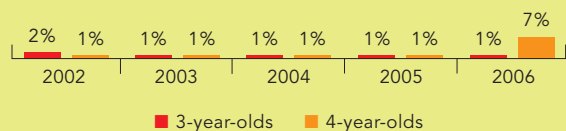
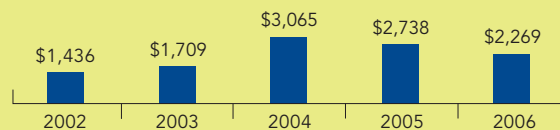


New Mexico

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2006 DOLLARS)



In 2005-2006, New Mexico launched the New Mexico Pre-K program, the first preschool education program in the state with the exclusive purpose of providing center-based early childhood services to 4-year-olds. Funds are awarded competitively, with about half of enrolled children served in public schools and others served in a range of settings including Head Start programs, community and municipal child care providers, universities, and family child care homes. Funding in the first year came exclusively from the state, with about \$3.5 million used to serve more than 1,500 children. There is no income-based eligibility requirement, but two-thirds of the children enrolled in each program must live within the attendance zone of a Title I elementary school. In addition, the state gives funding priority to programs in an area with schools failing to meet math and reading proficiency requirements.

Since 1991, the Child Development Program has been offering prekindergarten as well as a range of other services to children from birth to age 5 in New Mexico, such as home visits and family support services. The program grants prekindergarten funding to public schools and private child care programs. The Child Development Program serves at-risk children who do not qualify for other eligibility-based programs, although local programs identify specific risk factors for eligibility, such as having a teen parent or being homeless, according to needs in the community. Teachers use the Focused Portfolio System to individualize the curriculum to each child's strengths, needs, and interests.

The Child Development Program differs from many state preschool education programs, including New Mexico Pre-K, because the funding can be used for a broad range of services. Large funding cuts are partly responsible for recent reductions in the number of prekindergartners served by the Child Development Program, and in future years the program funding stream may be used primarily for serving children from birth to age 3. State administrators expect New Mexico Pre-K to be a priority for further expansion during the 2007 legislative session, in order to increase access to the program for 4-year-olds.

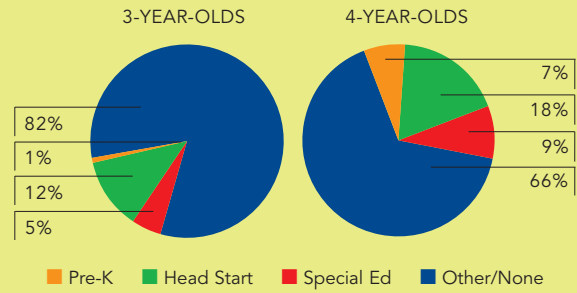
New Mexico also dedicated \$1,541,000 in state funds to enhance services in federal Head Start classrooms.

In order to document the contributions New Mexico makes to preschool education through its two separate initiatives, we first present summary information reflecting the state's overall commitment to prekindergarten. Enrollment and state spending for both the New Mexico Pre-K and Child Development Program initiatives are taken into account. Next, we present specific details about each initiative in the state. The third page of this profile focuses exclusively on the New Mexico Pre-K program, while the final page focuses exclusively on the Child Development Program.

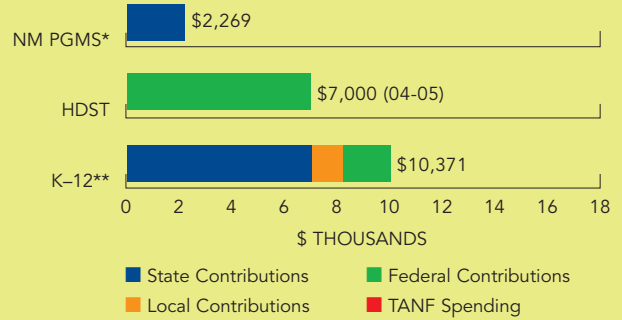
STATE OVERVIEW

Total state program enrollment	1,959
Total state spending	\$4,444,507
State spending per child enrolled	\$2,269
State Head Start spending	\$1,541,000
State spending per 3-year-old	\$13
State spending per 4-year-old	\$154

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



SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



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

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

Data are for the '05-'06 school year, unless otherwise noted.

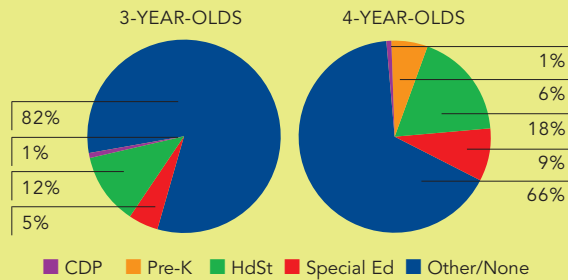
ACCESS RANKING-4s	ACCESS RANKING-3s	RESOURCES RANKING
27	24	34

NEW MEXICO PRE-K

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	1,538
School districts that offer state program	34%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	Determined locally ¹
Operating schedule	Academic year ¹
Special education enrollment	3,794
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	7,876
State-funded Head Start enrollment	298 ²

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



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	HSD ³	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	None ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	45 hour entry-level certificate ⁴	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	Amount not specified ⁵	At least 15 hours/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/ referral and support services	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and developmental; and support services ⁶	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Snack ⁷	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

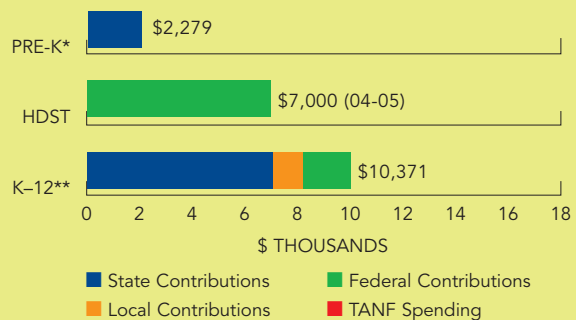
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

5

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$3,504,507 ⁸
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$1,541,000
State spending per child enrolled	\$2,279
State spending per 3-year-old	\$0
State spending per 4-year-old	\$132

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



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

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

Data are for the '05-'06 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ Schedules are determined locally but the majority of programs operate 2.5-3 hours daily for 5 days per week. Public school programs operate following the public school calendar of 9-10 months. The two family child care programs and some private providers operate year round, but New Mexico Pre-K funds support 9 months only.

² New Mexico was not able to break its state-funded Head Start enrollment down by single year of age. As a result, this figure is an estimate based on the percentage of federal Head Start enrollees in New Mexico who were 3 or 4 years old.

³ For each classroom, the lead teacher must hold a New Mexico Early Childhood Teacher License: Birth through Third Grade within 5 years. Although programs must meet this standard or show progress toward meeting it, the current minimum requirement for new hires is a high school diploma. During the 2006-2007 program year, nearly two-thirds of teachers held a BA.

⁴ Assistant teachers are expected to obtain an AA in Early Childhood Education within 5 years.

⁵ In-service requirements vary by teacher qualification levels. Teachers without an Early Childhood license are generally required to have 24 clock hours per year of in-service, while teachers with an Early Childhood license must attend the Pre-K Institute and other trainings. Teachers in the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship program are required to complete 9 credit hours per year.

⁶ Support services include two annual home visits and three parent conferences, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁷ All programs must offer a snack. If operating more than 3.5 hours per day, programs must also offer a meal. In practice, most programs provide either breakfast or lunch in addition to a snack.

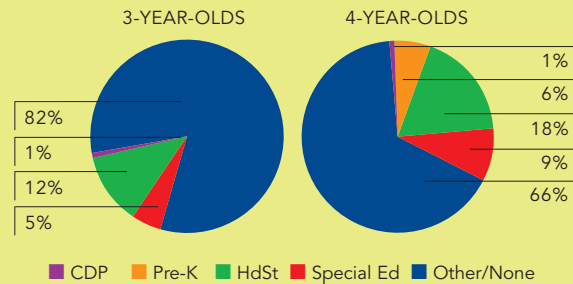
⁸ Additional funds not counted in these figures are \$188,972 for a statewide evaluation, and \$1,000,005 for Professional Development including training and technical assistance, T.E.A.C.H. scholarships, and a statewide Institute.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	421 ¹
School districts that offer state program	17%
Income requirement	None
Hours of operation	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	3,794
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	7,876
State-funded Head Start enrollment	298 ³

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



QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	None ⁴	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA (public), 45-hour entry-level course (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	EC, EE, or SpEd license (public); None (nonpublic)	Specializing in pre-K	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	Educational Assistant License (public); None (nonpublic)	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	24 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	Based on square footage ⁵		
4-year-olds	Based on square footage ⁵		
Staff-child ratio		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	1:12		
4-year-olds	1:12		
Screening/referral and support services	Vision, hearing, health, and developmental; and support services ⁶	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	At least 1 meal and snack ⁷	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

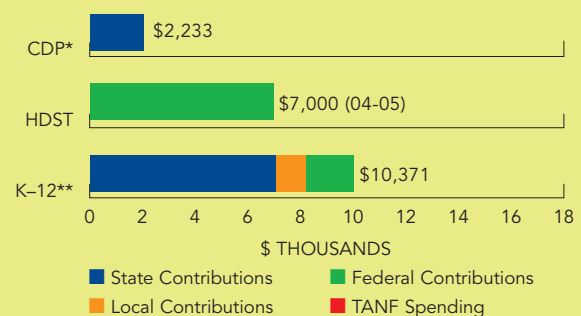
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

4

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$940,000 ⁸
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$1,541,000
State spending per child enrolled	\$2,233
State spending per 3-year-old	\$13
State spending per 4-year-old	\$22

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



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

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

Data are for the '05-'06 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ This figure does not include the 182 children from birth to age 3 who are also served in Child Development programs.

² Most programs are full-day, full-week, although two school-based rural programs operate 4 days per week. School-based programs operate during the academic year, while community-based programs typically operate year round.

³ New Mexico was not able to break its state-funded Head Start enrollment down by single year of age. As a result, this figure is an estimate based on the percentage of federal Head Start enrollees in New Mexico who were 3 or 4 years old.

⁴ Comprehensive early learning standards were introduced in 2005. These standards are used by the New Mexico Pre-K initiative but not by the Child Development Program. The Child Development Program is contractually obligated to use New Mexico's Best Practices: Essential Elements of Quality, but this document does not contain early learning standards.

⁵ Maximum class size is determined by the size of the classroom. This requirement reflects child care licensing standards.

⁶ Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁷ Center-based programs that meet for at least a half-day session must provide a meal and snack. This applies to all Child Development programs that serve 3- and 4-year-olds.

⁸ This figure represents an estimate of funding for center-based programs only, some of which served children younger than age 3. This estimate includes \$110,000 in state dollars for the TANF maintenance of effort.