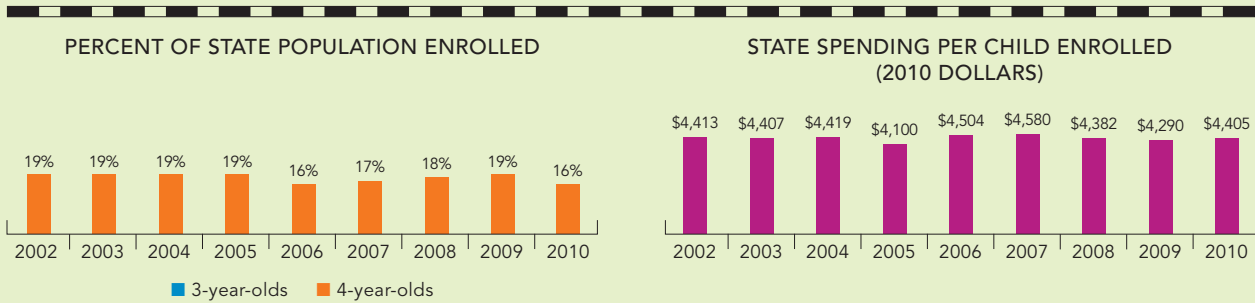


Michigan



The Michigan School Readiness Program (MSRP), established in 1985, offers preschool education to at-risk 4-year-olds. Since the 2008-2009 program year, MSRP is known as the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP), and is directly aligned with the state's early childhood initiative, Project Great Start. At least 75 percent of the children enrolled in the program must come from families with an income below 300 percent of the federal poverty line (FPL), which was increased in the 2008-2009 program year from 250 percent FPL. Eligibility is also based on meeting other risk factors for educational disadvantage. In the 2009-2010 year, the Michigan State Board of Education adopted revised risk factors that updated and collapsed many of the previous risk factors into eight categories, with the goal of streamlining the enrollment process and targeting the most at-risk children and families. A prioritization process was adopted along with the revised risk factors, allowing extremely low family income to automatically qualify a child/family. Priority is then given to children from families with low income plus two risk factors, followed by children from families with low income plus one risk factor. In addition, children from families with incomes above 300 percent FPL must have at least two risk factors to be eligible for GSRP.

GSRP funding for each district is determined based on the level of need in each district and using a school funding formula. Funding is given directly to public school districts for preschool education programming, though the funds may also be used in part for parent education and involvement programs. Public school districts may also subcontract with other local providers to offer GSRP. Competitive preschool education grants are also available to other preschool providers, including Head Start agencies, private child care centers, and social service and mental health agencies.

In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of children served in full-day GSRP programs and GSRP/Head Start blended programs instead of half-day programs. This increase has led to a decrease in the total number of children that could have been served had they been enrolled in half-day programs given the level of funding. However, access is an issue when programs are half-day and many at-risk children would not be able to attend at all if programs were only half-day.

For the 2009-2010 program year, the state cut 50 percent of the GSRP competitive funding stream and allowed districts to repurpose the GSRP funding formula to offset reductions in their K-12 per-pupil funding. These changes resulted in about 2,647 slots being repurposed in whole or in part.

Since 2004, a number of studies have measured both process quality and program impact/child outcomes in this program. As part of the state's efforts to integrate Michigan's system of early childhood education and related family services, the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC) was established in 2005. ECIC aims to promote a statewide, high-quality early education system by establishing guidelines and standards for early childhood development activities. Recent proposals throughout the state have sought to increase funding for state preschool programs in order to provide funds to programs that serve children prenatally through age 3. Increasing funding would allow the state to link the pre-K reimbursement rate to that of K-12, so that pre-K funding would increase along with K-12 funding.

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

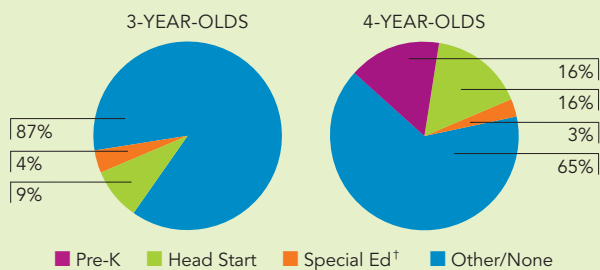
RESOURCES RANKINGS	
STATE SPENDING	ALL REPORTED SPENDING
18	22

MICHIGAN GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment	19,781 ¹
School districts that offer state program	82%
Income requirement	50% of children must be below 300% FPL
Hours of operation	2.5 hours/day (half-day), 6-7 hours/day (full-day), 4 days/week
Operating schedule	30 weeks/year
Special education enrollment	13,639
Federally funded Head Start enrollment	31,796
State-funded Head Start enrollment	0

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



† This is an estimate of children in special education who are not enrolled in state-funded pre-K or Head Start.

QUALITY STANDARDS CHECKLIST

POLICY	STATE PRE-K REQUIREMENT	BENCHMARK	DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?	<div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET</div> <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">7</div>
Early learning standards	Comprehensive	Comprehensive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher degree	BA ²	BA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher specialized training	EE certification + ECE endorsement (public); EE certification + ECE endorsement or CDA, or BA in CD (nonpublic) ²	Specializing in pre-K	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Assistant teacher degree	CDA or equivalent ³	CDA or equivalent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Teacher in-service	6 semester credit hours/5 years (certified staff); 12 clock hours/year (other staff) ⁴	At least 15 hours/year	<input 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	1:8 ⁵			
Screening/referral and support services	Vision, hearing, health, developmental; and support services ⁶	Vision, hearing, health; and at least 1 support service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Meals	Snack ⁷	At least 1/day	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Monitoring	Other monitoring ⁸	Site visits	<input type="checkbox"/>	

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending	\$87,128,000
Local match required?	Yes ⁹
State spending per child enrolled	\$4,405
All reported spending per child enrolled*	\$4,405

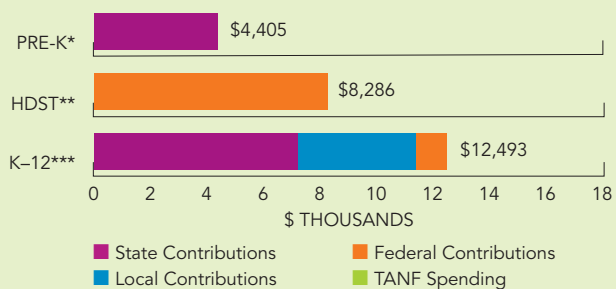
* Pre-K programs may receive additional funds from federal or local sources that are not included in this figure.

** Head Start per-child spending for the 2009-2010 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 '09-'10 school year, unless otherwise noted.

SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED



¹ This is the number of children planned to be served rather than the number of slots. Some children were served in full-day programs that use two half-day slots, but they are only counted once in the enrollment.

² Teachers whose training is incomplete may be considered "out of compliance" but must be enrolled in a training program and reach compliance within four years, completing at least two courses per year.

³ An associate degree in early childhood education/child development or equivalent training approved by the State Board of Education is also permissible. If a suitable candidate cannot be hired, an assistant teacher may start "out of compliance" but must have completed one course in child development and have a plan to complete the requirements within two years.

⁴ All classroom staff must have 12 clock hours of professional development per year, not including CPR, first aid, and blood pathogen training. Certified teachers need at least 6 semester credit hours of professional development (or an equivalent number of State Board Continuing Education Units) per 5 years to renew their certificates.

⁵ A qualified teacher and associate teacher must be present in classes of 9-16 children. If more than 16 children are in a class, a third adult must be present.

⁶ Programs must assure that children have health screenings, including vision and hearing, but they do not have to provide the screening. Screenings are often provided in the program by the local health department. Programs are required to make referrals; dental screenings and referrals are determined locally. Support services include four parent conferences or home visits, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

⁷ Part-day programs must provide at least a snack. They are encouraged to offer a meal and to extend the day to at least 3 hours if they do so. Full-day programs must provide one meal and two snacks or two meals and one snack.

⁸ The state oversight agency's monitoring plan includes site visits to programs, but the visits are not written into state policy requirements. Site visits for competitive grantee agencies occur once during each 3-year funding cycle. Site visits for school district programs are more limited, though the plan includes monitoring every three years for them as well.

⁹ There is not a monetary local match, but occupancy costs must be part of the match because GSRP does not allow funding to cover facilities costs.