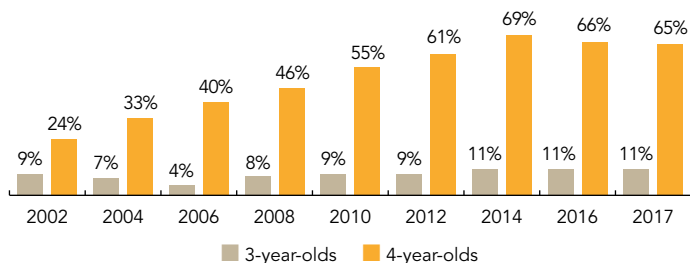
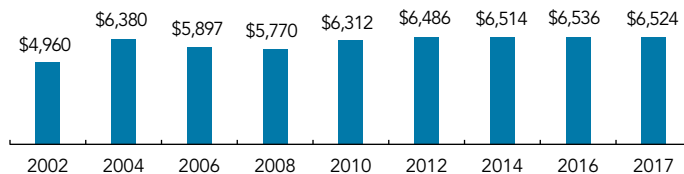


West Virginia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2017 DOLLARS)



West Virginia began offering preschool programs to 3- and 4-year-olds through the Public School Early Childhood Education program in 1983, when the state changed school policies to allow local school boards to serve children before kindergarten. Legislation passed in 2002 required pre-K to be available to all of the state's 4-year-olds by 2012. In 2016-2017, approximately 65% of the state's 4-year-olds were enrolled in West Virginia's Universal Pre-K program. In addition to 4-year-olds, some kindergarten age-eligible children with documented needs, and 3-year-olds with special needs, attended the program. During the 2016-2017 school year, approximately 11% of 3-year-olds in the state were enrolled.

The West Virginia Universal Pre-K System provides prekindergarten programs in all 55 counties in the state. Public schools receive West Virginia Universal Pre-K funding directly, but half of all programs are required to partner with child care centers, private prekindergarten, or Head Start agencies in order to meet demand. Programs are permitted to use additional funding from IDEA and federal Head Start.

The state has implemented many changes in recent years to improve program quality. Beginning July 1, 2013, all new lead teachers in nonpublic settings were required to have at least a BA degree in Early Childhood or a related field. Beginning July 1, 2014, all assistant teachers were required to apply for the Early Childhood Classroom Assistant Teacher Authorization, which requires a CDA or equivalent, as determined by the West Virginia Board of Education. West Virginia has also increased the duration of its preschool program, increasing instructional days per year and hours per week since 2012. Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, each pre-K classroom must provide at least 1,500 minutes of instruction per week and 48,000 minutes of instruction annually, and programs must operate no fewer than four days per week to meet annual and weekly operational requirements.

The West Virginia Universal Pre-K program has been assessed for both program impact/child outcomes in 2005 and process quality in 2009 and 2012. The program is also currently conducting a multiyear study to assess the effects of program participation. Programs develop monitoring systems to offer ongoing continuous quality improvement, using monitoring tools recognized by a local collaborative team. Children are assessed three times per year using the Early Learning Scale, and this information is applied to track child and program outcomes over time, guide teacher professional development and coaching, make adjustments to curricula, and measure kindergarten readiness.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
6	7

RESOURCE RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
10	6

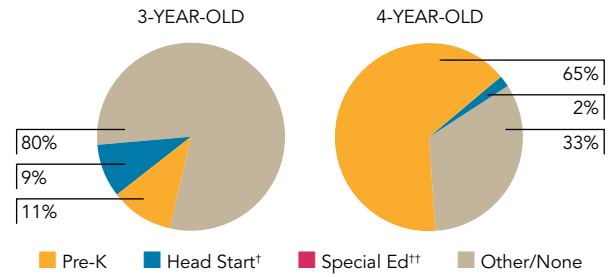
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET	
CURRENT STANDARDS	NEW STANDARDS
10	9

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSAL PRE-K

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment 16,300
 School districts that offer state program 100% (counties/parishes)
 Income requirement No income requirement
 Minimum hours of operation 25 hours/week; 4 or 5 days/week
 Operating schedule School or academic year
 Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4 2,823
 Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 6,887
 State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4 0

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION



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

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	WV PRE-K REQUIREMENT	CURRENT BENCHMARK	MEETS CURRENT BENCHMARK?	NEW BENCHMARK	MEETS NEW BENCHMARK?
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	New in 2015-2016	—	Approval process & supports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE, CD, ECE SpEd	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	CDA	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	15 hours/year; PD plans	For teachers: At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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"/>	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:10 (3- & 4-year-olds)	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more; Support services	Vision, hearing, health & at least one support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	At least one meal/day	At least one meal/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discontinued	—
Monitoring/Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Structured classroom observation; program improvement plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			10		
				9	

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending \$98,007,376
 Local match required? No
 State Head Start spending \$0
 State spending per child enrolled \$6,524
 All reported spending per child enrolled* \$9,501

* 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

