

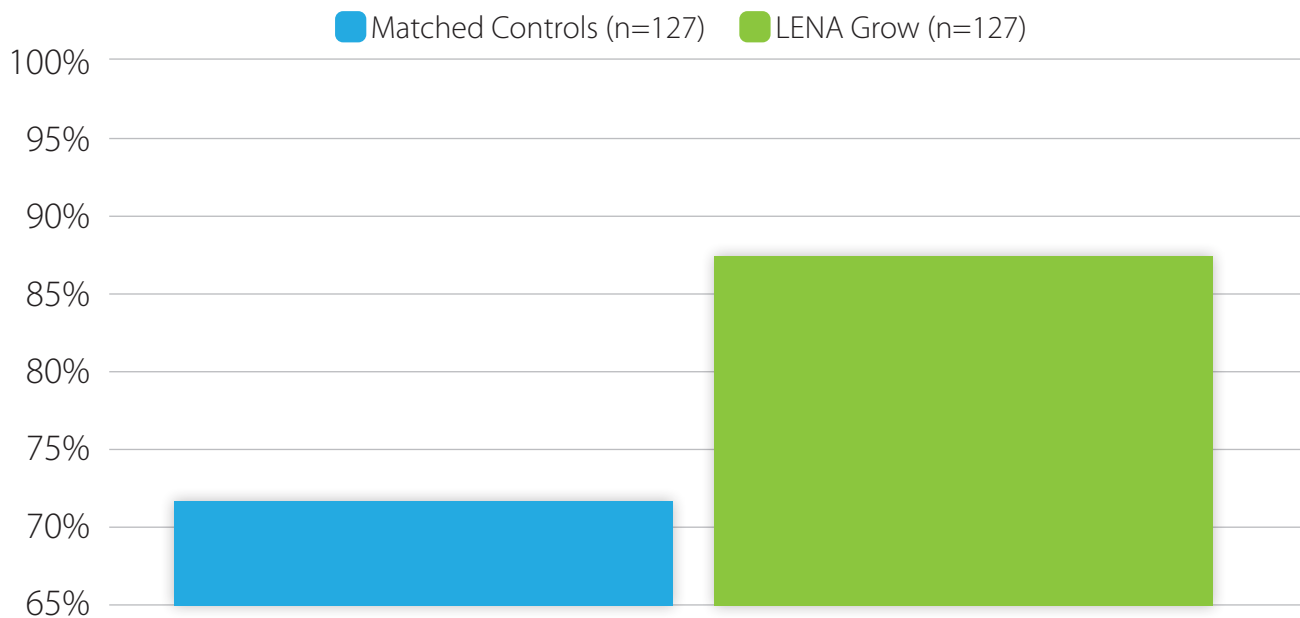


Case Study: Boosting Kindergarten Readiness in Rural Kentucky

Only about two-thirds of children in Kentucky enter kindergarten with the language skills they need to start school strong.¹ LENA Grow, a professional development program for early childhood educators, has been helping Henderson County Schools improve that number.

Children who participated in LENA Grow were **2.7x more likely to achieve at or above average language scores** on the BRIGANCE® readiness assessment, compared to children in a demographically matched control group.

Among the 127 children in the control group, 72 percent scored at or above average in the language domain, which tests vocabulary comprehension, verbal fluency, and ability to express ideas and feelings. **Among the 127 children in the LENA Grow group, 87 percent scored at or above average.**

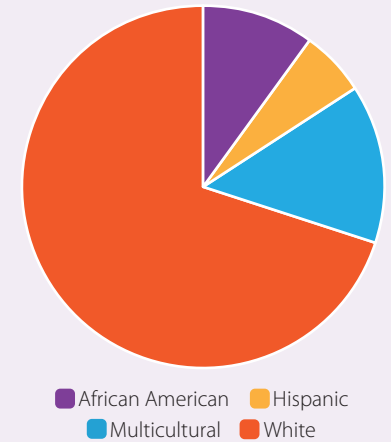


Language Development: Percentage of Children At or Above Average

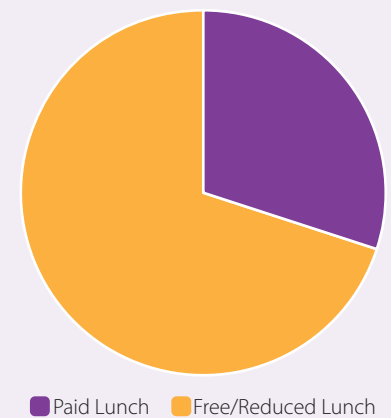
Exponentiated odds ratio of LENA variable from logistics regression : 2.74 (p=0.002)

Child Demographics

Child Race/Ethnicity



Child SES



¹Kentucky Department of Education, "Kentucky's School Report Card," <https://www.kyschoolreportcard.com>

Timeline: Early Childhood Innovation in Kentucky

- 2011: The Early Childhood Advisory Council and Governor's Office of Early Childhood are created.
- 2014: The BRIGANCE® assessment is selected as the statewide school readiness screener.
- 2019: The Kentucky Office of Early Childhood implements a pilot of the LENA Grow program, with funding from the Preschool Development Grant (PDG).
- 2020: Henderson County Schools renews its LENA Grow program, with funding from local grants.
- 2023-2024: Researchers conduct a controlled analysis of LENA Grow's effectiveness at raising BRIGANCE® assessment scores in Henderson County.



"Our teachers, from beginners to super experienced teachers, have all found lots of benefits of having a report in front of them that is concrete and tells them exactly what conversational turns and language are happening in their classroom."

— Kelsie Todd, Early Childhood Community Liaison,
Henderson County Schools

LENA Grow is implemented through trusted community partners across the country and around the world, including school districts, county- and state-level agencies, university-community partnerships, and Head Start programs.

Learn more:

[LENA.org/LENA-Grow](https://lena.org/LENA-Grow)



LENA
GROW®

LENA Grow is an evidence-based professional development program helping teachers improve language environments in early childhood classrooms. **LENA Grow has been shown to increase early assessment scores, such as CLASS®, GOLD®, DECA, BRIGANCE®, i-Ready®, KRA, and LAP™ B-K, as well as to boost teacher job satisfaction and retention.**

Since 2016, LENA Grow has reached more than 60,000 children and more than 16,000 infant, toddler, and preschool educators nationwide.