

Empowering Stakeholders to Make a Difference with Data—Handout



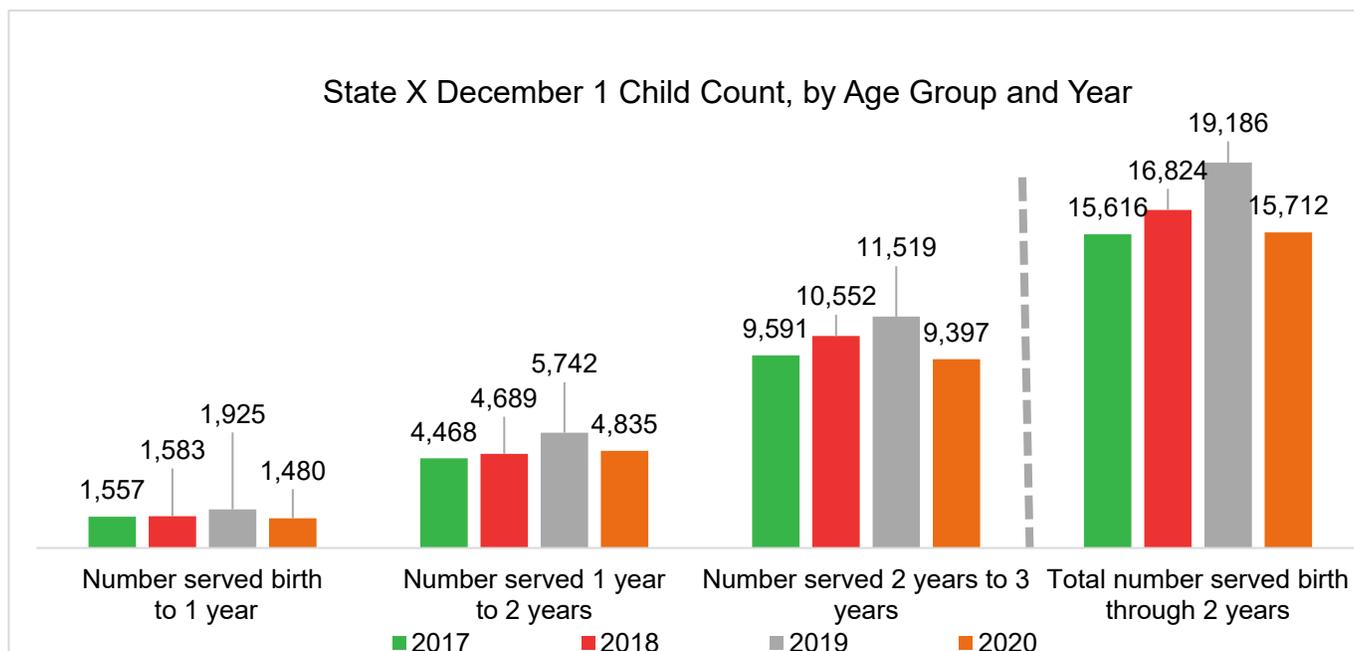
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The Impact of COVID-19 on Early Intervention Services

Did the numbers of children served by early intervention drop during COVID? Why or why not?

Quantitative Data: Child Count by Age, 2017-2020



Qualitative Data: Parent Interview Responses (2020)

Interview Question: Please describe the process of getting your child evaluated for early intervention.

Parent 1

"I had concerns about our daughter but didn't know who to talk to. I wanted to ask the pediatrician, but we had so much going on during COVID. Working remotely, trying to deal with the kids. When we finally got around to calling the doctor, they weren't taking appointments for well care visits. I finally got in last week and the doctor told me about early intervention."

Parent 2

"I finally found out about EI from our doctor, but by then our well-child visit had been delayed for about 4 months. Then we got a referral for EI services, but they were booked out for months and the first appointment was online. That was frustrating and did not accomplish much. I haven't gotten around to calling back."

Parent 3

"Our first appointment with early intervention was online. I don't have good Wi-Fi so it was a very frustrating process to engage our child and have a useful session. The whole thing was stressful. After that we just waited until things opened up more. My son starts speech therapy next week."

Analysis Questions

Do we have a problem?

- How many children were served in 2019? In 2020?
- Did the numbers of children served drop during COVID? By how much?

Why do we have a problem?

- What did parents report about getting their children evaluated?
- What challenges did families face around scheduling? Technology?

What other questions did your analysis generate? What else would you like to know about...

- How the data were collected?
- Who was and was not served in early intervention?
-other questions?

About Us

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