

MKAS² Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Update

***Presentation to the State Board of Education
January 19, 2017***



Kindergarten Readiness Assessment

- 36,787 Kindergarten students assessed (Fall 2016)
- Computer-adaptive assessment
- 27 questions (literacy and numeracy)
- Less than 30 minutes to administer
- Beginning of year target score for Kindergarten = **530**

Reading Level Classifications

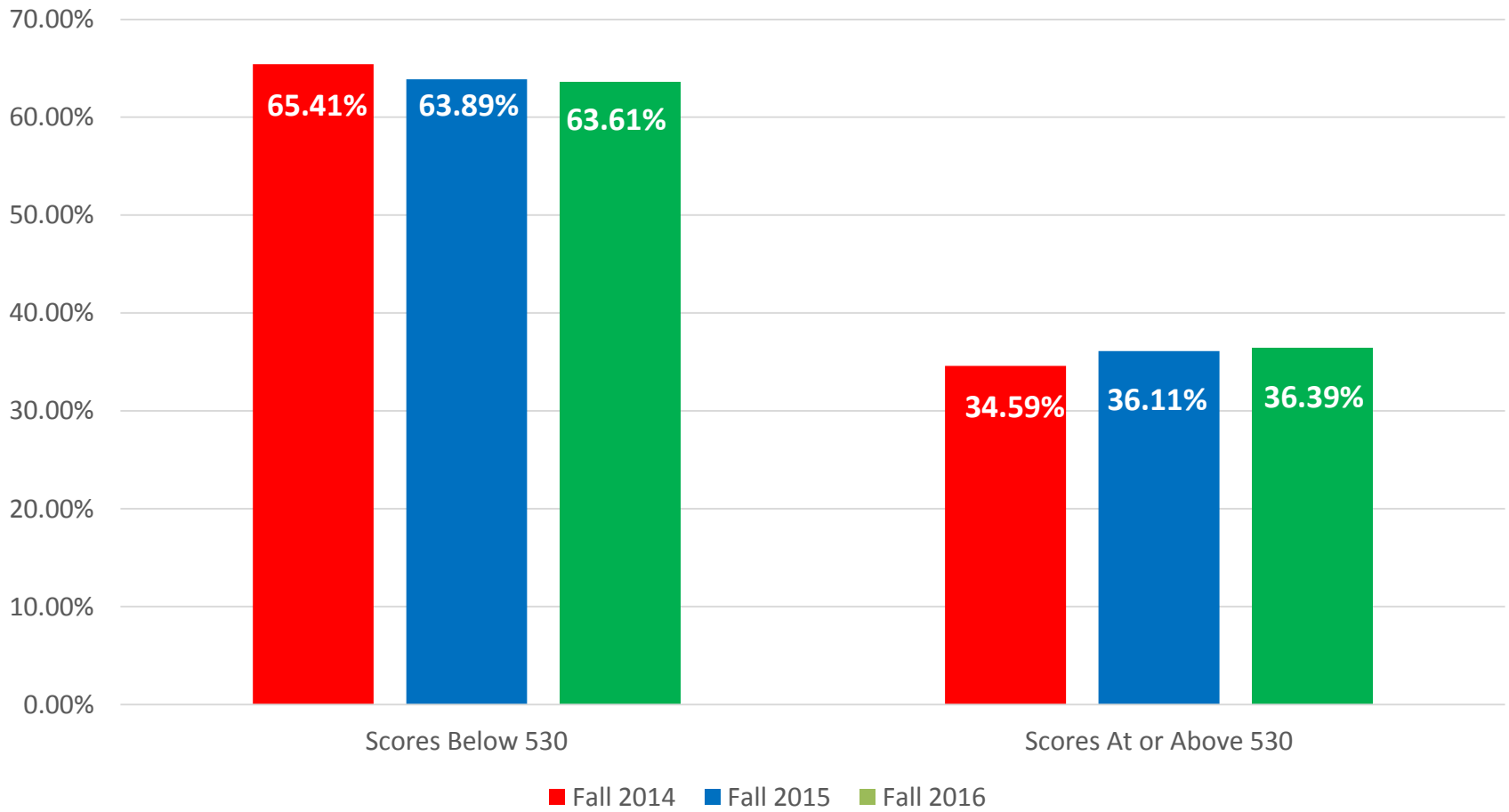
Emergent Reader (300 – 674)

- **Early Emergent Reader** (300 – 487): Student is beginning to understand that printed text has meaning. The student is learning that reading involves printed words and sentences, and that print flows from left to right and from the top to the bottom of the page. The student is also beginning to identify colors, shapes, numbers, and letters.
- **Late Emergent Reader** (488 – 674): Student can identify most of the letters of the alphabet and can match most of the letters to their sounds. The student is also beginning to “read” picture books and familiar words around the home. Through repeated reading of favorite books with an adult, students at this stage are building their vocabularies, listening skills, and understandings of print.



Kindergarten Readiness Results

Fall 2014, Fall 2015, & Fall 2016



Prior Year Care Categories

- **Pre-K Public** – public school Pre-K program
- **Pre-K Private** – private Pre-K program (e.g., church or private school)
- **Licensed Childcare Center** – childcare centers licensed by Mississippi Department of Health
- **Family Care** – care with family member, friend, or neighbor
- **Head Start** – Head Start Pre-K program
- **Home** – care with a parent or guardian
- **Repeater** – Child retained in Kindergarten from previous year



School Reported Prior Year Kindergarten Readiness Data Results

Prior Enrollment	Fall 2015 Average Scale Score	Fall 2015 Student Count	Fall 2016 Average Scale Score	Fall 2016 Student Count
1. Pre-K Public	529.5	6,260	537.4	5,924
2. Pre-K Private	545.6	4,221	541.7	4,083
3. Childcare	521.8	4,739	513.2	4,407
4. Family care	494.3	852	483.2	1,019
5. Head Start	478.6	10,874	475.0	9,407
6. Home	482.7	9,138	473.9	7,822
Repeater	-	-	554.6	1,920
No Data Entered	520.1	995	494.0	2,028
Grand Total	502.8	37,079	502.3	36,610

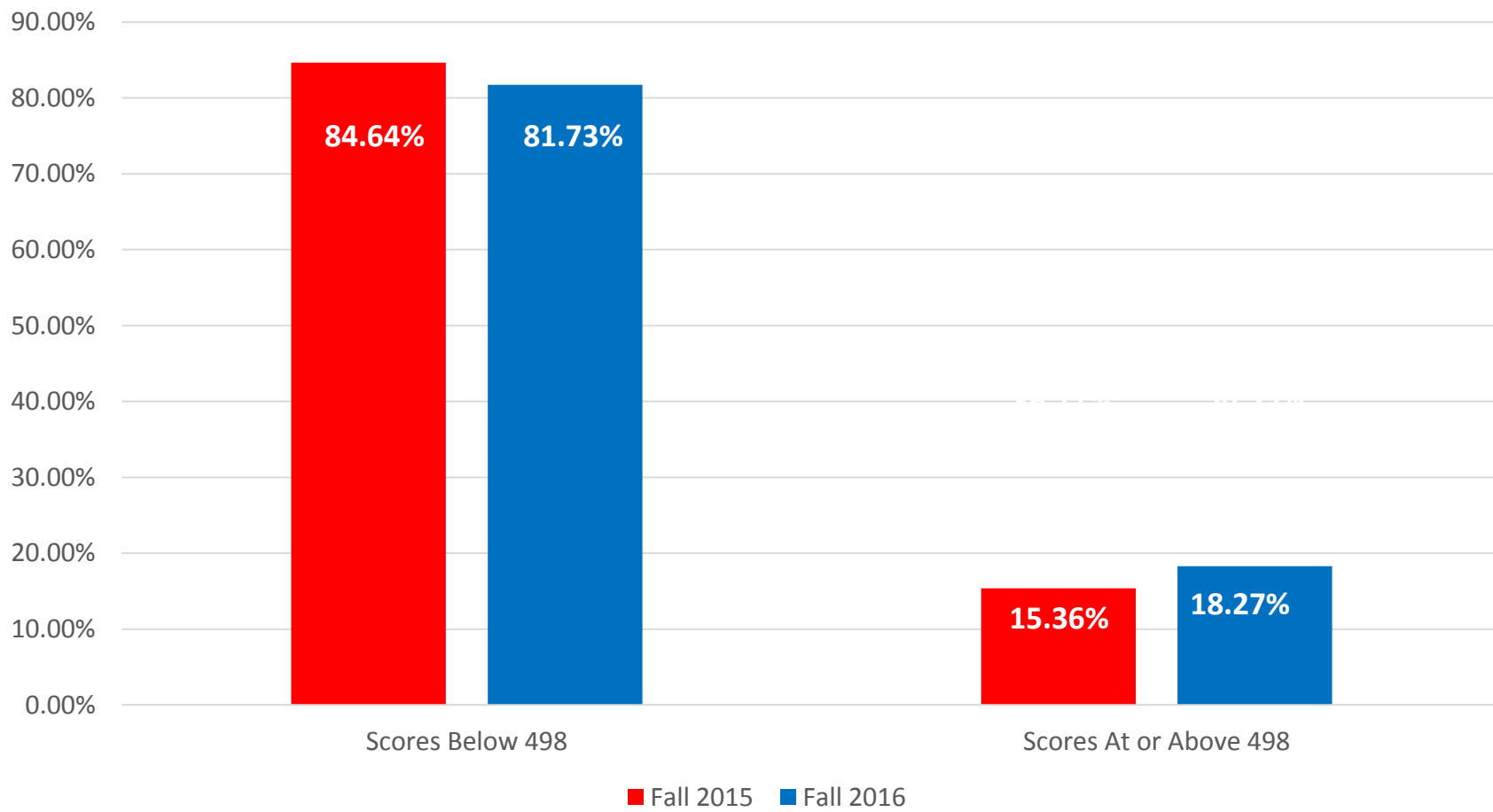
***Pre-Kindergarten
Assessment Results for
Early Learning Collaboratives and
Other Four-Year-Old Classrooms***



Pre-Kindergarten Readiness Assessment

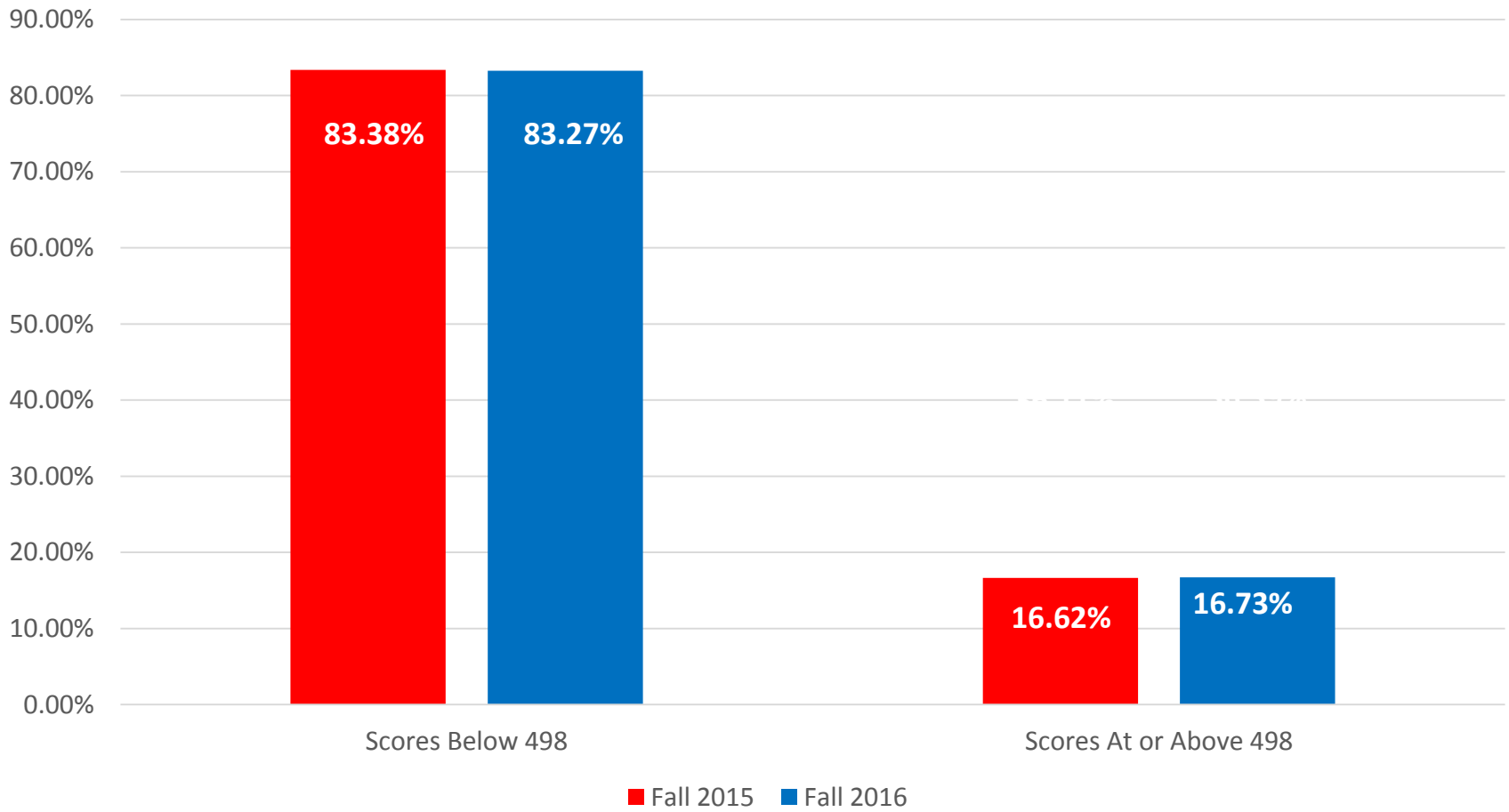
- 6,408 Pre-Kindergarten students assessed (Fall 2016)
- Computer-adaptive assessment
- 27 questions (literacy and numeracy)
- Less than 30 minutes to administer
- **End-of-Year** Target score = 498

Pre-K Readiness Results: Early Learning Collaborative





Pre-K Readiness Results: Other Funded Pre-K



Next Steps for MDE – Kellogg Grant Funding

Identify and hire Early Childhood Coaches to support:

- Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) overview training for districts to introduce the observation protocol that assesses teacher and student interactions that impact learning and development
- Identification and training on a Comprehensive Early Learning Assessment (CELA) to use statewide in Pre-K classrooms for 2017-2018
- Developmentally appropriate practice training for Kindergarten teachers – Summer, Fall 2017
- Professional Development for Head Start and childcare providers, such as training for: CLASS, standards, successful transitions, assessment, and developmentally appropriate practice

Next Steps for Districts

- Host parent workshops using Family Guides for Student Success and other resources – Fall 2017
- Collaborate with Campaign for Grade-Level Reading to increase community awareness about school readiness, literacy, chronic absenteeism, and summer learning loss
- Use Kindergarten Readiness Assessment data and other data to support data driven decisions for staffing, resource allocation, and program selection
- Utilize Pre-K transition folders for Pre-K teachers to conduct conferences with kindergarten teachers about students
- Host Pre-K transition activities to introduce Pre-K children to Kindergarten classrooms
- Encourage collaboration with local library reading programs to foster literacy development
- Utilize the Parent Read-at-Home Plan for additional activities to support literacy in Kindergarten

