

For every dollar spent on K-12-aged students in California, **\$0.12** was spent on infants and toddlers, and **\$0.26** on preschool-aged children.

California invested over \$7 billion in early care and education in 2022, yet only \$6 billion of those dollars were reflected in national reports, leaving \$1 billion – or 19% – of state and local spending uncaptured.

Of these investments in birth to K-entry:

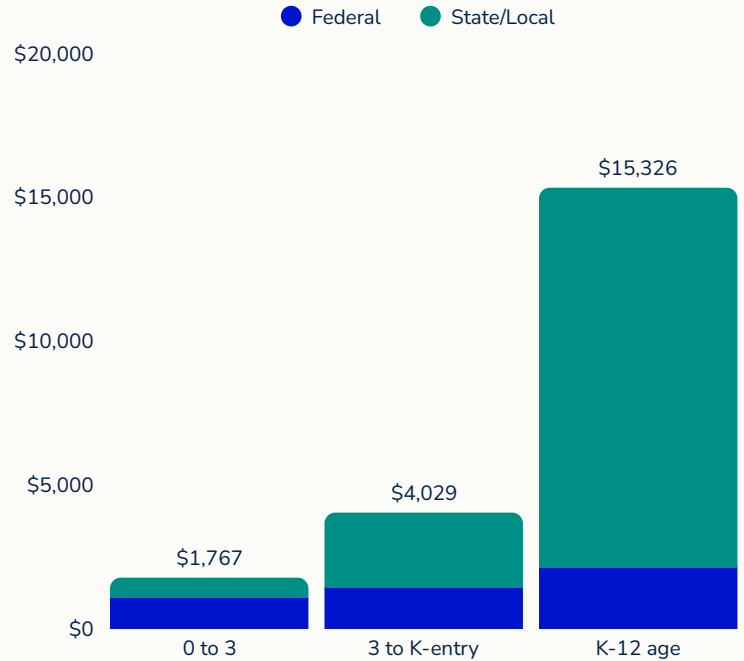
- 32% supported infants and toddlers
- 43% came from federal sources
- 68% supported children age three to kindergarten entry
- 57% came from state funds

In 2022, California supported early care and education through dedicated programs such as the California State Preschool Program (CSPP) and Transitional Kindergarten (TK). Future reports will capture California’s increased investments in these programs.



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

Per Capita Spending by Age Group



California’s ECE Investment Rankings

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

#05 / 50 in 0 to K-entry

#06 / 50 in 0-3

#06 / 50 in 3 to K-entry

Rankings are subject to change as new data becomes available.

Children in California by Age Group

1.2M
0-3

1.2M
3- K-Entry

6.6M
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	\$1,524,168,796	\$3,088,866,000	\$1,340,755,249	\$1,327,138,512	\$1,945,141,035	\$4,613,034,796
State Preschool/ Early Education	\$ -	\$2,220,877,123	\$ -	\$2,220,877,123	\$ -	\$2,220,877,123
Home Visiting/ Parent Education	\$62,013,690	\$3,659,346	\$56,478,811	\$9,194,225	\$ -	\$65,673,036
Early Intervention/ PreK Special Ed	\$96,575,447	\$2,003,000	\$57,350,178	\$41,228,269	\$ -	\$98,578,447
Other 0 to 3 Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other 3 to 5.5 Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other 0 to 5.5 Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
K - 12 Expenditures	\$ -	\$85,457,142,875	\$ -	\$ -	\$85,457,142,875	\$85,457,142,875
Other Federal Funding Streams	\$2,294,469,013	\$ -	\$831,214,308	\$1,189,532,513	\$273,722,192	\$2,294,469,013
Total	\$3,977,226,946	\$90,772,548,344	\$2,285,798,546	\$4,787,970,642	\$87,676,006,102	\$94,749,775,290

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