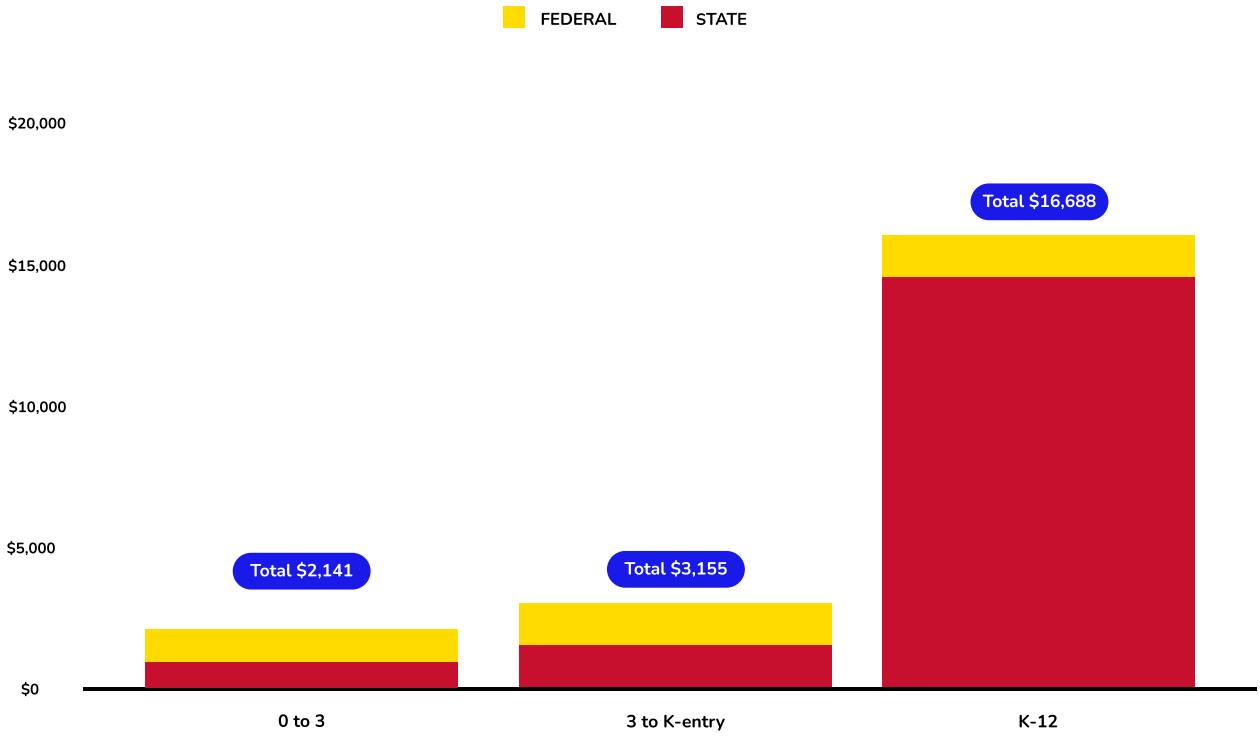
ILLINOIS: ECE PUBLIC SPENDING 2022

ECE and K-12

For every dollar spent on K-12 in Illinois, 13 cents are spent on 0 to 3-year-olds, and 19 cents on 3 to 5.5-year-olds.

Per Child Spending by Age Group (2022)



Total Number of Children Age 0 to 3: 419,980

Total Number of Children Age 3 to K-entry: 373,733

Total Number of Children K-entry & up: 2.1 Million

Expenditures by Source

Total ECE Spending: $2.08 Billion
Total Federal Spending: $982 Million
Total State Spending: $1.01 Billion

Total Expenditures by Age

0 to 3 Spending: $899 Million
3 to K-entry Spending: $1.18 Billion
K-12 Spending: $35.3 Billion

Expenditures Captured in National Reports vs. Actual Expenditures

ECE Expenditures Captured in National Reporting: $1.8 Billion
Actual State and Federal Expenditures: $2.08 Billion
Difference Not Captured: $269 Million (15%)

Illinois State Dedicated Programs 2022*:

Preschool For All
Parents Too Soon
Healthy Families
Early Childhood Block Grant
Child Care Services
DCFS Day Care
Early Intervention Program

*Illinois has continued to invest in ECE since 2022. The following examples will be captured in future reports:
KIDS: Every Illinois Child Ready for Kindergarten, Smart Start Child Care, Birth-to-Third Grade (B-3) Continuity Project