

ECI Funding per Child



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Early Childhood
Intervention

Caseload growth exceeds budgeted projections, resulting in funding per child below budgeted targets.

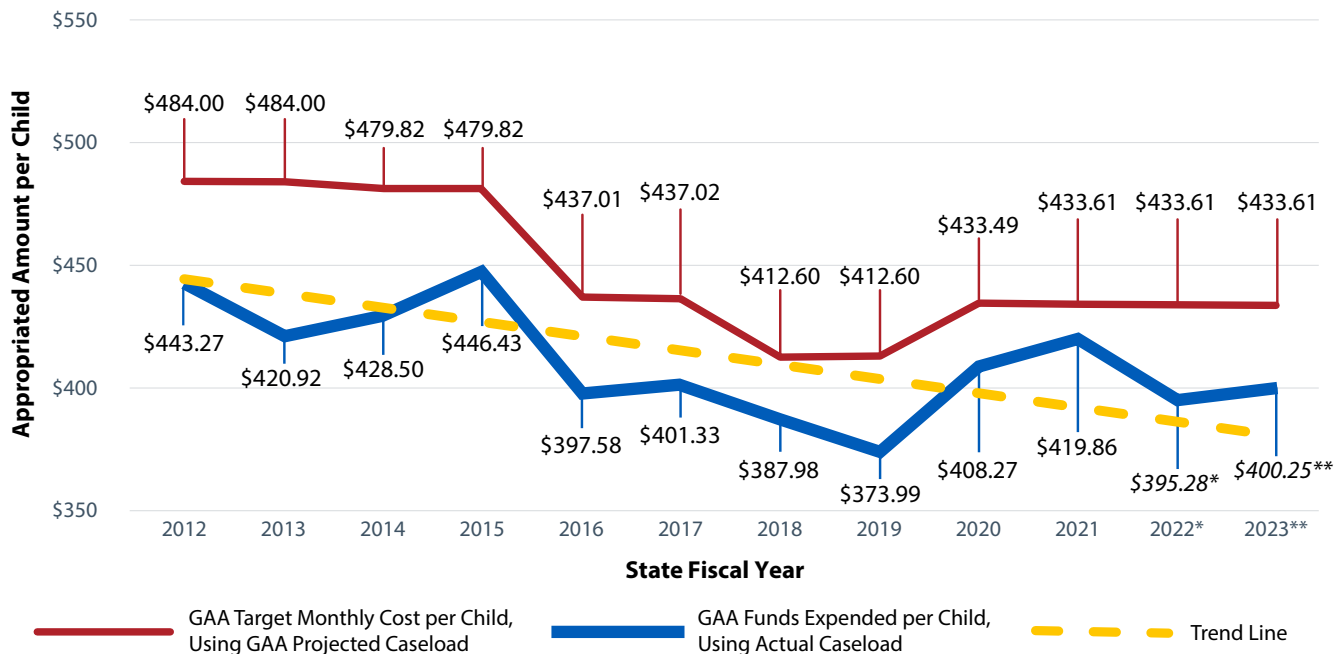
With the exception of a 2 percent reduction in fiscal year 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of children served by Early Childhood Intervention (ECI) has increased consistently for the past 10 years, while funding has not increased at the same rate.

The Texas Legislature funds the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), which in turn funds ECI contractors, based on a target number of children projected to be served each month. ECI contractors are required to offer the full array of services, as appropriate based on the child's and family's needs, to every eligible child, even if the number of children

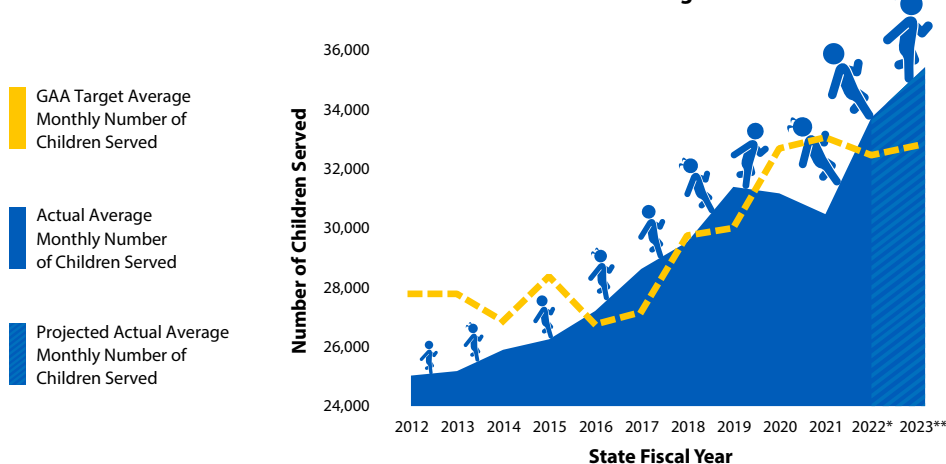
determined eligible exceeds the target number of children in the contract. Additionally, due to method of finance constraints, in some years ECI is not able to access the full appropriated amount. Together, these factors have the effect of reducing the actual funding per child below the General Appropriations Act (GAA) target amount.

The 86th Legislature reversed a more than eight-year decline in the target funding amount per child, increasing the target to approximately \$433 per child in fiscal year 2020. However, as post-COVID demand is outpacing projections, the gap between actual funding per child and the GAA target is widening.

Appropriated Amount per Child — GAA Target vs. Actual



Average Monthly Number of Children Served — Actual Caseload vs. GAA Target Caseload



*Fiscal year 2022 actual figures are based on incomplete data as of November 2022 and are subject to change as additional data is received.

**Fiscal year 2023 actual figures are the current official June 2022 forecast.

Appropriated amounts from GAA Article II, Health and Human Services, Strategy D.1.3, ECI Services. Included in D.1.3 are IDEA Part C, IDEA Part B, Foundation School Funds, General Revenue, TANF, Medicaid Administrative Claiming, and Medicaid Fee for Service Appropriations.