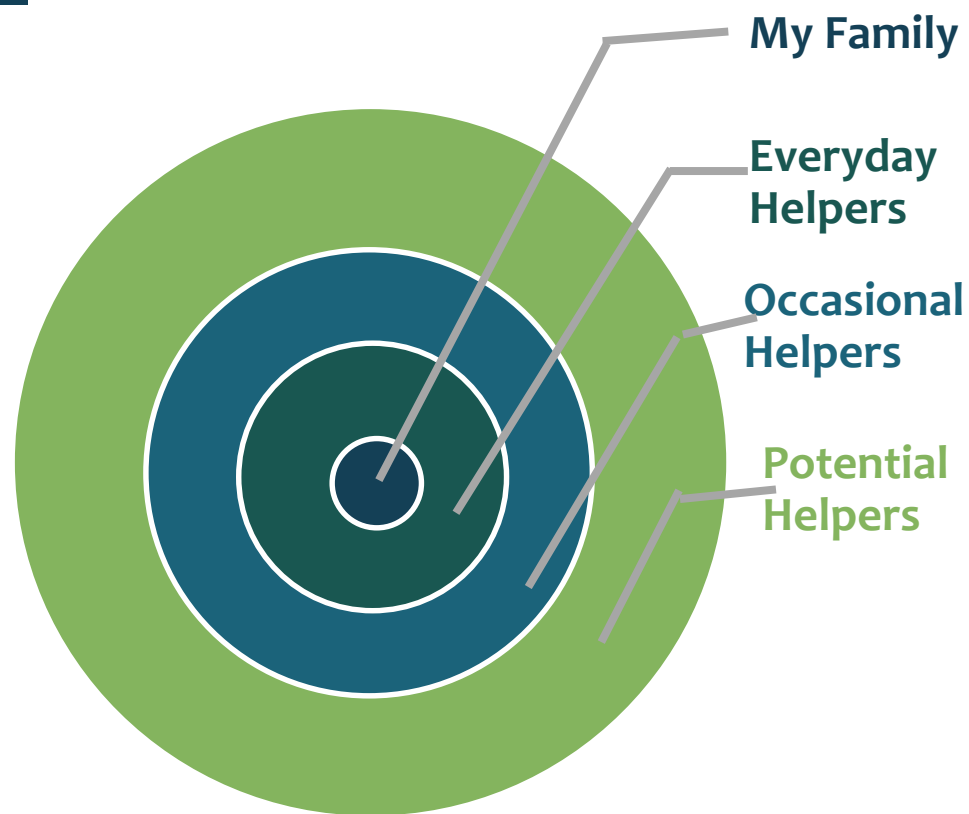
- ✓ Facilitated conversation
- ✓ The consequences of chronic absence
- ✓ How to improve absenteeism
- ✓ Family practice
- ✓ Increase social capital
- ✓ Identify how school can help
- ✓ Community services

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/for-parents/bringing-attendance-home-video>



Encourage Families to Think @ My Help Bank

- 1. My Family** – List who lives in your house
- 2. Everyday Helpers** – Identify who you can call on to help drop your child off or who can pick him or her up. These are people like friends, neighbors, relatives who can help regularly.
- 3. Occasional Helpers** – Identify people who probably cannot help every day, but can help in a pinch. Maybe it's a god-parent, a relative or friend who lives outside your neighborhood but can be there for short stints.
- 4. Potential Helpers** – Identify people who are part of your school community, church, or neighborhood who are able to help – if you ask.





Playful activities with a serious mission



- ❖ ***Routines that Rock!*** workshops build on parent creativity and promote family engagement
- ❖ Encourage parents to think about their own routines
- ❖ Making charts for and/or with the children
- ❖ Creating songs and jingles to familiar tunes that children can sing at home and in classroom



Playful activities with a serious mission

Sing a song of on-time

Song Tune: Jingle Bells (Parent created lyrics)

Up we get, sleepyhead
Up and on our way.
It's 8 o'clock, time to rock
Success is a blink away, hey!

Hair is brushed, teeth are clean,
And your bag is ready to go.
It's Head Start at 9, then breakfast time,
So you're brain can know and grow.





Feedback: Reactions and Priorities

Share highlights from your discussion

- ✓ How and when could you use these tools?
- ✓ How could you combine this with what you already do to engage families?



Early and Often Toolkit materials to support family engagement



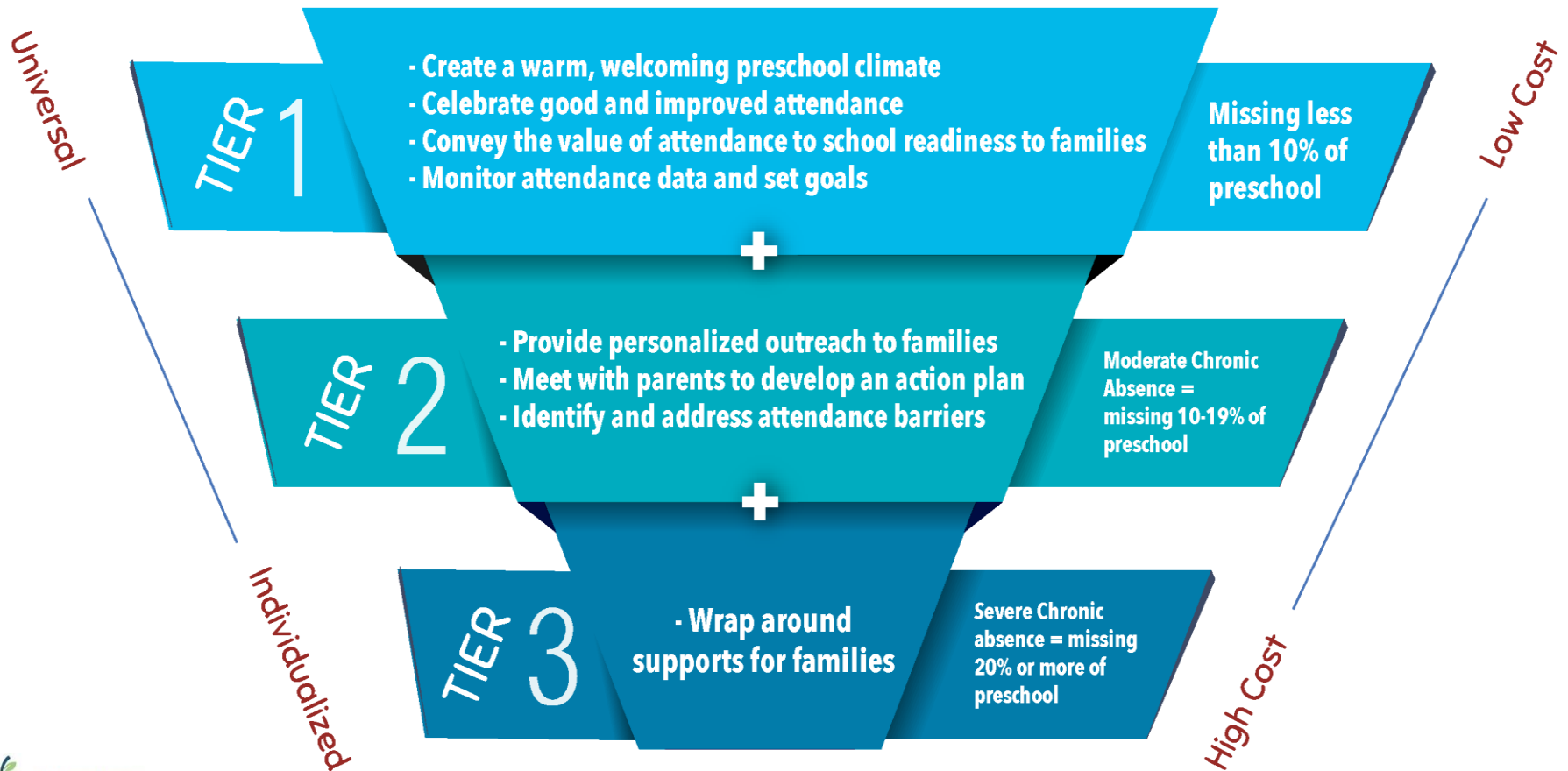
- ❖ To offer ideas and materials to help children and families develop strong attendance routines from the outset of schooling
- ❖ Create a culture of attendance
- ❖ Go to the on-line version to see the full array of strategies and obtain easy to tailor and adapt tools:

<http://www.attendanceworks.org/tools/for-early-care-providers/early-education-toolkit/>

Using Data to Inform Action



Invest in Prevention and Early Intervention



Data and Action

Tier 1: Includes all children and families

- ✓ Universal prevention strategies
- ✓ Year round
- ✓ Recognize and celebrate strong attendance

Tier 2: Children with 10-19% absence rate

- ✓ Address moderate chronic absence 10-19%
- ✓ Individualized outreach to move children to Tier 1
- ✓ Recognize and celebrate strong attendance

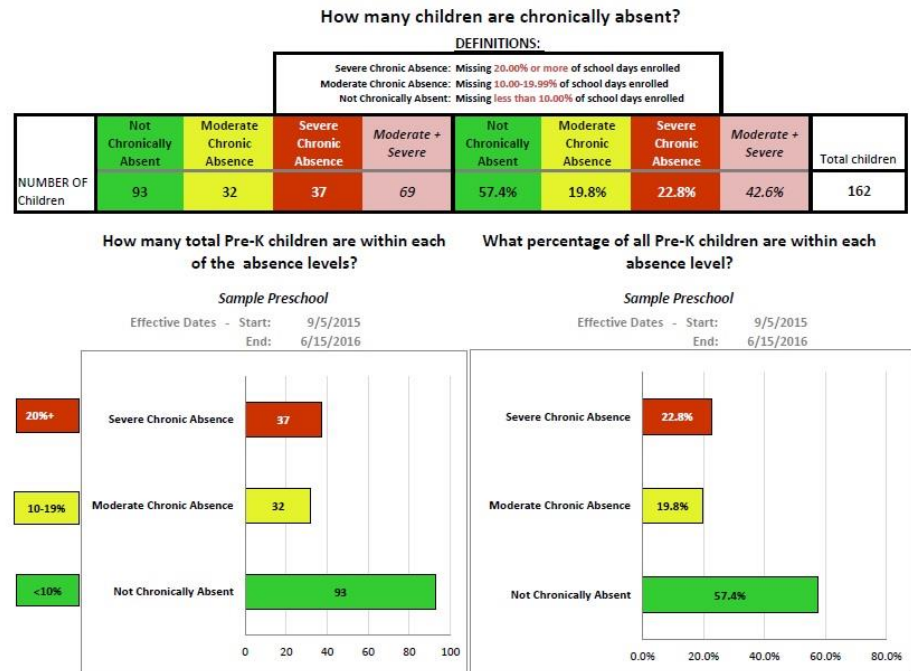
Tier 3: Children with 20% or higher absence rate

- ✓ Address severe chronic absence 20% or more
- ✓ Individualized support coupled with intensified collaboration with community services to move children toward Tier 1
- ✓ Recognize and celebrate strong attendance

Preschool Attendance Tracking Tool (PATT)

AW developed the **PATT**, a free, Excel-based tool that helps:

- ✓ **Understand** how many and which preschool children are chronically absent
- ✓ **Map** out how many children fall into each attendance tier
- ✓ **Identify** high-challenge areas that warrant closer examination and action (site, classroom, full / half day, student population, etc.)



To download the tool, please register here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PATT-registration>



Finding Reports in your Data Management System

Building off the PATT design, several major program management information systems offer Chronic Absence Reports (sample slides at end of deck):

- ✓ **ChildPlus** – In the “Attendance” section, see reports 2335 and 2336
- ✓ **COPA** – In the “Attendance & Meal Count” section, see reports 241 and 241S
- ✓ **myHeadStart (PROMIS)** – In the Manager’s Dashboard, locate “Chronic Absence” and click under the “Score” column



Questions from the Audience



Select a Report

Administration

Assessment

Attachments

Attendance **2**

CLASS@

Community Resources

Disability

Education

Enrollment

Export

Family

Health

In-Kind

Internal Monitoring

Labels

Attendance Reports

Select a report by clicking on the list below

2301 - Average Daily Attendance

2303 - Attendance Data Entry Monitoring

2305 - Monthly Attendance

2310 - Daily Attendance by Classroom

2315 - Daily Attendance and Meals Worksheet

2316 - Daily Sign-In & Sign-Out Worksheet

2320 - Individual Attendance

~~2330 - Consecutive Absences~~2335 - Attendance Works Chronic Absence Charts **3**

2336 - Attendance Works Chronic Absence Report

2340 - Attendance Scanning Barcodes

2370 - Participant CACFP Roster

2371 - CACFP Reimbursement Summary

2302 - Average Daily Attendance from Summary Attendance

2375 - CACFP Meal Count Summary from Summary Attendance

2376 - CACFP Meal Counts With AM and PM Snacks from Summary A

2029 - Absent X Days Summary (Grid)

2032 - Absent X Days Detail (Grid)

General

Program Term	<ALL>	▼
Program Option	<ALL>	▼
Group	< All Groups >	▼
<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 2px; margin-top: 5px;"> Group By Agency ▼ </div>		
Agency	< All Agencies >	▼
Site	< All Sites >	▼
Classroom	< All Classrooms >	▼

[Advanced Setup](#)

Attendance Works

Chronic Absence Charts

Select the chronic absence charts you want to print.
Chronic absence by...

- Overall
- English Learners
- Gender
- Health Insurance
- IEP / IFSP (Coming soon)
- Part Day / Full Day (6+ hours)
- Part Week / Full Week (5 days)
- Participation Year
- Race

Graph the...

- Number of participants
- Percentage of participants
- Both

Show one graph for each...

- All agencies combined
 - Agency
 - Site
 - Classroom
- Start each location on a new page

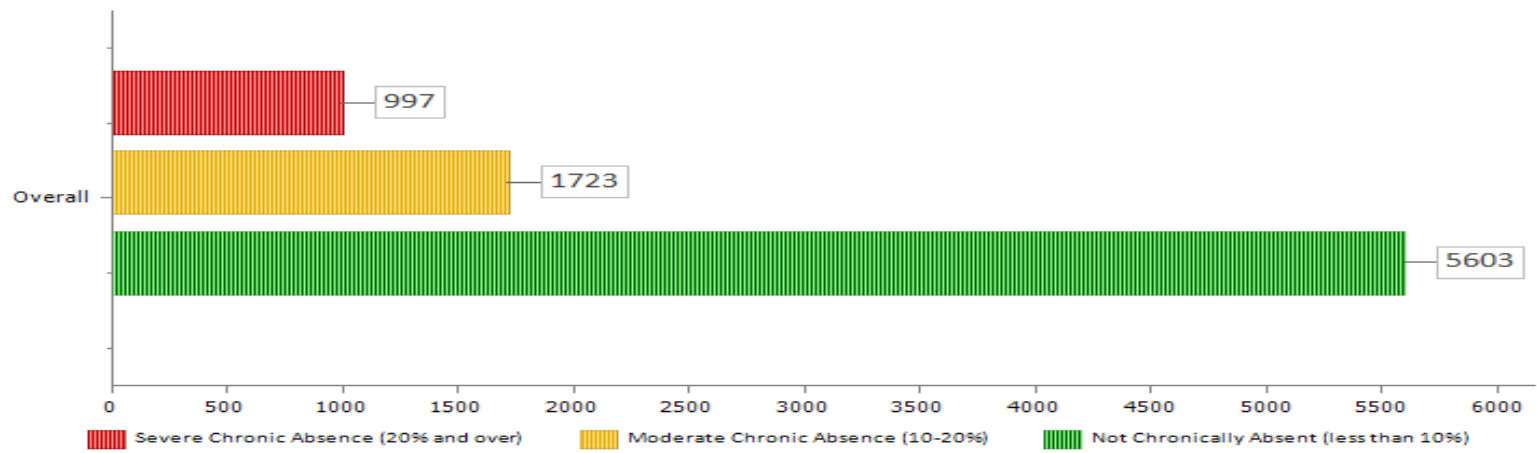
- Entire program term
- Date range

Include dropped participants

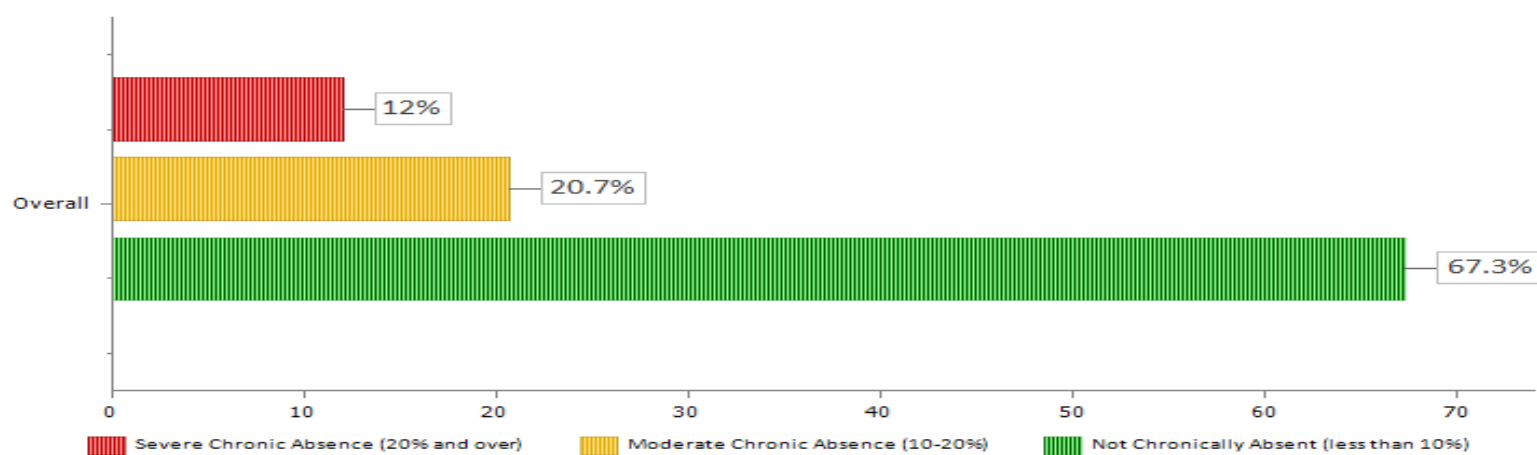
[Visit the Attendance Works Website](#)

- Grantee
2335 - Attendance Works Chronic Absence Charts

CHRONIC ABSENCE (Count)
 All Locations



CHRONIC ABSENCE (Percentage)
 All Locations



General

Program Term	<ALL>	▼
Program Option	<ALL>	▼
Group	< All Groups >	▼
	Group By Region	▼
Region	< All Regions >	▼
Site	< All Sites >	▼
Classroom	< All Classrooms >	▼
Responsible Staff	Don't filter by r...	▼

[Advanced Setup](#)

Grouping

- None
 Site
 Classroom


**Attendance
Works**

Chronic Absence Report

- Entire program term
 Date range

Include participants with chronic absence status of...

- Severe (20% and over)
 Moderate (10-20%)
 Not Chronic (less than 10%)

- Show additional information like race, gender, IEP, etc.
 Include dropped participants

[Visit the Attendance Works Website](#)

Program Term: Head Start 2017-2018, Agency:

Attendance Date: 7/1/2017 - 10/5/2017

Report Agency

CPID	Absence Level	Absence Percent	Days Absent	English Learner	Gender	Health Insur.	IEP / IFSP	Part Day Full Day	Part Week Full Week	Partic. Year	Race
Report: Attendance Works Chronic Absence Report											
Agency:											
	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	M	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	White
	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	Black or African American
	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	Asian
	Moderate	15.4	4/26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	White
	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	White
	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	Black or African American
	Severe	23.1	6/26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	White
	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	Black or African American
	Not Chronic	7.7	2/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	White
	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	White
	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	M	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	Multi-racial/Biracial
	Not Chronic	0.0	0/25	<input type="checkbox"/>	M	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	White
	Not Chronic	7.7	2/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	M	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	White
	Moderate	19.2	5/26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	White
	Moderate	15.4	4/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	M	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	White
	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	White
	Moderate	11.5	3/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	M	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	Black or African American
	Not Chronic	4.0	1/25	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	Black or African American
	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	Asian
	Not Chronic	7.7	2/26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	White
	Moderate	11.5	3/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	White
	Moderate	11.5	3/26	<input type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	Black or African American
	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	2+	White
	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	F	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Part	Full	1	White

Program Term: Head Start 2017-2018, Attendance Date: 7/1/2017 - 10/5/2017

Report Agency

CPID	Absence Level	Absence Percent	Days Absent
Report: Attendance Works Chronic Absence Report			
Agency:			
CPID	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26
CPID	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26
CPID	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26
CPID	Moderate	15.4	4/26
CPID	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26
CPID	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26
CPID	Severe	23.1	6/26
CPID	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26
CPID	Not Chronic	7.7	2/26
CPID	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26
CPID	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26
CPID	Not Chronic	0.0	0/25
CPID	Not Chronic	7.7	2/26
CPID	Moderate	19.2	5/26
CPID	Moderate	15.4	4/26
CPID	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26
CPID	Moderate	11.5	3/26
CPID	Not Chronic	4.0	1/25
CPID	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26
CPID	Not Chronic	7.7	2/26
CPID	Moderate	11.5	3/26
CPID	Moderate	11.5	3/26
CPID	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26
CPID	Not Chronic	3.8	1/26
CPID	Moderate	15.4	4/26
CPID	Not Chronic	7.7	2/26
CPID	Not Chronic	0.0	0/26
CPID	Moderate	11.5	3/26
CPID	Moderate	19.0	4/21
CPID	Not Chronic	7.7	2/26
CPID	Not Chronic	8.3	1/12



[Developmental](#)[Download Reports](#)[Employees & Staff](#)[Enrollment](#)[Eligibility, Waiting &](#)[Termination](#)[Family Reports](#)[Goals & Partnership](#)[Group Processing](#)[Health & Disability](#)[Immunization](#)[Nutrition & Allergy](#)[Organizational Reports](#)[PIR Reports](#)

Attendance & Meal Count

- [201-Monthly Attendance Report](#)
- [201Y - Yearly Attendance & Meal Report](#)
- [202-Meal Count Statistics and Reimbursement Report](#)
- [206N - Monthly Enrollment & Attendance Percentage Report](#)
- [207 - Meal Count/Attendance Report](#)
- [208-Daily Meal Count / Attendance /Absentee Report](#)
- [208B-Daily Meal Count by Center/Class Report](#)
- [208C-USDA Daily Meal Count Report By Age](#)
- [209-USDA Meal Status Report](#)
- [210-CACFP Meal Status Report](#)
- [211-CACFP Aggregate Meal Count](#)
- [212-CACFP Child Meal Statistics Report](#)
- [235-Absentee Reasons Report](#)
- [236-Child Absentee & Follow-Up Report](#)
- [241 - Chronic Absence Report](#)
- [241S - Chronic Absence Statistics Report](#)
- [251-Daily Sign In & Out](#)
- [253-Weekly Sign In & Out](#)
- [503- Child Monthly Attendance by Hours Report](#)

Additional Filtering

Group By: Attn'd. Date From: To: Moderate Chronic Absence Treshold: % Severe chronic Absence Treshold: %

241S - Chronic Absence Statistics Report

From 08-16-2017 To 11-06-2017



Agency	Not Chronic Absence (0 - 10%)	Moderate Chronic Absence (10 - 20%)	Severe Chronic Absence (20 - 100%)	Moderate + Severe
	411	136	85	221
Total	411	136	85	221

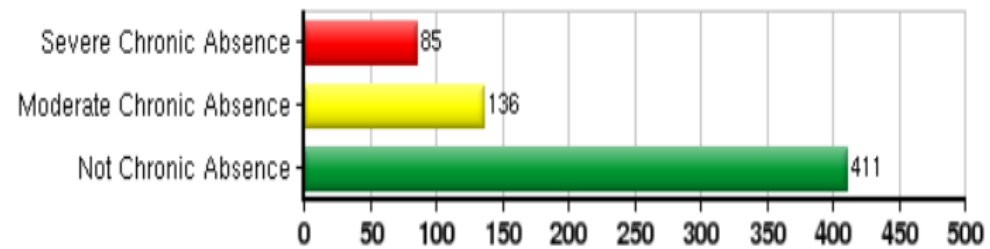
Notes: The following definitions are set as default in the report:

- 1- Severe Chronic Absence: Missing over 20% of school days enrolled during filtered date range (Abs% greater than 20% and less or equal to 100%)
- 2- Moderate Chronic Absence: Missing 10-20% of school days enrolled during filtered date range (Abs% greater than 10% and less or equal to 20%)
- 3- Non-Chronic Absence: Missing less than 10% of school days enrolled during filtered date range (Abs% greater or equal to 0% and less or equal to 10%)

241S - Chronic Absence Statistics Report



Agency

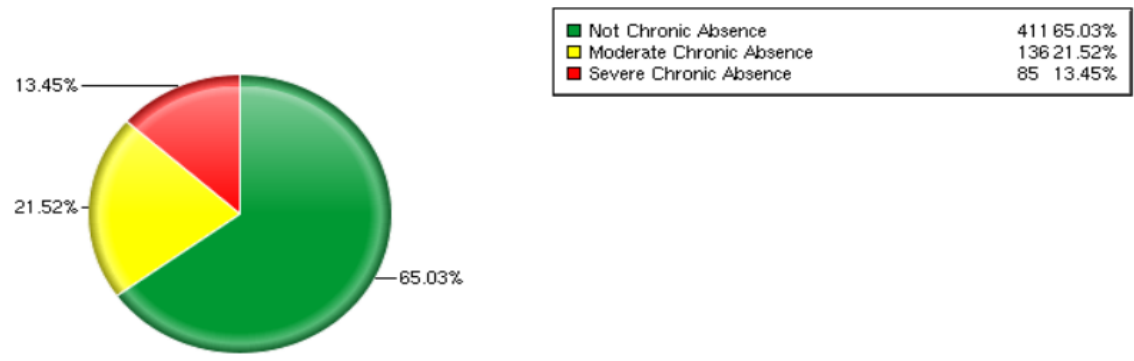




241S - Chronic Absence Statistics Report



Agency





241 - Chronic Absence Report



From 08-16-2017 To 11-06-2017

No.	Child Name	Child ID	DOB	Orig. Enrl. Date	Status	Current / Last Location	Program Model	Attnd. Days	Class Days	Attnd. %	Abs. Days	Abs. %
1	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	01-03-2014	09-06-2017	enrolled	[REDACTED]	Head Start	27	41	65.85%	14	34.15%
2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	10-24-2013	09-06-2017	enrolled	[REDACTED]	Head Start	32	41	78.05%	9	21.95%
3	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	01-28-2014	09-06-2017	enrolled	[REDACTED]	Head Start	32	41	78.05%	9	21.95%
4	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	09-23-2013	09-06-2017	enrolled	[REDACTED]	Head Start	30	41	73.17%	11	26.83%
5	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	09-20-2013	09-06-2017	enrolled	[REDACTED]	Head Start	32	41	78.05%	9	21.95%
6	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	07-01-2013	09-06-2016	enrolled	[REDACTED]	Head Start	18	40	45.00%	22	55.00%
7	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	03-20-2014	09-06-2017	terminated	[REDACTED]	Head Start	9	23	39.13%	14	60.87%
8	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	04-18-2014	09-07-2017	enrolled	[REDACTED]	Head Start	31	40	77.50%	9	22.50%
9	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	06-26-2013	09-06-2016	enrolled	[REDACTED]	Head Start	20	28	71.43%	8	28.57%

[Additional Filtering](#)

Group By: Attn. Date From: To:
 Moderate Chronic Absence Treshold: %
 Severe chronic Absence Treshold: %

Location
 All Agencies All Sites All Classes

241S - Chronic Absence Statistics Report

From 08-16-2017 To 11-06-2017



Agency	Not Chronic Absence (0 - 10%)	Moderate Chronic Absence (10 - 20%)	Severe Chronic Absence (20 - 100%)	Moderate + Severe
	411	136	85	221
Total	411	136	85	221

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- 2- Moderate Chronic Absence: Missing 10-20% of school days enrolled during filtered date range (Abs% greater than 10% and less or equal to 20%)
- 3- Non-Chronic Absence: Missing less than 10% of school days enrolled during filtered date range (Abs% greater or equal to 0% and less or equal to 10%)



Important note, for **PROMIS users**, contact Help Desk to activate your free myHeadStart.com system!

To access the Chronic Absence Dashboard in myHeadStart.com, follow these simple steps:

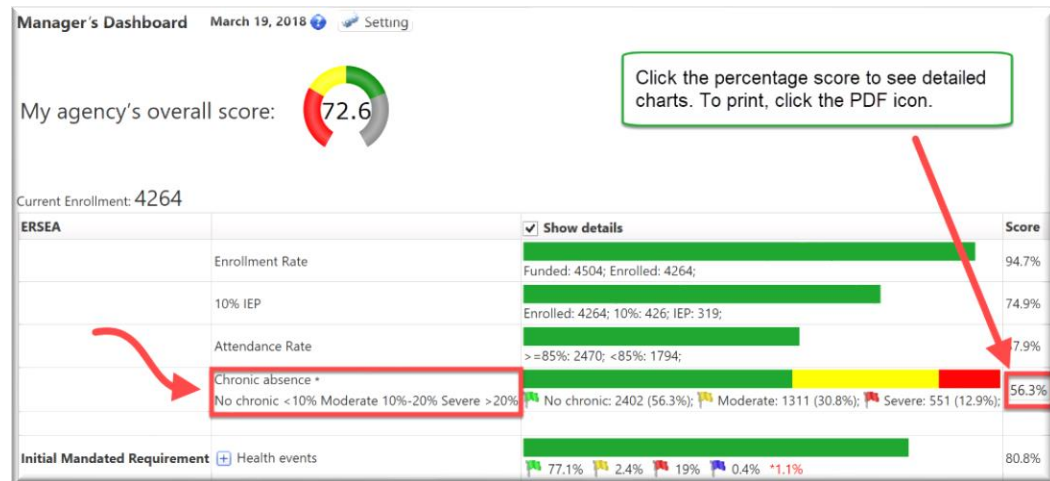
Step 1: From your home page, click POP 2.0 *(If you can't see it on your home screen, contact your agency's system administrator who can provide you with access to this task)*

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Step 2: If you don't see the following Manager's Dashboard, click "Select another POP" in the top left corner. Then from the list, click

Manager's Dashboard
(If you can't see it on POP list, contact your agency's system administrator who can provide you with access to this dashboard)

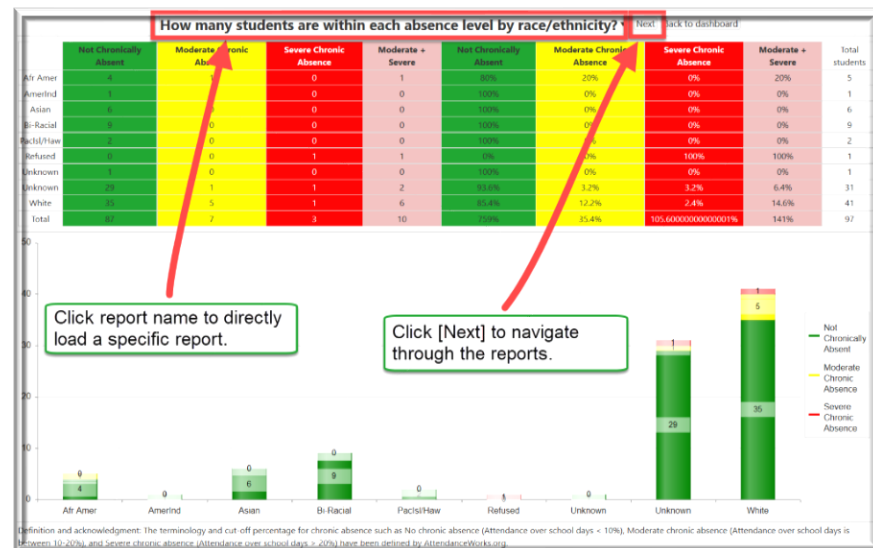


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Step 3: From the above Manager’s Dashboard, locate “Chronic absence*” and click the percentage under the Score column (If you can’t see the Chronic absence*, contact your agency’s system administrator who can provide you with access to this dashboard)

Step 4: After clicking the percentage under the Score column, you will see the detailed reports. Click the [Next] button to navigate through the rest the reports. You can also directly pull a specific report by clicking on the reports name dropdown list.





**For more resources
and information**

Visit the Attendance Works website:

www.attendanceworks.org

Email us:

info@attendanceworks.org