

For every dollar spent on K-12-aged students in Wisconsin, **\$0.12 was spent on infants and toddlers, and \$0.23 on preschool-aged children.**

Wisconsin invested over \$758 million in early care and education in 2022, yet only \$666 million of those dollars were reflected in national reports, leaving \$92 million – or 14% – of state and local spending uncaptured.

Of these investments in birth to K-entry:

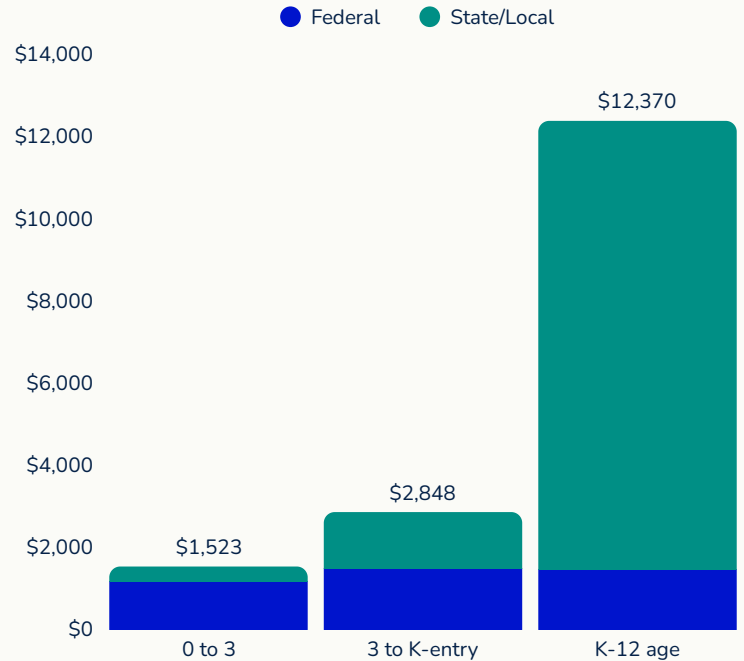
- 37% supported infants and toddlers
- 61% came from federal sources
- 63% supported children age three to kindergarten entry
- 39% came from state funds

In 2022, Wisconsin supported early care and education through dedicated programs such as the Wisconsin Four-Year-Old Kindergarten (4K) program and state contributions to Head Start. Continued investments, such as funding for a statewide screening tool, 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



Wisconsin's ECE Investment Rankings

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

#13 / 50 in 0 to K-entry

#20 / 50 in 0-3

#16 / 50 in 3 to K-entry

Rankings are subject to change as new data becomes available.

Children in Wisconsin by Age Group

183k
0-3

168k
3- K-Entry

960k
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	\$272,668,710	\$174,805,700	\$172,112,039	\$147,228,498	\$128,133,873	\$447,474,410
State Preschool/ Early Education	\$ -	\$166,662,416	\$ -	\$166,662,416	\$ -	\$166,662,416
Home Visiting/ Parent Education	\$15,068,061	\$ -	\$12,958,532	\$2,109,529	\$ -	\$15,068,061
Early Intervention/ PreK Special Ed	\$18,029,006	\$ -	\$7,837,067	\$10,191,939	\$ -	\$18,029,006
Other 0 to 3 Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other 3 to 5.5 Expenditures	\$ -	\$6,264,100	\$ -	\$6,264,100	\$ -	\$6,264,100
Other 0 to 5.5 Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
K - 12 Expenditures	\$ -	\$10,424,859,321	\$ -	\$ -	\$10,424,859,321	\$10,424,859,321
Other Federal Funding Streams	\$253,048,795	\$ -	\$85,420,380	\$147,296,402	\$20,332,013	\$253,048,795
Total	\$558,814,572	\$10,772,591,537	\$278,328,019	\$479,752,884	\$10,573,325,207	\$11,331,406,109

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