Michigan

PERCENT OF STATE POPULATION ENROLLED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>3-year-olds</th>
<th>4-year-olds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>19%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

STATE SPENDING PER CHILD ENROLLED (2011 DOLLARS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>3-year-olds</th>
<th>4-year-olds</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>$4,551</td>
<td>$4,529</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
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<td>2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>$4,493</td>
<td>$4,453</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>$4,453</td>
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Established in 1985, the Michigan School Readiness Program (MSRP) offers preschool education to at-risk 4-year-olds. Known as the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) since the 2008-2009 program year, the program is aligned directly with the state’s early childhood initiative, Project Great Start. Since the 2009-2010 program year, 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). Eligibility can also be determined based on other risk factors for educational disadvantage. These risk factors were revised in May 2009 by the Michigan State Board of Education by collapsing previous risk factors into eight categories in order to streamline the enrollment process and target the most at-risk children. A newly implemented prioritization process allows families with extremely low family income to automatically qualify. Prioritization is further based on families being low-income plus having one or two additional risk factors. Children with families whose income is above 300 percent FPL may be eligible if they have at least two risk factors.

District funding for GSRP is based on the level of need in each district as well as a school funding formula. This funding is given directly to public school districts, although districts may subcontract with local providers in other settings to offer GSRP. Other preschool providers, including private child care centers, Head Start agencies, and social service and mental health agencies, are eligible for competitive preschool education grants. The GSRP program has been evaluated for both process quality and program impact/child outcomes a number of times since 2004.

In recent years, there has been a shift from the number of children served in half-day programs to being served in full-day GSRP and GSRP/Head Start blended programs. Given the level of funding, this has led to a decrease in the total number of children served in the program due to the cost of running full-day programs. However, many at-risk children would not be able to attend these programs if they were only half-day. Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the state clarified the definition of existing priority status in the allocation of funds to programs offering wrap-around care by specifying the number of hours as 10 hours of programming per day.

GSRP’s competitive funding stream was cut by 50 percent in the 2009-2010 program year, and districts were allowed to offset reductions in their K–12 per-pupil funding by repurposing the GSRP funding formula, though this practice was not allowed for the 2010-2011 school year. In the 2010-2011 school year, both GSRP formula and competitive funding streams received an increase and the three-year funding cycle for competitive grantees was restored.

In the 2011-2012 school year, teaching requirements were revised to recognize a new early childhood endorsement for teaching certification, to require all teachers to complete compliance plans within two years rather than four years from the date of employment, and to eliminate the exception for subcontracted programs to allow teachers to participate in the program with 90 credit hours and at least four years of teaching experience. The state also began revising the early learning standards to align the infant-toddler, pre-K, and K–3 standards with common core standards.

The Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC) was established in 2005 in an effort to integrate Michigan’s system of early education and related family services through the establishment of standards and guidelines. In 2011, ECIC announced that 30 Great Start collaboratives were awarded $2.8 million in public and private grants to establish local matching funds and to provide child care/preschool scholarships for at-risk 3-year-olds.
MICHIGAN GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM

ACCESS

Total state program enrollment ................................................. 22,067 1
School districts that offer state program ..................................... 79%
Income requirement ......................................................... 75% of children must be below 300% FPL
Hours of operation ....................................................... 3 hours/day (half-day), 6-7 hours/day (full-day), 4 days/week
Operating schedule .............................................. 30 weeks/year
Special education enrollment ................................................. 13,468
Federally funded Head Start enrollment .................................... 31,822
State-funded Head Start enrollment ........................................ 0

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

PRE-K
Head Start
Special Ed†
Other/None

3-YEAR-OLDS
86%
10%
4%

4-YEAR-OLDS
18%
66%
16%

† 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
Early learning standards ................................................................. Comprehensive
Teacher degree ................................................................. BA2
Teacher specialized ......................... EE certification + ECE endorsement Specializing in pre-K
training (public); EE certification + ECE endorsement or CDA, or BA in CD (nonpublic)2
Assistant teacher degree......................................................... CDA or equivalent3
Teacher in-service .............. 6 credit hours/5 years (certified staff); At least 15 hours/year
Maximum class size ................................................................. 20 or lower
Staff-child ratio ................................................................. 1:10 or better
Screening/referral .......................................... Vision, hearing, health; among support services developmental; and support services at least 1 support service
Meals ................................................................. Snack7 At least 1/day
Monitoring ................................................................. Other monitoring8 Site visits

BENCHMARK
Comprehensive
BA
Specializing in pre-K
CDA or equivalent
At least 15 hours/year
20 or lower
1:10 or better
Vision, hearing, health; among support services developmental; and support services at least 1 support service
At least 1/day
Site visits

DOES REQUIREMENT MEET BENCHMARK?

☑
☑
☒
☑
☑
☑
☒
☒
☑

TOTAL BENCHMARKS MET
7

RESOURCES

Total state pre-K spending ...................................................... $98,275,000
Federal Contributions
State Contributions
Local Contributions
TANF Spending

PRE-K*
HDST**
K-12***

$ THOUSANDS

18%
4%
10%

81%

$4,453
$8,042
$12,948

* 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 parent conferences or home visits, parent involvement activities, health services for children, information about nutrition, referral to social services, and transition to kindergarten activities.

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

1 Children served in the full-day programs using two half-day slots 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.

8 The state oversight agency’s monitoring plan includes site visits to programs, but the visits are not written into state policy requirements. Competitive programs and school district programs are monitored based on problems or special issues, although the plan includes monitoring every three years.

9 GSRP cannot operate solely on the state funding, but the state does not collect local spending. Grantees must include in-kind space for GSRP because GSRP does not allow funding to cover the cost of facilities. Data are not collected on the total in-kind funding contribution.

81%