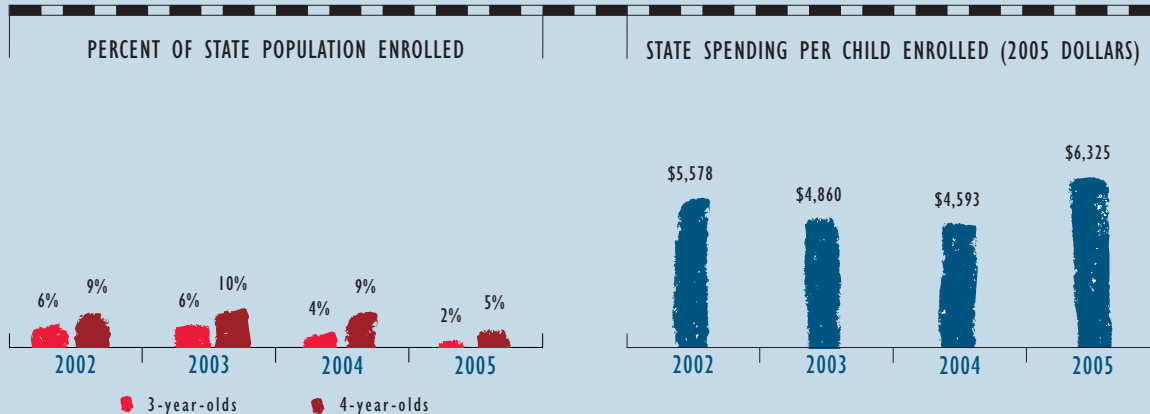


Ohio



The Public School Preschool Program (PSP) was launched in 1990 following 4 years of success with pilot preschool programs in Ohio. Funding is distributed directly to public schools, Joint Vocational Schools, and County Educational Service Centers, which are permitted to subcontract with Head Start and private child care centers. Three- and 4-year-olds from families with incomes below 185 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) are eligible. A sliding payment scale is applied to families earning more than 100 percent of the FPL. Enrollment of children who do not qualify based on income is allowed, but generally paid for using parent tuition and district funds.

Due to static funding and escalating costs, PSP programs are no longer required to follow the federal Head Start Performance Standards. However, the state has developed Early Learning Program Guidelines that incorporate all aspects of program requirements, including health, curricula, assessment, professional development and program leadership. By 2006, public preschool programs will be required to address all goals and indicators in these guidelines. To assist programs in meeting these requirements, professional development opportunities have been expanded, particularly for literacy.

In 1990, Ohio began using a separate initiative to supplement the federal Head Start program with state funds. State Head Start funds are used to serve 3- and 4-year-olds in poverty and are provided to all but two of Ohio's federally funded Head Start programs. One Head Start program is completely funded through the state Head Start initiative. Substantial cuts in funding over the past 3 years have resulted in fewer services offered, and a significant decline in enrollment. Most state funds for this initiative have been replaced with federal welfare dollars, and general revenue funds now primarily cover start-up costs.

Ohio initiated Head Start Plus in 2004, which followed the same standards as the state Head Start supplement program but offered full-day, full-year services. In 2004–2005, the state targeted a combined enrollment of 14,000 between the two Head Start model programs—the full-day, full-year model and the traditional half-day, partial-year model—but served fewer than 6,000 children. Eligibility for Head Start services, as for child care, was determined by county officials, based on family need for full-day care.

Over the past two years, enrollment in state-funded preschool in Ohio has declined by approximately 10,000 children. This drop-off in enrollment is directly associated with new eligibility criteria. State funds remain available to support greater numbers of children, but with programs reimbursed on a per-child basis, the failure to fill available slots led to decreased expenditures. Ohio eliminated both state-funded Head Start initiatives beginning with the 2005–2006 school year, and launched the (TANF-funded) Early Learning Initiative.

In order to document the contributions Ohio makes to prekindergarten 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 PSP and state-funded Head Start 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 PSP program, while the final page focuses exclusively on the state-funded Head Start initiatives.

STATE OVERVIEW

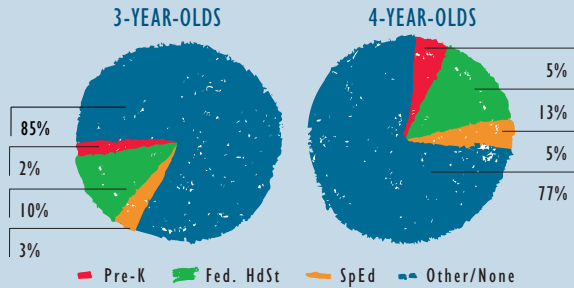
Total state program enrollment - - - - -	10,730
Total state spending - - - - -	\$67,868,922
State spending per child enrolled - - - - -	\$6,325
State Head Start spending - - - - -	\$48,752,840
State spending per 3-year-old - - - - -	\$166
State spending per 4-year-old - - - - -	\$296

* 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.

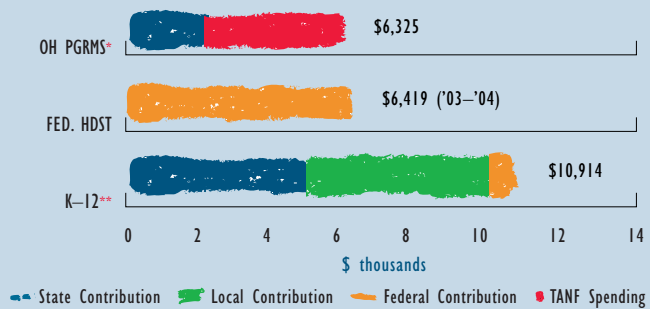
Data are for the '04-'05 school year, unless otherwise noted.

! The percentage of the population enrolled in state preschool shown on the State Overview page differs from the percentage shown in the program-specific profiles that follow. This difference is due to rounding.

STATE PRE-K AND HEAD START ENROLLMENT AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION¹



SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



ACCESS RANKING—4s

27

ACCESS RANKING—3s

13

RESOURCES RANKING

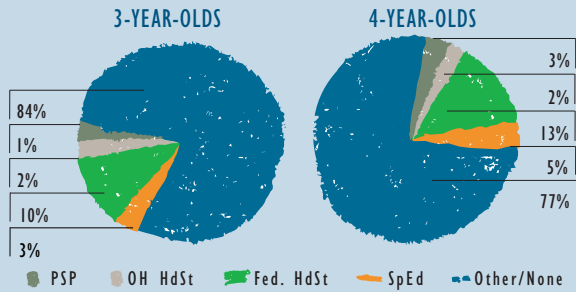
5

OHIO PUBLIC SCHOOL PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	-----	5,534 ¹
School districts that offer state program	-----	16%
Income requirement	-----	185% FPL
Hours of operation	-----	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	-----	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	-----	11,980
Federally funded Head Start enrollment '03-'04	-----	33,513
State-funded Head Start enrollment	-----	5,196 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	-----	Not comprehensive
Teacher degree	-----	AA + Pre-K assoc. level teaching cert. (public), CDA (nonpublic) ⁴
Teacher specialized training	-----	Pre-K certification (public), ⁵ Meets CDA requirements (nonpublic)
Assistant teacher degree	-----	HSD
Teacher in-service	-----	15 clock hours
Maximum class size		
3-year-olds	-----	24
4-year-olds	-----	28
Staff-child ratio		
3-year-olds	-----	1:12
4-year-olds	-----	1:14
Screening/referral and support services	-----	Support services only ⁶
Meals	-----	Depend on length of program day ⁷
Monitoring	-----	Site visits and other monitoring

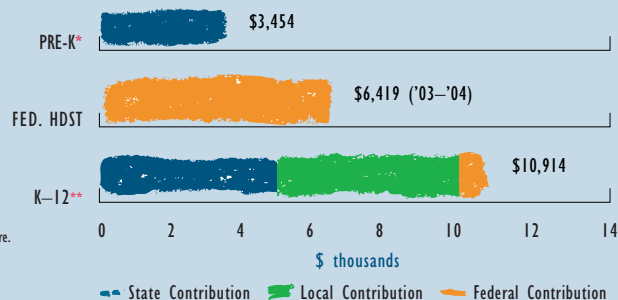
Comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Specializing in Pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20 or lower	<input type="checkbox"/>
1:10 or better	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 service	<input type="checkbox"/>
At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>
Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	-----	\$19,116,082
Local match required?	-----	No
State spending per child enrolled	-----	\$3,454
State Head Start spending	-----	\$48,752,840
State spending per 3-year-old	-----	\$18 ¹
State spending per 4-year-old	-----	\$112 ¹

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 '04-'05 school year, unless otherwise noted.

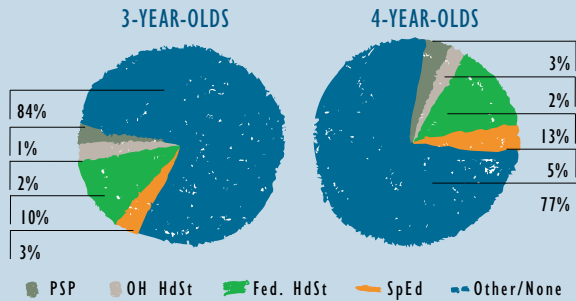
- The state did not break enrollment down into specific numbers of 3- and 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart and Resources section were estimated using proportions of enrollees who were ages 3 and 4 in states that served 3-year-olds and provided age breakdowns for 2004-2005. This figure does not include 2,948 children who were served using parent fees and/or district funds.
- Public School Preschool programs follow federal Head Start Performance Standards for minimum hours of operation and yearly operating schedule. Programs must operate for at least 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, and 32 weeks per year.
- Ohio's state Head Start program did not break its enrollment down into specific numbers of 3- and 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart were estimated using proportions of federal Head Start enrollees in each age category.
- Teachers in nonpublic schools must be working toward their AA, and are required to attain this degree by 2007.
- License types offered include: Pre-K Associate (2-year level), Pre-K (4-year level), Kindergarten (with early childhood coursework), and the Early Childhood License (age 3-grade 3). Teachers may also qualify with a BA that includes 20 credits in early childhood plus a supervised practicum with preschoolers.
- Support services include two annual parent conferences or home visits and specific locally determined services.
- Lunch must be provided for children in attendance for the entire period between 11:00 and 1:30. Snack is provided for children attending 4 hours or longer.

OHIO STATE-FUNDED HEAD START MODEL AND HEAD START PLUS PROGRAMS

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	-----	5,196 ¹
School districts that offer state program	-----	97% (counties)
Income requirement	-----	185% FPL, TANF eligibility
Hours of operation	-----	Determined locally ²
Operating schedule	-----	Determined locally ²
Special education enrollment	-----	11,980
Federally funded Head Start enrollment '03-'04	-----	33,513
State-funded Head Start enrollment	-----	5,196 ¹

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



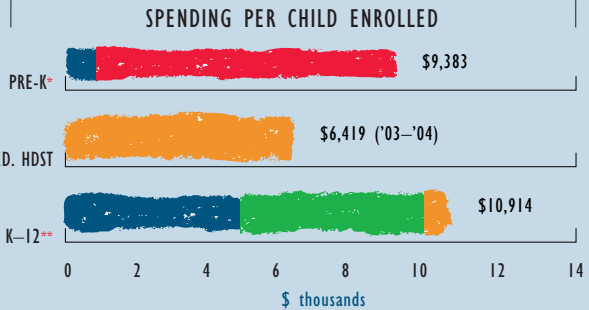
QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?
Early learning standards	-----	Not comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	-----	CDA ³	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	-----	Meets CDA requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	-----	HSD	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	-----	15 clock hours	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size			
3-year-olds	-----	17	
4-year-olds	-----	20	
Staff-child ratio			
3-year-olds	-----	2:17	
4-year-olds	-----	1:10	
Screening/referral	-----	Vision, hearing, health; and support services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	-----	Lunch and/or breakfast ⁵	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	-----	Site visits and other monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



RESOURCES

Total state Pre-K spending	-----	\$48,752,840 ⁶
Local match required?	-----	No
State spending per child enrolled	-----	\$9,383 ⁷
State Head Start spending	-----	\$48,752,840 ^{8,9}
State spending per 3-year-old	-----	\$148 ^{1,9}
State spending per 4-year-old	-----	\$184 ^{1,9}



* 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 '04-'05 school year, unless otherwise noted.

- The state did not break enrollment down into specific numbers of 3- and 4-year-olds. As a result, age breakdowns used in the Access pie chart and Resources section were estimated using proportions of federal Head Start enrollees in each age category.
- Ohio Head Start programs follow federal Head Start Performance Standards, which require center-based programs to operate for at least 3.5 hours per day, 4 days per week, and for 32 weeks per year. Head Start Plus offers full-day, full-year services.
- As of 2003, all classroom teachers must be working toward an AA and must have the degree by 2007.
- 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, transition to kindergarten activities, and a family development plan.
- Federal Head Start Performance Standards require part-day programs to provide children with at least one-third of their daily nutritional needs, and full-day programs to provide one-half to two-thirds of daily nutritional needs. All children in morning center-based settings must be offered a nutritious breakfast.
- This figure includes \$44,343,352 in TANF funds.
- This figure represents the average spending per child enrolled across both the state-funded Head Start and Head Start Plus programs. Although specific data were not available, spending per child is higher in Head Start Plus.
- All spending through this initiative is directed toward Head Start programs.
- These estimates include both state and TANF funds.