Early Childhood Education in Ohio

State and federal funding enables more than 111,924 children and families in Ohio to access high-quality, public and private, early childhood programs.¹

Federal and State Early Childhood Education Funding in Ohio

- **$368.2M** Head Start and Early Head Start²
- **$315.6M** CCDBG and Mandatory Funds³
- **$25.1M** CCDBG State Match⁴
- **$1.7B** CCDBG COVID-Relief Allocations: CARES⁵ | CRRSA⁶ | ARPA (CCDF + Stabilization)⁷
- **$60.2M** State-Funded Pre-K⁸
- **$7.7M** MIECHV⁹
- **$23.0M** IDEA Part C¹⁰
- **$19.8M** IDEA Part B, Sec. 619¹¹
- **$423.3M** TANF¹² Early Learning and Care Expenditures¹³

Ohio Quick Facts

- **21,678** Children Enrolled in Head Start²⁸
- **20.26%** Eligible Children Served by Head Start²⁹
- **8,232** Children Enrolled in Early Head Start³⁰
- **7.58%** Eligible Children Served by Early Head Start³¹
- **35,406** Children Under Six Served by CCDBG and Mandatory Funds²²
- **9.9%** Eligible Children Under Six Served by CCDBG and Mandatory Funds²³

Early Childhood Education Economic Impact

In addition to the benefits to young children, access to affordable, high-quality child care can increase parental labor force participation and family economic stability. Child care problems, however, adversely affect both state and national economies. As a direct result of child care issues, the national economy loses upward of $57 billion annually in the form of lost earnings, productivity, and revenue.¹⁴

In Ohio

- **10.5%** of parents make career sacrifices due to child care issues.¹⁵

Labor force participation of mothers with children under the age of 5 decreased from 69.1% in 2019 to 62.4% in 2021.¹⁶

Nationwide¹⁷

The percent of families that reported difficulty finding space in a home- or center-based program increased dramatically from 22% in December 2021 to 58% in January 2022.

71% of parents report that difficulty finding child care has impacted their ability to work.
Ohio Early Learning and Care Snapshot

- Population Under Six: 826,058
- Under Six Living in Poverty: 21.40%
- 66.63% of children under six have all available parents in the workforce

- 39% of Ohio residents live in a “child care desert”.
- For rural families, this percentage is even higher.

- The average price of child care is $8,361 per year.
- The median household income is $98,574.

- Met 5/10 of NIEER’s State Preschool Quality Standards

High Price of Care

Too often, the care that is available costs more than families can afford.

Annual Price of Infant Care in Ohio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Center-Based</td>
<td>$10,161 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home-Based</td>
<td>$8,242 per year</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provider Type</th>
<th>Married Parents</th>
<th>Single Parent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent of Median Income</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>39.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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Low Compensation for Early Educators

Despite the critical nature of their work, early educators are among the most underpaid workers in the nation.

$10.65 Child Care Workers Hourly Rate

$2,216 Child Care Worker Est. Annual Salary

$15,080 Federal Minimum Wage

Nationally, child care workers make less than 98% of all occupations.

The Temporary Impact of ARPA Funding

In Ohio, 150,159 child care spots were saved by ARPA funds.

92% said funding helped them stay open.

46% used funds to pay debts taken on in the course of the pandemic, including

75% used funds for compensation but still struggle to provide competitive wages and benefits.

63% of those in family child care homes.

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1 This figure includes beneficiaries of Head Start, Early Head Start, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV), state-funded Pre-K, and the individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Parts B, C, and F. In some cases, children and families are served by more than one program.