

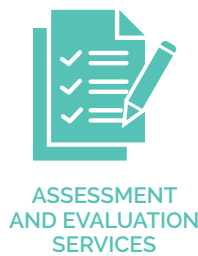
Support Infant and Toddler Early Intervention in Pennsylvania

What is Infant and Toddler Early Intervention (EI)?

Infant and Toddler EI is a program that provides services to children from birth to their third birthday who have a developmental delay or a high probability of having a developmental delay. Also referred to as Part C EI, these services aim to improve outcomes that are critical to a family's ability to support their child's health, optimal development, educational success, and lifelong well-being.

States are authorized by the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to administer the program, and in Pennsylvania Infant and Toddler EI is overseen by the Department of Human Services with direct administration by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning. Each county also administers the program individually.

Infant and Toddler EI services include, but are not limited to:



Benefits from children receiving EI services:

- ✓ Reduced educational costs by minimizing the need for special education.
- ✓ Enhanced capacity of families to meet their child's needs.
- ✓ Improved child health and education outcomes.
- ✓ Enhanced development of infants and toddlers with disabilities.

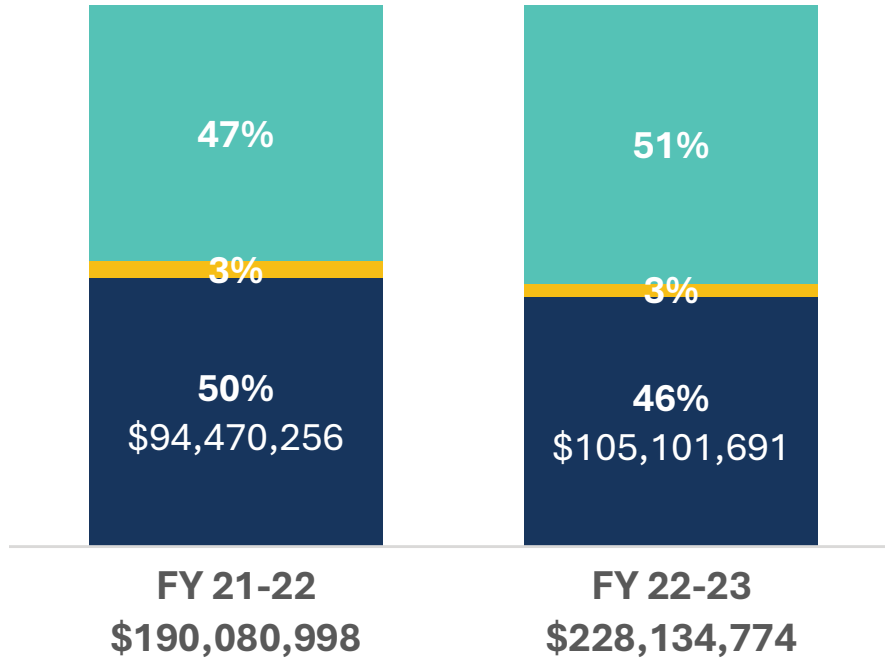
Over the course of the 2022-23 school year, 48,199 total children in Pennsylvania were served in Infant and Toddler EI.

Infant/Toddler EI Funding by Source

What percentage of Infant/Toddler EI services are covered by Medicaid in Pennsylvania?

FY 2021-22: 50%
FY 2022-23: 46%

- **Maintenance** - state allocation funding including 10% county match
- **Infant, Toddlers, and Families (ITF) Waiver** - Medicaid program that provides funding specifically for special instruction to infants and toddlers who experience more severe cases of developmental delays
- **Early Intervention Medicaid (EI MA)** - federal allocation funding (separate from ITF Waiver)



How Can Policymakers Support Infant and Toddler EI?

We support, at minimum, the Administration's proposed increase of \$16.2 million for the Infant/Toddler Early Intervention program, which will provide \$10 million for a long-overdue rate increase for providers and will serve an additional 3,000 children and their families. This increase is a step in identifying and serving additional children and meeting their growing needs and begins to incorporate the results of the completed rate study to address the workforce shortage of Early Intervention providers. Additional support beyond the \$16.2 million is recommended, as we estimate \$49 million in new funding is needed this year to address increased costs to the program and projected children served.

Thriving PA is an initiative of the Early Learning Pennsylvania coalition, which advocates for access to voluntary, high-quality early care and education and healthy development opportunities for every child in Pennsylvania.



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