



Ohio

Implementation of Special Education and Related Services for Children with Disabilities

OFFICE FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN
CREATED BY
THE OFFICE OF DATA QUALITY AND GOVERNANCE

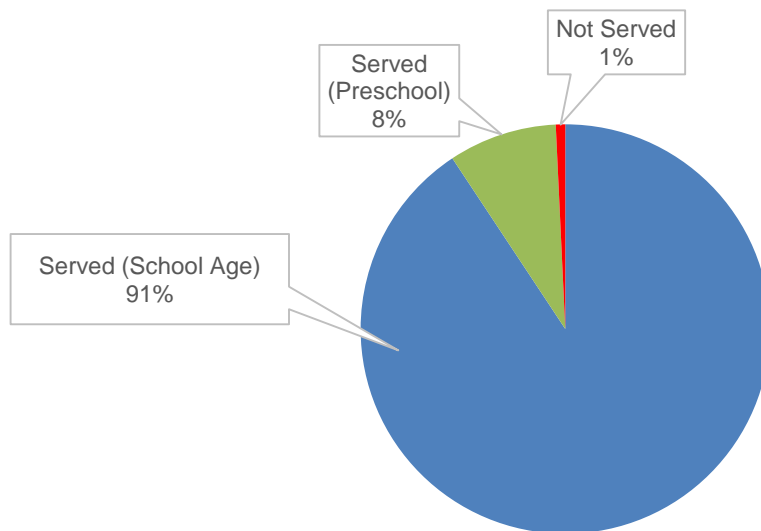
FEBRUARY 1, 2017

Implementation of Special Education and Related Services for Children with Disabilities

2015-2016 School Year

State law¹ requires that the Superintendent of Public Instruction report on the status of implementation of special education and related services for children with disabilities. This includes the number of children identified with a disability and the number of identified children receiving services. The Ohio Department of Education collects this data through the Education Management Information System (EMIS). This report uses data gathered from EMIS.

Students with disabilities account for 14 percent of all Ohio preschool and school-aged children. This includes all children ages three through five and six through twenty-one, respectively. As of Oct. 31, 2015, **255,798** students living in Ohio were identified as children with disabilities. These students were eligible to receive special education services, which may include related services. In the 2015-2016 school year, **253,896** eligible students received services. This amounted to **99 percent** of all students identified as needing special education through specially designed instruction and related services being served.



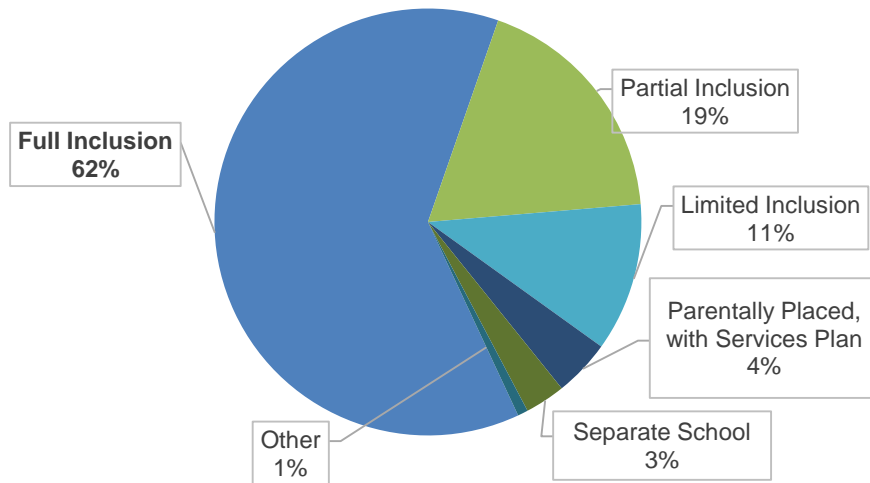
All Ohio Students Eligible for Special Education or Related Services

There were **1,902** students reported in the aggregate as “eligible, not served” in EMIS. This account for 1 percent of all the eligible students in Ohio. This number includes the 510 students whose families chose to discontinue services during the 2015-2016 school year. Additionally, there were 473 students whose parents refused to implement services when they were first offered during the 2015-2016 school year. The remaining 919 students reported as “eligible, not served” are either home-schooled or parentally placed in a private school where their services are not subject to an Individual Services Plan.

¹ Ohio Revised Code Section 3323.02

The data show that **62 percent** of students were reported as receiving special education and related services in a setting of full inclusion – that is, they spent **80 percent or more** of their school day in a regular classroom. The graph below represents this figure. The remaining students were either in partial inclusion (spending 40-80 percent of their school day in a regular classroom), in limited inclusion (spending less than 40 percent of their school day in a regular classroom), parentally placed in a private school with a services plan, in separate schools, in a residential facility, at home, in the hospital, or in a correctional facility.

School-Age Children Receiving Services by Setting



The data show that the largest category of disability reported was “**specific learning disability**.” This category consisted of **95,981** eligible children. Students with disabilities related to autism, deafness, blindness, vision, hearing, emotional disabilities, intellectual disabilities, developmental delays, traumatic brain injuries, orthopedic disabilities, speech and language impairments, multiple disabilities, specific learning disabilities and other health impaired disabilities were reported during the 2015-2016 school year.

Disability Categories

