

**National Center for Children in Poverty**  
*putting research to work for children & families*

**Ohio Early Childhood Profile**

**OVERVIEW**

The Early Childhood Two Generation State Policy Profile shows which state policies meet benchmarks that are favorable to the well-being of children and their families. The profile includes policies that are key elements of a two-generation approach to supporting the well-being and life opportunities of young children and their parents, in the areas of health, early care and education, and parenting and economic support.

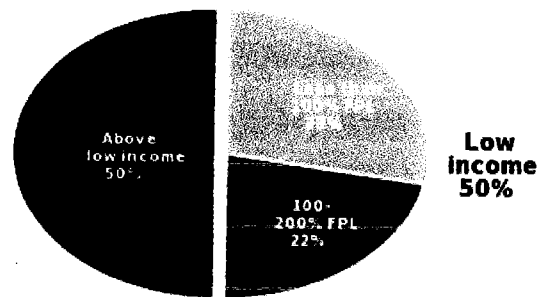
A two-generation framework for policy design reflects extensive research that identifies the critical supports young children need over time to thrive<sup>1,2</sup>. Most two-generation supports for young children and families are created through the collective impact of multiple policies. An example is investment in prekindergarten programs and an effective quality improvement system that promotes children’s access to high quality early care and education programs along with state policies such as the Earned Income Tax credit and minimum wage that raise the incomes of low-income working families; another is policies that ensure mental health screenings and access to quality health care for both children and parents.

A brief overview of policies in the EC Two Generation State Policy Profile is provided below (see policy definitions for an explanation of benchmarks). The Profile is limited to policies for which 50-state data are available. Users who wish to examine additional policies specific to their state, within a two-generation framework, can find suggestions in State Policies through a Two-Generation Lens: Strengthening the Collective Impact of Policies that Affect the Life Course of Young Children and their Parents.

**Health**

Young children (under age 6)<sup>3</sup>: 825,820

**Young children by income, 2014**

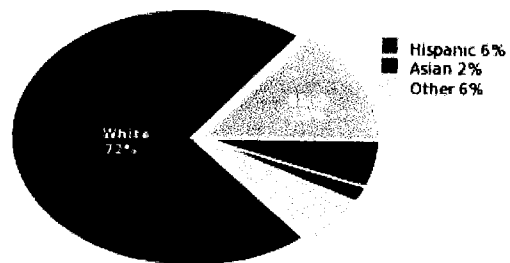


Among young children, 14% live in extreme poverty (less than 50% FPL).

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Source<sup>3</sup>

**Young children by race/ethnicity, 2014**

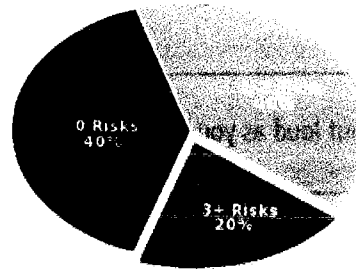


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Source<sup>3</sup>

Health policies are key elements in the EC Two Generation Policy Profile, supporting health care access and quality for both young children and their parents. Policies concerned with access to health care include state Medicaid/CHIP eligibility limits, coverage of legal immigrant children, coverage for legal immigrant pregnant women, and Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act. A quality-related policy is the state's adherence to recommended schedules for Early, Periodic, Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment visits under Medicaid.

**Exposure to multiple risk factors among young children, 2014\***



\* This graph includes all possible risk factors: poor, single parent, teen mother, low parental education, nonemployed parents, residential mobility, households without English speakers, and large family size.

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Source<sup>3</sup>

### Early Care and Education

Several policies included in the EC Two-Generation Policy Profile affect families' access to early care and education. These include the state's income eligibility limit for receiving a child care subsidy, the funding of a prekindergarten program or supplementation of Head Start which increases the supply of early care and education in the state, and the availability of full-day kindergarten.

Other policies can help promote the quality of early care and education. Among these are state regulations concerning child-staff ratios at different age levels and implementation of a statewide Quality Rating Improvement System.

### Parenting and Economic Supports

The EC Two Generation Policy Profile includes state policies that affect parenting and family economic stability. These include TANF work requirements for parents with infants; paid family leave following the birth of a child with full or partial wages; and income support policies such as a state Earned Income and Dependent Care Tax Credits, and extended unemployment insurance.

## HEALTH

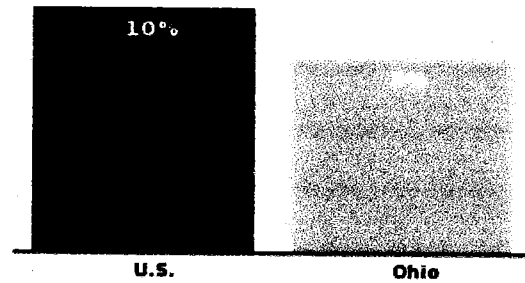
### State Choices to Promote Access

Income eligibility limit for public health insurance (Medicaid/CHIP) at or above 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). [2016]<sup>5</sup>

- Children <1 year  
Set eligibility at 211% (CHIP)
- Children ages 1-5 years  
Set eligibility at 211% (CHIP)
- Children ages 6-18  
Set eligibility at 211% (CHIP)
- Pregnant women  
Set eligibility at 205% (Medicaid)

- Provide lawfully residing immigrant children with Medicaid/CHIP coverage without 5-year waiting period [2016]<sup>5</sup>
- Provide lawfully residing pregnant immigrant women with Medicaid/CHIP coverage without 5-year waiting period [2016]<sup>5</sup>
- Provide temporary coverage to pregnant women under Medicaid until eligibility can be formally determined. [2016]<sup>5</sup>
- Provide temporary coverage to children under Medicaid or CHIP until eligibility can be formally determined. [2016]<sup>5</sup>
- Include at-risk children in the definition of eligibility for IDEA Part C. [2014]<sup>6</sup>
- Do not require redetermination of eligibility for Medicaid/CHIP more than once a year [2016]<sup>5</sup>
- Has adopted Medicaid expansion as part of the Affordable Care Act [2016]<sup>7</sup>
- State has an online dual-benefit application for Medicaid and SNAP [2016]<sup>5</sup>
- Medicaid pays for maternal depression screening during pediatric/family medicine visits under the child's Medicaid [2015]<sup>8</sup>

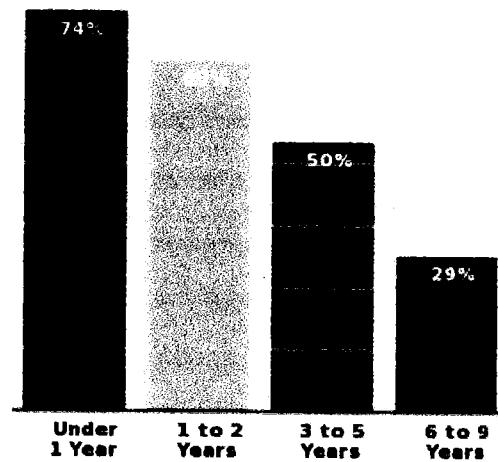
**Young children who lack health insurance, 2014**



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Source<sup>3</sup>

**Percent of eligible children who received at least one EPSDT\* screening, by age, FY2014**



\* Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT)  
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Source<sup>4</sup>

### State Choices to Promote Quality

EPSDT screening periodicity schedule meets recommendations of American Academy of Pediatrics [FY2014]<sup>4</sup>

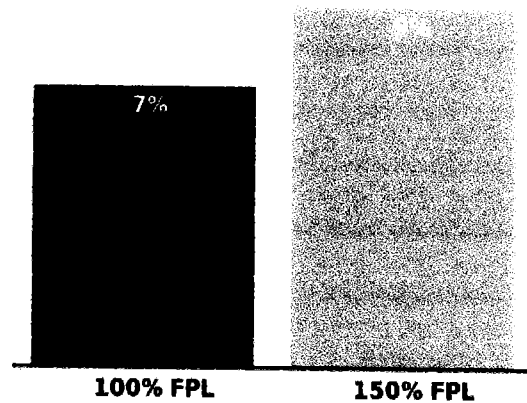
- 7 Screenings for children <1 year  
*State requires 7 screens. 68% of eligible screens were completed in 2014.*
- 4 Screenings for children 1-2 years  
*State requires 5 screens. 75% of eligible screens were completed in 2014.*
- 3 Screenings for children 3-5 years  
*State requires 3 screens. 73% of eligible screens were completed in 2014.*
- 4 Screenings for children 6-9 years  
*State requires 4 screens. 42% of eligible screens were completed in 2014.*
  
- Require newborn screening for the 31 metabolic deficiencies/disorders and core conditions [2014]<sup>9</sup>  
*30 universally required by law or rule.*

## EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION

### State Choices to Promote Access

- Set the income eligibility limit for child care subsidies at or above 200% FPL. [2015]<sup>10</sup>  
*A family of three qualifies for assistance at \$24,732, or 123% FPL. This reflects no change in the FPL percentage from 2014.*
- Child care subsidy reimbursement rate meets the recommended 75th percentile of the market rate [2014]<sup>12</sup>
- Redetermine the eligibility for child care subsidies no more than once per year [FY2014]<sup>13</sup>
- State supplements Early Head Start [2012]<sup>14</sup>
- Fund a pre-kindergarten program and/or supplement Head Start. [FY2014]<sup>15</sup>  
*\$32,602,974 for prekindergarten*
- Requires districts to offer full day kindergarten [2014]<sup>16</sup>  
*Requires districts to offer half day kindergarten*

**Monthly child care co-payment fees as a percent of income for a family of three with one child in care, 2015**



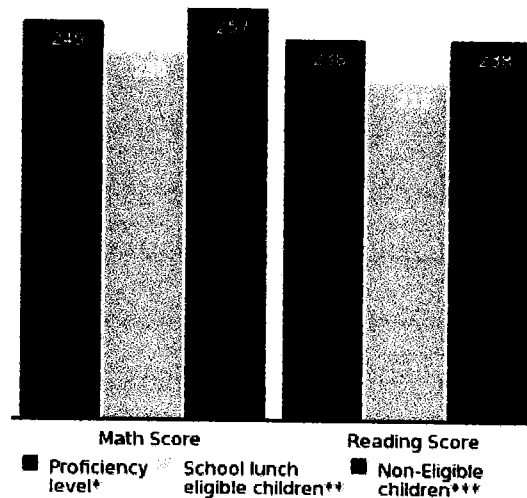
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Source<sup>10</sup>

### State Choices to Promote Quality

- Require one adult for every four 18-month-olds, and a maximum class size of eight in child care centers. [2013]<sup>17</sup>  
*Child care regulations require one adult for every 7 children, and the maximum class size is 14.*
- Allocate state or federal funds for a network of infant/toddler specialists that provide assistance to child care providers. [2013]<sup>18</sup>
- Have early learning standards or developmental guidelines for infants and toddlers. [2014]<sup>19</sup>
- Have an infant/toddler credential. [2014]<sup>20</sup>
- Require through regulation that infants and toddlers in child care centers be assigned a consistent primary caregiver. [FY 2013]<sup>21</sup>
- Require one adult for every 10 4-year-olds, and a maximum class size of 20 in child care centers. [2013]<sup>17</sup>  
*Child care regulations require one adult for every 14 children, and the maximum class size is 28.*
- Have implemented a statewide Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS) [2015]<sup>22</sup>
- Requires one teacher for every 18 students in Kindergarten classrooms [2013]<sup>23</sup>  
*Requires one teacher for every 25 students.*

**National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) fourth grade math and reading scores, 2015**



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Source<sup>11</sup>

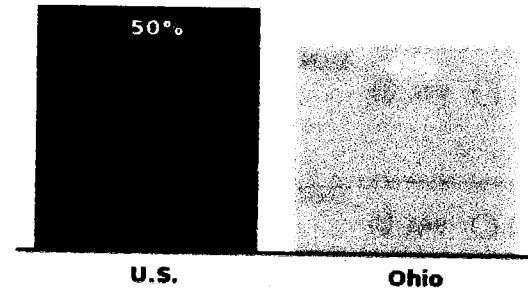
- State has adopted Common Core Standards [2015]<sup>24</sup>  
*NCCP believes that Common Core State Standards should be used in conjunction with guidelines for social emotional learning.*
- State has comprehensive, free-standing standards for social emotional learning at the K-12 level [FY2015]<sup>25</sup>  
*Ohio has comprehensive, free-standing standards for SEL, kindergarten through grade three.*

## PARENTING AND ECONOMIC SUPPORTS

### State Choices to Promote Effective Parenting

- Provide option to extend Medicaid coverage for family planning to otherwise ineligible low-income women [2016]<sup>26</sup>  
*Eligibility based on income up to 205% FPL, includes men and individuals younger than 19 years of age.*
- Exempt single parents on TANF from work requirements until the youngest child reaches age 1. [FY2014]<sup>27</sup>  
*Parent must return to work when child is 12 months.*
- Reduce the TANF work requirement to 20 hours or less for single parents with children under age 6 [FY2014]<sup>27</sup>

**Low-income young children with a parent employed full-time, 2014**



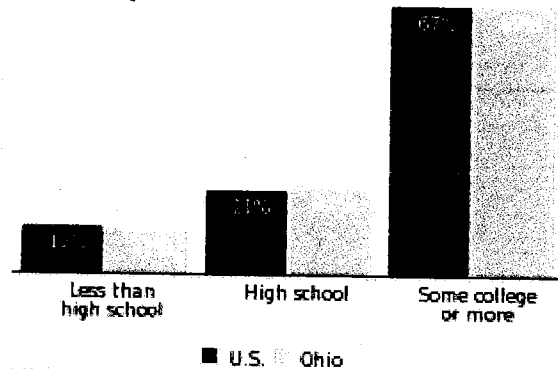
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Source<sup>3</sup>

### State Choices to Promote Family Economic Security

- Established a state minimum wage that meets or exceeds \$9.10/hr and is indexed to inflation [2016]<sup>28</sup>  
*The minimum wage is \$7.25 for employers grossing \$283,000 or less; for all others it is \$8.10.*
- Exempt single-parent families of three below the poverty level from personal income tax. [2013]<sup>29</sup>
- Offer a refundable state Earned Income Tax Credit. [2015]<sup>30</sup>  
*5% of Federal Credit (non-refundable) and limited to half of income taxes owed on income above \$20,000.*
- Offer a refundable state dependent care tax credit. [2014]<sup>31</sup>  
*A credit of 25%-100% of the federal credit for which the tax filer is "eligible" based on OH adjusted gross income.*
- Keep copayments for child care subsidies below 10% of family income for families of three at 150% FPL [2015]<sup>10</sup>
- Offer exemptions and/or extensions of the TANF benefit time limit for women who are pregnant or caring for a child under age 6. [FY2014]<sup>27</sup>
- Has paid family leave for a minimum of 6 weeks with full or partial replacement of wages [2014]<sup>32</sup>
- State offers a minimum of 28 weeks of Unemployment Insurance benefits [2016]<sup>33</sup>  
*State provides up to 26 weeks of regular state-funded UI*

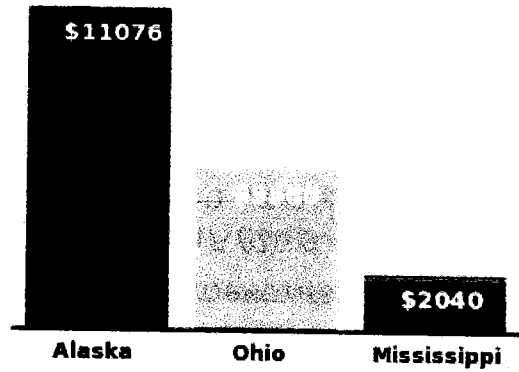
**Education levels of mothers with young children, 2014**



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Source<sup>3</sup>

**Maximum annual TANF benefit for a family of 3, for FY2014**



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Source<sup>27</sup>



## Data Notes and Sources

Last Updated: August 22, 2016

Send us recent developments to update your state's profile.

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