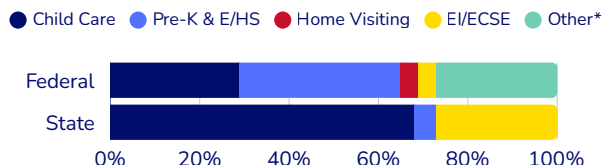


For every dollar spent on school-aged students in Delaware, **\$0.17** was spent on infants and toddlers, and **\$0.22** on preschool-aged children.

Delaware invested over **\$208 million** in early care and education in 2024. Of these investments in birth to kindergarten-entry:

- **47%** supported infants and toddlers, and **53%** supported children aged three to kindergarten-entry.
- **44%** came from federal sources, and **56%** came from state funds.

ECE Spending by Program Type

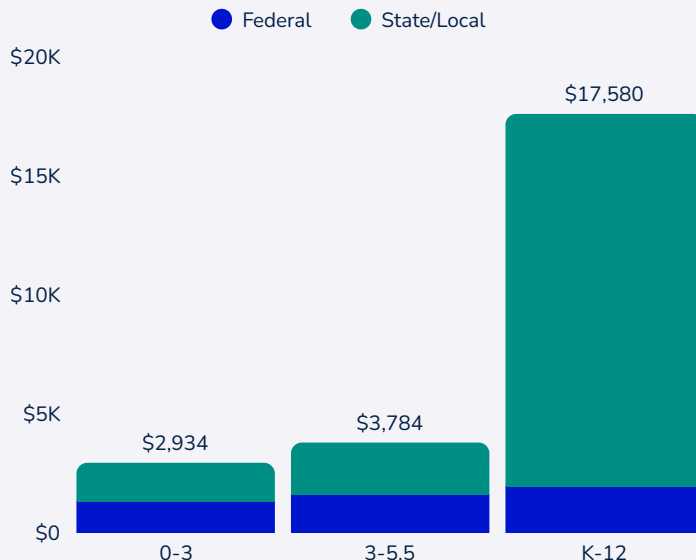


Between 2023 and 2024, Delaware increased state-specific spending on children from birth through kindergarten-entry by more than \$44 million.

In 2024, Delaware supported early care and education through dedicated programs such as the Early Care and Education Program (ECAP) and the Birth to Three Program. 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



Delaware's ECE Investment Rankings

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

#10 / 50 in 0-5.5

#06 / 50 in 0-3

#20 / 50 in 3-5.5

Rankings are subject to change as new data becomes available.

Children in Delaware by Age Group

33k	29k	158k
0-3	3-5.5	School-Aged

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	\$38,046,899	\$115,947,200	\$54,301,804	\$51,570,188	\$48,122,106	\$153,994,099
State Preschool/ Early Education	\$-	\$5,187,200	\$-	\$5,187,200	\$-	\$5,187,200
Home Visiting/ Parent Education	\$4,028,692	\$183,500	\$3,622,485	\$589,707	\$-	\$4,212,192
Early Intervention/ PreK Special Ed	\$3,975,629	\$31,623,600	\$15,175,423	\$20,423,806	\$-	\$35,599,229
Other 0 to 3 Expenditures	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Other 3 to 5.5 Expenditures	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
Other 0 to 5.5 Expenditures	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
K - 12 Expenditures	\$290,774,841	\$2,434,149,409	\$-	\$-	\$2,724,924,250	\$2,724,924,250
Other Federal Funding Streams	\$63,807,443	\$-	\$25,163,668	\$31,967,406	\$6,676,368	\$63,807,443
Total	\$400,633,503	\$2,587,090,909	\$98,263,381	\$109,738,307	\$2,779,722,725	\$2,987,724,413

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.