

2022 Annual State Report on Preschool Children with Disabilities in Ohio: State Fiscal Year 2021 July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

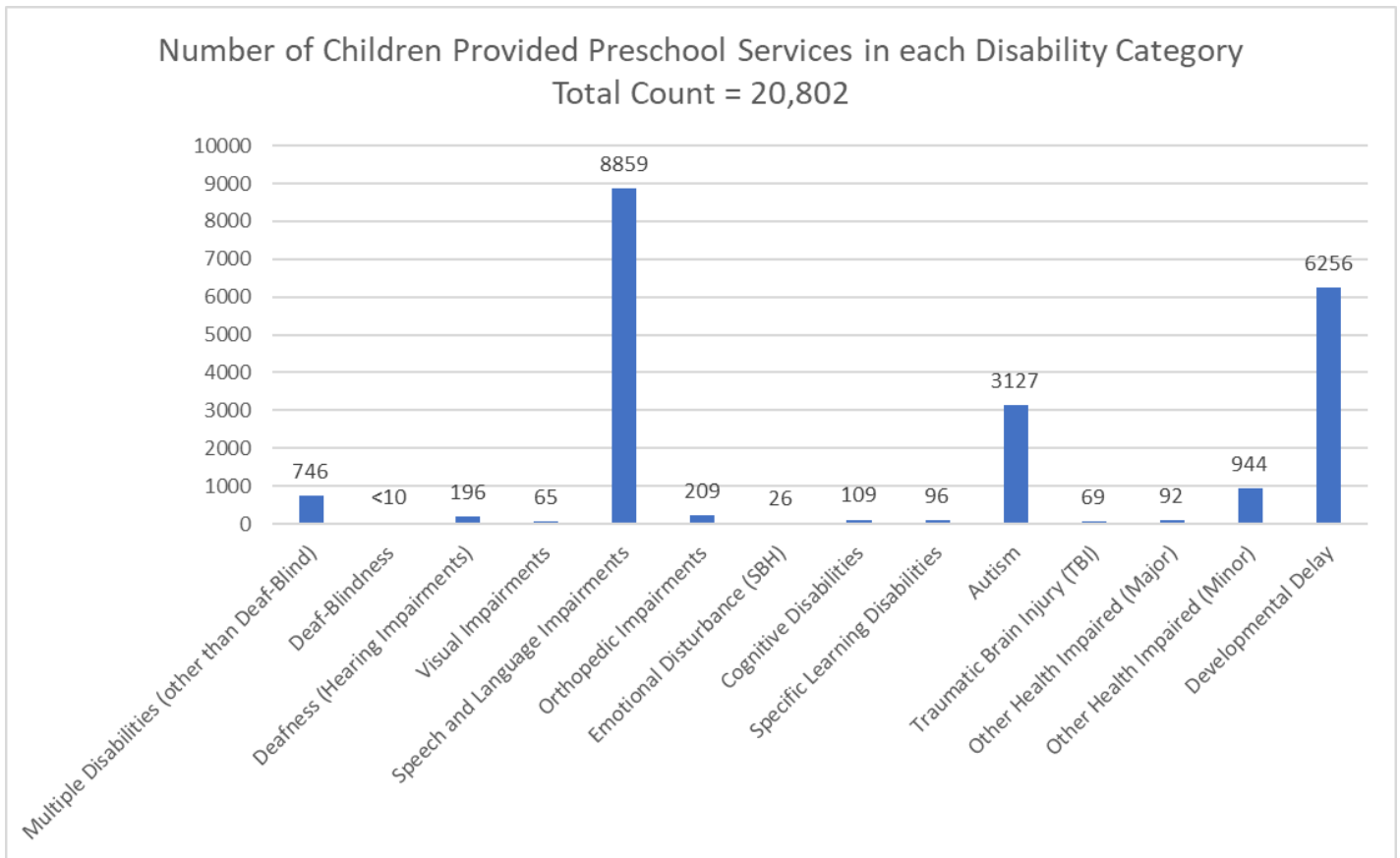


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Ohio’s public schools provide special education services to children with disabilities as early as preschool. Every year, the Ohio Department of Education reports the number of preschool children who received state-funded special education services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



*The number of children who received services under the category of Deaf-Blindness was fewer than 10. To protect student privacy, the Department masks data elements of fewer than 10 individuals in all public reports. In this report, children who received services under the category of Deaf-Blindness are included in both the count of students with Multiple Disabilities and the total count. The total count also includes preschool children who are recipients of the Autism Scholarship Program.

The 2020 – 2021 school year had an overall decrease of 2,549 (10.91 percent) preschool-age children receiving special education services compared to the prior year. Developmental Delay and Speech or Language Impairment are the most common disability categories among preschool-age children. More than 72.66 percent (15,115) of children served in preschool special education receive services under one of these two eligibility categories.

Autism accounted for 15.03 percent of the total; and the category Multiple Disabilities combined with Other Health Impairment – Minor made up another 8.12 percent.

Data for this report were taken from the Education Management Information System (EMIS) as reported annually by public school districts and Educational Service Centers. This report uses full-time equivalent (FTE) count data, which is the same data used for calculating the state preschool special education funding distributed to districts. Because these data are not finalized until late summer/early fall each year, the current report uses State Fiscal Year 2021 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.

More information about Ohio public preschools is available on the [Department's website](#).