STATE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL

GOVERNOR'S REPORT

2022-2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

KEVIN ANDERSON

I am writing to introduce the annual Governor's Report from the State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC). This report highlights the efforts of the SICC to ensure interagency coordination and increase the availability of quality statewide services for young children and their families.

We are grateful for the contributions of our partners, including ODE staff, parents, and many others who have helped to create this report. It is through their hard work and dedication that we are able to continue our mission of advising, advocating, and collaborating to improve the lives of children with disabilities and their families.

I encourage you to take the time to review this document and learn more about the SICC's mission to maximize each child's unique potential and ability to participate in society. We thank you for your support and commitment to this important cause.

Sincerely,

Kevin Anderson - Chair, State Interagency Coordinating Council

SICC supports Oregon's EI/ECSE Programs

The State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) includes

parents and leaders in early learning throughout the state ...

who

ensure interagency coordination and service development **and** advise and assist Oregon's Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) programs...

because

successful programs maximize each child's unique potential and ability to participate in their home, school, and community.

For more information on the SICC, including goals and the membership roster, click here.

Diverse partnerships support Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education statewide.

High Desert Education Service District

South-Central Early Learning HUB
Serving Douglas, Klamath & Lake Counties

OCDD Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities

ORO Oregon Registry Online

Clackamas Education Service District

Oregon Department of Education Early Learning Division

OCCYSHN Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs

Oregon Department of Education

Oregon Department of Human Services

NW Regional ESD Early Intervention Early Childhood Special Education

NWDSA northwest down syndrome association

NAYA Family Center

InterMountain Education Service District

Columbia Regional Inclusive Services

Early Learning Multnomah

Douglas Education Service District

FACT Oregon Empowering Families · Transforming disability

Willamette Education Service District

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Oregon Health Authority

Early Childhood CARES

Central Coordination of Child Care Resource and Referral

Southern Oregon Early Learning Services

DCBS Department of Consumer and Business Services

Inclusive Partners — Opening Doors For Oregon's Children —

Multnomah Early Childhood Program
David Douglas School District

Oregon Head Start Association

Lane ESD Lane Education Service District
Shaping the future: Supporting excellence in education

Partnerships from the Local and State Interagency Coordinating Council. If you would like to add additional partnerships to this representation please email mandy.stanley@ode.oregon.gov.

Local Interagency Coordinating Councils (LICC)

- **31** Local Interagency Coordinating Councils throughout the state convene parents and EI/ECSE professionals to elevate parent and community voice in local EI/ECSE programs.
- Help identify unmet needs for local children experiencing disabilities.

FINDING ACCEPTANCE:
Excerpts from one family's story of life with Autism

"I was the first one in my family to have a child who was experiencing a disability in my traditional Mexican family. I felt so lost and didn't know where to look for help. Being a first generation Mexican American I was used to facing barriers, but nothing could have prepared me the additional barrier of being a parent of child with Autism."

"The first time I experienced acceptance was when my son started attending preschool at North Powellhurst which was a MECP program."

"A journey that once felt lonely dark now holds so much promise. Our family is continuously learning and growing every day. We determined how we navigate disability and our trajectory. M is much MORE than autism. He's a child with a future. WE have a future. To the parents whose child is experiencing a disability this is the beginning not the end. Grow alongside your child. Advocate for child. Transform disability because disability is beautiful. "

EI/ECSE services are vital to Oregon's future.

EARLY INTERVENTION (EI)

- Ages birth-3 years
- For infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities
- Helps parents support their child's development

EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION (ECSE)

- Ages 3-5 years
- Helps children be successful in their home, school, and community
- Supports school readiness

Oregon has a unique service delivery.

AGES BIRTH-5	FAMILY PARTICIPATION	NO WAITLISTS	NO COST	NATURAL/LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT
Services and supports are identified through the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).	Families' meaningful participation ensures that individualized goals are delivered in a culturally responsive manner.	There are NO waitlists for eligible families and children MUST be seen by professionals within certain timeframes.	There is NO COST to families who are eligible - either for the evaluation or for services.	Services are provided in a child's Natural Environment (such as the home or childcare) for ages 0-2 or in the child's Least Restrictive Environment (such as a community preschool) for ages 3-5.

Regional Inclusive Services provide specialized services for children who experience less common disabilities.

- Examples include students/children who experience visual impairment, orthopedic impairment, deafness or hard of hearing, deaf-blindness, traumatic brain injury and/or autism spectrum disorder.
- These services are available from birth through 21 years of age.

For more information on the Regional Inclusive Services click here.

A NOTE FROM A SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

"I have the extraordinary privilege to be working as a Speech-Language Pathologist in the field of Early Childhood Special Education. Quality and inclusive early education is a need more than ever given the recent pandemic guiding embedded opportunities for children to practice their social-emotional and problem solving skills as well as important positive peer interactions.

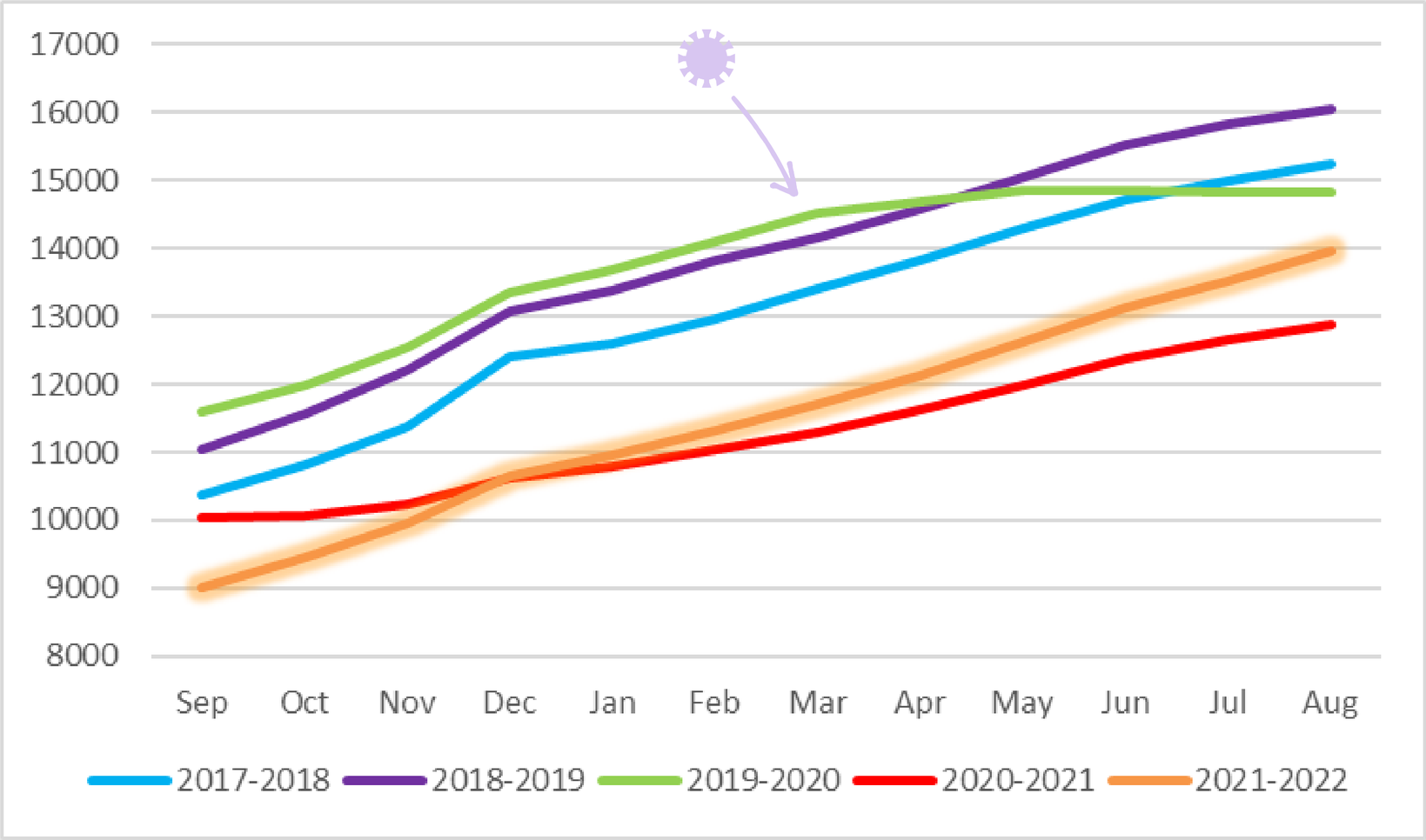
For many of the families I serve, the effects of the pandemic are still significantly lingering and finding daycare or preschool opportunities which are both affordable and high caliber are an on-going challenge. Access to early education sets the stage for a strong academic future and Oregon's investment in our preschool students needs to be a continuing priority."

Joshua J. , ECSE Specialist

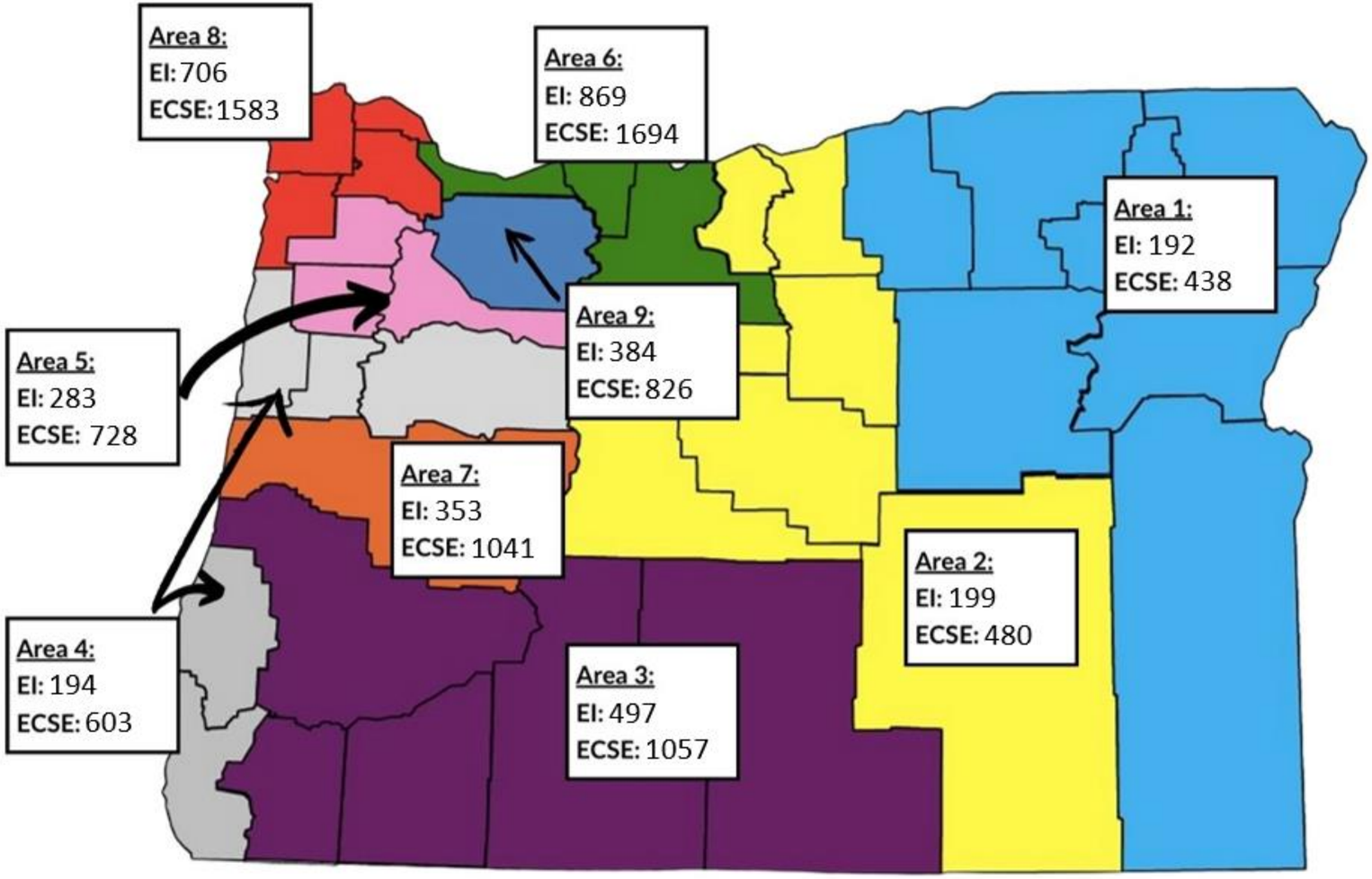
COVID-19 has impacted caseload growth.

Historically low enrollment has shown improvement in 2021-2022.

EI/ECSE CASELOAD GROWTH 2016-2021



12,127 Oregon children were enrolled
in EI/ECSE in April 2022



Children in Early Intervention:

3,677

Children in Early Childhood Special Education:

8,450

A Year of Growth: A Child's Story

I just celebrated **my first full year** with Early Intervention services! I've grown so much and my adults have learned a lot about how to **help me get stronger and smarter**.

Early Intervention is fun for me, **I get to play, but it has really been helpful for my adults**. My EI specialists have taught them fun games to get me to stand up and sit down, use my hands more by using finger plays and toys that target my fine motor skills. Most importantly, they have loaned us equipment that helps me be more **independent like my peers**.

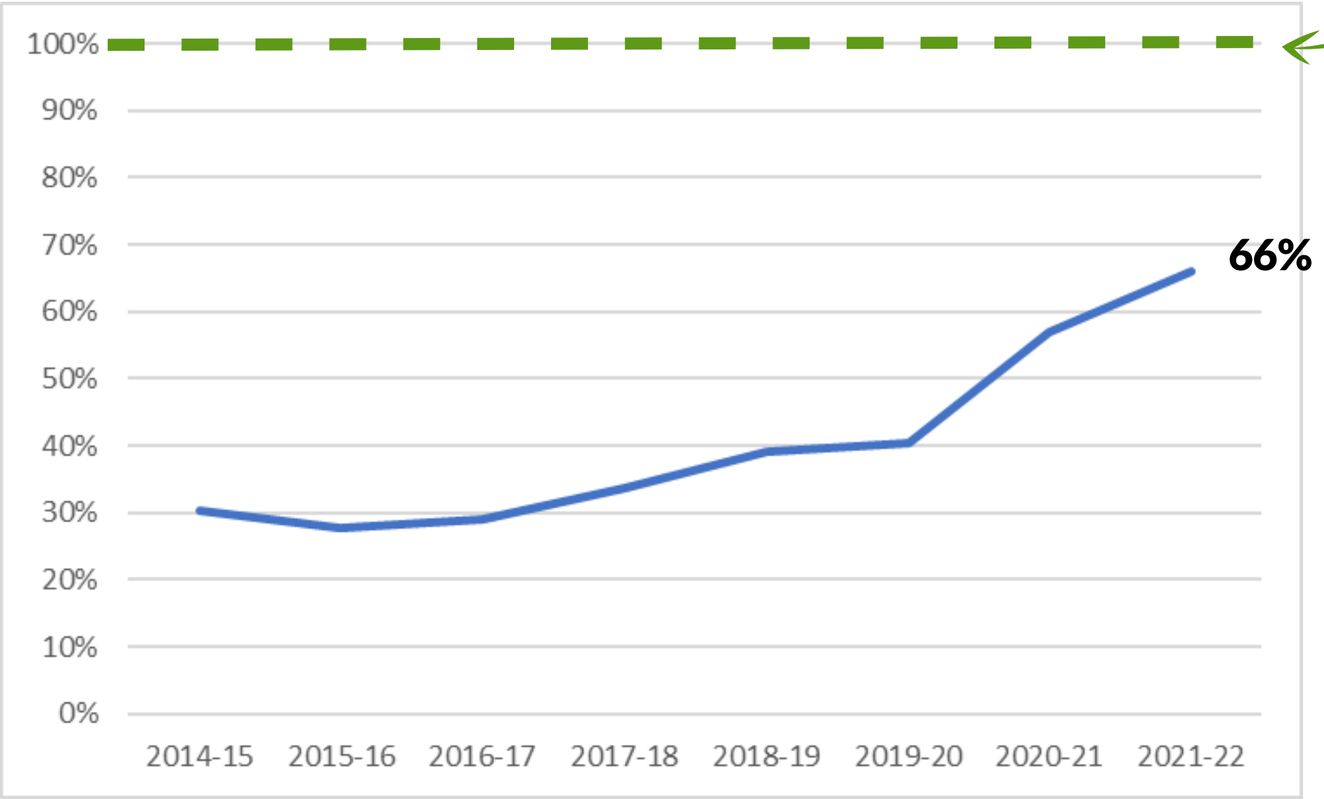
Our family would not have had **access** to a bigger walker now that I'm too tall for the kind you can get at Target or garage sales. **Now I can play chase with my dog**, Tater, we take turns. I, like other two years old's, am learning to use a fork and spoon, but I can't get the food into my mouth very well without the adapted silverware. What a game changer!

My family is learning so much about cerebral palsy and what resources are available to us as I grow, **I can't imagine what it would be like for them to not have these helpful guides**. Thank you Early Intervention!

Adequate Service Levels for EI means the child receives specialized consultation services with caregivers at least once a week.

Percent of Oregon's Infants and Toddlers Receiving Adequate Service Levels in Early Intervention 2014-2022

The recommendation for EI Adequate Service Level is 100% but should be an individual IFSP team decision.



ECSE Adequate Service Level is defined based on level of need.

LOW NEED:
Delayed in 1-2 areas of development

- Specialized ECSE Services at least once a week.

MODERATE NEED:
Delayed in 3-4 areas of development

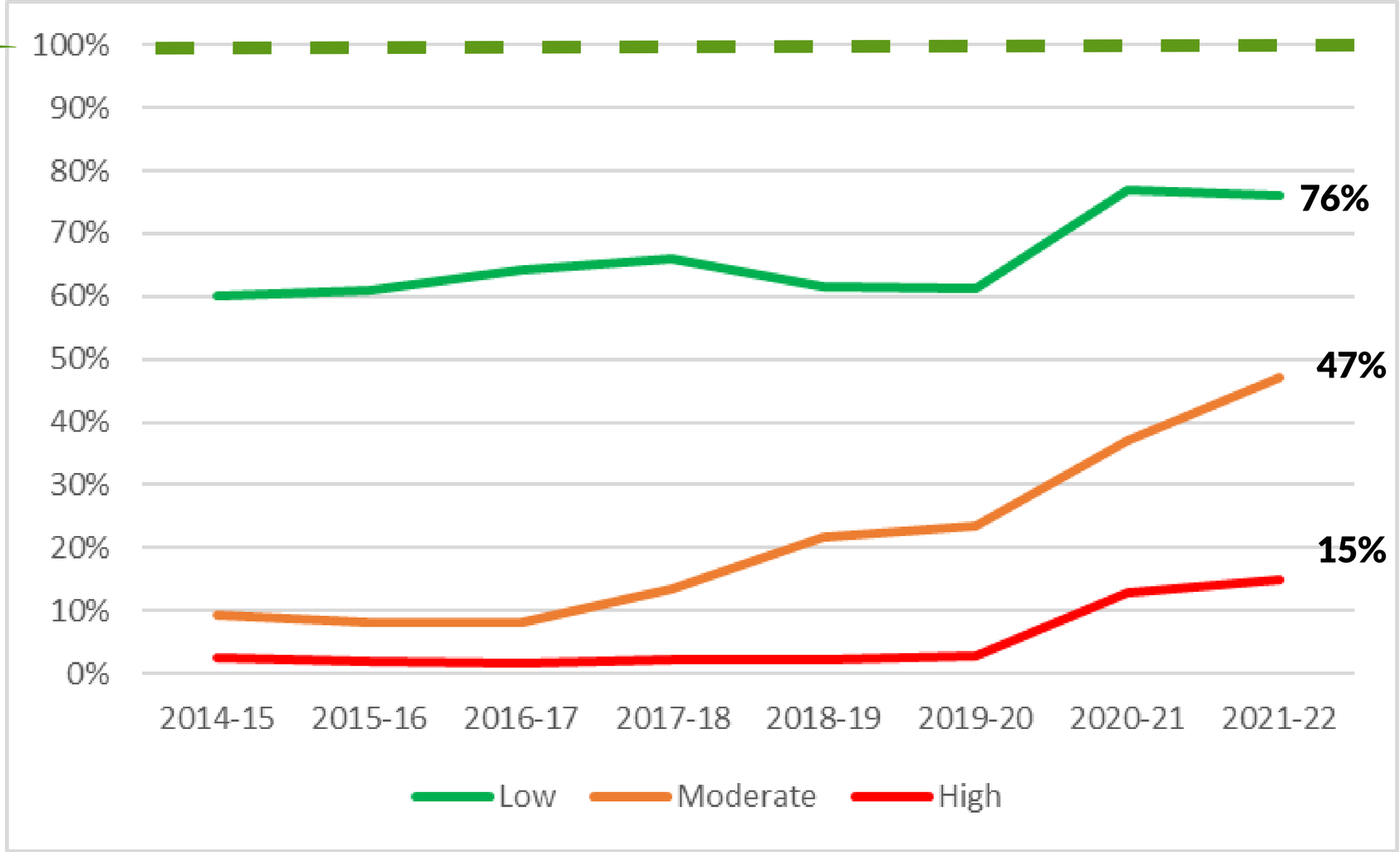
- Preschool: 12+ hours.
- Specialized ECSE Services at least once a week.
- Parent education once a month.

HIGH NEED:
Delayed in most or all areas of development

- Preschool: 15+ hours.
- Specialized ECSE Services at least once a week.
- Parent education once a month.

Percent of Oregon's 3-5 Year Old Receiving Adequate Service Levels in Early Childhood Special Education 2014-2022

The recommendation for ECSE Adequate Service Level is 100% for ALL needs but should be an individual IFSP team decision.



Continued improvements in adequate service levels *may* be relatedto:

- Ongoing increases in funding
- Lower caseloads

Challenges to reaching adequate service levels include:

- Access to inclusive pre-school options for families
- EI/ECSE workforce shortage
- Early Learning workforce shortage
- Geographic differences
- Ongoing pandemic impact

OREGON
EARLY CHILDHOOD
INCLUSION

This is one example of an initiative that is working to build community capacity to provide high-quality inclusion supports.

Positive results:

- Increased community collaboration with local representation from many organizations
- Unified mission and vision
- Improved child outcomes
- Meaningful inclusion supports
- Providers report feeling supported and gained confidence in their ability to provide services to all children
- Better planning and communication within programs or amongst classroom staff and EI/ECSE providers

Data from ODE: Oregon Early Childhood Inclusion

Early Intervention
The Cornutt Family
03:02

Inclusion is for everyone, everywhere.