

## 2023 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap

### Methods and Sources

### Effective Strategies

## EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

### What are Early Intervention services and why are they important?

All references for this section are provided in the Notes and Sources section at the bottom of each webpage. Additionally, search the [Prenatal-to-3 Policy Clearinghouse](#) for an ongoing inventory of rigorous evidence reviews, including more information on Early Intervention services.

### What impact do Early Intervention services have?

The following studies meet standards of strong causal evidence to demonstrate the impacts of Early Intervention services for the health and wellbeing of young children and their families:

- A. Vanderveen, J. A., Bassler, D., Robertson, C. M. T., & Kirpalani, H. (2009). Early interventions involving parents to improve neurodevelopmental outcomes of premature infants: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Perinatology*, 29, 343–351. <https://doi.org/10.1038/jp.2008.229>.
- B. Teti, D., Black, M., Viscardi, R., Glass, P., O’Connell, M., Baker, L., Cusson, R., & Reiner Hess, C. (2009). Intervention with African American premature infants: Four-month results of an Early Intervention program. *Journal of Early Intervention*, 31(2), 146–166. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F1053815109331864>
- C. Ramey, C., Bryant, D., Wasik, B., Sparling, J., Fendt, K., & LaVange, L. (1992). Infant Health and Development Program for low birth weight, premature infants: Program elements, family participation, and child intelligence. *Pediatrics*, 3, 454–465. <https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/89/3/454.long>
- D. Rauh, V., Achenbach, T., Nurcombe, B., Howell, C., & Teti, D. (1988). Minimizing adverse effects of low birthweight: Four-year results of an early intervention program. *Child Development*, 59(3), 544–553. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/2454783>
- E. Roberts, M., & Kaiser, A. (2015). Early intervention for toddlers with language delays: A randomized controlled trial. *Pediatrics*, 135(4), 686–693. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2014-2134>
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- G. Guralnick, M. (1998). Effectiveness of Early Intervention for vulnerable children: A developmental perspective. *American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 102(4), 319–345. [https://depts.washington.edu/chdd/guralnick/pdfs/effect\\_EI\\_AJMR\\_vol102\\_98.pdf](https://depts.washington.edu/chdd/guralnick/pdfs/effect_EI_AJMR_vol102_98.pdf)

- H. McCormick, M., Brooks-Gunn, J., Buka, S., Goldman, J., Yu, J., Salganik, M., Scott, D., Bennett, F., Kay, L., Bernbaum, J., Bauer, C., Martin, C., Woods, E., Martin, A., & Casey, P. (2006). Early Intervention in low birth weight premature infants: Results at 18 years of age for the Infant Health and Development Program. *Pediatrics*, 117(3), 771–780. <https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.2005-1316>
- I. Hill, J., Brooks-Gunn, J., & Waldfogel, J. (2003). Sustained effects of high participation in an Early Intervention for low birthweight premature infants. *Developmental Psychology*, 39(4), 730–744. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0012-1649.39.4.730>

### What are the key policy levers to support Early Intervention services?

In the absence of an evidence-based state policy lever to ensure Early Intervention (EI) services effectively provide children and families the support they need, we present several choices that states can make to more effectively implement their EI programs. We identified three key policy levers that states can implement to more effectively provide EI services in their state. The three key policy levers include:

- Include very low birthweight in the state’s diagnosable or at-risk eligibility criteria,
- Allow at-risk for delay as a qualifier for EI services, and
- Eliminate family fees for children receiving EI services.

We collected information on state eligibility criteria for Part C programs from multiple sources: a database managed by the Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) Center, a report from the IDEA Infant & Toddler Coordinators Association (ITCA) containing states’ self-reported eligibility categories, and information available on state agency websites and statutes.

A separate IDEA ITCA report provided states’ self-reported funding information, and we also accessed a 2020 report by the National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP) and the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute’s Center for Children and Families for state-specific survey information on Medicaid and other funding mechanisms for EI. The NCCP and Georgetown report also included information on child welfare agencies’ coordination with Part C programs, maternal depression screenings for mothers with children in EI services, and infant mental health trainings for EI staff, among other state policies and procedures related to EI.

In 2021 and 2022, we also performed outreach to Early Intervention researchers and experts regarding state strengths and investments in Part C programs to supplement the information we learned from written reports and to resolve any discrepancies between written sources. We convened a conference call in July 2021 with EI researchers to gain a greater understanding of various aspects of EI policy and to discuss states’ strengths and areas for improvement in implementing their EI programs; this information continues to inform the Roadmap.

To capture state compliance with the federally mandated policy requiring states to connect victims of child abuse or neglect to EI services as needed through a screening and referral process, we incorporated available information from the most recent Child Maltreatment report, including the percentages of children in each state who were victims of substantiated abuse or neglect and who were referred to Part C agencies for further screening, evaluation, or services.

To assess state legislative progress associated with Early Intervention, we also performed an electronic search using Quorum State between September 29, 2022 and August 15, 2023. The main search strategy used combinations of keywords for Early Intervention (early intervention OR Individuals with Disabilities Education Act OR Part C). Research staff conducted searches, analyzed results for relevant state legislation, and summarized the progress states made toward supporting Early Intervention programs.

This section, as well as those that follow, also contains the sources for the information presented in the individual state Roadmaps.

**Sources:**

State	Sources
All States	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (2023). <i>State and jurisdictional eligibility requirements for infants and toddlers with disabilities under IDEA Part C</i>. Retrieved on August 5, 2023, from <a href="https://ectacenter.org/topics/earlyid/state-info.asp">https://ectacenter.org/topics/earlyid/state-info.asp</a></li> <li>2. E. Shaw, Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center, personal communication, August 30, 2022.</li> <li>3. IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association. (Sept. 2022). <i>Tipping points survey: Demographics and challenges</i>. <a href="https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/2022-Tipping-Points-Survey.pdf">https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/2022-Tipping-Points-Survey.pdf</a></li> <li>4. M. Greer, IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, August 29, 2022.</li> <li>5. IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association. (2023). <i>Funding structure</i>. Retrieved on August 5, 2023, from <a href="https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/Funding-Structure.pdf">https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/Funding-Structure.pdf</a></li> <li>6. IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association. (2023). <i>2023 Finance Survey Report</i>. Retrieved on August 5, 2023 from <a href="https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/2023-ITCA-Finance-Survey-Results.pdf">https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/2023-ITCA-Finance-Survey-Results.pdf</a></li> <li>7. K. Johnson, Johnson Group Consulting, Inc., personal communication, July 28, 2021.</li> <li>8. E. W. Burak, Georgetown University Health Policy Institute, Center for Children and Families, personal communication, July 28, 2021.</li> <li>9. S. Smith, National Center for Children in Poverty, personal communication, July 28, 2021.</li> <li>10. Smith, S., Ferguson, D., Burak, E. W., Granja, M. R., &amp; Ortuzar, C. (2020). <i>Supporting social-emotional and mental health needs of young children through Part C early intervention: Results of a 50-state survey</i>. National Center for Children in Poverty, Bank Street Graduate School of Education, and the Georgetown University Health Policy Institute Center for Children and Families. Retrieved on April 8, 2021, from <a href="https://www.nccp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Part-C-Report-Final.pdf">https://www.nccp.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Part-C-Report-Final.pdf</a></li> <li>11. US Census Bureau, Population Division. (2022). <i>Annual state resident population estimates for 6 race groups (5 race alone groups and two or more races) by age, sex, and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021 – scest2021-alldata6.csv</i> [Data Set]. Retrieved August 31, 2022 from <a href="https://www.census.gov/data/tables/timeseries/demo/popest/2020s-state-detail.html">https://www.census.gov/data/tables/timeseries/demo/popest/2020s-state-detail.html</a>.</li> <li>12. US Department of Education. (July 6, 2022). <i>Cumulative number of infants and toddlers ages birth through 2 receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by race/ethnicity and</i></li> </ol>

State	Sources
	<p><i>state: 2021</i> [Data Set]. Retrieved on June 1, 2023 from <a href="https://data.ed.gov/dataset/idea-section-618-data-products-static-tables-part-c">https://data.ed.gov/dataset/idea-section-618-data-products-static-tables-part-c</a></p> <p>13. US Department of Education. (July 6, 2022). <i>Number of infants and toddlers and percentage of population, receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by age and state: 2021</i> [Data Set]. Retrieved on June 1, 2023, from <a href="https://data.ed.gov/dataset/idea-section-618-data-products-static-tables-part-c">https://data.ed.gov/dataset/idea-section-618-data-products-static-tables-part-c</a></p> <p>14. US Department of Health &amp; Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children’s Bureau. (2023). <i>Child maltreatment 2021</i>. <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/report/child-maltreatment-2021">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/report/child-maltreatment-2021</a></p>
Alabama	(no additional sources)
Alaska	(no additional sources)
Arizona	(no additional sources)
Arkansas	(no additional sources)
California	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cal Com. Code § 52022. (2012).</li> <li>2. A.B. 121, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Cal. 2023).</li> </ol>
Colorado	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center. (2021). <i>Building the case to expand Medicaid and private insurance for Early Intervention: Interview with Part C Coordinator Christy Scott</i>. Retrieved on May 12, 2021, from <a href="https://ectacenter.org/topics/finance/btc.asp">https://ectacenter.org/topics/finance/btc.asp</a></li> <li>2. C. Scott, Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood, personal communication, July 13, 2021.</li> </ol>
Connecticut	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S.B. 2, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Conn. 2023).</li> <li>2. H.B. 6644, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Conn. 2023).</li> </ol>
Delaware	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.B. 45, 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly. (Del. 2023).</li> </ol>
District of Columbia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center. (2021). <i>Building the case to expand Medicaid and private insurance for Early Intervention: Interview with Part C Coordinator Allan Phillips</i>. Retrieved on May 12, 2021, from <a href="https://ectacenter.org/topics/finance/btc.asp">https://ectacenter.org/topics/finance/btc.asp</a></li> <li>2. Groginsky, E. (2018, May 25). <i>Re: Change in the IDEA Part C eligibility criteria</i>. Office of the Superintendent of Education. Retrieved on July 26, 2021, from <a href="https://dcchildcareconnections.org/wp-content/uploads/Part-C-Eligibility-Criteria-Letter-Final.pdf">https://dcchildcareconnections.org/wp-content/uploads/Part-C-Eligibility-Criteria-Letter-Final.pdf</a></li> </ol>
Florida	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Florida Department of Health, Division of Children’s Medical Services. (2018, January 1). <i>Florida Early Steps eligibility criteria [Fact sheet]</i>. (2018). Retrieved on July 26, 2021, from <a href="http://www.cms-kids.com/home/resources/es_policy/Attachments/2_At_Risk_Eligibility_Fact_Sheet.pdf">http://www.cms-kids.com/home/resources/es_policy/Attachments/2_At_Risk_Eligibility_Fact_Sheet.pdf</a></li> </ol>
Georgia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. K. Spencer and K. Byrd, Georgia Department of Public Health, personal communication, June 23, 2021.</li> </ol>
Hawaii	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. C. Robles, Hawaii Department of Health, Early Intervention Section, personal communication, June 15, 2021.</li> <li>2. IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association. <i>2021 State Profile: Hawaii</i>. <a href="https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/Hawaii.pdf">https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/Hawaii.pdf</a></li> <li>3. M. Greer, IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, June 25, 2021.</li> <li>4. S.B. 1351, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Haw. 2023).</li> </ol>

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Idaho	(no additional sources)
Illinois	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Illinois Department of Human Services. <i>Chapter 9 - Early Intervention eligibility criteria, evaluation and assessment</i>. Retrieved on July 26, 2021, from <a href="https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=96963">https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=96963</a></li> <li>2. K. Berman, Start Early, personal communication, August 4, 2021.</li> <li>3. H.B. 1468, 103<sup>rd</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess. (Ill. 2023).</li> </ol>
Indiana	(no additional sources)
Iowa	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. M. Greer, IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, June 9, 2021.</li> <li>2. Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education. (2014). <i>Comparing early childhood systems: IDEA Early Intervention systems in the birth mandate states</i>. <a href="http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf">http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf</a></li> </ol>
Kansas	(no additional sources)
Kentucky	(no additional sources)
Louisiana	(no additional sources)
Maine	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. L.D. 1528, 131<sup>st</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Me. 2023).</li> <li>2. L.D. 545, 131<sup>st</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Me. 2023).</li> </ol>
Maryland	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. M. Greer, IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, June 9, 2021.</li> <li>2. Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education. (2014). <i>Comparing early childhood systems: IDEA Early Intervention systems in the birth mandate states</i>. Retrieved on May 12, 2021, from <a href="http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf">http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf</a></li> </ol>
Massachusetts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Early Intervention. (2020). <i>Early Intervention eligibility factors, definitions, criteria and procedures</i>. <a href="https://www.mass.gov/doc/early-intervention-child-and-family-eligibility-factors/download">https://www.mass.gov/doc/early-intervention-child-and-family-eligibility-factors/download</a></li> <li>2. H.B. 181, 193<sup>rd</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Mass. 2023).</li> </ol>
Michigan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. M. Greer, IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, June 9, 2021.</li> <li>2. Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education. (2014). <i>Comparing early childhood systems: IDEA Early Intervention systems in the birth mandate states</i>. <a href="http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf">http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf</a></li> </ol>
Minnesota	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. C. Tamminga, Minnesota Department of Education, personal communication, July 14, 2021.</li> <li>2. D. Hayden, Minnesota Department of Education, personal communication, July 14, 2021.</li> <li>3. M. Greer, IDEA Infant &amp; Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, June 9, 2021.</li> <li>4. Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education. (2014). <i>Comparing early childhood systems: IDEA Early Intervention systems in the birth mandate states</i>. <a href="http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf">http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/fetch/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf</a></li> </ol>
Mississippi	1. S.B. 2167, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Miss. 2023).

State	Sources
	2. S.B. 2485, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Miss. 2023).
Missouri	(no additional sources)
Montana	(no additional sources)
Nebraska	1. M. Greer, IDEA Infant & Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, June 9, 2021. 2. Michigan Association of Administrators of Special Education. (2014). <i>Comparing early childhood systems: IDEA Early Intervention systems in the birth mandate states</i> . <a href="http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/attach/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf">http://maase.pbworks.com/w/file/attach/96292569/MAASE%20Birth%20Mandate%20States%20Report%20FINAL%2005.20.14.pdf</a>
Nevada	(no additional sources)
New Hampshire	1. RSA 171-A:31. (2016).
New Jersey	1. S. Evans, New Jersey Department of Health, personal communication, July 13, 2021.
New Mexico	1. Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center. (2021). <i>Building the case to expand Medicaid and private insurance for Early Intervention: Interview with former New Mexico Part C Coordinator Andy Gomm</i> . Retrieved on May 12, 2021, from <a href="https://ectacenter.org/topics/finance/btc.asp">https://ectacenter.org/topics/finance/btc.asp</a> 2. L. Davidson, New Mexico Early Childhood Education & Care Department, personal communication, August 3, 2021.
New York	1. A.B. 7630, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.Y. 2023). 2. S.B. 7132, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.Y. 2023). 3. S.B. 7323, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.Y. 2023). 4. A.B. 5784, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.Y. 2023). 5. S.B. 1198, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.Y. 2023). 6. S.B. 6902, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.Y. 2023). 7. A.B. 6998, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.Y. 2023). 8. R. 555, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.Y. 2023).
North Carolina	1. H.B. 885, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (N.C. 2023).
North Dakota	(no additional sources)
Ohio	(no additional sources)
Oklahoma	(no additional sources)
Oregon	1. H.B. 3005, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Or. 2023).
Pennsylvania	1. H.B. 1593, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Pa. 2023).
Rhode Island	1. J. Kaufman, Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Early Intervention Program, personal communication, August 3 and August 10, 2021. 2. L. Barrett, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, personal communication, August 3, 2021. 3. Rhode Island KIDS COUNT. (2021). <i>Early Intervention financing, staffing, and access in Rhode Island</i> . <a href="https://www.rikidscount.org/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Special%20Publications/EI%20-%20RI%20KIDS%20COUNT%204.2021.pdf?ver=2021-04-15-113524-307">https://www.rikidscount.org/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Special%20Publications/EI%20-%20RI%20KIDS%20COUNT%204.2021.pdf?ver=2021-04-15-113524-307</a> 4. S.B. 492, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (R.I. 2023). 5. H.B. 5094, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (R.I. 2023). 6. S.B. 523, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (R.I. 2023). 7. H.B. 5983, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (R.I. 2023).
South Carolina	(no additional sources)

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Tennessee	(no additional sources)
Texas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. K. Mitten, Texans Care for Children, personal communication, August 2, 2021.</li> <li>2. R. Hornbach, Texans Care for Children, personal communication, August 2, 2021.</li> <li>3. Texas Health and Human Services Early Childhood Intervention Services. <i>Qualifying diagnosis search</i>. Retrieved on September 15, 2023, from <a href="https://diagsearch.hhsc.state.tx.us/Eligibility/Detail/23773">https://diagsearch.hhsc.state.tx.us/Eligibility/Detail/23773</a></li> <li>4. Texas Health and Human Services Commission. <i>Early Childhood Intervention Services implementation plan for maximizing funding progress report</i>. (March 2020). As required by 2021-21 General Appropriations Act, 86<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (Article II, Health and Human Services Commission, Rider 98). <a href="https://www.hhs.texas.gov/reports/2020/03/early-childhood-intervention-services-implementation-plan-maximizing-funding-progress-report">https://www.hhs.texas.gov/reports/2020/03/early-childhood-intervention-services-implementation-plan-maximizing-funding-progress-report</a></li> <li>5. H.B. 1288, 88<sup>th</sup> Leg., Reg. Sess., (Tex. 2023).</li> </ol>
Utah	(no additional sources)
Vermont	(no additional sources)
Virginia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center. (2021). <i>Building the case to expand Medicaid and private insurance for Early Intervention: Interview with Part C Coordinator Catherine Hancock and Virginia Team Leader Kyla Patterson</i>. <a href="https://ectacenter.org/topics/finance/btc.asp">https://ectacenter.org/topics/finance/btc.asp</a></li> </ol>
Washington	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. H.B. 1676, 2023-2024 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Wash. 2023).</li> </ol>
West Virginia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. (n.d.) <i>West Virginia birth to three eligibility policy</i>. Retrieved on September 15, 2023, from <a href="https://www.wvdhhr.org/birth23/eligibility/reveligibilitypolicyformat2013.pdf">https://www.wvdhhr.org/birth23/eligibility/reveligibilitypolicyformat2013.pdf</a></li> <li>2. H.B. 2002, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (W. Va. 2023).</li> </ol>
Wisconsin	(no additional sources)
Wyoming	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. S.F. 79, 2023 Leg., Reg. Sess., (Wyo. 2023).</li> </ol>

### Measure 1: Criteria used to determine eligibility for Early Intervention services

#### Definition:

We reported the following components of EI eligibility policies for each state.

1. Developmental delay eligibility criteria,
2. States' self-declared eligibility category (broad, moderate, narrow) as reported in a 2021 survey,
3. Low birthweight criteria for diagnosed/established conditions or at-risk eligibility,
4. Preterm birth criteria for diagnosed/established conditions or at-risk eligibility, and
5. Whether the state is designated as serving at-risk children under federal Part C policies.

#### Notes:

States self-declared their eligibility categories in a June 2021 survey (see source below) as either broad, moderate, or narrow, meant to correspond roughly to the definitions below, although states with the same eligibility criteria did not always self-declare the same category.

- a. **Broad eligibility** was defined as: At Risk, Any Delay, Atypical Development, one standard deviation in one domain, 20% delay in two or more domains, 22% in two or more domains, 25% delay in one or more domains.
- b. **Moderate eligibility** was defined as: 25% in two or more domains, 30% delay in one or more domains, 1.3 standard deviations in two domains, 1.5 standard deviations in any domain, 33% delay in one domain.
- c. **Narrow eligibility** was defined as: 33% delay in two or more domains, 40% delay in one domain, 50% delay in one domain, 1.5 standard deviations in 2 or more domains, 1.75 standard deviations in one domain, 2 standard deviations in one domain, 2 standard deviations in two or more domains.

#### Sources:

1. Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (2023). *State and jurisdictional eligibility requirements for infants and toddlers with disabilities under IDEA Part C*. Retrieved on August 5, 2023, from <https://ectacenter.org/topics/earlyid/state-info.asp>
2. M. Greer, IDEA Infant & Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, August 29, 2022.
3. IDEA Infant & Toddler Coordinators Association. (Sept. 2022). Tipping points survey: Demographics and challenges. <https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/2022-Tipping-Points-Survey.pdf>
4. For the 2021 Prenatal-to-3 State Policy Roadmap, outreach to individual states and national experts was conducted to assess discrepancies between states stated eligibility standards and their self-categorization into one of the three categories above. In some cases, this information was used again this year and is based on the following sources:
  - a. C. Robles, Hawaii Department of Health, Early Intervention Section, personal communication, June 15, 2021.
  - b. C. Scott, Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Early Childhood, personal communication, July 13, 2021.
  - c. E. Shaw, Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center, personal communication, August 30, 2022.
  - d. J. Kaufman, Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services, personal communication, August 3 and August 10, 2021.
  - e. K. Berman, Start Early, personal communication, August 4, 2021.
  - f. L. Barrett, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, personal communication, August 3, 2021.
  - g. M. Greer, IDEA Infant & Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, July 12, 2021.
  - h. S. Evans, New Jersey Department of Health, personal communication, July 13, 2021.
  - i. Texas Health and Human Services Early Childhood Intervention Services. *Qualifying diagnosis search*. Retrieved on June 16, 2021, from <https://diagsearch.hhsc.state.tx.us/Eligibility/Detail/23773>

#### Measure 2: State funding mechanisms for Early Intervention services

**Definition:** The state reports the primary source of funding for Early Intervention as either state, federal, or local funds; the state accesses private insurance for EI services; and the state charges family fees for EI services.

#### Sources:

1. IDEA Infant & Toddler Coordinators Association. (2023). *Funding structure*. Retrieved on August 5, 2023, from <https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/Funding-Structure.pdf>
2. IDEA Infant & Toddler Coordinators Association. (2023). *2023 Finance Survey Report*. Retrieved on August 5, 2023 from <https://www.ideainfanttoddler.org/pdf/2023-ITCA-Finance-Survey-Results.pdf>
3. M. Greer, IDEA Infant & Toddler Coordinators Association, personal communication, June 25, 2021 and August 29, 2022.

### How does access to Early Intervention services vary across states?

To determine each state's share of infants and toddlers served by Early Intervention services, we calculated the percentage of children under age 3 served by EI services over the course of a 12-month reporting period based on annually reported state-level data from the US Department of Education and estimates of the under age 3 population from Census Population Estimates.

Data were collected for five different measures to assess how states vary in their implementation of Early Intervention services. The data sets, calculations, and sources referenced for each state are listed below.

### Measures 3 and 4: Cumulative percentage of children under age 3 receiving Early Intervention services, overall and in each of four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups

#### Definition:

The cumulative percentage of children under age 3 who received Early Intervention services during the state's most recent 12-month reporting period, as reported to the Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

#### Notes:

1. **Numerator:** The number of children under age 3 who received Early Intervention services during the state's most recent 12-month reporting period, overall and in each of four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups.
2. **Denominator:** The number of children under age 3, overall and in each of four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups.
3. Four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups were created from the race/ethnicity information provided for both the data for the numerator (EDFacts Metadata and Process System [EMAPS]) and denominator (2021 vintage Census Population estimates). Three of the seven categories in EMAPS were white, Hispanic/Latino, and Black or African American. The fourth group was created as the sum of the remaining four categories (Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and two or more races). In the Census population estimate data, race/ethnic groups were calculated using the Hispanic/non-Hispanic and 6-race category indicators. If a child was identified as Hispanic, then they were categorized as Hispanic regardless of race. Next, children were identified as Black, non-Hispanic, then White, non-Hispanic. The fourth group was created from the other four non-Hispanic categories (Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and more than one race or unknown/not stated).
4. For each state, we calculated the difference in the percentage served between the race/ethnic group with the highest percentage served and the lowest percentage served to identify each state's range, or difference

between the highest-served and least-served group. We identified the 10 states with the smallest gaps between the highest-served and least-served group.

5. The 12-month reporting period is defined by each state and varies across states, with some reporting on the calendar year and others reporting on timelines aligned with fiscal, academic, or other defined annual periods.

**Sources:**

1. US Census Bureau, Population Division. (2022). *Annual state resident population estimates for 6 race groups (5 race alone groups and two or more races) by age, sex, and Hispanic origin: April 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021 – scest2021-alldata6.csv* [Data Set]. Retrieved August 31, 2022 from <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/timeseries/demo/popest/2020s-state-detail.html>.
2. US Department of Education. (July 6, 2022). *Cumulative number of infants and toddlers ages birth through 2 receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by race/ethnicity and state: 2021* [Data Set]. Retrieved on June 1, 2023 from <https://data.ed.gov/dataset/idea-section-618-data-products-static-tables-part-c>
3. US Department of Education. (July 6, 2022). *Number of infants and toddlers and percentage of population, receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by age and state: 2021* [Data Set]. Retrieved on June 1, 2023, from <https://data.ed.gov/dataset/idea-section-618-data-products-static-tables-part-c>

**Measures 5: Point-in-time percentage of children under age 3 receiving Early Intervention services overall**

**Definition:**

The point-in-time percentage of children under age 3 who received Early Intervention services during the state’s most recent 12-month reporting period, as reported to the Department of Education’s Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP).

**Notes:**

1. Percentages reflect the total count, including at-risk
2. The national estimates were generated by summing the count of children served from birth through age 2 across the 50 states and D.C. That sum was then divided by the national population from ages 0 through 3 according to the Census population estimates.

**Source:**

1. US Department of Education. (July 6, 2022). *Number of infants and toddlers and percentage of population, receiving early intervention services under IDEA, Part C, by age and state: 2021* [Data Set]. Retrieved on June 1, 2023 from <https://data.ed.gov/dataset/idea-section-618-data-products-static-tables-part-c>

**Measures 6 and 7: Percentage of babies born low birthweight (less than 5.5 pounds), overall and by four mutually exclusive race/ethnicity groups**

**Definition:**

The percentage of babies born in the past year who were born weighing less than 5.5 pounds (2,500 grams).

**Notes:**

1. **Numerator:** The number of births in the past year in which the baby weighed less than 5.5 pounds (2,500 grams), overall and by four mutually exclusive race/ethnicity groups.
2. **Denominator:** The number of births in the past year with known birthweight, overall and by four mutually exclusive race/ethnicity groups.
3. The sample was limited to births in the past year with valid birthweight data. Race/ethnic groups based on mother's race and ethnicity were calculated using the Hispanic origin and 6-race category variables provided in the CDC WONDER online database. From these two variables, four mutually exclusive race/ethnic groups were created. If a birth was identified with a Hispanic mother, then the birth was categorized as Hispanic regardless of the race of the mother. Next, births were identified as those to Black, non-Hispanic mothers, then White, non-Hispanic mothers. The fourth group was created from all other non-Hispanic mothers (Asian, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, more than one race, or unknown/not stated). Births to mothers whose Hispanic origin was reported as unknown on the birth certificate were excluded from the percentages reported by race/ethnic group.
4. CDC reporting rules require the suppression of sub-national counts of 9 or fewer births.<sup>1</sup>

**Source:**

United States Department of Health and Human Services (US DHHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Division of Vital Statistics. (n.d.). *Natality public-use data 2021, on CDC WONDER Online Database, December 2022 [Data Set]*. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/natality-expanded-current.html> on May 26, 2023.

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). (n.d.). *CDC WONDER Datasets - Data use restrictions*. As of February 10, 2020. Retrieved May 15, 2020 from <https://wonder.cdc.gov/DataUse.html#>