

Presentation to Interim Education Committee



Purpose: Increasing access to high quality
preschool for 4 and 5 year old children in
Montana

September 12, 2019

Jamie Palagi

Administrator, Human and Community Services Division, DPHHS

High level overview HB 639

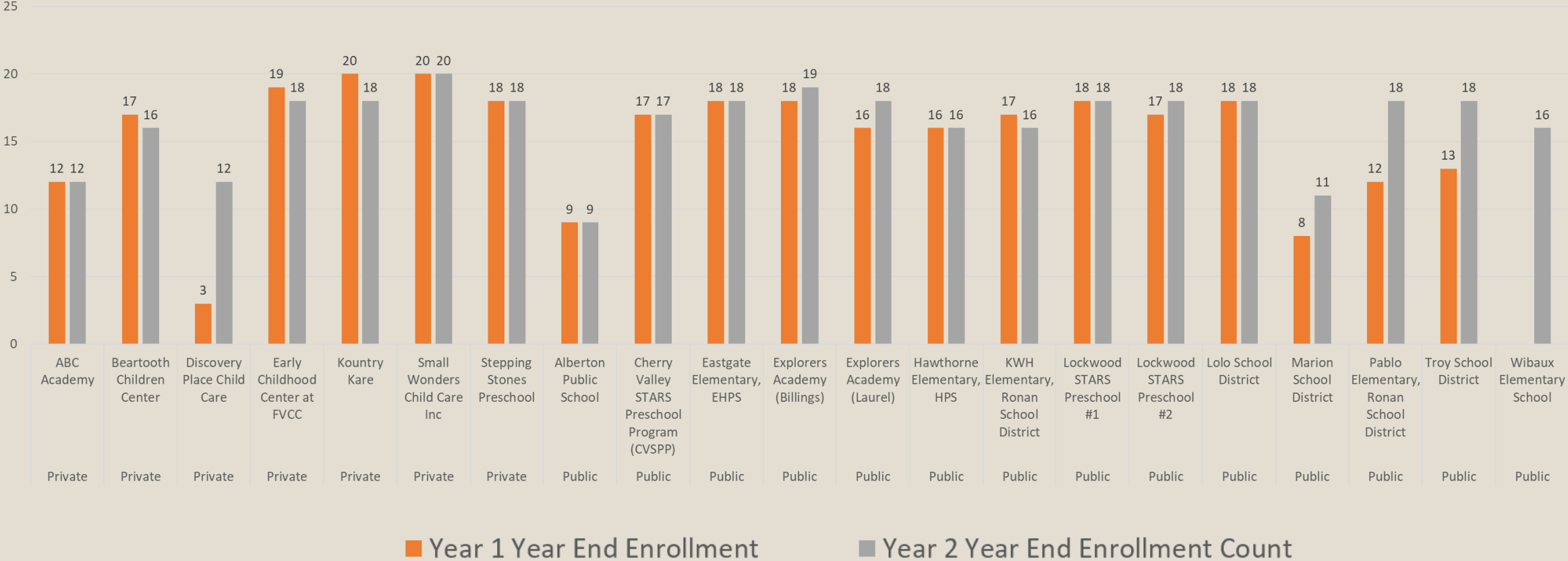
- Section 11 and 12 of HB 639
 - \$6 Million over the biennium one time only funding
 - To increase access to preschool for 4 and 5 year olds
 - To test multiple delivery models
- Program Criteria
 - Minimum 5.5 hours/day or 28 hours/week
 - Teaching credentials (licensed in public school, BA with 20 ECE credits in non public school settings)
 - Research based curriculum, aligned with Montana Early Learning Standards
 - Prioritization of enrollment to high needs children (25%)
 - 1:10 staff to child ratios; class sizes no more than 18 students



Eastgate Elementary



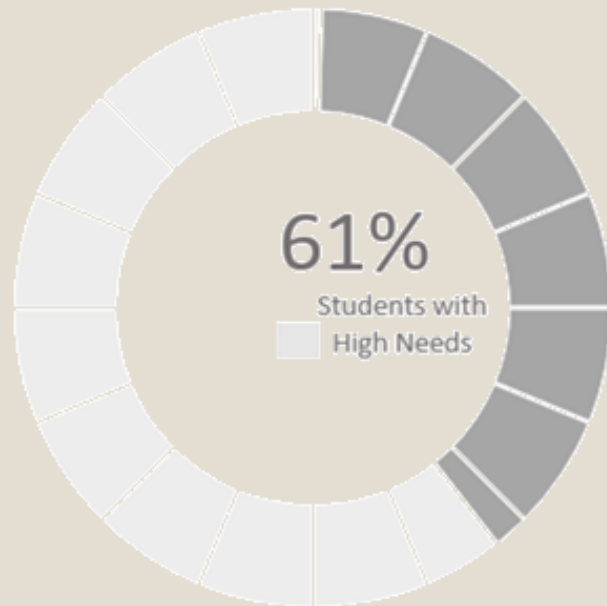
Year one vs. Year Two Enrollment Comparison



Student Enrollment

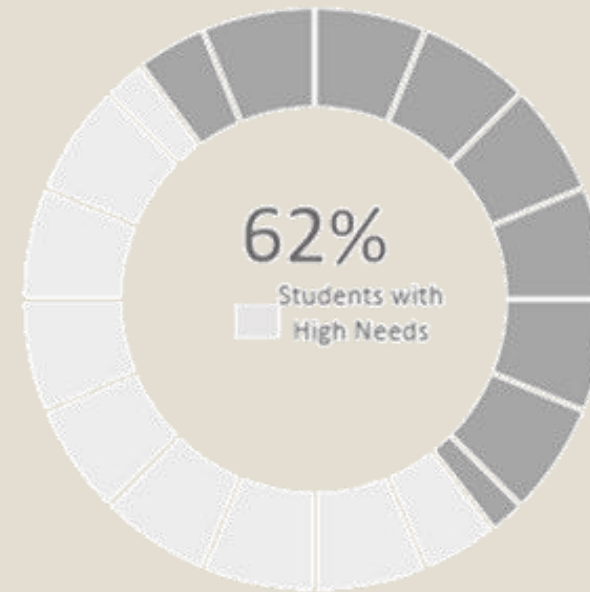
Percent of Students Identified With High Needs

Year One



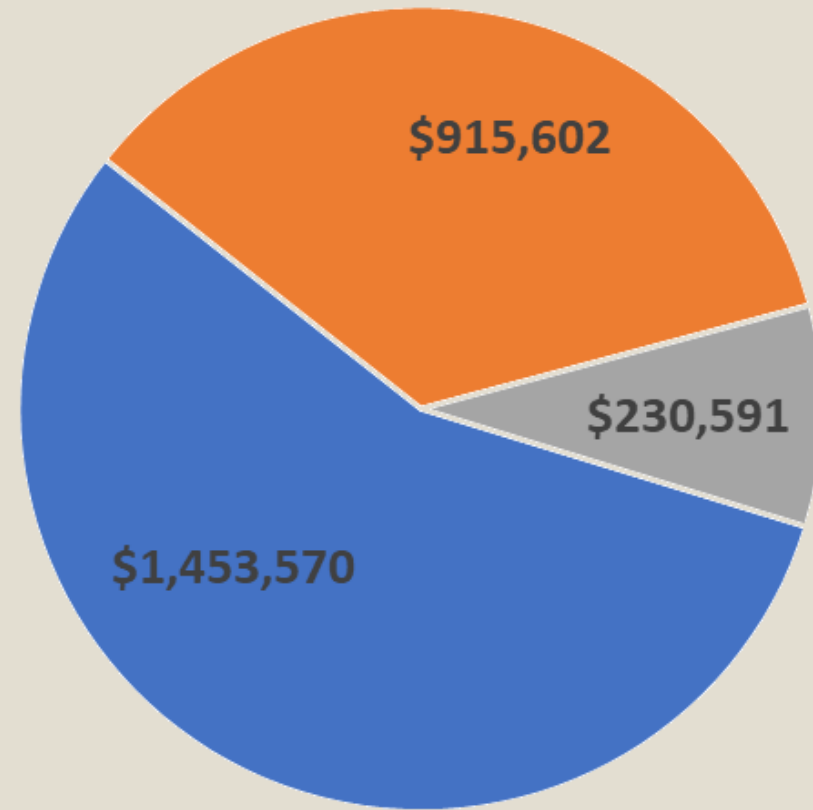
Program
306 Total
Student Count

Year Two



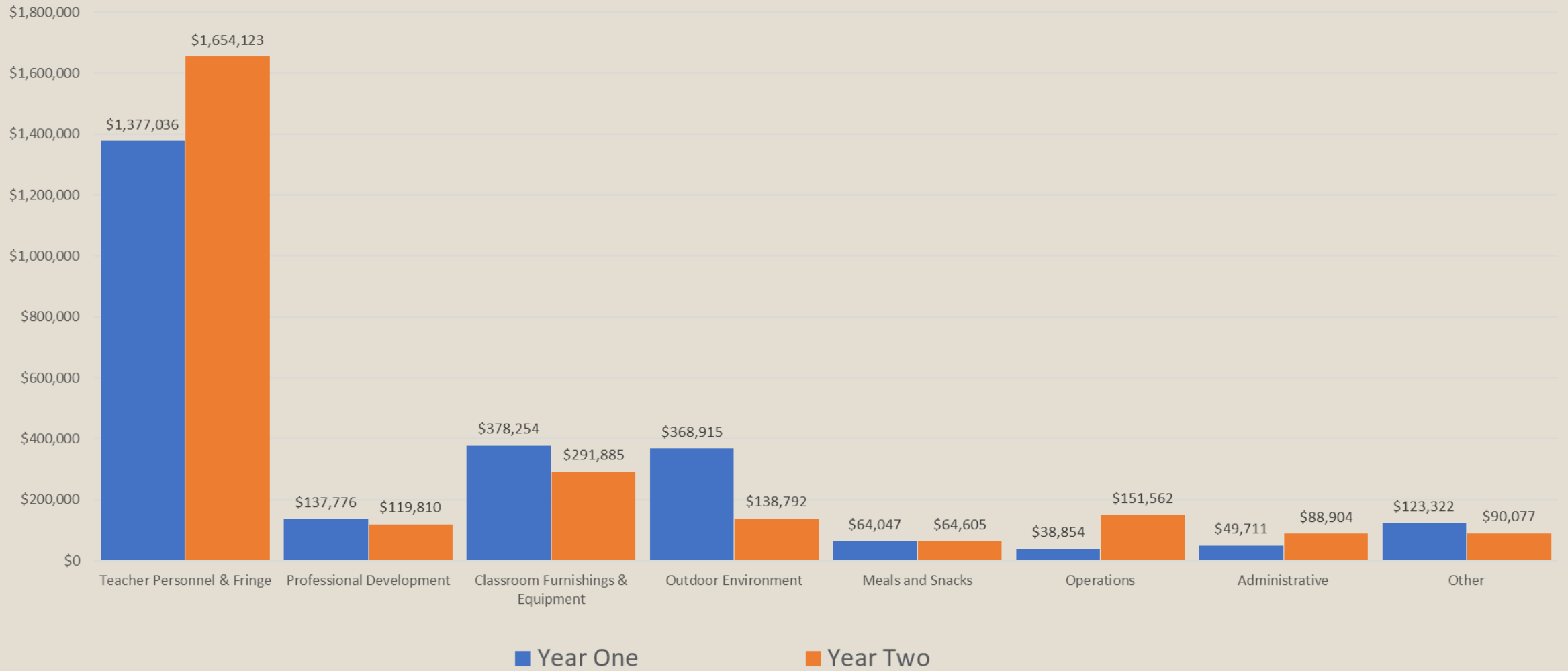
Program
344 Total
Student Count

Year Two Expenditures by Program Type



■ Public School ■ Private ■ Head Start

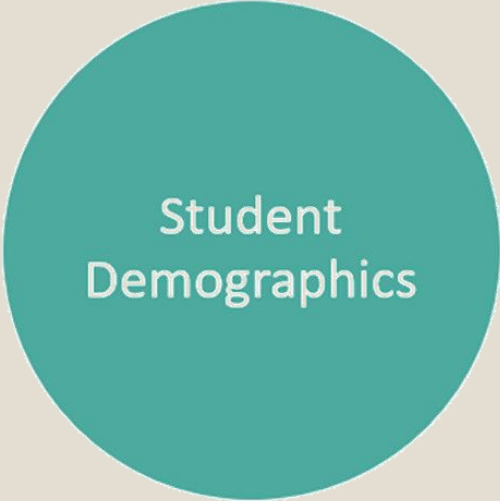
Year One vs. Year Two Actual Expenditures



Year Two Cost Per Child

Program Type	Total Expenditures	Cost per child
Head Start	\$230,591.00	\$6,232.19
Private	\$913,742.00	\$8,015.28
Public School	\$1,665,652.00	\$8,630.32
Grand Total	\$2,537,913.68	\$7,377.66

STARS Preschool Demographics



Household Size

3 or Less Household Members	20%
4 – 6 Household Members	73%
7 or More Household Members	7%



Ethnicity

	STARS Preschool	2018 Montana Population Estimates – US Census
White	80%	89%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	10%	7%
Two or More Races	3%	3%
Hispanic/Latino	3%	4%
Asian	3%	< 1%
Black	1%	<1%



Family Income

Less than \$10,000	5%
\$11,000 - \$30,000	20%
\$31,000 - \$50,000	18%
\$51,000 - \$70,000	20%
Over \$70,000	37%

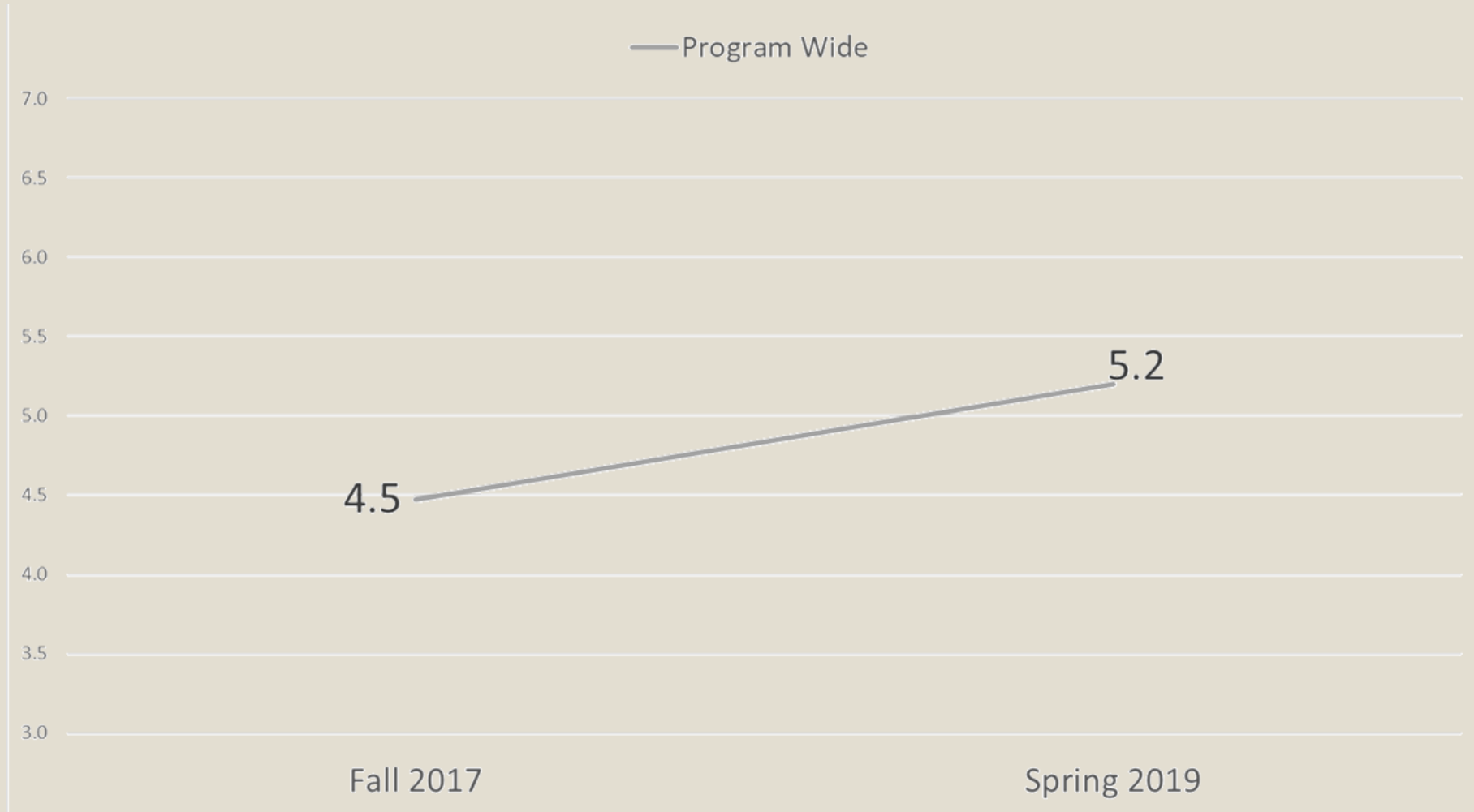


Parent Education

Completion of 2 Year Degree or Higher

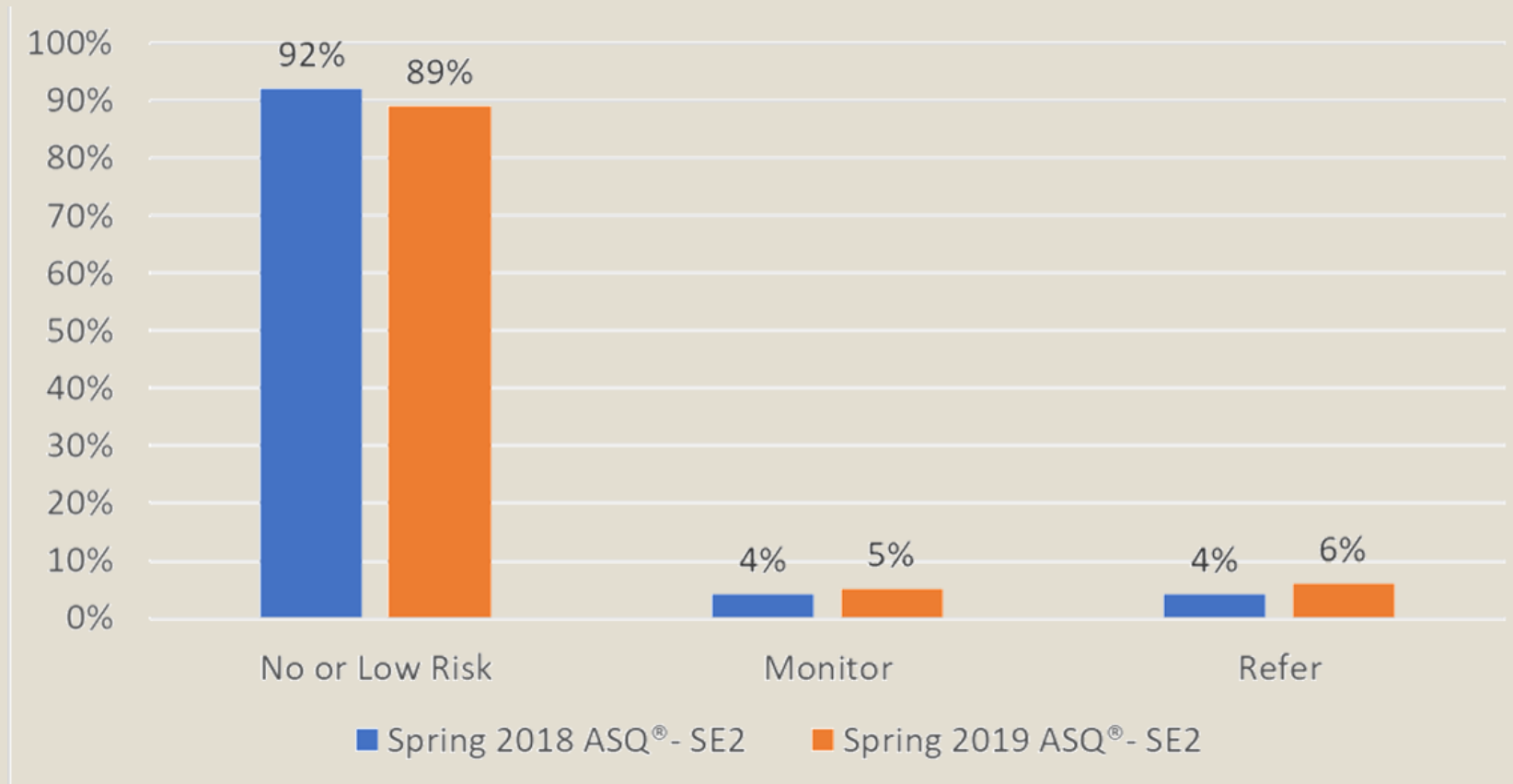
Neither Parent	46%
One Parent	26%
Both Parents	29%

ECERS-R™ Observation Score



ASQ®:SE-2

Spring Year One vs Spring Year Two (Spring Assessments)





Kindergarten Readiness

13% Increase from Fall Assessment

Fall Dial-4™ Assessment

79% School Ready

6% receiving special education services

53% identified with high needs

21% Potential delay

18% receiving special education services

69% identified with high needs

Spring Dial-4™ Assessment

89% School Ready

5% receiving special education services

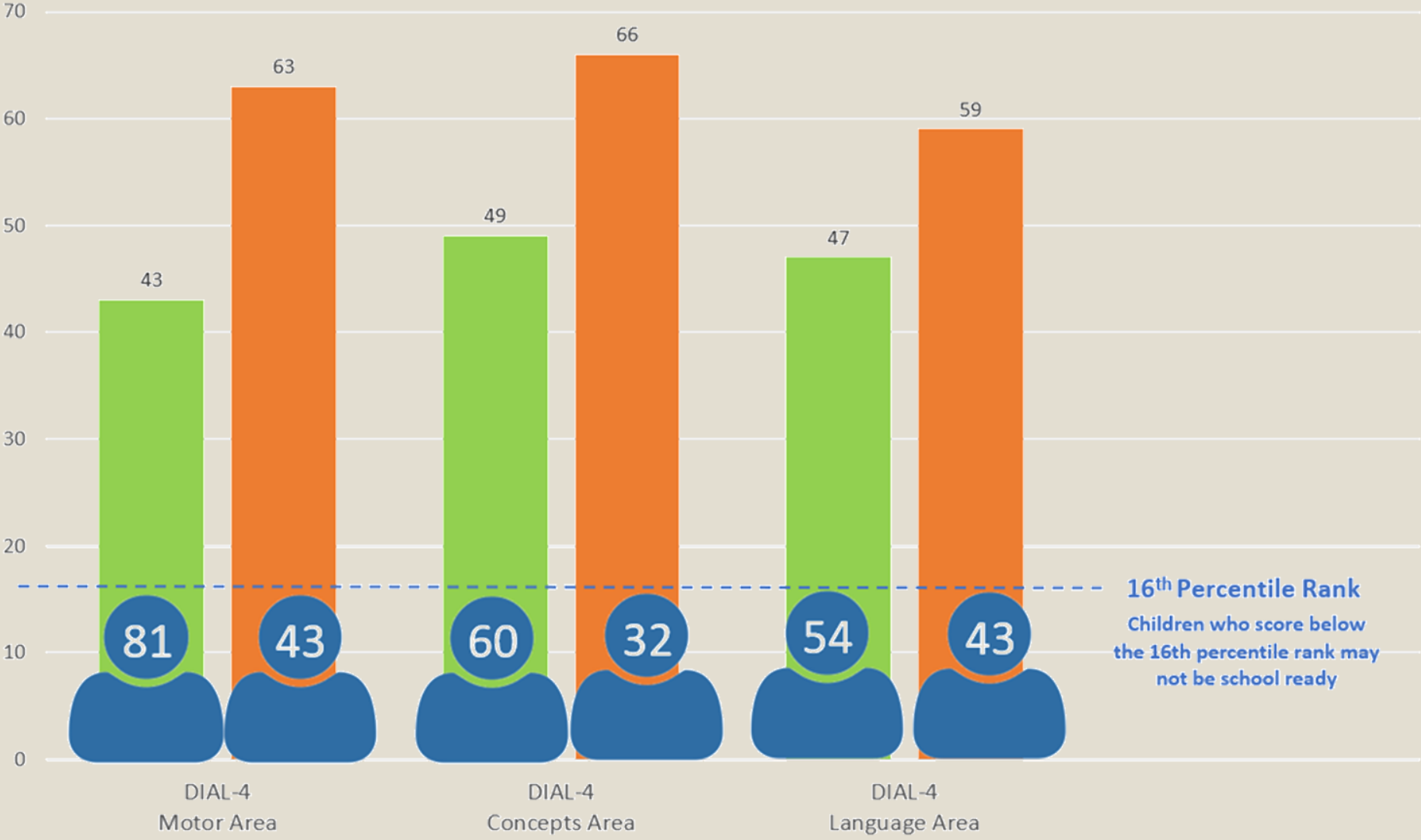
54% identified with high needs

11% Potential delay

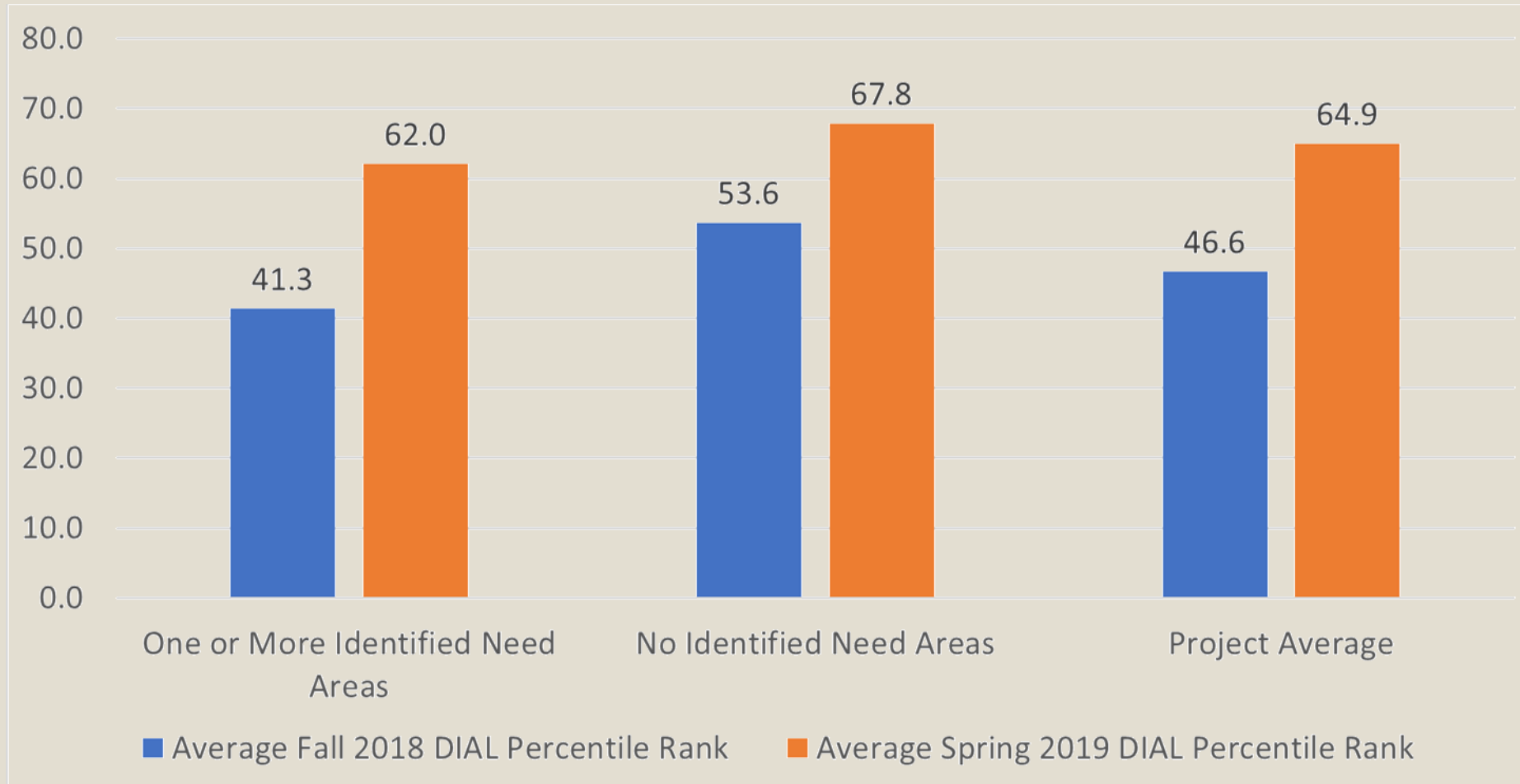
28% receiving special education services

81% identified with high needs

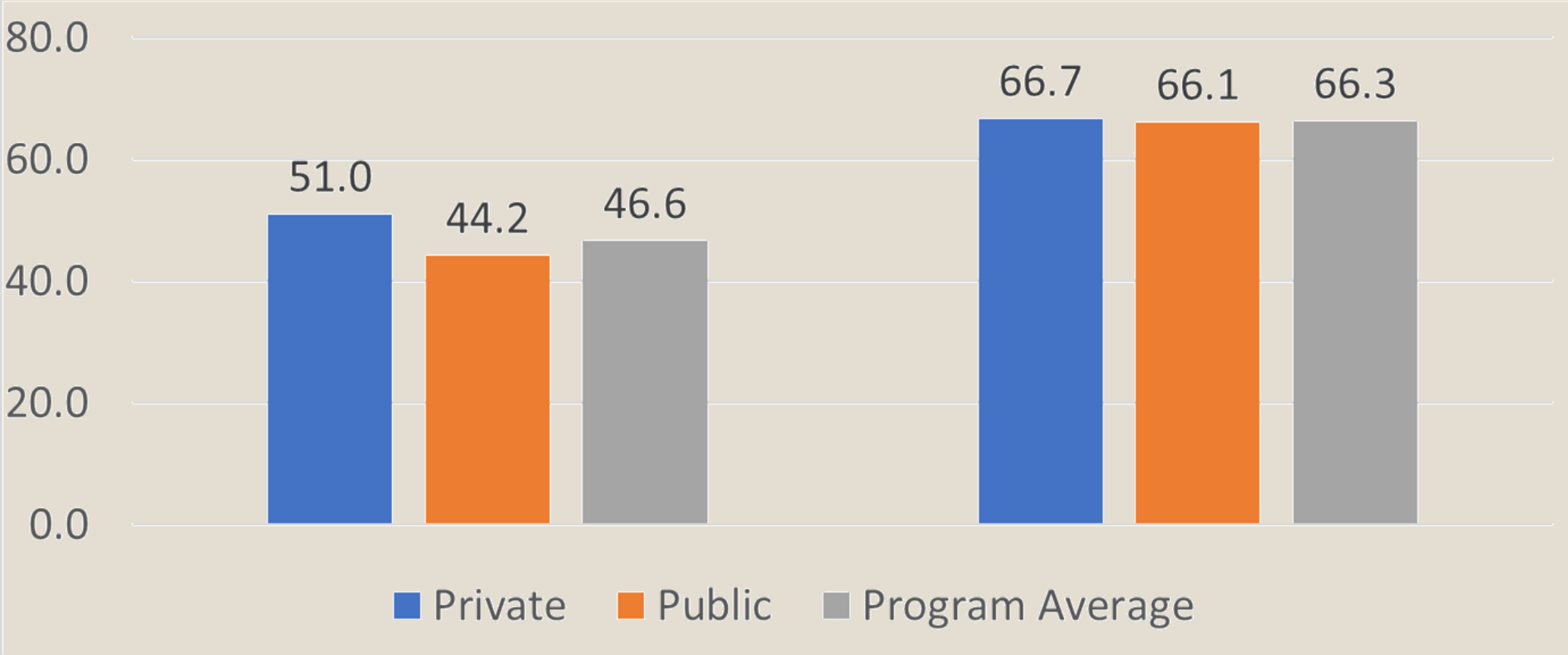
School Readiness



DIAL™ Gains – High Needs Identified



DIAL™ Gains - Program Type



More information:

- To review the entire Year one evaluation report, please visit:

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/hcsd/documents/ChildCare/STARSPreschool/STARSPreEvalFinal.pdf>

- For more information, please contact:

Jamie Palagi, DPHHS

jpalagi@mt.gov

406-444-6676