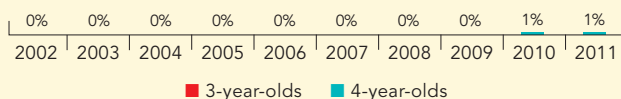
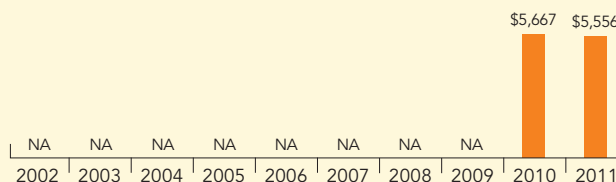


Rhode Island

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2011 DOLLARS)



The Rhode Island Prekindergarten Demonstration Project was launched as a prekindergarten demonstration initiative in the fall of 2009. As of September 2010, the program was available to 4-year-old children in seven classrooms located in four of the state’s urban communities. Four of the seven demonstration classrooms were funded with \$700,000 allocated by the state, while local school districts funded the other three classrooms using federal Title I dollars. A total of 126 preschool education slots were available to 4-year-olds in these seven classrooms during the 2010-2011 school year.

Teachers in the Rhode Island Prekindergarten Demonstration Project are required to hold a bachelor’s degree with an early childhood teaching certificate. The Rhode Island Department of Education provides teachers with training and technical assistance on an ongoing basis at all seven locations. The program is available to all children in each participating community who are 4 years old by September 1, though enrollment is determined by a lottery. Public schools, private child care, and Head Start programs are eligible to apply to be pre-K sites and receive funding through a competitive request for proposal process conducted by the Rhode Island Department of Education. The Rhode Island Prekindergarten Demonstration Project is included in the state’s newly adopted school funding formula enacted through legislation in 2010.

Funding for the Rhode Island Prekindergarten Demonstration Project was not included in the school funding formula for the 2011-2012 school year during the state’s transition to the new funding methodology. However, alternate bridge funding consisting of a combination of funds from the state, private foundations, and Title I was used. Rhode Island plans to fully implement the state funding formula, which will include funding for the state pre-K program, in the 2012-2013 school year. The funding formula includes an expansion plan for pre-K that will increase the state investment each year for 10 years up to \$10 million per year.

Through an ongoing process, starting in the 2009-2010 school year, this program is evaluated for both process quality and program impact/child outcomes, including classroom quality and child outcomes in literacy, mathematics, and social-emotional development.

Rhode Island also provides supplemental state funding to the federal Head Start program through the Department of Human Services, but substantial cutbacks have been made to this initiative in recent years. During the 2010-2011 school year, 156 children were served using \$800,000 in state funds, including \$200,000 through TANF.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
39	None Served

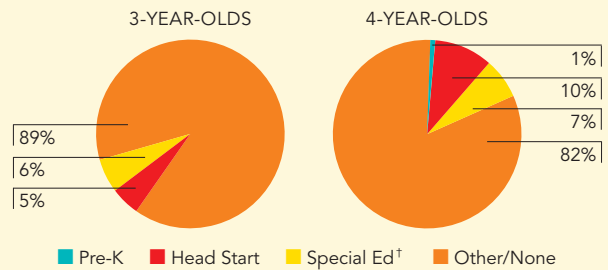
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
9	5

RHODE ISLAND PREKINDERGARTEN DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	126 ¹
School districts that offer state program	10% (communities)
Income requirement.....	None
Hours of operation	6 hours/day, 5 days/week
Operating schedule	Academic year
Special education enrollment	1,753
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	1,774
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	120 ²

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



† This number represents children in special education who are not enrolled in Head Start, but includes children who are enrolled in state-funded pre-K.

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 certification (pre-K–grade 2)	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD + 12 college credits of ECE	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	20 clock hours	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 or lower		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	18		
Staff-child ratio	1:10 or better		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	NA		
4-year-olds	1:9		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health, developmental, and support services	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals	Lunch and snack	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

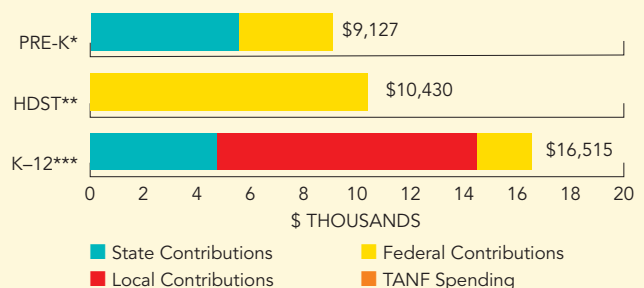
TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

10

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending.....	\$700,000
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending.....	\$800,000 ⁴
State spending per child enrolled	\$5,556
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$9,127

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



* 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 2010-2011 year includes funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

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

Data are for the '10-'11 school year, unless otherwise noted.

¹ This is the total enrollment, which is made up of 76 children being served with state funds only and 50 children being served with Title I funds only.

² Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island who were 3 or 4 years old.

³ Each program is required to collaborate with its local Child Outreach program, which conducts screenings and referrals. Support services include parent conferences, parent involvement activities, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁴ This sum also represents \$200,000 in TANF funds dedicated to Head Start.