

Implementation of Special Education and Related Services for Children with Disabilities



OFFICE FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

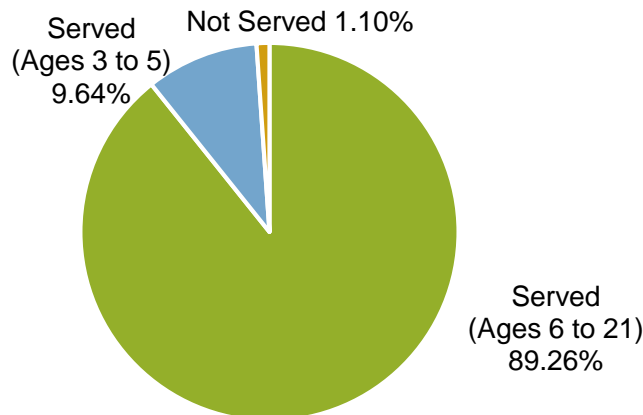
2018-2019 School Year

State law¹ requires that Ohio's superintendent of public instruction annually report on the status of implementation of special education and related services for children with disabilities. This includes the number of children identified with disabilities 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 is based, in part, on data gathered from EMIS.²

Students with disabilities account for 15.4 percent of all Ohio's preschool and school-age students, which include all children ages 3 through 21.³ As of Oct. 31, 2018, there were 274,104 students reported to the Ohio Department of Education who were identified with disabilities and eligible to receive special education services or related services. In the 2018-2019 school year, 271,090 eligible students received services, amounting to 98.90 percent of all students identified as eligible for special education being served.⁴

Districts reported 3,014 total students as eligible for, but not receiving, special education services, which accounts for 1.10 percent of all eligible students in Ohio. Students are reported as not receiving special education services despite eligibility when they are home-schooled; when their families choose to discontinue services; and/or when their families refuse services for which they have been offered.

All Ohio Students Eligible for Special Education and Related Services



¹ Ohio Revised Code Section 3323.02

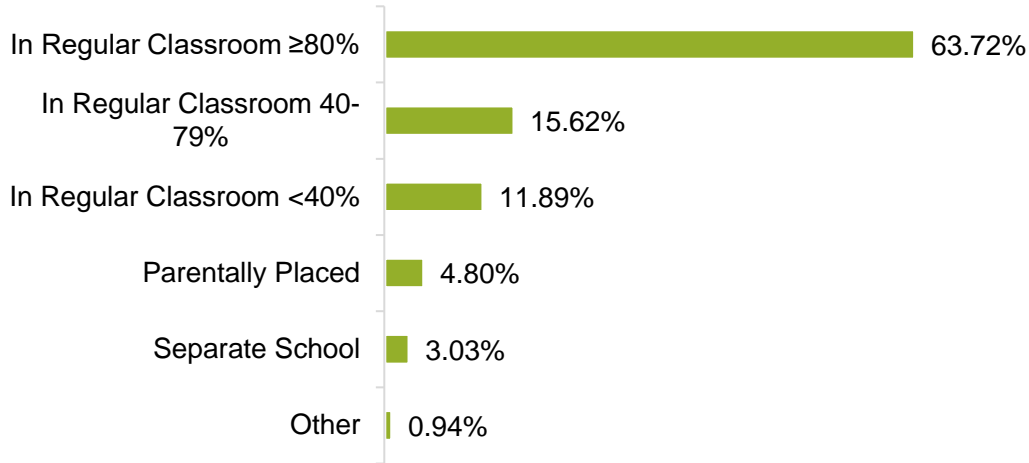
² Data collected from the Ohio Central School System is reported outside of EMIS.

³ Based on full time equivalent total of state enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year.

⁴ The number of students receiving services is based on the headcount of students with disabilities as of Oct. 21, 2018, certified as part of the annual Federal Child Count submitted annually to the United States Department of Education. The number of those eligible to receive services includes those same students, in addition to those eligible for whom services were not provided based on individualized education program outcome codes of IEDP (IEP Resulted in Due Process), IENS (IEP Complete; Not Served), and IEPR (IEP Complete; Parental Refusal).

The graph below demonstrates how among school-age students with disabilities ages 6-21, nearly 64 percent were reported as spending at least 80 percent of the school day in regular classrooms. The remaining students either spent 40-79 percent of the school day in regular classrooms, spent less than 40 percent of the school day in regular classrooms, were parentally placed in nonpublic schools with services plans, were served in separate schools, or were placed in residential facilities, at home, in hospitals or in correctional facilities (collectively shown as "Other" in the graph below).

School-Age Children Receiving Services by Setting



The following chart articulates the various categories for which students might be identified as having a disability as well as the percent of students in each identification category. Among all students with disabilities ages 3-21, the largest category of disability reported was "specific learning disability." This category consisted of 99,279 students. Additionally, students with disabilities related to other health impairments, speech and language, autism, intellectual disabilities, emotional disturbance, multiple disabilities, developmental delay, hearing, orthopedics, traumatic brain injury, vision, and deaf-blind were all reported during the 2018-2019 school year.

