



Vermont's Quality Recognition and Improvement System

Celebrates 10 Years!

October 2013

STARS Summary Report



STARS is Vermont's Quality Recognition System for Early Childhood Care and Education and is an initiative of the Child Development Division. All Registered Family Child Care Homes, School Operated Pre-Kindergarten Programs, Licensed Early Childhood Centers, and After School Programs are eligible to participate in STARS and be recognized for the quality services they provide to Vermonters. Programs that participate in STARS are stepping ahead-going above and beyond state regulations to provide professional services that meet the needs of children and families. As the value of this voluntary system has come to be recognized by consumers and providers, participation continues to grow.

***At its inception, the creators of
STARS envisioned a program
STARS as:***

- *An agent to improve quality, involving the maximum number of programs.*
- *A program growth plan, providing clear paths for next achievements.*
- *A consumer tool for education and choice.*
- *An agent that makes a difference for the maximum number of children.*

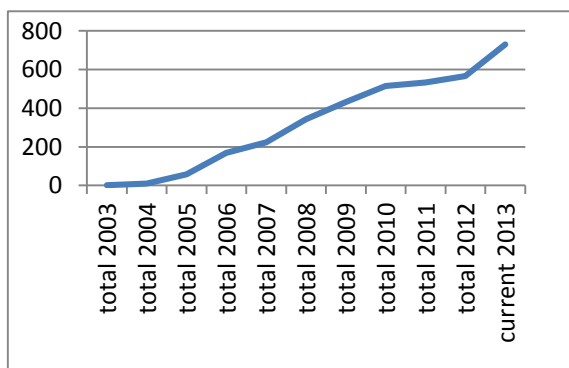
"I find that STARS is a valuable asset for child care providers. This is a means of self-assessment, an annual monitoring system to ensure non-complacency and to identify avenues for professional growth. My participation in the STARS program reflects both a personal and professional commitment to maintaining a childcare environment that is focused on providing quality experiences that offer children the best opportunities to develop socially, emotionally, and cognitively while striving for the best outcomes for Vermont's young children." - *Christine Blais*

"STARS has made quality care affordable for many families that receive subsidy. And my STARS qualifications have been mentioned by potential parents during initial interviews. There parents are aware of STARS and understand the value of earning 5 STARS." - *Carolyn Riley*

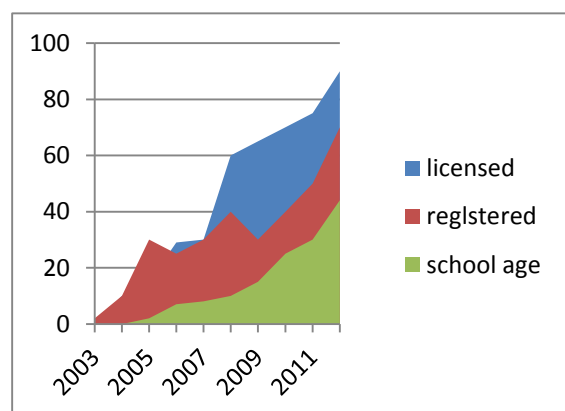
STARS by the Number:

"I may have to celebrate. I feel like I graduated from something." - *Kay Curtis*

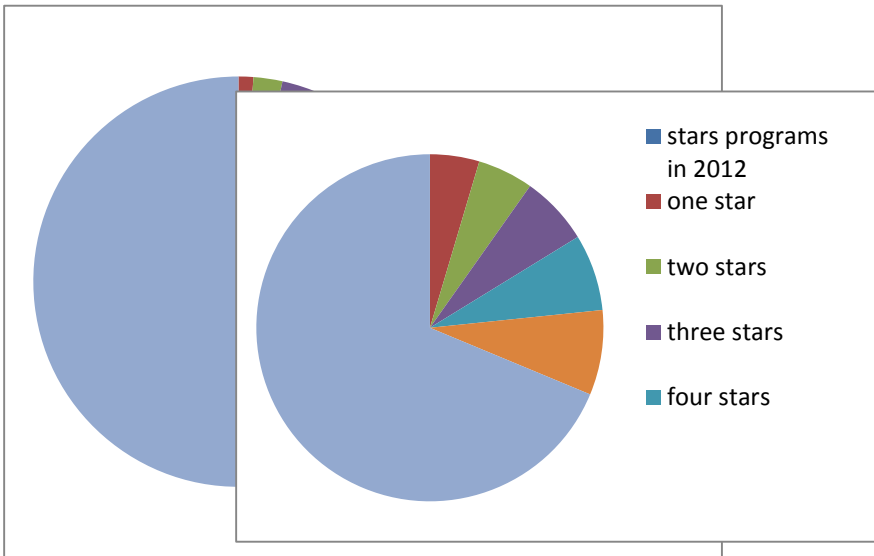
Participation since 2003



Participation by program type



STARS participation from 2009 to 2012



STARS Partners

The following partners work with STARS to support providers as they participate in the STARS process.

Community Support Agencies

Northern Lights Career Development System

Professional Organizations: VAEYC, Starting Points, VCCPA

Privately Funded Provider Support Systems: VB3

Public and Provider Engagement

Since the inception of STARS engaging the provider community has been a focus. From the original 42 public forums in 2001 and 2002, through the development of the STARS Oversight Committee, the voice of the provider community has been encouraged. In October 2005 the STARS Website was created for use by providers and parents. In March 2007 a STARS participant satisfaction survey was conducted. Following the change of administration in 2010 a second STARS participant survey was conducted in January 2011.

For more detailed information visit the STARS website www.dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/stars

MJCC Logo Here

CDD Logo Here