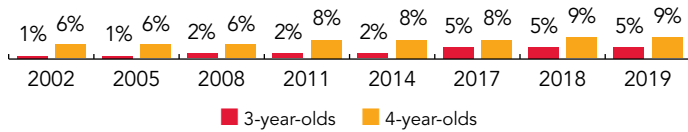
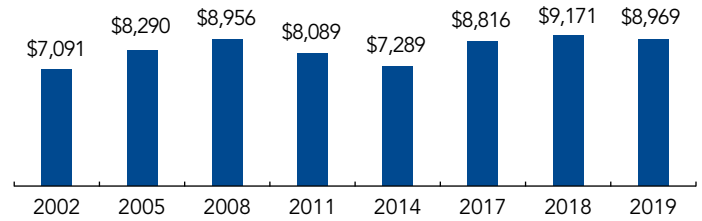


Washington

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2019 DOLLARS)



OVERVIEW

Washington preschool enrolled 13,491 children in 2018-2019, an increase of 1,000 children from the prior year. State funding totaled \$121,004,051, up \$6,454,018 (6%), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled \$8,969 in 2018-2019, down \$201 from 2017-2018, adjusted for inflation. Washington met 8 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

WHAT'S NEW

The Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) was awarded a federal Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five renewal award in 2019 for \$11.18 million annually through 2022 to strengthen and build integrated services across early learning including the development of a coordination and referral system for families; improved kindergarten transitions for children furthest from opportunity; development of a shared services model; increasing and sustaining inclusive classroom environments; and expansion of high quality experiences for infants and toddlers. The renewal grant provides DCYF the opportunity to implement Early ECEAP for 144 infants and toddlers and their families in 10 Washington communities.

In 2018, the Washington Department of Early Learning merged into the new Department of Children, Youth and Families which oversees early learning programs along with child protective services and foster care. On July 1, 2019, juvenile rehabilitation services also joined the department. Washington continues to expand access to preschool toward the state's goal of enrolling all eligible children by 2022-2023, while also increasing the funded rate per slot. New aligned performance standards were released in 2018 and additional releases aligned with child care licensing requirements were released in 2019. In July of 2020, updated quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) standards will be released.

Statewide implementation of EMPATH's Mobility Mentoring® as a family engagement approach occurred in 2018-2019 after three years of piloting. This approach uses coaching methods rooted in brain science to improve focus, planning, and decision-making. Participants set and achieve future-oriented goals and increase family well-being and economic mobility despite the immediate challenges of poverty. Pilot data demonstrates statistically significant growth for families.

BACKGROUND

The Washington Department of Children, Youth, and Families has a goal to ensure 90% of children in the state are ready for kindergarten by 2020 with race and income eliminated as predictors of their readiness. The state Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP), created in 1985 to prepare 3- and 4-year-olds from low-income families for success in school and in life, is a big part of the state's strategy to accomplish this goal. In recent years, both funding and enrollment for ECEAP have been growing. ECEAP funding comes from the state general fund, the Education Legacy Trust Account funded by estate taxes, and the "opportunity pathways account" financed by lottery proceeds. In 2010, the state Legislature established the ECEAP as a statutory entitlement for all eligible children, not funded by Head Start, by the 2018-2019 school year—a deadline recently extended to 2022- 2023.

ECEAP focuses on the whole child and provides comprehensive nutrition, health, education and family support services to Washington's most at-risk young children. To be eligible for ECEAP, children must be 3- or 4-years-old and live in households with an income at or below 110% of FPL, or have an IEP (regardless of income). Up to 10% of ECEAP enrollment may include children whose families do not meet the poverty requirement but experience other risk factors that could jeopardize learning, development, or school success.

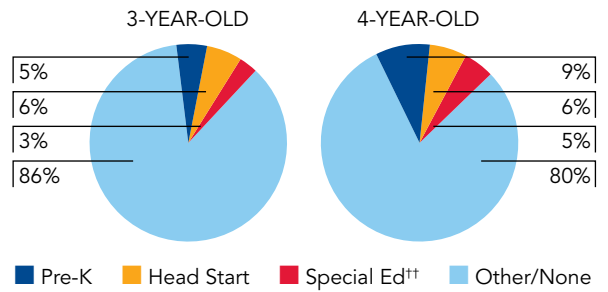
ACCESS RANKINGS		RESOURCE RANKINGS		TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS	STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING	
38	16	4	11	8

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ECEAP)

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment	13,491
School districts that offer state program	95% (counties)
Income requirement	110% FPL
Minimum hours of operation	2.5 hours/day
Operating schedule.....	School year (part- & school day)
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	9,915
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	10,857
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4.....	0

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



** Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	WA PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	Approval process & supports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	AA	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE, CD, ECE SpEd	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	CDA, 12 ECE credits, WA State ECE Certificate	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	20 hours/year (teachers); 15 hours/year (assistants); PD plans (some teachers & assistants); Coaching	For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 (3- & 4-year-olds)	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds)	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more	Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement	Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$121,004,051
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$0
State spending per child enrolled	\$8,969
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$8,969

* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

** Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

