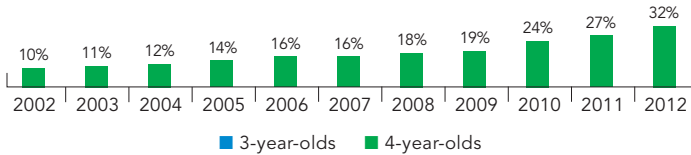
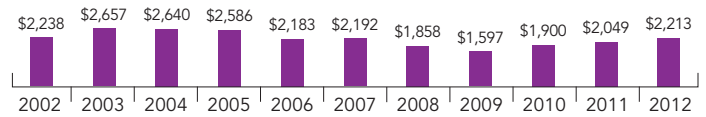


Maine

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2012 DOLLARS)



Maine established its Two-Year Kindergarten initiative in 1983 to support public preschool education by allocating resources to local districts through the school funding formula. Since 2007, state-funded programs for 4-year-olds have been separately defined as the Public Preschool Program (PPP) and remain funded through Maine’s school funding formula, with allocations going directly to school districts.

While participation is optional, school districts choosing to offer a public preschool program must receive prior approval from the state Department of Education, which includes a collaborative planning process that incorporates local providers. To receive a full per-pupil subsidy, districts must provide a minimum of 10 hours per week of programming. Maine also provides an additional “weighted” subsidy to supplement the regular per-pupil allocation for pre-K through second grade.

Forty-seven percent of Maine’s schools that enrolled children in the early primary grades during the 2011-2012 school year also chose to provide public preschool education programs, an increase from the previous year. The majority of public preschool programs are housed in public schools, though many districts have chosen to partner with Head Start agencies or community-based child care programs to provide services. Many programs that were originally provided in community settings have moved into public school settings as space has become available to minimize transitions experienced by children and families. Regardless of setting, all lead teachers are required to possess a BA degree and hold a teacher certificate from the Department of Education with an Early Childhood endorsement.

During the 2011-2012 school year, the PPP continued to expand pre-K access as additional state, Title I and local funds were blended by districts. State-wide enrollment increased by 18 percent with 10 elementary schools initiating new programs building on a 12 percent enrollment increase in 2010-2011. The program continues to use the Public Pre-K Collaboration Coach model to facilitate partnerships between public schools, Head Start agencies, and child care programs as part of a diverse delivery system.

In addition to funding the Public Preschool Program, Maine also supplements the federal Head Start program with state funding. For the 2011-2012 school year, the state provided \$3.7 million. This funding is used to extend the federally funded day and week, enhance services provided by the federal program, and provide additional services beyond those funded by federal dollars. However, the state’s supplemental funding budget was cut by \$2 million for the fiscal year 2013, so fewer children and families will be served during the 2012-2013 school year.

| ACCESS RANKINGS | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 4-YEAR-OLDS | 3-YEAR-OLDS |
| 14 | None Served |

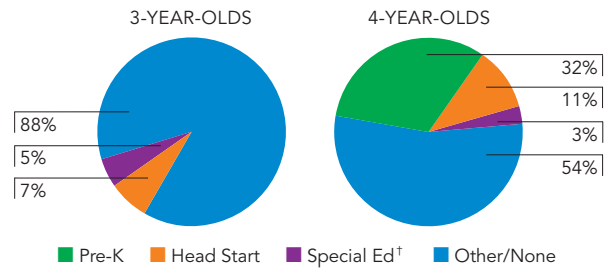
| RESOURCES RANKINGS | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| STATE SPENDING | ALL REPORTED SPENDING |
| 36 | 21 |

MAINE PUBLIC PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

ACCESS

| | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Total state program enrollment | 4,784 |
| School districts that offer state program | 47% (public elementary schools) |
| Income requirement..... | None |
| Hours of operation | Determined locally ¹ |
| Operating schedule | Academic year ¹ |
| Special education enrollment | 2,302 |
| Federal Head Start enrollment, ages 3 & 4 | 2,635 |
| State-funded Head Start enrollment..... | 0 ² |

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



[†] This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

| POLICY | STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT | BENCHMARK | DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK? |
|------------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Early learning standards | Comprehensive | Comprehensive | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher degree | BA | BA | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher specialized training | EC Birth–5 endorsement | Specializing in pre-K | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Assistant teacher degree | Ed Tech II (60 credit hours) | CDA or equivalent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Teacher in-service..... | 6 credit hours/5 years | At least 15 hours/year | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Maximum class size | | 20 or lower | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds | NA | | |
| 4-year-olds | No limit | | |
| Staff-child ratio | | 1:10 or better | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3-year-olds | NA | | |
| 4-year-olds | 1:15 | | |
| Screening/referral..... | Vision, hearing, health, developmental; and support services | Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Meals | None ⁴ | At least 1/day | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Monitoring | Other monitoring | Site visits | <input type="checkbox"/> |

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

6

RESOURCES

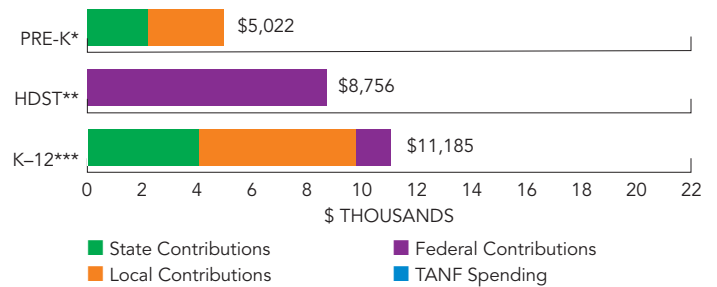
| | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Total state pre-K spending | \$10,587,015 ⁵ |
| Local match required?..... | Yes, tied to school funding formula |
| State Head Start spending | \$3,700,000 ² |
| State spending per child enrolled | \$2,213 |
| All reported spending per child enrolled* | \$5,022 |

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

** Head Start per-child spending for the 2011-2012 year includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds served. Past years' figures have unintentionally included funds for Early Head Start.

*** K-12 expenditures include capital spending as well as current operating expenditures. Data are for the '11-'12 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Programs must operate a minimum of 10 hours per week to receive a per-pupil subsidy through the school funding formula. Some districts provide a school-day program 5 day per week; some provide a part-day program and operate four half-days with the fifth day used for home visits and teacher planning.

² Funds reported by the Head Start State Collaboration Office were used to fund slots, provide additional services, and extend the program day and year. Maine was not able to report the number of slots funded for 3- and 4-year-olds.

³ A minimum of one annual parent conference or home visit is required. Programs are required to provide some comprehensive services, but specific services are determined locally.

⁴ While not required, most programs offer a snack and others offer breakfast and/or lunch. Programs that partner with Head Start must follow CACFP and Head Start requirements for meals. Schools providing meals meet USDA school meal guidelines.

⁵ In addition to Public Preschool Program funding, weighted funds are available for pre-K through grade 2. This total included a portion of funding estimated to serve 4-year-olds.