

Preschoolers with Disabilities in Subsidized Child Care in California: 2015–2019

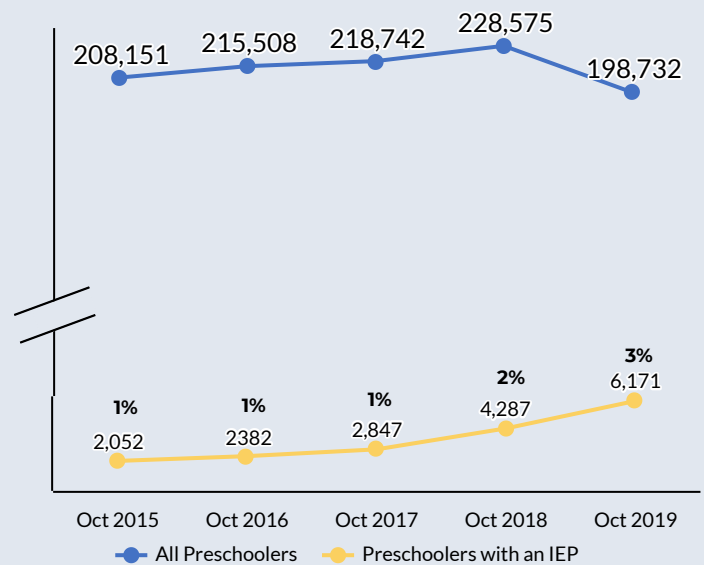
This brief summarizes key findings on children ages 3 through 5 years with disabilities in subsidized care in California. The data are from the Child Development Management Information System (CDMIS) from 2015 to 2019. Included in the analyses are children who participated in the California State Preschool Program, Alternative Payment, California State Preschool - Full Day, California State Preschool - Part Day, Calworks Stage 2, Calworks Stage 3, Family Child Care Home, General Child Care, General Migrant Care, Migrant Alternative Payment, and Severely Handicapped.



Finding 1: Increased subsidy enrollment for preschoolers with disabilities

The number of preschoolers with disabilities (also referred to as preschoolers with Individualized Education Programs or IEPs) in subsidized care has increased over the last 5 years to over 6000 children in 2019. The total number of preschoolers receiving subsidized care also increased over the time period until 2019 when it decreased substantially. Children with disabilities in 2019 made up 3% of the children in subsidized care.

Preschoolers in Subsidized Child Care

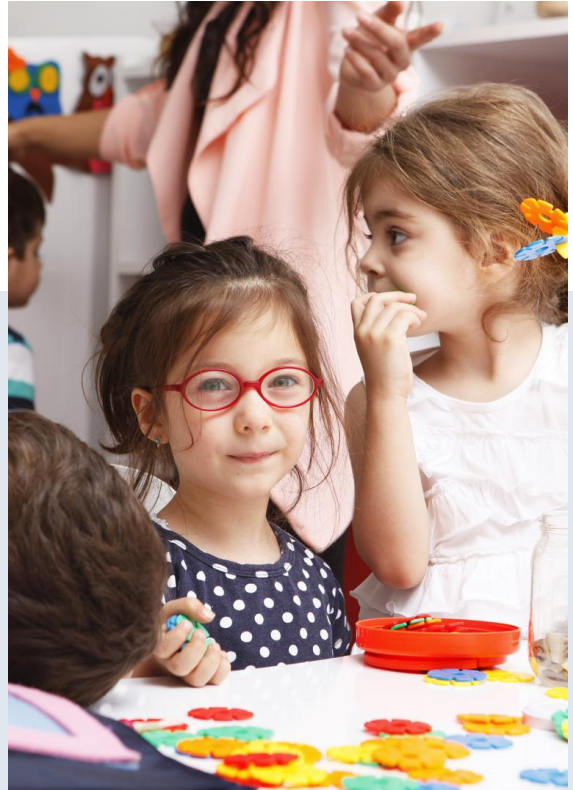


[SRI Education](#) is collaborating with the [California Department of Education](#) and the [California Department of Social Services](#) to conduct research to better understand and improve the inclusion of preschoolers (i.e., children ages 3 through 5) with disabilities (i.e., with an Individualized Education Program [IEP]) in subsidized early learning and care. When young children with disabilities participate in settings with their peers without disabilities, all children benefit. Through analyses of administrative data, interviews with leaders across the state, and case studies, the team will identify strategies for increasing facilitators and decreasing barriers to inclusion of preschoolers with disabilities in subsidized early learning and care settings.

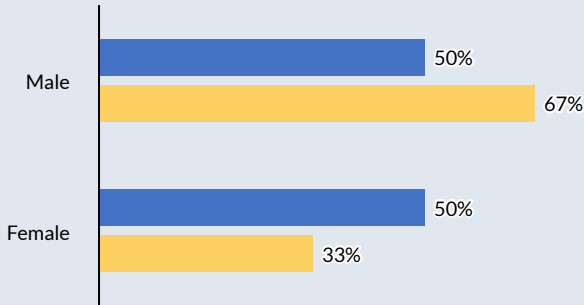
Finding 2: Differences by child demographics

Compared to all preschoolers in subsidized early learning and care, preschoolers with disabilities in 2019 were more likely to be:

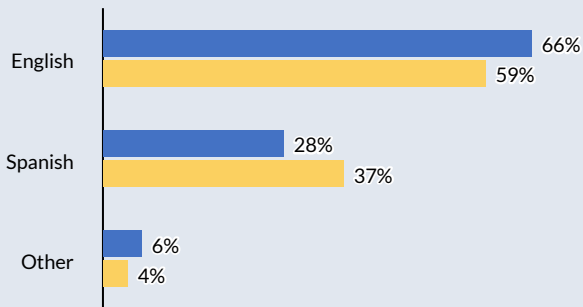
- male
- speaking Spanish as a primary language
- Hispanic
- 4 years old



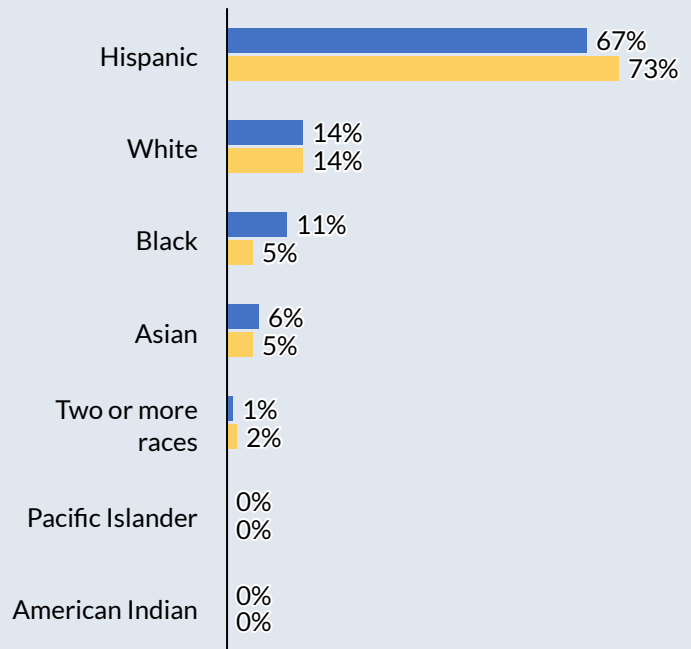
Gender



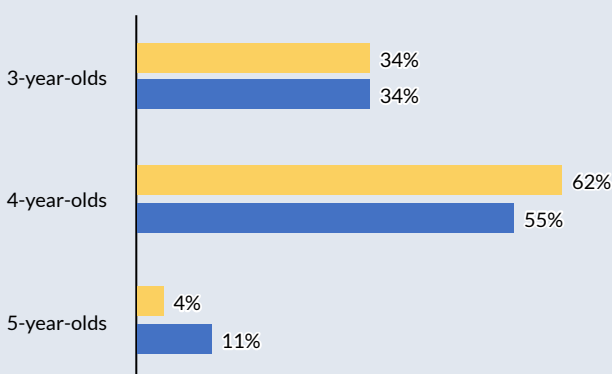
Primary Language



Race and Ethnicity



Age

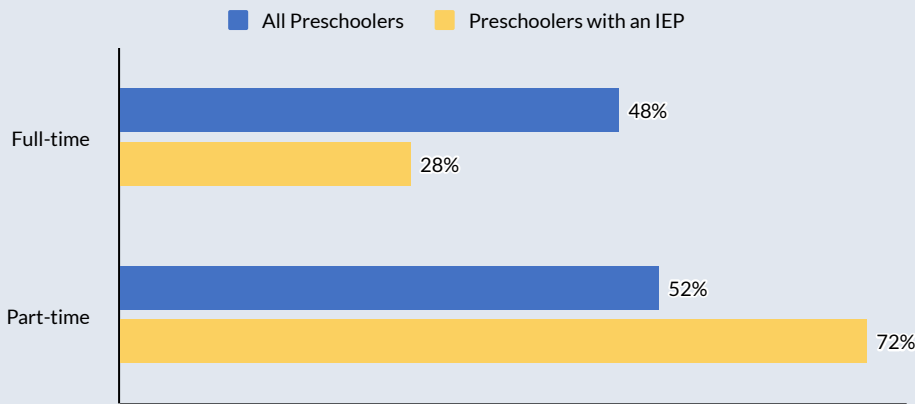


■ All Preschoolers ■ Preschoolers with an IEP

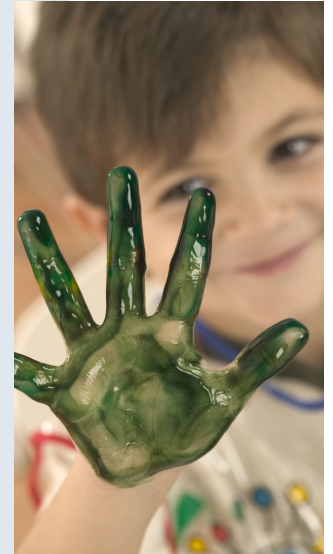
Finding 3: Less likely to receive full-time care

Preschoolers with disabilities in subsidized care were less likely to receive full-time care compared to all 3- through 5-year-olds receiving subsidized care.

Enrollment in Part-Time and Full-Time Subsidized Care (2019)



Full-time care is defined as a child receiving 4 or more hours of care each day for more than half of the days in the reporting period

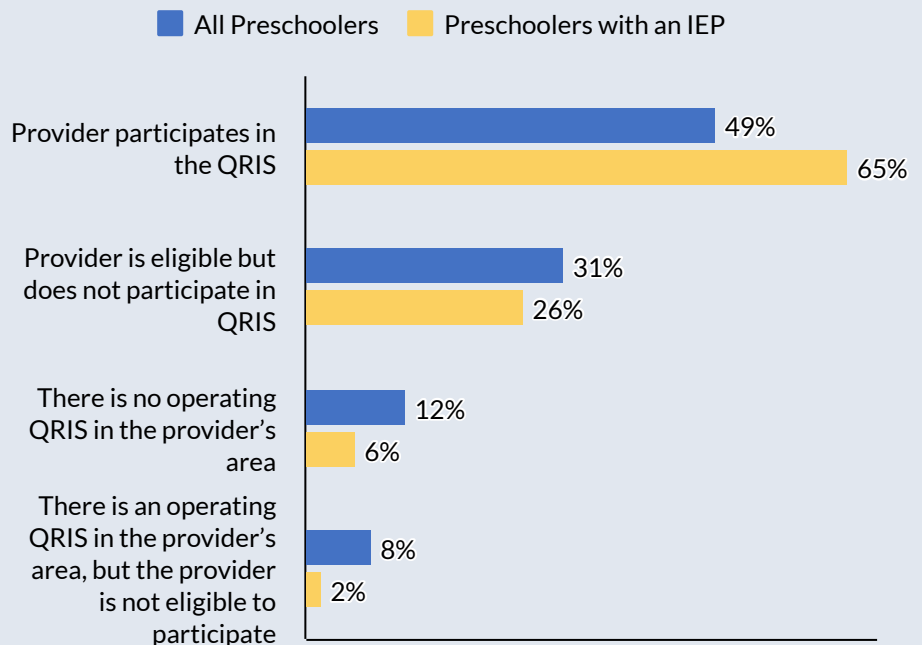


Finding 4: Majority in a program participating in QRIS

Preschoolers with disabilities were more likely to attend a program participating in Quality Counts, California’s Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS).

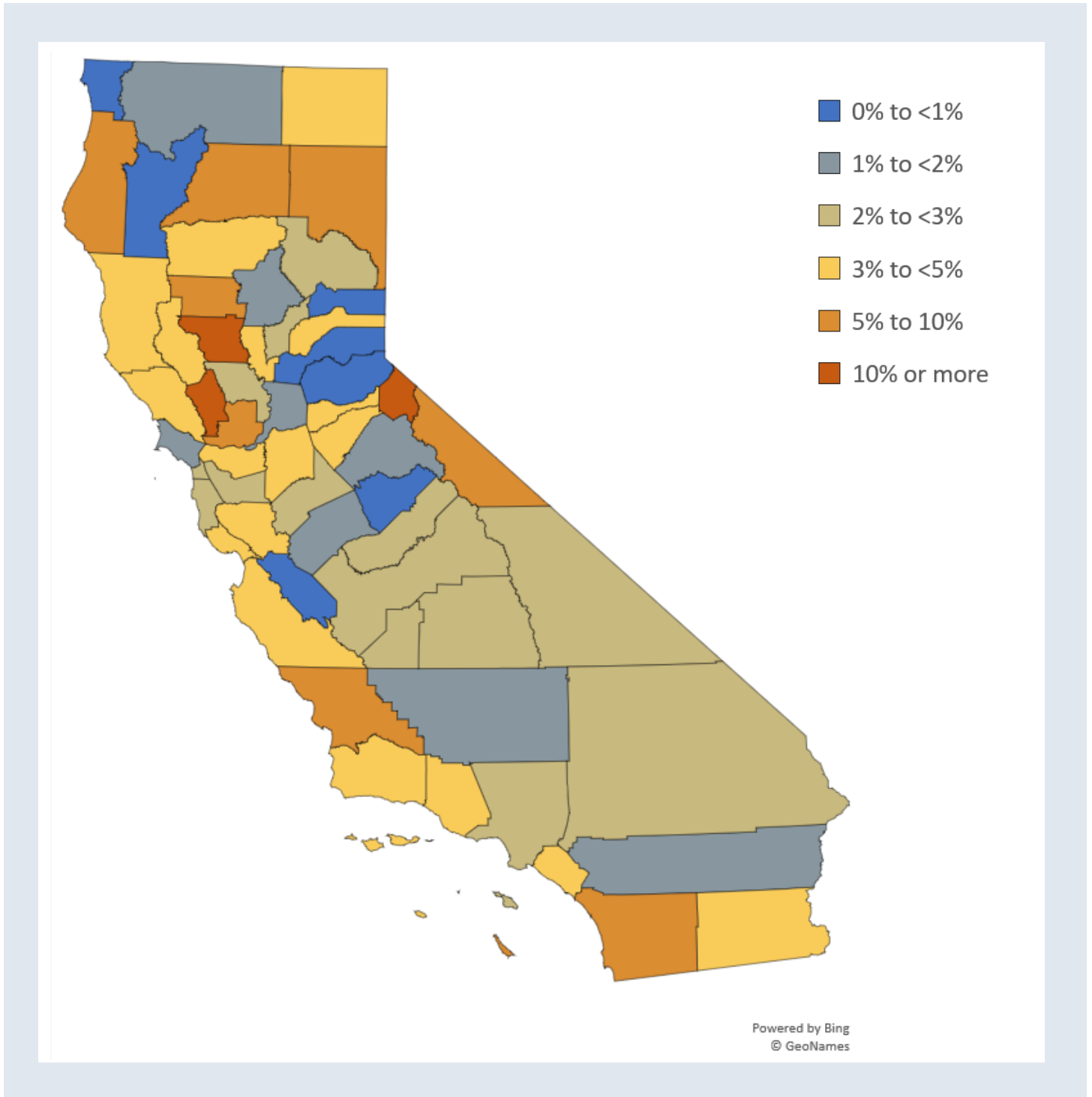


Program Quality (2019)



Finding 5: Substantial variation across counties

In 2019, California's counties varied in the percentage of all preschoolers receiving child care subsidies who have an IEP (range = 0-21%).



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