

TRANSITION POINTS

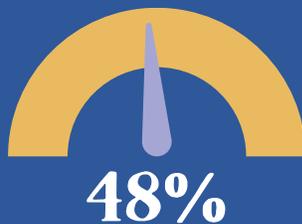
WHAT ARE THEY AND WHY DO THEY MATTER?

Summit Education Initiative (SEI) works to increase personal and regional prosperity through educational attainment by fostering collaborative partnerships that strengthen the education pipeline. At SEI, we measure progress through key Leading Indicators of Success, guiding students through crucial transition points such as early childhood, third-grade reading, high school graduation, and college and career readiness.

MARCH 2025

KINDERGARTEN READINESS

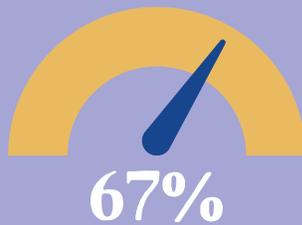
% OF SUMMIT COUNTY
STUDENTS ON TRACK



- High-quality, early learning experiences have long-term benefits for academic outcomes of students¹
- The first 8 years of a child's life is important for brain development, future learning, health, and long-term life success¹
- The scores on the KRA are positively and significantly associated with the 3rd grade ELA performance²
- Limited kindergarten readiness is a strong predictor of future risk of reading difficulty²

MEASURE: THE KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENT, LANGUAGE AND LITERACY DOMAIN

THIRD GRADE READING



- Proficient 3rd grade readers are more successful in high school and more likely to enroll in postsecondary school³
- Students who do not read proficiently in third grade are 4x more likely to exit high school without a diploma³
- The gap between struggling students and fluent readers does not lessen over time, it often increases significantly as students progress through their academic journeys⁴
- 3rd grade reading is a significant predictor of 8th grade reading level⁵

MEASURE: THE 3RD GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS TEST

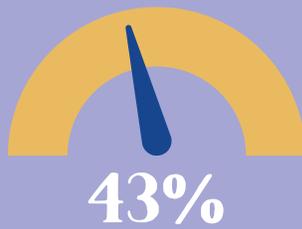
EIGHTH GRADE MATH



- Middle grade math proficiency increases the likelihood of high school graduation and positive later life outcomes⁷
- Strong mathematics foundations can increase enrollment in advanced math courses and encourage pathways to STEM and STEM-related fields⁷
- Eighth grade math achievement is considered to be the "gatekeeper" to advanced math and science courses and those advanced STEM courses predict college readiness, completion, and career success⁸

MEASURE: THE 8TH GRADE MATH, ALGEBRA, OR GEOMETRY TEST

NINTH GRADE
SUCCESS



- Ninth graders who earn GPAs of 3.0 and above experience positive outcomes through the rest of high school and beyond ⁹
- Ninth grade GPA predicts grade 11 GPA ¹⁰
- Ninth grade on-track indicators can assist in dropout prevention efforts ¹⁰
- The first year of high school is a critical time for students to form perceptions of themselves as learners, which impacts future learning outcomes ¹¹

MEASURE: EARNING 6.5 CREDITS WITH AT LEAST A B AVERAGE (3.0)

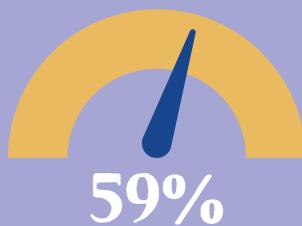
COLLEGE & CAREER
READINESS



- Students with a 21 or higher on the ACT graduate college at rates of 50-83%, as opposed to students scoring lower who graduate at rates of 17-42% ¹²
- Scores on the ACT have a statistically significant, positive predictive value of college grades ¹²
- A contributor to this positive correlation could be the general presence of college readiness (i.e., preparing for the ACT, preparing for college, etc.) ¹³

MEASURE: GRADUATING WITH A 21 OR HIGHER ON THE ACT

POST SECONDARY
SUCCESS



- Enrollment is necessary for postsecondary completion ¹⁶
- Postsecondary enrollment is a strong predictor of economic and social advancement ¹⁶
- Students who enroll in postsecondary education (with the goal of pursuing a career) have better achievement outcomes than those who enroll solely for academic reasons ¹⁷
- When students declare a major during their freshman year, they are more likely to obtain a bachelor's or associate degree ¹⁷

MEASURE: ENROLLED IN ACCREDITED POST SECONDARY PROGRAMS



There is widespread, national recognition of these milestones/transition points. Foundations and organizations, including but not limited to; Strive Together, The Gates Foundation, and Education-to-Workforce show alignment across the measurement and importance of the metrics.

FOR FULL REFERENCE LIST AND FURTHER READING, PLEASE VISIT THE [TRANSITION POINTS RESEARCH BRIEF](#) ON OUR WEBSITE



seisummit.org



Summit Education Initiative



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