

CME Group Foundation's 2019–2020 Early Math Initiative

Why we continue to invest in early math

Though math performance has improved over time, 4 in 10 of Chicago's third graders still score below the national average.



Our commitment over the years

\$11.3MM invested since 2007

Our investment this school year



Our grantees trained **440** early learning educators



96% reported **improved confidence** in teaching early math

95% reported **refined pedagogical knowledge**

93% reported **changes to instructional practice**

92% reported **increased awareness of how to incorporate math activities into practice**

Grantees offered various types of early math professional development to educators, including:



The **Chicago Children's Museum's** Playing with Numbers program provided professional development to kindergarten and first grade teachers, who reported **significant improvement in 86% (or 850 of 985) of their students' early math skills.**

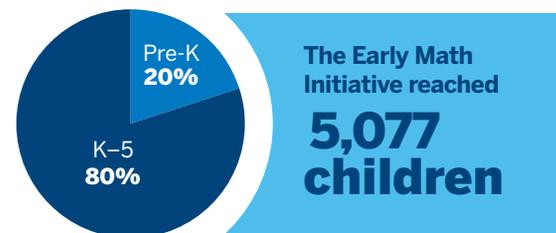
Data sources: Arabella Advisors compiled this dashboard using data provided by the CME Group Foundation's 17 early math grantees in August 2020. Figures on Chicago vs. national performance are from the Northwest Evaluation Association's Measure of Academic Progress. For questions, contact alexandra.bass@arabellaadvisors.com.

With Foundation support, Early Math Counts rebranded its website, which provides free, online professional development for teachers and caregivers of children aged zero to five.



Over **13,000** childcare providers completed **73,825** courses through the website

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, the site's free online resources, which provide an alternative to traditional face-to-face professional development, have drawn an uptick in users from around the globe (with visitors from Australia, Canada, India, the Philippines, and more).



The University of Chicago conducted a study of elementary math specialist credentials in Illinois. **School districts overwhelmingly indicated that Illinois should offer elementary math specialist endorsements:** over 95% of those responsible for curriculum and instruction said Illinois should offer elementary math specialist and elementary math teacher endorsements. The research also showed that elementary school educators who participated in a two-year course to strengthen their mathematics, pedagogical content knowledge, and leadership skills **became more confident in their knowledge and ability to effectively teach math.**