

# Early Learning Investments, Strategies, and Outcomes

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GESCNA- Ed Committee

Seattle City Council

February 28, 2018



**Seattle** Department of  
Education & Early Learning

# Overview

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- Why Invest in Early Learning?
- DEEL's Approach to Early Learning
- Early Learning - Seattle Context
  - Seattle's Early Learning Landscape
  - City Funding Sources
- Outcomes - Quality and Access
  - Strategies for Enhancing Quality
  - Strategies for Expanding Access
- Goal - Close the Opportunity Gap
  - Equity in Kindergarten Readiness
- Questions and Discussion



# Why Invest in Early Learning in Seattle?

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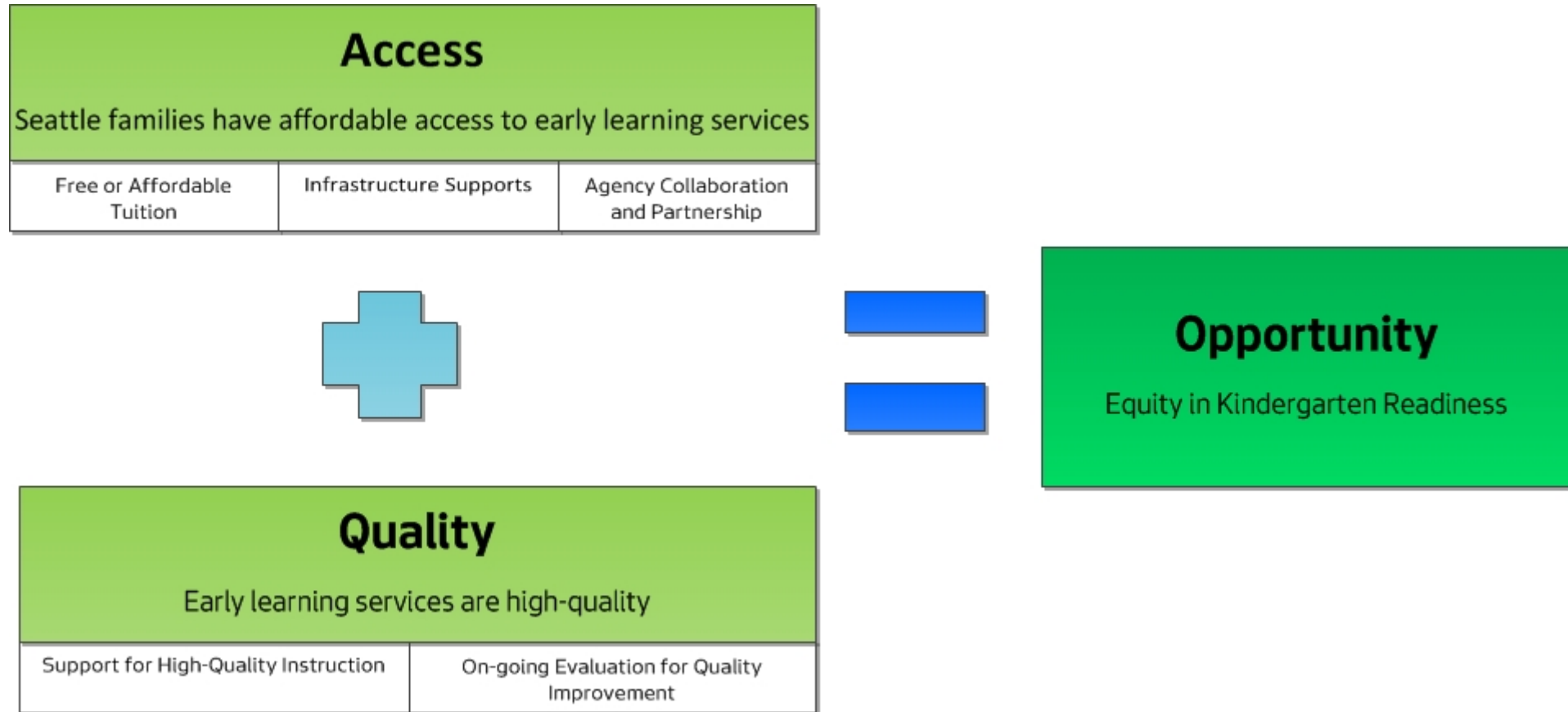
- It can prevent the achievement gap.
- It can improve health outcomes.
- It can boost earnings.
- It benefits the child, the family, and the community.

Source:

[https://heckmanequation.org/assets/2017/01/F\\_Heckman\\_FourBenefitsInvestingECDevelopment\\_022615.pdf](https://heckmanequation.org/assets/2017/01/F_Heckman_FourBenefitsInvestingECDevelopment_022615.pdf)

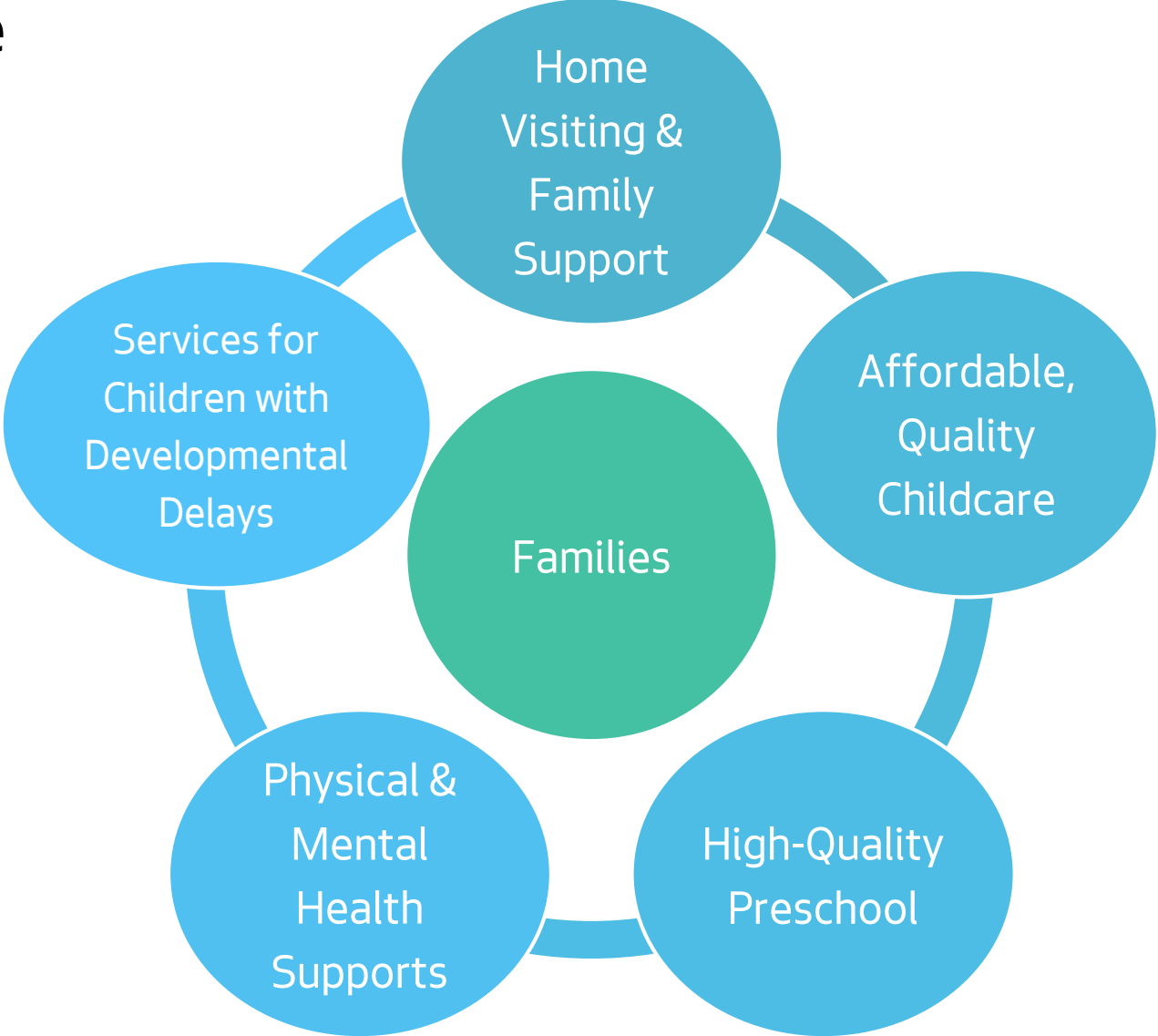
# Theory of Action

**Access** to **affordable, high-quality** early learning will improve Seattle's children's **opportunities** in school and in life.



# Seattle's Role in a Comprehensive Early Childhood System

City Service	16-17 Budget (in millions)
Childcare	\$2.1
Preschool	\$24.4
Home Visiting	\$2.9
Total	\$29.3



# Seattle Early Learning Options

Home Visiting & Family Support

County: Early literacy home visiting for families with significant obstacles to school and life success (PCHP)

**City: More funding for PCHP in Seattle and Nurse-Family Partnership**

Affordable, Quality Childcare

State: Subsidies for working families up to 200% Federal Poverty (\$50,200 for a family of 4)

**City: Subsidies for working families up to 300% Federal Poverty (\$75,300 for a family of 4)**

High-Quality Preschool

Federal: Head Start for families up to 130% Federal Poverty (\$32,630 for a families of 4)

State: ECEAP for families up to 110% Federal Poverty

**City: Families up to 300% Federal Poverty (\$75,300 for a families of 4) attend free; reduced cost for middle-income**

Physical and Mental Health Supports

**City: Health and developmental screenings for children enrolled in preschool programs and health supports for childcare providers**

Services for Children with Developmental Delays

Federal/School District: Early intervention and services for children with identified disabilities

Federal/School District/**City: Children with identified disabilities can attend full day, inclusive preschool**

# DEEL Early Learning Funding 2016-17

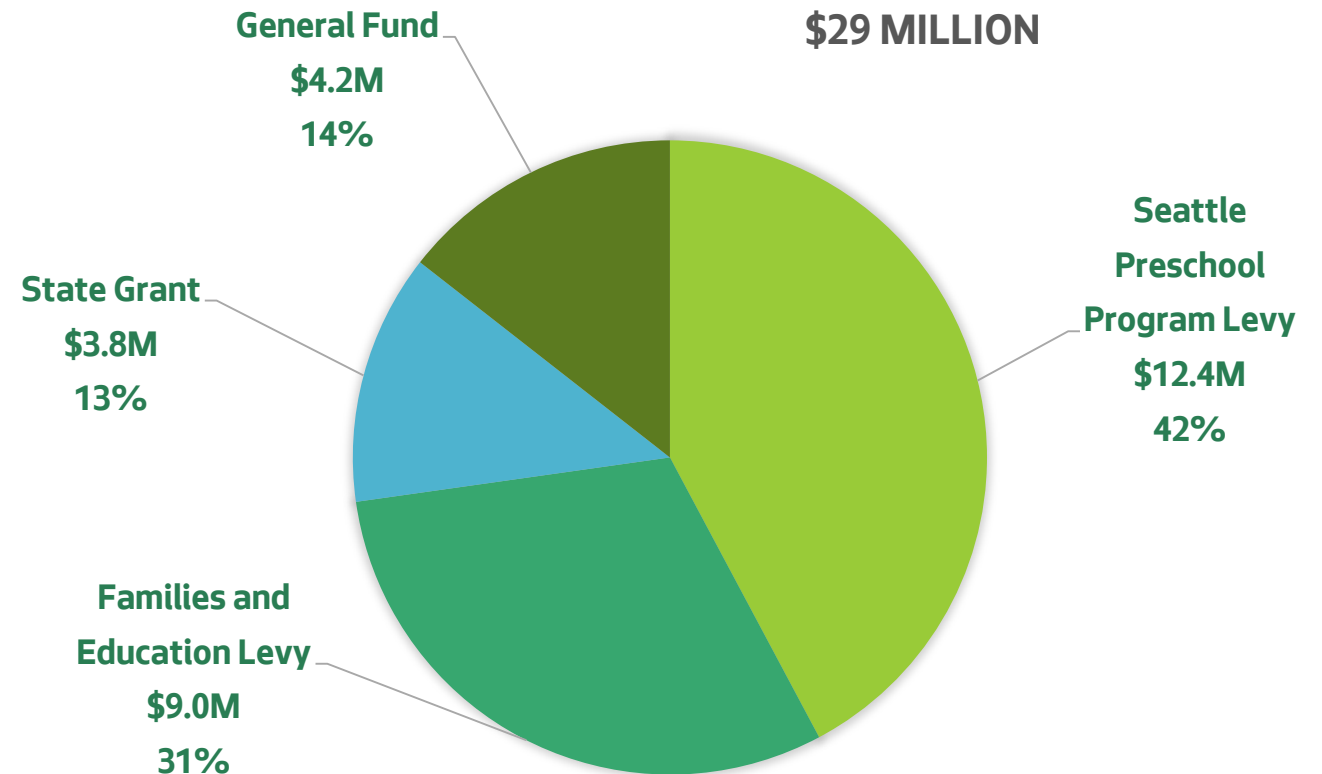
## Quality

- Support for High-Quality Instruction
- Evaluation

## Access

- Subsidies and Services
- Infrastructure Supports
- Agency Collaborations and Partnerships

2016-17 EARLY LEARNING  
BUDGET SUMMARY BY FUND SOURCE  
\$29 MILLION



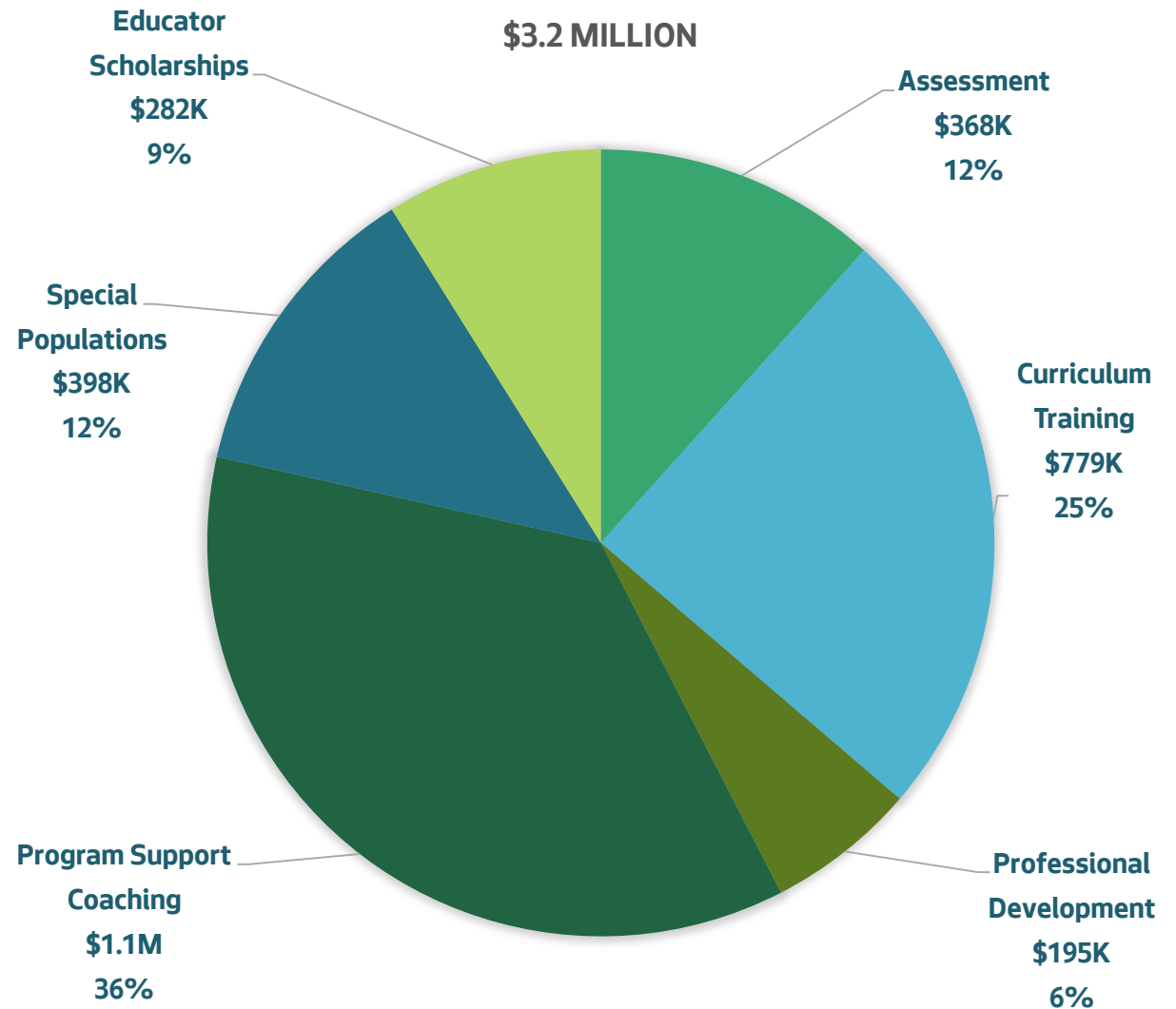
# Quality

## *High-Quality Instruction*

We improve quality of services by:

- Providing extensive professional development and coaching for teachers
- Increasing qualifications of teachers
- Supporting the needs of specific children in our classrooms

**EARLY LEARNING QUALITY TEACHING  
2016-17 BUDGET BY CATEGORY  
\$3.2 MILLION**





# Quality

## High-Quality Instruction: Workforce Support



Coaching and  
technical  
assistance



Training  
institutes



Continuing  
workforce  
education



Home-based care  
provider supports



Enhanced  
compensation for  
degree  
attainment (SPP)

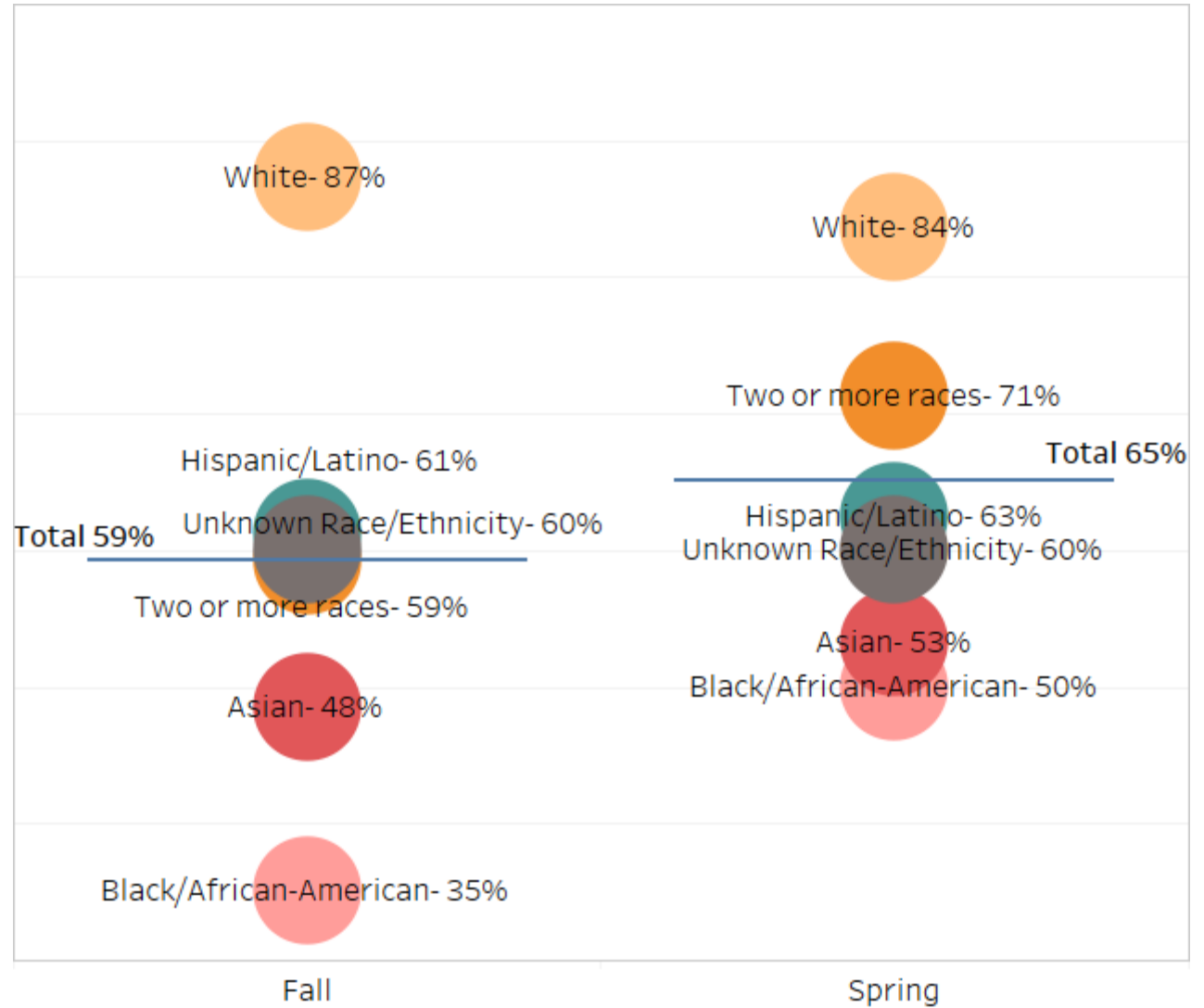


# Quality - Evaluation

## *Expressive Vocabulary*

- Step Ahead, Pathway, and SPP children are assessed on the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT) in Fall and Spring.
- Although the assessment was given to all children, the standardized score is only valid for English-speaking children.
- The percent of children meeting age-adjusted standard on the PPVT increased from 59% to 65% from fall to spring in 2016-17.
- The overall opportunity gap narrowed.

**% of Children with English as their Primary Language Meeting Age-Adjusted PPVT Standard**



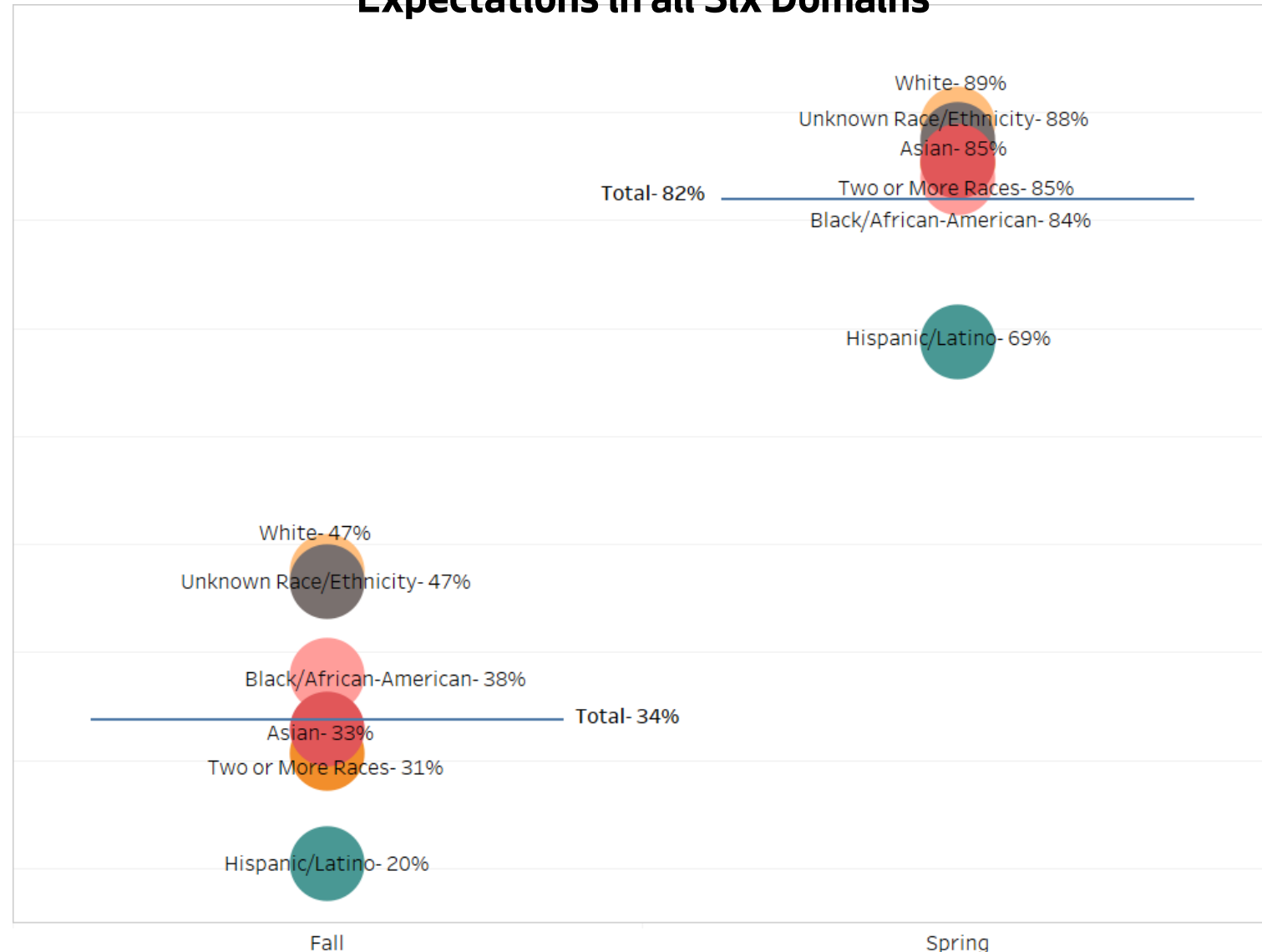
# Quality – Evaluation

## Kindergarten Readiness

### Teaching Strategies Gold

- ECEAP, Step Ahead, Pathway, and SPP Children were assessed in 6 domains (social-emotional, literacy, language, physical, math and cognitive) in Fall, Winter and Spring.
- Only 34% of children were meeting or exceeding age-appropriate expectations in all 6 domains in Fall. By Spring, 82% were.
- The overall opportunity gap closed.

### % of Children Meeting or Exceeding Widely Held Expectations in all Six Domains



\* There were too few Pacific Islander or American Indian children to display.

# Quality – Evaluation

## Classroom Quality

CLASS Domain	Dimensions	2015-16 mean 15 classrooms	2016-17 mean 32 classrooms
Emotional Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive Climate</li> <li>Negative Climate</li> <li>Teacher Sensitivity</li> <li>Regard for Student Perspectives</li> </ul>	6.14	6.29 (+)
Classroom Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behavior Management</li> <li>Productivity</li> <li>Instructional Learning Formats</li> </ul>	5.67	5.55 (-)
Instructional Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concept Development</li> <li>Quality of Feedback</li> <li>Language Modeling</li> </ul>	2.65	3.06 (+)

### SPP Classroom Quality - Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

- CLASS is a large part of the State's Quality Rating and Improvement System, Early Achievers
- SPP outperforms programs across the country on Emotional Support
- SPP performs adequately in Instructional Support compared to other programs

# Access

## Tuition Subsidies and Services

### Home Visiting

- Parent Child Home Program
- Nurse Family Partnership

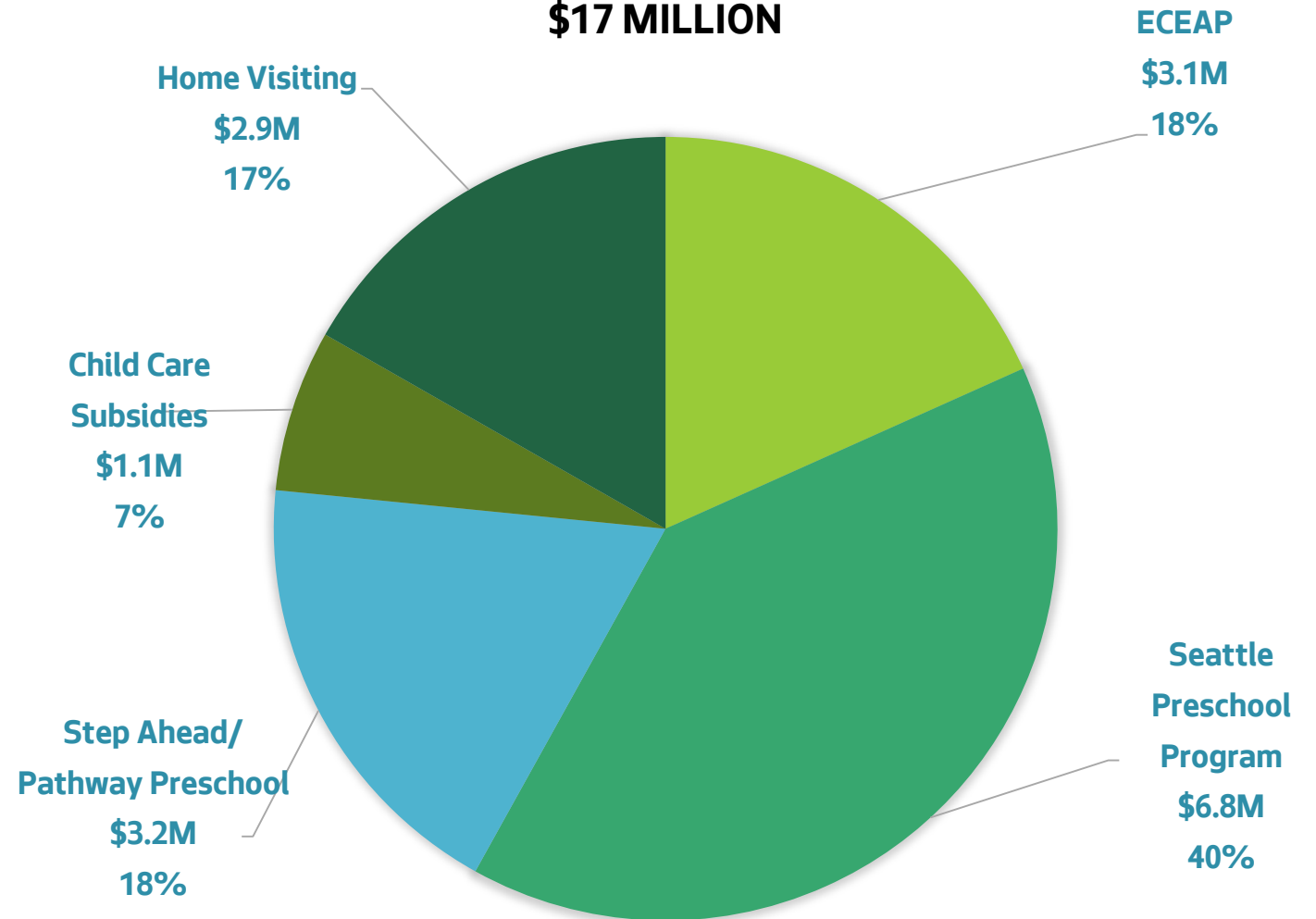
### Child Care Subsidies

- Child Care Assistance Program

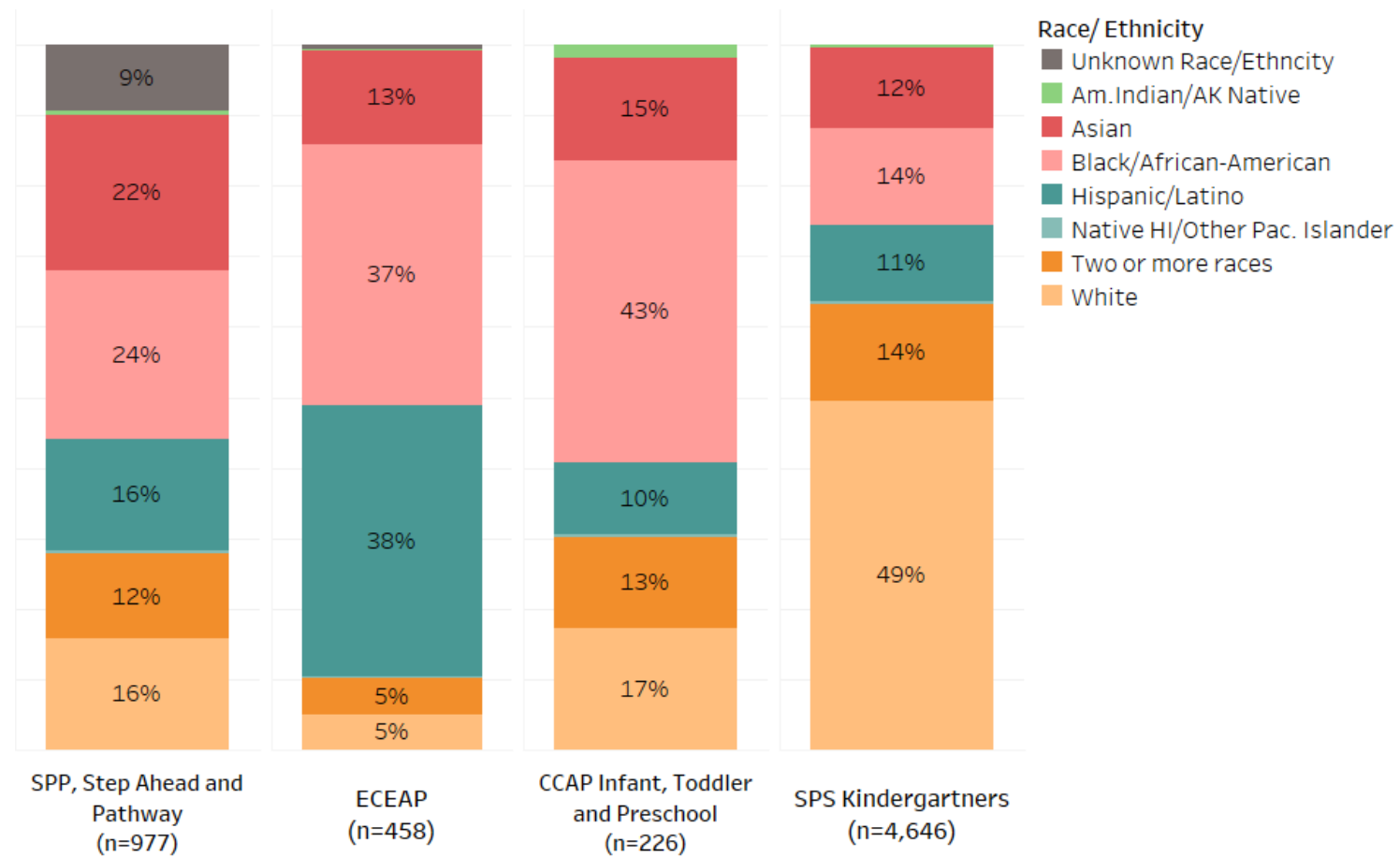
### Preschool

- ECEAP
- Step Ahead/Pathway
- Seattle Preschool Program

## DEEL EARLY LEARNING 2016-17 DIRECT SERVICES PAYMENT SUMMARY \$17 MILLION

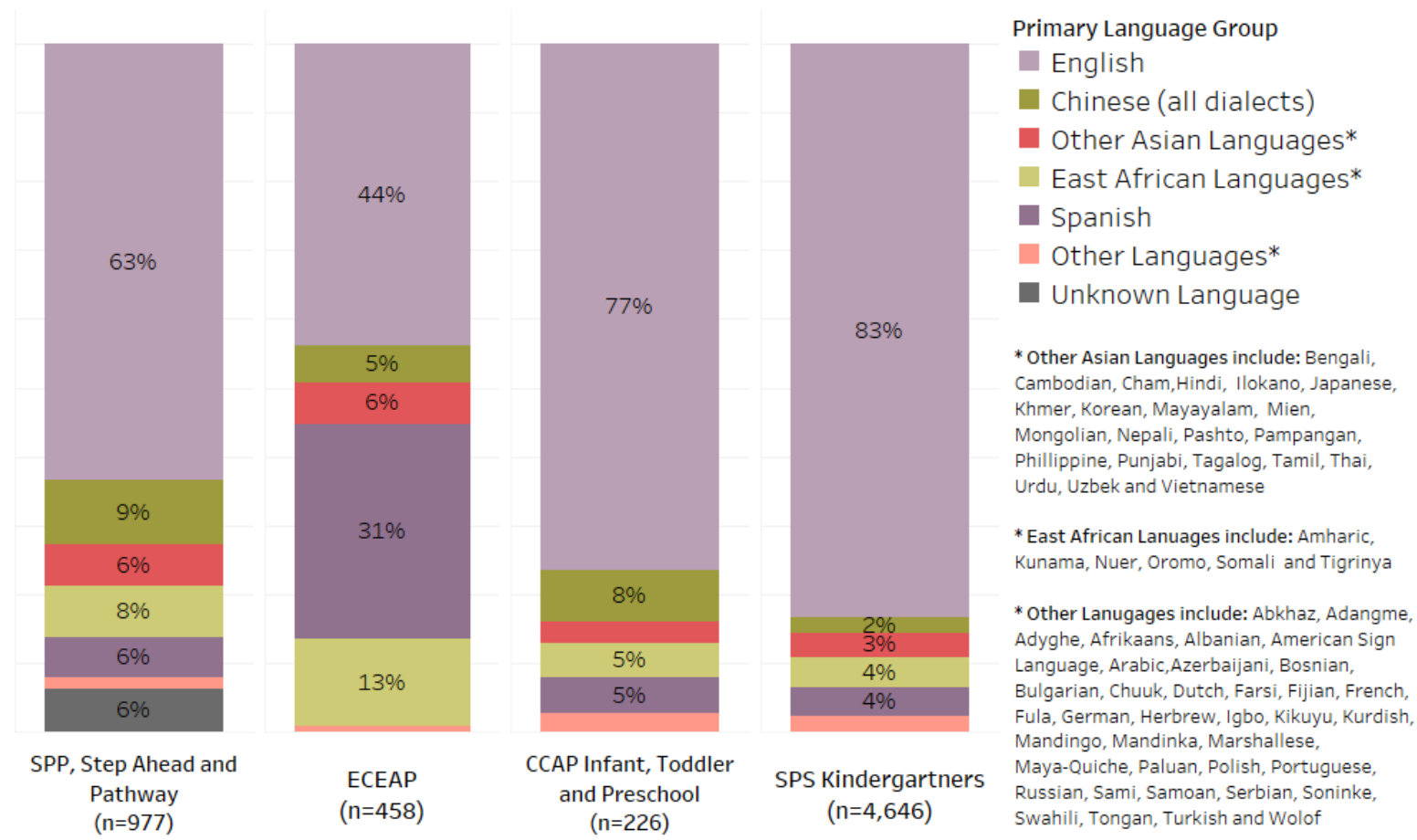


# Children Served\* by Race/Ethnicity 2016-17



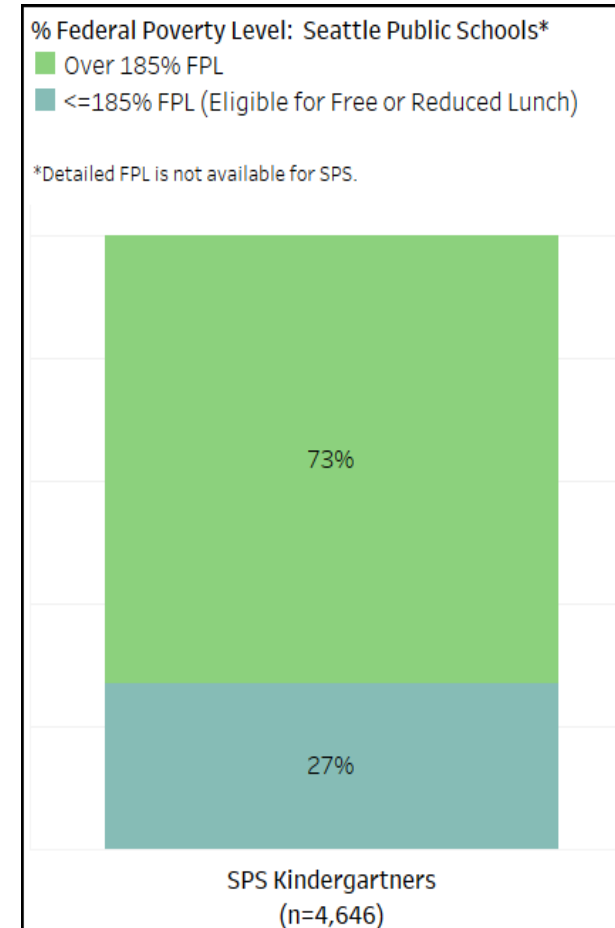
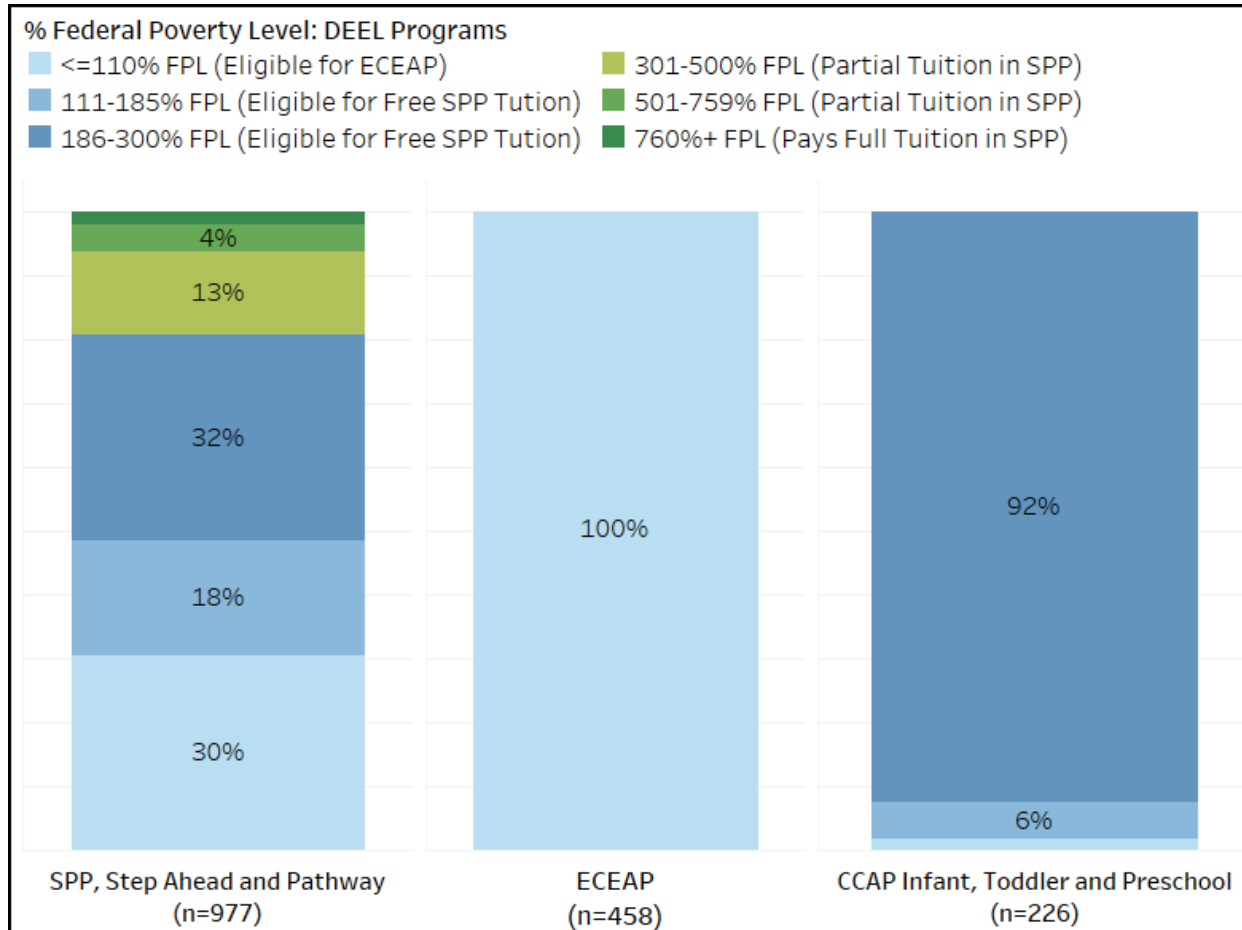
\*Does not include Home Visiting Services.

# Children Served\* by Primary Language 2016-17



\*Does not include Home Visiting Services.

# Children Served\* by Family Size/Income





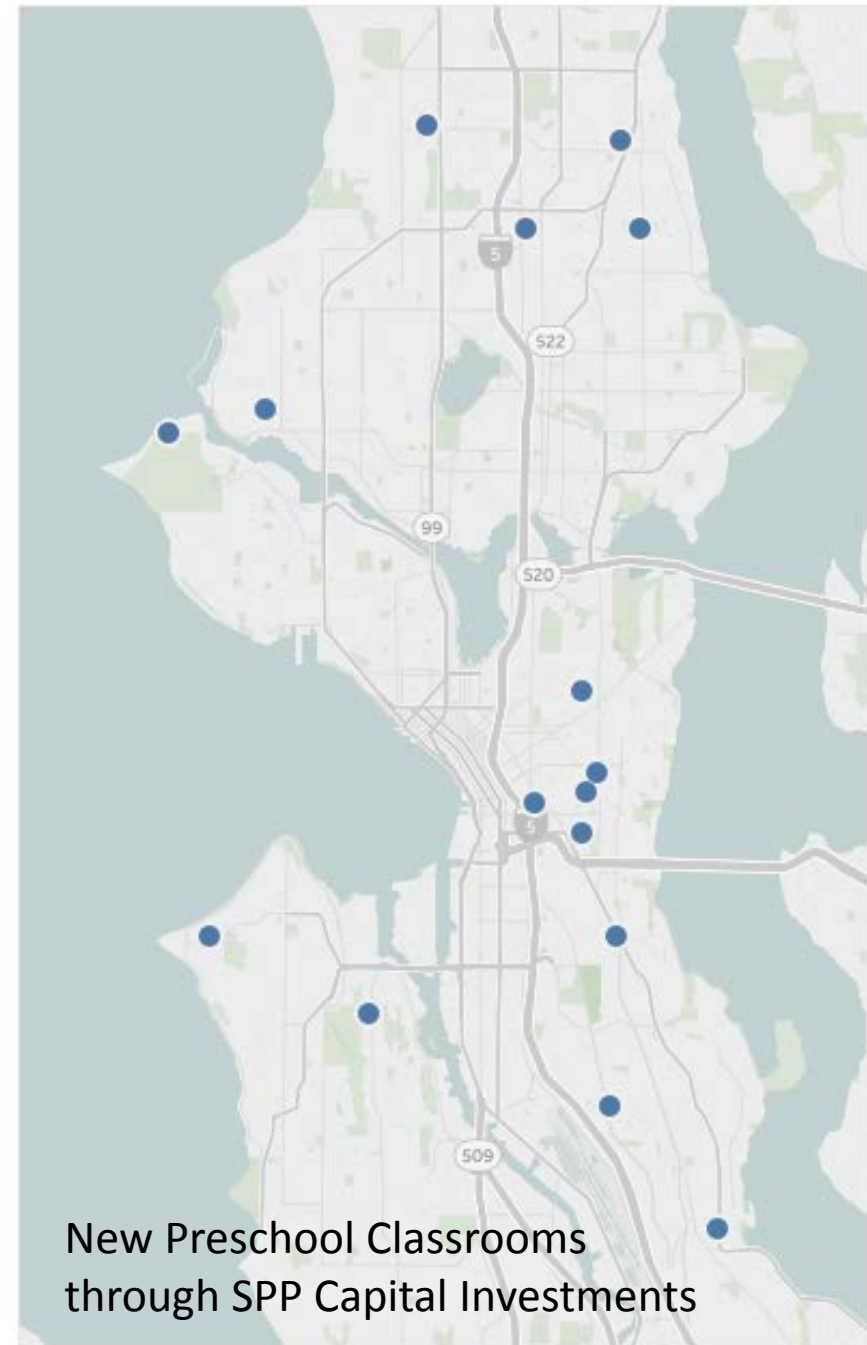
# Access

## *Infrastructure Supports*

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DEEL has been making capital investments with SPP levy funds to develop early learning facilities across the city. Investments that are complete or in the pipeline are:

- Two new preschools that will make 160 new preschool slots available (the Miller Annex and Fire Station 39).
- A partnership with Parks and Recreation that aims to open new licensed preschool classrooms in 9 community center by 2018-19, creating 150-170 new slots.
- A capital facilities program for our SPP providers to expand or improve their spaces that has resulted in 6 grants that is on track to support 100 new licensed preschool slots.



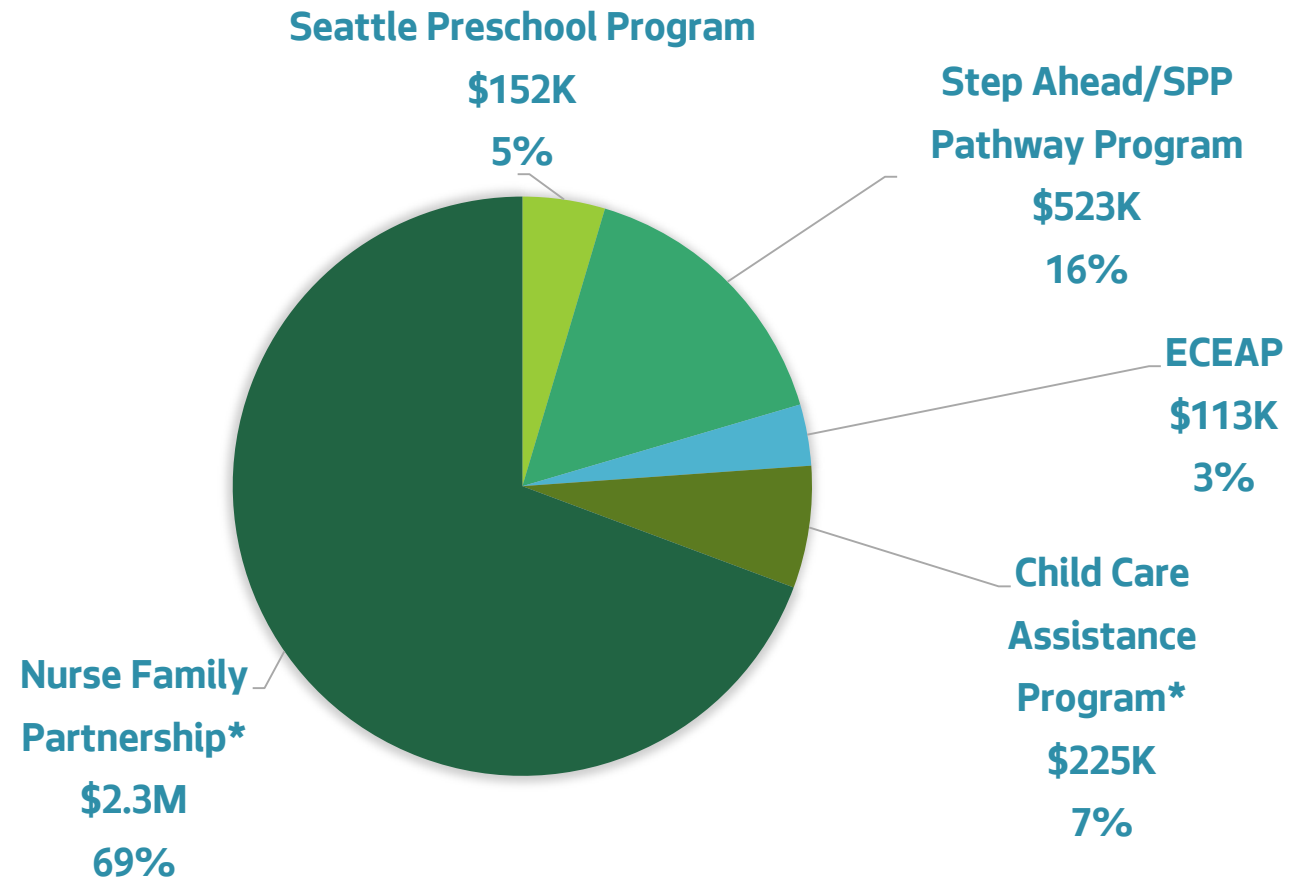
# Access

## Agency Collaboration- Health

A team from Public Health King County provides health services across our early learning programs. Services include:

- Mental health consultation
- Nutrition
- Public health nurse consultations
- Infant consultations
- Developmental assessment and health screening training
- Provider health policy support

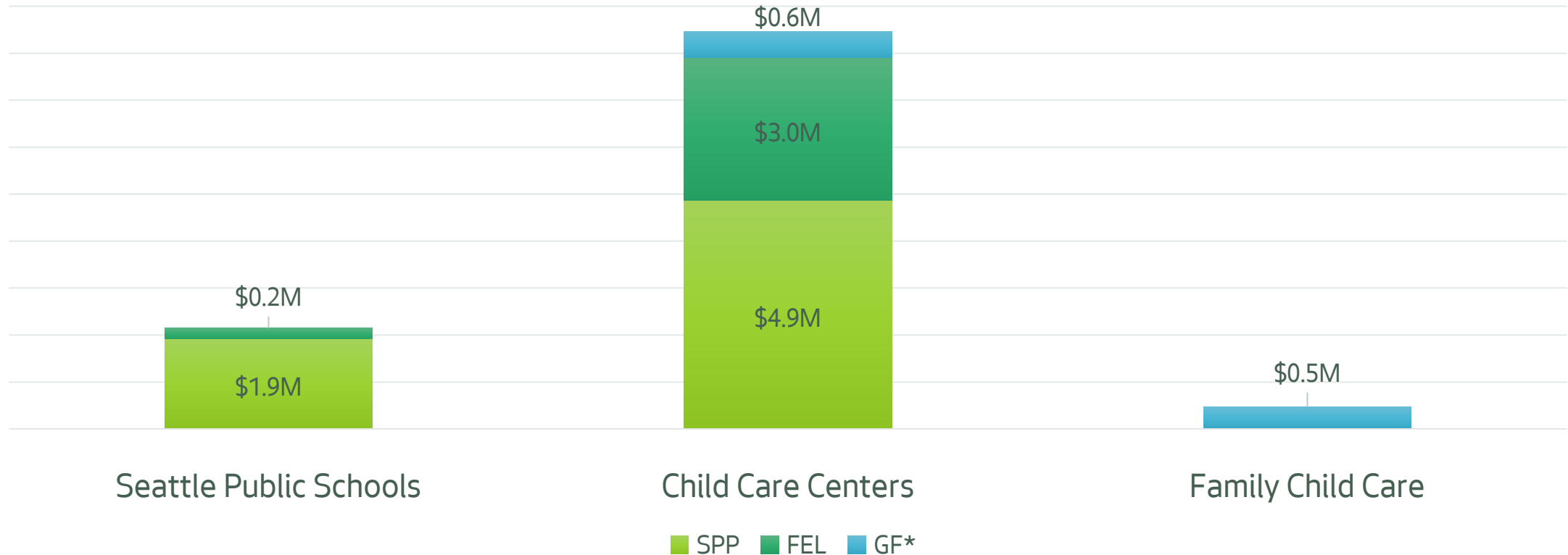
### EARLY LEARNING HEALTH 2016-17 SY BUDGET BY PROGRAM \$3.3M



\*General Fund programs are reported in calendar year (2016CY)

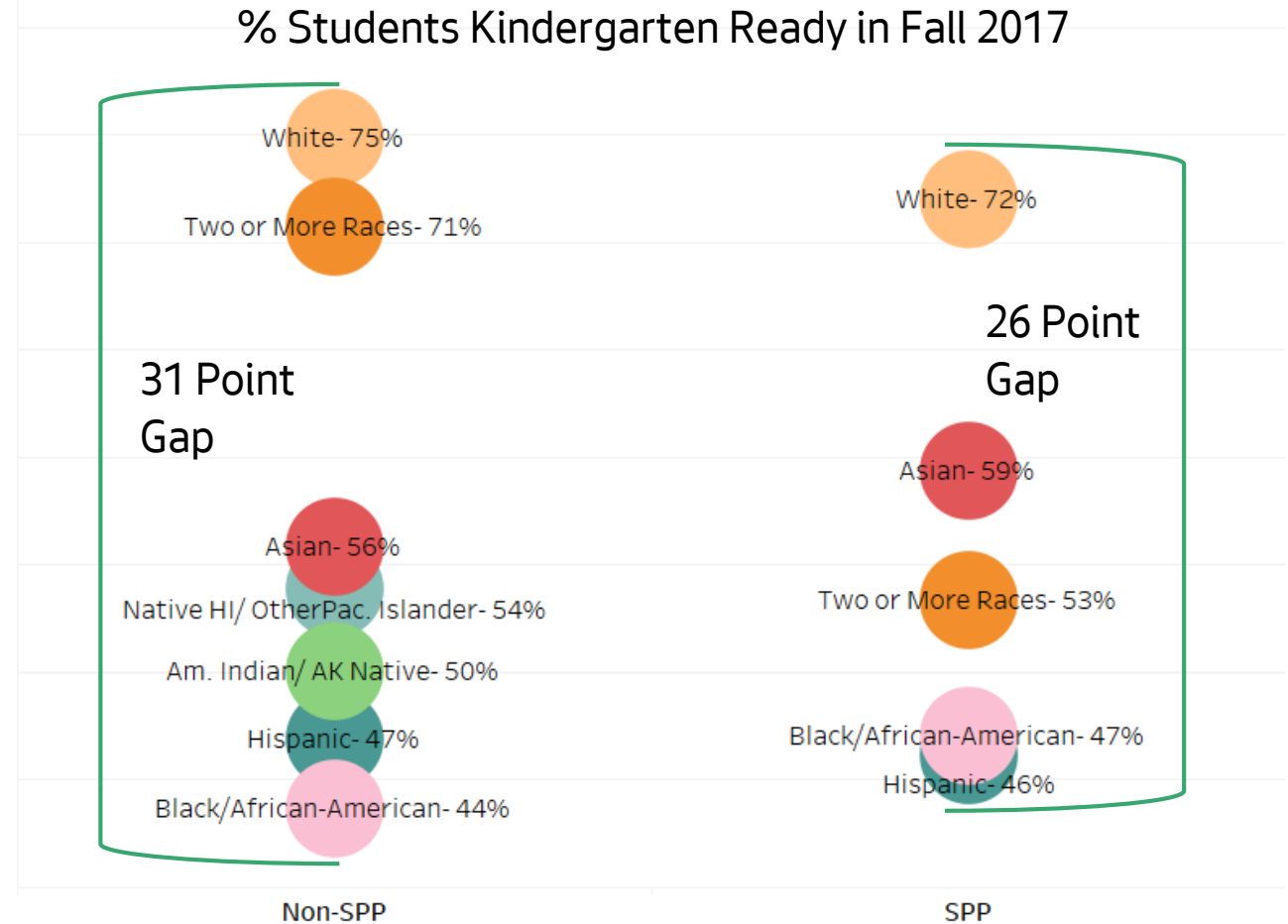
# Access Partnerships

EARLY LEARNING 2016-17 DIRECT PAYMENTS BY AGENCY TYPE (\$17 MILLION)



# Progress on Closing the Opportunity Gap

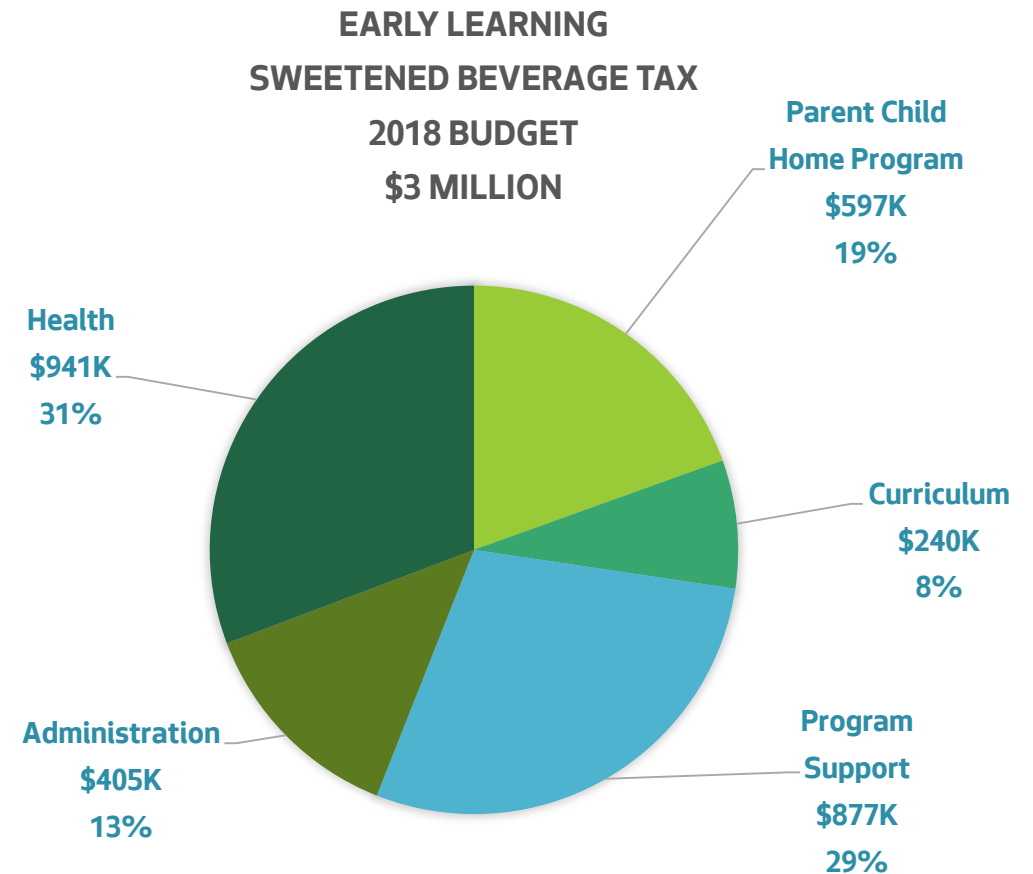
- Through a new partnership with Seattle Public Schools, starting in 2017-18 school year, DEEL can analyze how SPP participants perform on the Kindergarten Readiness assessment.
- We've begun statistical matching procedures, but the numbers are still too small for definitive results.
- The opportunity gap appears smaller among former SPP students.



# What's Next?

## 2018 Sweetened Beverage Tax - Fund Disbursement

- Enhancing quality and health supports for Birth-to-Three caregivers (Centers and Family Child Care)
- Supporting families of children with developmental delays
- Strengthening collaborations with our County partners



# What's Next?

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## 2018 Families and Education Levy & Seattle Preschool Program Levy

- Mayor's proposal will be transmitted by Q2
- Anticipated for the November 2018 ballot
- Considerations for next iteration of SPP
  - Simplify process for providers and families
  - Increased supports for low or middle income families
  - Adjust model for different types of partners: School district, community-based organizations, family child care

# Questions & Discussion

