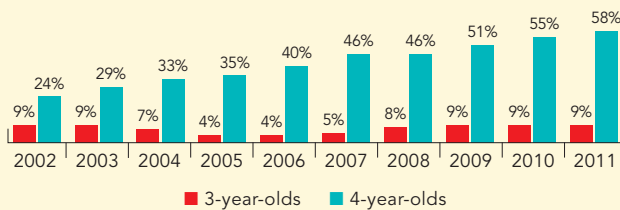
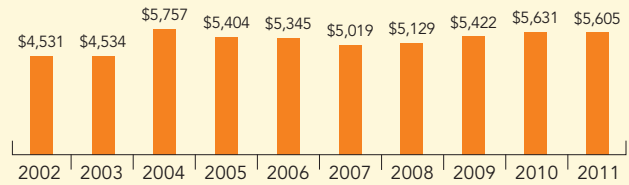


West Virginia

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED
(2011 DOLLARS)



In 1983, the Public School Early Childhood Education Initiative was formed after revisions to West Virginia's school code allowed local school boards to offer preschool programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. However, since July 2004, 3-year-olds are only eligible for state-funded preschool if they have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). In 2002, the state expanded preschool education and set the goal of making it available to all 4-year-olds statewide by the 2012-2013 school year. Now known as the West Virginia Universal Pre-K System, this program offers prekindergarten programs in all school districts throughout the state. The state and its 55 counties anticipate that an increase in classrooms will enable the state to meet its goal of universal, voluntary access on schedule, and are working together to ensure classrooms meet state quality standards. Counties are required to share their plans for expanding preschool access with the state each year.

Funding for the West Virginia Universal Pre-K System goes directly to public schools, though these schools may subcontract with other agencies to provide services. In order to facilitate the expansion of the program, half of programs are required to operate in collaborative settings with child care centers, private prekindergarten centers, and Head Start agencies. Since the 2008-2009 school year, as the state revised its funding calculation, full-time equivalency is now based on the hours of instruction for all children, regardless of location. This has resulted in more children enrolling in full-day programs throughout the state. Supplementary funding sources used by some programs include federal Head Start, IDEA, and Titles I and II, although districts are shifting over to state aid funding as the state moves toward universal access.

As of 2009, the West Virginia Board of Education requires programs to provide meals, regardless of the hours of instruction, as well as to establish a process for phasing in the requirement for lead teachers in community partnerships to have a bachelor's degree. During the 2011-2012 program year, West Virginia also plans to revise and strengthen the assistant teacher requirements.

In 2010, the state's early learning standards were updated to align with kindergarten content standards and objectives and to address assessment and school readiness. These policy revisions went into effect with the 2010-2011 program year. The West Virginia Universal Pre-K program was evaluated for process quality in 2009 and for program impact/child outcomes in 2005.

As most programs participating in the West Virginia Universal Pre-K System use Creative Curriculum in their classrooms, the state uses a web-based portfolio designed around Creative Curriculum. Teachers track student progress and assessment outcomes as required by the West Virginia Early Learning Standards Framework using these portfolios. During the 2010-2011 school year, child assessment was revised and, beginning in 2011, will include a comprehensive assessment system that will encompass the Early Learning Scale, health data, and additional information from the West Virginia Early Learning Standards Framework. Program assessment requirements were also revised and programs will no longer be required to complete an ECERS-R annually. Instead, programs will use the ECERS-R once every three years and develop a comprehensive monitoring system to provide ongoing continuous quality improvement.

ACCESS RANKINGS	
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS
5	7

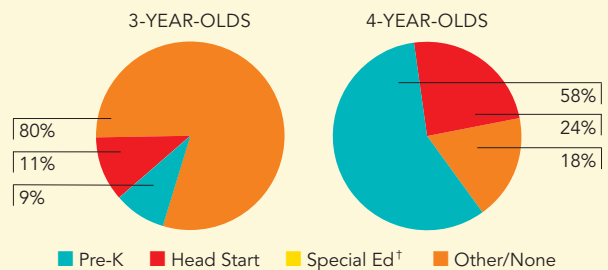
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
8	4

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSAL PRE-K

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	14,647
School districts that offer state program	100%
Income requirement.....	None
Hours of operation	Determined locally ¹
Operating schedule	Academic year ¹
Special education enrollment	2,907
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	7,336
State-funded Head Start enrollment.....	0

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



[†] Fewer than 1 percent of special education students are enrolled in special education programs that are not state 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 in ECE or Pre-K SpEd (pre-K only programs); AA (blended programs) ²	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training.....	See footnote ³	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	HSD	CDA or equivalent	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher in-service	15 clock hours per year	At least 15 hours/year	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	20 or lower		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	20		
4-year-olds	20		
Staff-child ratio	1:10 or better		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3-year-olds	1:10		
4-year-olds	1:10		
Screening/referral.....	Vision, hearing, health, dental, and support services developmental; and support services ⁴	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meals.....	At least 1 meal	At least 1/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring	Site visits and other monitoring	Site visits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET

8

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$82,100,333
Local match required?	No
State spending per child enrolled	\$5,605
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$9,136

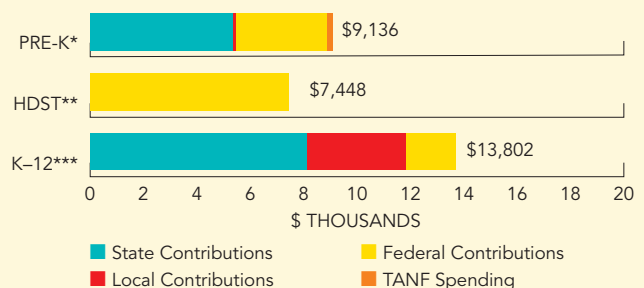
* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

** 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.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ Hours of operation are determined locally, but programs must operate for at least 12 hours per week, with a maximum of 30 hours per week and at least 108 instructional days.

² Beginning August 1, 2013, all newly hired teachers in nonpublic school settings will be required to have a minimum of a BA.

³ Teachers in public school settings that are not collaboratives must be certified in Birth-5, ECE, preschool special needs, or EE with a pre-K-K endorsement. Teachers in community collaborative settings must have a minimum of an AA in child development/early childhood or in occupational development with an emphasis in child development.

⁴ Support services include parent conferences or home visits, transition to kindergarten activities, and other locally determined services.