SHORTCHANGED

Colorado 2022

For every dollar spent on K-12-aged students in Colorado, **$0.10 was spent on infants and toddlers, and $0.14 on preschool-aged children.**

Colorado invested over $522 million in early care and education in 2022, yet only $440 million of those dollars were reflected in national reports, leaving $82 million – or 19% – of state and local spending uncaptured.

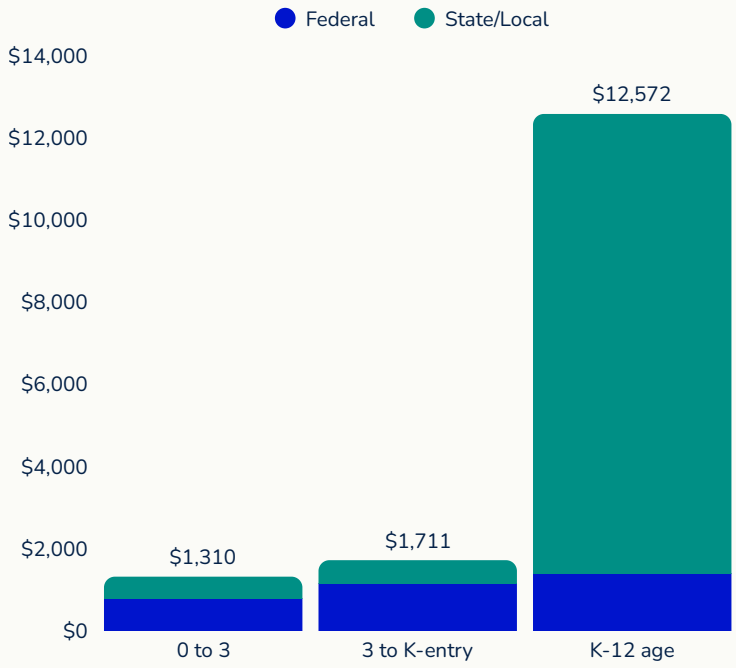
Of these investments in birth to K-entry:

- **46%** supported infants and toddlers
- **54%** supported children age three to kindergarten entry
- **63%** came from federal sources
- **37%** came from state funds

In 2022, Colorado supported early care and education through dedicated programs such as Early Intervention Services, the Child Care Assistance Program, and the Home Visiting for School Readiness Program. Continued investments in the new Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC) and the Colorado Universal Preschool Program 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



Colorado's ECE Investment Rankings

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

#34 /50 in 0 to K-entry

#08 /50 in 0-3

#39 /50 in 3 to K-entry

Rankings are subject to change as new data becomes available.

Children in Colorado by Age Group

0-3	3- K-Entry	K-12 age
183k	165k	933k

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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	$139,040,095	$57,403,910	$65,211,041	$73,647,932	$57,585,032	$196,444,005
State Preschool/ Early Education	$ -	$69,412,304	$ -	$69,412,304	$ -	$69,412,304
Home Visiting/ Parent Education	$8,109,900	$23,384,879	$27,085,510	$4,409,269	$ -	$31,494,779
Early Intervention/ PreK Special Ed	$14,241,289	$59,170,156	$68,050,164	$5,361,281	$ -	$73,411,445
Other 0 to 3 Expenditures	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Other 3 to 5.5 Expenditures	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Other 0 to 5.5 Expenditures	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
K - 12 Expenditures	$ -	$10,425,723,708	$ -	$ -	$10,425,723,708	$10,425,723,708
Other Federal Funding Streams	$230,532,865	$ -	$79,077,121	$130,026,559	$21,429,185	$230,532,865
Total	$391,924,149	$10,635,094,957	$239,423,836	$282,857,345	$10,504,737,925	$11,027,019,106

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**

Center for Early Learning Funding Equity
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY