SHORTCHANGED

PRELIMINARY DATA

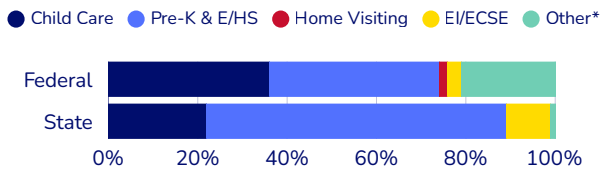
Alabama 2024

For every dollar spent on school-aged students in Alabama, $0.14 was spent on infants and toddlers, and $0.27 on preschool-aged children.

Alabama invested over **$727 million** in early care and education in 2024. Of these investments in birth to kindergarten-entry:

- **38%** supported infants and toddlers, and **62%** supported children aged three to kindergarten entry.
- **59%** came from federal sources, and **41%** came from state funds.

ECE Spending by Program Type

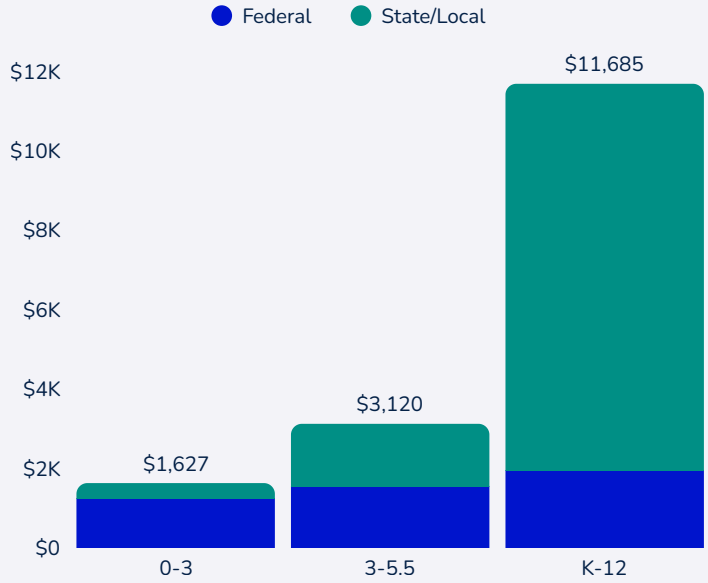


Between 2023 and 2024, Alabama increased state-specific spending on children from birth through kindergarten-entry by more than $26 million.

In 2024, Alabama supported early care and education through dedicated programs such as the Alabama First Class Pre-K Program and Early Intervention. Continued investments will be reflected in future reports.

**Other federal funding includes the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC), the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS).*

Per Capita Spending by Age Group



Alabama's ECE Investment Rankings

Rankings reflect state/local per capita investment in ECE compared to state/local per capita investment in K-12.

#18 /50 in 0-5.5

#23 /50 in 0-3

#14 /50 in 3-5.5

Rankings are subject to change as new data becomes available.

Children in Alabama by Age Group

0-3	3-5.5	School-Aged
171k	**144k**	857k

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Alabama 2024

Total Funding by Spending Category and Age

Category	Nationally Reported Federal Dollars	State and Local Dollars	Nationally Reported Federal + State Dollars			
			0- 3	3-5.5	K-12	Total
Child Care	$207,154,601	$84,782,594	$119,862,240	$100,798,199	$71,276,756	$291,937,195
State Preschool/ Early Education	$-	$192,463,602	$-	$192,463,602	$-	$192,463,602
Home Visiting/ Parent Education	$8,584,560	$35,563	$7,413,306	$1,206,817	$-	$8,620,123
Early Intervention/ PreK Special Ed	$13,938,938	$31,179,456	$38,935,890	$6,182,504	$-	$45,118,394
Other 0 to 3 Expenditures	$-	$-	$-	$-	$-	$-
Other 3 to 5.5 Expenditures	$-	$5,138,672	$-	$5,138,672	$-	$5,138,672
Other 0 to 5.5 Expenditures	$-	$2,190,901	$1,191,858	$999,043	$-	$2,190,901
K - 12 Expenditures	$1,599,251,477	$8,322,972,657	$-	$-	$9,922,224,134	$9,922,224,134
Other Federal Funding Streams	$272,431,583	$-	$111,040,284	$142,143,468	$19,247,830	$272,431,583
Total	$2,101,361,159	$8,638,763,445	$278,443,579	$448,932,305	$10,012,748,720	$10,740,124,604

Help us get this right.

We rely on partners and state experts to ensure our data is accurate. If something here needs a correction, please reach out: **svanvalkenburgh@niu.edu**

Scan or click the QR code to learn more about The Shortchanged Project.

Center for Early Learning Funding Equity
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY