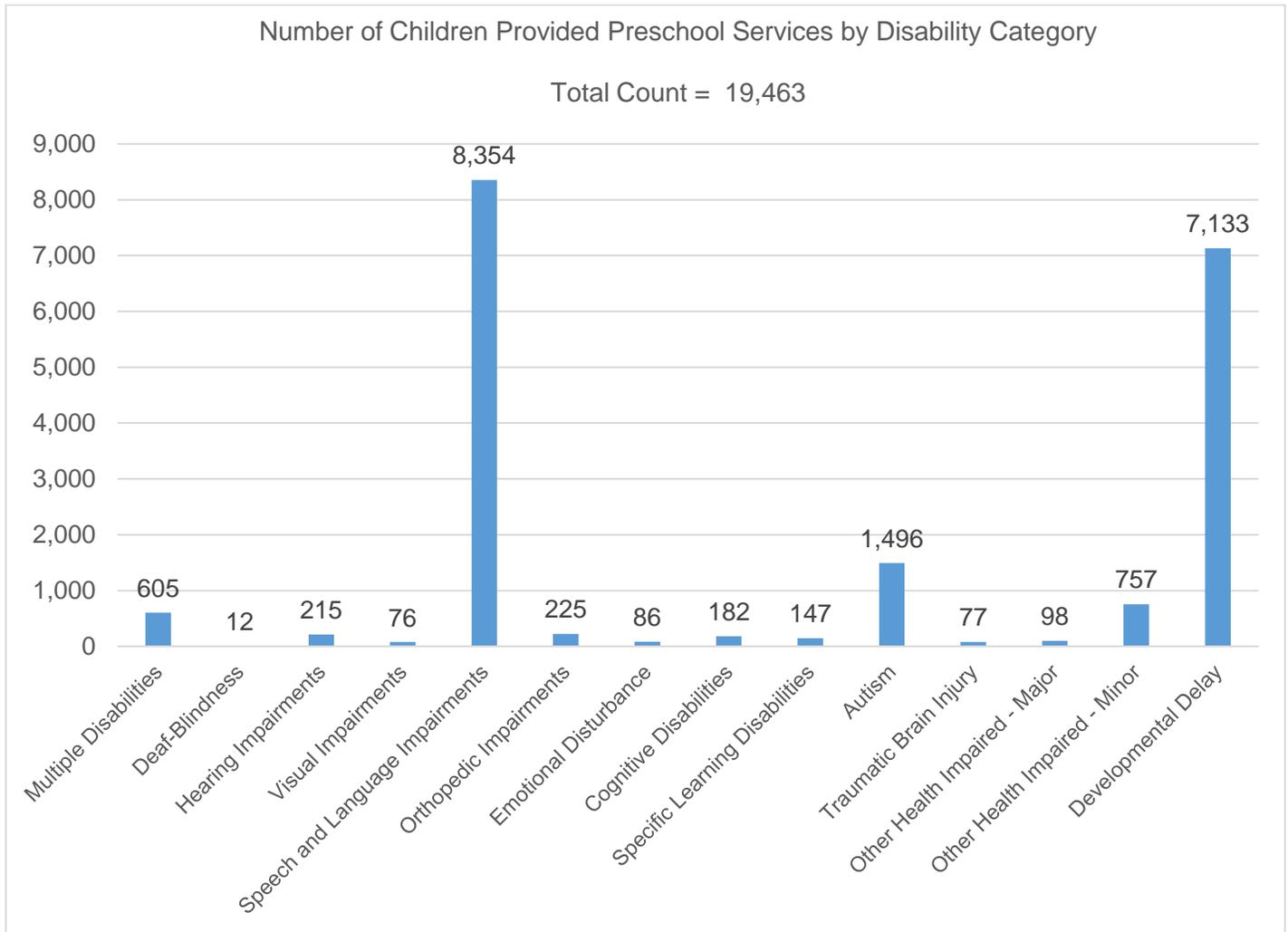


Ohio

**2017 Annual State Report on Preschool
Children with Disabilities in Ohio:
State Fiscal Year 2016
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016**

JUNE 2017

Ohio’s public schools provide special education services to children with disabilities as early as preschool. Every year, the Ohio Department of Education reports the number of preschool children who received state-funded special education services during the previous school year.



Developmental Delay and Speech or Language Impairment are the most common disability categories among preschool-age children. Nearly 80 percent (15,487) of children in preschool special education receive services under one of these two eligibility categories.

Autism accounted for 7.7 percent of the total. The category Multiple Disabilities combined with Other Health Impairment – Minor made up another 7 percent. The remaining 5.7 percent includes all other disability categories.

Data for this report came from Ohio’s Education Management Information System (EMIS), to which public school districts report annually. This report uses full time equivalent (FTE) count data. These are the same data the Department uses for calculating the state preschool special education funding districts receive. The basis for the FTE calculation for each are the dates of enrollment during the school year. For example, a child who enrolls exactly halfway through the school year counts as 0.5 FTE.

This year's preschool special education report uses a different source than last year's report. The Department used Ohio's federal child count data for eligible children receiving services on Oct. 31, 2015, for the previous report. The federal child count is a single point in time, unique student count. Each student who was enrolled on Oct. 31, 2015, and was a child with a disability receiving services on an individualized education program (IEP) was counted as a one. Also, the federal child count includes 5-year-old children with disabilities enrolled in kindergarten. This year's report of only 3- to 5-year-old children with a grade level of preschool will help stakeholders understand the changes in the state's cost of providing preschool special education from year to year. These data are not final until late summer or early fall each year. Therefore, the current report uses state Fiscal Year 2016 data.

Ohio Revised Code 3323.20 requires this report.

Electronic report of preschool children receiving paid services.

On July 1, 2006, and on each first day of July thereafter, the department of education shall electronically report to the general assembly the number of preschool children with disabilities who received services for which the department made a payment to any provider during the previous fiscal year, disaggregated according to each area of developmental deficiency identified by the department for the evaluation of such children.

[Here is more information](#) about Ohio public preschools.