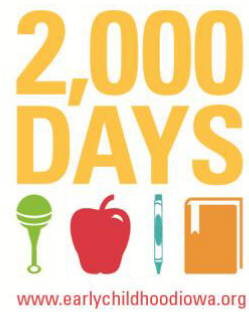


Early Childhood Iowa



2014 Annual Report



www.earlychildhoodiowa.org

Dear Iowans:

Early Childhood Iowa is pleased to share the 2014 annual report. As a volunteer to this effort, I'm proud to play a small part in the programs, services and activities that support our youngest children and their families. As this initiative grows and matures, this report shares information about the results from the cadre of services and system improvements being supported with ECI funding.

Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) is founded on the premise that government and communities can work together so that 'every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful'. Recognizing the importance of the first 2000 days of a young child's development (ages 0- until kindergarten entry), the Early Childhood Iowa Board engages in efforts to unite agencies, organizations, and community partners to speak with a shared voice and meet a set of legislated results on behalf of all young children and families.

In our work over the last year, we have been reminded about the importance of investing early. A child's brain develops so rapidly in their first years, it is almost impossible for us to imagine. By age five, about 90% of our brains are developed. The circuits for key functions such as vision/hearing, language, and higher cognitive function develop most in the first five years of life. The creation of these circuits is affected by a child's early learning experiences.

There are currently 39 ECI Areas that cover the entire state, each area with its own leadership and locally-developed community plan. In those areas, local board members and community partners come together to build stronger local services as described in their community plans. In this report, you will see a highlight of the results of their efforts through program performance measures. The compilation of data was submitted by each board in an electronic data gathering system this year.

Within this report, the Early Childhood Iowa State Board, the ECI Stakeholders Alliance, area boards, and programs and service providers reflect constant change, adaption and leadership to support partnerships that strengthen our early care, health, and education system. Their work keeps the greatest needs of our youngest Iowans at the forefront. Their voices can't be ignored if our state is to be a leader in the education, economic and global sectors.

Early Childhood Iowa is ready, able and positioned to help bridge those platforms and build a future generation of Iowans who will stay, work and prosper in this great state. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this worthy effort.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne Lane, Chairperson
Early Childhood Iowa State Board



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ECI Overview

The vision for Early Childhood Iowa is, “Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and successful.”

There is no single strategy to make this happen. It takes a system of systems for a child to reach their potential. These individual systems include early care, health and education. The ECI State Board, the ECI Stakeholder Alliance and local ECI Area Boards are charged with developing, supporting and maintaining effective, efficient and integrated systems.

ECI was first approved in legislation in 1998 but was known then as Iowa Community Empowerment. In 2008, state policy makers enacted Early Childhood Iowa for state system development. In 2010, the two initiatives were brought together under the banner of Early Childhood Iowa. The founding legislation for ECI established results to be achieved at both the state and local level.

The current reality in Iowa is that programs, policies, and systems are inadequate to do all the work necessary. In order to achieve the results, ECI has adopted a system-wide strategic plan and the goals below to focus and guide their work with limited resources in developing an integrated and quality early childhood system of systems for young children and their families:

- Support a collaborative and effective early childhood system;
- Provide support and leadership for quality early childhood programs and services;
- Provide intentional leadership and support to ensure at-risk and high needs children have access to quality services.

ECI System Activities and Accomplishments to support these goals in FY14 include:

- 10 local ECI Boards have achieved Quality or Model designations; the two top levels of the Levels of Excellence Rating System.
- The State Board approved a revised Levels of Excellence process and tools.

- The State Board conducted a site visit to the Clinton/Jackson ECI area, meeting with local board members, program providers.
- The State Board adopted the state performance measures and updated the parameters for the Early Childhood funding as it was changed from federal sources to state general funding.
- The Stakeholder Alliance supported a higher education summit to address the preparation of early childhood personnel, including more streamlined teacher preparation and field experiences.
- The Stakeholder Alliance, through its Professional Development Component Group, developed a recommended framework for approving early childhood trainings across the health, early learning, and family support sectors.
- The Stakeholder Alliance, through its Equity Advisory Committee, created and delivered cultural competence training across the ECI system
- With the support of ECI, the Iowa Association of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health was established to support and provide professional development to mental health professionals and family support workers.
- In collaboration with United Way of East Central Iowa developed and is in the process of piloting tools and processes for analyzing data and developing strategies for serving and supporting at-risk and high needs young children and their families.

Results Accountability

Accountability for results continues to be the hallmark of ECI. The following pages showcase the data collected by ECI.

When looking at this information, it is important to realize that the Early Childhood Iowa initiative is not a program in and of itself. Instead, ECI funds are legislated to support existing local programs and services or funding a new program that does not exist by filling gaps – most often by allowing additional families/children to be served, or by improving the quality of the services provided. As the coordinating body within their ECI area, it is the ECI Area Board’s responsibility to pull the community together to collectively determine the strengths, gaps and weaknesses of the community to serve families and young children. Ultimately, the board makes funding decisions that will impact the priorities determined through the strategic planning process.

Presentation of the Report Data:

The data within this report is organized by Result area and showcases information at the state level (indicators), as well as local program data. The presentation of the data utilizes the following sequence:

Results

At its inception in 1998, legislation established five results to be achieved, both statewide and at the local level. ECI (then Community Empowerment) utilized the Accountable Government Act as the standard for measuring progress toward accountability. A result is defined as “the effect desired for all Iowans”. The legislated results are:

- Healthy Children
- Children Ready to Succeed in School
- Safe and Supportive Communities
- Secure and Nurturing Families
- Secure and Nurturing Child Care Environments

Indicators

The Early Childhood Iowa State Board collects and reports statewide indicator data to quantify and track progress toward the statewide results. An indicator is “a measure that directly or indirectly quantifies the achievement of a result. It measures the whole population, rather than those served by a specific program. More than one resource, program or service is necessary to improve an indicator and it often requires collaboration to reach the goal.”

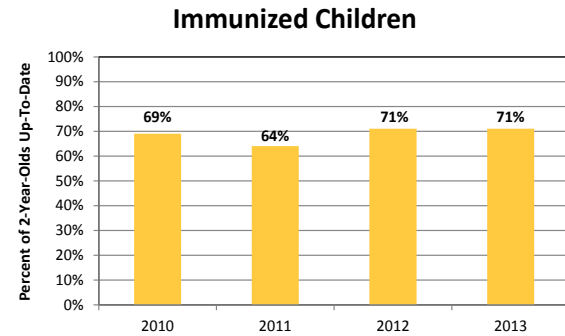
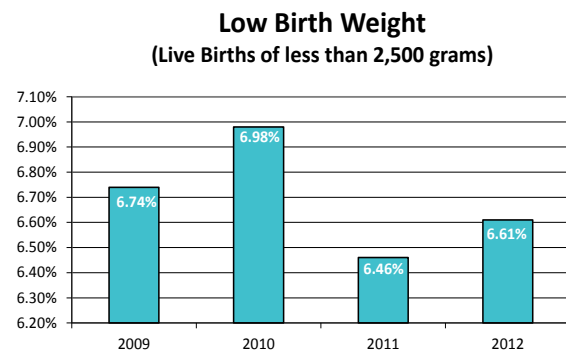
Program Performance Measures

A performance measure “measures the success of a service, product, or activity for the population served”. In FY’11, the ECI State Board adopted consistent program measures which are required to be reported by all programs funded with both Early Childhood and School Ready dollars. This information is submitted in the local annual reports submitted to the ECI Office. The data is then compiled and shared from a state perspective in the ECI state annual report.

Note: An Executive Summary for each ECI Area can be found on the ECI website at the following link, http://www.state.ia.us/earlychildhood/EC_resources/annual_reports/index.html; click on 2014 Annual Report.

Legislated Result

Healthy Children



LOW BIRTH WEIGHT

Percent of babies born weighing less than 2,500 grams

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health- Vital Statistics

IMMUNIZED CHILDREN

Percent of 2-year-olds with up-to-date immunizations

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health- Bureau of Immunization

State Indicators

Other Factors Impacting this Result:

I-Smile™; Project LAUNCH; Help Me Grow; ACES; *hawk-i* Outreach; 1st Five Healthy Mental Development; EPSDT; Title V Child Health; Period of Purple Crying; Early Hearing Detection and Intervention; Newborn screening; Immunizations; Lead Screening; Food and Nutrition Program

Additional Partners that Assist in Moving Indicators in a Positive Direction:

Local Public Health; WIC Clinics; IDPH; Child Health Specialty Clinics; Local Title V Child Health Agencies; DHS; Early ACCESS

Local Strategies and Performance Measures

hawk-i Outreach

1 out of the 39 ECI areas supported outreach for families to access health insurance

\$1,948 total funds reported (ECI: \$1,948; Non-ECI: \$0)

100% of children applying for *hawk-i* and Medicaid enrolled in the programs

Lead Screens

3 out of the 39 ECI areas supported screening young children for high levels of lead

\$1,760 total funds reported (ECI: \$1,760; Non-ECI: \$0)

94 Children were screened

\$19 average cost per child, based on total funds reported

100% of children identified with elevated lead levels received follow up service

8 out of the 39 ECI areas supported general health services

\$500,183 total funds reported (ECI: \$229,680; Non-ECI: \$270,503)

9,921 children were served

\$50 average cost per child, based on funds reported

45% of children screened that needed follow up/treatment received those services

General Health

19 out of the 39 ECI areas supported dental screens

\$570,893 total funds reported (ECI: \$341,110; Non-ECI: \$229,783)

17,384 children were served

\$33 average cost per child, based on total funds reported

50% screened that needed dental treatment went to a dentist

88% of the children screened were cavity free

Dental Services

5 out of the 39 ECI areas supported these services

\$82,251 total funds reported (ECI: \$64,480; Non-ECI: \$17,771)

696 children were served (including prenatal children)

\$118 average cost per child, based on total funds reported

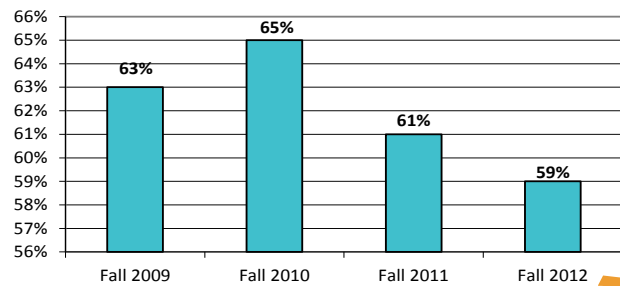
100% screened that needed follow up/treatment, received the services

Prenatal/Postnatal Services

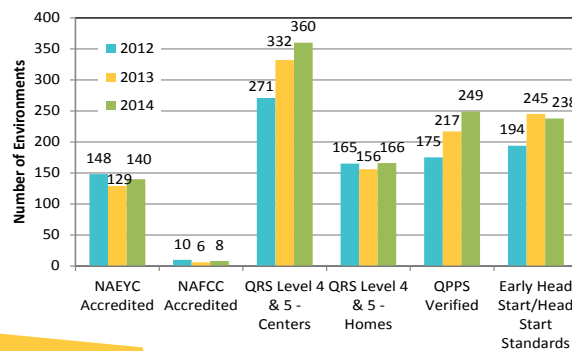
Legislated Result

Children Ready to Succeed in School

Percent of Children Entering Kindergarten Proficient in Beginning Sounds Using DIBELS



Quality Early Learning Environments



PRE-LITERACY SKILLS

Percent of children entering kindergarten who are proficient in Beginning Sounds as measured by DIBELS

Source: Project Easier, Iowa

QUALITY EARLY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Number of quality early learning environments that are NAEYC or NAFCC accredited, meet Head Start Program performance standards, verified QPPS sites, and/or have achieved a QRS level of 4-5

Source: Early Childhood Iowa

State Indicators

Other Factors Impacting this Result:

Every Child Reads; Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program; Shared Visions; Raising Readers Learning Centers; Reach Out and Read; Childcare Alliance Response Team (CART); childcare/preschool wraparound programs; Parents As Teachers; ECI preschool scholarships; Positive Behavior & Intervention Supports; Early Learning Standards

Additional Partners that Assist in Moving Indicators in a Positive Direction:

Iowa AEYC; Head Start; DE; United Way; IPTV; Academy of Pediatricians; community-based early education providers; DHS Wraparound funds; Early ACCESS; AEA; ISU

Local Strategies and Performance Measures

Literacy Programs

3 out of the 39 ECI areas supported stand alone literacy programs

\$32,421 total funds reported (ECI: \$26,696; Non-ECI: \$5,725)

1,179 children were served

\$27 average cost per child, based on funds reported

97% of parents report an increase in reading to their child each day

98% of parents report an increase of talking with their child about new words in stories

Tuition Assistance

36 out of the 39 ECI areas supported this service

\$8,128,225 total funds reported (ECI: \$3,169,885; Non-ECI: \$4,958,340)

3876 Children received tuition assistance/scholarships

\$2,097 average cost per child, based on total funds reported

97% of children demonstrated age appropriate skills

Early Care and Education Supportive Services

20 out of the 39 ECI areas supported these services

\$3,556,912 total funds reported (ECI: \$2,052,042; Non-ECI: \$1,504,870)

2,058 children were served

\$1,728 average cost per child, based on total funds reported

83% of children served demonstrated age appropriate skills

Transportation

19 out of the 39 ECI areas supported transportation services

\$377,608 total funds reported (ECI: \$311,300; Non-ECI: \$66,308)

727 children were provided transportation services

\$519 average cost per child, based on total funds reported

87% of the days preschool was offered that children were able to attend because of this service

Scholarship Coordination

22 out of the 39 ECI areas supported these services

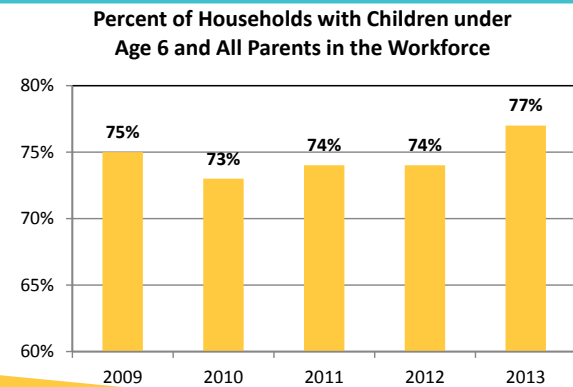
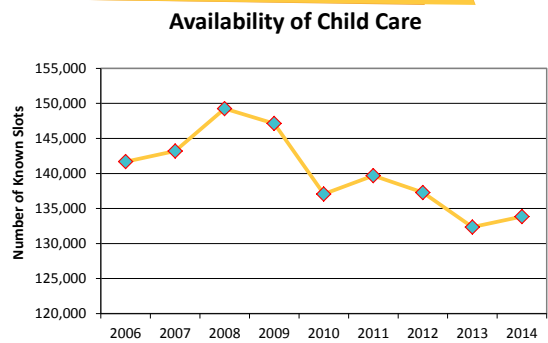
\$269,418 total funds reported (ECI: \$269,141; Non-ECI: \$277)

78% of children applying for scholarships received it

Reasons a child did not receive a scholarship: over income; inadequate funding available; eligible for another program; age ineligible; no longer need; moved out of the specific ECI area

Legislated Result

Secure & Nurturing Early Learning Environments



AVAILABILITY OF CHILD CARE

Number of licensed and registered child care slots

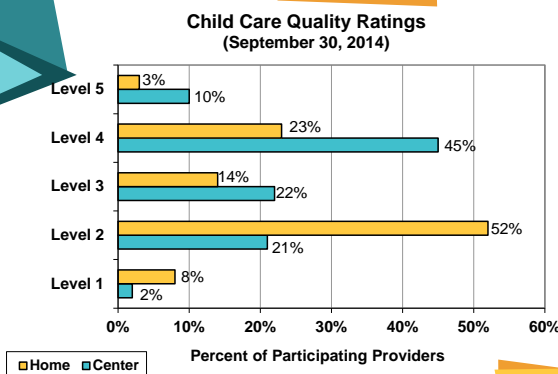
Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

WORKING PARENTS

Percent of households with children under age 6 and all parents in the workforce

Source: American Community Survey

State Indicators

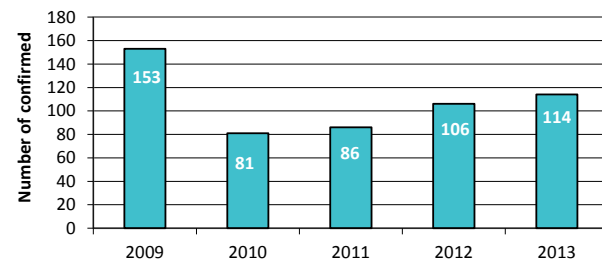


QUALITY CHILD CARE RATINGS

Percent of participating child care providers at each level of the voluntary quality rating system

Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

Child Abuse in Center- and Home-based Child Care (Calendar Year)



CHILD ABUSE IN CHILD CARE SETTING

Number of confirmed or founded child abuse by home or center-based child care provider

Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

State Indicators

Local Strategies and Performance Measures

Child Care Consultant

23 out of the 39 ECI areas supported a Child Care Consultant

\$1,737,231 total funds reported (ECI: \$1,672,046; Non-ECI: \$65,185)

81% of participants were able to incorporate developmentally appropriate activities in their early learning environments

Child Care Nurse Consultants

30 out of the 39 ECI areas supported this service to assist early learning environments (preschools, child care centers, home child care)

\$1,218,246 total funds reported (ECI: \$1,143,260; Non-ECI: \$74,986)

75% of children with special needs had a health care plan

99% of participants improved health and safety in their early learning environments

Quality Improvement

12 out of the 39 ECI areas supported activities to improve quality through support of the Quality Rating System (QRS)

\$455,392 total funds reported (ECI: \$453,163; Non-ECI: \$2,229)

29% of early care and education programs that were supported rated at least a level 3 in Iowa's QRS

3 out of the 39 ECI areas supported crisis care services

\$205,939 total funds reported (ECI: \$185,649; Non-ECI: \$20,290)

232 children were served

\$888 average cost per child, based on total funds reported

61% of parents reported they were connected to new support

Crisis Care

27 out of the 39 ECI areas supported services to improve the quality of Early Learning Programs

\$1,565,297 total funds reported (ECI: \$1,289,872; Non-ECI: \$275,425)

57% of programs participating were able to improve at the highest level of the identified quality initiative in which they participated

Improved Early Learning

Other Factors Impacting this Result:
Healthy Child Care Iowa; I-Consult

Additional Partners that Assist in Moving Indicators in a Positive Direction:
CCR&R; T.E.A.C.H. Iowa; Head Start; IDPH; ISU Extension

Local Strategies and Performance Measures

Emotional/Behavioral Support

7 out of the 39 ECI areas supported services

\$424,413 total funds reported (ECI: \$395,881; Non-ECI: \$28,532)

98% of the programs participating in these supportive services reported an increase in their confidence and competence when dealing with children demonstrating emotional/behavioral challenges

Family Support

39 out of the 39 ECI areas supported family support services

\$20,645,981 total funds reported (ECI: \$13,944,634; Non-ECI: \$6,701,347)

58% of the families have a primary caregiver with a high school diploma or less education

42% of the families served are married

28% of the primary caregivers are non-Caucasian

2 out of the 39 ECI areas supported resource libraries

\$3,184 total funds reported (ECI: \$3,184; Non-ECI: \$0)

93% of participants increased their knowledge of early childhood growth and development

Resource Libraries

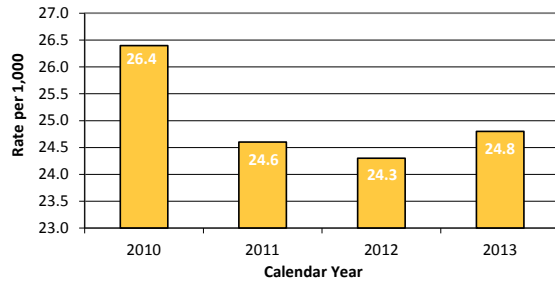
Additional Partners that Assist in Moving Indicators in a Positive Direction:
LSI; Prevent Child Abuse Iowa; Head Start; DHR; community-based service providers (ICCS, Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County, United Action for Youth, Children's Center for Therapy); FaDDS; Iowa Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health

Other Factors Impacting this Result:
Help Me Grow; MIECHV; Shared Visions; FaDDS; Even Start; Parents As Teachers; Healthy Families America; HOPES

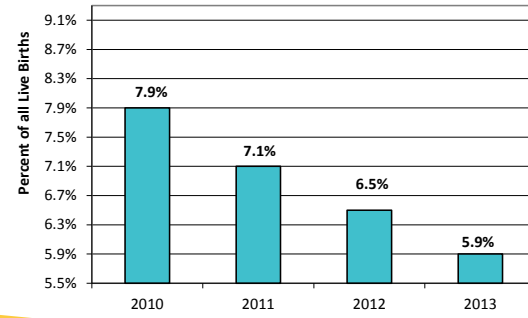
Legislated Result

Safe and Nurturing Families

Incidence of Child Abuse
(Children 0-5 years old)



Teen Births



INCIDENCE OF CHILD ABUSE

Incidence of confirmed child abuse for children 5 years old and under

Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

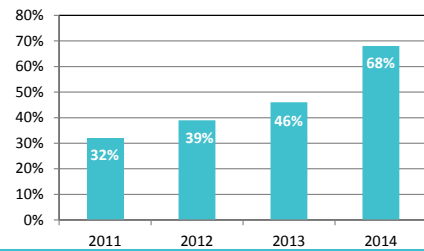
TEEN BIRTHS

Percent of all births to mothers under age 20

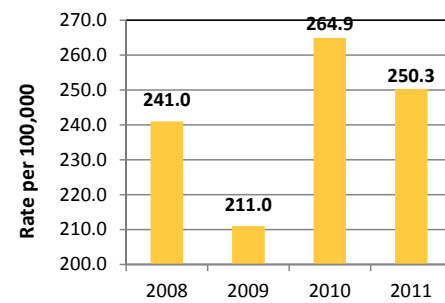
Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

State Indicators

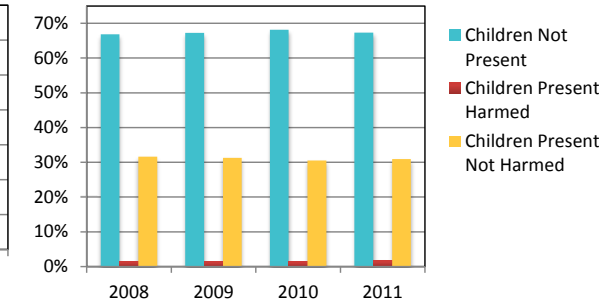
Percent of Accredited Family Support Programs in Iowa



Domestic Violence Rate



Domestic Abuse Incident Characteristics



ACCREDITED FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS IN IOWA

Programs demonstrating adherence to quality standards as determined by an external review

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RATE

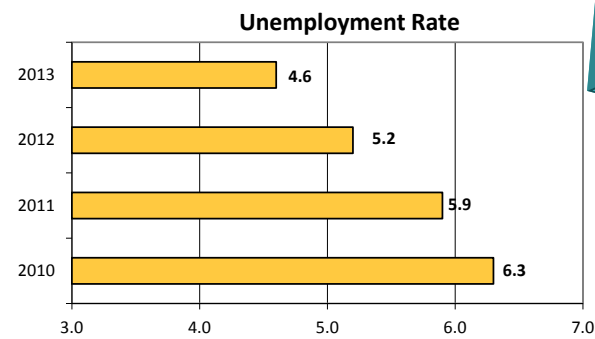
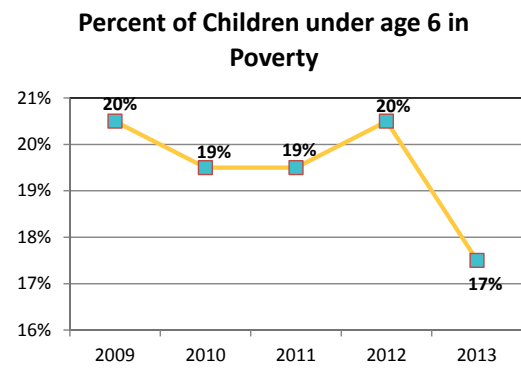
Domestic abuse rate and domestic abuse rate where children were present

Source: Iowa Department of Public Safety

State Indicators

Legislated Result

Safe and Supportive Communities



CHILDREN IN POVERTY

Percent of children under six years of age living in poverty

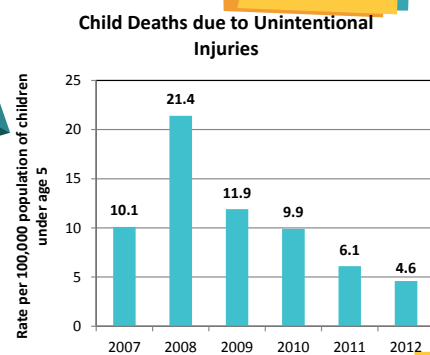
Source: Kids Count Data Center

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

The percent of unemployed persons

Source: Iowa Workforce

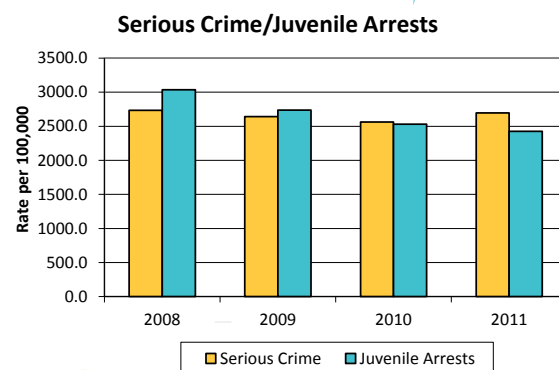
State Indicators



CHILD DEATHS DUE TO UNINTENDED INJURIES

The number of child deaths due to unintentional injuries/estimated midyear Iowa population per 100,000 population of children under age 5 years

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health-Vital Statistics



SERIOUS CRIME/ JUVENILE ARRESTS

The rate of serious crime per 100,000 population

Total arrests per 100,000 estimated juvenile population (children 18 years old and under)

Source: Iowa Department of Public Safety

State Indicators

Local Strategies and Performance Measures

Coordinated Intake

5 out of the 39 ECI areas supported a Coordinated Intake project

\$51,149 total funds reported (ECI: \$51,149; Non-ECI: \$0)

42% of families that received referrals enrolled in the program or service

Car Seat Safety Checks

1 out of the 39 ECI areas supported car seat safety checks

\$1,906 total funds reported (ECI: \$1,756; Non-ECI: \$150)

16 car seats were checked for proper installation
\$119 average cost per child, based on the total funds reported

0% of the car seats were properly installed prior to the safety checks, as reported by the car seat safety technician

Public Awareness Activities

7 out of the 39 ECI areas supported public awareness activities in their areas

\$67,073 total funds reported (ECI: \$65,097; Non-ECI: \$1,976)

12% of parents reported greater awareness of ECI and early childhood services available to their children

Professional Development

36 out of the 39 ECI areas supported a professional development activities

\$818,776 total funds reported (ECI: \$790,927; Non-ECI: \$27,849)

85% of the professional development opportunities resulted in ratings, certifications, credentials, renewals

Other Factors Impacting this Result:
Promise Jobs; Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Funds; Iowa Child Abuse Prevention Program

Additional Partners that Assist in Moving Indicators in a Positive Direction:
Community Partnerships for Protecting Children; DHS; IDPH; Prevent Child Abuse Iowa

ECI Snapshot

State System Development:

- Support and coordinate with the ECI State Board in addressing the early care, health, and education systems that affect children ages zero through five
- Support and coordinate the State Advisory Council as designated by the Governor
- Oversee and provide broad input into the development of a high quality early childhood system

ECI Admin

Note: There is no state funding allocated to the role and function of state system development. In past, federal grant funding supported this state legislation. Beginning in FY '15, coordination relies on the in-kind support of state agencies and private partners.

Total: \$0

Local System Development- ECI Area Boards:

- Efficiently and effectively administer the responsibilities as per the law
- Administer funds for local services for children 0-5 and their families, based on a locally developed community plan
- Build community commitment to reach the ECI Legislated Results

Local Boards

- Administrative Staff - \$2,004,173
- Total ECIA Board Expenses (non-staff) - \$269,729
- Board Liability Insurance - \$68,087
- Fiscal Agent Fees - \$219,136
- Audit Expenses - \$112,709

Total: \$2,673,834

State Level: (ECI Office and State Technical Assistance Team)

- Implementation of the ECI initiative and the State Board
- Provide leadership and facilitation, communication and coordination of initiative activities and funding for the improvement of the early care, education, health and human services systems

State Office

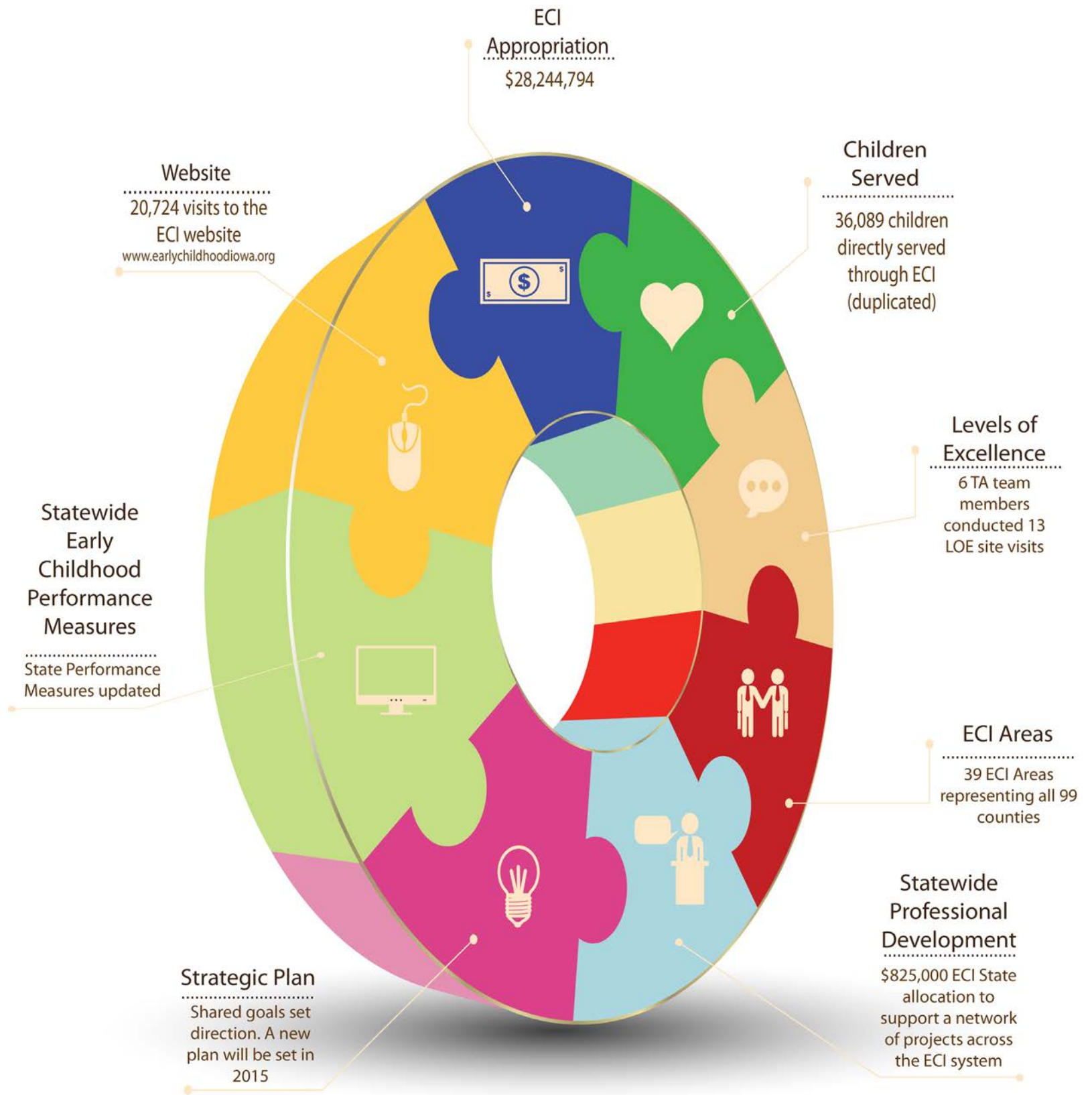
- 2 FTEs (salary and benefits) - \$269,000
- Office Expense: (includes individual office space rental, equipment, phone lines, conference phone lines, supplies, computers and IT services, printing, LOE items for model areas, etc.) - \$24,700
- Travel Expenses – Board Members - \$6,500
- Travel Expenses – for ECI Office and state car - \$7,500
- ECI Systems Coordinator when federal grant ended - \$46,900

State TA Team

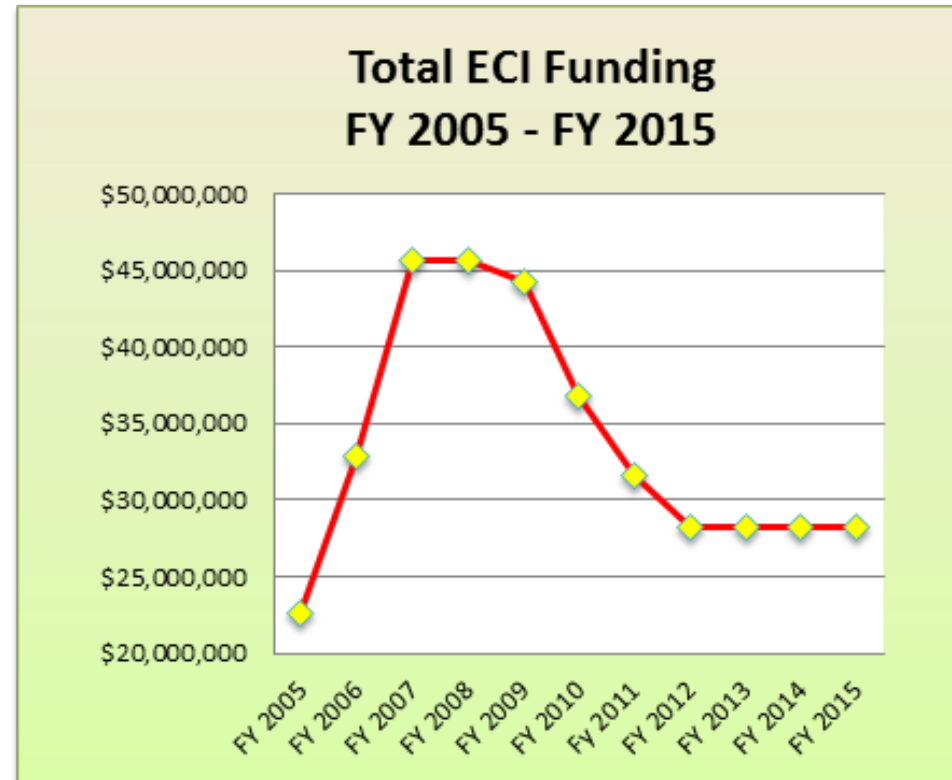
In addition to the State Office:

- DHS utilizes \$50,000 (.5 FTE) of the Early Childhood funding
- IDPH contributes a .25 FTE to the ECI TA Team
- DE contributes a .5 FTE to the ECI TA Team

State Office Total: \$354,600



Trend Data SFY'05 – SFY'15



Fiscal Year	Total Funding	School Ready	Early Childhood
FY 2005	\$22,593,844	\$15,334,844	7,259,000
FY 2006	\$32,884,842	\$25,634,842	\$7,250,000
FY 2007	\$45,680,844	\$38,434,844	\$7,246,000
FY 2008	\$45,684,844	\$38,434,844	\$7,250,000
FY 2009	\$44,205,269	\$36,955,269	\$7,250,000
FY 2010	\$36,765,522	\$30,015,522	\$6,750,000
FY 2011	\$31,537,842	\$25,287,842	\$6,250,000
FY 2012	\$28,245,794	\$21,999,794	\$6,246,000
FY 2013	\$28,245,794	\$21,999,794	\$6,246,000
FY 2014	\$28,244,794	\$21,999,794	\$6,245,000
FY 2015	\$28,299,794	\$21,999,794	\$6,300,000

This funding history reflects the allocations made to the ECI Area boards each year.

The following supportive documents can be accessed by visiting the FY14 Annual Report link on the official ECI website, http://www.earlychildhoodiowa.org/EC_resources/annual_reports/index.html:

- Early Childhood Iowa Indicator Trend Data
- ECI Indicator Data by ECI Area
- ECI Alliance and Early Childhood Advisory Council Grant Update
- ECI Professional Development Update
- State Child Care Advisory Committee Update
- ECI Area Overview
- ECI State Board Membership
- ECI Timeline through 2014
- ECI History of the Early Childhood Fund
- ECI History of the School Ready Fund
- ECI Funding Summary
- ECI State System Overview



