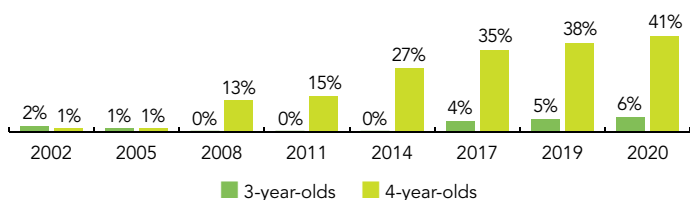
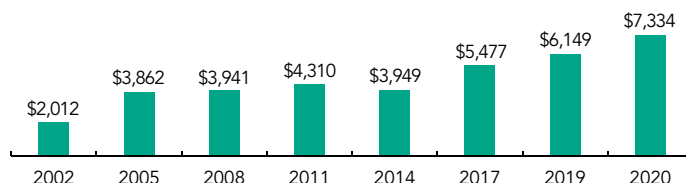


New Mexico

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED



STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2020 DOLLARS)



OVERVIEW

New Mexico state-funded PreK enrolled 12,067 3- and 4-year-old children in 2019-2020, an increase of 816 children from the prior year. State funding for NM PreK totaled \$88,494,800, including \$17,600,000 in TANF funds, up \$19,317,209 (28%), adjusted for inflation, since last year. State spending per child equaled \$7,334 in 2019-2020, up \$1,185 from 2018-2019, adjusted for inflation. New Mexico met 9 of 10 quality standards benchmarks.

WHAT'S NEW

The New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Act was signed into law in March 2019 by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and created the Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD). ECECD's mission is to ensure that all New Mexican families and young children have access to high-quality and safe early child care opportunities. This statute created ECECD in July 2020 with responsibility for all early childhood programs prenatal to age 5 (IDEA Part C, Family Infant Toddler Program for Early Intervention, Families FIRST Perinatal Case Management Program, Child Care Assistance and Regulatory Oversight, The Child Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Summer Food Services program, New Mexico PreK (NMPreK), Early PreK, Home Visiting, and the Head Start Collaboration Office) in New Mexico. IDEA Part B (preschool) is not a part of ECECD, but will remain at the Public Education Department (PED) and collaborate with ECECD. ECECD officially took responsibility for these programs on July 1, 2020.

In March 2020, state-funded preschool programs closed in public schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Programs in private settings offered in-person, remote and hybrid learning, depending on family and community needs.

BACKGROUND

NM PreK launched in the 2005-2006 school year with the enactment of the PreK Act. Beginning July 1, 2020, the program is administered by ECECD. ECECD funds and monitors NM PreK programs provided through school districts, and those operated by community-based organizations and other eligible providers. ECECD partners with PED for the day-to-day operations and oversight of PreK programs in public schools. In the 2019-2020 school year, 85% of school districts offered NM PreK.

NM PreK funding is awarded through a competitive grant process, with priority given to programs in communities with public elementary schools designated as Title I. Two-thirds of enrolled children at each program site must live in the attendance zone of a Title I elementary school, though eligibility is not determined by family income.

The number of hours and days per week vary by program, with a minimum of 450 hours per year. In 2014-2015, the legislature provided limited funding for an extended-day PreK pilot to double the instructional hours to 900 per school year. In 2019-2020, almost 80% of all children enrolled were in school-day PreK. Some private or nonprofit facilities use child care subsidy dollars for wraparound care to assist parents who qualify, or to offer reduced rates for private pay. PreK programs in public schools can extend the day using operational dollars or Title I funds.

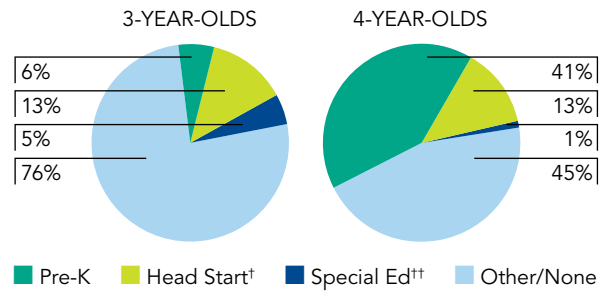
ACCESS RANKINGS		RESOURCE RANKINGS		TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
4-YEAR-OLDS	3-YEAR-OLDS	STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING	
14	16	9	20	9

NEW MEXICO PREK (4s) NM EARLY PREK (3s)

ACCESS

Total state pre-K enrollment	12,067
School districts that offer state program	85%
Income requirement	No income requirement
Minimum hours of operation	3 hours/day
Operating schedule	Determined locally
Special education enrollment, ages 3 and 4	3,619
Federally funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	6,527
State-funded Head Start enrollment, ages 3 and 4	0

PERCENT OF POPULATION ENROLLED IN PUBLIC ECE



[†] Some Head Start children may also be counted in state pre-K.
^{††} Estimates children in special education not also enrolled in state pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	NM PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	REQUIREMENT MEETS BENCHMARK?
Early learning & development standards	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	Comprehensive, aligned, supported, culturally sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Curriculum supports	Approval process & supports	Approval process & supports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Teacher degree	BA (public); HSD (nonpublic)	BA	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teacher specialized training	ECE	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assistant teacher degree	AA in ECE	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff professional development	Minimum 20 hours/year (teachers); 24 hours/year (assistants); PD plans; Coaching	For teachers & assistants: At least 15 hours/year; individual PD plans; coaching	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maximum class size	16 (3-year-olds); 20 (4-year-olds)	20 or lower	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Staff-child ratio	1:8 (3-year-olds); 1:10 (4-year-olds)	1:10 or better	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Screening & referral	Vision, hearing, health & more	Vision, hearing & health screenings; & referral	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Continuous quality improvement system	Structured classroom observations; Data used for program improvement	Structured classroom observations; data used for program improvement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

For more information about the benchmarks, see the Executive Summary and Roadmap to State Profile Pages.

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RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$88,494,800
Local match required?	No
State Head Start spending	\$0
State spending per child enrolled	\$7,334
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$7,334

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

** Head Start per-child spending includes funding only for 3- and 4-year-olds.

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

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED

