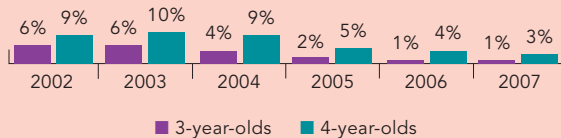
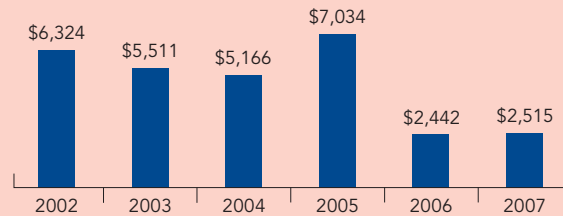


# Ohio

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED  
(2007 DOLLARS)



The Ohio Public School Preschool Program (PSP) was established in 1990 after a four-year pilot of the program was successful. PSP is now titled Early Childhood Education (ECE) and serves 3- and 4-year-olds. Children from families with incomes up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for ECE but those from families above 100 percent of the federal poverty level pay fees on a sliding scale determined by the district. Children from families above 200 percent of the federal poverty level can attend the program if space permits with funding for services from parent tuition or district funds. Public schools are eligible to receive ECE funding and may subcontract with private child care centers or Head Start agencies to offer services. When ECE began, programs followed the federal Head Start Performance Standards. Ohio now requires programs to follow its Early Learning Program Guidelines, which address program management and comprehensive services. An increase in per-child spending contributed to a decrease in the number of children funded during the 2006-2007 school year. An increase in funding for the 2007-2009 biennium is anticipated to improve access both in terms of the number of children served and the number of school districts offering the program.

Beginning in 2005, Ohio moved from state-funded Head Start to the Early Learning Initiative (ELI). For state fiscal years 2006 and 2007, children were eligible for the program if their family income was below 195 percent of the federal poverty level, with eligibility reassessed every six months. If a child's family was found to be no longer eligible, services were discontinued unless other funding was available. Over time, state supplemental funding for the federal Head Start program decreased significantly. ELI is viewed as a companion program to ECE and includes the same educational and comprehensive services requirements. The purpose of ELI is twofold: to provide full-day, full-year service to working families and to provide educational experiences that address school readiness. Beginning in 2007-2008, there will no longer be a parent work requirement for ELI eligibility and children are assured of continuous enrollment for a full year of service. However, during the 2006-2007 school year, ELI did not meet NIEER's criteria for a prekindergarten education program because of the potential for continual fluctuation in children's eligibility status. Therefore, this report focuses only on the ECE program.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
35	18

RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
32*	36

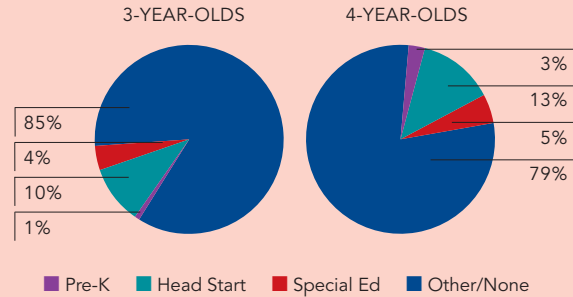
\* In previous Yearbooks, only state spending was ranked.

# OHIO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

## ACCESS

Total state program enrollment.....	7,557 <sup>1</sup>
School districts that offer state program.....	18%
Income requirement.....	200% FPL
Hours of operation.....	Determined locally <sup>2</sup>
Operating schedule .....	Academic year <sup>2</sup>
Special education enrollment .....	13,260
Federally funded Head Start enrollment.....	32,908
State-funded Head Start enrollment .....	0

### 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 .....	Not comprehensive <sup>3</sup>	Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree .....	AA (public), CDA (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training .....	Pre-K Associate level teaching cert., Pre-K, K, or EC license (public); Meets CDA requirements (nonpublic)	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree .....	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service .....	20 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size .....		20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	24		
4-year-olds .....	28		
Staff-child ratio .....		1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds .....	1:12		
4-year-olds .....	1:14		
Screening/referral and support services .....	Vision, hearing, health, developmental, dental; and support services <sup>4</sup>	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals .....	Depend on length of program day <sup>5</sup>	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring .....	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

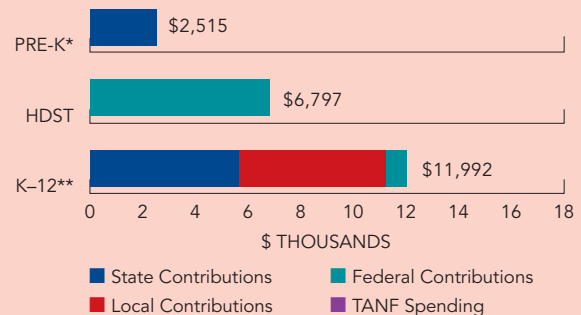
**TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET**

4

## RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending .....	\$19,002,195
Local match required?.....	No
State spending per child enrolled.....	\$2,515
All reported spending per child enrolled* .....	\$2,515

### 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 '06-'07 school year, unless otherwise noted.

<sup>1</sup> An additional 1,478 children from families with income above 200% FPL paid full tuition; these children are not counted in the enrollment total.

<sup>2</sup> Most programs operate between 3 and 3.5 hours per day. The funded annual operating schedule is technically the academic year but schools may choose year-long services.

<sup>3</sup> In addition to its Early Learning Content Standards, Ohio also has Program Guidelines that address child health and development, which have been reviewed and sanctioned by the State Board of Education.

<sup>4</sup> Screening and referrals for lead and hematocrit are also required. Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits, parenting support or training, parent involvement activities, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

<sup>5</sup> Lunch must be provided for children in attendance beyond part-day hours. Snack is provided for children who attend full-day.