



# The State of Young Children

DARKE  
COUNTY

**3,878**  
children under 5 years old <sup>1</sup>

**602**

Babies born in 2023 <sup>9</sup>

**46**

Pregnant women and families served by *Help Me Grow* home visiting <sup>12</sup> (2024)

**1,546**

Children under age 5 covered by Medicaid <sup>11</sup> (as of July 2024)

**86**

Children ages 0-3 receiving Part-C Early Intervention Services (as of Jan 2025)

**<10**

Children five years and younger are in state custody (as of Jan. 1, 2024) <sup>8</sup>

**12.5%**  
of children under 5 years old are living in poverty <sup>2</sup>

**\$10,009**

Estimated 2024 yearly price for infant center-based care <sup>5</sup>

**11.5%**

of family median income was spent on child care in 2022 <sup>6</sup>

**63**

Children are accessing Publicly-Funded Child Care (PFCC) and the Child Care Voucher <sup>3</sup> (as of December 2024)

**103**

Children are accessing public preschool through Early Childhood Education grants <sup>7</sup> (2024)

**46.3%**

of kindergartners are demonstrating readiness <sup>10</sup> (2022-2023)

**29.2%**

of economically disadvantaged kindergartners are demonstrating readiness <sup>13</sup> (2022-2023)

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