

For every dollar spent on K-12-aged students in Arkansas, **\$0.14** was spent on infants and toddlers, and **\$0.28** on preschool-aged children.

Arkansas invested almost \$468 million in early care and education in 2022, yet only \$447 million of those dollars were reflected in national reports, leaving \$20.5 million – or 5% – of state and local spending uncaptured.

Of these investments in birth to K-entry:

- 36% supported infants and toddlers
- 65% came from federal sources
- 64% supported children age three to kindergarten entry
- 35% came from state funds

In 2022, Arkansas supported early care and education through dedicated programs such as the Arkansas Better Chance Program and the Department of Human Services Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education. Continued investments, such as the new Office of Early Childhood (OEC) within the Arkansas Department of Education, will be reflected in future reports.



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

## Per Capita Spending by Age Group



## Arkansas's ECE Investment Rankings

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

**#11 / 50** in 0 to K-entry

**#49 / 50** in 0-3

**#07 / 50** in 3 to K-entry

Rankings are subject to change as new data becomes available.

## Children in Arkansas by Age Group

**105k**  
0-3

**95k**  
3- K-Entry

**519k**  
K-12 age

## Total Funding by Spending Category and Age

Category	Nationally Reported Federal Dollars	State and Local Actual Dollars	Nationally Reported Federal + State Actual			
			0 to 3	3 to 5.5	K - 12	Total
Child Care	\$135,149,217	\$13,631,612	\$65,116,461	\$55,233,942	\$28,430,427	\$148,780,829
State Preschool/ Early Education	\$ -	\$137,535,701	\$ -	\$137,535,701	\$ -	\$137,535,701
Home Visiting/ Parent Education	\$7,498,042	\$ -	\$6,448,316	\$1,049,726	\$ -	\$7,498,042
Early Intervention/ PreK Special Ed	\$10,269,301	\$16,897,919	\$4,497,433	\$22,669,787	\$ -	\$27,167,220
Other 0 to 3 Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other 3 to 5.5 Expenditures	\$ -	\$500,000	\$ -	\$500,000	\$ -	\$500,000
Other 0 to 5.5 Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
K - 12 Expenditures	\$ -	\$4,598,568,350	\$ -	\$ -	\$4,598,568,350	\$4,598,568,350
Other Federal Funding Streams	\$183,456,881	\$ -	\$93,736,514	\$80,935,964	\$8,784,403	\$183,456,881
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$336,373,441</b>	<b>\$4,767,133,582</b>	<b>\$169,798,724</b>	<b>\$297,925,119</b>	<b>\$4,635,783,180</b>	<b>\$5,103,507,023</b>

### 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: [mbezark@niu.edu](mailto:mbezark@niu.edu)